

asures Directed Toward Halting Persecutions!

Measures Directed Toward Halting Persecutions
folder 4

000819

ORIGINAL COPY OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Embassy, Madrid
DATE: May 26, 1944
SUBJECT: JEW

For Ambassador Kagan's attention, Madrid, Spain.

Please represent to the Spanish Government that, according to persistent and seemingly authentic reports, systematic mass exterminations of Jews in Hungary has begun. The lives of 600,000 human beings in Hungary may well depend on the restraint that may result from the presence in that country of the largest possible number of foreign observers. To this end, please urge appropriate authorities in the interest of most elementary humanity to take immediate steps to increase to the largest possible extent the numbers of Jewish diplomats and consular personnel in Hungary and to disperse them as widely as possible throughout the country.

It is hoped, of course, that all such diplomatic and consular representatives will use all means available to them to persuade individuals and officials to desist from further barbarism.

Please inform Department faithfully of extent to which Spanish government is cooperating in this matter.

HULL

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Aksia, Berntson, Cohn, DeBeis, Friedman, Ganten, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Lurford, Mann, McCormack, Neuman, Norris, Sargey, Smith, Staudish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fehle, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

7-10820

dw

Wa Ref Bd (Mr. Bell)

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

RECEIVED
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

1 copy only

TO: American Consulate General, Jerusalem
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: May 25, 1944
NUMBER: 718

MAY 25 AM 11 02

CONTROL COPY

Department's cable of May 11, No. 101, is referred to herewith.
You are informed that yesterday there arrived in Haifa the group of 317 refugees who reached Turkey on the steamer HATIKVA. Included in the group were a few Jews who escaped from Hungary early in May. The names of Hungarian officials associated with the Germans in persecution of the Jews which have been supplied by those refugees are as follows:
Yeroc Andor Minister of Interior, Baky Laszlo Deputy Chief of Jewish Department, Andre Laszlo formerly reported as Minister of Interior now said to be chief of Jewish Department, Ministry of Interior, Magyaros Liaison officer between Hungarian and German armies, Zrnokel Dezvart, head of central Police, Keledy Tibor, Mayor of Budapest.

WASHINGTON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

7-10-82

ORIGINAL COPY OF TELETYPE MESSAGE

TO: Secretary of State, Washington
FROM: American Legation, Lisbon
DATE: May 25, 1944
NUMBER: 1479

TO AMEMBASSY WASHINGTON AND DEPT

1. Please represent to the Portuguese government that according to persistent and consistently authentic reports, systematic mass extermination of Jews in Hungary has begun. The lives of 800,000 human beings in Hungary may well depend on the remittance that may result from the presence in that country of the largest possible number of foreign observers. To this end, please urge appropriate authorities in the interest of most elementary humanity to take immediate steps to increase to the largest possible extent the numbers of Portuguese diplomatic and consular personnel in Hungary and to distribute them as widely as possible throughout the country.

It is hoped, of course, that all such diplomatic and consular representatives will use all means available to them to persuade individuals and officials to assist from further barbarism.

Please inform Department forthwith of extent to which Portuguese government is cooperating in this matter.

2. Reference is made to Department's 718 of March 7 and 1045 of April 12 and to your 779 of March 11 and 1150 of April 18. Please advise promptly whether Hungarian channels still available and effective.

3. The following for David F. Joffe, Falaco Hotel

Please advise War Refugee Board through Embassy whether you are in communication with Immanuel Klean. If not, please advise whether you deem it practical for Board to request him directly at your suggestion to assist in connection with Hungarian problem.

4. For Dexter

If Joffe not familiar with Hungarian problem, please advise him as above.

THIS IS WEN LISBON CABLE NO. 31

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-79

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

CC: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akria, Bornstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedland, Gaston, Hasi, Laughlin, Lesser, Lurford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Cargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Pabio, Filice

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington

TO: American Embassy, Ankara

DATED: May 23, 1944

NUMBER: 458

[REDACTED]

This Government gravely concerned by reports of measures looking to Mass-extinction of Jews in Hungary.

Please request Turkish authorities to obtain as speedily as possible detailed information from Turkish mission in Budapest concerning treatment of Jews in Hungary and to inform you of results of inquiry. Advise Department of results without delay.

THIS IS WRB ANKARA CABLE NO. 41.

HULL

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hedel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Hannon, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

000823

PARAGRAPH OF MEMORANDUM

FROM: American Consulate General, Jerusalem
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 26, 1944
NUMBER: 72

The Department's cable of May 19, no. 104, is referred to herewith:

A request has been made by Hobkin Jewish Agency that there be transmitted through the War Refugee Board to Rabbi Wise and Dr. H. Goldmann a message as follows:

Your May 19 received. Terrible facts regarding Jews in Hungary are related by refugees who reached Palestine yesterday after having escaped from Hungary during May. In accordance with methods in Poland there is clear evidence there that mass extermination is prepared. Already there are interned in camps and ghettos over 300,000 Jews from Sziget and Carpatho Russia of which the following are known:

Marosvasarhely, Szeged, Debrecen, Nyiregyhaza, Beregszasz, Nagyszollos, Nagybanya, Szatmarnemeti, Matassalta, Munkacs, Szabadka, Kolosvar, Bacssterges, Borschic (*), Nagymenyhaza, Gyula, Budapest, Huent, Kisea, Nagy Varad, Szolyva, Ungvar, Ujvidek.

In one center over 22,000 persons are herded into an area of 17,000 square meters.

Over 3,000 Jews were arrested and deported to an unknown destination during one night in Budapest. There were summarily deported another group of 5000 and for deportation of large numbers preparations have been made. 30 pengoes, food only for fortnight and two changes of underwear are all that the deportees are allowed to take with them. A yellow badge must be worn by all Jews aged six or more. Jewish shops are closed and goods confiscated all over Hungary. Daily ration of food for Jews consists of some fat, one hundred grams of bread with nothing else, and no Jew is allowed to retain in excess of 3000 pengoes. Travel by rail is forbidden to all Jews. Jewish municipal and government officials have all been dismissed and the Gestapo supervises the execution of all of these measures. Except for the source of

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 19
the info SEP 14 1977

publication.

It is imperative that the United States send out as effective warning as possible as this is the zero hour for salvation of 800,000 Hungarian Jews. To secure the admission of Jews wherever they may be able to escape is also necessary. Appointment of special representatives to deal with rescue and protection of Hungarian Jews by neutral powers or International Red Cross is highly advisable. Also it is most advisable that envoys of the War Refugee Board proceed for the same purpose immediately to Geneva and Istanbul.

In an effort to continue by sea from Constanza small groups escape over the border to Rumania. In small boats 500 Greek and 1,200 Rumanian refugees reached Turkey during April and May and subsequently came to Palestine. Because the Germans refused to give the ship safe conduct the scheme of Hirschmann regarding charter of a large ship has not yet materialized. Unless this large ship is prepared to sail without safe conduct the only available method remaining is the use of small boats. Every day counts and very large sums are needed. Although it has not yet replied, the Joint has been approached. Until present advanced 170,000 pounds, but hundreds thousands more needed for execution other plans. It is absolutely indispensable that you share this expenditure.

PINKERTON

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Sargoy, Smith, Sandish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Pehle, Files.

ORIGINAL WIRE OF TELEGRAM COPY

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: May 26, 1944
NUMBER: 1819

FOR AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVE HAROLD H. TITMAN, JR., VATICAN CITY

Please deliver the following message from the Government of the United States to the Cardinal Secretary of State:

"The wave of hate which has engulfed Europe and the consequent mass persecution, enslavement, deportation and slaughter of helpless men, women and children have, we know, sorely grieved His Holiness. We know also that His Holiness, with great compassion for the sufferings of a large portion of mankind has labored unceasingly to reinvigorate a decent regard for the dignity of man. So, too, we know of His Holiness' tireless efforts to alleviate the lot of the persecuted, the hunted and the outcast. His Holiness, we are certain, is aware of the deep feeling of abhorrence which the persecutions, mass-deportations, enslavements and slaughters in France, Germany, Poland, Czechoslovakia, the Balkans, Norway and elsewhere have aroused in the American people. His Holiness, we are confident, is also aware of the deep concern of the Government of the United States with respect to these reversions to usages of ancient barbarism, and of its constant efforts to prevent their recurrence.

In view of the common concern of the Holy See and the Government and people of the United States with such matters, we believe it appropriate to call to the Holy See's attention the seemingly authentic reports that the present authorities in Hungary have undertaken to persecute the 800,000 Jews in Hungary merely because they are Jews, and are planning their mass slaughter both in Hungary and after deportation to Poland. The Government of the United States has warned the authorities and people of Hungary of the material consequences that will follow the perpetration of such inhuman acts of barbarism. We believe, however, that it is both timely and fitting that the Hungarian authorities and people should be reminded of the moral values involved and of the spiritual consequences that must flow from indulgence in the persecution and mass-murder of helpless/

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

helpless men, women and children. To that end we earnestly suggest that His Holiness may find it appropriate to express himself on this subject to the authorities and people of Hungary, personally by radio and through the Nuncio and clergy in Hungary as well as through a representative of the Holy See specially despatched to Hungary for that purpose. His Holiness, we deeply hope, may find it possible to remind the authorities and people of Hungary, among whom great numbers profess spiritual adherence to the Holy See, of the spiritual consequences of such acts and of the ecclesiastic sanctions which may be applied to the perpetrators thereof."

NULL

000828

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM ENCL

FROM Secretary of State, Washington

TO American Legation, Bora

DATE May 25, 1944

URGENT 1785

Re American Representative Harold H. Tittman, Jr., Vatican City

This Department is greatly concerned by reports of measures looking to concentration of Jews in Hungary.

Please request Vatican authorities to obtain as quickly as possible detailed information from Rucolo and clergy in Hungary concerning treatment of Jews in Hungary and to inform you of results of inquiry. Advise Department of results without delay.

RUEA

CC: Sen'y, Abrahamson, Aksin, Berastain, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Ganten, Hedel, Langfish, Lesser, Lufford, Mann, Manna, Marks, McCormack, Bargey, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. Waite, Finkle, Filer.

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

70082

RECT-830

PLAIN

Bern

Dated May 1, 1944

Rec'd 5:30 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

2758, first.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
MAY 2

Axis press and agencies report following

developments Hungarian Jewish situation:

One. Internment in concentration camps 300,000 Jews residing sub-Carpathian Russia and other declared military operations districts including both sexes all ages except doctors, druggists, and workers in war industries. Internment commenced late March now completed with largest camps located neighborhood Munkacs and Ungvar.

Two. Establishment legal basis for creation Jewish ghettos throughout Hungary by decree providing Jews in communities under 10,000 population may be compelled move other communities and Jews in communities over 10,000 may be forced live specified residential areas closed to non-Jews.

Three.

000830

#2758, first, from Bern.

Three. Institution effective May 3 of restrictions on consumption meat, fats, and sugar, by Jews with special rations meat only for Jewish heavy workers in war industries.

HARRISON

CAW
WTD

000831

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Ankara
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 20 1944
NUMBER: 915
X

Following is Ankara no. 61 from the Ambassador for the War Refugee Board.

The Turks have not refused admission to any Jewish refugees arriving in Turkey from Greek islands or Greece without case insofar as I am informed. On the contrary thus far the Turk authorities have promptly provided transportation from Izmir to Palestine for those refugees who have reached the soil of Turkey.

In the last paragraph of Department's cable of May 17, no. 440, I am at least to understand reference to Cretzianu, who is Rumanian Minister in Ankara, and to the "release of the 30 detained persons and the granting to them of all possible opportunities to leave Rumania" as it clearly seems from same.

These 30 detained persons were arrested and are being tried in Budapest which is the capital of Hungary and not of Rumania. I ask that this be clarified in order that I may take such action in the premises as the Board wishes.

STEINHAARDT

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

CC: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodol, Laughlin, Messer, Lutzford, Mann, Maanen, Marks, McCormack, Rains, Sarvey, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fehle, Files.

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM EVENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington

TO: American Embassy, Madrid

DATE: May 20, 1944

NUMBER: 1431

[REDACTED]

This Government gravely concerned by reports of measures looking to mass extermination of Jews in Hungary.

Please request Spanish authorities to obtain as speedily as possible detailed information from Spanish mission in Budapest concerning treatment of Jews in Hungary and to inform you of results of inquiry. Advise Department of results without delay.

HULL

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Lufford, Mann, Maimon, Marks, McCormack, Raina, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Pehle. Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 7-11-78
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

OFFICE OF TELEGRAPHIC RECEIVER

FROM: American Embassy, Moscow

TO: Secretary of State, Washington

DATE: May 19, 1957

RE: [REDACTED]

In a note of May 19 addressed to Vysinskiy, as transmitted by the Russian Office, the proposals and information which are contained in the Department's cable of May 17, are as follows:

HAMILTON

Miss (Munsey) (Munsey), Akhmedov, Akhmedov, Bernstein, Galt, Mills, Friedman, Galt, Galt, Laughlin, Leger, Inford, Mann, Mason, Marks, Pomeroy, Rabin, Rabin, Barcoy, Smith, Tansley, Stearns, W. D. White, Mills.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 111-78

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, Ankara
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 18, 1944
NUMBER: 898

Following is Ankara no. 58 from Ambassador for War Refugee Board.

A letter from International Red Cross representative in Ankara was received by me today. It is stated in the letter that the International Red Cross in Geneva, in response to a request of the Embassy for information regarding the Jewish situation in Hungary, instructed the Budapest representative of International Red Cross to keep its Ankara (*) informed. It is stated in a preliminary report from Budapest that because of lack of transportation and the impossibility of obtaining Hungarian exit visas, the difficulties in effecting the exit of Jews from Hungary are virtually insurmountable.

It goes on to say in report that in the hope that Allied planes will hesitate to bomb such centers, Jews of Budapest have been placed in concentration camps on the out-skirts of the city near the industrial centers. The Budapest report ends with the statement that the International Red Cross representative in Budapest can only protest against inhuman conduct and is "powerless" to prevent such action.

STRINEHARDT

(*) apparent omission.

CC:Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akin, Bernstein, Cohn, DeBevoise, Friedman, Gatten, Hodel, Laughlin, Messer, Lurford, Ann, Mason, Marks, McConrack, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fehle, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date **SEP-14-1972**

0000835

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

7 *from G. Bl. Pella*
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

BE-215

PLAIN

Bern

Dated May 18, 1944

Rec'd 9:30 a.m., 19th

File
CONTROL COPY

Secretary of State

Washington

5181, Eighteenth
x

Bratislava despatch twelfth reports civil
administration eastern Slovakia now placed under
jurisdiction Slovak War Minister and adds military
authorities are deporting Jews from Presov, Mihalovci,
Sicove, Vranov, Sabinov and other points in militarized
area.

HARRISON

RR JT

000836

*was Refused by
Mr. P. H. ...*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Embassy, London
DATED: May 17, 1944
NUMBER: 3934

American Embassy in Moscow has been informed of the contents of your 3641 of May 4 and has been requested to endeavor to have Russian broadcasts in appropriate languages beamed on Germany and German-satellite countries transmit warnings to German and German-satellite military and civilian personnel carrying out deportation proceedings that they personally will be held responsible by the United Nations for their actions and the deaths that may result from deportation. The Russian Foreign Office is also being approached in an attempt to limit its influence upon the satellite governments and populations by all possible means to cause their resistance to German demands for the deportation and persecution of minority groups under their control.

Please make similar endeavors with regard to the Ministry of Information and the Foreign Office. Please consult with Schoenfeld in this matter with a view to having Czech Government request Moscow to take all possible action to protect Czech nationals in Sub-Carpatho-Russia.

For your information, the OWI transmitters are carrying similar warnings. The Embassy at Ankara states that the Turk Consul at Budapest had sent the Foreign Office word that every Jew entering Turk Consulate there was arrested as soon as he left and transported to an unknown place.

The Vatican is being approached with a view to obtaining its support in applying pressure on satellites, particularly Hungary, in this matter.

Action being taken on your 3642 through Ankara.

RECORDED
INDEXED
State Dept. 1-11-72

HULL By E. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

000837

PROPOSED CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, LONDON

American Embassy in Moscow has been informed of the contents of your 3641 of May 4 and has been requested to endeavor to have Russian broadcasts in appropriate languages beamed on Germany and German-satellite countries transmit warnings to German and German-satellite military and civilian personnel carrying out deportation proceedings that they personally will be held responsible by the United Nations for their actions and the deaths that may result from deportation. The Russian Foreign Office is also being approached in an attempt to use its influence upon the satellite governments and populations by all possible means to cause their resistance to German demands for the deportation and persecution of minority groups under their control.

Please make similar endeavors with regard to the Ministry of Information and the Foreign Office. Please consult with Schoenfeld in this matter with a view to having Czech Government request Moscow to take all possible action to protect Czech nationals in Sub-Carpatho-Russia.

For your information, the OWI transmitters are carrying similar warnings. The Embassy at Ankara states that the Turk Consul at Budapest had sent the Foreign Office word that every Jew entering Turk Consulate there was arrested as soon as he left and transported to an unknown place.

The Vatican is being approached with a view to obtaining its support in applying pressure on satellites, particularly Hungary, in this matter.

Action being taken on your 3642 through Ankara.

May 10, 1944
5:10 P.M.

J. J.
Standish:lc 5-9-44

000832

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

MJK-884

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

PLAIN

Bern

Dated May 17, 1944

Rec'd 3:23 a.m. 18th

7A

Secretary of State,

Washington.

3147, Seventeenth.

One. I beg to thank you sincerely for your kind letter of 2 May, 1944, in which you reproduce message from INQUIRER requesting respondents to approach certain governments with view to obtaining for subjects and other persons interned treatment comparable with that which is accorded to civilian internees to whom Geneva Convention relative to treatment of prisoners of war is applied by analogy or failing such treatment that such persons be placed on equal footing with civilian internees as regards permission to receive relief.

Two. We desire in first place to point out that steps of this nature by respondents would go far beyond limits of their traditional capacity and that governments to whom such request might be addressed would not fail to view this proposal from that particular angle.

Three. In provisions of international agreements

respondents

000839

-2- #3147, Seventeenth from Bern

respondents have only slender basis upon which to found their humanitarian activities. Latter are therefore dependent upon goodwill of belligerent states and can only take practical shape insofar as they are accepted or solicited by governments concerned.

Four. Consequently respondents might lay themselves open to objection that they were going beyond limits of their competences and trespassing upon internal concerns of state should they attempt to act on behalf of certain categories of persons whom that state considered to be subject exclusively to its domestic legislation.

Five. Exceptional position of respondents as neutral intermediary between belligerent countries precludes their seeking other solutions than those which offer practical hope of realization through appropriate action in quarters where best results may be expected.

Six. The proposal contained in point one of message from INQUIRER has we may add been submitted on several occasions to respondents by League. On each occasion respondents were obliged to answer that numerous endeavors they had made on behalf of subjects had invariably met with negative answer with exception of certain concessions with regards to relief measures.

