

Measures Proposed Toward Halting Persecution. Hungary, 1956

7 0 0 4 2 1



000422

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000423

*J. War Ref. Board
m. P. H.*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: June 27, 1944
NUMBER: 2184 X

CONTROL COPY

FROM J. W. PEHLE, WAR REFUGEE BOARD FOR McCLELLAND, BERN

Reference Legation's No. 3506, June 2, containing message from Sternbuch to Union of Orthodox Rabbis.

The Board and certain private groups here are being pressed by Union of Orthodox Rabbis for funds in connection with appeal for \$1,000,000 from Rabbi of Neutra and President Freudiger of the Budapest Jewish Community reported in above cable from Bern, JDC has already cabled Saly Mayer to discuss this matter with Sternbuch.

Please send me at once your views concerning the proposal and, in particular, advise me whether the suggested payment will in your opinion produce results. Will you also consult Saly Mayer and in your message to me include Mayer's views which we will send on to the JDC.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 59.

HULL

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

00042

CABLE TO HARRISON FOR McCLELLAND, BERN, FROM J. W. FEHLE, WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Reference Legation's no. 3506, June 2, containing message from Sternbuch to Union of Orthodox Rabbis.

The Board and certain private groups here are being pressed by Union of Orthodox Rabbis for funds in connection with appeal for \$1,000,000 from Rabbi of Neutra and President Freudiger of the Budapest Jewish Community reported in above cable from Bern. JDC has already cabled Saly Mayer to discuss this matter with Sternbuch.

Please send me at once your views concerning the proposal and in particular, advise me whether the suggested payment will in your opinion produce results. Will you also consult Saly Mayer and in your message to me include Mayer's views which we will send on to the JDC.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 59.

June 26, 1944
2:15 p.m.

JW Filed 6/28/44

100423

JUN 12 1944

Dear Rabbi Kalmanowits:

The following very confidential message for you from Sternbuch was received through the American Legation in Bern under date of June 2, 1944:

"The Vittel situation is not clear and for some time there has been no direct news. It is not known how many internees remain at Vittel and who are among those at the Drancy concentration camp near Paris. Necessary steps to bring internees back to Vittel have been taken by the American Legation at Bern.

"In connection with Bergen-Belsen and York Camp Borgau near Dresden we wish to refer to last explanations by us. Unfortunately there has been no change in the situation there. No authorization to contact or visit this camp or to send parcels of food is held by IRC. Your intervention is expected by us.

"We urgently ask you to find a solution to the problem of proposed passports without regard to the Vittel situation. Those papers are received by us only from one Consulate up to the present time. This is absolutely insufficient for rescue work carried on by us. At various places such papers are useful means and they have so far helped in Slovakia and Hungary. Jews in Hungary are requesting them most urgently to be emitted by different states.

"We are quite desperate regarding the increasingly terrible Hungarian situation. There are already on deportation lists 3,000 Jews. It is urgently requested by Rabbi of Neutra and others that airmail be sent to the towns of Munkacs, Kaschau and Presov. 15,000 Jews per day are deported to Poland over this route since May 15. The people are in despair that nothing has been done until the present. It is requested that you intervene and not miss another hour in this matter as this is one means of rescue.

"As yet our courier from Lithuania has not returned. Chief Rabbi Hager of Wyszynits and family have been saved and arrived yesterday in Bucharest.

"Negotiations with Slovakia for the purpose of opening further labor camps for refugees from Hungary have been started by us with the Vatican's aid. The cost of setting up these camps has been underwritten

by us provided there is no restriction on admission of new refugees.

"From the Rabbi of Neutra we have received a message wherein he bitterly complains of not having enough money for this rescue work. He must support about (*) people from Hungary who are saved daily besides those coming from Poland. Moreover, all Jews in hiding as well as in numerous labor camps must be fed. The Rabbis are all without livelihood. A further 200,000 francs have been placed at his disposal and he wires that for the vast rescue program this sum is ridiculous. At least \$1,000,000 are expected by him and he calls heaven and earth as witnesses that if he had had more money he could have saved the Gaon of Tschechoiw and many others.

"The following is a message which the courier brought from President Freudiger of Budapest: along the whole line situation is assuming catastrophic proportions. Nearly all over the country ghettos are being set up in the most inhumane way; in east and south ten frontier comitates under dictate of Germans and other areas are under the direction of local authorities which are quite as brutal as in the east. Szombatheley is an absolutely closed ghetto now and nearer circumstances are unknown. Jews of Galanta are concentrated in Stfanikow having been permitted to carry with them hardly anything. The way things look in concentration camps of Zseged and Kassa cannot be described by me. The Assar are in wood without cover. In Kaschau 15,000 and in Ungvar about 20,000 are living in brick factories. They are in houses in Nagyvarad but approximately 13,000 are in a few streets which are walled off with boards. It is the same in Munkacs. It is declared by Szurpleit Mofremu that this is technique used to break down the resistance of masses psychologically to prepare them for the worst which has come true. Jewish deportation has become the naked truth and is mercilessly carried on. Today in Munkacs, Kaschau, Nyiregyhaza, etc.; other transports are to follow tomorrow. About 310,000 of our brethren, orthodox, reservoir of the country are now being subjected to these measures. Avoiding further misfortune is solely dependent on your grasping this situation and on your coming to our aid. We are absolutely dependent on you for life or death. We can perhaps be partially or totally saved if you can and will keep us, but we are lost if not. Do not sit still and do not think about it long. Take action at once and awake those who can aid us as long as there is yet time to do so.

"A million Swiss francs were promised at once by wire but a million dollars are requested by them. We wish to know what action should be taken."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

Rabbi Abraham Kalmanovits,
Union of Orthodox Rabbis of
the United States and Canada,
128 Nassau Street,
New York 7, New York.

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

EBT
EBTowler:agr 6-10-44

*War Ref Bd
File
(Mr. Pike)*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: June 2, 1944
NUMBER: 3506

CONTROL COPY

*6/10/44
Message
Sent to Administration
HT*

Following is from Sternbuch for Union of Orthodox Rabbis:

The Vittel situation is not clear and for some time there has been no direct news. It is not known how many internees remain at Vittel and who are among those at the Drapcy concentration camp near Paris. Necessary steps to bring internees back to Vittel have been taken by the American Legation at Bern.

In connection with Bergen-Belsen and York Camp Bergau near Dresden we wish to refer to last explanations by us. Unfortunately there has been no change in the situation there. No authorization to contact or visit this camp or to send parcels of food is held by IRO. Your intervention is expected by us.

We urgently ask you to find a solution to the problem of proposed passports without regard to the Vittel situation. These papers are received by us only from one

Consulate

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

100421

Consulate up to the present time. This is absolutely insufficient for rescue work carried on by us. At various places such papers are useful means and they have so far helped in Slovakia and Hungary. Jews in Hungary are requesting them most urgently to be emitted by different states.

We are quite desperate regarding the increasingly terrible Hungarian situation. There are already on deportation lists 3,000 Jews. It is urgently requested by Rabbi of Neutra and others that airmail be sent to the towns of Munkacs, Kaschau and Presov. 15,000 Jews per day are deported to Poland over this route since May 16. The people are in despair that nothing has been done until the present. It is requested that you intervene and not miss another hour in this matter as this is one means of rescue.

As yet our courier from Lithuania has not returned. Chief Rabbi Hager of Wyanitz and family have been saved and arrived yesterday in Bucharest.

Negotiations with Slovakia for the purpose of opening further labor camps for refugees from Hungary have been started by us with the Vatican's aid. The cost of setting up these camps has been underwritten by us provided there
is no

100424

is no restriction on admission of new refugees.

From the Rabbi of Neutra we have received a message wherein he bitterly complains of not having enough money for this rescue work. He must support about (*) people from Hungary who are saved daily besides those coming from Poland. Moreover, all Jews in hiding as well as in numerous labor camps must be fed. The Rabbis are all without livelihood. A further 200,000 francs have been placed at his disposal and he wires that for the vast rescue program this sum is ridiculous. At least \$1,000,000 are expected by him and he calls heaven and earth as witnesses that if he had had more money he could have saved the Gaon of Tschernowiz and many others.

The following is a message which the courier brought from President Freudiger of Budapest: along the whole line situation is assuming catastrophic proportions. Nearly all over the country ghettos are being set up in the most inhuman way; in east and south ten frontier comitates under dictate of Germans and other areas are under the direction of local authorities which are quite as brutal as in the east. Szombathely is an absolutely closed ghetto now and nearer circumstances are unknown. Jews of Galanta are concentrated in Stfanikow having been permitted to carry with them hardly anything. The way things look in concentration camps of Zeeged and Kassa cannot be described by me. The deser are in wood without cover. In Kaschau

15,000

000430

12,000 and in Ungvar about 20,000 are living in brick factories. They are in houses in Nagyvarad but approximately 13,000 are in a few streets which are walled off with boards. It is the same in Munkacs. It is declared by Haurpleit Kofremu that this is technique used to break down the resistance of masses psychologically to prepare them for the worst which has come true. Jewish deportation has become the naked truth and is mercilessly carried on. Today in Munkacs, Kaschau, Nyiregyhaza, etc.; other transports are to follow tomorrow. About 310,000 of our brethren, orthodox, reservoir of the country are now being subjected to these measures. Avoiding further misfortune is solely dependent on your grasping this situation and on your coming to our aid. We are absolutely dependent on you for life or death. We can perhaps be partially or totally saved if you can and will keep us, but we are lost if not. Do not sit still and do not think about it long. Take action at once and awake those who can ~~also~~ aid us as long as there is yet time to do so.

A million Swiss francs were promised at once by wire but a million dollars are requested by them. We wish to know what action should be taken.

HARRISON

000431

War Ref Bd (Burr)
Adk

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Consulate General, Jerusalem

TO: Secretary of State, Washington

copy only

DATED: May 25, 1944

NUMBER: 72

X

CONTROL COPY

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

A request has been made by Bobkin Jewish Agency that there be transmitted through the War Refugee Board to Rabbi Wise and Dnahum 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

6/3/44
Necessity sent
to Wise & Goldmann
ST

Russia of which the following are known: Marcvasarehly, Szeged des Debrecen Nyiregy, Haza Beregsuass, Nagyszollos, Nagybanya, Szatmarnemeti, Matessalta, Munkacs, Szabadka, Kolosvar, Bezstergce, Rosrhimio (*), Nagfurnmpktupagieqivrteor, Zenta, Budapest,

Busst

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

10043

Huszt, Kissa, 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 the information, all of the above is for publication.

It is imperative

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 800 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

-4-

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

100433

JUN 2 1944

Dear Dr. Goldman and Dr. Wise:

The following very confidential message for you from Bobkin Jewish Agency was received through the American Consulate General, Jerusalem, under date of May 25, 1944.

"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 des Debrecei Nyiregy Haza Beregenass, Nagyszollos, Nagybanya, Szatmarnemeti, Mataszalta, Munkacs, Szabadka, Kolosvar, Besztergoc, Roszhimio, (*)
Hajduszentpeter, Zenta, Budapest, Ecsut, Kassa, 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 ages 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 the information, all of the above is for 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 1200 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."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
Dr. Nahum Goldman,
World Jewish Congress,
330 West 42nd Street,
New York 18, New York.

RE: Towler: RBH: agr 6-2-44 JWF - Cleared with RBH

100431

82

000430

Hungary 58

1043 Bern
2/16

February 17, 1945

Dear Dr. Goldmann:

The following message for you from Mr. Riegner was received through the American Legation in Bern under date of February 16, 1945:

"Intercross received following wire from their delegate Bucharest: 'Sandor Speter bearing ICRC identity certificate number 1634 dated October 7, 1944, signed by Bern, ICRC Budapest delegate arrived from Budapest stating that Bern was still in occupied part of city. Speter declared that great many Jews had been saved by ICRC action, delegation having issued some 35,000 identity certificates eighty percent of whose bearers thus protected were able escape harm. According to Speter there remained in Budapest as of October 15, 1944, about 100,000 Jews and it is hoped about 30,000 others who fled to environs of city will later be found. 50,000 had previously been sent to Germany as labor, another 50,000 disappeared after December 1, 1944, as result of well-known happenings. 20,000 perished from illness and hunger. Thanks to ICRC action 28 hospitals still functioned in Budapest. Ghetto liberated January 1, 1945, but unfortunately hundreds of old people and children are dying for lack of food and medical attention. ICRC relief organization assisted by Joint Committee are taking immediate steps to assist and have arranged to move food stocked by Joint in Hungary to city. Situation remains grave, however, and demands large-scale relief action. Please inform Joint, UNRRA, World Jewish Congress and other organizations requesting funds and relief for Jewish and other victims.' Signed Kolb, ICRC delegate, Bucharest.

"This information not for publication."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodol

Florence Hodol
Assistant Executive Director

Dr. Nahum Goldmann,
World Jewish Congress,
1874 Broadway,
New York, 23, New York.

