

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

200779

Jewish Telegraphic Agency

June 21, 1945

Jewish Telegraphic Agency
106 East 41st Street
New York 17, New York

P.O. No. July: WRB 33
6/12/45

Dear Sirs:

This is to inform you we are cancelling
our subscription to Jewish Telegraphic Agency Daily
News Bulletin, effective July 1, 1945.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) David White
David White
Administrative Officer

DWhite:hmd

DAKEN P. J. White

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

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FROM: MR. SHAEFFER'S OFFICE

TO : MR. PERLE

I think there is no question that this sets
the record straight.

I have telephoned Mr. Seligman and told him
how much we appreciate his taking care of the
matter as he did.

V. M. M.

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Herbert J. Seligmann
WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT

Overseas News Agency, Inc.

817 ~~NATIONAL~~ NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

21 October 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I enclose carbon of the dispatch I am today sending the Jewish Telegraphic Agency in New York, which embodies the suggestions you made at our conference in your office this morning.

It should set definitely at rest any imputation that you had said the War Refugee Board would not go out of existence.

For your information, I subjoin exact copy of my original dispatch on this subject, showing that I did not attribute to you any such statement, and that the JTA dispatch from New York was due to a misunderstanding of what my message was intended to convey. My teletype message read as follows:

"WRB PUBLIC RELATIONS REPORTS PEHLE ABSOLUTELY DENIES SAYING WRB WOULD GO OUT OF EXISTENCE JAN 22 OR ANY OTHER DATE PEHLE DID MAKE OFF THE RECORD EXPLANATION RE HUNGARY TO A P REPORTER YESTERDAY AFTER PRESS CONFERENCE AND AGAINST PEHLES UNDERSTANDING A P MAN PUBLISHED PEHLES PREDICTION 200,000 JEWS IN HUNGARY WOULD BE EXTERMINATED PEHLE HAS NO CHOICE NOW BUT TO CONFIRM THAT STATEMENT ORIGINALLY MADE OFF RECORD"

Trusting this sets the record straight, and with regret for any inconvenience you may have been caused,

Very truly yours,
Herbert J. Seligmann
Herbert J. Seligmann

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 21-- News reports to the effect that the War Refugee Board would go out of existence on January 22, 1945 having caused widespread apprehension, informed Washington [redacted] sources pointed out that under the so-called Russell Amendment to the last Independent Offices Appropriation Act, additional Congressional action will be necessary to continue the WRB beyond Jan. 22, 1945, the date of its expiration.

The state of the war will determine whether Congress will be asked to enact any such legislation. In view of the broad non-partisan support given WRB no difficulty is anticipated. In this connection it was pointed out by WRB that John W. Pehle, Executive Director of WRB did not say the WRB would continue after Jan. 22, since this is a matter for Congress to decide. Mr. Pehle did deny having said the WRB would be terminated on Jan. 22 or any other date, since it cannot now be forecast how long the WRB will be needed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE October 21, 1944

TO Mr. Pehle

FROM Virginia M. Mannon *JMM*

Regarding: Story in JTA Bulletin of October 19 headed "W.R.B. Will Not Be Liquidated; 200,000 Jews Face Massacre in Hungary, Pehle Says."

At about 1:30 p. m. Wednesday, October 18, I returned a telephone call which Mr. Seligman of the JTA had made to me while I was at lunch. Mr. Seligman was eager to verify two reports for his New York office. The first was a report that you had said about 200,000 refugees in Hungary, nearly all Jews, might not live through the next few weeks because the military and political situation in Hungary, where German troops have taken over the government, endangers the lives of these refugees. The second was a report that you had said the War Refugee Board would be liquidated on January 22.

I told Mr. Seligman that I knew of no such statements made by you, that you had not made them at the press conference which you and Mr. Hirschmann held on October 17, and at that press conference you and Mr. Hirschmann had emphatically said you did not wish to discuss the situation in Hungary. I read from the transcript of the press conference what you had said in reply to a question as to whether the major work of the Board was now over. I then told Mr. Seligman I would check with you.

After talking with you, I called Mr. Seligman and told him that apparently he was referring to an AP story in the Washington Star of October 18 in which you were quoted about the 200,000 refugees. I told him that you had given that information as background only to an AP reporter who had telephoned you for more information about the Hungarian situation following the press conference, that you had not given it for quotation, and that you preferred that nothing be said about it. I did, however, admit that the information was now public and it was up to Mr. Seligman what he did about it. Mr. Seligman asked if you would give further particulars for a follow-up story and I replied that I was quite sure you would not because you had made it very clear that you did not wish to talk about Hungary now and I was sure he understood why.

With reference to the second report — that you had said the WRB would be liquidated January 22 — I told Mr. Seligman that you had made no such statement. Mr. Seligman did not ask permission to quote you. Had he done so, I should have come back to you to ask if you were willing to be quoted.

About 4 o'clock on October 18 Muriel Levin of the JTA called me and asked about the Hungarian story. I repeated to her what I had told Mr. Seligman about the AP reporter. She also asked for further particulars.

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I also told her that an off-the-record statement had been quoted and that you preferred that nothing more be said about it. Miss Levin said that wasn't very satisfactory and I told her I knew it wasn't and I was sorry. Miss Levin did not ask about the Board's being liquidated January 22.

On Friday, October 20, we received Thursday's JTA Bulletin with the lead story as follows:

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- A press report that the War Refugee Board will go out of existence on January 22 was emphatically denied here today by John W. Pehle, executive secretary of the Board, in a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Mr. Pehle declared that he has never stated that the War Refugee Board would be liquidated on January 22, or any other date. At the same time, he expressed fear that about 200,000 Jews may be exterminated in Hungary during the next few weeks as a result of the establishment there of the pro-Nazi extremist Szalasi regime.

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October 21, 1944

Mr. Peile

Virginia V. Mannen *VVM*

Regarding Story in JTA Bulletin of October 19 Insisted W.I.B. Will
Not Be Liquidated; 200,000 Jews Face Massacre in Hungary, Peile Says.¹

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DIVISION OF
PRESS INTELLIGENCE
O.W.I.

1194 - Soc. Sec. Bldg.

PH. *WPM*

SY.

Evening Post (I)
New York City

DATE OCT 18 1944
p.

200,000 Face Massacre in a 'Few Weeks'

By WILLIAM O. PLAYER JR.
Post Staff Correspondent

Washington, Oct. 18—During the next few weeks, about 200,000 refugees in Hungary, nearly all of them Jews, may be exterminated, John W. Pehle, executive secretary of the War Refugee Board, said today.