Seven. Under these circumstances we must admit
that application

000840

-3- #3147, Seventeenth from Bern

that application by respondents to umpire in this matter would not only have no prospect of success but might even in eyes of umpire appear - quite unjustifiable - dictated by political rather than by humanitarian motives.

Eight. We deeply regret having to confine ourselves to purely relief activities on behalf of persons who do not enjoy protection of convention applicable to prisoners of war and civilian internees. This circumstance is not due to absence of endeavors of all kinds by respondents on behalf of such persons - irrespective of race -- with view to their assimilation with civilian internees by reason of their enemy nationality. Unfortunately not one of these approaches has been successful.

Nine. As regards point two respondents are compelled in view of experiences in this field to admit likewise fact that such application would be considered incompatible with domestic legislation of detaining power and moreover would constitute serious menace not only to general activities of respondents on behalf of prisoners of war and civilian internees but also endanger limited possibilities which we enjoy of assisting few groups of persons who are not protected either directly or by analogy by international conventions. Respondents must it will be remembered take extreme care that

province

000841

-4- #3147, SEVENTEENTH FROM BERN

province in which belligerents have accepted our ministrations should not be closed to future action.

Ten. Same observation applies to proposal contained in last paragraph of message from INQUIRER "to rescue from the occupied areas subjects and other persons who are victims of persecution". Any such attempt by respondents would at once have most unfortunate consequences for their entire work - an eventuality which they cannot conscientiously envisage.

Eleven. Since repeated and conclusive experience in this field leads us to suppose that any steps of this kind would not only be altogether fruitless but might even do more harm than good respondents must to their regret abide by proposals they have already submitted to authorities in Washington and to Inter-Governmental Committee in London. After careful consideration of problem and exploration of all avenues in other fields of action respondents are in other words compelled to confine themselves strictly to relief work within limits which circumstances prescribe.

Twelve. Scheme for relief of civilian war victims irrespective of race and religion with which INQUIRER is familiar

000842

-5- #5147, Seventeenth from Bern

is familiar is to our mind and for present only province in which action by respondents can produce useful results. Moreover scope of such action can be widened in obedience to conditions prevailing only insofar as publicity of any kind is avoided. In this connection we are happy to stress fact that respondents have achieved encouraging results in field of relief work. It was largely due to kind support given to our suggestions by INQUIRER short time ago that relief activities on behalf of subjects in certain countries could be undertaken. This work is worth being pursued.

Thirteen. As regards other countries mentioned in message of INQUIRER and in which respondents are also engaged actively here too we must confine ourselves to questions of purely material relief and we shall be pleased to receive as soon as possible any assistance INQUIRER is able to give us with view to our taking practical action along lines we have submitted to their consideration on behalf of civilian war victims without distinction of race or creed.

HARRISON

HTM

000843

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Embassy, Moscow
DATED: May 17, 1944
NUMBER: 1225

American Embassy, London, reports that it has been informed that deportation of Jews from Hungary and territories under its control has already begun and that 24,000 had been deported from Sub-Carpatho-Russia to date, in addition to general deportation of Polish refugees whose names are known to the Hungarian police. The Embassy at Ankara states that the Turk Consul at Budapest had sent the Foreign Office word that every Jew entering Consulate there was arrested as soon as he left and transported to an unknown place.

Please endeavor to have Russian broadcasts in appropriate languages beamed on Germany and German-satellite countries transmit warnings to German and German-satellite military and civilian personnel carrying out deportation proceedings that they personally will be held responsible by the United Nations for their actions and the deaths that may result from deportation. Please also approach the Foreign Office in an attempt to have it use its influence upon the satellite governments and populations by all possible means to cause their resistance to German demands for the deportation and persecution of minority groups under their control.

For your information, the OWI transmitters are carrying similar warnings and the American Embassy, London, is being requested to make similar approaches to the Ministry of Information and the Foreign Office.

HULL

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Abrahamsen, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannen, Marks, McCormack, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Pehle, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 14 1972**

7 0 0 8 4 4

P R HUBER TEL OR R 2 3 IV D

copy only

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: May 17, 1944
REF ID: A144
X

CONTROL COPY

A fifteen paragraph letter dated May 12 has been received from the President of IRO, Dr. Max Huber, in reply to my May 2 letter which contained information set forth in April 29 telegram No. 1498 from the Department. My May 17 telegram No. 3147 transmitted first thirteen paragraphs of text of Huber's letter under reference, in which "subjects" means "the Jews"; "umpire" means "German authorities"; "league" means "world Jewish Congress"; "respondents" means "the International Committee of the Red Cross"; and "inquirer" means "War Refugee Boards".

The following is a paraphrase of paragraph fourteen: Nevertheless so far as conditions permitted IRO have been instrumental in facilitating emigration of Jews from some southeastern European countries to Palestine. Memorandum dated May 5 describing work done has been furnished U.S. Legation at Bern by us. (Note from Legation: If and when mailing facilities permit, copy will be forwarded by microfilm.) As regards responsibility which we can assume primarily in matter of safe

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

conduct

000845

1009

conduct for vessels ^{if} does not depend upon ourselves but rather on interested governments and on circumstances.

As regards fifteenth paragraph: It is desire of IRC that the Refugee Board be informed but that since any publicity can be prejudicial to some persons we are trying to help, "it requests that communication be kept confidential."

RECEIVED
MAY 11 1950
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE

MAY 11 1950

000846

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Consulate General, Istanbul

TO: Secretary of State, Washington

DATE: May 15, 1944

NUMBER: 230

According to representatives of Jewish refugee organizations, here reliable evidence is available that extermination of Jewish Hungary along Polish patterns will begin in the near future.

I am forwarding their suggestions without approval or recommendation. They include: (1) Allied declaration that refuge will be granted in United Nations territory to all Jews who escape from Hungary; (2) Hungarian people be invited to note names and identify all German committing acts of terror against civilian population; (3) Announcement that individual Hungarians aware of atrocities will be held responsible for death of Jews and that the entire Hungarian population will be considered hostages for Jewish refugees; (4) Declaration that citizenship will be granted by Allied Nations to all stateless refugees in Hungary especially Slovaks whose citizenship has been lost; (5) Suggest that German soldiers prevent atrocities, warn victims and list the names of criminals; and warning to the German Army that their role in pogrom will foul their arms with crimes unprecedented in the annals of history.

Request has been made by Josef Klarman representative of New Zionist organization, Jacob Griffl representative of Agudas Yisrael and Ludovik Kasznes manager of Czechoslovak Social Institute for Refugees, that above recommendations be forwarded to New York for Vaad Harassas Emergency Committee.

SQUIRES

DOB: EEH: EK
6/27/43

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Eains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, E. D. White, Fehle, Files.

000847

WFE-120

PLAIN

Lieber

Dated May 15 1944

Rec'd 9:52 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

1459, 15th. noon

WRE RE FOR LEAVITT JOINT FROM ROBERT PILPEL

Julia Jekroykin Spain leader group 56 adults

followed by 11 more total 66. Total recently arrived

Spain 200. all our care.

WOF9XB

JWH
MLT

cc: Sec'y Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, Cohn, DeBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin,
Lesser, Luford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McGrack, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Stoddish,
Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Pahl, Files.

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, London
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 13, 1944
NUMBER: 3915

[REDACTED]

A copy of a confidential message from the Geneva office of the Jewish agency for Palestine has just been received by the Embassy from the London office of the Jewish agency for Palestine and is requested that there be transmitted to the War Refugee Board the substance of that cable. It is also stated by them that it would be appreciated if the American Department dealing with broadcasts to Hungary receives the information in the message.

The following is the substance of the message:

New decrees prescribing the confiscation of Jewish property of various kinds, the shutting up of Jewish shops and the blocking of Jewish bank accounts have been issued in Hungary. The Jews will not be entitled to receive from their bank accounts more than one thousand pengoes per month. We suggest that officials and commercial people of Hungary should be warned by means of radio broadcasts against receiving stolen property and aiding in carrying out unlawful decrees such as these.

We have merely informed Mr. Linton of the Jewish agency for Palestine that there has been forwarded to Washington the information from his Geneva office.

EUCKNELL

DCR:IDS:EL 5/15/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodell, Laughlin, Messer, Mumford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McFormack, Raine, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fehle, Files.

000044

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Consulate, Jerusalem
DATED: May 11, 1944.
NUMBER: 101

[REDACTED]

The American Embassy, London, has reported on the basis of a telegram received by its London representatives from the Jewish Agency for Palestine that of a large group arrested in Bucharest for their activity in aiding the escape of Jewish refugees from Hungary and other areas all but 30 have been released. Please have Jewish Agency authorities furnish Ambassador Steinhardt, either through you or through their representatives at Ankara, all available details concerning these 30 persons and circumstances surrounding their detention.

London Embassy also reports deportation from Sub-Carpatho-Russia and persecution in Hungary. Please obtain from Jewish Agency names of Hungarian officials responsible and report to Department.

HULL

cc: Miss Chauncey (For the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodal, Laughlin, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Weinstein, R. D. White, Files

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

000850

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 6, 1944
NUMBERS 1628

Following is our no. 9 for the War Refugee Board.

Through confidential channels, Bulgarian Minister here, who recently replaced strong pro-Nazi, has expressed sympathy for the Jewish situation. We believe that he can be induced to lend aid to any program that the Board may be pushing in Bulgaria, although he is very much afraid of the Gestapo element in local Bulgarian Legation. He has only been brought in contact, for the present, with chief Rabbi Shrenprie who for 15 years was formerly chief Rabbi of Bulgaria. It would be helpful, while this situation is developing, to have details of any program under consideration for Bulgaria which would be pertinent to the above, as well as any suggestions which the Board may have as to methods of exploiting the foregoing situation to the fullest advantage.

JOHNSON

CC: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Manna, Marks, McCormack, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fehle, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

000851

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Embassy, London
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 4, 1944
NUMBERS: 3641

Following is for War Refugee Board's attention:

A copy of a cable from the Greenbaum Jewish Agency in Jerusalem concerning deportation of Jews from Hungary was left at the Embassy by Messrs. Locker and Linton two representatives of the London office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine who called here this afternoon. It is stated in this cable that deportation of Jews from Hungary has already begun and that 24,000 had been deported from Karpathy to date in addition to general deportation of Polish refugees whose names are known to the Hungarian police, according to information received. The Jewish agency for Palestine is urged by the cable from Jerusalem to do everything possible to prevent further deportation and it states that the influence of the Pope might be a decisive factor.

It was stated by Mr. Locker that the above facts had been given to Dr. Kullman of the other governmental committee in London and to the British Foreign Office but that since it was felt American influence in Axis Satellite States was considerable, he desired to bring the matter to the attention of the State Department and the War Refugee Board. The Embassy informed him that the matter would immediately be brought to War Refugee Board's attention.

WIKANT

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Pollak, Pains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

000853

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: AMEMBASSY, Ankara
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 2, 1944
NUMBER: 794

The Ambassador sends the following for WEB'S attention.

Today when I invited the attention of the Assistant Secretary General of the Foreign Office to the fact that no Jewish refugees have arrived from Hungary of late and asked whether the Turk Consul in Budapest might be withholding the granting of Turk visas for any reason in spite of the assurance I received from the Foreign Minister that the granting of the visas would be facilitated. I was informed by Erkin that the Turk Consul at Budapest had sent the Foreign Office word that every Jew entering the Turk Consulate in Budapest was arrested as soon as he left and transported to an unknown place.

The fare going is WEB's 50 from Ankara.

SEMINHARDT

CC: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akren, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Langhlin, Lester, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Pehle, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

000854

*War Refugee Board
J.M. Peltz*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMLEGATION, Bern
DATED: April 29, 1944
NUMBER: 1498

CONTROL COPY

File

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD FOR HARRISON.

This is WRB Bern Cable No. 10.

Following for Intercross:

QUOTE In full agreement with interested American welfare agencies War Refugee Board requests Intercross to approach the German and satellite governments, through appropriate and expedient channels, to bring about with respect to Jews and other persons, detained, interned, or otherwise confined because of race, religion, or political belief (1) treatment equal to that accorded civilian internees to whom Geneva Convention is currently applied by analogy or (2) equal treatment of such persons to the extent at least that reception and distribution of packages under Intercross supervision be permitted them under guarantees equal to those in effect with respect to the civilian internees referred to in (1) above. War Refugee Board feels strongly that (1) above is preferable and suggests that (2) should be

presented

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

085

only if in the judgment of Intercross (1) is unobtainable.

Furthermore, War Refugee Board requests Intercross to make every effort to obtain, wherever possible, for Jews and other victims of Nazi oppression (who though they may not be physically interned have been singled out for persecution) facilities and opportunities to obtain food and other necessities on the basis of equality with the local population both from local or domestic sources and through Intercross channels. In addition, War Refugee Board calls attention to the Board's efforts to bring Jews and other persecuted persons out of German controlled territory in as large numbers as possible. The Board urges that Intercross, through appropriate approaches to the German and other authorities in German controlled territory and through any other means possible, do what it can to assist the departure of these persecuted peoples to neutral countries.

The Board is cognizant of unceasing efforts of Intercross in the direction of making this general program a reality and is appreciative of the humanitarian activities of Intercross. The Board is ready to assist Intercross in every way to effectuate the realization of all of the foregoing UNQUOTE.

Following

100850

Following for Harrison.

War Refugee Board considers the proposed approaches to the German and other authorities through Intercross are of utmost importance to the success of its program. In view of recent military developments, including the reported situation in Hungary, Bulgaria and Rumania, the Board is convinced that special emphasis should be placed on efforts to persuade the Germans to improve the condition of Jews and other similar groups within occupied territories. Accordingly, you are requested to do everything possible to support the proposals being made to Intercross. If at any time you believe that the Swiss Government would be willing to make similar approaches to the Germans or otherwise assist in the program outlined herein, you are authorized informally to make a request for such action to the Swiss on behalf of this Government.

HULL

RECEIVED
MAY 10 1945
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

April 26, 1944

TO: Mr. Warren
FROM: J. W. Pehle

Attached hereto for appropriate clearance and prompt transmission is a redraft of the War Refugee Board's cable to the International Committee of Red Cross which was referred to in my memoranda of March 23, April 11 and 12, 1944. The redraft attached hereto contains one new sentence which appears at the end of the first paragraph. In all other respects the cable is exactly as heretofore submitted to you.

I have discussed the cable with FEA and have obtained their oral clearance. FEA will, however, inform the London blockade authorities that this cable is being sent by this Government to the International Red Cross.

JW aa
FH:lab 4/25/44

ALLEGATION

BERN

FOR HARRISON FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Following for Intercross

QUOTE In full agreement with interested American welfare agencies War Refugee Board requests Intercross to approach the German and satellite governments, through appropriate and expedient channels, to bring about with respect to Jews and other persons, detained, interned, or otherwise confined because of race, religion, or political belief (1) treatment equal to that accorded civilian internees to whom Geneva Convention is currently applied by analogy or (2) equal treatment of such persons to the extent at least that reception and distribution of packages under Intercross supervision be permitted them under guarantees equal to those in effect with respect to the civilian internees referred to in (1) above. War Refugee Board feels strongly that (1) above is preferable and suggests that (2) should be presented only if in the judgment of Intercross (1) is unobtainable.

Furthermore, War Refugee Board requests Intercross to make every effort to obtain, wherever possible, for Jews and other victims of Nazi oppression (who though they may not be physically interned have been singled out for persecution) facilities and opportunities to obtain food and other necessities on the basis of

204 aa

1085

equality with the local population both from local or domestic sources and through Intercross channels. In addition, War Refugee Board calls attention to the Board's efforts to bring Jews and other persecuted persons out of German controlled territory in as large numbers as possible. The Board urges that Intercross, through appropriate approaches to the German and other authorities in German controlled territory and through any other means possible, do what it can to assist the departure of these persecuted peoples to neutral countries.

The Board is cognizant of unceasing efforts of Intercross in the direction of making this general program a reality and is appreciative of the humanitarian activities of Intercross. The Board is ready to assist Intercross in every way to effectuate the realization of all of the foregoing UNQUOTE.

Following for Harrison.

War Refugee Board considers the proposed approaches to the German and other authorities through Intercross are of utmost importance to the success of its program. In view of recent military developments, including the reported situation in Hungary, Bulgaria and Rumania, the Board is convinced that special emphasis should be placed on efforts to persuade the Germans to improve the condition of Jews and other similar groups within occupied territories. Accordingly, you are requested to do everything possible to support the proposals being made to Intercross. If at any time you believe that the Swiss Government would be willing to

- 3 -

make similar approaches to the Germans or otherwise assist in the program outlined herein, you are authorized informally to make a request for such action to the Swiss on behalf of this Government.

April 26, 1944
* 11:05 a.m.

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Cohn, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files

AMALGAMATION

BERN

FOR HARRISON FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Following for Intercross

QUOTE In full agreement with interested American welfare agencies War Refugee Board requests Intercross to approach the German and satellite governments, through appropriate and expedient channels, to bring about with respect to Jews and other persons, detained, interned, or otherwise confined because of race, religion, or political belief (1) treatment equal to that accorded civilian internees to whom Geneva Convention is currently applied by analogy or (2) equal treatment of such persons to the extent at least that reception and distribution of packages under Intercross supervision be permitted them under guarantees equal to those in effect with respect to the civilian internees referred to in (1) above. War Refugee Board feels strongly that (1) above is preferable and suggests that (2) should be presented only if in the judgment of Intercross (1) is unobtainable.

Furthermore, War Refugee Board requests Intercross to make every effort to obtain, wherever possible, for Jews and other victims of Nazi oppression (who though they may not be physically interned have been singled out for persecution) facilities and opportunities to obtain food and other necessities on the basis of equality with the local population both from local or domestic sources and through Intercross channels. In addition, War Refugee Board calls attention to the Board's efforts to bring Jews and other persecuted persons out of German controlled territory in as large numbers as possible. The Board urges that Intercross, through appropriate approaches to the German and other authorities in German controlled territory and through any other means possible, do what it can to assist the departure of these persecuted peoples to neutral countries.

The Board is cognizant of unceasing efforts of Intercross in the direction of making this general program a reality and is appreciative of the humanitarian activities of Intercross. The Board is ready to assist Intercross in every way to effectuate the realization of all of the foregoing UNQUOTE.

Following for Harrison.

War Refugee Board considers the proposed approaches to the German and other authorities through Intercross are of utmost importance to the success of its program. In view of recent military developments, including the reported situation in Hungary, Bulgaria and Rumania, the Board is convinced that special emphasis should be placed on efforts to persuade the Germans to improve the condition of Jews and other similar groups within occupied

territories. Accordingly, you are requested to do everything possible to support the proposals being made to Intercross. If at any time you believe that the Swiss Government would be willing to make similar approaches to the Germans or otherwise assist in the program outlined herein, you are authorized informally to make a request for such action to the Swiss on behalf of this Government.

* * * * *

Attached hereto for appropriate clearance and prompt transmission is a redraft of the War Refugee Board's cable to the International Committee of Red Cross which was referred to in my memoranda of March 23, April 11 and 12, 1944. The redraft attached hereto contains one new sentence which appears at the end of the first paragraph. In all other respects the cable is exactly as heretofore submitted to you.