RBHutchinson: 2/17/45

RECEIVED BY
TELETYPE UNIT
FEBRUARY 16 1944
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

MS-790

FEB 16 7 44 42

PLAIN

Bern

Dated February 16, 1945

Rec'd 9:02 p.m.

*marked - rel.
able*

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1043, Sixteenth
WRB FROM MCCLELLAND.

CONTROL COPY

Please deliver following to Nahum Goldmann,
World Jewish Congress from Riegner:

"Intercross received following wire from their
delegate Bucharest: 'Sandor Speter bearing ICRC
identity certificate number 1634 dated October 7, 1944
signed by Born, ICRC Budapest delegate arrived from
Budapest stating that Born was still in occupied part
of city. Speter declared that great many Jews had
been saved by ICRC action, delegation having issued
some 35,000 identity certificates eighty percent of
whose bearers thus protected were able escape harm.
According Speter there remained in Budapest as of
October 15, 1944 about 100,000 Jews and it is hoped
about 30,000 others who fled to environs of city will
later be found. 50,000 had previously been sent to
Germany as labor, another 50,000 disappeared after

December 1, 1944

00044

-2- #1043, Sixteenth, from Bern.

December 1, 1944 as result of well-known happenings. 20,000 perished from illness and hunger. Thanks to ICRC action 28 hospitals still functioned in Budapest. Ghetto liberated January 1, 1945 but unfortunately hundreds of old people and children are dying for lack of food and medical attention. ICRC relief organization assisted by Joint Committee are taking immediate steps to assist and have arranged to move food stocked by Joint in Hungary to city. Situation remains grave, however, and demands large-scale relief action. Please inform Joint, UNRRA, World Jewish Congress and other organizations requesting funds and relief for Jewish and other victims. Signed Kólb, ICRC delegate, Bucharest.

This information not for publication." 3585.

HARRISON

JT

100441

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

[REDACTED]

For security reasons the text of this message must be distributed only by special arrangement. (W)
ALLEGATION

War Dept (12/1/44) (Pelle)
NOV 29 1944
7 P.M.
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

BERN

4031

The cable below for McClelland is WRB 293.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to Gerhart Riegner, Geneva, from Dr. Kubowitzki of World Jewish Congress:

(NOTE) Number 194 yours 1/11 willing participate sending clothing for Budapest Jews provided Interredcross accept clothing in Lisbon. UNQUOTE

STERNIUS
(ACTING)
(SR)

CONTROL COPY

WRB:MNW:KG
11/29/44

WE

85

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

000442

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON, BERN, FOR MC CLELLAND, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Please deliver following message to Gerhart Riegner, Geneva, from Dr.

Kubowitzki of World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE NUMBER 194 YOURS 1/11 WILLING PARTICIPATE SENDING
CLOTHING FOR BUDAPEST JEWS PROVIDED INTERREDCROSS ACCEPT
CLOTHING IN LISBON UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 293.

*Copy sent
WJC
11/24/44*

4:30 p.m.

November 24, 1944

R.D. Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois,
Friedman, Hodel, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Files

R.D.
RDrury 11/24/44

00044

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

November 22, 1944

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1900

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 1929 2024-9C

JERUSALEM
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 1744

Hon. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

In reply refer to No. 284

Dear Mr. Pehle:

With reference to your letter of November 15,
may I ask you to send the following message to our
representative Gerhard Reigner in Geneva:

"To: Dr. Riegner

From: Dr. Kubowitzki

Number 194 Yours 1/11 Willing participate send-
ing clothing for Budapest Jews provided Interredcross
accept clothing in Lisbon"

Very truly yours,


Kurt R. Grossman, Assistant
Rescue Department

KRG:tl

7 0 0 4 4

54
11572
November 20, 1944

Dear Dr. Kubowitzki:

The following message for you from Gerhart Riegner was received through the American Legation in Bern under date of November 16, 1944:

"With reference to your cable number 155 we were informed by the Swiss Political Department that all that is humanly possible is being done by the Swiss Minister in Budapest in order to protect as many Jews in Hungary as it is possible by any means for him to justify. Hungarian authorities recognize Swiss protection papers. Entry for transit of 12,000 Hungarian Jews was agreed to by the Swiss Government."

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki,
World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
New York 23, New York.

RDRury 11/20/44

11 20 44

7103

October 31, 1944

Dear Sirs:

The following message for you from Gerhart Riegner was received through the American Legation in Bern under date of October 29, 1944:

"In connection with information relating to tragic condition of Budapest Jews, it is possible for me to inform you confidentially that energetic protests were made by Intercross to the government of Hungary against renewed deportations on the basis of the Hungarian authorities' promise received the 18th of July in regard to stopping deportations, and Intercross threatened that if action was carried out breach of official promise would be published by it. 25."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
New York 23, New York.

✓
RW
RDrury 10/31/44

000440

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

KEM-92

Bern

This telegram must be
paraphrased before being
communicated to anyone
other than a Government
agency. (0)

Dated October 29, 1944

Rec'd 5:25 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

7193, October 29, noon.

WRB FROM MCCLELLAND FOR NUHUM GOLDMANN AND LEON
KUBOWITZKI WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS FROM RIEGNER

With reference information concerning tragic
situation Jews Budapest contained McClelland's cable
October 25 to WRB, I can inform you confidentially
that InterCross protested energetically to Hungarian
Government against new deportations, on basis promise
received July 18 from Hungarian authorities concerning
cessation deportations and threatened to publish breach
of official promise if action carried out. 25.00.

HARRISON

EEG

For security reasons messages must be classified as (LIASON) COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
1944 OCT 30 AM 11:35

(omit)

Miss [unclear] 10/31/44
R 5

CONTROL COPY

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

10044

October 30, 1944

Dear Dr. Kubowitzki:

The following message for you from Gerhart Riegner was received through the American Legation in Bern under date of October 26, 1944:

"Reference is made to your 155 with regard to alarming report Hungary, proceeded at once asking that Swiss Political Department and Intercoas intervene. ICSC has cable their delegate Schirmer, Budapest, under date of October 17, which indicates on that date the situation of the Jews was calm, but fear was expressed that new measures might be begun at any time. It was also stated by Schirmer Jewish Council opposed the marking of Jewish homes by placards which indicate protection. Later report received by Political Department stated that already the inhabitants of Jewish homes were being evacuated by authorities to outlying areas Budapest and that foreign intervention and protection documents not being recognized by government. Director of PAL office, Kraus, Budapest, on October 23 cabled appealing urgently for aid from USA, indicating great deterioration of situation past few days. It is understood also that official intervention America with Swiss Government was made during last days. This information is strictly confidential. All means propaganda at your disposal should be used to influence people and government of Hungary."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Leon Kubowitzki,
World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
New York 23, New York.

RD
RDrury 10/30/44

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
OCT 27 1944
11:39 AM

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

MFD-33
This telegram must be
paraphrased before being
communicated to anyone
other than a Government
Agency.

Bern
Dated October 26, 1944
Rec'd 11:39 a.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

CONTROL COPY

7111, October 26, 1 pm.
FOR WRE, FROM MCCLELLAND.

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
OCT 27 1944
11:39 AM
Message sent
10/30/44
KD

Leon Kubowitzki World Jewish Congress from Gerhart
Riegner.

Not security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

"Your 155 regarding alarming news Hungary proceeded
immediately requested interventions Intercross and
Swiss Political Department. ICRC possesses cable
their Budapest delegate, Schirmer, dated October 17
indicating that on that date situation Jews calm but
expressing fear that any moment new measures might
be taken. Schirmer also stated Jewish Council
had opposed marking Jewish houses with special placards
indicating protection. Political Department received
later news stating that authorities already proceeding
evacuation inhabitants Jewish houses to surroundings of
Budapest and government not recognizing foreign inter-
vention and protection documents. Kraus director PAL
office

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

1045

-2-#7111, October 26, 1 p.m. from Bern.

office Budapest cabled October 23 urgently appealing for USA help which indicates that situation deteriorated very much last days. I understand that also official American intervention was made last days with Swiss Government. All this information confidential. You should use all propaganda means your disposal to influence Hungarian Government and people." 5260.

HARRISON

CSB

00045

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

KEM-169

Bern

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

Dated August 3, 1944

Rec'd 10:19 a.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

4967, August 3, 9 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND FOR NAHUM GOLDMANN
WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS FROM GERHART RIEGNER.

"You are certainly aware of ICRC's official communique concerning Hungary. On the occasion of Guggenheim Burckhardt conversation of July 21. Following details obtained, ICRC communique is nearly identical to and based on official communique of Hungarian Government to ICRC transmitted by Hungarian Charge d'Affaires, Bern, July 18. ICRC obtained full power and now seeking to carry out various points. We have emphasized responsibility of ICRC and necessity of strict control execution of promises, notably cessation of deportation. We pressed ICRC dispatch large delegation to Budapest charged with distribution of relief. ICRC showed tendency desire act through Jewish Council presided by Hofratstern but we urged matter remain primarily in ICRC hands since they would have more liberty of action and be more independent of Hungarian Government. We made also

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

000450

-2- #4967, August 3, 9 p.m., from Bern.

reservation on personality Stern, 80 years of age,
and insisted on principle of non-discrimination between
Hungarian and foreign Jews. We proposed collaboration
between ICRC Mission which would be officially responsible
and special Jewish committee in which Jewish groups in
Hungary would be represented. Question ^{of} possibilities ^{for}
purchase ^{of} foodstuffs in Hungary, ^{has} not yet ^{been} resolved but if
impossible ICRC ^{is} ready ^{to} put disposal Swedish ICRC steamer
HALAREN which could carry foodstuffs to Trieste. In any
case, considerable amounts will doubtless be necessary
which Jewish organizations will probably not be able to
furnish without governmental aid. Therefore propose
former vast rescue plan of last year be at least partly
revived with regard to Hungary now that ICRC has obtained
broad power of control. Insisting also our personal
participation to a certain extent view obtaining
influence over whole proceeding. Concerning departure of
children, ICRC already asked that age limit originally
fixed at 10 be increased. Switzerland ready accept
certain number Hungarian children and negotiations are
also going on concerning Swedish proposal. ICRC is
willing to deal with emigration to Palestine. Our
opinion, however, is that matter should be left for time
being in hands of protecting power. ICRC in general
very proud

-3- #4967, August 3, 9 p.m., from Bern.

very proud of their success in matter Hungarian Jews
which they very much needed for their political position.
Our duty is therefore insist by all means on strict
execution of promises obtained and on extension of
promise cessation deportations from other camps in
various countries such as Tancy, Malines, Westerbork,
Fossoli, et cetera."

HARRISON

JJM RR

10045

AUG 9 1944

Dr. Nahum Goldmann
c/o World Jewish Congress
1834 Broadway
New York 23, New York

Dear Dr. Goldmann:

The following very confidential message for you from Gerhart Riegner has been received through the American Legation at Bern:

"You are aware certainly of ICRC's official communique concerning Hungary. Following details obtained on the occasion of Guggenheim Burekhardt conversation of July 21. ICRC communique is based on and nearly identical to official communique of Hungarian Government to ICRC transmitted July 18 by Hungarian Charge d'Affaires, Bern. ICRC has obtained full power and is now seeking to carry out various points. We have emphasized responsibility of ICRC and necessity of strict control execution of promises, notably cessation of deportation. We pressed ICRC to dispatch to Budapest large delegation charged with distribution of relief. ICRC showed tendency desire act through Jewish Council presided by Hofratstern but we urged matter remain primarily in ICRC hands since they would have more liberty of action and be more independent of Hungarian Government. We made also reservation on personality Stern, 80 years of age, and insisted on principle of non-discrimination between Hungarian and foreign Jews. We proposed collaboration between ICRC Mission which would be officially responsible and special Jewish committee in which Jewish groups in Hungary would be represented. Question of possibilities for purchase of foodstuffs in Hungary has not yet been resolved but if impossible ICRC is ready to put disposal Swedish ICRC steamer HALAREN which could carry foodstuffs to Trieste. In any case, considerable amounts will doubtless be necessary which Jewish organizations will probably not be able to furnish without governmental aid. Therefore propose former vast rescue plan of last year be at least partly revived with regard to Hungary now that ICRC has obtained broad power of control. Insisting also our personal participation to a certain extent view obtaining influence over whole proceeding. Concerning departure of children, ICRC already asked

100-100000-100000
100-100000-100000
100-100000-100000

that age limit originally fixed at 10 be increased. Switzerland ready accept certain number Hungarian children and negotiations are also going on concerning Swedish proposal. ICRC is willing to deal with emigration to Palestine. Our opinion, however, is that matter should be left for time being in hands of protecting power. ICRC in general very proud of their success in matter Hungarian Jews which they very much needed for their political position. Our duty is therefore insist by all means on strict execution of promises obtained and on extension of promise cessation deportations from other camps in various countries such as Drancy, Malines, Westerbork, Fossoli, et cetera."

