

Cooperation with Other Governments: United Nations: Palestine

NO. 1917

CONTROL COPY

AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL

Jerusalem, Palestine
June 16, 1944.

Unrestricted.

SUBJECT: Transmitting Proclamation concerning rescue
of Jews.

THE HONORABLE

THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

RE:

*1 Pol. Files
3 War Refugee Board (20)
1 War on Burden
CP*

I have the honor to enclose a copy of a Proclamation issued by the Elected Assembly (Assefat Ha Navkharim) relating to the rescue of European Jewry.

A general convention, composed of members of the Elected Assembly, the Chief Rabbinate, the Executive of the Jewish Agency and representatives of the local communities and Jewish local authorities, was called by the Executive of the Vaad Leumi on June 5th. The object was to call upon the Yishuv and Diaspora to rise and rouse the nations of the world to rescue the Jews in Hungary and in other Balkan States.

Respectfully yours,

L. C. Pinkerton
American Consul General

Enclosure:
Copy of Proclamation.

File No. 848/800
LCP/ep

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Enclosure to despatch No. 1557, dated June 18, 1944,
from the American Consulate General, Jerusalem, Pales-
tine, entitled "Transmitting Proclamation concerning
rescue of Jews".

(COPY)

Proclamation issued by the Alarm Convention
for the Rescue of the Jewish Remnants,
which took place on Monday, the 5th June,
1944, in Jerusalem.

The Nazi-German occupation of Hungary, Rumania and
Bulgaria exposes the remnants of European Jewry to the
danger of destruction and extermination. A downpour of
restrictions and evil decrees has already flooded them,
especially the Jews of Hungary. Their property has
already been robbed. They have already been rooted out
from the economic life, and scores of thousands of Jews
have already been taken to the extermination camps in
Poland. A million of Jews in Hungary and about 300,000
Balkan Jews are facing extermination, if no one hastens
to help them, if no extraordinary efforts are made for
their rescue.

The convention of Palestine Jews refuses to believe
that the democratic powers, whose strength and power
have recently grown, and whose victories are increasing,
will not find the effective means to stop the murdering
hand, if only their will be equal to their growing
power.

The convention of Palestine Jews raises its voice
at the last hour, demanding:-

(a) that a last and strict warning be given to the
peoples and governments of the Balkans, and first of all
to Hungary, that they will be held responsible for the
life of the Jews who have still remained alive, and
that on the forthcoming day of reckoning the rescue of
Jews by them will be taken into account;

(b) that the United Nations should assist in the organi-
zation of the escaping of the Jews by all ways and means,
and that they should open for them the gates of rescue
of the democratic countries and their colonies, and
first of all - the gates of Palestine, as well as pass-
ages through the neutral countries.

This work of rescue must be done now and not after-
wards. Let not the few remnants of European Jewry be
abandoned to the fate of Polish Jewry.

And to the Yishuv we say:

At this last hour, when the Nazi axe has been raised
over the head of the last of our brothers, the Yishuv is
called upon to make the greatest financial effort in
order to increase to the greatest extent the number of
the rescued.

Let the Yishuv rally around the Rescue Campaign of
the Enlistment and Rescue Fund!