I have discussed the cable with FEA and have obtained their oral clearance. FEA will, however, inform the London blockade authorities that this cable is being sent by this Government to the International Red Cross.

April 26, 1944
11:05 a.m.

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Cohn, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Stewart, Central Files, Cable Central Files

10086

AGK-741

PLAIN

Bern

Dated April 24, 1944

Rec'd 5:55 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

2600, Twenty-fourth

Budapest dispatches 20-21 reports decree creating union of Hungarian Jews to contain all Jews required wear Yellow Star and appointment by Jewish provisional Jewish committee nine members to organize union on countrywide basis. Central council Jews on Warsaw Bucharest model under Presidency Samuel Stern already active at Budapest on evacuation and resettlement measures. Numerous Jews reportedly now being settled near factories and railway installations and several city districts including region around Dob-Ucca designated for residence exclusively by Jews in Ghetto style.

HARRISON

EJH

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Paul, Pehle, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White

GNY-998

This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. (BR)

Bern

Dated April 21, 1944



Secretary of State,
Washington.

2550, April 21, 3 p.m.

My telegram No. 2,320 of April 14.

It is reported from Budapest that Hungarian Jewish Commissioner Endre declared there April 18 that while Jews are not now to be concentrated into a ghetto they will be accommodated in districts where "terroristic aviation attacks are to be expected". Hungarian press early in April announced the evacuation of residential quarters in the exposed factory and other districts of the capital and its suburbs. Endre's statement which has been publicized in the German press apparently refers to such areas and is intended to make propaganda use of the some 400,000 Jews now resident in the Hungarian capital.

HARRISON.

EMB

10086

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Lisbon
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: April 18, 1944
NUMBER: 1150

For transmission onward to the Governments of Rumania
and Hungary the substance of the message from the War
Refugee Board which was continued in your number 1013 dated
April 12 has been placed in the proper channels.

NCWED

DCR:MPL
4/19/44

Miss Chancey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn,
DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks,
McCormack, Paul, Pehle, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart,
Weinstein, H. D. White, Files

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

April 17, 1944

Dear John:

Thank you very much for your memorandum of April 17.

I will get on this matter right away and let you know what action we can get. If a conference seems desirable I will try to arrange for one immediately.

Sincerely,

Docun Cox

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

(Telephoned 10:00 a.m. 4/18/44)

APR 17 1944

TO: Mr. Oscar Cox

FROM: J. W. Pehle

For some time the War Refugee Board has been trying to get the attached cable to the International Red Cross cleared and despatched by State. The Board feels that the cable in question is a most important one and that it should be placed in the hands of the International Red Cross at the earliest possible moment.

State felt that the text of the cable should be submitted to FEA for clearance. I am now advised that FEA has advised State in writing that the cable should be submitted to the Blockade Committee in London before FEA will give clearance here. I am strongly of the view that the text of the cable is such that it does not necessarily have to be cleared with the Blockade Committee at this time. In fact, the cable was drafted with the idea that it would first be transmitted to the International Red Cross. If the cable were cleared with the Blockade Committee before being transmitted to Bern, I am convinced that the delay involved in such clearance would decrease the effectiveness of the proposed action. (To put it mildly.)

I would appreciate it if we could arrange for an immediate conference on this matter.

(Initialed) J. W. P.

20A - FH:lab 4/17/44

086

DRAFT

AMLEGATION,

BERN.

FOR HARRISON FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Following for Interross.

QUOTE In full agreement with interested American welfare agencies War Refugee Board requests Interross to approach the German and satellite governments, through appropriate and expedient channels, to bring about with respect to Jews and other persons, detained, interned, or otherwise confined because of race, religion, or political belief (1) treatment equal to that accorded civilian internees to whom Geneva Convention is currently applied by analogy or (2) equal treatment of such persons to the extent at least that reception and distribution of packages under Interross supervision be permitted them under guarantees equal to those in effect with respect to the civilian internees referred to in (1) above.

Furthermore, War Refugee Board requests Interross to make every effort to obtain, wherever possible, for Jews and other victims of Nazi oppression (who though they may not be physically interned have been singled out for persecution) facilities and opportunities to obtain food and other necessities on the basis of equality with the local population both from local or domestic sources and through Interross channels. In addition, War Refugee Board calls attention to the Board's efforts to bring Jews and other persecuted persons out of German controlled territory in as large numbers as possible. The Board urges that Interross, through appropriate approaches to the German and other authorities in German

controlled territory and through any other means possible, do what it can to assist the departure of these persecuted peoples to neutral countries.

The Board is cognizant of unceasing efforts of Intercross in the direction of making this general program a reality and is appreciative of the humanitarian activities of Intercross. The Board is ready to assist Intercross in every way to effectuate the realization of all of the foregoing UNQUOTE.

Following for Harrison.

War Refugee Board considers the proposed approaches to the German and other authorities through Intercross are of utmost importance to the success of its program. In view of recent military developments, including the reported situation in Hungary, Bulgaria and Rumania, the Board is convinced that special emphasis should be placed on efforts to persuade the Germans to improve the condition of Jews and other similar groups within occupied territories. Accordingly, you are requested to do everything possible to support the proposals being made to Intercross. If at any time you believe that the Swiss Government would be willing to make similar approaches to the Germans or otherwise assist in the program outlined herein, you are authorized informally to make a request for such action to the Swiss on behalf of this Government.

April 12, 1944

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Warren
FROM: Mr. Pehle

Reference is made to my memoranda of March 23, 1944, and April 11, 1944, concerning the War Refugee Board's cable which is to be sent to the International Committee of Red Cross through Minister Harrison in Bern. The Board feels that the cable in question is a most important one and that it should be placed in the hands of the International Red Cross at the earliest possible date. It is thought that the text of the cable is such that it does not necessarily have to be cleared with the Blockade Committee at this particular time. In fact, the cable was drafted with the idea that it would first be transmitted to the International Committee of Red Cross. If the cable under reference were cleared with the Blockade Committee before being transmitted to Bern, it would cause considerable delay in transmission and possibly would decrease the effectiveness of the proposed action. Accordingly, the Board requests that the cable be transmitted directly to the American Legation in Bern for the International Red Cross without first having been cleared with the Blockade Committee in London. However, the Board would interpose no objection to the clearance of the cable before its transmission with the Washington office of the Foreign Economic Administration.

JHMann:db

1 *JHM*

7 0 8 7

224-862

This telegram must be
paraphrased before being
communicated to anyone
other than a Government
Agency. (22)

Bern

Dated April 14, 1944

Rec'd 6:20 p.m.

Secretary of State

Washington

2320, April 14, 9 a.m.

Reliable source here gives the following information on recent developments in the Jewish situation in Hungary:

One. The Hungarian personalities actively carrying out the German influenced anti-Semitic campaign of the Horthy Government are Interior Minister, Jaross, his special assistant Laszlo Endre, Interior Under Secretary Laszlo Bakj, and Government Commissioner for intellectual professions Stefan Kultsar, with Endre and Kultsar in direct charge. The Hungarian military authorities support the program, the army definition of Jew has been made of general application, and the restrictions relating to the use of the motor car and telephone, prohibition to travel except on urban transportation facilities and prohibition to leave Budapest or cross the frontier are enforced as military measures authorized by Hungarian National Defense Act. Other restrictions relating to public and professional activities Yellow Star, exclusion from press, radio, theatrical and motion picture enterprises are based on the racial laws of 1938 and 1941, and the program thus finds its legal basis in legislation enacted prior to the accession of the present Government.

Two. Kultsar began on April 1 to place pressure on banks and large commercial and industrial enterprises to force them to discharge immediately at least one half of their Jewish personnel with the remainder to be dismissed by September 30. Aryanization of the smaller private enterprises is expected to take some time and to require new legislation. It is to be carried out on the French, Dutch and Polish models. Establishment of Chetton in the Polish style or internment centers as in the protectorate is foreseen but mass deportations eastwards will depend upon military developments.

Three. Jews have been forbidden to leave Budapest despite the official evacuation of the city. However, many are being evicted from their apartments to furnish living quarters for bombed out Hungarians. Those among the 800,000 refugee Jews who seek to return to their original homes in Slovakia, Serbia, and Croatia are not permitted to cross the frontier. It is expected that younger Jews of both sexes will be drafted into military labor battalions for auxiliary service under the direction of the army. Such service has been required on a relatively small scale during the war years but may not be

greatly expanded.

HARRISON

NY

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel,
Laughlin, Lesser, Luford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Paul, Pollak, Rai,
Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, E. D. White, Fehle, Files.

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Bern
FOR: The Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: April 13, 1944
NUMBER: 2312

The following message is the substance of a reply to the request contained in your number 1023 dated March 27, from President Huber of the International Red Cross Committee:

In order to give it more efficacy the International Committee has as a matter of fact concerned itself for some time in enlarging its delegation at Budapest. For the time being it has not considered sending to Hungary a special delegation with instructions to assume the particular protection to which the State Department's message referred since under the present circumstances such mission might be considered as unrelated to the committee's traditional and conventional competence. The International Committee shall continue to devote its entire attention to all categories of war victims as it has in the past without intruding into the domestic policy of any of those states and the War Refugee Board as well as all the humanitarian and government institutions of several belligerent states can rest assured of this. Within full scope which circumstances demand and according to means placed at its disposal it shall always attempt to broaden and increase its action along its own line of activities in favor of those victims.

HARRISON

DCR:MPL
4/15/44

cc: Miss Chauncey (For the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Alzin, Bernstein, Gohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Lufford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Paul, Pehle, Pollak, Rains, Murphy, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

FA HEAD OF TELEGRAM SENT

TO: American Legation, Lisbon
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: April 12, 1944
NO: 1043

Has Refugee Board sends the following for the attention of Minister Herweb.

Your telegram of March 11, 1944 No. 779 is referred to herewith.

The Swedish press carries reports that there has been an intensification of pressure by the Nazis on Hungary to strengthen the anti Jewish policy and to deport Polish and other Jews who have escaped to Hungary.

In view of the German military's reported operations in Hungary, we request that you again approach the channels to the Government of Hungary that are available to you and state again the position taken by this Government and make it clearly understood that in spite of the current pressure by the Nazis any action on the part of the Hungarian Government to inflict new and further persecutions or to continue existing persecutions designed against foreign or native Jews or the deportation to Germany itself or any territory controlled by Germany of foreign or native Jews will be considered by this Government with the greatest disfavor and will be taken into account at the end of the war. You should also again approach the Rumanian Government through the channels that are available to you and inform them regarding the foregoing message to the Hungarian Government, explaining the circumstances that the approach is based upon. You should clearly intimate that in spite of any actions taken by the Nazis to intensify the deportation or other persecution of foreign or native Jews, which may result in military defeats of the Nazis or from other causes, the foregoing law will also be taken by this Government with respect to the Government of Rumania.

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akim, Bernstein, Cohn, DeBols, Friedmann, Gaston, Hadel, Laughlin, Lusk, Mumford, Mann, Nathan, Egan, McCorrack, Paul, Pollak, Rains,

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1311-7A
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

000875

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Bern
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: April 12, 1944
NUMBER: 2266

When Mr. Tistman and the British Ambassador at Vatican City urged the Cardinal Secretary of State to do so, he on April 11 informed them that instructions had already been given by him to the representatives of the Holy See in Hungary and also in Rumania that for the relief of the Jews in those countries they should do everything possible. The Cardinal Secretary of State added that regarding the actual situation of the Jews in Hungary the Vatican had so far received no report.

HARRISON

DCR:MPL
4/21/44

cc: Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, Daborski, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Paul, Pehle, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Files

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

From Agence

B1

C
O
P
Y

TICKER NEWS

WONS

11:13 A. M.

March 30, 1944

London.--Persons among Germany's satellites who show mercy to the Jews will be remembered when Germany is defeated, Foreign Secretary Eden told Commons.

Eden said German persecution of Jews has been of "unexampled horror", but there were individuals and even officials among Germany's satellites who have shown toleration.

"In the hope of encouraging such good deeds and increasing their number," Eden said, "the British government has made it plain that those who have followed the right path will not be forgotten on the day of reckoning."

7 0 8 7

PARAMINAME
FROM: The American Ambassador, Ankara
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: March 30, 1944
NUMBER: 581

The following message is from the Ambassador and Hirschmann for the War Refugees Board.

Ankara's number 18.

In order to ascertain recent developments in Rumania relating to the Movement of refugees, at our suggestion Simond of the International Red Cross had a further talk with Cretziana the Rumanian Minister on March 29.

1. In Rumania the Antonescu Government is still in power. There has taken place no noticeable political change. On their way to the eastern front large numbers of German troops are, however, crossing Rumania. The capacity of the single railroad line available for the movement of troops is almost entirely absorbed by this German troop movement.
2. Regarding the Jews in Rumania, as long as the Rumanian Government remains in power, not a single Jew will be molested by this government. Ambassador Steinhardt and Mr. Hirschmann can have my assurance that for the protection of the Jews my Government is now doing and will do everything within its power. During the past two weeks transportation conditions have become very difficult.
3. The Government of Rumania will do everything within its power to have the requisite number of refugees in readiness for embarkation at Constanza as soon as the date of arrival of the SS TARI in Constanza is fixed.
4. As rapidly as transportation facilities permit, the Jews in Transnistria are being moved out of this area to Rumania proper.

Jewish refugees who have arrived in Istanbul from Rumania during the past week and the representative of the International Red Cross in Bucharest have confirmed the statement in number four above which was made by Cretzianu.

DCR:MPL

4/3/44

cc: Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Murphy, Paul, Pehle, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

STEINHARDT

By R. H. Parks Date _____

SEP 14 1972

*was signed by
W. P. Kelly
1 copy only*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: The American Legation, Bern
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: March 27, 1944
NUMBER: 1871

*File
[initials]*

CONTROL COPY

For transmission to the respective authorities of all three governments message has been passed on to secret intermediaries (your number 770 dated March 7, 1944). I am not able to predict ultimate delivery to destinies because of current developments.

HARRISON

*APR 30 1944
[initials]*

DCR:MPL
3/29/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 14 1972**

1087

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: SECRETARY OF STATE, WASHINGTON
TO: AMBASSADOR, BERN
DATE: MARCH 27, 1944
NUMBER: 1023

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO HARRISON.

Please deliver the following message to the International
Red Cross, Geneva, from War Refugee Board:

"In view of German occupation of Hungary, War
Refugee Board urges that Intercessors send effective
representation to Hungary in order to protect the
well being of groups facing persecution."

HULL

Miss Chauncey (For the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn,
DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann,
Harks, McCormack, Murphy, Paul, Pollak, Rains, Smith, Sargoy, Standish,
Stewart, White, Fohls, Files

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

*var Refugee Bd
Mr. Pella*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: March 7, 1944
NUMBER: 770

CONTROL COPY

The fact that you have had approaches through various channels from one or more of the Governments of Bulgaria, Rumania, and Hungary and that you have channels through which messages can be conveyed to one or more of these Governments is born in mind by the Department.

We instruct you to convey through such channels to the Governments of Bulgaria, Rumania, and Hungary, or any of them to which you have such access, the following information:

At the present time the Government of the United States is aware that these Governments are pursuing programs of persecuting their Jewish minorities and refugees of other nationalities who have escaped into their territories. The persecution consists among other forms in sending such refugees beyond the borders of their own countries into Poland where they undergo various forms of cruelty and even death, dictated by Nazi degeneracy. Still another form of persecution consists in preventing the refugees from escaping to neutral countries where their lives may be saved.

The Government of the United States is determined to do everything it can to rescue such unfortunates who are in danger of

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 14 1972**

WHS TC 10/1/72

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danger of losing their lives and to find for them havens of refuge. Any continuation by these Governments of the execution of these policies of Hitlerite persecutions is viewed with great seriousness by this Government and will be kept in mind. The President, in establishing the War Refugee Board, recently restated unequivocally the position of the United States Government in this matter. (Department's cable to Bern of January 25, 1944 No. 201). The Government of the United States takes the view that these Governments, as well as their subordinates and functionaries, are fully responsible for the actions of persecution committed on their territories and in the interests of humanity they should desist immediately. Moreover, they should be informed that in their own interest, they will be well advised to take advantage in the future of such opportunities as may be available to them to allow refugees to depart across their borders into territories of any neutral countries which may be prepared to receive them.

You are requested to try to ascertain through appropriate channels that the Governments in question have received the substance of this message, and the results of the representations, if any.

The foregoing message was repeated to Cairo for MacVeagh as Greek Series 37 and to Stockholm, Lisbon, and Ankara as the Department's cables Nos. 372, 713, and 177 respectively.

STETTINIUS

*War Refugee Bd.
(Mr. Pahl)*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Embassy, London
To: Secretary of State
Date: February 16, 1944
No.: 2 Czecho

Schoenfeld sends the following.

It is disclosed by inquiry that the information referred to in your telegram of February 9, 1944 number 982 was given by Dr. Gunsberg of Czechoslovak Foreign Office Press Section to Jewish Telegraphic Agency. It is stated by him that the specific figures on the number of Jews deported to Poland from Hungary were obtained from a secret report from a Jew (name not given) who escaped from Carpatho-Russia in October of last year and who is now in the Middle East. Gunsberg has no corroborating figures from other sources but he considers the source personally reliable.

WINANT

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 14 1972**

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was Ref. in Bd (Mr Pable)

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Legation, Bern
To: Secretary of State
Date: February 15, 1944
No.: 938.

Jewish Telegraphic Agency report described in telegram of February 8, 1944 number 417 cannot be verified after careful inquiry in informed circles here. An important Jewish authority who has no information on the subject called his private contacts in Budapest who informed him that during the last six months there had been no such deportations. He commented that such action would be in opposition to Hungarian policy. Also nothing is known regarding the deportations in press circles.

HARRISON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

35/10/1944

FEB 10 1944

Dear Mr. Stettinius:

As I view the question of the practical measures which should be taken at once to make effective the President's policy of rescuing Jews and other persecuted minorities from the Nazis, opportunity exists now for a forceful attack on one of the very roots of the problem, namely, collaboration by the Axis satellite governments in the Nazi extermination program.

It is apparent that Allied successes in the war have shaken to its foundations the resolution of Nazi collaborators outside of Germany and have implanted in their minds a fearful apprehension of the fate which will be theirs in the day of Allied victory. There are also indications that perhaps the least whole-hearted collaboration given to Germany by her satellites have been the measures designed to assist Hitler in his organized massacre of Jews, e.g., forced deportations to Poland and the prevention of escape to neutral countries.

