PRIVATE MESSAGES SENT: Poale Zion Organization

00004

November 21, 1944

Dear Mr. Wertheim:

The following message for you from Meilich Neustadt was received through the American Consulate in Jerusalem under date of November 18, 1944:

"Your November 7. On October 11 we received your reference Kubowitzki. Although this is not for publication, one Hungarian friend active in rescue work arrived in Switzerland. Indicated in news from Budapest that three days home arrest Jews with no food supply, afterwards, possibility of two hours shopping each day. Children, sick people, and the like are compelled to leave houses and are being concentrated in special ghetto which surrounds the capital; women 18 to 40 are being taken to Hungarian work camps for fortification work, and the like; men 16 to 60 are taken for work in Germany. Ichud and Chalz continue. Saved many people and children of working battalions are with Hagana collisions happened defense which was courageous. Majority of Slovakian Jews were deported to Vienna where Jewish representation was dissolved and all leaders placed in Sered camp. Proposal made by our Hungarian friends that Germans in Rumania be exchanged against Hungarian Jews, believe Germans will concur but agreement of Russian officials in Rumania and strong pressure from United States are indispensable. Clarification and information requested. In event that Jewish Congress extends invitation to Bulgarian delegation, bear in mind that Zionists must be invited, also, as consistory made up of Shatfanim and assimilators. It is essential that press exercise pressure on removal from influence in communities of individuals faithful to Palestine and on attitude to Hebrew in Jewish schools, and the like. Inquire of Reiss whether Warsaw and Karkov address valid still and whether it is worthwhile to use half year old addresses. Request you inform Segal, Mereminski, Tartakower, Kubowitzki, etc.

"It is requested that you press my request about Rumanian visit."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. David Wertheim,
Poale Zion Organization,
[illegible] East 17th Street,
New York, New York

RDrury 11/21/44

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

000005

2 war Bf Bl-Pelle

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: CONSULATE GENERAL, JERUSALEM

TO: Secretary of State, Washington

DATED: November 18, 1944

NUMBER: 173

CONTROL COPY

[redacted]

The message set forth below is from Meilechneustadt for David Hertheim of Poale Zion, 45 E. 17th Street, New York: (Your 183, November 7, 1944).

On October 11, we received your reference Kubowitzky. Although this is not for publication, one Hungarian friend active in rescue work arrived in Switzerland. Indicated in news from Budapest that three days home arrest Jews with no food supply, afterwards, possibility of two hours shopping each day. Children, sick people, and the like are compelled to leave houses and are being concentrated in special ghetto which surrounds the capital; women 18 to 40 are being taken to Hungarian work camps for fortification work, and the like; men 16 to 60 are taken for work in Germany. Ichud and Chalz continue. (*) saved many people and children of working battalions are with Hagana collisions happened defense which was courageous. Majority of Slovakian Jews were deported to Vienna where Jewish representation was dissolved and all leaders placed in Sered camp. Proposal made by our Hungarian friends that Germans in Rumania be exchanged against Hungarian Jews, believe Germans will concur but agreement of Russian officials in Rumania and strong pressure from United States are indispensable. Clarification and information requested. In event that Jewish

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 11 1972

00006

that Jewish congress extends invitation to Bulgarian delegation, bear in mind that Zionists must be invited, also, as consistory made up of Shatfanim and assimilators. It is essential that press exercise pressure on removal from influence in communities of individuals faithful to Palestine and on attitude to Hebrew in Jewish schools, and the like. Inquire of Reiss whether Warsaw and Karkov address valid still and whether it is worthwhile to use half year old addresses. Request you inform Segal, Hereminsy, Tartakower Kubowitzky, etc.

It is requested that you press my request about Rumanian visit.

STEGER

MEW

DCR :MED :CR
11-20-44

000007

I was Ref to Pehle

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington

TO: American Consul, Jerusalem

DATED: November 7, 1944

NUMBER: 183

CONTROL COPY

From War Refugee Board.

