SVENSKA, ISRAELMISSIONEN

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FFC-76
(11-42)

CROSS REFERENCE ON .....

FOR:

Amendment to this License . . . . . ☐

Extension of this License . . . . . ☐

Renewal of this License . . . . . ☐

Correspondence concerning this application . ☐

Other (Specify)

For further information concerning this organization -

SEE: BOARD OF NATIONAL MISSIONS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN THE U.S. - LICENSES - NY 635400

OTHER EVACUATION PROJECTS - RESCUE OF NORWEGIANS

00056 1

OCT 6 1944

Dear Reverend Moore:

Enclosed is a letter addressed in your care to the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention by the Svenska Israelsmissionen, which was received through the American Legation in Stockholm.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Rev. Hight C. Moore, D.D.,
161 8th Avenue N.,
Nashville, Tennessee.

Enclosure.

ENT RBHutchison:agr 9-27-44

00056 2

OCT 6 1944

Dear Dr. Hoffman:

Enclosed is a letter addressed to you by the Svenska Israelsmissionen which was received through the American Legation in Stockholm.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Conrad Hoffman,
156 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Enclosure.

EBT RBHutchison:agr 9-27-44

000563

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN LEGATION
Stockholm, Sweden
September 9, 1944

148/100/MEM

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Attached is some correspondence for Dr. Conrad Hoffman and the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention from the Svenska Israelsmissionen regarding certain funds sent to the latter, through the facilities of the War Refugee Board, for rescue and relief operations.

It would be appreciated if you would arrange to have the letters in question forwarded to the addressees.

Sincerely yours,

Iver C. Olsen
Special Attaché for
War Refugee Board

Enclosures - 2

000564

COPY

SVENSKA ISRAELSMISSIONEN
Stockholm 6

Stockholm den 6 september 1944
Idungatan 4

Dr. Conrad Hoffman
156 Fifth Ave,
New York, N.Y.

Dear Conrad:

By yesterdays mail I had the pleasure of receiving your letters of June 29th, July 25th and August 8th regarding the larg contribution you have forwarded for relief work in Roumania.

I even have the great pleasure of acknowledging the receipt of those contributions, namely,

from The Refugee Relief Fund of the Board of National Missions of the Presbyterian Church received 14/7	$5,000:-
The Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, received 21/8	$2,000:-
The Foreign Board of the Presbyterian Church received 21/8	$5,770:-.

I enclose separate receipts of those sums, and I ask you kindly to forward our most humble and hearty gratitude and thanks for these generous gifts, which mean unveluable help in our endeavours to assist suffering brethren in Europe.

I am writing a special letter of thanks to the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention, but alas you have not written me the proper address, giving them a picture of the situation xxx of the persecuted protestants in Roumania. As you perhaps know a number of about 3,000 pastors and evangelical leaders have been prisoned for years and even tortured, and their families are left to starve. In May last our Swedish ambassador intervened by the prime minister for their release and this morning I received a cable with the glad tidings of general amnesti and libration of all the imprisoned christians. Nevertheless they have to face a very difficult situation, as they and their families are without lodging, food and mainly even without clothes. As a result pastor Wurmbrand in Bukarest asks for a large sum of money for that purpose, and in agreement with Mr. Olsen I have decided to use the contribution of the Baptists of $2,000 for that purpose, which I even cabled to Bukarest/ this morning. I hope you and the Baptist committee will agree to that arrangement.

The other sums I will use for Jewish refugee relief work according to your instructions in your letter of July 25th.

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SVENSKA ISRAELSMISSIONEN
Stockholm 6

COPY

Stockholm den
Idungatan 4

Quite recently Mr. Wurmbrand asked for permission to erect a home for orphans, whose parents have died or been killed in the deportation, and we cabled $2,500 for that purpose two weeks ago. During the last 8 months of the current year we have sent to Roumania $10,000 including the last mentioned amount, and to Avram Petrushka in Jerusalem (see my letter of June 1st) we have sent $500:-.

The last week I have feared that our connection with Roumania might be broken as a result of the political developements, but yesterday and even this morning I received cables telling that the work still continues and asking for money, and so I hope we will be able to go on as before.

Later on I will give you a detailed report about our disposals of the money you kindly have sent me.