I am sure you will appreciate the confidential nature of the foregoing message.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

FHODEL:1th 8/8/44

100-100000-100000

*I read Ref. Ct
Pella*

*Message sent
to Unitarians 8/3/44
JH*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: July 29, 1944
NUMBER: 4878

CONTROL COPY

McClelland sends the following for WRB from Field for Cahill of Unitarian Service Committee.

Reference is made herewith to the Department's July 10 telegram No. 2367.

This is to inform you that equivalent of two thousand dollars has been received and arrangements made to pay full sum to Dolgoff who is still living at the old address according to last report. No information concerning destination of five thousand francs received May 17 and the twenty-six thousand francs received July 3 has reached me as yet. I should appreciate being kept currently advised of purpose of all funds sent by you.

Legation's cable No. 4880 carried appeal today to Unitarian Churches in Hungary through confidential channels.

HARRISON

LH
DCR:EBH
8/1/44

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

100457

RECEIVED BOARD
AMERICAN REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

AUG 3 1944

Dear Mr. Cahill:

The following confidential message for you from Mr. Field was received through the American Legation, Bern, under date of July 29, 1944:

"This is to inform you that equivalent of two thousand dollars has been received and arrangements made to pay full sum to Dolgoff who is still living at the old address according to last report. No information concerning destination of five thousand francs received May 17 and the twenty-six thousand francs received July 3 has reached me as yet. I should appreciate being kept currently advised of purpose of all funds sent by you."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Edward Cahill,
Unitarian Service Committee,
25 Beacon Street,
Boston, Massachusetts.

FH:lab 8/3/44

JW

100450

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

To: *Mrs. Towle*
(1) (Room) (Bldg.)
(2) (Room) (Bldg.)
(3) (Room) (Bldg.)

*Please prepare
letter to Cahill
Get copy of 4878
for Bern first*

From: (Date)
..... (Room) (Bldg.)

000459

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

WAR REFUGEE BOARD

To: *Mrs. West*
 (1) (Room) (Bldg.)
 (2) (Room) (Bldg.)
 (3) (Room) (Bldg.)

Could this be checked with State & see who is sending the message?

Refer to cable 4898 - Mc Cllland from Field for Cahill of War Relocation Authority
 From: (Room) (Bldg.)

000460

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

BJR - 107

Bern

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

Dated July 29, 1944

Rec'd 9:42 p.m.

*2 - War Relief
/ Mr.
Behl*

Secretary of State,
Washington.

4880, July 29, 5 p.m.

CONTROL COPY
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(HARRISON)
1944 AUG 27 PM 3
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

"As to concession for Switzerland of Unitarian
Service Committee set up by American Unitarian Churches
for the purpose of giving relief to refugees and
other victims of war and oppression without regard
to creed or race I urgently appeal to Unitarian
churches of Hungary to devote all their efforts toward
putting an end to atrocities now being perpetrated
against Hungarian Jews. No true Christian can remain
a passive observer of present horrors. Unitarians
who have always stood in forefront to fight against
intolerance and persecution have a sacred duty to
protest and to act. I am informing our central office
in Boston of this appeal and am confident that the
Unitarian Churches in America will follow with
passionate sympathy any positive steps which the
brother churches in Hungary may take in response to
this plea".

*Sent to Capital
by letter 8/1/44
E.B.P.*

HARRISON

RR

000461

RECEIVED BOARD
REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.
AUG 5 PM 3 37

AUG 7 1944

Dear Mr. Cahill:

We have received from the American Legation at Bern the text of an appeal sent by Mr. Field to Unitarian Churches in Hungary on July 29, 1944, through confidential channels. The text of the appeal is quoted below for your information.

"As to concession for Switzerland of Unitarian Service Committee set up by American Unitarian Churches for the purpose of giving relief to refugees and other victims of war and oppression without regard to creed or race I urgently appeal to Unitarian churches of Hungary to devote all their efforts toward putting an end to atrocities now being perpetrated against Hungarian Jews. No true Christian can remain a passive observer of present horrors. Unitarians who have always stood in forefront to fight against intolerance and persecution have a sacred duty to protest and to act. I am informing our central office in Boston of this appeal and am confident that the Unitarian Churches in America will follow with passionate sympathy any positive steps which the brother churches in Hungary may take in response to this plea."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Edward A. Cahill,
Assistant Director,
Unitarian Service Committee,
25 Beacon Street,
Boston 8, Massachusetts.

EBT:agr 8-7-44

100460

Floor By Ed Pelle

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: July 28, 1944
NUMBER: 2592

CONTROL COPY

FOR MCCLELLAND.

Please deliver following message to Gerhard Riegner, 37
Quai Wilson, Geneva from A. Leon Kubowitzki, World Jewish Congress,
New York:

QUOTE Intercross Washington informed headquarters
Geneva of our request to intervene for Jews non-Hungarian
citizenship whose deportation has been postponed August 1st.
Urge you take up matter with Intercross headquarters taking
position that these Jews be recognized as civilian internees
and treated according Geneva Convention. Intercross should
approach Hungarian authorities expressing determination to
protect these non-Hungarian Jews. Cable results through
American Legation and War Refugee Board.

Your message of July 4 received through War Refugee
Board implies that Italian Jews are still arriving in
Switzerland. Urge you to let us have regularly lists of
arrivals. Would be grateful for a recapitulatory list of
those arrived so far. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 98.

HULL

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

000453

NOT RECEIVED
X
SOS
JULY 28 1944
AMERICAN
SECRETARY OF
ORIGINAL 8878

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AT BERN FOR HOLLERLAND

Please deliver following message from War Refugee Board to
Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva:

QUOTE Interredcross Washington informed head-
quarters Geneva of our request to intervene for Jews
non-Hungarian citizenship whose deportation has been
postponed August 1st stop Urge you take up matter with
Interredcross headquarters taking position that these
Jews be recognized as civilian internees and treated
according Geneva Convention stop Interredcross should
approach Hungarian authorities expressing determination
to protect these non-Hungarian Jews stop Cable results
through American Legation and Warrefugeeboard.

Your message of July 4 received through War Refugee
Board implies that Italian Jews are still arriving in
Switzerland. Urge you to let us have regularly lists
of arrivals. Would be grateful for a recapitulatory
list of those arrived so far. HARRISON Kubowitzki,
World Jewish Congress, New York. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 98

July 25, 1944
2:40 p.m.

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

LSLesser:tmh 7-25-44
L.S.L.

10045

RECEIVED BY THE
SECRETARY OF THE
STATE
JULY 20 1944

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM
Voad Lemni P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 1744

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1900

July 20, 1944

In reply refer
to No. 159

Hon. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Referring to Mr. Grossman's letter of July 13, I beg to let you know that the International Red Cross informed us that it has notified its headquarters in Geneva by cable of our request, and asked us to inform our representative in Geneva accordingly. Therefore, I would appreciate it very much if you would be good enough to send the following message to Dr. Riegner through the facilities of the State Department:

To: Dr. Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva
From: Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki, World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway, New York

Interredoross Washington informed headquarters Geneva of our request to intervene for Jews non-Hungarian citizenship whose deportation has been postponed August 1st stop Urge you take up matter with Interredoross headquarters taking position that these Jews be recognized as civilian internees and treated according Geneva Convention stop Interredoross should approach Hungarian authorities expressing determination to protect these non-Hungarian Jews stop Cable results through American Embassy and Warrefugeeboard."

Legation

Thanking you in advance, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

A. Leon Kubowitzki
A. Leon Kubowitzki
Head, Rescue Department

ALK:bg

1046

RECEIVED THE DIRECTOR
WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL • CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, 23, N. Y.

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 1979

JERUSALEM
Vaad Leumi P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 1744

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: CIRCLE 6-1900

July 20, 1944

In reply refer
to No. 160

Hon. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I would be extremely obliged to you for forwarding,
through the facilities of the State Department, the
following message to Dr. Riegner of our Geneva office:

To: Dr. Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva,
Switzerland
From: Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki, World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway, New York, New York

B

Your message of July 4 received through War Refugee
Board implies that Italian Jews are still arriving
in Switzerland. Urge you to let us have regularly
lists of arrivals. Would be grateful for a recapitu-
latory list of those arrived so far.

Sincerely yours,

A. Leon Kubowitzki
A. Leon Kubowitzki
Head, Rescue Department

ALK:bg

100460

JUL 20 1944

Dear Dr. Goldmann:

The following private and strictly confidential message for you from Dr. Riegner has been received through the American Legation in Bern under date of July 13:

"Czechoslovakian Minister Kopecky, Dr. Ullmann and I, having received most appalling news regarding situation of Jews in Hungarian dominated territories and deportation of 12,000 people daily, as well as detailed reports on death camps of Birkenau and Auschwitz, undertook a joint approach to International Red Cross on June 23, latter represented by Schwarzenberg as competent staff member, and Mr. Lombard member ICRC committee. Immediate action of Red Cross by any means was seriously urged with view to stopping extermination and deportation. Again on June 26, on basis of your various cables, we approached Schwarzenberg urging dispatch to Budapest of eminent Red Cross representative. Professor Guggenheim renewed demarche with Professor Burokhardt on June 30. Guggenheim called on Burokhardt on July 4 at latter's request and made energetic and serious representation warning Burokhardt of ICRC's responsibility and making clear to him the great dissatisfaction in Jewish circles with committee's great inactivity despite changed political situation and necessity of their rendering accounts when war is over. In particular he suggested personal handwritten appeal by Max Huber, ICRC President, to Horthy and dispatch of outstanding Red Cross representative, possibly one of their committee members, to Budapest at once, to do utmost last minute to save Jewry of Budapest at least. Promise to submit and recommend first suggestion to Huber was given by Burokhardt and latter also agreed to suggestion but stressed difficulties concerning visa for any of their prominent representatives to journey through Germany. Confidential information has been received to effect that on July 4 ICRC deliberated thoroughly on whole matter.

On July 10 learned officially from Professor Burokhardt that decision was made by ICRC on July 4 to dispatch handwritten letter to Horthy from its President Huber. This letter enumerated facts of anti-Jewish persecution and deportation which are known in Geneva and which documentation

10046

submitted by us included. Confirmation as to correctness of these facts was requested by the letter and also detailed reply eventually as to what is happening to people deported and where they are now. Equal offer was made in letter to dispatch special ICRC mission to Hungary which could be present at deportation, assist people with medicines and food, and supervise how and where people are brought to, and control what is happening to them at place of destination. On July 6 letter was despatched to Budapest by special messenger. Please do not permit the publication of this information."

I am sure you will realize the extremely confidential nature of the foregoing.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Nahum Goldmann,
World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
New York 23, New York.

EHodel/sg 7/19/44

JW

7-10-44

War Refugee Bd.
(File)

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

1 Range
7/17/44
Message sent
to Robinson
JH

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: July 13, 1944
NUMBER: 4473
X

CONTROL COPY

McClelland sends following for WRB from Gerhart Riegner
for the private and strictly ~~confidential~~ information of
Nahum Goldmann, World Jewish Congress.

Czechoslovakian Minister Kopecky, Dr. Ullmann and I,
having received most appalling news regarding situation of
Jews in Hungarian dominated territories and deportation of
12,000 people daily, as well as detailed reports on death
camps of Birkenau and Auschwitz, undertook a joint approach
to International Red Cross on June 23, latter represented by
Schwarzenberg as competent staff member, and Mr. Lombard
member IGRC committee. Immediate action of Red Cross by any
means was seriously urged with view to stopping extermination
and deportation. Again on June 26, on basis of your various
cables, we approached Schwarzenberg urging dispatch to Budapest
of eminent Red Cross representative. Professor Guggenheim
renewed demarche with Professor Burekhardt on June 30.
Guggenheim called on Burekhardt on July 4 at latter's request
and made energetic and serious representation warning Burekhardt
of IGRC's responsibility and making clear to him the great
dissatisfaction in Jewish circles with committees great

Inactivity Insp

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

1045

inactivity despite changed political situation and necessity of their rendering accounts when war is over. In particular he suggested personal handwritten appeal by Max Huber, ICRC President, to Horthy and dispatch of outstanding Red Cross representative, possibly one of their committee members, to Budapest at once, to do utmost last minute to save Jewry of Budapest at least. Promise to submit and recommend first suggestion to Huber was given by Burckhardt and latter also agreed to suggestion but stressed difficulties concerning visa for any of their prominent representatives to journey through Germany. Confidential information has been received to effect that on July 4 ICRC deliberated thoroughly on whole matter.

On July 10 learned officially from Professor Burckhardt that decision was made by ICRC on July 4 to dispatch handwritten letter to Horthy from its President Huber. This letter enumerated facts of anti-Jewish persecution and deportation which are known in Geneva and which documentation submitted by us included. Confirmation as to correctness of these facts was requested by the letter and also detailed reply eventually as to what is happening to people deported and where they are now. Equal offer was made in letter to dispatch special ICRC mission to Hungary which could be present at deportation, assist people with medicines and food, and supervise how and where people are brought to, and control what is happening to them at place of destination. On July 6
letter

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

I was Ref Board - Pihler
INCOMING TELEGRAM
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

LFG-876
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. ~~(RESISTANCE)~~

Jerusalem
Dated July 5, 1944
Rec'd 11:48 p.m.

