CROSS REFERENCE ON SELFHELP OF EXIGEES FROM CENTRAL EUROPE, INC.

**FOR:**

- [ ] Amendment to this License
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- [ ] Other (Specify)

**For relative material -**

SEE: SELFHELP OF EXIGEES FROM CENTRAL EUROPE, INC. - LICENSES
Dear Dr. Weissmann:

There are enclosed with this letter personnel data on several candidates for UNHRA positions which were forwarded to you from the Committee for the Placement of Intellectual Refugees in Geneva through the United States Legation in Bern.

Very truly yours,

William O'Deyer
Executive Director

Dr. Fred S. Weissmann,
Self-Help of Enigres from Central Europe, Inc.,
New York, New York.

Enclosure.
March 24, 1945.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

Recently I received a letter from the "Committee for the Placement of Intellectual Refugees" in Geneva informing me that their correspondent in the United States, SELMHELP, had wired them to the effect that there might be a possibility of securing UNRRA jobs for intellectual refugees of French and German language background and a knowledge of social work. The committee therefore sends me the Curriculum Vitae of a number of their more likely candidates which I am sending on to you attached hereto. It would be much appreciated if you would forward them to: Dr. Fred S. Weissmann, Self-Help of Emigrés from Central Europe, Inc. New York City.

Very sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

Enclosure: 8 curriculum vitae for Self-Help

Brigadier General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D. C.
Rear Dr. Weissman:

I have your letter of January 19, 1945, requesting an appointment on February 23rd.

I suggest that you call my office upon your arrival in Washington on that day to arrange for a definite appointment.

Very truly yours,

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Dr. Fred S. Weissman,
Executive Secretary,
Selfhelp of Refugees from Central Europe, Inc.,
139 Centre Street,
New York 13, N. Y.
My dear Miss Hodel:

I shall be in Washington on February 25th (Friday), and I should like to take the opportunity of coming to see you and of discussing some problems with you.

Would you be kind enough to let me know whether I may see you in the morning of that day.

Thanking you in advance,

Very truly yours,

Fred S. Weissman
Executive Secretary.
September 11, 1944.

Miss Florence Hodel
Assistant to the Executive Secretary
For Refugee Board
Washington 15 D.C.

My dear Miss Hodel,

This is to confirm our telephone conversation of today. I am very grateful that I can see you on Monday, September 25th, 1944 at 10:30 am.

Respectfully yours,

Fred S. Weissman
Executive Secretary
CABLE TO MRS.

From War Refuge Board to Harrison

Please deliver the following message to Mrs. Fanny Hirsch, Comite Refugges Intellectuals, 7 Rue Gautier, Geneva, from Fred S. Weissman of the Selfhelp of Refugees from Central Europe, Inc.

"Received first report. Transferred meanwhile additional $11,000, earmarked exclusively for rescue work in enemy occupied countries. If feasible, use funds in cooperation with Sutro. Give detailed reports whenever possible. No objections against spending France 700 once for Merits Thilde Heilbrunner. Cooperate closely with McClelland."

THIS IS WKB CABLE TO BEEN CC.

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June 17, 1944
1:20 p.m.

DA / Philab 6/17/44
Selfhelp
OF EMIGRES FROM CENTRAL EUROPE, Inc.
139 CENTRE STREET

June 12, 1944

Executive Office of the President
Her Refuges Board
Washington 25, D.C.

My dear Mr. Fehl:

This is to confirm receipt of the measure from our colleagues in Switzerland which you kindly transferred to us on June 4th.

Referring to our conversation with Miss Florence Haas, I should be very grateful if you could forward the following reply to Mr. Harry Flesch, Credit Refineries International, 7 Rue Gaitier, Geneva (Switzerland):

"Received first report. Transferred meanwhile additional $21,000, earmarked exclusively for rescue work in enemy occupied countries. If possible, use funds in cooperation with others. Give detailed reports whenever possible. No objections against speeding Fumes 700 once for work. Hilde Halbrooker. Cooperate closely with McGlennon."

Thanking you in advance very much for your kind consideration.

Yours respectfully yours,

Fred S. Feissman
Executive Secretary.
Selfhelp
OF EMIGRES FROM CENTRAL EUROPE, Inc.
139 CENTRE STREET
June 1, 1944

Miss Florence Hodel
Refugee Board
U.S. Treasury
Washington, D.C.

Dear Miss Model:

This is to confirm our telephone conversation of the other day according to which you have kindly granted me an interview for next Wednesday, June 7, 1944, at 2:30 p.m.

