

RADIO BROADCASTS (ABRAHAMSON'S FILES)

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REPORT ON DISCUSSION AT
STAFF MEETING ON MARCH 22

*Rafio
Prousbastny*

There was a brief discussion of both the Unitarian Service Committee Plan and the plan later submitted by the Committee on Special Refugee Problems. It was decided:

1. That we make every effort to encourage the Unitarian Committee program both with advice and assistance in content on the one hand and with aid and fund-raising on the other.

2. That the second program is on the whole undesirable because it involves asking OWI to defray some expense and because it does not have a properly established relationship between private and public responsibility. It was also agreed that this negative reaction does not preclude the possibility of WRB furnishing all sorts of proper material from any source whatsoever to the OWI for use whenever the material meets the standards of OWI. It was finally felt that there was no point at this time in asking for a regularly assigned period of time.

3. That the entire problem be turned over to Mr. Weinstein when he reports for work in a few days.

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MEMORANDUM ON JOY'S TWO PROPOSALS
FOR BROADCASTING THROUGH OWI FACILITIES

On February 23, Charles R. Joy submitted in behalf of the Unitarian Service Committee a detailed plan which is referred to below as the Unitarian Plan. In a memorandum dated March 18, Mr. Joy submitted a second program sponsored by the newly formed Committee on Special Refugee Problems. This is referred to below as the Committee Plan.

In general, the Unitarian Plan calls for the use of Station WRUL, for private financing (\$10,000 for six months) which would be raised by the Unitarian Committee, and for the release by OWI of two of the transmitters for three hours a day. WRB participation would be limited to procuring the OWI time and to a vague supervision of the program. The contents of the program would presumably be prepared by the group in New York.

The Committee Plan has the following general characteristics. WRB is to ask OWI for thirty minutes a day and for the assignment of an OWI person in New York as liaison. OWI is to pay for office and script writing expenses. The program itself, as in the case of the Unitarian Plan, would be prepared by the committee in New York.

The principal differences between the two plans follow:

1. Under the Unitarian Plan the project is essentially privately financed and privately conducted, with OWI and WRB keeping their own apparent and real participation to a minimum. The Committee Plan, on the other hand, projects two government agencies, particularly OWI, into positions of prominence.
2. Partly as a result of No. 1 above, the Unitarian Plan relieves WRB of any awkwardness resulting from the make-up of the Committee or from the charge that public funds are used for a program originated by private sources.

A possible program follows. It is basically the Unitarian plan, except that OWI facilities are used in place of WRUL.

1. The OWI shall furnish the time.
2. WRB shall be the channel through which the Committee feeds programs and ideas.
3. The Unitarian Committee shall finance the project and insure program content.
4. A member of the WRB staff shall spend some of his time in New York to make sure that the program is carried out.

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
MAIL REFERENCE SLIP

To: *Mr. Abrahamson*
(1) (Room) (Date)
(2) (Room) (Date)
(3) (Room) (Date)

*Please follow this up &
discuss with Peble*

JBF

Pres. Advisory Council

From: (Date)

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after

- 1) ~~Work~~ ^{group} ~~group~~
- 2) ~~Unitarian~~ ^{Com.} ~~Com.~~ ^{OK}

We prepare
stuff - try about

Perle says
not so hot -

Suggests discussion
Wednesday meeting

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LIST OF PROJECTS
UNDERTAKEN BY THE OFFICE AT 144 BLEECKER STREET
NEW YORK 12, N. Y.

1. Evacuation of Spanish and Non-Spanish Republicans from Portugal and Spain.
Unitarian Service Committee
2. Swedes for Rescue Mission to Rumania and Other Occupied Lands.
Louis Dolivet
3. Correspondents in Switzerland, Sweden, and Palestine.
General Julius Deutsch
4. Assistance of the Labor Movement.
J. Stolz
5. Use of the Radio { *D. suggests Davis assign one man - 30 minutes a day to languages - JWA to furnish program to speakers - Russia important to do the same.*
Unitarian Service Committee
6. The Opening of Various Countries to Refugee Immigration.
7. Work in and through Rumania
Charles Davila
8. Evacuation of Non-Spanish Republican Refugees from Portugal to the United States.
Unitarian Service Committee
9. What the International Red Cross Can Do.
10. Removal of Stateless Refugees from Spain to North Africa
Louis Dolivet
11. Unofficial Personnel at Key Centers.
12. The Problem of Germany
13. The Problem of Hungary
Rustin Vambery