WBS

Secretary of State,
Washington.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 7 1944
RECORDED

*message sent 7/12/44
E.H.H.*

92, July 5, 6 p.m.

Benzvi Chairman of Vaadlaumi requests following message be transmitted to Rabbi Wise New York through War Refugee Board.

"Following latest reports ^{cut of} from Hungary, France imperative you call upon Allied Nations make supreme effort ^{to} rescue remnants. We (especially emphasize) that the Allied Nations should consent to grant [refugees] right of entry ^{to refugees} all territories under their administration and on this basis request neutral countries ^{that they} to permit transit refugees and Swiss Government to instruct its Embassies ⁱⁿ occupied countries give every Jew document certifying he has entry permit to Allied territory. Despatch ^{to} delegation all representatives Jewry to president and strengthen delegation's pleas by processions Jews Christians ⁱⁿ large cities. Do all in your power ^{during} these terrible fateful moments"

PIFKERTON

FS BB

110477

JUL 12 1944

Dear Dr. Wise:

The following confidential message for you from Mr. Benzvi, Chairman of Vaadlcumi, was received from the American Consulate, Jerusalem, under date of July 5, 1944:

"Following latest reports out of Hungary. France imperative you call upon Allied Nations make supreme effort to rescue remnants. We emphasize especially that the Allied Nations should consent to grant right of entry to refugees all territories under their administration and on this basis request neutral countries that they permit transit refugees and Swiss Government to instruct its Embassies in occupied countries give every Jew document certifying that he has entry permit to Allied territory. Despatch delegation all representatives Jewry to president and strengthen delegation's pleas by processions Jews Christians in large cities. Do all in your power during these terrible fateful moments."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
New York 23, New York.

EST HBTowler:agr 7-11-44 Jot -

700473

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

RECT-83
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (W)

Stockholm

Dated July 3, 1944

Rec'd 11:45 a.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

2420, July 3, noon.

Following is paraphrase of message for World Jewish
Congress, New York, from Congress Committee, Stockholm.

This our No. 45 for War Refugee Board.

Deportation (of) all Hungarian Jews ordered before
July 15 (reliable sources report). Importance of United
Nations help in hindering this mass deportation which
would liquidate almost last ^{large} Jewish community in

Europe is essential. Confirmation from Rumania to
Ehrenpreis that last amount from Sweden transferred
and distributed through Swedish channels. Changed at

twelve and one half times official rate. Used for
feeding and clothing poor Jewish, mostly children.

Ehrenpreis implored by ^a leading Rumanian Jew to procure
further ^{aid} [help] from America and Sweden. Confirmation by
Swedish Minister at Bucharest funds badly needed. Small

Swedish collections being transferred next few days but
large sums ^{are} necessary. Important ^{that} the World Jewish Congress
hasten transfer of \$10,000 to Ehrenpreis and secure
additional funds for Rumanian help from other sources.

WSB
CSB

JOHNSON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

CONTROL COPY

Copy to Dr. Wein
by WJC
7/3/44
E.H.H.

7-10-47

RECEIVED BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.

JUL 12 1944

Dear Dr. Wise:

The following very confidential message for your organization from the Congress Committee has just been received through the American Legation at Stockholm under date of July 3, 1944:

"Reliable sources report that deportation all Hungarian Jews ordered before July 15. Importance of United Nations help in hindering this mass deportation which would liquidate almost last large Jewish community in Europe is essential. Confirmation from Rumania to Ehrenpreis that last amount from Sweden transferred and distributed through Swedish channels. Changed at twelve and one half times official rate. Used for the clothing and feeding of poor Jewish, mostly children. Ehrenpreis implored by a leading Rumanian Jew to procure further aid from Sweden and America. Confirmation by Swedish Minister at Bucharest funds badly needed. Small Swedish collections being transferred next few days but large sums are necessary. Important that the World Jewish Congress hasten transfer of \$10,000 to Ehrenpreis and secure additional funds for Rumanian help from other sources."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
New York 23, New York.

FH:db 7/10/44
Dor

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

RA-614

Istanbul

This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency. (~~RESTRICTED~~)

Dated June 21, 1944

Rec'd 8:10 p.m.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 3 1944
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

Secretary of State
Washington

363, June 21, 1 p.m.

FROM BARLAS, JEWISH AGENCY, FOR LEON KUBOWITSKY,
WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS, NEW YORK CITY.

Receipt of your message of May 23 acknowledged,
List of outstanding Hungarian Jews recommended by
your committee has been received.

Immigration certificates for Palestine approved
for all candidates so recommended. Confirmations
have been forwarded to candidates through proper
channels.

I must emphasize that for the time being no
transportation is available. We are doing our ut-
most to secure transportation as soon as exit from
Hungary for Jewish immigrants will be permitted
again.

BERRY

REP:BB

*Paraphrase sent
to Dr. Kubowitzky
7/3/44
FH/ab*

00047

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JUL 3 3 40 PM '44

JUL 4 1944

Dear Dr. Kubowitzki:

The following confidential message for you from Mr. Barlas has just been received through the Consulate at Istanbul under date of June 21, 1944:

"Acknowledge receipt of your message of May 23. List of outstanding Hungarian Jews recommended by your committee has been received.

Immigration certificates for Palestine approved for all candidates so recommended. Through proper channels confirmations have been forwarded to candidates.

I must emphasize that for the time being no transportation available. We doing utmost to secure transportation as soon as exit from Hungary for Jewish immigrants will be permitted again."

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pahle
Executive Director

Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki,
Head, Rescue Department,
World Jewish Congress,
1634 Broadway,
New York 23, New York.

FH:db 7/3/44

27

000477

3 - war Ref Bd - P.H.

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: June 14, 1944
NUMBER: 3797

Rieger sends the following for Nahum Goldmann World Jewish Congress (From McClelland for War Refugee Board).

Through ICRC we have received the most urgent new appeal from Fildermann from Bucharest asking for help for former deportees of Transnistria refugees from Bessarabia and Bucovina evacuees from Moldavia, victims of bombardments in Bucharest and Ploesti and people awaiting emigration to Palestine. Number of Jewish evacuees Moldavia only 30,000. Local Jewish relief is absolutely insufficient. Fildermann urgently appeals for help from the outside world. Telegraph.

Your cable received April 22 is referred to. We cannot give any accurate information regarding Willy's reliability despite serious efforts at investigation. Istanbul and Jerusalem are fully informed on actual situation and possibility according to our information. You should contact them.

We were asked by the Swiss Political Department what amounts are expected from the USA for various rescue actions financed by Congress as the Swiss National Bank must be able to satisfy all needs. We replied that in view of the changing situation

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

UNRECORDED COPY
JUNE 14 1944
SECRETARY OF STATE
AMERICAN LEGATION
BERNE

situation it is impossible to fix rescue budget beforehand but consider that besides unforeseen needs monthly transfer of \$25,000 may be satisfactory in addition to transfer administrative budget. Although the Political Department agreed in principle, it insisted that transfers to France should pass through the Swiss clearing office utilizing Swiss Jewish holdings in France which Switzerland wants to repatriate. This procedure would cost 3.80 to 4 Swiss francs for 100 French francs while we obtain rate of 1.60 to 1.80 normally. While making this request it was stated by the Political Department that they are entitled to ask us to pass through the clearing office since the Swiss National Bank must accept blocked dollars for counter-value Swiss francs put at our disposal at official rate. It was intimated by them that they might be unable to put Swiss francs at our disposal should we not conform. We answered that this procedure would deprive us of all advantage resulting from dollar remittances at official rate and that without consulting New York we were not able to take a definite position. Kindly indicate whether it is exact that Swiss francs are put at disposal by Swiss Government who must accept blocked dollars or whether they originate from ownings of the Federal Reserve Bank in Switzerland. Please instruct us as to the attitude we should adopt and examine with WRB whether in the future our rescue fund should not be sent through their representative in Bern in a manner by which such Swiss control would be eliminated.

HARRISON

00047

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Consulate General, Jerusalem
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 25, 1944
NUMBERS: 72

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

A request has been made by Bobkin Jewish Agency that there be transmitted through the War Refugee Board to Rabbi Wise and Dnahun 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:

Majosvassarchy, Szeged des Debrecen Nyiregy
Kaza Beregszas, Nagyszollos, Nagybanya,
Szatmarnemeti, Matessalta, Nunkacs, Szabadka,
Kolosevar, Esztergom, Eszrhimo (P),
Esztergom, Szeged, Szekesfehervar, Senta, Budapest,
Eszter, Kassa, Nagy Varad, Szolyva, Ungvar,
Ujvidék.

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 1972

the info-----

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, Aksin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Sargey, Smith, Sandish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Pehle, Files.

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

*ad Ref. Bd
Mr. Hille
copy only*

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Lisbon
DATED: May 19, 1944
NUMBER: 1408
X

CONTROL COPY

The War Refugee Board requeststhat you deliver the following message to Isaac Weissman, 179 Avenida da Liberdade, Lisbon, Portugal:

"We have complete list most distinguished Hungarian rabbis.

Are considering ask for them Mauritius visas as for other rabbis in Nazi-occupied countries. Would like you however to inform us by return mail how the Mauritius scheme worked out; how many rabbis benefited by it; where they now are; what is the attitude of the Portuguese authorities in regard to granting transit visas, etc. According to some, it would be safer to have them provided with Palestine certificates. Expecting your prompt advice and report. World Jewish Congress, Leon Kubowitzki."

THIS IS WRB LISBON CABLE NO. 25

RECEIVED
MAY 23 1944
STATE DEPT. BUREAU

HULL

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

1408

CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, LISBON

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Isaac Weissman, 179 Avenida da Liberdade, Lisbon, Portugal:

QUOTE We have complete list most distinguished Hungarian rabbis. Are considering ask for them Mauritius visas as for other rabbis in Nazi-occupied countries. Would like you however to inform us by return mail how the Mauritius scheme worked out; how many rabbis benefited by it; where they now are; what is the attitude of the Portuguese authorities in regard to granting transit visas, etc. According to some, it would be safer to have them provided with Palestine certificates. Expecting your prompt advice and report. World Jewish Congress, Leon Kubowitzki UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB LISBON CABLE NO. 25

May 16, 1944
5:10 p.m.

ksa. L.S.L.
BAkzin:jp 5/13/44

1048

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL .: CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

330 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

NEW ADDRESS:
330 WEST 42ND STREET
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.
C. 6-1940

AKZ

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: LONGACRE 5-2600

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St., W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 2024-9c

JERUSALEM
Vasad Leumi, P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 174-4

In reply refer
to No. 58

May 10, 1944

Hon. J. W. Pehle, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

The Hungarian rabbis who are members of the Hungarian Jewish Representative Committee, affiliated with the Congress, are extremely preoccupied by the fate of their fellow rabbis in Hungary.

You may know that the British authorities agreed a few months ago to issue visas for Mauritius to about 150 rabbis in Nazi-occupied territories. The visas for Mauritius granted, the British Consular authorities in Lisbon intervened with the Portuguese authorities in order to obtain transit visas for the rabbis in question.

Before asking the same favor for the Hungarian rabbis, we would like to have definite information from our Lisbon representative, Mr. Isaac Weissman, as to the way in which this procedure worked out until now. I would consequently be obliged to you for sending to Mr. Weissman, through the facilities of the State Department, the following message:

"Mr. Isaac Weissman, 179 Avenida da Liberdade, Lisbon, Portugal

We have complete list most distinguished Hungarian rabbis. Are considering ask for them Mauritius visas as for other rabbis in Nazi-occupied countries. Would like you however to inform us by return mail how the Mauritius scheme worked out; how many rabbis benefited by it; where they now are; what is the attitude of the Portuguese authorities in regard to granting transit visas, etc. According to some, it would be safer to have them provided with Palestine certificates. Expecting your prompt advice and report.
Leon Kubowitzki, World Jewish Congress"

Please let me know whether this message has been forwarded.

Sincerely yours,

AKZ
Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki
Head, Rescue Department

ALK:bg

OK

411

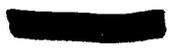
1048

5-15

*WRB Ref. Bd.
Hull*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Stockholm
DATED: May 19, 1944
NUMBER: 950



From War Refugee Board to Johnson

Please deliver the following message to Hilel Storch,
Furusundsgatan 10, Stockholm, from Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki of
the World Jewish Congress:

"Please have urgently thorough discussion on rescue
program for Hungary with Wilhelm Bohm, Uppfartovagen 6/4,
Stockholm - Rasunda, and have the program forwarded to us
through American Legation. Forward also urgently through
same channel Hungarian rescue program agreed upon with
Chief Rabbi Ehrenpreis. Are very much worried because
had no report recently on situation Lithuania, Latvia and
Estonia. Expect to hear from you without delay."