Even here in Sweden we are busy making plans for the relief work after the war and our society is prepared to send 10 pastors and deaconesses to the continent. I think it is a wise organisation to leave West Europe Holland, Belgium and France to our friends in Great Britain and America and we will direct our representatives to Germany, especially Berlin, where we still have a Swedish clergyman working in close connection to us and who is supporting Jews and Hebrew Christians who still are living there underground, and to Poland, Austria, Checkoslovakia, Hungary and Roumania. Thus I am planning to send one or two to Germany, who will have to travel through Poland seeking surviving Jews and Hebrew Christians, one or two to Theresienstadt, where many of our former volontary workers from Vienna are living, and two to Vienna, one or two to Checkoslovakia and I myself am planning to visit our missionaries in Budapest and Roumania for organizing the relief work there.

I am giving your these brief outlines, as I think you wish to have an idea of what we are planning. (long hand) Please tell me soonest possible what you are planning in these matters from America.

With warmest greetings and all good wishes.

Sincerely yours,
/s/ Birger Pernow

1) P.S. In writing this letter the Baptist organisation here in Stockholm telephoned and told me that they have decided to send through us $2,500 for the above mentioned released protestants. As I think this sum will be sufficient for the nearest time I will use the $2,500 from the Southern Baptist Convention for Jewish refugee relief work according to your instructions in your letter of July 25th.

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COPY

SVENSKA ISRAELSMISSIONEN
Stockholm 6

Stockholm den 7 September 1944
Idungatan 4

Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention,

Dear Brethren,

Through Dr. Conrad Hoffman we had the great priveledge of receiving from your society $2,000 for relief work in Roumania, and I wish to express our deepest gratitude and most hearty thanks for this generous gift. We feel it as a great priveledge to forward this money to suffering brethren and we hope it will bear a strong witness of the love of Christ, which is burning in your hearts.

As I suppose you are most interested in your fellow christian brethren in Roumania, I will try to quite briefly give you a picture of their present situation.

A number of about 3,000 pastors and evangelical leaders have been prisoned for years and even tortured and their families left to starv. Neighbours and other people were strictly forbidden to give them any kind of assistance. The last two years our society and baptistfriends here in Sweden have trhough our missionaries sent great sums for their support. In May last our Swedish ambassador intervened by the prime minister for their release and this morning I received a cable with the glad tidings of general amnesti including liberation of all the imprisoned christians. Nevertheless they have to face a very difficult situation, as they and their families are without lodging, food and mainly even without clothes. As a result our missionary in Bukarest, Rev. Wurmbrand asks for a large sum of money for that purpose.

According to that I think you wish to assist these suffering fellow christians, and in agreement with Mr. Iver C. Olsen, representative of the War Refugee Board at Stockholm, I am planning to use your large gift of $2,000 for that purpose, which I already have cabled to Bukarest, hoping that you will agree to this arrangement.

With best christian greetings,

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Stockholm 6

Stockholm den 6 september 1944
Idungatan 4

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156 Fifth Ave.
New York, N.Y.

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SVENSKA ISRAELSMISSIONEN
Stockholm 6

Stockholm den
Idungatan 4

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00569

COPY

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Stockholm 6

Stockholm den 7 September 1944
Idungatan 4

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000570

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE June 13, 1944

TO : Mr. Lesser

FROM : Mr. Abrahamson

Subject: Johnson's Cable No. 1771 (WRB No. 17) on the needs of Svenska Israel's Missienen

On June 9 I saw two persons in New York concerning the reported need of $2,000 a month by the above-mentioned missionary group operating out of Sweden.

1. I talked with Dr. Conrad Hoffmann, 156 Fifth Avenue. He is the Secretary of the International Missionary Councils Committee on the Christian Approach to the Jews. He was quite aware of the needs and reliability of the Stockholm organization and furnished me with the attached extracts from letters he had recently received. Hoffman assured me that he is at work on the problems of financing. He is approaching the American Committee for Christian Refugees, as well as other sources. He is sure that he can secure the funds and will let us know.

2. Later I saw Rev. Frederic Forell, Newcomers Christian Fellowship, 3 West 95th Street, New York City, who, incidentally, has been brought over to this country by Hoffmann. Forell contributed little light on the problem of finances but did explain in great detail the sort of work in which he is and has been engaged.

aa

Attachment

cc: Miss Hodel

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Extract from the Rev. Birger Pernow's letter, Director of the Svenska Swedish Mission, Stockholm, Sweden, written February 15, 1944 and received in New York, U. S. A. May 15, 1944.

