

Licenses: VAAD HAITZALA
(NY 619706)

000641

In reply please
refer to: 70922

25

MAR 12 1944

My dear Mr. Zoltowski:

Reference is made to your letter of March 31, 1944 (P.4b/44) in which you request a license permitting you to remit on behalf of the Vasd Mahatzala Emergency Committee, New York, New York, the Swiss franc equivalent of \$20,000 to the Legation of Poland, Bern, Switzerland.

Pursuant to the recommendation made by the War Refugee Board, this Department has today authorized the Federal Reserve Bank of New York to issue license No. NY 619706 to the Bankers Trust Company, 16 Wall Street, New York, New York, permitting it to effect the remittance described above to the debit of the account on its books in the name of "Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Poland"; through the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Sincerely yours,

Orvis A. Schmidt
Acting Director

Mr. Janus Zoltowski,
Financial Counselor,
Embassy of Poland,
14 Wall Street,
New York, New York

RBPArke:jfh 4-6-44

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APR 10 1944

Pursuant to application filed directly with this Department, you are hereby authorized to issue license to the Bankers Trust Company, 16 Wall Street, New York City, notwithstanding General Ruling No. 11, permitting it to debit the account on its books in the name of "Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Poland" in the amount of \$20,000 and to remit the Swiss franc equivalent of such sum to the Legation of Poland, Bern, Switzerland. The licensee is authorized to pay the dollar amount involved to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for credit to the Banque Nationale Suisse, Zurich, for payment of the Swiss franc equivalent to the Polish Legation, Bern, or to purchase the Swiss francs involved from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York as fiscal agent of the United States. Please send signed copy of license to Mr. Rushmore, Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

(Initialed) O.A.S.

Unit 402 REFarko:jfh 4-6-44

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ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(Emergency Committee for Refugee Scholars,
Yeshivoth, Rabbis and Communal Leaders)

132 NASSAU STREET

(ROOM 819)

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

March 31, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Att: Miss F. Hodell

Dear Miss Hodell,

May I advise you that we have conferred with the Hon. M. Kwapeszewski, Charge D'Affaires at the Polish Legation, and Mr. J. Zultawski, of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Poland, and they have agreed to effect the transfer of the \$20,000 to Rabbi Ch. Szmulewicz for the Rabbinical group in Shanghai, in Swiss francs at the cheaper rate.

We likewise conferred with Mr. William Riegelman of the State Department, who advised us that should a license from the Treasury Department issue, the State Department could send a message to the American Legation requesting their cooperation with the Polish officials, that the transfer from Switzerland be expedited.

We also discussed the advisability and suggested the participation of the American Legation, the Polish official and Mr. Sternbuch in the execution of this transfer. We only await the issuance of the license.

With continued expressions of deepest appreciation,

Very respectfully yours,

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A. Kalmanowitz
Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

AK:r

000645

March 8, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Rabbis Kalmanowitz and Metz called today to discuss their request to send \$25,000 through Switzerland to their representative in Shanghai. They explained that up until the time Argentina broke relations with the Axis the Union of Orthodox Rabbis had been sending money directly to Shanghai through Argentina. They are extremely concerned about the situation of 450 Rabbis and scholars in Shanghai and believe that the danger they face in Shanghai is as great as the danger in Poland. They feel that the borrowing authorization which we have permitted them to send through, may, if acted upon, arouse the suspicions of the Japanese and seriously endanger the lives of the Rabbinical group in Shanghai. It is their thought that by sending a remittance through Switzerland they can avoid suspicion in the minds of the Japanese and thus save the lives of the individuals concerned in Shanghai.

When informed of the statements made by Miss Margolis, upon her recent return to this country, to the effect that the Japanese were cognizant of the borrowing method for financing relief to refugees in Shanghai, Rabbi Kalmanowitz stated that Miss Margolis does not have the latest information on this situation since she had been in a concentration camp for several months. He insists that his latest information indicates that harm would come from the Japanese if they discovered that individuals in Shanghai were lending money for relief of refugees against a borrowing authorization from American organizations.

FH
F. Hodel

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(Emergency Committee for Refugee Scholars,
Yeshivoh, Rabbis and Communal Leaders)

132 NASSAU STREET

(ROOM 819)

NEW YORK, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

SPONSORED BY
ALL RABBINICAL ORGANIZATIONS
YESHIVOTH-IN-EXILE
NATIONAL JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

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March 1, 1944

War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Miss Florence Hodell

Dear Miss Hodell,

Mr. Parke of your office has advised us today that a license for the dispatch of our cable to Mr. Isaac Sternbuch and from him to Shanghai, China, has been approved by the Board. Allow us to thank you sincerely for your devoted interest in the problem and your desire to lend every cooperation.

During the conversation which our Mr. Schoen had with you yesterday, we intended to call to your attention the utter helplessness of the Shanghai group and their pathetic appeal expressed in confidential advices which reached us several days ago.

We fully and deeply appreciate your complete understanding of our problem and we therefore feel that we will find a sympathetic ear in the request, which we respectfully urge your Board to consider.

We earnestly feel that, though license for our cable has been given and borrowing power granted to our Dean Rabbi Ch. Szmulewicz, delay may ensue and difficulties, (especially in borrowing the funds), may occur which will seriously hamper this projected measure.

We would therefore, propose that license be granted to send a smaller sum, \$25,000.00 in Swiss francs to Mr. Sternbuch, that he immediately transfer it to Rabbi Szmulewicz.

We await your approval, that we may make formal application for a license for this sum.

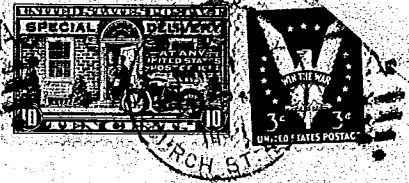
Respectfully yours,
VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A. Kalmanowitz
Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

AK:r

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E. C. W. T. Y.
132 NASSAU STREET
Suite 819-820
New York City



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SPECIAL DELIVERY

SPECIAL DELIVERY

War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Att: Miss Hodell

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