Please deliver the following message to Meilech Neustadt, Yehuda Halevi 40, Tel Aviv, from David Wertheim of the Poale Zion Organization:

QUOTE: Replying yours 23rd Kubowitzki informs INNERQUOTE Concerning Slovakia suggest their colleagues here joint demarche Apostolic Delegate neutral diplomates Bratislava and asked Masaryk negotiate exchange interned Jews for German civilians held partisans. For Hungary requested Apostolic Delegate have all churches declared sanctuaries for Jews, Eire send special Redcross Mission to Budapest act along lines Swedish Mission. Cabled Chairman ICRC and Prince Karl Stockholm asking appeal to and warn Chairman German Redcross. Swedish Congress committee now active in 93 metric tons foodparcel scheme for concentration camps. END INNERQUOTE. Wise will endeavor expedite Jarblum matter. UNQUOTE

STETTINIUS
ACTING

WAR REFUGEE BOARD
RECEIVED

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 11 1972

000008

CABLE TO AMERICAN CONSULATE, JERUSALEM, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Please deliver the following message to Meilech Neustadt, Yehuda Halevi 40, Tel Aviv, from David Wertheim of the Poale Zion Organization:

QUOTE REPLYING YOURS 23RD KUBOWITZKI INFORMS INNERQUOTE CONCERNING SLOVAKIA SUGGEST THEIR COLLEAGUES HERE JOINT DEMARCHE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE NEUTRAL DIPLOMATS BRATISLAVA AND ASKED MASARYK NEGOTIATE EXCHANGE INTERNED JEWS FOR GERMAN CIVILIANS HELD PARTISANS. FOR HUNGARY REQUESTED APOSTOLIC DELEGATE HAVE ALL CHURCHES DECLARED SANCTUARIES FOR JEWS, EIRE SEND SPECIAL REDCROSS MISSION TO BUDAPEST ACT ALONG LINES SWEDISH MISSION. CABLED CHAIRMAN ICRC AND PRINCE KARL STOCKHOLM ASKING APPEAL TO AND WARN CHAIRMAN GERMAN REDCROSS. SWEDISH CONGRESS COMMITTEE NOW ACTIVE IN 93 METRIC TONS FOODPARCEL SCHEME FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS. END INNERQUOTE. WISE WILL ENDEAVOR EXPEDITE JARBLUM MATTER. UNQUOTE

10:30 a.m.
November 4, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodaly, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Files

Copy to Poale Zion 11/6/44 RD

RDrury 11/3/44

Pat —

000009

CABLE ADDRESS
"AMPOALIM"

TELEPHONE
CHELSEA 3-8470

Poale Zion Organization
275 SEVENTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

November 2,1944.

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Executive Director,
War Refugee Board
Washington, 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Would you be good enough and have the following cable cleared through your office?

Meilech Neustadt
Yehuda Halevi 40
Tel Aviv (Palestine)

REPLYING YOURS 23rd KUBOWITZKI INFORMS QUOTE CONCERNING SLOVAKIA SUGGEST THEIR COLLEAGUES HERE JOINT DEMARCHE APOSTOLIC DELEGATE NEUTRAL DIPLOMATS BRATISLAVA AND ASKED MASARYK NEGOTIATE EXCHANGE INTERNED JEWS FOR GERMAN CIVILIANS HELD PARTISANS. FOR HUNGARY REQUESTED APOSTOLIC DELEGATE HAVE ALL CHURCHES DECLARED SANCTUARIES FOR JEWS, EIRE SEND SPECIAL REDCROSS MISSION TO BUDAPEST ACT ALONG LINES SWEDISH MISSION. CABLED CHAIRMAN ICRC AND PRINCE KARL STOCKHOLM ASKING APPEAL TO AND WARN CHAIRMAN GERMAN REDCROSS. SWEDISH CONGRESS COMMITTEE NOW ACTIVE IN 93 METRIC TONS FOODPARCEL SCHEME FOR CONCENTRATION CAMPS. UNQUOTE. WISE WILL ENDEAVOR EXPEDITE JARBLUM MATTER.

DAVID WERTHEIM.

Thank you very much for your help.

Very truly yours
David Wertheim
David Wertheim, Secretary

DEL

154

October 26, 1944

Dear Mr. Wertheim:

The following message for you and Mr. Segal was received through the American Consulate in Jerusalem under date of October 21, 1944:

"Already in Paris Jarblum has succeeded in establishing there representation of all Jewish circles as well as Shatfanim and consistory. Positive attitude Palestine expressed by all. Though difficulties again being encountered on part of consistory Paris, their program is similar to your Jewish conference. The 80,000 Jews that passed through Drancy have been deported. Jarblum is dealing with commission appointed by government for deportees repatriation etc. Requesting that by cable he should be charged officially by Stephen Wise to handle this matter. To help Hungarian Jews Rudel is now at Stockholm. 5,000 Swedish passport protection arranged by him and within next few days another 4,000 will be ready which will provide almost full protection deportation."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. David Wertheim,
Poale Zion Organization,
45 East 17th Street,
New York 3, New York.

cc: Mr. Louis Segal,
Jewish National Workers Alliance,
45 East 17th Street,
New York 3, New York.