"A week ago I received the most upsetting letter from our missionaries in Roumania I ever have read. They are telling that thousands of the Jews deported from Roumania to Ukraine are fleeing back hoping to escape the new front. 7,000 have already crossed the frontiers near the Norwegian mission stations in the most horrible conditions, many of them absolutely naked without any kind of clothes and others in rags and barefoot, living skeletons. Their appearance has made a shaking impression.....As a result, the missionaries are begging for money, and we have already sent $5,000 for that purpose. A new transport including 4,500 orphans is already on its way and they are expecting up to 200,000 deported Jews that still are living."

Extract from the Rev. Birger Pernow's letter of March 23, 1944 and received here in New York, U. S. A. June 5, 1944.

"As I have told you before, we have fully overtaken the whole financial responsibility for both him and his work in Bukarest as well as the Norwegian mission in the same country. I gave you in my letter of February 15th some details from the last events in that unhappy country, and recently we sent another $2,000 for the same purpose. Yesterday I received very encouraging letters from Pastor Solheim and Wurmbrand telling that the Swedish ambassador has been able to get the whole mission work authorized as a Swedish work. As a result Wurmbrand and the Norwegian missionaries are now regarded to be in Swedish service."

6/7/44

000572

Sweden

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

my files

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE May 27, 1944

TO Mr. Friedman

FROM Mr. Akzin

Subject: Cable No. 1771 from Stockholm, dated May 19.

I thought I ought to draw your attention to a rather delicate matter raised by this cable.

The efforts of the Missionary group to rescue Christians of Jewish origin are exceedingly praiseworthy, and, unless some Missionary or Church groups in this country are prepared to finance this work, I believe that the Board should support it financially out of its own resources.

How this cable has been referred to the Allied organization in N.Y.?

On the other hand, the attempt of this group to get Palestine certificates for Christians of Jewish origin would result in unfairness if these certificates would be taken out of the 20,000 odd certificates earmarked for Jewish immigration. If this were the case, adherents of the Jewish faith would lose that many certificates.

Would it not be possible to obtain a British assurance that Palestine certificates issued to members of this group would not be chargeable to the 20,000 odd certificates earmarked for Jews?

I don't think the British should be approached on issue, at this time.

Alternatively, would it not be preferable that the admission of these people to one of the countries of the Western Hemisphere, as immigrants or under freeport procedure, be made possible? It is quite likely that some Latin American countries would welcome these people far more readily than adherents of the Jewish faith.

BA.

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THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

File

848/ICO/MET

AMERICAN LEGATION
Stockholm, Sweden
May 22, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

As of general interest to the Board I enclose a statement regarding relief and refugee activities in Europe being carried out by the "Svenska Israelsmissionen" in Stockholm. This was mentioned with reference to our WRB cable No. 17 (Legation cable 1771 of May 19) recommending that American financial support be found for this organization.

Sincerely yours,

Iver C. Olsen

Iver C. Olsen
Special Attaché for
War Refugee Board

Enclosure - 1

000574

SOURCE: Svenska Israelsmissionen, Stockholm

RELIEF WORK OF "SVENSKA ISRAELSMISSIONEN"
SINCE 1933.

Without losing sight of the specific aim of "Svenska Israelsmissionen" (The Swedish Mission among the people of Israel) - the preaching of the New Testament among the Jews - the activity of the mission since 1933 has more and more come to comprise relief work also. The objects of this relief work were in the first place Christians of Jewish birth, who naturally could not address themselves to the different Mosaic congregations, but support and help were more and more given to Jews without regard to their confession. Of this relief work we can discern three periods:

1. The beginning of the persecutions 1933-38;
2. The systematizing of the persecutions 1938-40;
3. The war of extermination against the Jews after 1941.

In connection with the report of the last period we have to answer three questions:

a) Which are our experiences?
b) How can the relief work be increased already now in war-time?
c) What relief measures are we planning for post-war time?

I.

1933-1938.

1. After 1933 the first Jewish refugees came to

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Austria. Our missionary station in Vienna, founded in 1921, started relief work. This work consisted in the first place in spiritual guidance but also in material help, such as financial support, serving out of food, etc.