Thanking you for your kind cooperation,

Respectfully yours,

Fred S. Baisman
Executive Secretary.
Selfhelp
OF EMIGRES FROM CENTRAL EUROPE, Inc.
139 CENTRE STREET
June 1, 1944

Mr. Herbert Katzki
War Refugee Board
U.S. Treasury
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Katzki:

With reference to our telephone conversation of the other day, I should like to inform you that I have an appointment to see Miss Hodel next Wednesday, June 7, at 2:30 p.m.

I am wondering and should be very grateful if you could give me a chance to speak to you, too, that same afternoon. Would it be possible that I come to see you then I am through with the discussion with Miss Hodel?

Hoping that you will be good enough to drop me a line and let me know whether it suits you,

Very sincerely yours,

Fred S. Weisenseel
Executive Secretary.
April 20, 1944

Referring to the telephone conversation you had with our Executive Secretary, Fr. Weissman, I want to inform you that our group would feel highly honored if you or another representative of the War Refugees Board could be with us at the annual meeting of our Board of Directors, scheduled for either May 8 or 15, 1944.

This annual meeting will be held at the Quakers' "Foxell House," 136 West 74th Street, New York, in a small circle, without any publicity. The Directors of our Board are all deeply interested in the situation of the people left behind in Europe, and we should be very glad if we could have a short survey of the policy of the War Refugees Board and the work we can do within its scope.

Looking forward to your favorable consideration,

respectfully yours,

Paul Tillsch
President
Dear Friends:

The rescue program of the newly established War Refugee Board has given us the much desired opportunity of extending - through our committee in Switzerland - help to people in certain enemy occupied countries, who are in danger of starvation or who may be able to find refuge in a neutral country if means for escape are available. Of course, this rescue work is very difficult, but we are sure that our friends in Switzerland will do everything in their power to bring effective relief. It is our task to supply them with the necessary funds.

During the past two years, it was a matter of great concern that there was no possibility of assisting our dear ones trapped in Europe. Now that we have once more an opportunity of doing something for them, it is up to us to be generous. We count on your cooperation and urge you very strongly, indeed, to do your utmost to raise the largest possible funds among the emigres living in safety, so that the greatest possible number of refugees still in Europe may escape persecution and starvation.

Please send us your special contribution and earmark it for our rescue work in Europe.

SELFHELP OF EMIGRES FROM CENTRAL EUROPE, INC.

P.O. Box 77, Canal Street Station
New York 13, N.Y.

Date: ____________________

Please find enclosed my check - money order for $__________________
as my special contribution earmarked for your rescue work in Europe.

(Name - please print)

(Address)

3/4/44
MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Mr. O'Flaherty and I talked with Dr. Weissman today concerning the desire of his organization to aid needy refugees in France. Dr. Weissman stated that the proposal contained in his letter of January 25, 1944, to Mr. Hillikopf to the effect that a fund be established in this country against which borrowing could be effected in Switzerland was made because of the difficulties they have encountered in the past in obtaining Swiss francs. He stated that his organization had some funds which they desire to send at once to Switzerland for relief and evacuation purposes provided a good rate could be obtained for the necessary Swiss francs. The recent developments in the Swiss franc situation were explained to Dr. Weissman and, in particular, it was stated that the Swiss have indicated a fairly liberal attitude for remittances for relief purposes.

It was suggested to Dr. Weissman that he submit in writing the details of the proposed program of relief and evacuation with a request for appropriate licenses to permit the transactions. It was indicated to him that the War Refugee Board would give sympathetic consideration to such a program.

F. Hodel
MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

February 4, 1944

Mr. O'Flaherty and I talked with Dr. Weissman today concerning the desire of his organization to aid needy refugees in France. Dr. Weissman stated that the proposal contained in his letter of January 24, 1944, to Mr. Hillikopf to the effect that a fund be established in this country against which borrowing could be effected in Switzerland was made because of the difficulties they have encountered in the past in obtaining Swiss francs. He stated that his organization had some funds which they desire to send at once to Switzerland for relief and evacuation purposes provided a good rate could be obtained for the necessary Swiss francs. The recent developments in the Swiss franc situation were explained to Dr. Weissman and, in particular, it was stated that the Swiss have indicated a fairly liberal attitude for remittances for relief purposes.

It was suggested to Dr. Weissman that he submit in writing the details of the proposed program of relief and evacuation with a request for appropriate licenses to permit the transactions. It was indicated to him that the War Refugee Board would give sympathetic consideration to such a program.

F. Hodel

F. Hodel 2/8/44
my dear Miss Model:

This is to thank you for today's call.

As agreed upon over the telephone, I shall be in Washington, Friday, February 4th, 1944, on the train scheduled to arrive at 1:30 p.m... I hope I can be at your office at 2:30 p.m., as discussed.

Very sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Fred S. Weissman
Executive Secretary.
Dear Mr. Hillikopf:

I have received your letter of January 26, 1944, enclosing a letter addressed to you by Dr. Fred S. Weissman.