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 10

RECEIVED
MAY 20 1944
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE

HULL

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

15

1048

CABLE TO STOCKHOLM

From War Refugee Board to Johnson

Please deliver the following message to Hiel Storch,
Furusundsgatan 10, Stockholm, from Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki of
the World Jewish Congress:

"Please have urgently thorough discussion on rescue
program for Hungary with Wilhelm Bohm, Uppfortovagen 5/4,
Stockholm - Rasunda, and have the program forwarded to us
through American Legation. Forward also urgently through
same channel Hungarian rescue program agreed upon with
Chief Rabbi Ehrenpreis. Are very much worried because
had no report recently on situation Lithuania, Latvia
and Estonia. Expect to hear from you without delay"

THIS IS WEB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 10

May 16, 1944
4:00 p.m.

S.S.
FH:lab 5/15/44

1048

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL .: CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

330 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

NEW ADDRESS
1234 BROADWAY
NEW YORK
CITY 10000

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: LONGACRE, 5-2600

May 12, 1944

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St, W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 2024-9c

JERUSALEM
Vasad Leumi, P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 174-4

In reply refer
to: No. 60

Hon. John W. Pehle, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Executive Office of the President
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

We have a friend in Stockholm who has maintained very good connections with Hungary and whose advice for a rescue program for Hungary could be very valuable. He is the former Socialist Hungarian Minister Wilhelm Böhm, Uppförtovägen 5/4, Stockholm - Råsunda. I understand that Mr. Böhm was recently in London where he conferred with the British Labor Party on the situation in Hungary.

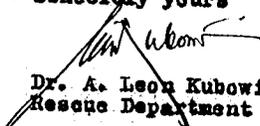
May we ask you to send the following message to Mr. Storch, one of our representatives in Stockholm, through the facilities of the State Department:

To: Hilel Storch, Furusundsgatan 10, Stockholm, Sweden
From: Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki, World Jewish Congress.

"Please have urgently thorough discussion on rescue program for Hungary with Wilhelm Böhm, Uppförtovägen 5/4, Stockholm - Råsunda, and have the program forwarded to us through American Legation. Forward also urgently through same channel Hungarian rescue program agreed upon with Chief Rabbi Ehrenpreis. Are very much worried because had no report recently on situation Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Expect to hear from you without delay."

Please let me know whether this cable has been forwarded.

Sincerely yours


Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki, Head
Rescue Department

ALK:ref

10 4 15

*War Refugee Board
Mr. Peck*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: May 10, 1944
NUMBER: 1628

CONTROL COPY

TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, BERN

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland:

"We acknowledge receipt of your message of April 18th forwarded through American Legation. We discussed its contents with War Refugee Board.

Policy asking Hungarian population to hide and safeguard Jews has been accepted, and appeals are being broadcast in consequence.

We call your attention to important duties which International Red Cross may perform regarding Hungarian Jews detained or interned in camps. We trust that Hungarian Government may be induced to consider these Jews as civilian internees and permit these camps to be visited by Red Cross delegates and food parcels despatched to inmates. We expect your urgent and detailed report on this subject. World Jewish Congress, Leon Kubowitzki."

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 15

HULL

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

RECEIVED
MAY 10 1944
AMERICAN LEGATION
BERN

1048

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, BERN

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson Geneva, Switzerland:

QUOTE We acknowledge receipt of your message of April 18th forwarded through American Legation. We discussed its contents with War Refugee Board.

Policy asking Hungarian population to hide and safeguard Jews has been accepted, and appeals are being broadcast in consequence.

We call your attention to important duties which International Red Cross may perform regarding Hungarian Jews detained or interned in camps. We trust that Hungarian Government may be induced to consider these Jews as civilian internees and permit these camps to be visited by Red Cross delegates and food parcels despatched to inmates. We expect your urgent and detailed report on this subject. World Jewish Congress Leon Kubowitzki UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 15

May 4, 1944
10:00 a.m.

BA.
BAK:in:ip 5/2/44
L.F.

00048

RECEIVED
FROM REPUBLICAN REP. OFF.
OF CONGRESS IN BOSTON, MASS.
RECEIVED
RECEIVED
RECEIVED

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL .: CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

330 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

*Take to ALK
5-3-44*

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: LONGACRE 5-2600

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St, W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 2024-90

JERUSALEM
Vaad Leumi, P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 174-4

April 28, 1944

Hon. John W. Pehle, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Executive Office of the President
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I have been requested by Dr. Wise to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of April 25th transmitting a message from Messrs. Gerhart Riegner and Richard Lichtenheim.

I have been informed by Mr. Lesser that the War Refugee Board is considering the question of exchange, stressed in this message, as one of particular urgency and is granting it its careful consideration. We would be very grateful to you for informing us as soon as possible of the decision reached by the Board on this subject.

May I ask you to send to Dr. Riegner, through the State Department, the following message which is self-explanatory:

"We acknowledge receipt of your message of April 18th forwarded through American Legation. ~~War Refugee Board grants its full consideration to exchange project. We hope we may give you more information in near future.~~

population to hide and safeguard
Policy asking Hungarian Jews to ~~hide and destroy~~ registers has been accepted, and appeals are being broadcast in consequence.

Prepare message detained or

We call your attention to important duties which International Red Cross may perform regarding Hungarian Jews interned in concentration camps. We trust that Hungarian Government may be induced to consider these Jews as civilian internees and permit these camps to be visited by Red Cross delegates and food parcels dispatched to inmates. We expect your urgent and detailed report on this subject."

44-1049

May I venture to suggest that same instructions should be sent by the War Refugee Board to Mr. McClellan its Swiss representative.

Please let me know whether the above mentiched message has been forwarded.

Sincerely yours



Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki, Head
Rescue Department

ALK:ef

70049

In reply please
refer to: 540

1944

Dear Dr. Goldmann:

I have your letter of April 13, 1944, and
its enclosure.

Pursuant to your request, the Board has asked
the State Department to send the following message from
you to Dr. Riegner:

"Please advise whether you can resume contacts
with Willy, his superiors and associates, and
others exercising similar authority. If this
is possible, would appreciate your views as to
possibility of arranging for evacuations from
Hungary to neutral countries or for holding up
deportations or permitting sending relief to
those detained. If any such arrangements pos-
sible, please indicate amounts you consider
would be involved and extent to which such
amounts could remain in neutral countries.
Also is Willy reliable. Signed Nahum Goldmann,
World Jewish Congress."

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Nahum Goldmann,
World Jewish Congress.
1834 Broadway,
New York 23, New York.

6/27 RBH
HHHutchison:agr 4-22-44 JOK ✓

7 0 0 4 9 2

*W. J. Goldmann
1358 (14)*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: April 20, 1944
NUMBER: 1358

CONTROL COPY

FROM THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO MINISTER HARRISON.

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Dr. Gerhart Rigner, Geneva: QUOTE
Please advise whether you can resume contacts with Willy, his superiors and associates, and others exercising similar authority. If this is possible, would appreciate your views as to possibility of arranging for evacuations from Hungary to neutral countries or for holding up deportations or permitting sending relief to those detained. If any such arrangements possible, please indicate amounts you consider would be involved and extent to which such amounts could remain in neutral countries. Also is Willy reliable. Signed Nahum Goldmann, World Jewish Congress. UNQUOTE.

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

000493

RECEIVED: 73
DATE: 4-17-44
TO: [illegible]
FROM: [illegible]

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AT BEVN FROM THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Dr. Gerhart Rigner, Geneva: QUOTE Please advise whether you can resume contacts with Willy, his superiors and associates, and others exercising similar authority. If this is possible, would appreciate your views as to possibility of arranging for evacuations from Hungary to neutral countries or for holding up deportations or permitting sending relief to those detained. If any such arrangements possible, please indicate amounts you consider would be involved and extent to which such amounts could remain in neutral countries. Also is Willy reliable. Signed Nahum Goldmann, World Jewish Congress. UNQUOTE.

April 17, 1944

11:15 A.M.

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

P.S.L.

LSLesser:als 4/15/44

10049

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Bern
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: April 18, 1944
NUMBER: 2444 (Section 1)

The following message is from Gerhardt Riegner and Richard Lichtheim, Geneva, to the World Jewish Congress, 1834 Broadway, New York, for Dr. Wise.

(For delivery to Dr. Wise at the discretion of the Department, the following message in substance is transmitted by the Legation for the information of the Department).

Our opinion is that a special effort to arrange an exchange of Jews in German-occupied countries against German nationals in Allied countries should be made by the War Refugee Board working with the Government of Britain. In the first instance the Jewish candidates for exchange are those who received Palestine immigration certificates whose names have been notified by the Government of Britain through Switzerland as the protecting power, to the Government of Germany. There are approximately 3500 of these persons. Germany has accepted this principle of exchange for persons holding these certificates but due to the lack of German candidates the exchange has not materialized so far. The holders of these certificates have been kept to date in special camps and are in danger of deportation since Germany is now getting impatient. The whole group might be saved if as a beginning an exchange of a few hundred at least could be made with prospects of further exchanges in the future.

HARRISON

DOR:MPL
4/20/44

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Aksin, 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, Files

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

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Bern
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: April 18, 1944
NUMBER: 2444 (Section 2)

As quickly as possible the War Refugee Board should therefore prepare a full list of all Germans in North and South America and in the British Empire who are eligible for exchange and should also with the British Government send such list through protecting powers to the Government of Germany without delay.

In view of the present situation this procedure is of the utmost urgency. In case some practical result is obtained an effort should also be made to arrange a separate exchange plan for such Jews as many have obtained South American passports or other papers of identity from certain consulates provided recognition of such documents for this purpose can be obtained from respective governments. Bearers of visas for overseas countries would be other Jewish candidates for exchange. This scheme is of particular importance to Jews in Hungary in view of their desperate situation; these Hungarian Jews also could profit from Palestine certificates or other authorized visas or documents. It is our considered opinion that unless action is taken at once to effect a group exchange, neither holders of Palestine certificates nor any other groups can be saved. This view is held by all diplomatic representatives including the Papal Nuncio at Bern who have approached us recently.

HARRISON

DGB:MFL
4/20/44

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mannon, Mann, 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

APR 8 1944

Dear Dr. Wise:

The following confidential message for you from Messrs. Riegner and Lichtheim was received from the American Minister, Bern, under date of April 4, 1944:

"It is reported reliably that the Government of Germany by the establishment in Budapest of special German administration to send workers and foodstuffs to Germany, is planning to control the economic life of Hungary. Special provision for the destruction of 800,000 Jews within six months by the concentration of all in the following three zones, is also included in these plans: heath of Zenta (first); marshes of Mohacs (second); Semendria on Serbo-Croatian border (third). The usual preliminary steps such as yellow badge registration have just been announced. Under the supervision of German SS guards there will follow arrest and deportation. As has been done in Poland the Jews at the three isolated places named above will be dealt with by guards.

"It is our proposal that these plans should be vigorously and repeatedly denounced by radio and that the Jews should be told to seek shelter in all conceivable ways outside or inside of Hungary or if possible to join the partisans. The Jews should be warned not to make the same mistake which the Jews in Poland and the Netherlands made but to destroy all relevant lists of communities in time and to avoid registration. Encourage officials of Hungary and the populace to help the Jews and counteract German measures at this time."

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Stephen B. Wise,
World Jewish Congress,
330 West 42nd Street,
New York, New York.

FH:lab 4/8/44

*W. J. Riegner BN
M. P. Bell*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: The American Minister, Bern
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: April 4, 1944
NUMBER: 2082

*1 copy only
4/8/44
W. J. Riegner sent to
Dr. Wise JH*

CONTROL COPY

The following message is for Dr. Wise, World Jewish Congress, 330 West 42nd Street, New York, from Riegner and Lichtenheim.

It is reported reliably that the Government of Germany by the establishment in Budapest of special German administration to send workers and foodstuffs to Germany, is planning to control the economic life of Hungary. Special provision for the destruction of 800,000 Jews within six months by the concentration of all in the following three zones, ^{also} included in these plans: heath of Zenta (first); marshes of Mohacs (second); Semendria on Serbo-Croatian border (third). The usual preliminary steps such as yellow badge registration have just been announced. Under the supervision of German SS guards there will follow arrest and deportation. As has been done in Poland the Jews at the three isolated places named above will be dealt with by guards.

It is our proposal that these plans should be vigorously and repeatedly denounced by radio and that the Jews should be told to seek shelter in all conceivable ways outside or inside of Hungary or if possible to join the partisans. The Jews should be warned

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

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2- #2082 from Bern

should be warned not to make the same mistake which the Jews in Poland and the Netherlands made but to destroy all relevant lists of communities in time and to avoid registration. Encourage officials of Hungary and the populace to help the Jews and counteract German measures at this time.

