

WHITE, WALLACE H., JR (HON)

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August 28, 1944

Dear Senator:

Pursuant to our conversation I am enclosing herewith a copy of the State Department release of August 17, containing the text of the joint statement made by the British and American Governments with respect to the offer of the Hungarian Government on the emigration and treatment of Jews.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Honorable Wallace H. White, Jr.,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure.

TWD 8/28/44

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FOR THE PRESS

AUGUST 17, 1944
No. 366

CONFIDENTIAL RELEASE FOR PUBLICATION IN THE MORNING NEWSPAPERS
OF FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1944, WHICH DO NOT APPEAR ON
THE STREETS BEFORE 7:00 P.M., E.W.T., THURSDAY,
AUGUST 17, 1944. NOT TO BE PREVIOUSLY PUBLISHED,
QUOTED FROM OR USED IN ANY WAY.

The International Committee of the Red Cross has communicated to the Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States an offer of the Hungarian Government regarding the emigration and treatment of Jews. Because of the desperate plight of the Jews in Hungary and the overwhelming humanitarian considerations involved the two governments are informing the Government of Hungary through the International Committee of the Red Cross that, despite the heavy difficulties and responsibilities involved, they have accepted the offer of the Hungarian Government for the release of Jews and will make arrangements for the care of such Jews leaving Hungary who reach neutral or United Nations territory, and also that they will find temporary havens of refuge where such people may live in safety. Notification of these assurances is being given to the governments of neutral countries who are being requested to permit the entry of Jews who reach their frontiers from Hungary. The Governments of the United Kingdom and the United States emphasize that, in accepting the offer which has been made, they do not in any way condone the action of the Hungarian Government in forcing the emigration of Jews as an alternative to persecution and death.

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