*States
Delia
Special
events*

14. The Problem of Russia.

15. The Establishment of the Unitarian Service Committee in Spain.

Unitarian Service Committee

16. Use of Official Pouch and Codes by Private Agencies.

17. Repatriation of American Citizens.

Unitarian Service Committee

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Publicity

DRAFT

QUOTES FOR MR. PEHLE'S SPEECH IN CHICAGO BEFORE JDC, APRIL 2

John W. Pehle, Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, told leaders of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee yesterday that the War Refugee Board is using all the power and prestige of the United States Government to save the victims of Nazi persecution who can still be rescued. He said the diplomatic, fiscal and military resources of the Government as well as the facilities of the Office of War Information and other agencies have been marshaled for the job.

"The present military situation in the Balkans presents the greatest challenge to the Board in changing the attitude of the enemy," Mr. Pehle declared. "President Roosevelt's recent warning to Germany and her satellites of the consequences of further persecutions in their territories, and the subsequent British endorsement of that warning have provided heavy ammunition on the psychological warfare front. Cooperating with the War Refugee Board, the Office of War Information and the British Broadcasting Company have carried and will continue ^{to carry} America's message in every language to every land."

Mr. Pehle emphasized that the Board was using all methods in its rescue work -- formal and informal, direct and indirect, conventional and unconventional. All of these methods, he said, have as their goal the rescue of human beings, particularly Jews, from the barbarism of the enemy.

Stressing the importance of collaboration between the War Refugee Board and private agencies operating in the refugee field, Mr. Pehle asserted that the War Refugee Board offers new opportunities for private philanthropies to operate. Such collaboration, he said, is "the best method of obtaining quick results in a desperate period."

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Paying tribute to the work of the JDC, he said: "It has done a magnificent job. Its experience, its personnel, its know-how, and its funds have been of invaluable assistance to the work of the War Refugee Board in rescuing the helpless, homeless and stateless refugees of Europe." He added that the War Refugee Board had received excellent suggestions from the chairman of the JDC's European committee "who knows situations first hand."

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D R A F T

QUOTES FOR PEHLE'S SPEECH IN CHICAGO BEFORE J.D.D. APRIL 2

The War Refugee Board is bending every effort and using every means to save the Jews in Europe. This is the function assigned to the Board when it was created on January 22. That this is still its function is indicated by the following sentence from President Roosevelt's statement of March 22:

"Insofar as the necessity of military operations permit, this Government will use all means at its command to aid the escape of all victims of the Nazi and Jap executioner -- regardless of race or religion or color."

I want to assure you in all sincerity that I take this assignment seriously. As you can imagine, it is not a simple task. One day's changes in the European military situation can easily undo weeks of work in perfecting rescue programs. The recent events in the Balkans furnish a good example of this difficulty.

In our rescue work we are using all methods - formal and informal, direct and indirect, conventional and unconventional - but all these methods have as their goal the rescue of human beings - particularly Jews - from the barbarism of the enemy.

In this work we need the help of private agencies. We need their experience, their advice, their personnel, their active participation and their money. Our work would suffer seriously from both delay and

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ineffectiveness were we unable to use these resources.

High on the list of voluntary agencies that have proved of immense value to us is the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee - known in the United States as J.D.C. and on the Continent as "Joint". We have drawn heavily upon J.D.C. already for advice and for funds. We have been in touch with its representatives both here and abroad. I want to express my gratitude to J.D.C. for its help and to you for your support of its noble activities.

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1. Evac. from Spain —
2. Sweden
3. Correspondence Sweden ^{Island} & Palestine
4. Labors
5. Radio
6. Opening of countries to immigration

AGENDA

March 17, 1944.