In view of the foregoing, I think that it is of utmost importance for this Government to commence at once an organized and concentrated effort to make clear, by all appropriate means, to all Axis satellites, including the Vichy Government, that this Government views in the most serious light their assistance in any form to Hitler's program to exterminate the Jews and other similar groups, regarding all such action as criminal participation in organized murder. This Government's determination to do everything in its power to rescue such unfortunates who are in danger of death should also be brought home to the satellites with special force in order not only to give them a clear view of our attitude in the matter but also to make apparent to them the opportunities which exist for assisting in the execution of our policy. The object of this attack is, of course, two-fold: (1) To get the satellites to desist from aiding Hitler's campaign, and (2) By clearly stating our own policy in the matter to offer the occasion for actual assistance to us if they care to give it. Needless to say, a campaign of this character should not be limited to the making of formal representations but should be carried out through all appropriate means, now or hereafter available. Moreover, such representations should be constantly repeated at every available opportunity.

It is, of course, desirable that other Allied Governments participate in this effort. However, our Government's action alone in the matter may be of the greatest significance, and it should not, I believe, be delayed pending the collaboration of others. Rather they should be informed of our action and invited to take parallel action.

I am not unmindful of the fact that our Government may already have taken some action along the lines indicated. However, I feel that it is extremely urgent that a new and perhaps more concerted effort should be undertaken at once, using as a starting point the President's new and unequivocal statement of policy.

I would greatly appreciate having as soon as possible a full statement of all action of this kind heretofore taken and being kept informed of such new efforts as are made.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. PHELPS

J. W. PHELPS,
Acting Executive Director

Mr. E. R. Stettinius, Jr.,
Under Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

JBF:AFLEbbk 2/10/44
9B7 cleared with Dick Bous -
Hastow JPT

2-10-44
Revised with
Bous info JPT

COPY

Handed to me by
Peter Bergson,
2/9/44.
JWP

MEMORANDUM

submitted by

Washington Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe
to the
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

As a non-partisan, non-sectarian committee, created solely for the task of mobilizing America's aid for the rescue of the Jewish people of Europe, we have long advocated the creation by our Government of a specific agency to deal with this problem. Now that such an agency - the War Refugee Board - has been created, we respectfully submit for consideration by the Board some specific measures which are elements of a program which we believe to be necessary to the attainment of the Board's objectives.

We beg to stress two general points:

(a) The German plan to exterminate all the Jews of Europe is a challenge to the basic decencies of civilization and human relationship. Consequently it is a challenge to America. It is both mistaken and dangerous to create the impression that in this country only the Americans of Jewish descent are interested in a speedy and effective action. The War Refugee Board was created because the vast majority of the American people have been deeply shaken by the German massacre of the Jews. If we were to permit any other impression we would be doing so to the detriment of the Jews of Europe.

(b) Only a part of the some 4,000,000 Jews in Nazi-controlled Europe can be evacuated. The salvation of the majority of them, therefore, depends upon the successful creation inside Europe of an atmosphere which makes extermination of the Jews unprofitable, impractical and impossible. Even the Nazis at the present stage of the war cannot miss the significance of American and United Nations large-scale efforts for the rescue of the Jews of Europe.

It is reasonable to assume that the Nazi satellites, aware of approaching defeat, will adopt a new policy toward the Jews of Europe if they feel that by doing so they might curry some amount of favor with the United Nations. Indeed, some of them have already begun to do

CC - Messrs. Pehle, Stewart, Laxford, DuBois, Lesser, Friedman,
E. M. Bernstein, Miss Hodel, Mr. Pollack

so. We believe, therefore, the psychological warfare and propaganda aspects are of immense practical importance in the tasks of the War Refugee Board.

Plans of Action

Steps which may be taken fall into two distinct categories:

I. Diplomatic and psychological warfare.

II. Evacuation.

With reference to all possible action, the urgency of the time factor is pre-eminent. Thousands are being murdered daily. It will not take many months to finish the evil work. The Nazis' psychology is such that, if they feel that they can do so with impunity, they will accelerate their crimes against the helpless; the more they lose their power to hurt the strong. Consequently, the added force of multi-national action will have to be balanced against the greater speed with which our Government alone can be brought into action. Thus it may be well to consider whether we should not initiate a given course and then persuade other United Nations to follow it, rather than to wait for concerted action.

I. Diplomatic and Psychological Warfare

1.

An unequivocal declaration of policy regarding the Jews along the lines of the Moscow Declaration on Atrocities, issued by the United States Government. Similar declarations from both Great Britain and the Soviet Union would be highly desirable.

2.

A request addressed to all satellite governments (maybe even to Germany) to accord human treatment to the Jews in their domain.

3.

Advice to the satellite countries that forced deportation of Jews from their countries is tantamount to murdering them and will be so considered.

4.

Official pressure exerted upon the governments of the satellites

-3-
and the people of Europe to help the Jews get out, with emphasis upon the courageous example of the Danes.

5.

A systematic campaign to get the policy and warning across to the peoples of Germany and her satellites through the medium of leaflets dropped during bombing operations, and through the radio.

(As part of the general broadcasts by GWT and in special broadcasts. It is also advisable that, since only a few people in Europe receive the short-wave broadcasts from America, the facilities of medium-wave operating radio stations in England, Italy and North Africa be used. It is also advisable to have special broadcasts in Hebrew and Yiddish directed, to give hope and bolster the morale of the Jews inside Europe and improve the relationship between them and their non-Jewish neighbors.)

6.

Establishment of a special department in the International Red Cross to take charge of and represent the Jews inside Nazi-held Europe.

(A commission of the International Red Cross could proceed there in order to secure and supervise minimum human treatment for the Jews in general and Jewish war prisoners in particular. It is common knowledge that Jewish war prisoners from Poland, Greece, Yugoslavia, etc., are isolated from non-Jewish prisoners and cruelly treated.)

7.

Permission obtained for the International Red Cross commission to distribute limited quantities of food and medicine designed to equalize the ration of food allotted to the Jews with that of their neighbors.

(This would demonstrate the concern and attitude of the United Nations. Germany has officially fixed the food ration of the Jews to one-fourth of that of their neighbors. The United Nations should therefore make an exception by permitting to feed them as they have done in the case of Greece.)

The Emergency Committee to save the Jewish people of Europe, of which Secretary Ickes is Honorary Chairman, proposed that the U. S. warn Axis-satellite countries against mistreatment of Jews.

The Committee urged in a memorandum the issuance of "an unequivocal declaration of policy regarding the Jews along the line of the Moscow declaration on atrocities."

The memorandum said that while only a part of the 4,000,000 Jews in Nazi-occupied Europe can be evacuated, it can be assumed that Nazi satellites, "aware of approaching defeat, will adopt a new policy toward the Jews if they feel that by doing so they might incur some amount of favor with the United Nations."

WASHINGTON CITY NEWS SERVICE
2/9/43 -- 11:25 A. M.

*How the figure. Board
(Mr. Ahle)*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMERICAN LEGATION, Bern
DATED: February 8, 1944, midnight
NUMBER: 417

[REDACTED]

Czech official circles here are quoted by a Jewish Telegraphic Agency report from London dated January 28 as charging Hungary with deporting to occupied Poland 65,000 Jews including 45,000 Jews from Carpatho-Russia as a measure against "undesirable foreigners." In explanation of the phrase "undesirable foreigners" the report added that this is because mass deportation did not include Jews whose ancestors had lived in Hungary since 1852 and paid taxes there since 1872. It is stated by the report that the charge was made to counteract reports being disseminated through neutral countries from Budapest to the effect that Nazi demands for stricter anti-Jewish policy are being defied by Hungary. The report added that only recently 40,000 Carpatho-Russian Jews were deported. It is stated that Hungarian Jews made up the other 25,000.

Is any information regarding accuracy of this charge possessed by you?

Foregoing message was repeated as no. 982 to London.

HULL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

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*How de laque. Board
(Mr. Ahl)*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMERICAN LEGATION, Bern**
DATED: February 8, 1944, midnight
NUMBER: 417

[REDACTED]

Czech official circles here are quoted by a Jewish Telegraphic Agency report from London dated January 28 as charging Hungary with deporting to occupied Poland 65,000 Jews including 45,000 Jews from Carpatho-Russia as a measure against "undesirable foreigners." In explanation of the phrase "undesirable foreigners" the report added that this is because mass deportation did not include Jews whose ancestors had lived in Hungary since 1852 and paid taxes there since 1872. It is stated by the report that the charge was made to counteract reports being disseminated through neutral countries from Budapest to the effect that Nazi demands for stricter anti-Jewish policy are being defied by Hungary. The report added that only recently 40,000 Carpatho-Russian Jews were deported. It is stated that Hungarian Jews made up the other 25,000.

Is any information regarding accuracy of this charge possessed by you?

Foregoing message was repeated as no. 982 to London.

HULL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

000894

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM COPY

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington

TO: ASAC, A. L. Gifford, Bern

DATE: February 8, 1944, midnight

NO. 417

CONTROL COPY

Czech official circles here are quoted by a Jewish
Telegraphic Agency report from London dated January 28
as charging Hungary with deporting to occupied Poland
65,000 Jews including 45,000 Jews from Carpatho-Russia
as a measure against "undesirable foreigners". In explana-
tion of the phrase "undesirable foreigners" the report
added that this is because mass deportation did not
include Jews whose ancestors had lived in Hungary since
1869 and paid taxes there since 1872. It is stated by
the report that the charge was made to counteract
reports being disseminated through neutral countries
from Budapest to the effect that Nazi demands for
stricter anti-Jewish policy are being defied by Hungary.
The report added that only recently 40,000 Carpatho-
Russian Jews were deported. It is stated that Hungarian
Jews made up the other 25,000.

Is any information regarding accuracy of this charge
possessed by you?

Forgoing message was repeated as no. 988 to London.

NULL

cc: Miss Chauncey (for Gen'l), Paul, Gaston, White, Fehle, Luxford,
Eubois, E.M. Bernstein, Stewart, Lasser, Friedman, Miss Hodel,
Mr. Pollak, Mr. Bundy.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 14 1972**

For Refugee Bd.

Mr. Peale

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMERICAN CONSUL, Istanbul
DATED: February 8, 1944, 10 p.m.
NUMBER: 86

[REDACTED]

Czech official circles here are quoted by a Jewish Telegraphic Agency report from London dated January 28 as charging Hungary with deporting to occupied Poland 65,000 Jews including 45,000 Jews from Carpatho-Russia as a measure against "undesirable foreigners." In explanation of the phrase "undesirable foreigners" the report added that this is because mass deportation did not include Jews whose ancestors had lived in Hungary since 1852 and paid taxes there since 1872. It is stated by the report that the charge was made to counteract reports being disseminated through neutral countries from Budapest to the effect that Nazi demands for stricter anti-Jewish policy are being defied by Hungary. The report added that only recently 40,000 Carpatho-Russian Jews were deported. It is stated that Hungarian Jews made up the other 25,000.

Your comments as to the accuracy to the JTA report would be appreciated in light of your despatches of December 1 and December 23, nos. 1909 and 2062.

HULL DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

000896

CNSCTY OIL

NUMBER: 88
DATED: February 8, 1944
TO: THE SECRETARY OF STATE
FROM: THE SECRETARY OF STATE

SECRET

PARAPHRASE BY TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMERICAN CONSUL, Istanbul
DATE: February 8, 1944, 10 p.m.
RE: 86

CONTROL COPY

Such official circles here are quoted by a Jewish
Telegraphic Agency report from London dated January 26
as charging Hungary with deporting to occupied Poland
65,000 Jews including 40,000 Jews from Carpatho-Russia
as a measure against "undesirable foreigners." In explana-
tion of the phrase "undesirable foreigners" the report
added that this is because mass deportation did not
include Jews whose ancestors/lived in Hungary since
1845 and had since then since 1872. It is stated by
the report that the charge was made to counteract
reports being disseminated through neutral countries
from Budapest to the effect that Nazi demands for
stricter anti-Jewish policy are being defied by Hungary.
The report added that only recently 40,000 Carpatho-
Russian Jews were deported. It is stated that Hungarians
Jews made up the other 25,000.

Your comments as to the accuracy to the JTA report
would be appreciated in light of your despatches of
December 1 and December 23, nos. 1909 and 2042.

MELL

cc: Miss Chauncey (for Sec'y), Paul Gaston, White, Fehle, Luxford,
Embois, E.H. Bernstein, Stewart, Lesser, Friedman, Miss Madel,
Folick, Sundry.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

0089



11027
March 20, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

I attended a meeting today at the Pentagon Building called by officers of G-1 to discuss a proposed recommendation to the Joint Chiefs of Staff that the following statement be issued by the United States, Great Britain, Russia and France:

"There are still detained in Germany and German-occupied territory large numbers of United Nations personnel, including prisoners of war, civilian internees and stateless persons required to do forced labor for the German Reich. Any German or other person who assists such personnel or treats them with humanity and decency will be given special consideration after the war. After the United Nations personnel concerned have been liberated, they will be questioned and the fact of such favorable treatment will be ascertained from them by the Allied authorities."

The War Department representatives included Colonel Black, G-2, Major Hirsch, G-2, Major Brown, G-1, Major Street, CPD, and Lieutenant Fierst, Civil Affairs. State was represented by Mr. Guffler of the Special War Problems Division and by George Warren, and the War Refugee Board by Miss Hodel.

Colonel Black, stating that warnings and threats serve no purpose whatsoever except to satisfy the American public, said he felt that this type of a statement might do some good, particularly in the period of disintegration, and that Allied nationals seeking their way back home might be assisted by individual German civilians. He stated that warnings and threats can not possibly have any deterrent effect because the officials of Germany who carry out atrocities and other persecutions would not dare to disobey the orders from on high. He felt that warnings and threats merely incite the Germans to further atrocities. He commented that, of course, "the real question to be considered in discussing the proposed statement is how PM will handle it." In response to the suggestion that the statement, if any, to be recommended should not be limited to United Nations personnel, he commented that adding Jews would only weaken the statement. He added that Jews are in a position to get a great deal of help from people on the scene and that a statement asking for humanitarian treatment for them would serve no useful purpose at all.

Major Hirsch of G-2 in pressing for the proposed statement commented that "we must concede that at this point war criminals must be appeased." He added that he felt that the whole program on war criminals was stupid and unrealistic. Lt. Fierst, representing Civil Affairs, refused to concur in the recommendation of G-1 and G-2 on the ground that such a statement might be interpreted as a weakening of our stand on war criminals and that Civil Affairs would not go along on anything that might detract from a strict front on war crimes. Mr. Guffler of the State Department indicated that he had no objection to a recommendation being made on the proposed statement because he thought it was clear in advance that it would never get anywhere.

Mr. Warren and Miss Hodel insisted that the language be broadened to include "persons detained by reasons of race, religion or political belief". The representatives of G-1 and G-2 stated that the word "Jew" could not be used in the statement. Mr. Warren and Miss Hodel also stated that they could not concur in a recommendation for any statement which weakened our stand on war criminals. Mr. Warren suggested that the second sentence in the statement might be changed to read "any German or other person who assists such personnel or treats them with humanity and decency will be given credit for these humanitarian acts at the conclusion of the war."

At the conclusion of the meeting, Major Brown of G-1 stated that the statement will be referred to the Chief of Staff as originally drafted except for the addition of "persons detained by reasons of race, religion or political belief." He agreed that in referring the matter to the office of the Chief of Staff, he would indicate the views of Mr. Warren, Miss Hodel and Lt. Fierst.


F. Hodel

MJK-884

PLAIN

Bern

Dated May 17, 1944

Rec'd 3:23 a.m. 18th

Secretary of State,

Washington.

3147. Seventeenth.

One. I beg to thank you sincerely for your kind letter of 2 May, 1944, in which you reproduce message from INQUIRER requesting respondents to approach certain governments with view to obtaining for subjects and other persons interned treatment comparable with that which is accorded to civilian internees to whom Geneva Convention relative to treatment of prisoners of war is applied by analogy or failing such treatment that such persons be placed on equal footing with civilian internees as regards permission to receive relief.

Two. We desire in first place to point out that steps of this nature by respondents would go far beyond limits of their traditional capacity and that governments to whom such request might be addressed would not fail to view this proposal from that particular angle.

Three. In provisions of international agreements respondents have only slender basis upon which to found their humanitarian activities. Latter are therefore dependent upon goodwill of belligerent states and can only take practical shape insofar as they are accepted or solicited by governments concerned.

Four. Consequently respondents might lay themselves open to objection that they were going beyond limits of their competences and trespassing upon internal concerns of state should they attempt to act on behalf of certain categories of persons whom that state considered to be subject exclusively to its domestic legislation.

Five. Exceptional position of respondents as neutral intermediary between belligerent countries precludes their seeking other solutions than those which offer practical hope of realization through appropriate action in quarters where best results may be expected.

Six. The proposal contained in point one of message from INQUIRER has we may add been submitted on several occasions to respondents by League. On each occasion respondents were obliged to answer that numerous endeavors they had made on behalf of subjects had invariably met with negative answer with exception of certain concessions with regards to relief measures.

Seven....

-2- #3. 7. Seventeenth from BREN

Seven. Under these circumstances we must admit that application by respondents to umpire in this matter would not only have no prospect of success but might even in eyes of umpire appear - quite unjustifiable - dictated by political rather than by humanitarian motives.

Eight. We deeply regret having to confine ourselves to purely relief activities on behalf of persons who do not enjoy protection of convention applicable to prisoners of war and civilian internees. This circumstance is not due to absence of endeavors of all kinds by respondents on behalf of such persons - irrespective of race - with view to their assimilation with civilian internees by reason of their enemy nationality. Unfortunately not one of these approaches has been successful.

Nine. As regards point two respondents are compelled in view of experiences in this field to admit likewise fact that such application would be considered incompatible with domestic legislation of detaining power and moreover would constitute serious menace not only to general activities of respondents on behalf of prisoners of war and civilian internees but also endanger limited possibilities which we enjoy of assisting few groups of persons who are not protected either directly or by analogy by international conventions. Respondents must it will be remembered take extreme care that province in which belligerents have accepted our ministrations should not be closed to future action.

Ten. Same observation applies to proposal contained in last paragraph of message from INQUIRER "to rescue from the occupied areas subjects and other persons who are victims of persecution". Any such attempt by respondents would at once have most unfortunate consequences for their entire work - an eventuality which they cannot conscientiously envisage.

Eleven. Since repeated and conclusive experience in this field leads us to suppose that any steps of this kind would not only be altogether fruitless but might even do more harm than good respondents must to their regret abide by proposals they have already submitted to authorities in Washington and to Inter-Governmental Committee in London. After careful consideration of problem and exploration of all avenues in other fields of action respondents are in other words compelled to confine themselves strictly to relief work within limits which circumstances prescribe.

Twelve. Scheme for relief of civilian war victims irrespective of race and religion with which INQUIRER is familiar is to our mind and for present only province in which action by respondents can produce useful results.

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-3- #3147, Seventeenth from Bern

results. Moreover scope of such action can be widened in obedience to conditions prevailing only insofar as publicity of any kind is avoided. In this connection we are happy to stress fact that respondents have achieved encouraging results in field of relief work. It was largely due to kind support given to our suggestions by INQUIRER short time ago that relief activities on behalf of subjects in certain countries could be undertaken. This work is worth being pursued.