2. Very soon it became apparent to us that the most effective help would be to assist the refugees to emigrate. We began with modest attempts, and during the last years of freedom for Austria we established an emigration office in contact with all the great emigration centrals and relief offices all over the world.

3. Our missionary station in Vienna automatically became a central for the Christian refugees of Jewish birth. A Swedish clergyman, two Swedish deaconesses and a staff of about ten voluntary assistants gathered the first experiences for a more and more increasing relief work.

II.
1938-1940.

1. After the conquest of Austria in March 1938, the persecutions of the Jews were put into system. Seeing what happened already during the first days and weeks after the "Anschluss", it became apparent that a boundless catastrophe was threatening the Jewish population not only of Austria and of Germany but perhaps of the whole European continent. In his capacity of president of the International Committee on the Christian Approach to the Jews, the director of "Svenska Israelsmissionen", pastor Birger Pernow, called the council to a conference in London on the 3rd of May 1938. Two reso-

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lutions were taken: (1) A representation to the British Government to take the initiative to an inventory of the immigration possibilities of the world and to a conference of the civilized Christian states with a view to discuss the transferring of the threatened Jewish population of the continent of Europe, averaging 3 million people, and a distribution of the costs for this transferring. After the great conference at Evian in the south of Switzerland in the autumn of the same year an executive committee was appointed with the object of carrying on the initiatives thus taken. (2) A special relief work of the missionary societies and the Christian churches. Committees for the reception of refugees were constituted in different countries.

2. Our mission in Vienna immediately increased the work of the emigration office, and the staff of assistants now numbered 30 people. We also appointed a representative at the central for Jews of the secret state police ("Gestapo") and helped hundreds of people to emigrate by facilitating their "via dolorosa" through 16 different offices. It was possible for "Svenska Israelsmissionen" to save in time about a thousand children and about a thousand grown-up Jews and Christians of Jewish birth by getting them out of Austria and Germany.

3. The relief work was concentrated primarily upon the children and the young people. "Svenska Israelsmissionen" obtained the permission of the Swedish Government for a large contingent of our youths to come to Sweden, to go from there to England and America. The outbreak of war made it impossible for several hundreds of them to leave Sweden.

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4. Extensive plans for the establishing of agricultural colonies in South America and in Ethiopia were made but were for the most part frustrated by the growing menace of war.

5. Parallel with all this emigration work a steadily growing work of support for the Austrian Christians of Jewish birth and for many Mosaic Jews was going on. Large consignments of clothes and shoes were sent from Sweden to Vienna. Two clergymen and three deaconesses were working together with a large staff of voluntary assistants to help the Jews during the compulsory removals to the notorious Jew-houses into sickness and poverty.

6. The mission also established the serving out of food, which meant that many people, who would otherwise have been starved to death, could live through.

7. Contact was established with relief works of the same kind in Berlin and in Geneva. Through the connection with the Quakers and with the assistance of our representatives in America, in France, in Switzerland, in the countries of Scandinavia and in Shanghai, "Svenska Israelsmissionen" succeeded in increasing the emigration assistance even after the outbreak of war 1939.

8. The mission also established a home for old people in Weidling near Vienna and in that way was able to keep alive many old men and women, who would otherwise have been starved to death.

9. In Paris a special relief office was established, where a vicar of Jewish birth worked as a representative of "Svenska Israelsmissionen" among the German and Austrian refugees.

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This struggle for the rescuing of human beings went on intensively until 1941, when the roads to the outer world were inexorably closed and the war of extermination against the Jews began with the deportation to Poland. This entailed a new alteration of the relief work of the mission.

III.

After 1941.

1. Now the important thing was to support in every way the unhappy people, who were summoned for deportation. They needed help with their outfit. Our clergymen and deaconesses and the voluntary assistants helped those who had to set out on the journey of death to Poland to take with them the most practical and necessary articles. Many of them also were without the barest necessities and had no money to buy them with.

2. For many of them the temptation to commit suicide grew very strong, and it stands to reason that "Israelsmissionen" gave them the necessary spiritual support, so that its protegees should get the strength to carry on.

3. For the establishment of a school for non-Mosaic Jewish children in Vienna, "Svenska Israelsmissionen" gave financial support and placed a clergyman at the disposal of the school.

4. After the arrival of the first letters from Poland, describing the unspeakable distress among the deported, an organized relief work was instituted, which sent necessities, food and money to the deported.