Pehle expressed fear that the Nazis, who have seized the Hungarian government, would continue the extermination campaign against Jews and other non-cooperative minorities which they practiced in Russia and Poland. The 200,000 remaining refugees, he said, are about a quarter of those who first sought safety in Hungary.

Pehle and Ira Hirschmann, who

for many months has been his special representative in Turkey, indicated yesterday that the board's work is virtually ended.

Board to Quit

On this basis, it is considered quite possible that, on next Jan. 22, the Board will quietly allow itself to go out of existence—under the controversial Russell amendment to the last Independent Offices Appropriation bill, prohibiting any executive agency from continuing more than a year on Presidential funds, without a Congressional appropriation.

Pehle, at a press conference marking Hirschmann's return from a prolonged stay in the Middle East, emphasized that the

Board could not really regard its task as ended so long as there were still Jews and members of other persecuted minorities to be rescued, if possible, from such Nazi-controlled areas as Hungary, occupied Poland, Slovakia, etc., and Germany itself.

UNRRA to Take Over

Hirschmann pointed out, however, that in the Balkans, swift political and military developments during the past few weeks—which are still continuing—had changed the whole picture there, and that, so far as the Board's original function of trying to funnel Balkan refugees out via Turkey was concerned, that work was just about over.

Hirschmann said that he will

not go back to Turkey, but will return to private life in New York—where he is vice president of Bloomingdale's. The War Refugee Board will continue to maintain a staff in the Middle East, however, to handle the trickle of refugees still coming out of Europe by that route.

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The Evening Star

WASHINGTON, D. C.

OCT 18 1944

200,000 Refugees Feared Facing Death in Hungary

By the Associated Press

About 200,000 refugees in Hungary, nearly all Jews, may not live through the next few weeks, John W. Pehle, executive secretary of the War Refugee Board, said today.

The present confused military and political situation in Hungary, where German troops have taken over the reins of government, endangers the lives of these refugees—about a fourth of those originally in the country, he said.

Mr. Pehle expressed apprehension that the Germans may continue in Hungary the extermination tactics against Jews and non-co-operative minorities they practiced in Russia and Poland.

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JTA

Daily News Bulletin

VOL. XI. NO. 238 (26th year)

Thursday, October 19, 1944

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

W.R.B. WILL NOT BE LIQUIDATED; 200,000 JEWS FACE MASSACRE IN HUNGARY, PEHLE SAYS

WASHINGTON, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- A press report that the War Refugee Board will go out of existence on January 22 was emphatically denied here today by John W. Pehle, executive secretary of the Board, in a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

Mr. Pehle declared that he has never stated that the War Refugee Board would be liquidated on January 22, or any other date. At the same time, he expressed fear that about 200,000 Jews may be exterminated in Hungary during the next few weeks as a result of the establishment there of the pro-Nazi extremist Szalasi regime.

RUMANIAN GOVERNMENT URGED TO EXCHANGE GERMANS FOR 45,000 JEWS DEPORTED TO REICH

BUCHAREST, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- The exchange of Jews who were deported from Transylvania for Germans now residing in the parts of Transylvania regained by Rumania from Hungary is demanded in a memorandum submitted today to the Rumanian Government by Dr. Ernest Marton, a former member of the Rumanian parliament.

The memorandum says that 140,000 Jews were deported by the Germans from Transylvania and that 45,000 of them are still alive as slave laborers in various parts of the Reich. These Jews can be saved if the Rumanian Government requests their exchange for Germans in the Rumanian-held part of Transylvania, Dr. Marton points out.

The former Jewish parliamentarian also urges that a commissariate to deal with Jewish affairs in the part of Transylvania regained by Rumania be established and that Jewish property there confiscated by Hungarian Nazis be restored to the owners. "I hope that the suggestions contained in my memorandum will be accepted by the Rumanian Government," Dr. Marton told the correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

BULGARIA GRANTS PASSAGE TO JEWISH CHILDREN FROM RUMANIA EN ROUTE TO PALESTINE

SOFIA, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- The Bulgarian Government announced today that it has granted visas to a group of Rumanian Jewish children who are en route to Palestine. The announcement, which was made in a Hebrew-language broadcast over the Sofia radio, said that the Minister of Communications has placed two railway coaches at the disposal of the children, who are expected to arrive here tomorrow.

Many Jews continue to return to this city, daily, from their two-year exile in provincial "ghetto villages." Most of them are finding it almost impossible to find homes or jobs, and their situation is critical.

EX-MUFTI OF PALESTINE WILL BE TRIED BY ALLIES AS WAR CRIMINAL

LONDON, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- The ex-Mufti of Jerusalem, who was the chief instigator of anti-Jewish disturbances in Palestine and who is now in Germany directing Nazi activities among Moslems, will be tried as a war criminal when he falls into the hands of the Allies, a leading British official stated today.

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CONFISCATED PROPERTY ALREADY RETURNED TO LUXEMBOURG JEWS BY GOVERNMENT DECREE

LUXEMBOURG, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- Restitution of property confiscated from Luxembourg Jews has already been accomplished in many cases, although this small nation has been free for little more than a month.

The first large business to be returned to its former owner is the cigarette factory owned by Marcel Cahan, who had resided here for more than 30 years and who was a member of the board of aldermen. When Cahan returned to Luxembourg from London recently he walked into his factory, which the Germans had sold to collaborationists for 3,000,000 marks, and remarked that since he was familiar with the business, perhaps he could help. When he identified himself, the collaborators hurriedly left, leaving him in possession.

The problem of the return of confiscated Jewish property is much simpler here than in other occupied countries, since the government has decreed that persons who bought such property from the Nazis - in good faith or otherwise - may demand from the Germans that the purchase price be refunded, but have no rights to it.

The occupation authorities did not succeed in selling a good part of the property they seized, since most Luxembourgers steered clear of buying confiscated Jewish homes or businesses. The Nazis even tried to sell the site of the old Liebfrau Strasse Synagogue, which they had razed to the foundation, but there were no takers.

The Germans did succeed, however, in driving practically all Jews out of Luxembourg. Of the pre-war Jewish community of 3,500, only 70 persons remained when the Allies entered. Ten of them had been in hiding all during the occupation, while the other 60 were married to non-Jews and managed to escape deportation. About 830 Jews were deported to Poland and Czechoslovakia. The remainder of the community fled. Of the latter many are assumed to have been picked up by the Germans in France and Belgium.