RD

RDrury 10/26/44

000011

RTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

War Ref Bd
(Mr. Pehle)

GEM-681
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental agency. (~~RESTRICTED~~)

Jerusalem
Dated October 21, 1944
Rec'd 8:02 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
1944 OCT 23 PM 5 13
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LIAISON)

Secretary of State,

Washington.

158, October 21, 4 p.m.

Meileeh Neustadt requests the Refugee Board to transmit the following message to David Wertheim, Paole-Zion and Louis Segal Jewish National Workers Alliance, 45 East 17th Street, New York.

"Jarblum already in Paris succeeded there establish Jewish representation including all circles also consistory and shatfanim. All expressed positive attitude Palestine. Their program similar to your Jewish conferenc through encountering again difficulties on the part of Paris consistory. [80,000 Jews passed through D'rancy deported.] Jarblum dealing with governments commission for repatriation departed et cetera. Asking Stephen Wise should charge him officially by cable deal this matter. Rudel now at Stockholm (?) help Hungarian Jews arranged 5,000 Swedish protection passport further 4,000 ready next few days giving almost full next deportation."

CONTROL COPY

RR

ELMERTON

Message filed
10/26/44
RS

00012

October 26, 1944

Dear Mr. Wertheim:

The following message for you from Meilich Neustadt was received through the American Consulate in Jerusalem under date of October 23, 1944:

"There is danger of deportation of Slovakian Jews all of whom are in concentration camps and their situation is grave. From Camp Novacky there were freed by Partisans 1800 Jews and among them Chalutzim who joined Partisans at once. Information from Hungary indicates that just a few hundred have been included in camps protected by Jewish community and Red Cross. In Hungary Swedish and Swiss offices are protecting and assisting to extent possible. At end of September, following interruption of several weeks, the Hungarian-Italian commando appeared Budapest. For only a short period could our friends intervene. Red Cross and Pope were informed by them. In Rumania our friends advise work pursued with scope enlarged and resuming TRIBUNA NOASTRA newspaper. The Jewish Shatfanim in Bulgaria endeavor to affix their seal on life of Jews and took possession of consistory. Efforts to renew work and protect interests of Zionists are being made by our friends. Reference to inquiry of Mereminski regarding collaboration Bengurion with Otetsch Estwen front, at present only possibility whatever for organizational or political activity. Participating this front are Communists, Peasant Party, Social Democrats, and Right Party personalities. At Paris party council conferred and decided to publish weeklies in French and Yiddish and in Belgium party activity was also resumed. Cables received from Tatrak regarding reference of Segal to travel Rumania, at present only journalists are permitted. Possible that TOG or other newspaper designate me as its correspondent but recommendation to United States Legation Istanbul also Jerusalem then necessary with view urging Turkish visa and Palestine exit."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. David Wertheim,
Poale Zion Organization,
45 East 17th Street,
New York 3, New York.

RDrury 10/26/44

00013

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISON OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

War Ref Bd (Mr. Pehle)

LC - 105
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency. ~~(RESTRICTED)~~

Jerusalem

Dated October 23, 1944

Rec'd 7:50 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
1944 OCT 24 PM 4 02
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

Secretary of State,

Washington.

159, October 23, 5 p.m.

Meilich Neustadt requests that the following message be transmitted to David Weirheim Paolo Zion Organization, 45 East 17th Street, New York:

"Danger deportation Slovakian Jews all in concentration camps their situation bad. 1800 Jews were freed from Novacky Camp by Partisans and at once Chalutzim among them joined Partisans. According to information from Hungary only few hundreds (?) have been incorporated in camps under the protection of Red Cross and Jewish community. Swiss and Swedish offices in Hungary helping and protecting according to their possibilities. After several weeks interruption the Hungarian-Italian commando appeared Budapest end of September. Our friends could intervene only for a short time. They informed Red Cross and Pope. Our friends in

CONTROL COPY

Message sent 10/26/44 RS

009 14

friends in Rumania inform pursue work enlarged scope resuming newspaper TRIBUNA NOASTRA. In Bulgaria Jewish Shatfanim try affix their seal on Jewish life they took possession consistory. Our friend endeavor renew work and safeguard Zionist interests. Reference Merominsky inquiry to Benguion on Bengurion collaboration with Otetsch Estwen front now only possibility for whatever political or organizational activity. Communists Social Democrats, Peasant Party and Right Party personalities participate this front. Party council met at Paris decided publish Yiddish and French weeklies, party activity also resumed Belgium. Received cables Tatrak over Segal reference travel Rumania presently journalists only allowed perhaps TOG of other newspaper appoint me its correspondent and then recommendation necessary to United States Legation Instanbul and also Jerusalem viewing urging Turkish visa also Palestine exit".