Thirteen. As regards other countries mentioned in message of INQUIRER and in which respondents are also engaged actively here too we must confine ourselves to questions of purely material relief and we shall be pleased to receive as soon as possible any assistance INQUIRER is able to give us with view to our taking practical action along lines we have submitted to their consideration on behalf of civilian war victims without distinction of race or creed.

HARRISON

HTM

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akka, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Bains, Bargo, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fehle, Files.

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMLEGATION, Bern
DATED: June 23, 1944
NUMBER: 2196

[REDACTED]

From War Refugees Board as its cable 45 to Harrison
We are very disappointed over the negative intercross
answer which your 2144 and 2147, May 17 contained.

Since apparently you have not yet availed yourself
of the authorization which the last sentence of the Department's
1498, April 29, midnight, contained, we ask that in this regard you
informally approach the Swiss Government. Confidentially we hope
that due to the great traditions of humanitarianism of Switzerland
that Government will exercise its influence with the German officials
in this regard in the interest of assuring these hapless peoples'
survival.

HULL

DCR:EMS
6-30-44

Miss Ounacey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akin, Bernstein, Cohn,
DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lasser, Loxford, Mann, Mennon,
Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Sargoy, Stendish, Stewart, Weinstein,
H. D. White, Files

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-93
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

090

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMLEGATION, Bern
DATED: April 29, 1944
NUMBER: 1498

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD FOR HARRISON.

This is WEB Bern Cable No. 10.

Following for Intercessors:

QUOTE In full agreement with interested American welfare agencies War Refugee Board requests Intercessors to approach the German and satellite governments, through appropriate and expedient channels, to bring about with respect to Jews and other persons, detained, interned, or otherwise confined because of race, religion, or political belief (1) treatment equal to that accorded civilian internees to whom Geneva Convention is currently applied by analogy or (2) equal treatment of such persons to the extent at least that reception and distribution of packages under Intercessor supervision be permitted them under guarantees equal to those in effect with respect to the civilian internees referred to in (1) above. War Refugee Board feels strongly that (1) above is preferable and suggests that (2) should be only if in the judgment of Intercessors (1) is unobtainable.

Furthermore, War Refugee Board requests Intercessors to make every effort to obtain, wherever possible, for Jews and other victims of Nazi oppression (who though they may not be physically interned have been singled out for persecution) facilities and opportunities to obtain food and other necessities on the basis of equality with the local population both from local or domestic sources and through Intercessor channels. In addition, War Refugee Board calls attention to the Board's efforts to bring Jews and other persecuted persons out of German controlled territory in as large numbers as possible. The Board urges that Intercessors, through appropriate approaches to the German and other authorities in German controlled territory and through any other means possible, do what it can to assist the departure of these persecuted peoples to neutral countries.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Patka Date

SEP 14 1972

The Board

The Board is cognizant of unceasing efforts of Intercross in the direction of making this general program a reality and is appreciative of the humanitarian activities of Intercross. The Board is ready to assist Intercross in every way to effectuate the realization of all of the foregoing UNQUOTE

Following X-2 Harrison.

War Refugee Board considers the proposed approaches to the German and other authorities through Intercross are of utmost importance to the success of its program. In view of recent military developments, including the reported situation in Hungary, Bulgaria and Rumania, the Board is convinced that special emphasis should be placed on efforts to persuade the Germans to improve the condition of Jews and other similar groups within occupied territories. Accordingly, you are requested to do everything possible to support the proposals being made to Intercross. If at any time you believe that the Swiss Government would be willing to make similar approaches to the Germans or otherwise assist in the program outlined herein, you are authorized informally to make a request for such action to the Swiss on behalf of this Government.

MULL

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akin, Bernstein, Cahn, DeBevoise, Friedman, Gaston, Heide, Laughlin, Lasser, Lurford, Mann, Mason, Marks, McCormack, Fellak, Rains, Sargey, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Feltis, Files.

CLASSIFICATION AND CONTROL INFORMATION

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: May 17, 1944
NUMBER: 3144

A fifteen paragraph letter dated May 12 has been received from the President of IRC, Mr. Max Huber, in reply to my May 2 letter which contained information set forth in April 29 telegram No. 1498 from the Department. My May 17 telegram No. 3147 transmitted first thirteen paragraphs of text of Huber's letter under reference, in which "subjects" means "the Jews", "empire" means "German authorities", "league" means "World Jewish Congress", "respondents" means "the International Committee of the Red Cross", and "inquirer" means "War Refugee Boards".

The following is a paraphrase of paragraph fourteen: Nevertheless so far as conditions permitted IRC have been instrumental in facilitating emigration of Jews from some southeastern European countries to Palestine. Memorandum dated May 5 describing work done has been furnished U. S. Legation at Bern by us. (Note from Legation: If and when mailing facilities permit, copy will be forwarded by microfilm.) As regards responsibility which we can assume primarily in matter of safe conduct for vessels it does not depend upon ourselves but rather on interested governments and on circumstances.

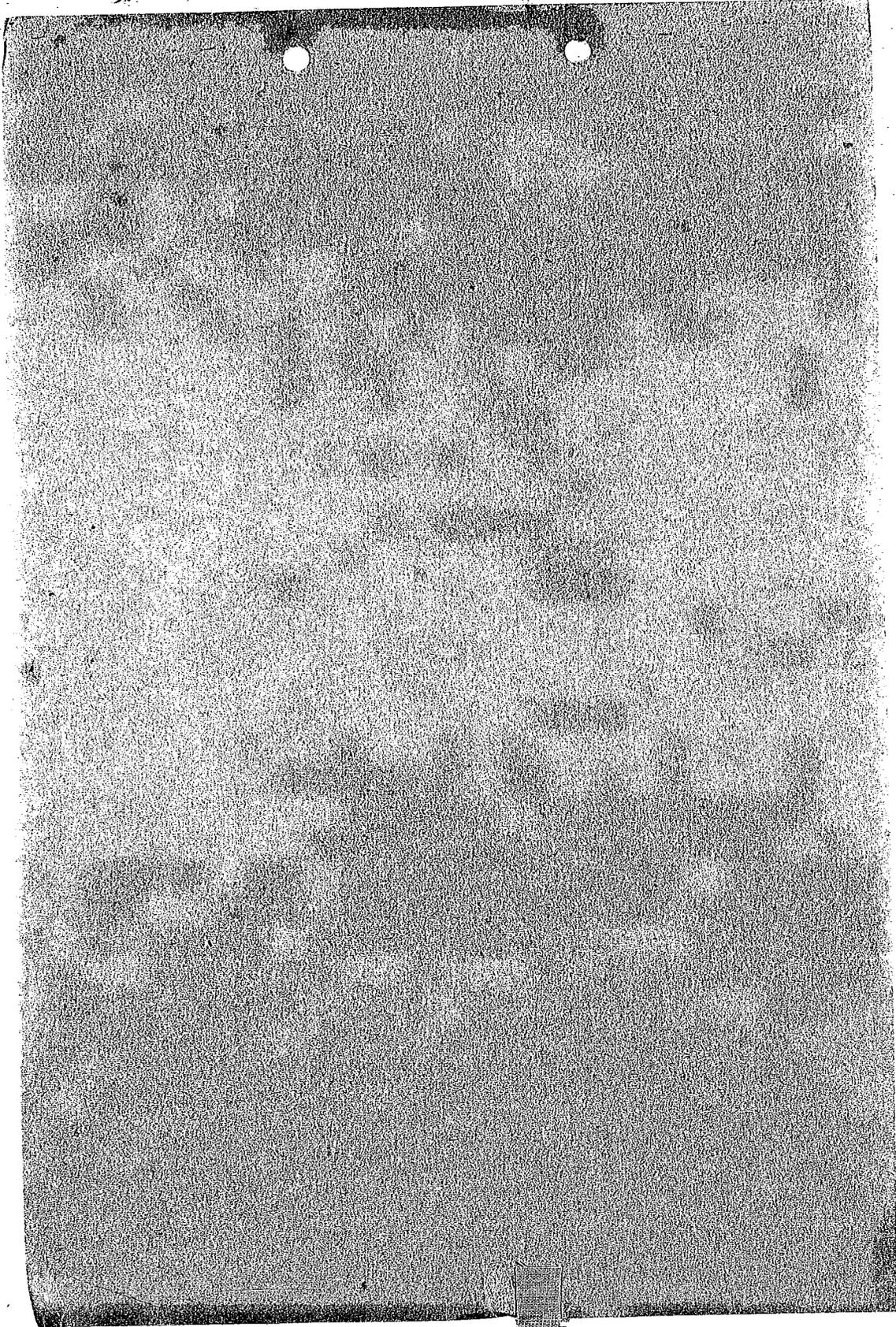
As regards fifteenth paragraph: It is desire of IRC that War Refugee Board be informed but that since any publicity can be prejudicial to some persons we are trying to help, it requests that communication be kept confidential.

HARRISON

CC: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akzin, Cohn, Bernstein, DuBois, Friedman, Hedel, Gaston, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Manner, Marks, McCormack, Rains, Sargey, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fehle, Files.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 14 1972**



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NEW YORK TIMES
APRIL 30, 1945

FREED AMERICANS WILL RETURN HOME

Agreement With German Army Bars Future Participation in Operations in Europe

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PARIS, April 30—Gaunt American veterans of German prison camps are going home. Every American soldier who has been released from a prison camp is through with the war in Europe and is returning to the United States as fast as the Army can get him there, Supreme Allied Headquarters announced today.

The plans for returning the soldiers to their homes do not specify that the newly liberated soldiers' military career is over, however. After a twenty-one-day furlough at home the soldier must report to a redistribution center, where he may be discharged from service, assigned to a post in the United States or shipped to a theatre of operations other than Europe.

Agreement Made With Reich

The latter stipulation is in return for a bargain made with the enemy. In return for a German promise to leave the prisoners in the camps in the path of the Allies' advance rather than take them into the various redoubts by forced marches, United States authorities agreed that all liberated military personnel would be prohibited from taking further part in the war against Germany in any capacity.

A series of evacuation camps already have been organized for the speedy processing of returned prisoners, who rank behind the sick, wounded and what Supreme Headquarters calls "organized units" in priority for transportation.

The prisoners who are sick or wounded will be evacuated through normal medical channels as speedily as their condition will permit.

The Army has also developed a program to solve many of the personal problems of the prisoners. In Army words, they will be "processed"; that is, be given a bath, hot meals, new clothes and medical attention. Officers who have lost their uniforms may have them replaced.

To Receive Part Payment

All liberated prisoners of war will receive a partial payment, and a final pay settlement will be

made soon as possible after they reach the United States, the Supreme Headquarters announcement said. No deductions will be made for any money received from the enemy.

The liberated prisoners also may file a claim for any personal losses, including money and jewelry lost, damaged, destroyed or abandoned while in captivity. The prisoners also will be allowed to send word of their release to the United States by cable or through newspaper correspondents.

In a booklet, "Glad You're Back, Soldier," which is being distributed by the Army's Information-Education Bureau, they are instructed not to discuss with unauthorized persons matters pertaining to secret activities in Germany of which they may have knowledge or in which they may have participated. This precaution is taken for the sake of the Allies' prisoners still held by the Germans and Japanese.

00090

11,000 Yanks Among 110,000 Prisoners Freed as Moosburg

With U. S. Third Army, Ger- many, April 30 (U.P.).—American tanks rumbled into Moosburg, 27 miles northeast of Munich, today and liberated 110,000 wildly rejoicing Allied prisoners of war, including at least 11,000 Americans. The largest group of prisoners yet freed from the Germans cheered and celebrated when the Forty-seventh Tank Battalion of the Fourteenth Armored Division rolled up to the prisoner camp. The tank battalion found 19 of its own men who had been captured in the German breakthrough on the Western Front last December. The prisoners included Americans, British, Canadians, South Africans, New Zealanders, Poles, Russians, French and Serbs. There were several war correspondents whose identity had not been

learned. Three Russian women doctors were among them. **Nazis Hold Lieut. Winant** With the U. S. Third Army, April 30 (U.P.).—Lieut. John G. Winant, Jr., son of the U. S. Ambassador to Britain, was singled out from other American prisoners by the Gestapo several days ago and taken to Salzburg as "a political prisoner," liberated American fliers reported today. **'Ike' Again Warns Nazis** London, April 30 (U.P.).—General Eisenhower broadcast a warning to all commanders of Nazi prisoner-of-war camps that they will be held "strictly accountable" for any violation of the German agreement to leave Allied war prisoners behind when forced to abandon camps before the advancing Allied armies.

000910

April 29, 1945

MEMORANDUM

In the last moments that remain for the Nazis in their desperate attempt to escape the punishment which they have so surely merited, they are apt to seek their vengeance upon the pitiful few civilian internees of Jewish nationality still remaining in the concentration camps.

Recently by agreement with the Nazis, war prisoners are being left in the camps in which they were held.

It is therefore vital that a similar arrangement be made so that civilian internees also be left in the camps. This will result in the actual saving of these persons since they will go to certain death if taken away by the Germans in their flight.

We therefore respectfully appeal that a similar agreement in reference to the civilian internees be reached with the Nazis, and that further warning issue to them that any mistreatment of civilian internees of Jewish nationality will be dealt with most severely. Germans giving aid and succor to these unfortunates and assisting their escape from death, would be favorably considered.

VAAD HATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

RtL

000911

No. 1730

①
②

000912

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

April 28, 1945

In reply refer to
740.00116 E.W./4-645

My dear General O'Dwyer:

I have received your letter of April 6, 1945 recommending the issuance of another warning to the Germans to prevent if possible last minute atrocities reported to be planned against civilian internees especially Jews remaining under their control.

As you are now aware, the President, Prime Minister Churchill and Marshal Stalin jointly signed a stern warning to the Germans on April 23, which in its text appears to have covered adequately the suggestions contained in your letter.

On April 27, 1945, I was able to confirm again to the press the position of the Department of State on the subject of atrocities and war crimes by stating my complete agreement with the recent statement of Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson that,

"as to the specific matter of atrocities and war crimes, both the Department of State and the War Department have wholeheartedly supported the policy that there must be the most comprehensive and effective punishment possible of those who are guilty."

May I assure you again that the Department of State will continue to support in every way possible the efforts of the War Refugee Board to prevent the maltreatment of persecuted groups until all have been liberated by the armed forces of the Allies.

Sincerely yours,

Acting Secretary.



Brigadier General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D.C.

7400913

WASHINGTON POST
Tuesday, April 24, 1945

Text of Big Three's Warning

Following is the text of the Allied warning to Germans against maltreatment of prisoners:

The governments of the United Kingdom, United States of America and USSR, on behalf of all the United Nations at war with Germany, hereby issue a solemn warning to all commandants and guards in charge of Allied prisoners of war, internees or deported citizens of the United Nations in Germany and German-occupied territory and to members of the Gestapo and all other persons of whatsoever service or rank in whose charge Allied prisoners of war, internees or deported citizens have been placed, whether in battle zones, or lines of communication or in rear areas. They declare that they will hold

all such persons, no less than the German high command and competent German military, naval and air authorities, individually responsible for the safety and welfare of all Allied prisoners of war, internees or deported citizens in their charges.

Any person guilty of maltreating or allowing any Allied prisoners of war, internees or deported citizens to be maltreated, whether in battle zone, on lines of communication, in a camp, hospital, prison or elsewhere, will be ruthlessly pursued and brought to punishment.

They give notice that they will regard this responsibility as binding in all circumstances and one which cannot be transferred to any other authorities or individuals whatsoever.

000914

Berlin Warned On Prisoners

Charging that 70,000 U. S. prisoners of war are confined in brutal squalor in German prison camps, Secretary of War Stimson and Secretary of State Stettinius warned Berlin "the American nation will not forget . . ."

Despite the fact that the U. S. A. is doing everything within its power to forward relief to captive GIs via neutral countries and the Red Cross, "instances are being daily uncovered of deliberate neglect, indifference, and cruelty," the joint statement said.

The statement revealed that 27 of the 78 prisoner camps in Germany have been overrun by the Red Army and U. S.-British forces, and that 15,000 Yanks have been liberated. The remaining prisoners were marched forcibly into central Germany where they are living under "deplorable conditions and extreme hardship," the statement declared, adding: "The conditions under which many of these men are living are due to a large extent to Germany's fanatical determination to continue a hopeless war with resultant disintegration . . . Her transport system is demoralized, administrative chaos has resulted and there has been a loss of effective central control."

000915

Big 3 Warns Germany Against Mistreatment of POWs

Retreating Foe Decides to Leave Prisoners Behind

By United Press

WASHINGTON, Apr. 24.—The United States, Russia and Great Britain have warned all German officials in charge of Allied prisoners that they will be held individually responsible for the safety of their charges and that maltreatment will be met with ruthless punishment.

Leaflets containing the warning were dropped by Allied planes last night over all parts of Germany still under German control. The warning was signed by President Truman, Prime Minister Winston Churchill and Premier Josef Stalin.

It coincided with an announcement by the War and State Depts. that the German Government has offered to leave Allied prisoners of war in prison camps for liberation by advancing Allied armies. The U. S. A. accepted the offer as it applied to the estimated 65,000 U. S. prisoners still in German hands. The British Government also accepted the offer on behalf of British prisoners.

Effective Sunday

Allied armies, according to the announcement, so far have overrun 47 of the 78 prisoner of war camps and hospitals where American soldiers were known to be held. An estimated 20,000 to 25,000 have been freed to date.

The agreement became effective at 7 p.m., EWT. Sunday night. The German proposal was submitted to the U. S. A. through the Swiss Government.

The Big Three's warning to Germany was announced jointly in Washington, London and Moscow. It was released here by the White House.

The ultimatum followed dispatches from Germany telling of almost incredible atrocities inflicted upon Allied prisoners of war and slave laborers in German hands.

Churchill, Stalin and Truman asserted that their threat of punishment applied to any person, including members of the German High Command, who was a party to maltreatment of Allied military or civilian personnel.

"Any person guilty of maltreating or allowing any Allied prisoner of war, internee or deported citizen to be maltreated, whether in battle zone, on lines of communication, in a camp, hospital, prison or elsewhere, will be ruthlessly pursued and brought to punishment," they said.

"They (the Big Three) give notice that they will regard this responsibility as binding in all circumstances and one which cannot be transferred to any other authorities or individuals whatsoever."

Threat

The announcement carried a threat that the Allies will pursue guilty parties to the ends of the earth to bring them to book.

Stories from Germany of charred corpses, of mass murder and burial of Allied personnel, and of starvation diets for Allied prisoners, followed widespread charges—officially denied—that German war

prisoners in this country are being pampered.

Rep. Richard Harless, (D., Ariz.), has begun a campaign to discover whether there is substance for reports of coddling. He has introduced a resolution for a thorough investigation but it has been delayed in Committee.

He said that German prisoners in Arizona are well-fed and fat; that not only are they being pampered but that Nazi military customs are permitted to prevail in POW camps.