SWISS GOVERNMENT ASKED TO GIVE "TOLERATION PERIOD" TO REFUGEES BEFORE REPATRIATION

GENEVA, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- The Swiss Government was asked today to allow a "toleration period" for Jewish refugees who are eventually to be repatriated from Switzerland to their countries of origin.

The request was voiced at a conference arranged by the International Committee of Refugee Professional Workers at which the question of repatriation of refugees was discussed, as well as that of providing them with proper identity documents. It was pointed out that a "toleration period" will enable the refugees to prepare themselves technically and professionally so that they may be able to reestablish themselves in their native lands without much difficulty.

WIDESPREAD RAIDS IN TEL AVIV; POLICE ARREST SEVERAL JEWS AS TERRORIST SUSPECTS

JERUSALEM, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- Police yesterday conducted a "widespread search" for terrorists in Tel Aviv, and arrested several alleged members of terrorist organizations, according to an official announcement made here today.

The central committee of the Mapai, the Palestine Labor Party, has decided to dispatch a large delegation to Europe, as soon as possible, to start Zionist and Chalutz education, it is learned here.

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JEWS IN ARGENTINE PROVINCE APPREHENSIVE; JEWISH MEETINGS RESTRICTED IN ENTRE RIOS

MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- The Argentine province of Entre Rios, on the border of Brazil, where more than 10 percent of the agricultural population is Jewish, in many aspects today resembles one of the German provinces at the time Hitler still dreamed of the conquest of the world, Jacob Landau, managing director of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency reported here today upon his arrival from Argentina.

For months, nationalists had been given a free hand for their anti-Semitic propaganda, often openly protected by the local police, who are highly sprinkled with nationalist elements. Jewish houses are still marked in big red letters, "Jew" or "Death to the Jews" or "Keep Out of Jewish Business." A police officer is stationed in every Jewish colony to watch Jewish activities.

All Jewish school teachers in the area, numbering about 120, were dismissed from the public schools largely on the unfounded charges of communism. After strong protests, consideration is being given for reinstatement of the teachers, each case being treated individually although the dismissals were wholesale. Retirement rights were endangered as many teachers had long records of service. In one instance a teacher was dismissed after 20 years of service on the pretext of being a prostitute.

In public schools of many Jewish colonies, where almost 100 percent of the students are Jewish, school-room walls are decorated with crucifixes and other religious objects as part of the state-required morality teachings. Teachers of these morals classes, are Catholics. In other schools, where Jewish children are in the minority, parents are fearful of listing their children as Jewish because of the fear of discrimination, and many Jewish children are therefore receiving Catholic instruction.

During the recent high Jewish holidays, Jews had great difficulties in keeping their stores closed because of threats from local police. Only after a successful appeal to higher authorities were they permitted to close their shops. In Jewish colonies, the gathering of more than three persons for other than religious meetings requires special permission, which is usually not granted. This is causing serious youth behavior problems. Gatherings at burials and birth ceremonies also require special permission.

Government Attitude Towards Jews Tempered by Need to Appease United States

Outwardly the Jewish situation in Argentina seems quiet with earlier panicky fears having given way to a calmer outlook. The Jews realize, however, that their position is likely to change any day, depending on the swing in the political situation. The official attitude towards the Jews at present seems to be tempered by the need for appeasement of the United States, the world, and Argentine democratic public opinion.

This was illustrated by the recent dismissal of M. Zavalla, the government-appointed governor of Entre Rios, who was known to be pro-Fascist, and of Marcelino J. Cepich, well-known reactionary, clerical, anti-Semitic director of the University of La Plata, who was responsible for an anti-democratic student demonstration recently. Simultaneously, in certain provinces the government has closed its eyes to new anti-Semitic actions such as the recent closing of 12 Jewish schools in Buenos Aires because their directors were not naturalized Argentines.

J.D.C. Influence on Jewish Communal Life in Argentina Praised

Jews in Argentina are grateful to the Joint Distribution Committee for the wholesome influence it has on the general Jewish situation there despite the strictly non-political character of its activities. The presence of a J.D.C. representative in

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Argentina constitutes an effective link between the Jewish community and the Jews of the United States, and is a source of moral support for the Argentine Jews. During certain periods, Argentine Jewry without the presence of a J.D.C. representative, felt isolated on matters of social and communal welfare.

A committee of loyal Argentine citizens, the "Junta de Ayuda Judia," has been formed by leading business and professional people. This group is cooperating with the J.D.C. and has found an enthusiastic response among Argentine Jews to appeals for support of the J.D.C. welfare program.

Mr. J. B. Lightman, the representative of the J.D.C. in South America, enjoys the respect of all Jewish circles who appreciate his effective work performed under the most difficult circumstances. Lightman is supervising J.D.C. activities in other South American countries where the organization is carrying on carefully planned programs, administering funds for relief to needy refugees, raising standards of local social welfare activity, stimulating community organization and coordination and organization of local fund-raising committees in behalf of the J.D.C. overseas program. Mr. Lightman is assisted by Gertrude D. Pinsky, social welfare consultant, and Solomon Resnick, fund-raising and public relations representative.

COUNCIL FOR JUDAISM INFORMS STATE DEPARTMENT OF ITS OPPOSITION TO JEWISH COMMONWEALTH

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- The American Council for Judaism, in a memorandum submitted to Secretary of State Cordell Hull and made public today, emphasized its opposition to the "establishment of Palestine or any locality as a Jewish State or Commonwealth." The memorandum also urged the adoption of a national policy whereby postwar assistance to foreign countries "would take into account as one of the major facts, that the country under consideration accepts the concept of equality of all its nationals without regard to race or creed."

"Such a condition to the extension of American aid would be an effective, practical demonstration of our determination to foster the principles of democracy in the postwar world," the statement, signed by Lessing J. Rosenwald as president of the Council, maintained.

The Council called for a program of rehabilitation of Europe's Jews and the restoration of their civil, political and economic security on the one basis of a status of "equality of rights and obligations with their fellow nationals. Jews living in all parts of the world as members of a religious faith, are entitled as of right not sufferance, to full equality all over the world," it stated.

"This means," Mr. Rosenwald said, "equality in the countries in which Jews live and choose to remain; equality to return to those lands from which Jews have been forcibly driven; equality to migrate wherever there is opportunity for migration." Pointing out that Jews are "a religious group and not a national group," Mr. Rosenwald said that "the solution to the problems of Jews rests on recognition of the inalienable rights of the individual. Once that concept of human freedom is unqualifiedly accepted, Jews will require no special measure."