HARRISON

DCR:MPL
4/6/44

APR 7 1944

1044

10050

10050

SEP 14 1944

Dear Mr. Asofsky:

Enclosed herewith is a copy of a letter addressed to Mr. Bertrand Jacobson by the Swiss Minister in Lisbon which was received through the American Embassy in Lisbon.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Isaac L. Asofsky,
HIAB-IOA Emigration Association, Inc.,
386 Fourth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Enclosure.

EBH
RHutchinson: 9/9/44

JG

1050

AIR MAIL

No. 850

3. War Refugee Bd
(Trans)

CONTROL COPY

Lisbon, August 12, 1944

UNRESTRICTED

Subject: Changes in Regulations Regarding Jews in Hungary

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington

32 M. J. G. H. S.
J. and G. S.
W. J. S. S.
W. J. S. S.

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter addressed to Bertrand Jacobson of the Hias-Ica Emigration Association from the Swiss Minister in Lisbon, giving copy of a telegram from the Foreign Office at Bern to him regarding the situation of Jews in Hungary. The Hias-Ica Association had asked the Swiss Legation to obtain confirmation of the changes that were stated to be made in Hungary on July 19, and this letter is in the nature of such confirmation.

It is believed that this despatch will be of interest to the War Refugee Board and if the Department perceives no objection, it is requested that copies be transmitted to the War Refugee Board with the request that a copy of the enclosure be sent to the Hias, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador:

Charles E. Dickerson, Jr.
First Secretary of Embassy

Enclosure:

Copy of letter from Swiss Minister

RCD:ew

0050

Enclosure to despatch No. 850, dated August 2, 1944,
from the Embassy at Lisbon.

C O P Y

LEGATION DE SUISSE
AU PORTUGAL

Lisbonne, le 11 Aout 1944
Avenida Antonio Augusto
de Aguiar 163-1º

References: Notre:VI.O-33a/6.

Monsieur,

En me referant a votre visite de ce jour,
J'ai l'honneur de porter a votre connaissance une communi-
cation de Departement Politique Federal a Berne, datee du
10 Aout 1944, concernant les Juifs de Hongrie.

En voici le texte:

"Le Departement Politique nous informe que,
"a la suite de plusieurs interventions, dont
"celle du Ministre de Suisse a Budapest, le
"Gouvernement hongrois apporta certains
"adoucissements aux mesures prises contre
"les Juifs.
"Il ressort des communications faites a M.
"le Ministre Jaeger que l'envoi des Israe-
"lites pour le travail obligatoire a l'e-
"tranger a ete suspendu provisoirement et
"que la Legation de Suisse pourra faciliter
"l'emigration de plusieurs milliers d'entre
"eux en Palestine.
"D'autres assurances ont ete egalement don-
"nees au Comite International de la Croix-
"Rouge.
"On est en train d'etudier les moyens de
"mettre ce projet d'emigration a execution
"et des demarches pour obtenir certaines
"facilites en faveur des enfants continuent.
"Il n'a pas ete conclu d'arrangement formel
"entre Berne et Budapest, mais ce qui pre-
"cede est le resultat d'interventions diplo-
"matiques."

Veuillez agreer, Monsieur, l'assurance de ma
"consideration tres distinguee.

(a) HENRI MARTIN
Ministre de Suisse

Monsieur S. Bertrand Jacobson
Hias-Ica Emigration Association
-49, Rua Rodrigo da Fonseca-
Lisbonne

AIR MAIL

No. 850

Lisbon, August 12, 1944

UNRESTRICTED

Subject: Changes in Regulations Regarding Jews in Hungary

The Honorable
The Secretary of State
Washington

*SR M. J. [unclear]
Board [unclear]
New York [unclear]
[unclear]*

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith a copy of a letter addressed to Bertrand Jacobson of the Hias-Ica Emigration Association from the Swiss Minister in Lisbon, giving copy of a telegram from the Foreign Office at Bern to him regarding the situation of Jews in Hungary. The Hias-Ica Association had asked the Swiss Legation to obtain confirmation of the changes that were stated to be made in Hungary on July 19, and this letter is in the nature of such confirmation.

It is believed that this despatch will be of interest to the War Refugee Board and if the Department perceives no objection, it is requested that copies be transmitted to the War Refugee Board with the request that a copy of the enclosure be sent to the Hias, 386 Fourth Avenue, New York City.

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador:

Charles E. Dickerson, Jr.
First Secretary of Embassy

✓
Enclosure:

Copy of letter from Swiss Minister

RCD:ew

050

*2 - War Dept
W. P. Kelly*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: July 27, 1944
NUMBER: 2583

CONTROL COPY

TO McCLELLAND.

Hicem representative Lisbon reports having been advised by reliable source that acting Hungarian Charge d'Affaires, Lisbon received following message from his Government:

QUOTE One. Responding to appeal from Swedish Government Hungarian Government agrees permit emigration to Sweden or Palestine of Jews who have relations living in Sweden or who have business connections there. Two. Responding to appeal of British Government through Swiss Government, Hungarian Government agrees to renew the formerly effective but meanwhile suspended permission of Jews possessing valid entry visas to emigrate Palestine. Three. To the appeal of the War Refugee Board by way of Switzerland, Hungarian Government agrees to admit assistance by International Red Cross for Jews in camps or ghettos in Hungary and to despatch Jewish children under ten years of age to Palestine. While these measures are being carried out deportations of Jews for labor abroad is suspended. UNQUOTE
THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 97.

HULL

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

*52 230 2-10-72
719*

1050

SECRET
TO DIRECTOR
5283
DATE: 7/19
Lester
AMERICAN
SECRETARY OF
ORIGINAL TEXT

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON AT BERN AND McCLELLAND

Lisbon representative Lisbon reports having been advised by reliable source that acting Hungarian Charge d'Affaires, Lisbon received following message from his Government:

QUOTE One. Responding to appeal from Swedish Government Hungarian Government agrees permit emigration to Sweden or Palestine of Jews who have relations living in Sweden or who have business connections there. Two. Responding to appeal of British Government through Swiss Government, Hungarian Government agrees to renew the formerly effective but meanwhile suspended permission of Jews possessing valid entry visas to emigrate Palestine. Three. So the appeal of the War Refugee Board by way of Switzerland, Hungarian Government agrees to admit assistance by International Red Cross for Jews in camps or ghettos in Hungary and to despatch Jewish children under ten years of age to Palestine. While these measures are being carried out deportations of Jews for labor abroad is suspended. UNQUOTE

Please endeavor through such channels as may be available to you to ascertain promptly whether any such message was transmitted to local Hungarian mission and the extent to which the same may be substantiated as representing current Hungarian policy. Please advise Board as quickly as possible of the results of your inquiries.

THIS IS WED BERN CABLE NO. _____

97

July 25, 1944
2:35 p.m.

CC: Miss Chauncey (For the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, McCormack (for Mr. Mann), Stewart, Central Files, Cable Control Files.

LSLesser:rah 7-25-44

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

HEBREW SHELTERING and
IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY



425 LAFAYETTE ST., NEW YORK 3, N. Y.
Telephone ALgonquin 4-2900

Overseas Central Office: HIAS-ICA EMIGRATION ASS'N (HICEM)
Lisbon, Portugal

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S. J. Weinstein

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Mrs. A. Herman
Miss Elizabeth Lesser

His Council of Organizations
A. Baron
Louis Gallack
Bernay Greenberg
Morris Tigel
Louis Zeis
Mrs. Rose Zeltin

Women's Council
Mrs. Herman J. Lattier

July 25, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Exec. Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Although you convey to us with your
letter of July 22nd. a confidential message
from our Dr. James Bernstein in Lisbon,
Portugal, we do not know whether you have
retained for your information a copy of that
message. We are accordingly sending you a
copy herewith.

Very sincerely yours

Isaac L. Asofsky
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AG

Encl

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D.C.

Office of the
Executive Director

July 22, 1944

Dear Sirs:

The following confidential message for you from Mr. Bernstein was received through the American Legation in Lisbon under date of July 19, 1944:

"Bertrand Jacobson advised by reliable source that acting Hungarian Charge d'Affaires, Lisbon received following message dated July 17th. from His Government.

'One. Responding to appeal from Swedish Government Hungarian Government agrees permit emigration to Sweden or Palestine of Jews who have relations living in Sweden or who have business connections there. Two. Responding to appeal of British Government through Swiss Government, Hungarian Government agrees to renew the formerly effective but meanwhile suspended permission of Jews possessing valid entry visas to emigrate Palestine. Three. To the appeal of the War Refugee Board by way of Switzerland, Hungarian government agrees to admit assistance by International Red Cross for Jews in camps or ghettos in Hungary and to despatch Jewish children under ten years of age to Palestine. While these measures are being carried out deportations of Jews for labor abroad is suspended.'

Suggest reserving publicity till confirmation received."

Very truly yours

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

Executive Director

Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant
Aid Society
425 Lafayette Street
New York, New York

JUL 22 1944

Dear Sirs:

The following confidential message for you from Mr. Bernstein was received through the American Legation in Lisbon under date of July 19, 1944:

"Bertrand Jacobson advised by reliable source that acting Hungarian Charge d' Affaires, Lisbon, received following message dated July 17th. from His Government.

'One. Responding to appeal from Swedish Government Hungarian Government agrees permit emigration to Sweden or Palestine of Jews who have relations living in Sweden or who have business connections there. Two. Responding to appeal of British Government through Swiss Government, Hungarian Government agrees to renew the formerly effective but meanwhile suspended permission of Jews possessing valid entry visas to emigrate Palestine. Three. To the appeal of the War Refugee Board by way of Switzerland, Hungarian Government agrees to admit assistance by International Red Cross for Jews in camps or ghettoes in Hungary and to despatch Jewish children under ten years of age to Palestine. While these measures are being carried out deportations of Jews for labor abroad is suspended. Suggest reserving publicity till confirmation received."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Paille

J. W. Paille
Executive Director

Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant
Aid Society,
425 Lafayette Street,
New York, New York.

EBTowler: 7/22/44

PROPERTY
OF THE
U.S. GOVERNMENT
DO NOT WRITE
ON THIS

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

was Rel. B - Pella

CONTROL COPY

KEM-996

PLIM

Lisbon

Dated July 19, 1944

Rec'd 11:42 p.m.

copy

*7/22/44
Mason sent to
this*

Secretary of State,
Washington.

2230, July 19, 6 p.m.

FROM BERNSTEIN TO HIAS, 425 H. PAVY

NEW YORK

WRB 107. Bertrand Jacobson advised by reliable source that acting Hungarian Charge d' Affaires, Lisbon, received following message dated July 17th. from His Government.

A "One. Responding to appeal from Swedish Government Hungarian Government agrees permit emigration to Sweden or Palestine of Jews who have relations living in Sweden or who have business connections there. Two. Responding to appeal of British Government through Swiss Government, Hungarian Government agrees to renew the formerly effective but meanwhile suspended permission of Jews possessing valid entry visas to emigrate Palestine. Three. To the appeal of the War Refugee Board by way of Switzerland, Hungarian Government

AGREES

d

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
JUL 20 1944

-2- #2230, July 19, 6 p.m., from Lisbon:

agrees to admit assistance by International Red Cross
for Jews in camps or ghettos in Hungary and to despatch
Jewish children under ten years of age to Palestine.
While these measures are being carried out deportations
of Jews for labor abroad is suspended". ¹⁴ SUGGEST
reserving publicity till confirmation received.

HORWEB

EMB

100511

FOREIGN FUNDS CONTROL

To: Miss K. H. [unclear]
(1)

7/18

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

1051

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1051

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Consulate, Istanbul
DATED: May 23, 1944
NUMBER: 277

PHOTOCOPIED COPY

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~
Please deliver the following message from the War Refugee Board to David Schweitzer, Pera Palace Hotel, Istanbul, Turkey:

"Yours eighth concerning situation Hungary we informed Ira Hirschmann received no special information from Joseph Levy. Suggest you cable us details for submission War Refugee Board. Signed, HIAS Asofsky."

HULL

MAY 23 1944

WASHINGTON D.C.
RECEIVED

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 111-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

10051

CABLE TO AMERICAN CONSUL GENERAL, ISTANBUL

Please deliver the following message from the War Refugee Board to David Schweitzer, Pera Palace Hotel, Istanbul, Turkey:

QUOTE. Yours eighth concerning situation Hungary we informed Ira Hirschmann received no special information from Joseph Levy suggest you cable us details for submission War Refugee Board. Signed Asofsky HIAS.
UNQUOTE.

May 18, 1944
3:00 p.m.