I have referred Dr. Weissman's letter to Mr. John W. Peble, Assistant to the Secretary, and arrangements have been made to have Dr. Weissman come to Washington on February 4, 1944, to discuss his proposals in detail.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) H. S. Klotz

Mr. Jacob Hillikopf,
Labor Standards Association,
805 Bankers Securities Building,
Philadelphia 7, Pa.
January 26, 1944

Dear Mrs. Klotz:

I am sending a self-explanatory letter from Dr. Fred S. Weissman, Executive Secretary of the Selfhelp of Emigres From Central Europe, Inc., in New York City. I dislike to trouble you, and if Dr. Weissman's request adds in any way to the heavy burdens, then I will ask you not to concern yourself with it. Should you, however, write to Dr. Weissman, may I have a copy of your letter.

Kindest regards, as ever,

Cordially yours,

JACOB MILLIKOFF
Selfhelp
OF EMIGRES FROM CENTRAL EUROPE, Inc.
139 CENTRE STREET
NEW YORK 13, N.Y.

Telephone
Canal 6-8000

January 25, 1944

Mr. Jacob Billikopf
805 Banker's Security Building

Dear Mr. Billikopf:

I enjoyed it so much to have seen you again at the Annual meeting of the National Refugee Service, and I am sincerely sorry that I could talk to you only in such a rush. But your very friendly words and your mentioning of Mrs. Klotz's name have encouraged me to give some thought to a problem which has been bothering a great many of our friends for quite a while. I am still more encouraged to ask you for your never failing assistance since I have read about the appointment of the new Board for the rescue of refugees. There are still many thousand refugees in France, as far as we know, many of them in hiding, others still in camps, still others liberated and living in small villages, etc. I have seen quite a number of recent Red Cross messages in which these unfortunate people ask their relatives and friends here for help. I am aware that, according to the "Trading with the Enemy Act", money must not be transmitted to enemy occupied countries. But I also know that some relief agencies, as e.g. the American Joint Distribution Committee, have been given permission by the Treasury to guarantee to local committees in enemy occupied countries, like Shanghai, that money borrowed by local groups will be refunded by the Joint after the war.

Many emigres have friends and relatives in Switzerland who would be able and willing to advance relief payments to needy refugees in France, if only they knew that what they might advance now would be refunded to them after the war. If the Treasury permitted us to collect, from people living in this country, a trust fund, blocked here for the duration, earmarked for the sole purpose of reimbursing after the war people or groups in Switzerland that have advanced such relief payments to their dear ones in France, I feel sure that we could save many lives. As far as I know, there is no law in Switzerland against using Swiss funds for such relief purposes in France, and we have a very reliable corresponding committee in Switzerland which could give all required guarantees for the proper handling of this problem. I should be very grateful if you kindly looked into this matter and brought it to the attention of Mrs. Klotz if you should think there is a fighting chance of success. Needless to say that I should be very happy if you could help me to an appointment in Washington so that I might submit more details of this plan to the proper authorities.
Mr. Jacob Billikopf  
January 25, 1944

Such a trustfund would be useful not only for refugees in France but also with regard to people who escaped to Switzerland from France and, recently, from Italy. You may know that more than 10,000 such refugees have crossed the Swiss border and have to rely on relief, regardless of whether they are detained in camps or released and allowed to live privately in the country. The Treasury permits transfers to be made to these people, but only if effected from blocked dollar accounts, through a domestic bank. (As ourselves hold such a license and have a special transfer service, in cooperation with the Quakers). However, the whole plan does not work out properly, because the Swiss Government does not allow payments to be made over there from the blocked dollar accounts. If money which is now being sent from blocked dollar accounts to Switzerland could, instead, be put in a trust fund in this country, there might be a chance that people in Switzerland who are interested in alleviating the suffering of refugees in Switzerland were ready to advance those relief payments for the duration. You may be sure that the realization of such a plan could save a great deal of money.

It would cut short a lot of red tape, and, last not least, would give encouragement to many victims of Nazi oppression here and abroad.

I leave it to your judgment, dear Mr. Billikopf, whether you think this plan phantastic, or whether you think it worthwhile to submit the idea to Mrs. Klotz. You helped me once, 3½ years ago, to start the transfers to unoccupied France, and I am sure you are proud that this idea, which, at the time, sounded so phantastic, has meanwhile proved quite a success in transmitting funds for relief purposes to many countries. I am sure you will find the proper way also this time.

For your convenience, I enclose 2 copies of this letter.

Thanks in advance for everything you may be able to do for this idea, and many regards.

Sincerely yours,

Fred S. Weissman  
Executive Secretary.