Urge Simplification of Migration Policies to Extend Postwar Immigration

In behalf of those of all faiths who may need new homes, the statement of the American Council for Judaism called for a maximum simplification of migration policies and the extension of support to "potential centers for large postwar immigration." In those territories not now having sovereign status, the United States was urged to use its good offices to guarantee that "immigration shall not be limited by racial or

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"religious qualifications" and that "self-government shall be speedily established as soon as populations demonstrate a capacity for self-government." The determining factor for immigration to those territories, the statement declared, should be their "expanding economic capacity and political stability." The adoption of these principles, the Council maintained, would mean the abrogation of the British White Paper of 1939 as "unjust discrimination against Jews."

Expressing its opposition to the formation of a Jewish State in Palestine or elsewhere, the memorandum stated: "We urge the adoption of the following principles in a clear declaration of policy on Palestine that would take the place of all previous documents and commitments which have been variously interpreted, and which have led to confusion among our co-religionists and others. Such a policy should, we urge, stress the special character of Palestine as part of the religious heritage of Judaism, Christianity, and Islam, and make adequate provision for the maintenance of the holy places under international control. It should aid immigration consistent with the fullest possible economic development and political well-being of the country without special limitations or privileges. It should lead to the earliest possible acquisition of self-government, in which all fulfilling the requirements of citizenship shall be free to participate.

"We oppose the establishment of Palestine or any locality as a Jewish State or Commonwealth. We regard as fundamentally undemocratic the procedures involved in such an establishment, such as a preferred status in immigration to those of one religious faith and an arbitrary and indefinite postponement of self-government. Such proposals will, we believe, embroil Jews now in Palestine in continuing civil strife and place in jeopardy the equality of status of Jews everywhere who are integrated in their respective homelands and do not wish to be party to a Jewish State or Commonwealth. Our emphasis, therefore, is on the attainment of the status for Jews of full equality for citizenship - its rights and its responsibilities."

FIVE AMBULANCES FROM U.S. JEWS ARRIVE IN PALESTINE; SENT BY RED MOGEN DOVID

TEL AVIV, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- Five ambulances - a gift from American Jewry - arrived here today. They were received by directors of the Red Mogen Dovid, under whose auspices they were contributed.

The cornerstone for "Beth Berl," a building named after the late labor leader and editor Berl Katznelson, has been laid in the settlement of Kvutzath Naan. The building will house various labor organizations.

OSE IN FRANCE EXPECTS TO CARE FOR 5,000 CHILDREN SHORTLY; 3,500 ORPHANS IN BELGIUM

NEW YORK, Oct. 18. (JTA) -- The OSE - Jewish Health Society - in France expects to care for at least 5,000 Jewish children, most of them without parents, within the next few months, according to a report from the Swiss office of the organization received here.

About 2,000 children, together with their families, are already being helped, the report says, and OSE homes for an additional 1,000 are being reopened, since most of their equipment was left intact by the Germans. Social welfare and medical centers are being opened to cope with widespread disease and with problems arising from the disruption of thousands of families.

The report stresses that food and medical supplies are urgently needed, not only in France, but in Belgium where it is reported that there are more than 3,500 "abandoned" Jewish children.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION

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Jewish Telegraphic Agency

September 1, 1944

Gentlemen:

It will be appreciated if you will arrange to have all future editions of the JTA Daily News Bulletin intended for the War Refugee Board addressed to Mrs. Virginia Mannon, Room 4416, Main Treasury Building, Washington, D.C.

Yours very truly,

signed D. White
P.K.

David White
Administrative Officer

The Jewish Telegraphic Agency
106 East 41st Street
New York 17, New York

DWhite; pdk 9/1/44

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Excerpt from JTA Daily News Bulletin

VOL. XI. No. 156
Sunday, July 9, 1944

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, 106 East 41st St. NY, NY.

FRENCH COMMISSIONER SUSPENDS ALL ANTI-JEWISH LAWS IN NORMANDY

LONDON, July 7. (JTA) -- The suspension throughout Normandy of all anti-Jewish laws and regulations issued by the Vichy regime was announced today by Radio France at Algiers.

The announcement said that Francois Coulet, Commissioner of the French Committee of National Liberation, who represents Gen. De Gaulle in Normandy, has issued an order stating: "All constitutional acts, all orders containing discrimination against Jews, all orders concerning secret societies, all decrees which inaugurated special jurisdiction, or established competence or procedure of such jurisdiction are suspended."

TUNISIAN COURT INVALIDATES SALES OF JEWISH PROPERTY MADE UNDER COMPULSION

ALGIERS, July 7. (JTA) -- A verdict which may have far-reaching consequences on the restoration of Jewish property in North Africa was issued yesterday by the Court of Appeals in Tunisia in the case of a Jew who claimed that he was compelled to sell his property because of the anti-Jewish laws which were introduced in North Africa prior to the Allied landings there.

The court ruled that sales of Jewish property made under compulsion of the Vichy anti-Jewish laws are to be considered invalid. The court emphasized that judges in lower courts can declare such sales invalid.

The belief was expressed today in official judicial circles in Algiers that the decision of the Tunisian court will have an effect on the Judicial Committee in Algeria which is now working on a program of restoring to Jewish owners the property which they sold under compulsion of the Vichy anti-Jewish laws. There is no doubt that the verdict issued by the Tunisian court will make the task of the Judicial Committee in Algiers easier and will facilitate matters for Jews in Algeria who demand the return of their property which they were forced to sell when the anti-Jewish laws were announced.

A prominent official of the Algerian court system told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency today that "the verdict of the Tunisian Court of Appeals will, no doubt, serve as a precedent. It is the first verdict issued by any court regarding the question of compulsory sales of Jewish property. There is unanimous agreement among officials of the Algerian court system that the Tunisian verdict will facilitate settlement of similar cases in Algeria. It is worthwhile noticing that the Tunisian Court of Appeals emphasized that all courts in Tunisia are empowered to invalidate compulsory sales of Jewish property and reinstate the owners to their former status."

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VOL. XI. NO. 125 (23rd year)
Thursday, June 1, 1944

JTA DAILY NEWS BULLETIN
Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency
106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y.

HUNGARIAN PAPERS COMPLAIN OF WIDESPREAD SYMPATHY FOR JEWS: OFFICIALS WARNED

ZURICH, May 31. (JTA) -- Budapest newspapers reaching here today carry articles complaining of the widespread sympathy for Jews displayed by the Christian population of Hungary. The articles assert that even among Hungarian officials a certain amount of sympathy can be noticed in their dealings with local Jews.