1. Report on projects
7. Rumania
 2. Mr. Dolivet's visit to Washington
8. Portugal
 3. The Use of the Radio
8. NOS refugees
 4. Cooperation in South America
9. Intercomms
 5. Question of Polish representation
10. Stateless
 6. Suggestions from Mr. Abramson
10. N. Africa
 7. Organization
11. Staff
 - a) attitude of War Refugee Board
 - b) attitude of President's War Relief Control Board
 - c) By Laws
 - d) officers
 - e) question of finances
11. Personnel
12. Germany
13. Hungary
14. Russia
15. Unemployment in Spain
16. Use of pouch & codes
17. Repatriation of American Citizens

Biographical sketches of members of Dr. Joy's

Committee

J. Alvarez del Vayo served for many years as European correspondent of LA NACION of Buenos Aires. Best known as former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Spanish Republic; was President of Chaco Commission which investigated the Paraguayan-Bolivian conflict.

Dr. Charles A. Davila former Rumanian Minister to Washington; Honorary President of Rumanian-American Alliance for Democracy.

Sava Kasonovitch member of Yugoslav Parliament and Secretary General of the Democratic Independent Party.

Rustem Vamberry Dean emeritus and former Professor of Criminology at the University of Budapest; now lecturer at the New School for Social Research and Chairman of the Committee for a New Democratic Hungary.

Milos Safranek Former Chief of the press service at the Czechoslovak Legation in Paris and former Counselor at the Czechoslovak Foreign Office.

General Julius Deutsch former Minister of War of the Austrian Republic; leader of labor movement; General in the Loyalist Army during the Spanish Civil War.

Dr. Henry A. Atkinson Director of Church Peace Union; general secretary World Alliance for International Friendship through the Churches.

Col. Randolfo Pacciardi now editor of La Legion dell' Italia del Popolo; one of the outstanding fighters in the Italian Underground movement; organizer of the Garibaldi Battalion, later of the Twelfth International Brigade, which fought against the Fascists in Spain.

Bogdan Raditso publicist and press chief of the Yugoslav Information Center in the United States.

Basil Vlavianos Editor and Publisher of the National Herald - Greek.

Dr. Sulvain Cahn-Debré French lawyer who made a trip to Russia for the Red Cross during the first years of the Soviet regime. Now making an extensive study of various organizations' plans for the future.

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J. Stolz Advisor on Social Legislation for the Czechoslovak Ministry of Labor; previously assistant secretary of the International Federation of Trade Unions. Vice President of the pending technical committee for displaced persons, connected with UNRRA.

Varian Fry, former editor of "Living Age", then member of the staff of the Foreign Policy Association, then, in 1940, went to France for the Emergency Rescue Committee, now Executive Secretary of the American Labor Conference on International Affairs.

Mrs. Lily Krier-Becker wife of former Luxembourg Minister.

William Rosenblatt a businessman very much interested in the liberal cause, active in support of many progressive undertakings, and a close friend of Mr. del Vayo.

Stojan Gavrilovitch - *to be filled in*

Dr. Robert Dexter

Dr. William Emerson

Mr. Louis Dolivet

Mr. Henry Muller

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Broadcast

Excerpt from Leon Henderson's broadcast, February 5, 1944

Further revelation of Jap atrocities continued this week. We are apt to forget that Nazi brutality toward millions of Jews, Poles, Czechs, and Russians has been just as ferocious and long-continued.

The President has established a War Refugee Board and appointed an outstanding public official, John W. Pehle, as acting executive director. In directing the Board to use all of the powers of this Government to rescue the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death, the President reflected the will of a nation profoundly shocked with Axis bestiality. His action was that of a nation deeply conscious that its free citizens today are descendants of yesterday's victims of persecution.

The appointment of Pehle is another indication that the President and the Board members are looking for action, not just words. Pehle is a young - thirty-five years old - hardbitting lawyer from the corn belt who has directed Secretary Morgenthau's Foreign Funds Control Division for nearly four years. Foreign Funds Control has done a swell, but little publicized, job in this Government's program of economic warfare against the Axis. It was this Division which has prevented the Axis from using the financial facilities of this country to finance espionage and other subversive activities. The presence of Hull, Morgenthau, and Stimson on the Board, plus the appointment of Pehle, ought to mean that we have stopped being cowards about the persecuted people of Europe.

In this country, we emphasize concepts of human freedom and the dignity of the individual.

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