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5. A spiritual relief work for the deported also was organized, consisting in duplicated letters to each of our protegees, containing information from their native country, a word of consolation and material for divine service in groups in the places of deportation (passages from the Bible, hymns and prayers).

6. In the ghettos of Poland groups were founded by our former assistants of Jewish birth, having experience from the relief work in Vienna, so that in practically every ghetto of Poland we were able to give consolation and help also to such deported who would otherwise have remained unknown to us. Such representatives of ours worked in the Polish ghettos of Opole, Kielce, Modliborcycze, etc.; a vicar of Jewish birth was our representative in Warszawa. Through our representatives we also succeeded in getting in connection with the evangelical and catholic clergymen of the different Polish communities and to get them to help the deported.

7. This relief work began in March 1941. It then comprised 35 people. In the autumn of 1942 it comprised several hundreds of deported. Sums of many thousand crowns have been sent to the different Polish ghettos and to the working camps, which were established in the so-called Warthegau. Thousands of food packages were also dispatched through Portugal.

8. Since June 1941 - when the station in Vienna had to close on the request of the authorities - all this work was done solely from the central in Stockholm. After the liquidation of the Polish Jews

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in the years of 1942 and 1943, the relief work was mostly concentrated to the ghetto of Theresienstadt, to the remaining Jews in Austria (Vienna) and in Germany (Berlin), to the Jews in the internment camps of France and Italy, to the refugees in Yugoslavia and Hungary, and to Shanghai.

9. In the meantime the work went on among the refugees in Sweden. Several hundreds of youths and grown-up Christians of Jewish birth and Jews, having been saved through the work of "Svenska Israelsmissionen", are still in contact with our mission and get regular or temporary support. Courses in languages, circles of young people, etc. have been instituted. In a camp, established by "Svenska Missionsförbundet" at Tostarp in the south of Sweden, a number of young men from intellectual circles were re-trained to become farmers.

10. For the Danish refugees, who came to Sweden in the autumn of 1943, temporary homes were established at the expense of "Svenska Israelsmissionen", and about 30 of those refugees have been fully supported by the mission until the 1st of April, when they were taken over by the Danish office for refugees ("Danska Flyktingskontoret"). Several boxes of clothes and shoes were sent to the different cantonments for Danish refugees in Sweden.

11. In 1941 "Svenska Israelsmissionen" took over the costs for the missionary and relief work of the Norwegian Mission among the people of Israel ("Norska Israelsmissionen") in Hungary. Since the German occupation the distress is steadily growing among the 800.000 so that our relief work, having formerly comprised only support to refugees in the internment

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camps, has now to be increased.

12. In Rumania, where hundreds and thousands of Jews have been deported, the situation is terrible. There "Svenska Israelsmissionen" has also taken over the work of the Norwegian and the Scotch missions. 7000 deported Jews returned in December 1943 to Rumania in rags and as living skeletons. In addition to the sums of money, which had been sent before, "Svenska Israelsmissionen" immediately dispatched several thousands of crowns as a first aid.

The work of support since 1938 amounts to several hundred thousands of crowns; during 1943 alone, the support amounted to more than 100,000 crowns in money and food consignments.

Actual experiences.

According to our experience, our monetary remittances reach their destinations. We get personal receipts, which are very often the only signs of life from the deported. Until the autumn of 1942 we also received many letters, acknowledging our food consignments, and since the establishment of the ghetto at Theresienstadt we get post-cards with thanks for the packages. Receipts also come from the above-mentioned protegees in other countries. In Vienna and in Berlin we have special representatives, who distribute the money from "Svenska Israelsmissionen". In Berlin we are able to save through our support even such people who are in hiding from the secret state police. We have reason to believe that the Jews of Theresienstadt may have the Swedish sums, several thousands of crowns having been sent there during the last two years, to thank for their better treat-

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ment. Thanks to our well-schooled representatives, we have practically absolute security that our remittances are either given into the hands of the addressee or sent back to us, in the case of the addressee having died.

How could the relief work be increased already now in war-time?

1. The relief work for Theresienstadt could be increased by sending out more food packages. We are without the means of increasing this important help. To be able to do the most necessary in this respect, we should need 1.000 crowns a month in addition to the sums already spent by us.