"Never have the Jews in Esztergom enjoyed such exceptional treatment as since the promulgation of the Jewish laws," the Függetlenség, official organ of the pro-Nazi Hungarian government writes. "Jews there are treated with special politeness by some of the local authorities who disregard the anti-Jewish laws and grant them various advantages, especially to Jews in the labor service."

At the same time, the paper reveals that the Hungarian authorities are unable to cope with the flood of applications for confiscated Jewish enterprises. The paper appeals to the applicants "to be patient and not to suffer from the psychosis that favoritism is practiced in assigning Jewish firms to new owners."

The German radio reports today that all Jews have been banned from the Budapest stock exchange. Seventy-eight Jewish brokers had to resign their seats on the exchange as of today. The remainder must resign between today and June 30.

Following the example of Hungary, the Bulgarian Government today launched an intensified anti-Jewish campaign over the Sofia radio coupled with a plea for friendship for the German soldiers in Bulgaria. "The Bulgarian people ought to be proud that the Jews in our country have been rendered harmless," the Sofia broadcast said after voicing the usual anti-Jewish "arguments" advanced by the Nazis.

JEWISH LEADERS IN FINLAND INTERVENE FOR MISTREATED RUSSIAN-JEWISH WAR PRISONERS

STOCKHOLM, May 31. (JTA) -- Jews in Finland have succeeded in securing from the Finnish military authorities the segregation in a separate camp of about 200 Jewish war prisoners taken on the Russian front, it was reported here today by Jewish refugees arriving from Helsinki.

The measure became necessary in view of the mistreatment of Russian-Jewish war prisoners by German soldiers in Finland. The Jews will now be guarded by Finnish soldiers only.

The refugees highly praised the leaders of the Jewish community in Helsinki for the aid received from the Jewish congregation there. No Jewish refugees will be left in Finland after the arrival this week of the last group of Jews from Germany and other countries in occupied Europe who had been given shelter in Finland for many months. Among those who arrived today are Dr. Khrlich, an internationally known chemist from Germany and Dr. Sackely, well-known Hungarian-born psychologist, and Adolf Fleischer, prominent Vienna musician.

Names of names (for the Soc'y) Abrahamson, Aknin, Bernstein, Cahn, Dubois, Rydman, Geston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Lissford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Surgey, Smith, ~~Wolfe~~, ~~Wolstein~~, W. W. White, ~~White~~, ~~White~~

200747

6/1/44

JEWISH AGENCY HITS HEBREW LIBERATION COMMITTEE; CALLS IT "POLITICAL CHARLATANISM"

JERUSALEM, May 31. (JTA) -- The Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Council of Palestine - the two leading bodies of Palestine Jewry - today issued warnings to all "serious minded people" not to be misled by the newly-formed "Hebrew Committee for National Liberation" which claims to represent the Jews of Palestine and Europe.

Branding the formation of this Committee as "an unscrupulous piece of political charlatanism," the Jewish Agency said that people "should not let themselves be misled and confused by freak bodies assuming high-sounding titles." The Jewish National Council used similar expressions in denouncing the Washington group. Vigorous attacks on the Hebrew Committee for National Leberation are published in all Palestine Hebrew newspapers.

The text of the warning issued by the Jewish Agency was cabled today to the Zionist Organization of America for publication in the American press. The Jewish National Council of Palestine cabled its statement to Rabbi Stephen S. Wise to be published in the United States by the American Jewish Conference. The Jewish Agency said:

"The appearance in the United States of a body styling itself Hebrew Committee for National Liberation must be branded as an unscrupulour piece of political charlatanism. Its contention that the Yishuv is not free to speak through its elected political representatives is prepostrous. The overwhelming majority of the Yishuv is democratically organized and repzesented by the constitutionally established organs, the Assefath Hanivcharim (Palestine Jewish Assembly) and the Vaad Leumi (the Jewish National Council of Palestine). They have full freedom to voice the Yishuv's feelings and political aspirations, and have done so in outspoken terms and in opposition to the present official government policy.

"The rights and the interests of the Jewish nation as a whole with regard to Palestine are represented by the Jewish Agency incorporating the World Zionist Organi-zation. This warning must be addressed to all seriously minded people not to let themselves be misled and confused by freak bodies assuming high-sounding titles, and enunciating policies for which none but their representative authors are responsible."

Histadruth Urges Fight Against Liberation Committee

NEW YORK, May 31, (JTA) -- The American Jewish Trade Union Committee for Palestine today made public the text of a cable received from the Histadruth, the Jewish Federation of Labor in Palestine, assailing the "Hebrew Committee for National Libera-tion" which was established last week by a group of young Jews in Washington.

"It is imperative that you clearly understand that this group has absolutely no authority to represent the political interests of Jewish people or the Palestine Yishuv," the cable reads. "This political representation is vested in the Jewish Agency and the Vaad Leumi. Usurpation of this authority means undermining which is particula ly dangerous at the present period. This group must not be allowed to con-tinue to deceive public opinion and it is necessary that you open the eyes of those following it in good faith, but who are ignorant of facts."

100748

6/1/44

ROOSEVELT'S STATEMENT ON "FREE PORTS" PLEASES CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS IN WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON, May 31. (JTA) — Congressional leaders advocating the establishment of "free ports" in the United States as temporary havens of refuge for Jews from Nazi Europe today interpreted President Roosevelt's statement yesterday on the subject as notice to the world that the United States would do its part in setting up temporary places of residence for refugees and would expect other countries to do likewise.

President Roosevelt told his press conference that he was working on the subject of "free ports," but added that he did not like that name. He did not wish to limit the idea to areas in the United States, he said, emphasizing that there were many places in the world where refugees might find temporary shelter.

The President's rejection of the term "free ports" was seen as an attempt to eliminate a possible source of misunderstanding and subsequent controversy. It is feared that the word "free" would sound to the uninformed as though all checks were to be abandoned. Suggested to replace the discarded term were such names as "safety port" or "refugee port."

Senator Guy Gillette (Iowa Dem.) who Monday introduced a bill urging that Jews and other victims of Nazi hatred be admitted for temporary detention and care, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency that he was pleased "that the President has expressed himself as being in full accord with the purpose of the resolution." He said that he would ask the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to consider his resolution at the earliest possible moment. Introduction of a similar resolution in the House is expected later this week.

