

METHUEN CLAUDES - JEWISH SOCIETY, INC.

000658

In reply please
refer to: 265

MAR 6 1944

Dear Mr. Cardozo:

Thank you for your letter of March 1, 1944,
in response to my request for advice and suggestions
with respect to the work of the Board.

Your interest in the problem of the Dutch
Jews has been noted. The detailed suggestions to be
submitted by the World Jewish Congress concerning
this question will be promptly and carefully considered.

I assure you that every effort will be made
to provide speedy and effective rescue programs to fit
the urgency of the cases involved.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. D. A. Jessurun Cardozo,
President,
Netherlands Jewish Society, Inc.,
2 West 70th Street,
New York, New York.

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NETHERLANDS JEWISH SOCIETY, INC.
NEDERLANDSCH-JOODSCHE VEREENIGING
2 WEST 70TH STREET
NEW YORK CITY

March 1, 1944

Dear Sir:

The Netherlands Jewish Society thanks you for your very kind letter of February 8, 1944, and is grateful to you for giving them the opportunity of putting before your Board their suggestions for the rescue of Jews.

There is a very urgent matter which is receiving the attention of our Society. It is the possibility of the exchange of Dutch Jews now kept in a special internment camp in southern Germany. About 800 to 1000 Dutch Jews are kept in this camp and could go to Palestine if satisfactory arrangements can be made. We understand that certificates for the entry into Palestine have been issued for them, but that the difficulty is to find an equal number of German nationals who would have to be sent back to Germany in their place. This whole question has also been discussed by the Dutch Jewish Representative Committee of the World Jewish Congress, to which belong the president and other members of the Netherlands Jewish Society. Cables have been sent to the Dutch Government in London requesting the speeding up of this matter.

The World Jewish Congress has incorporated this question of the Dutch Jews in their Memorandum which we understand they are sending you. It is, therefore, unnecessary for us to give any further details, but we would most earnestly request that this matter be treated with the greatest urgency. From information reaching us, we gather that the Germans begin to become impatient of the long delay, and that there is now a possibility that these Dutchmen will no longer be kept in a separate camp, but that they will be deported with all the terrible consequences that that may entail, and the terrible risk that their lives may be lost. It is for these reasons that we urgently request that this matter be looked into and that everything be done at the earliest possible moment to save these Jews.

We are convinced that this is one of the cases in which your Board could be extremely helpful.

Very truly yours,

E. A. Jessurun Cardozo
E. A. Jessurun Cardozo
President, Netherlands Jewish Society

Mr. J. V. Penle
Acting Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

DAJC:LS