Requests for Aid to Jews - General: Bernstein, Roslyn (Miss)
In reply please refer to: 471

Dear Miss Bernstein:

I have your letter of April 1, 1944, and its enclosure, concerning Jewish refugees in Europe.

The interest which you have shown in the refugee problem is appreciated. I assure you that the War Refugee Board is doing everything in its power to provide speedy and effective rescue programs to save the persecuted minorities of Europe who are in imminent danger of death.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Roslyn Bernstein,
690 Ft. Washington Ave.,
New York, New York,
April 1, 1944
Miss Roslyn Bernstein
690 Ft. Washington Ave.
New York, N. Y.

John W. Pehle, Exec. Director
War Refugee Board
Washington, D. C.

My dear Sir:

As a private citizen and a good Jew, I appeal to you to see to it that Jewish refugees who cannot be admitted to Palestine can at least be allowed temporary passage through Palestine to North Africa, where they will be fed, clothed, and hospitalized by a Jewish agency and your board in cooperation with the International Red Cross, if possible. As a Jew, I hate to see the Balfour promise repudiated, especially at this dangerous hour, but I am realistic; if our humane President opposes condemnation of the White Paper at this time, there must be sound military reasons. The Arab people do not have any conceivable grievances against Zionism, but the princes and potentates who control them are both envious and fearful of the industrial revolution, which the Jews are bringing to the Near East. They know that it will sooner or later replace their power. Our military strategy depends heavily on the cooperation of the Near East, both because of the oil problem, which will become more difficult as the war moves to the East and involves even longer shipping routes, and the fact that United Nations' troops may have to violate the national sovereignty of the Near Eastern states to reconquer Burma and China from the West. Actually the Palestine problem itself is largely a trumped-up issue between the Jews and British imperial ambitions. Great Britain has deliberately appeased the Moslem elements for so long that she cannot stop appeasing them. She does not want to waste manpower policing other Moslem states the way she has had to in police Iraq.

In spite of these seemingly insurmountable obstacles, I do not see why people who apply for admission to Palestine do not get instead permanent visas to North Africa, temporary visas to Palestine where they can get food, clothing, and rest for a year in Haifa Hospital; and free passage through Egypt to United Nations territory in North Africa where they can reside and learn a trade, till a genuine peace shall end their wanderings forever. I, Myself, together with other movie patrons have seen newsreels of camps set up in Italy for Yugoslavian refugees. No questions were asked; no credentials demanded.

In view of these facts I and thousands of other sincere Americans cannot understand why your board cannot have a conference with Lord Halifax, asking him to have these compromises in the White Paper put through for the sake of humanity. Appeal to him as a former high churchman and Christian as well as British ambassador. Remind him how the Jewish people in free territory found room in their hearts and their pocketbooks for the needs of British children when they were suffering bombing attacks at the hands of the very same enemy; how they also had contributed to Chinese war relief, and sent their sons to fight against the Fascists in Spain, when this war really started. Remind him how liberally they contributed even though their own needs...
were pressing enough. Remind him also that Christianity owes its very existence to Judaism and that the Jewish contribution to culture is far older than either the British or Germanic cultures. Also, that while their history is one continuous story of bloody persecution, they have never ceased to rear world-famous philosophers, musicians, scientists, and statesmen, thus managing to win themselves into the hearts of their compatriots of Gentile faith, until some tyrant began a religious war. Surely, if the greatness of a people was judged by their traditions and culture rather than their wealth of iron and oil, or the might of their military forces, the Jews would have preference over the Arabs, who have contributed a good deal to the Nazi cause of late. We can accept the White Paper as an inevitable evil, necessary if we want to get along with Middle-Eastern states, but we do not have to deliberately appease either Hitler or his friend, the Grand Mufti of Palestine, who are both undoubtedly overjoyed at the decision of Washington and London. Surely not to actively oppose the Nazi extermination policy is to condone it.

I hope you understand that I fully appreciate the work your committee is already accomplishing in this field. As an active worker in The Committee to Save the Jews of Europe, I helped as much as I could to bring about the creation of your Board. This is simply an argument advocating a method of avoiding the main evils of that infamous doctrine, the White Paper. If you can do nothing without further legislation and you agree with this method, I hope you will speak to Representative Cellar, Will Rogers, and Senator Wagner. But if legislation is not necessary then I hope you will try to influence Lord Halifax to act on behalf of Jewish children and civilians, but will get him to act immediately, even to call the Prime Minister long distance at the expense of the Jewish agencies, stating that the United States, as a mandatory power cannot condone the White Paper as it is written at present, but recommends the following compromises. Even if your board, or the President himself, fails at convincing the British government of the cold-blooded cruelty of the White Paper at a time like this, Jewish Americans and other well-intentioned Americans will be grateful to you and feel they really belong to a country worth fighting for. Just in case Ambassador Halifax does not fully understand the consequences of that law, or does not care, I am enclosing this editorial and drawing by Arthur Szyk, which speaks for itself.