NEW GROUP OF REFUGEES FROM SPAIN AND PORTUGAL ARRIVE HERE EN ROUTE TO CANADA

Philadelphia, May 31. (JTA) — Seventy-four Jewish refugees who arrived here yesterday from Spain and Portugal aboard the Portuguese steamer Serpa Pinto, are expected to leave for Canada today in a sealed train, as soon as immigration and customs officials have completed their inquiries. Among the arrivals are fifteen children.

The refugees were met at the dock by representatives of the Canadian Jewish Congress, the United Jewish Refugee and War Relief Agencies of Canada and the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society. The Congress and the Canadian National Committee for Refugees were instrumental in securing the Canadian Government's permission for the refugees to immigrate there.

Most of the refugees had reached Spain and Portugal by fleeing across the Pyrenees from France, where they were interned. They are the second group destined for Canada to arrive here in recent months. In March some 276 arrived. Most of them have already found employment.

ccs: Miss Chauncey (for the Soc'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Sargey, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H.B. White, Pablo, F. 193.

200749

2
GILBERT

May 11, 1944

Dr. Korff dictated the following report which he received from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency:

London
May 10, 1944

An underground report from occupied Poland reaching here today states that about 4,000 foreign Jews who were living in Poland before the war and were later interned by the Nazis in a camp near Hanover have recently been executed. The report received by Emanuel Szerer, Jewish Socialist member of the Polish National Council also discloses that all Jews concentrated in the Lublin area have been liquidated. Some 2,000 "privileged Jews" who were confined in a camp reserved for writers, leaders of the Jewish Community and other intellectuals were among those executed.

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000800

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000201

~~GEORGE BACKER~~
PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU
SECRETARY & MANAGING
DIRECTOR

JACOB BLAUSTEIN
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG
VICE-PRESIDENT

BERNE
LONDON
JERUSALEM
WASHINGTON
RIO DE JANEIRO
BUENOS AIRES

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK CITY

APRIL 4, 1944

MR. JOHN W. PEHLE
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. PEHLE:

CONTRARY TO MY EXPECTATIONS, I WAS NOT ABLE TO LEAVE FOR
WASHINGTON LAST WEEK, BUT I DO EXPECT TO BE THERE THIS THURSDAY
AND FRIDAY. I WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF I COULD SEE YOU AT YOUR
CONVENIENCE.

SINCERELY YOURS,

JL:F

Jacob Landau
JACOB LANDAU
MANAGING DIRECTOR

P.S. I AM ENCLOSING CLIPPING OF AN ARTICLE WHICH WE DISTRIBUTED.

700802

Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle

A Weekly Paper for the Jewish Home

NATHAN J. GOULD, Editor, 1920-1941

Office and Printing Plant: 240 N. Milwaukee St., Milwaukee 2, Wis.

IRVING G. RHODES.....	Publisher
W. F. HEINEMAN.....	News Editor
HAROLD WOLFE.....	Business Manager
(On Leave with U. S. Army)	
SAM BOROVY.....	Advertising Manager

The Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle invites correspondence on subjects of interest to the Jewish people but disclaims responsibility for an endorsement of the views expressed by the writers. Communications will not be given consideration unless signed by name and address of writer. If requested by known writer name will be omitted in published letters. All anonymous correspondence will be destroyed.

To insure publication in the current issue, all correspondence and news matter must reach this office by Wednesday evening of each week.

Subscriptions in Advance \$3.00 Per Year

Vol. 53 MARCH 31, 1944 No. 5

The Task and the Man

When President Roosevelt established the War Refugee Board to forestall the diabolical plan of the Nazis to exterminate the Jews in Europe his action was not only acclaimed by Jewish leaders in America as expressive of the humanitarian principles and traditions of the American people, but as bearing evidence of a determined effort to effectuate the immediate rescue of the persecuted minorities trapped in the tenacles of the Nazi cannibals.

When it was subsequently announced by the White House that the President was pondering the appointment of an executive director of the Board, the hope was privately expressed in Jewish circles that the appointee would be a person of sufficient stature capable of rising to the requirements of the tremendous task that would be entrusted to him. That hope has been more than vindicated with the appointment of John W. Pehle.

That Mr. Pehle was the right man for the job was quite evident from the very moment he assumed office. On the day of his appointment, if we remember correctly, he was asked by representatives of the press to state what action the Board was planning to further its functions. His terse answer was — "the Board is already acting overseas."

During the approximately two months that Mr. Pehle has been heading the Board he has not only evinced a keen awareness of the plight and problems of the victims he hopes to save, but also a disposition to act promptly and expeditiously. This was evidenced, among other things, by the speed with which Ira Hirschmann was sent to Turkey, where, last week, he was reported to have made satisfactory contact with the Turkish Government to facilitate the rescue of Jewish refugees from the Balkan countries.

Unfortunately, the situation has changed since then. While a week ago it looked as we might look forward with some degree of confidence to the rescue of some Jewish refugees, the sudden occupation of Hungary by the Nazis, who seem to be determined to spread their rule to the rest of southeastern Europe, has darkened the outlook. What the satellite countries may have been willing to do now that they realize that Hitler has lost the war, Germany will not do. All avenues of escape are now seemingly closed to Jewish refugees in Europe.

We have no means of knowing what measures Mr. Pehle is contemplating to meet this new and, perhaps not unanticipated, situation. We are confident, however, that he will not let it deter him from his task. The adage "where there is a will there is a way" holds sway in war as well as in peace. Mr. Pehle has shown that he has the will.

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY, INC.
106 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK CITY

MARCH 27, 1944

MR. JOHN W. PEHLE
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. PEHLE:

I EXPECT TO BE IN WASHINGTON THURSDAY AND WOULD
GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF I COULD MEET YOU AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.

VERY SINCERELY YOURS,

JL:F

/s/ Jacob Landau

JACOB LANDAU
MANAGING DIRECTOR

P.S. I AM ENCLOSING AN ARTICLE WHICH WE SENT OUT THROUGH
THE SEVEN ARTS FEATURE SYNDICATE

ENCL:

*Jacob P. M. Weinstein
files*

000804

SEVEN ARTS FEATURE SYNDICATE
WORLDWIDE NEWS SERVICE
103 PARK AVENUE
New York City

March 23, 1944

E D I T O R I A L

By

Nathan Ziprin

THE TASK AND THE MAN. . . .