2. In Vienna about 7.000 Jews are still left, being married to so-called Aryans. Most of these people are baptized. They are all doing compulsory work, and their earnings are so small that they are not able to buy even the few provisions to which they are entitled from their provision cards. For Vienna we should also need a sum of 600 - 1.000 crowns a month in addition to the sums spent by us, if we should be able to ease only the worst distress.

3. In Berlin the distress is especially great among the Jews who are in hiding from the secret police. Everyone of those people, who are leading a subterranean life without residence, without money and without provision cards, is in need of great means. To be able to ease the worst distress and to help precisely there, we should need 1.000 - 1.500 crowns in addition to the sums spent by us.

4. A great increase of the work of support in

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Shanghai would be sorely needed. To this end we should need 400 - 600 crowns a month in addition to the means which we send out already.

Summing up and counting also the possibilities not especially mentioned here, we should be able, by increasing the food consignments and the financial support by a sum of about 5,000 crowns a month, to save several hundreds of people.

What relief measures are we planning for post-war times?

1. "Svenska Israelsmissionen" is practically the only Christian organization in connection with the persecuted Jews almost all over the whole European continent. Through our representatives in nearly every country and through our official and private sources we get reliable information and are à jour with the state of affairs. Therefore we will be able to start post-war measures the moment the frontiers are opened.

2. "Svenska Israelsmissionen" has at its disposal a staff of clergymen and deaconesses, who have been excellently schooled for 10 years, having been or being in the relief work and not only being familiar with all organization problems but also having the necessary psychological schooling.

3. "Svenska Israelsmissionen" is going to start very soon a training course for young clergymen and deaconesses, willing to place themselves at disposal for post-war work and to go out to the remaining Jews after the war.

4. As matters now stand, this relief work would in the first place comprise the remaining Jews in

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Theresienstadt, where we have at present three of our former employees as representatives, in Hungary, where "Svenska Israelsmissionen" pays a clergyman as our representative, in Roumania, where "Israelsmissionen" does missionary and relief work through two clergymen and two deaconesses and through a staff of voluntary assistants, in Berlin, where a Swedish clergyman is working on account of "Svenska Israelsmissionen", in Vienna, where a staff of 10 well-schooled voluntary assistants could immediately be set to work, and in Poland.

5. For the post-war fund, instituted by "Svenska Israelsmissionen", a substantial contribution is needed, if this great and well-prepared work shall succeed. We must be sure to get in good time:

a) money,
b) food,
c) clothes,
d) temporary residences (wood houses or sheet-iron barracks),
e) Medicine.

Consequently, we are exceedingly thankful for the prospects of co-operation with the authorities of the United States.

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PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 19, 1944
NUMBER: 1771

[redacted]

The following for War Refugee Board is our No. 17.

We have held several discussions with the representatives of Svenska Israel's Missionen concerning current relief activities for Christian Jews in occupied Europe which they are carrying on. While this organization has limited resources and facilities, it seems to be doing effective work in several occupied areas including Hungary, Shanghai, Rumania, Vienna, Theresienstadt, and Berlin (for Jews in hiding). Axis authorities seem to have taken a more liberal attitude towards their activities due to the Christian missionary aspect of their organization and their channels of communication of such areas are quite satisfactory. These activities are mostly in the nature of local financial support, medicine and packages of food. The possibilities of participating in a program of evacuating Jewish refugees from the Balkans have been explored with them by us and it now appears possible to evacuate from Rumania approximately 150 of these Christian Jews provided Palestine certificates can be obtained by them. The Jewish Agency in Ankara apparently is not disposed to make certificates available to Christian Jews so Israel's Missionen is trying at the present time to obtain these certificates through the Bishop of Chichester and through the International Hebrew Christian Alliance in London. Although this group is obviously concerned primarily with its own mission group it is performing effective work of direct benefit to a few thousand refugees and is in a position to give the War Refugee Board valuable assistance in carrying out certain programs of importance. It is believed that this organization should receive American encouragement in the form of financial support in view of the limited funds of this organization. The organization at the present time lacks about $2,000 per month of being able to carry out its current program in full and we recommend that American support to that extent be found by the War Refugee Board. We are forwarding by airmail a statement of the operations and future plans of the organization. The organization has an affiliated organization in New York which may be in a position to provide the funds needed.

JOHNSON

DCR:IDN:HL 5/22/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 12 1972

cc: Secy, Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hester, Hedel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannen, Marks, McCormack, Raine, Sargent, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D., White, Pehle, Files.

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