PINKERTON

WMB

108 15

2 (WRB)

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington

TO: American Consulate General, Jerusalem

DATED: October 24, 1944

NUMBER: 171

[redacted]

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Please deliver the following message to Melech Neustadt, Yehuda Halevi 40, Tel Aviv, from Poale Zion Organization:

QUOTE Yours September 23rd received through War Refugee Board. Permission for your entry into Rumania being raised with our State Department. Will keep you advised. UNQUOTE

STETTINIUS
(Acting)

CONTROL COPY

WAR REFUGEE BOARD
RECEIVED

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 11 1972

CABLE TO AMERICAN CONSULATE, JERUSALEM, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Malach Neustadt, Yehuda Halevi 40, Tel Aviv, from Poale Zion Organization:

QUOTE YOURS SEPTEMBER 23RD RECEIVED THROUGH WAR REFUGEE BOARD. PERMISSION FOR YOUR ENTRY INTO RUMANIA BEING RAISED WITH OUR STATE DEPARTMENT. WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED UNQUOTE

Copy sent Poale Zion Organization 10/20/44 RS

2:15 p.m.
October 20, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Files

FH:hd 10/20/44

CABLE ADDRESS
"AMPOALIM"

TELEPHONE
GRAMERCY 7-8880

Poale Zion Organization
45 EAST 17th STREET
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

October 10,1944.

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Thanks for your letter of September 27 with the message received for us from Melech Neustadt from Palestine.

Through our good friend, Mr. Spiegler of Washington, D.C. we contacted Mr. Houston of the State Department, who, as we understand, is in charge of the Roumanian affairs in the State Department. We were informed by Mr. Spiegler that at present there is no official representative of the American government in Roumania, that such representation is in the process of being formed and will leave for Roumania in the near future, as soon as travel facilities will have been arranged. When the American Commission arrives in Roumania, it will be a part of the Allied Control Commission presided over by the Soviet High Command. At that time representations may be made by our State Department, through its commission in Roumania, requesting the Soviet High Command to facilitate Mr. Neustadt's entry into Roumania.

We would like to transmit this information to Mr. Neustadt. Is it possible for your office to help us in the transmission? Of course we will cover all the cable charges. We are enclosing the text of the cable we would like to send and will gladly accept any suggestion you may have as to the change in text so as to make it acceptable for transmission.

Thank you very much for your help. We look forward to hearing from you about this matter.

Sincerely yours,

David Wertheim

David Wertheim, Secretary

10/20/44
Cleared cleared
with Wertheim

0009 18

TEXT OF CABLE WE SHOULD LIKE TO SEND TO
MR. NEUSTADT.

MELECH NEUSTADT
YEHUDA HALEVI 40
TELAVIV (PALESTINE)

YOURS SEPTEMBER 23rd RECEIVED THROUGH WAR REFUGEE BOARD. THERE IS NO OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT IN ROUMANIA YET. SUCH REPRESENTATION BEING FORMED NOW. WHEN FORMED WILL BECOME PART OF ALLIED CONTROL COMMISSION PRESIDED OVER BY SOVIET HIGH COMMAND. WHEN ALLIED COMMISSION BEGINS TO FUNCTION WE WILL APPLY THROUGH OUR STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE ALLIED COMMISSION TO FACILITATE YOUR ENTRY.

DAVID WERTHEIM.

000019

ADDRESS: "JEWNAWALL"

TELEPHONE: STUYVESANT 9-4677

National Workers' Alliance

DAVID PINSKI, PRESIDENT
J. ENTEEN, VICE-PRESIDENT
DR. A. MARGULIS, TREAS.
LOUIS SEGAL, SECRETARY
S. BURSTEIN, ASST. SEC.
J. KATZMAN, ASST. TO SEC.
PH. GINGOLD, EDUC. DIR.

DR. ISAAC GROSSMAN
CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR

S. H. AND LEE J. WOLFE
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DR. D. T. SOMMER
M. SILVERBERG
R. THEMPER

45 EAST 17th STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

October 10, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle,

Many thanks for the copy of your letter of September 27th, 1944, addressed to Mr. David Wertheim, dealing with the request of Mr. Melech Neustadt of Tel Aviv that he be afforded an opportunity to visit Roumania.

I would highly appreciate receiving advice from you as to how the request of Mr. Neustadt can be granted and to which Department should an application on his behalf be made.

Considering his visit to Roumania of the utmost importance, I would be very thankful to you for any cooperation you can give me in this matter.

I am,

Very sincerely yours,

LOUIS SEGAL
General Secretary

LS:PMK
AFOE

300920