When President Roosevelt established the War Refugee Board to forestall the diabolical plan of the Nazis to exterminate the Jews in Europe his action was not only acclaimed by Jewish leaders in America as expressive of the humanitarian principles and traditions of the American people, but as bearing evidence of a determined effort to effectuate the immediate rescue of the persecuted minorities trapped in the tentacles of the Nazi cannibals.

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700205

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COPYRIGHT 1944 SEVEN ARTS FEATURE SYNDICATE

000206

GEORGE BACKER
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Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK CITY

MARCH 27, 1944

*Zelle
JL*

MR. JOHN W. PEHLE
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. PEHLE:

I EXPECT TO BE IN WASHINGTON THURSDAY AND WOULD
GREATLY APPRECIATE IT IF I COULD MEET YOU AT YOUR CONVENIENCE.

VERY SINCERELY YOURS,

JL:F

Jacob Landau
JACOB LANDAU
MANAGING DIRECTOR

P.S. I AM ENCLOSING AN ARTICLE WHICH WE SENT OUT THROUGH
THE SEVEN ARTS FEATURE SYNDICATE.

ENCL:

*No attachments when
received in file*

000807

J T A Y D A I L Y N E W S B U L L E T I N

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency

106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y.

7/1

VOL. XI. NO. 70 (26th year)

Friday, March 24, 1944

AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE ASKS ROOSEVELT, CHURCHILL, STALIN TO AID JEWS IN HUNGARY

NEW YORK, March 23. (JTA) -- A joint statement by President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin warning German occupational authorities in Hungary that the United Nations will punish "all those guilty of initiating or participating in inhuman treatment of civilians" was urged by the American Jewish Committee in a telegram sent today to Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

Signed by Joseph M. Proskauer, president, and George Z. Medalie, chairman of the overseas committee, the American Jewish Committee statement warned that the "only available method of preventing or lessening the Nazi mass murders" of the almost one million Jews in Hungary was "to instill among the Nazis and their collaborators the fear of post-war retribution from the victorious United Nations."

"The recent and continuing Nazi invasion activities in Hungary have put almost one million Jews in imminent danger of extermination," the statement reads. "The most immediately available method of preventing or lessening typical Nazi mass murders is to instill among the Nazis and their collaborators the fear of post-war retribution from the victorious United Nations. We therefore respectfully and urgently advise the issuance of a joint statement by President Roosevelt, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin emphatically reaffirming previous pledges of full punishment for all those guilty of initiating or participating in inhuman treatment of civilians. We earnestly feel that such a statement may save many human lives in Hungary, last remaining large center of Jewish population in Europe."

Jews in Hungary Seek to Join Yugoslav and Russian Guerilla Units

ZURICH, March 23. (JTA) -- Many young Jews in Hungary, fearing for their lives under German occupation and aware of Hitler's determination to annihilate them, are making desperate efforts to reach either Marshal Tito's partisans forces on the Yugoslav-Hungarian frontier, or Polish and Russian guerilla groups now operating on Polish territory behind the German lines between the city of Lwow and the Carpatho-Ukrainian part of Hungary, it was reported here today.

The Swiss press predicts today that German military forces in Hungary will have difficulty in combatting attacks by guerilla units which, it said, will no doubt be formed in the Hungarian section of the Carpathian mountains which the Russian Army is approaching. Commentators in Swiss newspapers agree that these guerilla units will be formed of Jews, Poles and Hungarian Social Democrats, assisted by Russian instructors and ammunition which will be dropped by parachutes from Russian planes.

The Carpathian mountains and the woods in that section offer an ideal hide-out for guerillas, especially with the approach of Spring, it is pointed out by some of the Swiss writers who compare the hilly section of the Hungarian-Polish frontier with some of the mountain regions in Switzerland. The general feeling here is that Jews in Hungary now have nothing to lose and much to gain by joining guerilla units either on the Russian front near the Hungarian frontier, or on the side of the Yugoslav partisans who have saved many Jews from extermination by the Nazis in occupied Yugoslavia.

700208

JTA DAILY NEWS BULLETIN

Published by the Jewish Telegraphic Agency
106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N.Y.

VOL. XI. NO. 60 (26th year)

Monday, March 13, 1944

U. S. REPRESENTATIVE COMPLETED PLAN FOR EVACUATION OF JEWS FROM BALKAN COUNTRIES

ANKARA, Turkey, March 12. (JTA) — The first steps toward mass evacuation of Jewish refugees from Rumania and Bulgaria have been completed, the Jewish Telegraphic Agency was told today by Ira A. Hirschmann, representative here of the United States War Refugee Board.

Mr. Hirschmann revealed that Turkey has agreed to passage of 5,000 children to Palestine. He added that negotiations for a Turkish ship, capable of carrying 1,000 children at a trip, are shaping up for early settlement. The ship will pick up its passengers at Constanza, Rumanian Black Sea port, and take them to Haifa.

The British authorities, Hirschmann said, will provide Palestine visas and he is hopeful of getting a German safe conduct. At the present time, only about 100 persons weekly are allowed exit from the Axis-controlled Balkan states. They are allowed 24 hours to pass through Turkish territory.

Jewish Children From Bulgaria Reach Palestine

HAIFA, March 12. (JTA) — Fifty Jewish children from Bulgaria arrived here today. They were met by representatives of the Jewish Agency and taken to Jewish settlements where they will reside and be educated. The last group of Rumanian Jews who were held in Cyprus for more than two years also landed in Haifa today.

CC - Mr. Pehle, Mr. Luxford, Mr. DuBois, Mr. Friedman, Mr. Lesser, Miss Hodel, Mr. Abrahamson, Miss Laughlin, Mr. Mann, Mr. Marks, Mr. McCormack, Mr. Murphy, Mr. Pollak, Mr. Raines, Mr. Standish, Mr. Stewart

000209

FEB 17 1944

Dear Mr. Landau:

Reference is made to your letters of February 7, 1944, to Secretary Morgenthau and to me.

At the present time, the War Refugee Board has no statement to make with respect to Russia's joining the Intergovernmental Committee.

I wish to assure you that I enjoyed our recent talk and that I will be glad to see you at any time you come to Washington to discuss with you any problems you may have of concern to the War Refugee Board.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Jacob Landau,
Managing Director,
Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.,
106 East 41st Street,
New York 17, N. Y.

Dismissed
wth go P.

FHodel:hd 2/16/44

200210

GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU
SECRETARY & MANAGING
DIRECTOR

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VICE-PRESIDENT

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

63

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NO ANS. REQ.