Text of Warning

The announcement, which had been scheduled for simultaneous release in Washington, London and Moscow, gave this text of the warning:

"The Governments of the United Kingdom, United States of America and USSR, on behalf of all the United Nations at war with Germany, hereby issue a solemn warning to all commandants and guards in charge of Allied prisoners of war, internees or deported citizens of the United Nations in Germany and German-occupied territory and to members of the Gestapo and all other persons of whatsoever service or rank in whose charge Allied prisoners of war, internees or deported citizens have been placed, whether in battle zones, on lines of communication or in rear areas.

"They declare that they will hold all such persons, no less than the German High Command and competent German military, naval and air authorities, individually responsible for the safety and welfare of all Allied prisoners of war, internees or deported citizens in their charge.

"Any person guilty of maltreating or allowing any Allied prisoner of war, internee or deported citizen to be maltreated, whether in battle zone, on lines of communication, in a camp, hospital, prison or elsewhere, will be ruthlessly pursued and brought to punishment.

"They give notice that they will regard this responsibility as binding in all circumstances and one which can not be transferred to any other authorities or individuals whatsoever."

Delegation Leaves

Meanwhile a delegation of 30 Congressmen and newspaper and magazine editors speeded toward Germany to obtain for the American people more eyewitness evidence of Nazi concentration camp atrocities.

Six Senators, six members of the House and 18 editors comprised the delegation which left for Germany by air after a weekend of hurried preparation.

The group is making the trip under War Dept. sponsorship at the invitation of Supreme Allied Commander Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower.

From London, 15 neutral journalists from Switzerland, Sweden and Turkey also were enroute to visit German atrocity camps, under arrangements made by Allied Supreme Headquarters. They were accompanied by several Greek journalists.

Supreme headquarters has planned to give them every facility to permit an independent report of atrocities, which have previously been reported only by allied correspondents.

Again and Again and Again—
Back MacArthur's Men! Buy
Bonds.

Each Guard Responsible

April 24, 1945
Washington Post

Will Avenge Prisoners, Big 3 Warn Germans

By George Connery

Any German guilty of mistreating prisoners of war, internees or deported citizens will be "ruthlessly pursued and brought to punishment," United States, Great Britain and Russia warned last night.

It was the strongest threat yet issued in an effort to save the lives of captives, perhaps totaling millions, still in German hands.

There was no loophole in the statement issued jointly by President Truman, Prime Minister Churchill and Premier Stalin. It bluntly told all commandants, guards, Gestapo agents and all other persons involved that they would be held individually responsible for the "safety and welfare of all Allied prisoners of war, internees or deported citizens in their charge."

Every means available was being used last night to get the information to the camps and prisons inside the Reich, where American and other Allied captives are dying of starvation and mistreatment.

British, Russian and American

radio stations blared the warning into Germany, and to make certain every camp got the word Allied planes dropped leaflets over the Reich.

The Allies, the statement cautioned, are prepared to regard the responsibility as "binding in all circumstances and one which cannot be transferred to any other authorities or individuals whatsoever."

Nazis Agree to Leave Captives

Meanwhile, War and State departments announced Germany had agreed to leave all prisoners of war in camps as the Allies advance. A similar agreement was made affecting British prisoners.

The concession, offered by Germany through the Swiss government, came as the War Department was putting into effect its new policy of widespread publicity on all German atrocities, whether in prisoner of war or civilian concentration camps.

According to the War Department, the arrangement has been in

From Page 1

effect since 7 p. m. EWT Sunday, when time limit for withdrawal of the offer expired without further word from Germany.

65,000 Yanks Still Held

Germany still holds between 60,000 and 65,000 American prisoners, about 36,000 of whom suffered severely while being moved to the interior as Allied armies closed in. Thousands were forced to march hundreds of miles, with little food, shelter or medical care either en route or when they reached the already crowded camps.

With the marches ruled out by American-German agreement, the joint Allied warning puts the rest of the responsibility up to German camp personnel. If the prisoners aren't treated decently up to the time of their liberation, individual German necks will stretch.

Elmer Davis, Office of War Information director, yesterday furnished additional evidence that the American policy on atrocities now is: Tell everything, be tough and make it stick, not for a few years but for a few generations.

Germans to Get Full

American prisoners, and detailed the situation.

Subsequently, General MacArthur forwarded to Washington a report of Jap barbarities in Manila.

High Army authorities had a look at this and decided it was something the American public had a right to read. This damning document of several thousand words was released in full on April 17.

When American and British armies started uncovering living and dead evidence at liberated camps in Germany, the War Department was prepared to go along with General Eisenhower. The supreme Allied commander wanted the whole story told. It was he who urged that editors, Congressmen and Senators be sent over.

The changing attitude was reflected in Congress. Franz von Papen, captured German diplomat, should be tried "as one of the chief agents of the Nazi hierarchy" responsible for atrocities, Representative Flood (D., Pa.) declared on the floor of the House.

Nazis Here "Fat as Pigs"

Representative Gossett (D., Tex.) urged that all German prisoners of war in this country be required to see movies of horror scenes

Big 3 Warn Germans

By George Connery

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See PRISONERS, Page 4, Col. 1

From Page 1

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Germans to Get Fill

Davis, back from a month's trip to England, France and Germany, said even the German people are going to get plenty of news about concentration camps. Not only will they read about the crimes, but they'll hear about them on their radios and see evidences of them in their movies.

He declared that informal discussions have started on coordination of news for occupied Germany, with the United States, Great Britain, France and Russia participating in the talks.

In Washington, it became clear that the War Department was reversing its policy and taking the lead in getting out, and on official records, every pertinent fact regarding murder and mistreatment practiced by the Nazis.

Hurry-up trip to Europe of a group of Senators, Representatives, and editors was just the latest move in the direction of full publicity. Passport and medical "shot" requirements were waived to get the men over while unmistakable evidence remained of what had been going on in the camps under German direction.

Military sources said there is no organized campaign, but a determination to see that everyone in the country learns the worst there is to learn about the German enemy, and learns it while the war is still on.

For three years a security blackout kept the worst of prison and concentration camp atrocities from the American public. The first important official break came April 12, when a State-War Department announcement denounced Germany for its treatment of

American prisoners, and detailed the situation.

Subsequently, General MacArthur forwarded to Washington a report of Jap barbarities in Manila. High Army authorities had a look at this and decided it was something the American public had a right to read. This damning document of several thousand words was released in full on April 17.

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The changing attitude was reflected in Congress. Franz von Papen, captured German diplomat, should be tried "as one of the chief agents of the Nazi hierarchy" responsible for atrocities, Representative Flood (D., Pa.) declared on the floor of the House.

Nazis Here "Fat as Pigs"

Representative Gossett (D., Tex.) urged that all German prisoners of war in this country be required to see movies of horror camps found in Germany.

Representative Harless (D., Ariz.) described German prisoners at the Papago Park, Ariz., camp as "All over-fed and fat as pigs," and said only about one-third of them do any work.

He blamed the War Department's original "weak" policy for conditions there, and said "we haven't done much to toughen it up."

BRITISH IRE IS DEEP AT ATROCITY PROOF

Publication of Photos Arouses
the Nation—Allies Draw Up
Solemn Warning to Foe

By SYDNEY GRUSON

By Wireless to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

LONDON, April 19.—Deep anger such as the British people are slow to feel has swept this island as a result of the publication of pictures and stories telling of the Buchenwald and Belsen concentration camps in Germany. Seldom has any incident evoked so much bitterness as the disclosure of what Prime Minister Winston Churchill soberly described today as "these frightful crimes."

At the same time, Mr. Churchill told the House of Commons still worse things were to be expected. Only this morning, he added, General of the Army Dwight D. Eisenhower had informed him that new discoveries, particularly at Weimar, "far surpass anything previously disclosed."

Mr. Churchill, accepting an invitation from General Eisenhower, said a party of eight members of the Commons and two from the House of Lords would inspect the liberated concentration camps to get "ocular and first-hand proof of these atrocities," and disclosed that Mr. President Harry S. Truman and Marshal Joseph Stalin had signed a declaration of "solemn warning" to the Germans about these crimes.

To Bring Warning Home

"This warning," he said, "is designed to bring home the responsibility not only to the men at the top who are already on other grounds war criminals in many cases, but to the actual people who have done this foul work with their own hands and make it clear that no order from superior authority will be any shield for them."

[In what appeared to be a suggestion that the central Nazi Government might not last even long enough to receive the warning, Mr. Churchill said it had been prepared "for the German Government or whatever authorities exist." The Associated Press reported.]

The declaration will be published speedily after the meeting of United States Secretary of State Edward R. Stettinius Jr., British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden and Soviet Foreign Commissar Vyacheslav M. Molotov in Washington and will cover, Mr. Churchill indicated, the treatment of both prisoners of war and German nationals. He also intimated that the findings of the Parliamentary party would be issued as a State paper.

The Prime Minister's comments followed a question asking whether he would take steps to insure that the Allies would retain Buchenwald intact as a memorial on German methods. He refused to commit himself to the suggestion at present time.

British Public Horrified

"No words," said the Prime Minister, "can express the horror which is felt by His Majesty's Government and their Allies at the proof of these frightful crimes now daily coming into view."

The ordinary people, too, were almost struck silent by the savagery evident in the pictures of Ducheswald's corpses, its furnaces and its living dead. In the words of an Evening Standard editorial, the people recoiled in horror from the "stench and infamies" of the "German cesspit."

While the general public in the heat of the moment has tended to echo the words of the man in David Low's Evening Standard cartoon today, that "the whole German people should be wiped out for this," Mr. Low gave his readers this reminder in answer to the man of an emaciated concentration camp survivor: "Don't forget some of us are Germans, friend," the survivor says.

One result of the Ducheswald and Pelsen disclosures was a renewed campaign in the London press to reduce the amount of food rations allowed German prisoners, which were said to be double the rations of British civilians. There no longer was any justification for this, the editorials asserted, and there would be no dishonor in giving these Germans less to eat while, as The Evening News said, "the whole world is short of food, thanks to the war which Germany unloosed on mankind."

Von Papen Case Studied

LONDON, April 19 (AP)—The capture of Franz von Papen, former German Chancellor and diplomat, confronted the Allied War Crimes Commission today with the question of whether diplomats should be held accountable for German atrocities.

The Soviet Government newspaper Izvestia described von Papen as "one of the most acknowledged of war criminals" and said Russia was watching the attitude of the United States and Britain with anxiety over the chance that war criminals would be treated "with kid gloves." Russia is not represented on the commission.

Responsible London quarters understood that the problem of von Papen had been laid before the commission. Unless the commission's policy suddenly is reversed its decision will be kept secret until the end of the war in Europe. The reason for the reluctance to disclose the proceedings was ascribed to fear of German reprisals. A source close to the commission said the Germans still held a number of diplomatic prisoners, particularly of French nationality, who might be made victims of such vengeance.

4/19/45
Doubtless

To the Germans!

You have in your midst large numbers of civilian detainees, including a remnant of Jews. In the last hours of defeat, the Nazis are exterminating these people through deliberate starvation and exposure, as well as by murder in cold blood. Death caused by deliberate neglect and starvation is the same as murder in cold blood. They are war crimes.

I warn each and every one of you, in the Nazi hierarchy, in organized or roving bands or acting individually, that all who share the guilt, wherever and wherever they may be, will be sought out and punished.

I ask every German who does not share these criminal desires of the Nazis to save and protect all innocent victims.

000920

130 ft of Joseph Keegan

WARNING

To the People of Germany, Military and Civilian:

There remain among you, in forced labor battalions and in concentration camps, a number of Jews who have been unable to make their way out of your country or territory occupied by our armed forces.

As Commander in Chief of the armed forces of the United States, I hereby caution you, civilians and soldiers alike, to disregard any order that may come to you from any source to molest or persecute Jews and other internees, and I ~~xxx~~ order you to see that they are fed and properly cared for until the liberation of Europe is completed.

As Commander in Chief of the armed forces of the United States I have issued special orders to those directly in command of the United States Army in the European Theatre of war to impose severe penalties upon any German who is responsible, directly or indirectly, for mistreatment of these internees. A count will be taken of every instance of such mistreatment as a war crime and those guilty of it will be held strictly to such account.

Neglect or refusal to supply the life needs of persons held in internment camps will be deemed an equally serious war crime, and the penalty for such crime will be exacted in full.

00092

~~Thurs - Wasserman~~
Lincoln 7943

Randolph 2553

until 10 o'clock

Contacted [unclear] saw [unclear] by
[unclear]

Hannegan - looks new than very
enthusiastic
apptment to-morrow at 10 am

Facts ?

ועד ההצלה
VAA'D HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET
(ROOM 919)

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

April 16, 1945

General William O'Dwyer
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

In view of the tragic bereavement that has befallen our country in the death of our beloved President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, we respectfully come to you with the following request:

The world was aware of the position of our late President concerning the diabolical crime of the Nazis against the Jewish people under their domination and of the constant warnings and proclamation issued by President Roosevelt.

We feel however that in these last days when the war is nearing an end that the Nazis are ready to exterminate through deliberate starvation and exposure as well as by murder and extermination the remaining Jews under their domination. It is therefore of the utmost importance that you go to our new President and strongly urge that he issue a warning to the Nazis, to all groups and individuals in Germany. This warning should stress the fact that our government considers death by deliberate starvation the same as murder and extermination, and that such acts are all war crimes and all who share the guilt will be sought out and punished. At the same time the warning should urge all individuals in Germany or occupied territory to do everything possible to save these victims, and that they will be favorably treated for these acts.

We cannot too strongly urge how vital it is for you to see that the warning becomes a reality and that President Truman do this as quickly as possible. We are fully aware

To utilize the possibilities for rescue of European Jewry where the Vaad Hahatzala program is especially needed.

ועד ההצלה
VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET
(ROOM 919)
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

(2)

that the President is occupied at the moment with very vital matters, but we plead that everything must be done to save the remnants of the Jewish people.

The Jewish people of the United States will be eternally grateful for every action that will be taken in this matter

Very respectfully yours,

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A. Kalmanowitz
RABBI ABRAHAM KALMANOWITZ

To utilize the possibilities for rescue of European Jewry where the Vaad Hahatzala program is especially needed.

00092

W. H. E. C.
132 NASSAU STREET
Suite 919-920
New York 7, N. Y.

APR 18 AM 7.45

G-7
SPECIAL DELIVERY



CA.

General William O'Dwyer, Exec. Dir.
War Refugee Board
Treasury Department Building
Washington, D.C.

000920

APR 6 1945

My dear Mr. Secretary:

There are persistent reports and widespread fear, based on considerable internal evidence, that the Nazis will undertake a last minute orgy of vengeance and sadism against civilian detainees, especially Jews, remaining under their control. With the chaos and disorganization occurring in Germany now, the Nazi goal of extermination for these people can and is being realized by deliberate starvation and exposure, as well as by murder in cold blood. It is feared that the systematic Nazi program for mass extermination of these people, in a frenzied last minute vengeful outburst, will be carried out not only by the Nazi hierarchy but by organized or roving bands of terrorists and by individual Germans.

The War Refugee Board presents this situation to the State Department for its serious and immediate consideration. It is our strong recommendation that a new warning be issued by this Government now, directed not only toward the Nazi hierarchy but towards all groups and individuals in Germany. Such a warning should state that this Government considers death caused by deliberate neglect and starvation the same as murder in cold blood; that such acts are war crimes and that all who share the guilt, whoever and wherever they may be, will be sought out and punished.

The warning might also include or refer to the following which was expressed by the President in his statement of March 24, 1944:

"Hitler is committing these crimes against humanity in the name of the German people. I ask every German and every man everywhere under Nazi domination to show the world by his action

RECEIVED
APR 10 1945

000920

that in his heart he does not share these insane criminal desires. Let him hide these pursued victims, help them to get over their borders, and do what he can to save them from the Nazi hangman. I ask him also to keep watch, and to record the evidence that will one day be used to convict the guilty."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

The Honorable,
The Secretary of State.

cas.
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FH:WO'D:hd 4/6/45

000927

MEMORANDUM SUBMITTED TO BRIG. GEN. O'DWYER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

When the War Refugee Board was established by an executive order of the President, its chief function was understood to be the evacuation of Jewish people in the Nazi-occupied countries of Europe, where they were threatened with extermination. It was also understood that the Board would take whatever measures were possible to impress upon the German and the satellite governments that they would be held accountable at the end of the war for their campaign of extermination against innocent civilians.

On assuming office as Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, Brig. Gen. O'Dwyer declared, as quoted by Charles A. Michie in a Washington dispatch to PM, that "the psychological effect of the vacillating policy of the (War Crimes) Commission will be 'bad' within the Reich." He stated that "Reports that the United Nations War Crimes Commission is disinclined to press for criminal trial and punishment for top Nazi leaders may encourage them to think they can commit mass murder and not answer for it."

At present a critical situation has arisen in the threats broadcast by official German radios that over 700,000 Hebrews and more than 300,000 Jewish war prisoners from American, Russian, Polish, and other United Nations armies who are still in Nazi hands will be massacred as the last act of defeated Germany. In support of this information other reports from Europe indicate that the Jewish war prisoners are being segregated.

Learning of these reports the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe sent the following cable to General Eisenhower:

"JUST RECEIVED ALARMING NEWS CONFIRMED BY INTERNATIONAL RED CROSS THAT POLISH-JEWISH PRISONERS OF WAR TAKEN ON VARIOUS FRONTS HAVE BEEN SEGREGATED BY GERMANS WITH OBVIOUS INTENTION OF EXTERMINATING THEM, IN VIOLATION OF GENEVA CONVENTIONS STOP IMPERATIVE THAT PROMPT ACTION BE TAKEN TO PREVENT FULFILLMENT THIS DIABOLICAL PLAN STOP HIGH COMMAND OF TRIUMPHANT ALLIED ARMIES POWERFUL ENOUGH TO PERSUADE GERMANS ABANDON THIS FIENDISH SCHEME STOP WE CANNOT TAKE LIBERTY FORMULATING PRECISE STEPS BUT ARE CONFIDENT WHAT-EVER YOU PROCLAIM WHETHER WARNING OF STERN RETALIATION AGAINST GERMAN PRISONERS HELD BY ALLIES OR EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS OR ANY OTHER CONVINCING MEANS WILL HAVE IMPRESSIVE EFFECT STOP BUT POSITIVE ACTION IS URGENT NOT ALONE TO SAVE VERY REMNANTS POLISH JEWS BUT TO SAVE LIVES OF OTHER ALLIED SOLDIERS FOR YOU KNOW IT WAS ALWAYS THE PRACTICE OF NAZIS TO MASSACRE POLISH JEWS FIRST AND THEN IF DONE WITH IMPUNITY TO PROCEED TO JEWS OF OTHER NATIONALITIES STOP FAILURE TO ACT QUICKLY WILL ALSO HAVE DETERIORATIVE EFFECT ON HOME MORALE WHERE FAMILIES WILL FEAR FOR FATE OF JEWISH SOLDIERS IN OTHER ALLIED ARMIES WHO MAY FALL INTO GERMAN HANDS STOP WE PLACE OUR TRUST IN YOU CONFIDENT THAT THE GREAT IDEALS FOR WHICH THE ARMIES UNDER YOUR COMMAND FIGHT WILL INSPIRE YOU IN THIS DREADFUL SITUATION."