Yours very respectfully,
Weirton Steel Sheriff Arrests 25 To Block Union

U. S. Faces Showdown On AMG Flop In Italy

White Paper Shuts Door on 4 Million Jews

Yanks Attack Palau Islands

Winchell Won’t Be Gagged After All

 Politician Can Grab Pay Boost If Dewey Signs

‘Sleeper Will Unfreeze Salary of Republican Holding Useless Job’

Szyk Drawing Page 2... Editorial by Max Lerner Page 3

PM TELLS YOU MORE NEWS IN LESS TIME
The Shutting of a Door

Tomorrow, on April 19, 1939, the British White Paper on Palestine, which has long been awaited, is expected to be published. The paper is likely to bring about a change in the status of the Jewish community in Palestine.

The British government has decided to close the gates to further immigration into Palestine. This decision was taken after careful consideration of the situation in the region. The new policy aims to ensure that the balance of the population in Palestine remains stable, with no significant influx of migrants from abroad.

This move is seen as a significant step towards maintaining the status quo in the region. The decision is likely to have far-reaching implications for the future of the Jewish community in Palestine and the overall geopolitical landscape of the Middle East.

The British government has stated that the closure of the gates is temporary and will be reviewed in the future. However, the timing and duration of the closure remain uncertain.

The Shutting of a Door...
“Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.”—Article 1, Bill of Rights, U.S. Constitution.

25 Unionists Arrested at Weirton Passing Out Handbills

Accused of ‘Unlawful Assemblage’

USW Will Seek Court Test

By James T. Jordan

WEIRTON, W. Va., Mar. 31.—Twenty-five members of the United Steelworkers, CIO, were arrested here yesterday when they attempted to distribute handbills to employees of the Weirton Steel Co., urging them to jolt the union, there was no violence.

Sheriff Richard Wright, with club in hand, took five members CIO, from the gates of Weirton Mills at Weirton, to the county jail. They were booked for refusing to answer questions, refusing to dispose of or give me any such assistance, upon my testimony, in reality of the union of steel and subject to a put nuisance. They were given a short time to get them to a safe place, and then to leave the premises.

Yesterday's arrests came about two weeks after five USW members were arrested in a strike at Weirton Steel's Dwight plant. The latter union was called to the strike, although the plant was closed down at 3:30 A.M., Friday, March 31, 1943.

The southernmost town in the state, with a population of about 10,000, was a center of labor disturbances in 1932, when the strike in the steel industry led to a general strike. The strike lasted a year and a half, and was followed by the formation of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO.

In the meantime, the strike continued, and the company agreed to distribute handbills to its employees.

The handbills called for the end of the strike, and for the employees to return to work.

Sheriff Wright, with club in hand, led five members of the USW, who were given a short time to get their act together, and then to leave the premises.

The handbills were distributed by the union, and were given to the employees at the plant. The union members were then given a short time to get their act together, and then to leave the premises.

The strike lasted a year and a half, and was followed by the formation of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO.

Boston Booksellers Yield

To Ban on Another Book

Boston, Mar. 11—On the heels of the suppression of the book, "Strange Fruit," comes the latest revelation of another recent ban—"Stones and Straw." The book was published by the Houghton Mifflin Co., and is being sold by local bookstores.

Jack Green, a veteran of the CIO, was one of the authors who had been blacklisted by the union.

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NMU Suit Against ‘Tribune’ Quashed

A motion of the Chicago Tribune to suppress the suit brought against it by three members of the National Maritime Union, CIO, was sustained by Judge Philip L. Haldane of the U.S. District Court.

The suit, filed last July, charged that the Tribune on Jan. 30, 1943, failed to pay all the wages due to the members of the NMU, who had been blacklisted by the newspaper.

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Fan Mail

Mrs. Charles Hoffmann, Realie, from Middletown, Ohio; and Mrs. Elva J. Rankin, from Middletown, Ohio; were among the many who sent in letters to the Chicago Tribune, expressing their approval of the latest revelation of another recent ban—"Stones and Straw." The book, written by the Houghton Mifflin Co., is being sold by local bookstores.

The book was sold by local bookstores.

The strike lasted a year and a half, and was followed by the formation of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO.
FOR LATE WAR NEWS, PICTURES

O’Donnell Gets Backtalk
But Does He Hear It?

By RUSSELL BISHOP

Happened to be reading John O’Donnell’s last book concerning the Daily News the other day. Nothing new, of course, but it did prompt me to think back to when I was a young man and John O’Donnell was a young man, too, writing the news for the Daily News.

I have been a newspaper editor for over 50 years and I have always believed in the importance of having a good editor. John O’Donnell was one of the best editors I have ever worked with.

John O’Donnell (in his column) American existence and bases in our old foes. Italian campaigns are not significant, except in terms of short-term advantages. The political situation in the United States is the most noteworthy event in the world, and it is the main reason for the political situation in the United States.

I don’t think the world will ever forget John O’Donnell. He was a great editor and a great man.

A THING OR TWO

I don’t think the world will ever forget John O’Donnell. He was a great editor and a great man.

Tom O’Reilly...

America still has a long way to go before she can become a real power. The United States is still a young country and it will take many years before she can become a world power.

Soviet Foreign Policy Is Not So Enigmatic

It is true that the Soviet Union has been more aggressive than the United States, but it is also true that the United States has been more aggressive than the Soviet Union.

I don’t think the world will ever forget John O’Donnell. He was a great editor and a great man.