INITIAL

DATE

FEBRUARY 7, 1944

MR. JOHN W. PEHLE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. PEHLE:

OUR AGENCY IS BEGINNING TO SERVE THE JEWISH PRESS IN RUSSIA, THUS ESTABLISHING FOR THE FIRST TIME AFTER AN INTERRUPTION OF TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS, THE FIRST CONTACTS BETWEEN THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY AND THE JEWS IN RUSSIA. THIS IS THE FIRST INSTANCE WHERE AN AMERICAN NEWS AGENCY WILL BE ENABLED TO SERVE NEWSPAPERS IN RUSSIA DIRECTLY FROM THE UNITED STATES.

OUR LAUNCHING THIS SERVICE HAPPENS TO COINCIDE WITH THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT RUSSIA HAS JOINED THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES.

IN OUR FIRST CABLE WE WOULD LIKE TO INDICATE THAT APPRECIATION IS FELT IN THIS COUNTRY TOWARD RUSSIA'S PARTICIPATION IN AN INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TENDING TO AMELIORATE THE LOT OF THE JEWISH REFUGEES.

WE ARE ADDRESSING OURSELVES TO YOU AS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO GIVE US A MESSAGE WITH REGARD TO RUSSIA'S JOINING THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES.

SINCERELY YOURS,

JL:F

Jacob Landau
JACOB LANDAU
MANAGING DIRECTOR

000811

GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU
SECRETARY & MANAGING
DIRECTOR.

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RIO DE JANEIRO
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Jacob Blaustein
JACOB BLAUSTEIN

CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG
VICE-PRESIDENT

64

FILING AUTHORITY

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ANS.

NO ANS. REQ.

INITIAL

DATE.....

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

FEBRUARY 7, 1944

MR. HENRY MORGENTHAU JR
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. MORGENTHAU:

OUR AGENCY IS BEGINNING TO SERVE THE JEWISH PRESS IN RUSSIA, THUS ESTABLISHING FOR THE FIRST TIME AFTER AN INTERRUPTION OF TWENTY-EIGHT YEARS, THE FIRST CONTACTS BETWEEN THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITY AND THE JEWS IN RUSSIA. THIS IS THE FIRST INSTANCE WHERE AN AMERICAN NEWS AGENCY WILL BE ENABLED TO SERVE NEWSPAPERS IN RUSSIA DIRECTLY FROM THE UNITED STATES.

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SINCERELY YOURS,

JL:F

Jacob Landau
JACOB LANDAU
MANAGING DIRECTOR

200812

*Given to me by Dean
Ribble of State 2/11/44
to be handed to Mr. P.H.B.*

JB7

WAR DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF
CIVIL AFFAIRS DIVISION
WASHINGTON 25

*Shown to J.W.P.
who indicated that
no reply is necessary.
JB7
2/11/44*

10 February 1944.

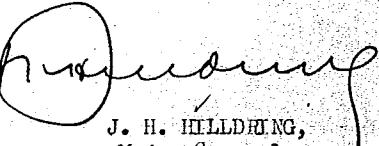
Mr. Dean Ribble,
State Department,
1712 G Street, N. W.,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Ribble:

Inclosed is a copy of a letter dated 7 February 1944 to the Secretary of War from Mr. Jacob Landau, Managing Director of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc., requesting a message for transmission at the time news service to Russia is inaugurated in the Agency with regard to the Soviet Union's participation in the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee.

Confirming advice received from your Office, a copy of the letter is transmitted to you as a matter of primary interest for appropriate action. For your information, I am also inclosing a copy of my reply to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

Sincerely,



J. H. HILLDRING,
Major General,
Director, Civil Affairs Division.

2 incls.

Incl 1 - ltr 2-7-44
from Agency.

Incl 2 - reply to
Agency 2-10-44

000213

JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY, INC.
106 East 41st Street
New York 17, N. Y.

February 7, 1944.

The Honorable Henry L. Stimson
Secretary of War
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Our Agency is beginning to serve the Jewish Press in Russia, thus establishing for the first time after an interruption of twenty-eight years, the first contacts between the American Jewish Community and the Jews in Russia. This is the first instance where an American news agency will be enabled to serve newspapers in Russia directly from the United States.

Our launching this service happens to coincide with the announcement that Russia has joined the Inter-Governmental Committee for Refugees.

In our first cable we would like to indicate that appreciation is felt in this country toward Russia's participation in an International effort tending to ameliorate the lot of the Jewish refugees.

We are addressing ourselves to you to give us a message with regard to Russia's joining the Inter-Governmental Committee for Refugees.

Sincerely yours,

signed

Jacob Landau
Managing Director

JL:F

000814

10 February 1944.

Mr. Jacob Landau,
Managing Director,
Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.,
106 East 41st Street,
New York 17, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Landau:

Your letter of 7 February 1944 addressed to the Secretary of War requesting a message with regard to participation by the Soviet Union in the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee for transmission in connection with the inauguration of your news service to Russia has been referred to this Division for reply.

The activities of the Intergovernmental Refugee Committee in the United States are under the jurisdiction of the State Department and the Secretary of War has no direct connection with the work of the Committee. For that reason I have handed your letter to Mr. Dean Ribble of the Department of State with the request that the matter receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely,

J. H. HILLDRING,
Major General,
Director, Civil Affairs Division.

cc: Mr. Dean Ribble,
Department of State,
1712 G Street, N. W.,
Washington 25, D. C.

700E15

February 11, 1944

Major General J. H. Hilldring,
Director, Civil Affairs Division,
Office of the Chief of Staff,
War Department,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General Hilldring:

I have your letter of February 10 enclosing the letter of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency to the Honorable Henry L. Stimson. I am forwarding your letter, with the two enclosures, to the War Refugee Board, which I believe is now the proper agency to make a statement of the type desired.

Sincerely yours,

F. D. G. Ribble

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GEORGE BACKER
PRESIDENT

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Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

106 EAST 41ST STREET
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

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Appointment 4:30
made 2/11/44
FEBRUARY 7, 1944
File J.W.T.

FEBRUARY 7, 1944

MR. JOHN W. PEHLE
TREASURY DEPARTMENT
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. PEHLE:

MR. MORRIS D. WALDMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE, AND THE UNDERSIGNED, WILL BE IN WASHINGTON THURSDAY AND FRIDAY. WE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE AN OPPORTUNITY OF MEETING YOU. I WILL BE STAYING AT THE WILLARD HOTEL.

VERY SINCERELY YOURS,

JL:F

Jacob Landau
JACOB LANDAU
MANAGING DIRECTOR

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