(s) LOUIS BROMFIELD

Co-Chairman

On April 3, Maj. Genl. A. D. Surles forwarded the following communication to the Emergency Committee:

"LOUIS BROMFIELD, CHAIRMAN
EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE JEWISH
PEOPLE OF EUROPE INC.

"GENERAL DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, SUPREME COMMANDER, ALLIED EXPEDITIONARY FORCE, HAS REQUESTED THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE BE FORWARDED TO YOU: QUOTE I AM AWARE OF THE SITUATION SET FORTH IN YOUR RECENT MESSAGE. ALL FEASIBLE STEPS ARE BEING TAKEN AND WILL BE TAKEN TO ALLEVIATE THESE CONDITIONS WHICH YOU DESCRIBE. GERMAN COMMANDERS RESPONSIBLE FOR ATROCITIES WILL BE PROSECUTED AS WAR CRIMINALS AND SEVERELY PUNISHED IN RELATION TO THE ENORMITY OF THEIR CRIMES. UNQUOTE END WDOPR

(S) A D SURLS
MAJ GEN USA DIR WASHINGTON DC"

This situation calls for immediate and drastic action along lines that have been effective in forcing the Germans to cease other violations of international law. The Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe respectfully suggests the following measures to achieve this end:

1. A forceful and unequivocal statement by President Roosevelt or Secretary of State Stettinius, calling attention to the above facts and announcing that the American Government regards as war crimes, punishable as such, all German crimes against Hebrews, whether committed on Axis territory or in Allied countries, whether against those classified as "stateless Jews" or "Axis nationals",
2. The above statement to be combined with an appeal to the Germans expressing the abhorrence of the American people to the mass murder of Hebrews and warning the Germans that just punishment will be meted out to every participant in this appalling crime.
3. A statement by a responsible source announcing that the declaration of the President or the Secretary of State constitutes official policy and will be implemented by the United Nations War Crimes Commission and by the Army of Occupation in Germany.
4. An immediate radio campaign, beamed directly to the German people by the SHEAF and the OWI, setting forth the determination of General Eisenhower to punish all those guilty of these atrocities.

5. A declaration by General O'Dwyer expressing the concern of the War Refugee Board and assuring the American public that immediate steps are being taken to prevent the Germans from carrying out their expressed purpose.

We respectfully submit that these measures will have an immediate effect on the attitude and actions of the German people as well as on the Nazi officials who have been responsible for the extermination of more than four million human beings. For it has been the lack of determined action on the part of the United Nations which has encouraged the Germans in the belief that they could proceed with impunity against the Hebrew people of Europe.

APR 4 1945

Dear Mr. Bergson:

I have before me your letters to the Secretary of the Treasury and to me dated April 2, 1945, urging that stern warnings to the Germans be issued at this time.

The civilian internees with whom we are concerned will continue to be in grave danger as long as they remain under German control. Another strong warning, at this time, might contribute to the saving of human life. The issuing of such a warning, however, is an integral part of the whole war strategy and therefore a decision to issue any warning is and must be the sole responsibility of higher authority. The Board is pursuing with higher authority the matter of issuing another warning at this particular time.

You may be assured of the Board's continued vigorous action in all phases of safeguarding the lives of victims of enemy oppression, consistent with the successful prosecution of the war.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Mr. Peter H. Bergson,
Chairman,
Hebrew Committee for
National Liberation,
2315 Massachusetts Ave., N.W.,
Washington 8, D. C.

FH:WO'D:hd 4/4/45

00093

2315 MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.
ADAMS 8800

HEBREW COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION

April 2, 1945

My dear General,

I take the liberty to enclose herewith a copy of an appeal addressed to the President of the United States.

The appeal was sent following the receipt of additional reports to the effect that the Germans are planning to massacre every Hebrew within their reach.

Knowing of your concern for the fate of our imperiled people, I am sure you will agree that the action we advocate is just and urgently necessary.

I hope you will do everything you can with your admirable zeal and determination to secure speedy action before it is too late.

I have sent a copy of our appeal to Secretary Morgenthau who expressed approval of our views on the War Crimes issue when I discussed it with him some time ago.

I hope you will be in town tomorrow and I shall call you, if I may, hoping it will be possible to come in and see you in order to discuss the attainment of immediate action.

With kind regards, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Peter H. Bergson
Peter H. Bergson
v

General William O'Dwyer,
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington, D. C.

700932

HEBREW COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION

HEBREW COMMITTEE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION

April 1, 1945

Mr. President:

Persistent reports from Europe, quoting official German radio broadcasts, disclose Nazi plans for a monstrous massacre of over a million Hebrew people still in Germany's concentration camps and slave labor battalions, as a climax to the planned extermination of our nation.

As servants of the Hebrew people, we appeal to you on behalf of these Hebrew men, women and children who have withstood six years of untold suffering and torture, deriving strength and endurance from their invincible belief in the ultimate victory of decent humanity. Only the sure knowledge that the leaders of the United Nations really do not care and will exact no punishment encourages the Germans to plan and commit these gigantic and ghastly crimes at the very hour of their own defeat.

For many months now not a word of warning has been given them. During these months a public debate has been carried on by the statesmen of the United Nations as to whether the extermination of Hebrews is a war crime or not. Indeed to this day the issue is undecided, to the everlasting shame of our own "legalists," whose pedantic minds have surely, though unconsciously, become infected with Germany's barbaric concepts of law. They have ignored your own clear and repeated pronouncements on punishment for these crimes.

Mr. President, there are no words to express the disaster that has befallen our nation. There are no words to express the strength of our demand and the humility of our appeal to you to take immediate action to avert this further tragedy - action which may still save more than a

His Excellency
The President of the United States of America,
Washington, D. C.

7 0 9 3

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D. C.
1945
THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UNLAWFUL TRADE

million lives.

The following steps taken now could be decisive in their effect:

1. A statement by the Secretary of State making it unmistakably clear that the Government of the United States regards crimes committed against Hebrews, even if committed on Axis territory and irrespective of the citizenship of the victims, as war crimes and punishable as such.
2. A stern warning from you expressing once again the abhorrence of the American people of the mass murder of the Hebrews, and the future consequences of these sordid deeds for the German people.
3. A similar warning beamed direct to the German people by General Eisenhower urging the German population to prevent the execution of this diabolic plan.

Aware of their defeat, the Germans have announced numerous concessions and improvements in the treatment of prisoners of war and of slave labor, obviously in an effort to gain some favor with the victors.

The above steps, therefore, are sure to be effective in making the Germans cease their crimes against the Hebrews, too, for they stopped torturing and murdering other peoples, not because they stopped hating them, but out of fear. That same fear can make them stop murdering Hebrews.

Mr. President, in your leadership the world rightly sees its greatest hope for the re-establishment of human decency and justice without which there can be no real peace. Tens of thousands of Hebrews are alive today in the liberated territories due to your previous action on their behalf. Hundreds of thousands more will owe their lives to you if you act again now to save them.

Respectfully yours,

Peter H. Bergson
Chairman

00093

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE, INC.

25 W. 45th St., New York 19, N. Y.—Bryant 9-4600

2315 MASSACHUSETTS AVE., N. W.
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

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Peter H. Bergson
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Eddie Cantor
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Ben Hecht
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Alex Wilf
Rabbi Ephraim Yolles
Isaac Zaar

March 31, 1945

Brigadier General William O'Dwyer, Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington, D. C.

My dear General:

On arriving in Washington, I was very sorry to learn that you had left the city for a few days. I had hoped to be able to see you in connection with the effort that the Emergency Committee is making to call attention to the critical plight of the Hebrew people still in Axis territory.

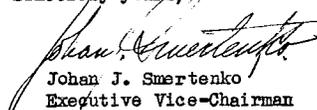
As you know, recent reports from Europe indicate the possibility of a sadistic orgy, directed against the million or more Hebrews still in Axis territory as a last vengeful act before the complete collapse of German resistance. There is great danger that a monstrous massacre will climax the four years of extermination that the Germans have conducted against the Hebrew people of Europe.

At present there are at least 700,000 Hebrew civilians in Nazi hands, as well as more than 300,000 Jewish war prisoners from American, Russian, Polish, French, and other United Nations armies. Many of the latter have already been segregated from their fellow prisoners by Himmler's orders.

I am sure that you will regard the effort to prevent the Nazi leaders from carrying out this monstrous plan as within the scope of the activities of the War Refugee Board and I should like to discuss with you the specific measures that may be taken immediately to avert this tragedy.

I expect to be in Washington for a fortnight or so and shall greatly appreciate the courtesy of an appointment at the earliest possible moment.

Sincerely yours,


Johan J. Smertenko
Executive Vice-Chairman

jjs:hb

Regional Offices

2315 MASSACHUSETTS AVE.
Washington, D. C.

139 NORTH CLARK STREET
Chicago, Ill.

333 WASHINGTON STREET
Boston, Mass.

5371 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD
Los Angeles, Cal.

85 NEW CAVENTISH STREET
London, W1, England

400

March 30, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Mr. DuBois asked me today whether the General had seen Peter Bergson yesterday. I stated that he had not but that the General had returned Bergson's call. Mr. DuBois explained that Bergson is of the opinion that the biggest thing that could be done now on behalf of the Jews inside German-controlled areas is the issuance of a statement by the President warning the Germans, in their hour of defeat, not to harm the Jews and to assist them. Bergson told Mr. DuBois that he had talked to Mrs. Roosevelt for about 45 minutes; that she was in favor of the proposal and had discussed the matter with the President. Bergson also talked to David Niles, who similarly reacted favorably to the proposal.

Mr. DuBois stated that he too thought it was a good idea and suggested that the General take it up directly with the White House to give the matter a final push. Mr. DuBois was of the opinion that that was all that would be necessary in view of Bergson's preliminary activity at the White House.

FH

F. Hodel

100930

March 30, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

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F. Hodel

*Opposed to statement
Feels was line snatched out from issue to help
any proposal of Bergson - submit something*

FH:nd 3/30/45

7
MAR 20 1945

Secretary Morgenthau

Miss Hodel

For your information

Interested Jewish groups in this country have been deeply concerned over the publication on March 16 in the Jewish Telegraphic Agency of the following item:

"Geneva, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- The Nazi Government, through its news agency DNB, today issued a warning that all Jews now in German hands, as well as Jewish war prisoners who may be captured, will be killed in reprisal for the reported plan to send Germans to Russia as laborers to rebuild the areas devastated by the German Army.

"If Roosevelt now admits that he and his accomplice Churchill undertook at the Yalta conference to surrender German war prisoners to the Soviet Union, then it is nothing but part of a devilish Jewish plan," the Nazi news agency said. Emphasizing that the Hitler government will retaliate, DNB added: "Above all, we shall make every Jew who is, or who falls into our hands, pay for all others. When the war comes to an end, there will be no more Jews in Europe."

The groups have been pressing for a warning and have telegraphed you, the Secretary of State and General O'Dwyer.

At our request, OWI and Federal Communications have checked this report and find that the following was released on March 12 by DNB for the German press:

"For all Germans battle cry is kill enemies like mad dogs! Murdering beasts deserve no better if Roosevelt now admits he and accomplice Churchill undertook in Yalta surrender German POW as slaves to Russia that too is part of diabolical Jewish plan. We will thoroughly upset machinations of slave drivers of Jewish

international. Or are these international criminals under impression we have no means of retaliation? Here too they will be taught lesson. Above all we will make every Jew in our hands or who falls into them pay for all others. When war comes to end there will be no more Jews in Europe. Again and again enemies have to admit we are daily becoming more fanatical and dogged."

(Signed) Florence Hodel

FH:hd 3/20/45

00093

DNB for German Press, March 12, 1945

WU CDA55 INTL CD LONDON VIA WUCABLES 439/438 MAR 19 812P
PRESS USINFORM NYK

MARCH 191858 PROPANAL TRIPLES URGENT ALIX REUTER RE YOUR 19100
GERPRESS 30406 TEXT GERMANY'S RESOLVE: NO MORE JEWS IN EUROPE
(IPS) QUOTE AGAINST SLAVE DRIVERS OF JEWISH INTERNATIONAL!
KILL ENEMIES LIKE MAD DOGS! OUR REPLY TO BOLSHEVIK PLUTOCRAT
MURDER GANGS AND JEWISH MASTERS. INDEED WE ARE FIGHTING DOGGEDLY
TO BITTER END STUBBORN AS MULES AND WILD AS TIGERS: UNQUOTE
BERLIN: HOW LITTLE DO OUR ENEMIES KNOW ABOUT GERMAN PEOPLES
REAL MOOD! DO THEY BY ANY CHANCE THINK WE ALLOW OUR WOMEN AND
CHILDREN, BROTHERS, HUSBANDS AND SONS TO BE MURDERED, HOMES TO
BE DESTROYED AND DEVASTATED, CULTURAL VALUES TO BE SMASHED,
NATIONAL FREEDOM AND HONOR TO BE VIOLATED AND SOCIALISM TO BE
WRESTED FROM US AND THEN FORGET IT ALL NEXT DAY? ONLY LITTLE
JEW BOY IN NYK CAN INDULGE IN SUCH SILLY IMAGININGS WHEN HE
SAYS GERMANS WOULD BE ONLY TOO HAPPY IF THEY WERE ONCE MORE
PUT INTO FETTERS OF VERSAILLES SLAVERY!. THAT IS WHAT JEW
SCRIBBLER DARES OFFER HIS USA READERS WITHOUT ANY OF THEM BOXING
EARS OF DISCIPLE OF TALMUD. AT ANY RATE GERMAN PEOPLE WILL YET
TEACH THEM LESSON. NOBODY HAS EVER HARMED US WITH IMPUNITY.
ONE CRY FOR REVENGE RISES THROUGHOUT REICHS GAUS. DIETRICH
ECKART'S SLOGAN GERMANY AWAKE, STIRS EVERYONE OF US. WE HIT
BACK. FOR ALL GERMANS BATTLE CRY IS KILL ENEMIES LIKE MAD
DOGS! MURDERING BEASTS DESERVE NO BETTER IF ROOSEVELT NOW
ADMITS HE AND ACCOMPLICE CHURCHILL UNDERTOOK IN YALTA SURRENDER
GERMAN POW AS SLAVES TO RUSSIA THAT TOO IS PART OF DIABOLICAL
JEWISH PLAN. WE WILL THOROUGHLY UPSET MACHINATIONS OF SLAVE
DRIVERS OF JEWISH INTERNATIONAL. OR ARE THESE INTERNATIONAL
CRIMINALS UNDER IMPRESSION WE HAVE NO MEANS OF RETALIATION?
HERE TOO THEY WILL BE TAUGHT LESSON. ABOVE ALL WE WILL MAKE
EVERY JEW IN OUR HANDS OR WHO FALLS INTO THEM PAY FOR ALL
OTHERS. WHEN WAR COMES TO END THERE WILL BE NO MORE JEWS IN
EUROPE. AGAIN AND AGAIN ENEMIES HAVE TO ADMIT WE ARE DAILY
BECOMING MORE FANATICAL AND DOGGED. (REFERENCE TO REPORTS BY
GODFREY TALBOT AND FRANK GILLARD). BUT THAT IS ONLY BEGINNING
OF OUR RESISTANCE. WHEREVER WE MEET ENEMY OUR CALCULATION IS
EVERY GERMAN FINISHES OFF 10 ENEMIES BEFORE BEING KILLED HIM-
SELF. LET US SEE WHETHER ENEMY CAN PAY BILL EVEN WITH GIGANTIC
MASSES OF MEN AND MATERIAL BILL WHICH WILL BE COSTLIEST FOR
ENEMY EVER KNOWN IN HISTORY. THAT IS OUR PLEDGED! WE SHALL
ACT ACCORDINGLY. INFELD.

359P.

00094

VOL. XII 61 (27th year)

Friday, March 16, 1945

JTA

Daily News Bulletin

PUBLISHED BY THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY
106 EAST 41st STREET, NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

NAZIS THREATEN TO KILL ALL CAPTIVE JEWS IN REPRISAL FOR GERMANS SENT TO RUSSIA

A GENEVA, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- The Nazi Government, through its news agency DNB, today issued a warning that all Jews now in German hands, as well as Jewish war prisoners who may be captured, will be killed in reprisal for the reported plan to send Germans to Russia as laborers to rebuild the areas devastated by the German Army.

"If Roosevelt now admits that he and his accomplice Churchill undertook at the Yalta conference to surrender German war prisoners to the Soviet Union, then it is nothing but part of a devilish Jewish plan," the Nazi news agency said. Emphasizing that the Hitler government will retaliate, DNB added: "Above all, we shall make every Jew who is, or who falls into our hands pay for all others. When the war comes to an end, there will be no more Jews in Europe." *B*

A delegation of the Council to Rescue Polish Jews has arrived in Geneva from London to negotiate with Swiss authorities and international organizations on means of rescuing the several hundred thousand Jews from Poland who are still held by the Germans. The delegation consists of Emanuel Szerer, Jewish deputy in the National Council of the Polish Government-in-Exile, Rabbi Babad and Dr. M. Lachs.

It is learned that the delegation conferred with Prof. Karl Burokhardt, head of the International Red Cross, before he left for Germany where he is now reported to be conferring with Hitler and Himmler on the question of war prisoners and Jews held in concentration and labor camps. The delegation also saw Eduard von Steiger, President of the Swiss Confederation, who said that the Swiss authorities were doing everything possible to assist the surviving Polish Jews, but that there are a great many difficulties at present.

JEWS IN TRANSYLVANIAN CAPITAL PARADE CARRYING PLACARDS ASKING REPATRIATION OF DEPORTEES

CLUJ, Transylvania, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Several hundred Jews of the 1,500 Jewish survivors in this Transylvanian capital participated in a parade yesterday on the occasion of the return of Northern Transylvania to Rumania.

Jewish leaders from Bucharest, including Chief Rabbi Shafran, arrived here to address the celebration in which tens of thousands participated. The Jewish marchers carried placards reading "Everything Must Be Done To Bring Back Our Jewish Deportees." They were saluted by King Michael and the Soviet representative, Andrei Vishinsky, who reviewed the parade.

The 1,500 Jews in Cluj are only a fraction of the 70,000 Jews who lived in the city before the deportation of the Jewish population by the pro-Nazi Hungarian regime. The correspondent of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, who arrived here from Bucharest to study the Jewish situation, was told today by community leaders that they believe that about 10,000 of the Jews deported from Cluj are among the Jewish internees from the notorious Oswiecim camp who were liberated by the Russian troops in Poland.

PALESTINE RECOGNIZED AS FULL MEMBER OF ARAB LEAGUE; WILL HAVE VOTING RIGHTS

LONDON, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- London newspapers today report that the constitution of the League of Arab Nations which was made public yesterday in Cairo recognizes Palestine as a member of the League.