L.S.L.
LSLSerials 5/18/44

FAST	RCA	DIRECT																				
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="2">CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED</th> </tr> <tr> <th>FOREIGN</th> <th>DOMESTIC</th> </tr> <tr> <td>FULL RATE</td> <td>FULL RATE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CDE</td> <td>DAY LETTER</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DEFERRED</td> <td>SERIAL SERVICE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>RADIO LETTER</td> <td>NIGHT MESSAGE</td> </tr> <tr> <td>PRESS</td> <td>NIGHT LETTER</td> </tr> </table>	CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED		FOREIGN	DOMESTIC	FULL RATE	FULL RATE	CDE	DAY LETTER	DEFERRED	SERIAL SERVICE	RADIO LETTER	NIGHT MESSAGE	PRESS	NIGHT LETTER	<h2 style="margin: 0;">RADIOGRAM</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS, INC.</h3> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.8em;">A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SERVICE</p>	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">NO.</td> <td style="width: 50%;">CASH OR CHG.</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">NUMBER OF WORDS</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2" style="text-align: center;">TIME FILED</td> </tr> </table>	NO.	CASH OR CHG.	NUMBER OF WORDS		TIME FILED	
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May 17, 1944

NLT DAVID SCHWEITZER
 PERAPALACE HOTEL
 ISTAMBOUL

YOURS EIGHTH CONCERNING SITUATION HUNGARY

WE INFORMED IRA HIRSHMAN RECEIVED NO SPECIAL INFORMATION FROM
 JOSEPH IEVY SUGGEST YOU CABLE US DETAILS FOR SUBMISSION
 WAR REFUGEE BOARD

ASOFSKY HIAS

Main Office: 66 Broad Street, New York, N. Y. (Always Open)

Phone: HAnover 2-1811

FULL-RATE MESSAGE UNLESS MARKED OTHERWISE Charge Hias, 425 Lafayette St., N.Y. - AG

Sender's Name and Address
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FORM 100-1-TA 5838

700510

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IMMIGRANT AI

OFFICER

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Bermuda	France	Japan	Spain
Brazil	French Equatorial Africa	Liberia	Sweden
Chile	French Indo-China	Martinique	Switzerland
China	Germany	Mexico	Syria
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700510

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s in the United States
or to enemy occupied

HEBREW SHELTERING and IMMIGRANT AID SOCIETY



425 LAFAYETTE ST., NEW YORK 3, N. Y.
Telephone ALgonquin 4-2900

Overseas Central Office: HIAS-ICA EMIGRATION ASS'N (HICEM)
Lisbon, Portugal

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- S. J. Weinstein
- Women's Division
Mrs. A. Herman
Miss Elizabeth Lesser
- HIAS Council of Organizations
A. Baron
Louis Collock
Burney Greenberg
Mrs. Rose Tabachnick
Abraham S. Wilk
Louise Zatz
- Women's Council
Mrs. Herman J. Lefert

May 16, 1944

War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D.C.

Attention: Mr. Lesser

Gentlemen:

In accordance with our telephone conversation concerning the cable we received from Mr. David Schweitzer, reading:

DISTRESSING NEWS REACHING HERE FROM HUNGARY CONTACT IRA HIRSHMAN WHO IN RECEIPT OF CABLE FROM JOE LEVY CORRESPONDENT NEWYORK TIMES AND WITH WHO AM IN CONSTANT TOUCH STRONGLY URGE ALONG LINES SUGGESTED TO HIM

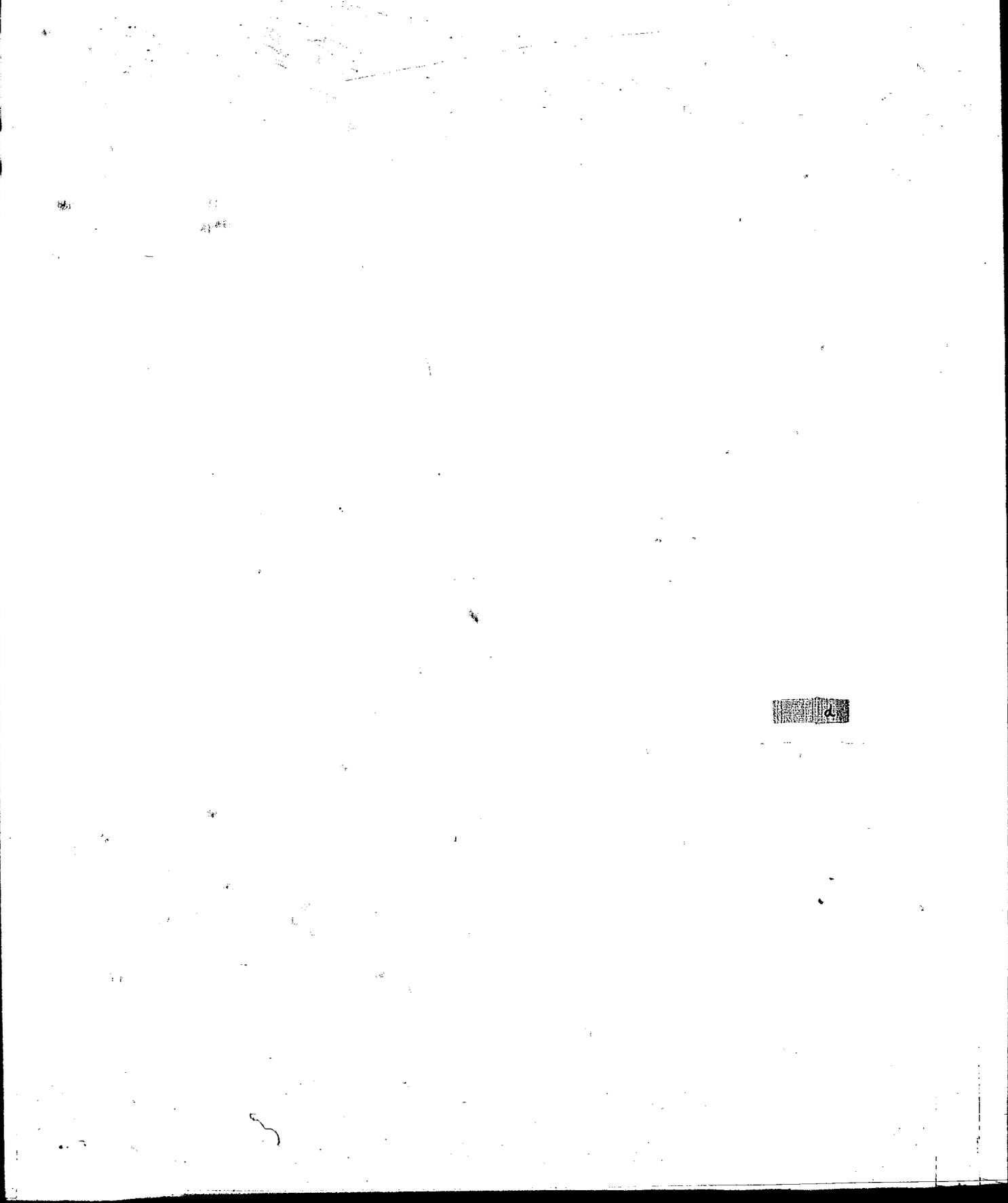
we would appreciate your having the enclosed cable sent to Mr. Schweitzer through the State Department, at our expense.

Very sincerely yours

Isaac I. Asofsky
Isaac I. Asofsky
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AG

Encl



10051

~~SECRET~~
714
Hungary - 5-d

April 5, 1945

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Harold Trobe was received through the United States Embassy in Lisbon under date of April 3, 1945:

"Saly advises 'Red Cross delegate recently visited Budapest estimates present Jewish population approximately 150,000 besides thousands reappearing from deportation labor and concentration camps."

Very truly yours,

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. H. A. Leavitt, Secretary,
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

RBH ✓
RBHatchison: 4/5/45

3-24-45
collected
date of receipt:

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

1945 APR 4 AM 9 11

*Wor Ref 201
O Sawyer*

MB-1858

DC/L
LIAISON

PLAIN

Lisbon

Dated April 3, 1945

Rec'd 10:07 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

CONTROL COPY

714, Third

WRB 375 JDC 211 FOR LEAVITT FROM HAROLD TROBE

Saly advises "Red Cross delegate recently visited
Budapest estimates present Jewish population approximately
150,000 besides thousands reappearing from deportation
labor and concentration camps".

CROCKER

RB

1052

Handwritten: sd
831 3

January 1, 1945

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Joseph Schwartz was received through the American Legation in Bern, under date of December 28, 1944:

"By pouch I have sent to you names of Hungarian Jews who arrived recently in Switzerland and transmitting also complete list of Jewish refugees arriving in Switzerland since August of 1942.

"Since Passman already is in London I will have to cut my stay in France short. However, if it is at all possible will proceed to Belgium.

"Concerning project to admit to Switzerland 14,000 Hungarian Jews, we have been advised officially that there are now 1,000 ready to depart from Budapest and possibly will arrive here soon.

"Please send \$300,000 to Saly Mayer account transportation to Istanbul from Balkans.

"Happy learn annual meeting success."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. M. A. Leavitt, Secretary,
American Jewish Joint Distribution
Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

RS

RDrury 1/1/45

RECEIVED
10/10/44
RECEIVED

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

PH-1801
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (b)(1)

Bern

Dated December 28, 1944

Rec'd 2:55 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

8373 December 28, 9 a.m.
Forward from McClelland.

Kindly deliver following message from Schwartz
to Leavitt of JDC.

Have sent you via pouch names Hungarian Jews
recently arrived Switzerland and also forwarding
full list all Jewish refugees who arrived Switzerland
since August 1942.

Fass man is already in London, therefore will
have to cut short my stay in France. Will, however,
proceed Belgium if at all possible.

In connection with project to admit 14,000
Hungarian Jews to Switzerland, we have been offi-
cially informed that 1,000 are now ready to leave
Budapest and may arrive here shortly.

Please transmit to Saly Mayer \$300,000 account
transportation from Balkans to Istanbul.

Glad hear success annual meeting.

HUDDLE

LES

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

CONTROL COPY

1944 DEC 28 AM 10 04
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
RECEIVED

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL . . . CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

1834 Broadway
~~1300 N. BROADWAY~~

NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

23

April 13, 1944

540

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

CABLES: CONGRESS, NEW YORK
TELEPHONE: LONGACRE 5-2600

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St, W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 2024-90

JERUSALM
Vaad Leumi, P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 174-4

Mr. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Main Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Pursuant to the conversation which Dr. Wise and

I had with you on Monday, I am enclosing a memorandum on news which we got last year dealing with the problem of stopping deportation of the Jews by the Nazis. I would suggest that the following cable be sent to Dr. Rigner:

DR. GERHART RIGNER 37 QUAI WILSON GENEVA SWITZERLAND

EXTREMELY ANXIOUS KNOW WHETHER CONTACTS STILL POSSIBLE WITH WILLY HIS HIGHEST CHIEFS AND SIMILAR AUTHORITIES FOR EVACUATION CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF JEWS ESPECIALLY FROM HUNGARY TO NEUTRAL COUNTRIES OR FOR HALTING DEPORTATIONS AND PERMIT SENDING RELIEF TO INTERNEES ALSO WHAT AMOUNTS WOULD BE REQUIRED WHAT MONEY WHAT PROCEDURES AND WHETHER PART OR ENTIRE AMOUNTS WOULD REMAIN NEUTRAL COUNTRIES ALSO WHETHER TO WHAT EXTENT PAST EXPERIENCES PROVE WILLY HIS PROMISES RELIABLE

Will you please let me know whether you send the cable and whether you change the text. And may I ask you to be good enough to keep us informed of the reply.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,


Nahum Goldmann

1052

4.12.44.

Extraordinary Measures for Rescue of
Jews from Hungary

The World Jewish Congress has been informed time and again, and through various channels, that definite possibilities exist of bribing Gestapo officials and of inducing them to halt deportations or to extend their protection to already deported or interned Jews.

In a letter from the Palestine Labor Delegation in Istanbul, dated July 25, 1943, it is said expressly about the situation in Slovakia: "Three times, the expulsion of the entire community was postponed with the help of money." Concerning Rumania the same letter states: "With the help of money you could always arrange things in this country. Nowadays without it you cannot do a thing." With regard to the smuggling of Jews out of Hungary the letter says: "If we could dispose of larger amounts, we could succeed in saving hundreds and thousands."

This information concurs with details given to us in a letter sent on December 8, 1942 through underground channels from Slovakia. Here is an excerpt from the letter: "Our negotiations progressed so far that with God's help the deportations were stopped and this interruption may last until next Spring; if up to that time we shall be able to arrange the labor camps in a way known to you and if we shall fulfill our obligations, which are also known to you, there is a hope left that no more deportations will be forthcoming until the end of the war. However, should we not meet our obligations, then we will have to face a very grave danger

that, God forbid, the deportations will start anew even this year.

We already informed you that the other side fulfilled their obligations, whereas we are not able to meet them.

So far we paid altogether 62,000 of the United States (? American dollars?) and 1,300,000 ours (Slovakian crowns?), at different dates. On November 15th we had to pay in addition 25,000 notes of United States and 700,000 of ours. However, we don't have one penny and we implore you to have mercy on us as it is impossible to overestimate the magnitude of the danger should we not be able to meet our obligations."