The constitution contains twenty-two articles and two protocols, one of which provides that Palestine shall have a vote in the League's Council. Since the future status of Palestine is still undecided, the Council itself will nominate a Palestinian to represent his fellow countrymen as a full-fledged member of the League, with voting and other rights. The constitution will be presented for ratification to the pan-Arab congress which opens in Cairo on Saturday.

Lord Strabolgi, pro-Zionist member of the House of Lords, addressing a Zionist meeting today in Edinburgh said that the proposal to surrender the rights of the Jews in Palestine and the British interests there to "some nebulous international body" is nothing but "sheer lunacy and cowardly defeatism." He insisted that the most practical solution of the Arab-Jewish problem would be to combine Palestine and Transjordan into a dominion.

HARRISON NAMED U.S. MEMBER OF INTER-GOVERNMENTAL REFUGEE COMMITTEE; SUCCEEDS TAYLOR

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Earl G. Harrison, former Commissioner of Immigration and Naturalization, succeeds Myron C. Taylor as U. S. representative on the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, the Department of State announced today. Harrison is expected to proceed to London immediately to confer with officials of the committee with respect to the committee's plans to care for the racial, religious and political refugees who cannot return to their homes, according to the announcement.

"The caring for and repatriation of displaced persons who can be repatriated to their homes is one of UNRRA's functions," the State Department said. "Increasing numbers of racial, religious and political refugees are now being liberated by the allied armies and the number to be cared for by the committee may eventually exceed one million."

Asked about the present status of the Intergovernmental Committee, Secretary of State Stettinius said at his press conference that the committee had been active right along and doing every thing in its power. Our War Refugee Board, he said, has been closely in touch with the committee's activities. The secretary declined to comment on whether Herbert C. Fell will be reinstated as American representative on the United Nations War Crimes Commission.

FIVE JEWISH YOUTHS JAILED BY MILITARY COURT IN PALESTINE FOR POSSESSION OF ARMS

JERUSALEM, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- A military court here today sentenced four Jewish youths to seven years imprisonment each, and one to five years on the charge of illegal possession of arms.

The four are: David Levin, 18 years old; Daniel Katz, 19; Abraham Stashovsky, 20 and Gideon Pelei, 20. The fifth is Shlomo Milner, 17 years old.

The five were arrested on February 23 near a Jewish settlement in the vicinity of the Dead Sea. The police found six rifles and 214 rounds of ammunition on them.

BRAZIL SENDS PROTEST TO GERMANY AGAINST SEGREGATION OF CAPTURED BRAZILIAN JEWS

MEXICO CITY, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- The Brazilian Foreign Office has sent a protest to Germany against the segregation in special concentration camps of Jews among Brazilian prisoners of war captured by the Germans, the Brazil radio announced last night.

Revealing, for the first time, that the Nazi were discriminating against Brazilian Jewish captives, the broadcast said: "The Foreign Office today sent a protest to Germany through the International Red Cross against this inhuman treatment of prisoners of war."

BELGIAN JEWS IN CUBA ARE NOT EAGER TO RETURN TO BELGIUM; HEAR OF ANTI-SEMITISM THERE

HAVANA, Cuba, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Jewish refugees from Belgium, who have done a remarkable job in the diamond industry here, employing about 1,000 Jews and 1,500 Cubans, are not eager to return to their native country.

Reports reaching them from Belgium reveal that there is a good deal of anti-Jewish feelings there due to Nazi propaganda which has left roots in certain sections of the population. One report said that a hotel in Brussels refused to admit Jews - which never happened before the war in the Belgian capital. The Belgian Jews here are also disappointed at the fact that German Jewish refugees in Belgium were interned after the liberation of the country.

At present there is a strike going on in the diamond industry here which, if not settled soon, may arouse anti-Semitic feelings. Cuban workers in the industry receive from sixty to eighty-five dollars a week, which is more than they get in any other occupation. They, however, want the same wages as the Jewish workers who have more skill and experience.

Much interest is centered on the question as to what will happen to the diamond industry here if the Belgian Jews decide to return to Belgium. Some local Jews are now financially interested in the industry and it is certain that they intend to keep it going.

ANTI-SEMITIC ATTACKS BY CONGRESSMEN SCORED IN HOUSE; FRANKFURTER DEFENDED

WASHINGTON, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- The charge that Supreme Court Justice Frankfurter was back of an alleged plot to dominate a proposed international court of justice was branded as "idle rumor and fantastic speculation" yesterday by Rep. Mathew Neely of West Virginia, in an address on the floor of the House.

Attacks on Justice Frankfurter have been made in recent weeks by Rep. Clare Hoffman of Michigan and Rep. Dan R. McGhee of Mississippi. Recalling that Rep. Hoffman had described Frankfurter as "born in a foreign land" and "a member of a persecuted race," Rep. Neely said that in effect "this great and good man is a Jew." At this point Rep. Hoffman arose to deny he had ever attacked any member of the Jewish race as a Jew.

INTER-RACIAL ORGANIZATION TO COMBAT RACIAL HATRED IN CANADA FORMED IN MONTREAL

MONTREAL, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- An inter-racial Committee for Democratic Action was formed here today for the purpose of engaging in a determined struggle against the propaganda of all race hatred. Members of the committee are determined to combat all race attacks, open or covert, by every constitutional and legal means at the disposal of the citizen, and Canadians of all ethnic groups are being asked to support the movement. Officers for the newly formed group will be elected at the next meeting.

DECREASE IN RABBIS AND JEWISH EDUCATORS IN LATIN-AMERICA DEPLORED AT ZIONIST CONGRESS

MONTVIDEO, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- The "alarming decrease" in the number of rabbis and Jewish educators in the Latin-American countries was pointed out here today by speakers at the Latin-American Zionist Congress who appealed to Palestine to send teachers here. The delegates deplored the lack of Jewish schools in Argentina, which has the largest Jewish community in South America. At the same time, they lauded the training schools operated by the ORT and the OSE there.

The congress adopted a resolution calling on the World Zionist Executive in Jerusalem to establish a Latin-America section with an affiliated council on which all the Jewish communities of the Central and South American republics would be represented. Speakers urged expansion of Zionist youth, education and propaganda activities in Latin-America.

NEW ENGLAND REGIONAL SESSION OF JEWISH FEDERATION LEADERS PROTESTS U.J.A. DISSOLUTION

HARTFORD, Conn., Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Opposition to the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal was voiced in a resolution adopted here at a session of the executive committee of the New England Region of the Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds, with forty representatives of 12 cities present. The resolution, made public today, reads:

"We object to the dissolution of the United Jewish Appeal and demand its immediate reconstitution on these grounds, for these reasons: 1. The dissolution has already created disunity, recriminations and confusion in the Jewish communities; 2. It has already, in some cases, resulted in the withdrawal of local leadership and a loss of funds; 3. That the Welfare Funds, which provide at least 90 percent of the funds raised by the former U.J.A. agencies, feel that they should have been asked, as a matter of right, for permission to dissolve the U.J.A.; 4. Finally, we object to the increased cost which will be entailed by the duplication of fund raising effort

LABOR LEADERS FORM BODY TO ENCOURAGE SETTLEMENT OF U. S. JEWISH WORKERS ON FARMS

NEW YORK, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- Leaders of the Jewish labor movement today formed an organization to support the activities of the Jewish Agricultural Society in encouraging American Jews to settle on farms.

The action was taken at a luncheon at the Commodore Hotel arranged by William Wolport, leader of the United Hebrew Trades. Judge Jacob Penkin, one of the principal speakers, reviewed the Jewish farm movement in the United States and emphasized the possibilities for settlement on farms of Jewish workers who may find themselves unemployed after the war. Mr. Gabriel Davidson, executive secretary of the Jewish Agricultural Society, revealed that the majority of Jewish farmers today are former shop workers. Paul Abelson presided.

MERGER OF ALL U.S. ZIONIST GROUPS INTO SINGLE FEDERATION URGED BY JEWISH STATE PARTY

NEW YORK, Mar. 15. (JTA) -- A recommendation that all Zionist groups in the United States unite in a Zionist Federation of America and function through one central authority was made here last night at a public meeting sponsored by the Jewish State Party at the Hotel Malpin.

It was announced at the meeting that the Jewish State Party is convoking a national conference in New York, on April 15, to achieve this purpose. Speakers included Haim Grossman, Dr. Julius Brutzkus, Dr. S. Soskin and Leo Wolfson.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION

00094

3/19/45

Buraim

① Pop war

Roosevelt tell Pope to tell
Hitler that Roosevelt has been
operating as moderating influence
& if Hitler doesn't stop, ^{thereafter that} Roosevelt
will withdraw this moderating
influence.

3/17/45

Warren

British got a cable from Poland &
Czech - Provenance from Keith Trevel-

will Brit & US get washing Jones,
ORC & Vatican to make further
approaches.

separate consideration being given
in provision of war

Army & Jewish groups now in
with ^{renewed} request for warnings

000947

Tell British were interested +
are doing a lot on our own. We know
from B. Gencross & Brodes.

TIC is under your control.

Warning - if any it will
be in P. 10.

separate - US & British.

If acquisition of business might be
justified in bringing to attention of
White House

Called Puccio of OBI who will check if
DNB report was actually made.

Puccio called
N. J. Walsh over I checked + no record of the report -
Too sensational for them to news it.

000940

January 24, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE LIPS

In connection with the memorandum which Mr. Pehle sent to Secretary Stettinius on January 22, 1945, suggesting that consideration be given to the issuance of a new 'United Nations' warning to the Germans, Mr. Warren advised me today that he thinks the warning has a very good chance of being favorably considered at the international conference. He stated that the army is pressing very hard for a warning on treatment of prisoners of war and that Mr. Warren has recommended that if such a warning is issued, it include a warning on the treatment of Jews and other refugees in German and German-occupied territory.

[Handwritten signature]
F. Model

*Mr. Pehle has
been advised.*

00094

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON
January 23, 1945

Dear John,

Thank you for your memorandum and
enclosures of the 22nd.

I shall take these papers with me
and make appropriate use of them if
the right opportunity to do so arises.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,



Mr. John Pehle

Executive Director

War Refugee Board

700950

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

To: ~~Mr. [unclear]~~
(1)
(2) Files - 4405A
(3)

Delivered by Mr. Connaise
5:15 pm - 1/22/45

J. W. Fehle
Assistant to the Secretary

J

000951

JAN 22 1945

TO: Secretary Stettinius

FROM: Mr. Pehle

I have noticed in the press that you are to participate in the forthcoming international conference. Recently, the War Refugee Board has received several urgent requests from Jewish organizations in this country for the issuance of a United Nations' warning to the German Government and the German people against further extermination and other forms of persecution of Jews in Germany and German-occupied territory. It occurs to me that, if you find it feasible to do so, this matter might be raised by you at the conference.

As you know, we have never been able to get the Russians to join us in any of our past statements, other than the Moscow Statement on Atrocities issued on November 1, 1943. It is my feeling that if a new warning to the Germans were issued by President Roosevelt, Mr. Churchill and Marshal Stalin, it might have a marked effect, particularly at this stage of the war.

For your convenience, alternative drafts of such a warning are attached.

(s) J. W. Pehle

Attachments.

Delivered by McCormack
5:15 PM - 1/22/45

JW.
Mr. Pehle
Cleared with Secy
Morgenthau
FBI:JWP:hd 1/22/45

000950

Draft A

A declaration released by us on November 1, 1943, has warned Germans and their remaining satellites against continuing their ruthless campaign of atrocities, massacres, and mass-executions. Since that time, new evidence has been discovered in territories liberated by the United Nations, indicating that these cruelties are being continued. In liberated United Nations territory--in the Soviet Union, in Poland, in Czechoslovakia, in Yugoslavia, in Greece, in Norway, in the Netherlands, in Belgium, in Luxemburg, and in France, as well as in the territories of Germany's former allies--in Italy, in Hungary, in Bulgaria, and in Rumania, evidence has been piling up of brutal treatment and barbarous murder of nationals of the United Nations and of Jews of whatever nationality. There are indications that German troops and officials, previous to retreating, prepare to exterminate large numbers of local inhabitants and of Jewish deportees and internees in the territories still occupied by Germany, and that they prepare to extend this policy of mass-extermination to foreign deportees and to Jews of whatever nationality within German territory.

In the face of this evidence and of these indications, we consider it our solemn duty once more to issue this solemn warning that all participants in this savage scheme of mass-murder, whether they are in high station or in low, will be fully and promptly punished. All those who share the guilt will share the punishment. Once more we repeat: Let those who have hitherto not inbrued their hands with innocent blood beware lest they join the ranks of the guilty, for more assuredly the three allied Powers will pursue them to the uttermost ends of the earth and will deliver them to their accusers in order that justice may be done. Our common determination to see justice accomplished is and will be supported by the full strength of our military might and the will of an aroused mankind.

SECRET
UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY
FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, D. C.
20520

Draft B

Despite the protests of the whole civilized world, the Nazis, in their hour of defeat, apparently are preparing to complete in frenzied hatred the systematic mass murder of the Jews regardless of nationality and other groups in German and German-occupied territory. We, in the hour of victory, again call upon the German Government and the German people to cease these acts of unspeakable savagery.

Let the Germans and their collaborators understand that all participants in this program of persecution and death shall receive full and prompt punishment; that all who share the guilt shall share the punishment. Let them know that this warning is supported by the determination and the full military might of outraged and victorious peoples.

000954

*Measure Directed Toward
Halting Persecution B-2a*

Brooklyn, June 28, 1944

Dear I. M.:

The following is outgrowth of an hour's talk I had today with a guy named Wertler, head of the Rumanian desk in OWI. He is a Rumanian (Jewish) and was for 18 years in US embassy in Bucharest, came here in 1942. His idea of what is going on in Rumania, and probably Hungary and Bulgaria, is so:

(1) There is a gang of the outright Nazis--Iron Guardists--quislings. As to these nothing can be done, either by persuasion or threats. They know the game is up so far as they are concerned--their hands are too bloody for them to gain any reprieve for acting the good little boys from now on.

(2) There are, however, various degrees of democratic-minded peoples. These are generally speaking playing a double game which strikes them as highly clever. They do the dirty work against refugees as required of them or ^{in order to} gain good standing with the Nazis, but their explanation will be they were compelled to do what they did. Further, they're prepared to wait until the Allies move in and then announce, Goody-goody, they're the democrats and ready to take over and instantly abolish all the anti-Jewish legislation etc. By that time, however, that will be a purely academic gesture, ^{out} Antonescu and his Nazi pals having wiped all the Jews to whom the ^{law} might apply.

(3) Jews are being saved and, in fact, some of them are doing all right in Rumania right now under the noses of the Nazis and with their knowledge. These are, however, a select few with money enough to bribe their way through. Run-of-the-mill Jews are, however, on a hopeless starvation and annihilation program.

--more

(4) It's toward the rescue of these unwealthy Jews that efforts must be directed (the others manage to take care of themselves), and psychological pressure can be effective to that end if directed at the "democratic" people of Rumania. They must be told that the people of America consider a war criminal any one who kills a refugee, that the record of the whole Rumanian people as to refugees will be reckoned when the matter of giving Rumania its postwar place is considered, that each individual Rumanian will be judged the same way by his deeds as to treatment of refugees--that every act of rescue of an unwealthy refugee will be set down to the credit of the individual and the nation. The democratic parties who are playing with the Allies are ^{less} no ₁ guilty than the quislings unless they act.

(5) A statement to that effect, ~~not coming~~ coming from the American people to the "good" people of Rumania (and Hungary and Bulgaria), in Wertler's opinion, might well be effective in slowing up local police and magistrates as well as civilians--slowing them up during the period between now and when Rumania is invaded, no doubt by Russia. Unless there is such a slowing up, the refugees still alive will not be permitted to survive.

(6) Such a statement, to have any effective value, should come not from, say, some Rumanian-American, but from an authoritative American source. Wertler suggested, in passing, the head of the War Refugee Board, and thought that Cordell Hull would be terrific. If, in addition, there should be a parallel statement from the Russians, or a Russian indorsement of the US statement, it would surely work.

(7) Such a statement would get publicity in Rumania etc. not only by OWI radio but even in the native press. He showed me, for instance, a Rumanian newspaper of last month which carried President Roosevelt's announcement of the establishment of free ports. The paper is called "Currentud," as nearly as I could make out.

I send you all this by mail because it seems to make sense and maybe something could be started, while you're in Washington. It does not have to be a Hull statement, of course. Stimson would also be OK or, of course, FDR. Russia's coming along with it would give it that touch of finality, since the Russians are likely to be in the Balkans soon and the Rumanians, for one, would know they weren't fooling.

This would be an appropriate time for such a statement, when both Anglo-American and Russian armies are on the move in Europe but have not yet moved into the Balkans.

The Spellman statement ran into a storm of Dewey conventionitis but I am enclosing three clippings I came across. There may have been more....I ain't seen that Toth statement yet...The Anti-Nazi Leaguers are still assembling that there editorial stuff, they say.

That seems to be all.

J. Kaufman

Spellman Assails Hungary For Persecution of Jews

Jewish persecution by the Axis-controlled puppet government of Hungary today brought a strong protest from Archbishop Francis J. Spellman of the Archdiocese of New York.

In an OWI broadcast to Europe, Archbishop Spellman said that the pogroms were in direct contradiction to the doctrines of the Catholic faith professed by the majority of the Hungarian people.

"It is incredible," he said, "that a people with such profound Christian faith, with the oldest parliamentary traditions of the Continent, would join in a hymn

Abuse of Jews Assailed By Archbishop Spellman

Statement on Hungary Is Broadcast to Europe

Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, of the Archdiocese of New York, said last night that persecution of the Jews in Hungary is in direct contradiction to the doctrines of the Catholic faith professed by the majority of the Hungarian people.

In a statement broadcast to Europe by the Office of War Information, Archbishop Spellman said:

"It is incredible that a people with such profound Christian faith, with the oldest parliamentary traditions of the Continent, would join in a hymn of hatred and willingly submit to the blood-lust and brigandage of tyranny."

Anti-Jewish laws administered by the Axis-controlled puppet government early this month drew the condemnation of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee as cold-blooded murder.

Admiral Waller Honored

A military review in honor of Rear Admiral J. W. A. Waller, newly-appointed maintenance and supply representative of the British Admiralty in Washington, was held yesterday at Pier 92, at West Fifty-second Street. Two thousand American and British sailors stationed there at the United States Receiving Station, marched behind the station band before Admiral Waller and Captain W. H. Pashley, in command.

Post

Archbishop Assails Race Ban in Hungary

The action of Hungary in agreeing to enforce discriminatory laws against Jews last night drew the condemnation of Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, who said it "had shocked all men and women who cherish a sense of justice and of human sympathy."

The Archbishop made his declaration in an OWI broadcast beamed to Europe. He termed Hungary's position "in direct contradiction to the doctrines of the Catholic faith professed by the vast majority of the Hungarian people."

"It seems incredible," he said, "that a nation which has been so consistently true to the impulses of human kindness and the teachings of the Catholic Church should now yield to a false, pagan code of tyranny because of blood and race."

would - 2000

Herald - Tribune

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