Another excerpt of the same letter reads: "And now as to help for the entire Jewish people: We should like to return to a problem raised in our previous letter, namely: A) There exists a possibility to abolish, or at least diminish, the danger of deportation throughout Europe -from Poland to France, Rumania and Greece; B) There exists a possibility of saving people from being exterminated in Poland. As we told you already in our first letter, the person in charge of Jewish problems, the official of this criminal for all countries, is willing to do this."

Another letter, without date, states the following:

"Wilhelm (or Willy) (a high Gestapo official?) is ready to have a conference with his highest chief who is in charge of all deportees in Poland, so as to settle the entire European question, i.e. stop the action (extermination? deportation?) and do everything in order to improve the conditions of those who are in Poland and make possible a contact with them."

A protocol concerning negotiations which were conducted with that same Wilhelm or Willy states that the following results were achieved:

1. The German Jews who were to have been deported to Poland will be brought to Terezin (Theresienstadt); the assurance was given at the same time that no deportations would take place from Terezin.
2. Authorization was granted to send relief to Terezin and to Poland.

In the course of the conference we had last year with Mr. Karski, the delegate of the Polish Government to the Underground in Poland, he expressed his conviction that it would be possible to obtain from the German government the release of a considerable number of Jews in Axis Europe.

- a) if a number of countries would declare their readiness to receive them,
- b) if a certain ransom would be paid to German authorities for this release.

The catastrophe which has befallen Hungarian Jewry compels us to resort even to such extraordinary methods as suggested by Mr. Karski and the Jewish leaders in Slovakia.

###

1052

Hungary sd

4-86

December 30, 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Robert Pilpel was received through the American Legation in Lisbon under date of December 26, 1944:

"JDC 140. Received cable from Johannesburg from Jewish Appeal advising they think balance their commitment Hungary not needed and they therefore wish to cancel commitment. It was explained to them by cable that contribution from them still necessary accordance with detailed message of 29th of August cabled to them by Schwartz. Schwartz who is at present in Paris has been advised. Pursuant to his instructions request dispatched to Johannesburg for contribution monthly of 10,000,000 francs toward France winter budget. Anticipate their decision following their meeting in January."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. M. A. Leavitt, Secretary,
American Jewish Joint Distribution
Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

RDRury 12/30/44

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

man Rep sub

Lisbon

Dated December 26, 1944

Rec'd 10:04 p.m.

EK
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangements. ([redacted] W)

CONTROL COPY

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LISBON)
DEC 27 PM 4:41
DEPT OF STATE

Secretary of State,
Washington.

4286, December 26, 6 p.m.

THIS IS WRB 278 JDC 140 FROM PILPEL FOR SLEAVITT.

Telegram received from Jewish appeal Johannesburg

stating they believe balance their Hungarian commitment
not needed and therefore they desire cancel it. Ex-
plained to them by cable their contribution still
needed in accordance detailed cable of August 29 from
Schwartz to them. Schwartz now Paris has been notified.
In accordance his instructions request sent Johannesburg
for monthly contribution toward winter budget France of
ten million francs. After their meeting January expect
their decision.

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded:

NORWEB

RR

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

1052

Hungary 5d

December 15, 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Robert Filpel was received through the American Legation in Lisbon under date of December 11, 1944:

"136 Hope you can provide large sums which Mayer states are required for food and clothing Hungary, under new arrangement with Interross supervision. Deportations from Hungary have stopped according to information from Saly."

Very truly yours,

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

Mr. M. A. Leavitt, Secretary,
American Jewish Joint Distribution
Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

RJ

RBHutchison: 12/15/44

1153

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

MF-1373
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. ([redacted] W)

Lisbon

Dated December 11, 1944

Rec'd 3:45 p.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DEC 11 1944
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

4189, December 11, 6 p.m.

Informed by Mayer that large sums required for
food and clothing Hungary which we hope you can pro-
vide. This is under new arrangement for supervision
by Intercross. This is WRB 274 JDC 136 for Leavitt
from Pilpel. Saly also informs us deportations from
Hungary have stopped.

NORWEB

Message sent 12/15/44 res
CONTROL COPY

WSB

[redacted]
For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

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

1053

3304

November 1, 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Robert Pilpel was received through the American Legation in Lisbon under date of October 30, 1944:

"108. It is reported by Mayer that about 70,000 Jews were put into labor camps outside of Budapest; men aged 16 to 60 and women aged 16 to 40. The women number almost double the men. It is suggested by Saly that the Germans and Hungarians be warned again by the Allies. With request for its protest representations have already been made to the Vatican.

"The Hungarian delegation is now in Switzerland, including Kastner. In deportations Hungarians are passive; Nazis make all the arrangements. It is reported by Kastner that cremation factory since the end of August has been idle. Death is not imminent immediately."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Poble

J. W. Poble
Executive Director

Mr. M. A. Leavitt, Secretary,
American Jewish Joint Distribution
Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

✓

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

5 waw
INCOMING TELEGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

By Rd - Pilpel
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

1944 OCT 31 PM 3 57

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
(LIAISON)

DCG-548

Lisbon

Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. ()

Dated October 30, 1944

Rec'd 7:16 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

3304, October 30, 6 p.m.

This is WRB 242 JDC 108 FROM PILPEL FOR LEAVITT.

Mayer reports approximately 70,000 Jews placed
in labor camps outside Budapest, ages men 16 to 30
women 16 to 40. Number of women almost twice that
of men. Saly suggests Allies again warn Germans
and Hungarians. Representations already made to
Vatican asking its protest.

Hungarian delegation including Kastner now in
Switzerland. Hungarian's passive in deportations all
arrangements made by Nazis. Kastner reports cremation
factory idle since end August. Death not immediately
imminent.

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

NORWEB

RR

CONTROL COPY

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

*Message sent
11/1/44 RD*

1053

*I was Rep'd
Lulu*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATE: October 16, 1944
NUMBER: 3523
X

CONTROL COPY

For McClelland, from War Refugee Board.

Please deliver the following message to Saly Mayer from
M. A. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution
Committee:

QUOTE WE AUTHORIZE ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE BEHALF
HUNGARIAN JEWS BOTH FOR RESCUE ACTIVITIES OR RELIEF
IN HUNGARY UP TO \$300,000 ON CONDITION THAT YOU CAN
PURCHASE TICKETS IN SWITZERLAND FROM SOURCES KNOWN
TO YOU TO BE RELIABLE AND SO THAT SWISS CURRENCY WILL
NOT AID ENEMY OR ENEMY COLLABORATIONISTS. UPON YOUR
REQUEST WE WILL TRANSMIT THE SUM TO YOU AND WOULD ASK
YOU SET THIS UP AS A SEPARATE ACCOUNT TO BE REPORTED
ON SEPARATE AID APART FROM OUR REGULAR FUNDS AT YOUR
DISPOSAL UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 214.

HULL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Paris Date SEP 14 1972

1053

5
FROM: ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT
Secretary of State, Washington
TO: Amlegation, Bern
DATED: August 31, 1944
NUMBER: 3004
X

I W. R. H. H.
Pull

CONTROL COPY

FOR MCCLELLAND FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Please deliver the following message to Saly Nayer from M. A. Leavitt
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

QUOTE PLEASE CONTACT MEXICAN LEGATION BERN REGARDING INSTRUCTIONS
THEY RECEIVED FROM MEXICAN GOVERNMENT TO OBTAIN FROM YOU LIST OF
400 OUTSTANDING HUNGARIAN JEWISH COMMUNAL LEADERS, RABBIS ETC. TO
WHOM DOCUMENTS WILL BE ISSUED BY SWEDISH LEGATION BUDAPEST ON BEHALF
MEXICAN GOVERNMENT. THESE DOCUMENTS WILL ENTITLE THESE HUNGARIAN
JEWS TO PROTECTION OF SWEDEN AS PROTECTION POWER FOR MEXICAN
NATIONALS. ASSUME YOU WILL COMPILE LIST OF OUTSTANDING
PERSONALITIES BASIS YOUR OWN KNOWLEDGE AND AFTER CONSULTATION WITH
WHOMEVER YOU BELIEVE DESIRABLE UNQUOTE
THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 152

HULL

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

1053

RECEIVED BOARD
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.
1944 SEP 5 AM 11 07

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON, BERN, FOR MC GLELLAND FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Please deliver the following message to Saly Mayer from M. A. Leavitt,
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

QUOTE PLEASE CONTACT MEXICAN LEGATION BERN REGARDING
INSTRUCTIONS THEY RECEIVED FROM MEXICAN GOVERNMENT TO OBTAIN
FROM YOU LIST OF 400 OUTSTANDING HUNGARIAN JEWISH COMMUNAL
LEADERS, RABBIS ETC. TO WHOM DOCUMENTS WILL BE ISSUED BY
SWEDISH LEGATION BUDAPEST ON BEHALF MEXICAN GOVERNMENT STOP
THESE DOCUMENTS WILL ENTITLE THESE HUNGARIAN JEWS TO PROTECTION
OF SWEDEN AS PROTESTING POWER FOR MEXICAN NATIONALS STOP
ASSUME YOU WILL COMPILE LIST OF OUTSTANDING PERSONALITIES
BASIS YOUR OWN KNOWLEDGE AND AFTER CONSULTATION WITH WHOMEVER
YOU BELIEVE DESIRABLE UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO BERN NO. 152

3:16 p.m.
August 29, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman,
Hornel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Mannon, McCormack, Cable Control Files

RD
ED:ay 8/24/44

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

7. War Ref Bd (Dr.)
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

MJB-29
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement (W).

Received
Dated August 9, 1944

Rec'd 5:30 p.m.

For security reasons the
text of this message must
be closely guarded.

Rehle

Secretary of State,
Washington.

2466, August 9, 5 p.m.

This is WRB 149, JDC 52 replying WRB 67 August 5 for
Leavitt from Schwartz.

No non-Hungarian currency being forwarded Hungary.
Funds available in Switzerland being used for purchase
of pengoes at current rate twenty to dollar. Borrowing
internally impossible as there is practically no cash
in hands Hungarian Jews. Pengoes being transferred
intercross to purchase food and supplies as there is
sufficient food in Hungary if pengoes enough are available.
Therefore unnecessary send in food.

NORWEB

WSB RR

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

*8/11/44
Message sent*

RECEIVED BOARD
SECRETARIES BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.
AUG 11 PM 3 38

AUG 11 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Doctor Schwartz (JDC No. 52) has been received through the American Embassy in Lisbon under date of August 9, 1944:

"No non-Hungarian currency being forwarded Hungary. Funds available in Switzerland being used for purchase of pengoes at current rate twenty to dollar. Borrowing internally impossible as there is practically no cash in hands Hungarian Jews. Pengoes being transferred Interross to purchase food and supplies as there is sufficient food in Hungary if pengoes enough are available. Therefore unnecessary send in food."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. M. A. Leavitt, Secretary,
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York, New York.

JW
phodel;jth 8/11/44

DEPARTMENT

BE Distribution of true
standing only by special
arrangement. (w)

OUTGOING August 3, 1944
TELEGRAM 10 p.m.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

1944 AUG 3 PM 2 47

COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

AMEMBASSY,

LISBON.
2149

The following for Dexter is WRB 64.

CONTROL COPY

Please deliver the following message to Dr. Joseph
Schwartz, 242 Rua Aurea, Lisbon, from Moses A. Leavitt of
the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

QUOTE We cabled Saly Mayer on July 26 INNER QUOTE
Sternbuch cabled Rabbinical group here that 1,200 Hungarian
Rabbis other leaders are now entrained Vienna for deportation.
He claims you refused help to save this group and that immedi-
ate action may still rescue them by repatriation. He also
claims that no understanding has been reached with you for
coordination rescue activities despite such report to WRB.
Orthodox groups here deeply distrubed by this situation and
exerting great pressure on us. We are convinced that you and
McClelland are doing everything to rescue as many people as
possible, but we are not in position to answer such charges
made by Sternbuch. Although we realize that Sternbuch is
concerned primarily with Rabbinical groups we are just as
interested in rescuing these elements and we hope that every
effort is being made to save them and that every possible
measure is utilized by you to effect their rescue. Please
cable

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

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

-2- #2149, August 1, 10 p.m. to Lisbon

cable soonest END INNER QUOTE Can you ascertain whether
this group similar to 1200 to 1700 you reported from Ankara
as en route to Spain STOP Urgent you send us soonest as full
information as available STOP Remitted \$50,000 to British
Passport Control Office Istanbul STOP Accordance your analysis
Balkan rescue program for 5700 people we estimate total cost
to us would be \$2,050,000 which we authorize STCP View your
plan to transfer Resnik to Lisbon shall we still set up
\$100,000 revocable credit as you requested UNQUOTE

STETTINIUS
(Acting)
(GLW)

WRB:MMV:KG
7/31/44

S/CR

WE

BWP

000541

9 44

BOARD
D.C.

Miss Crauncey (For the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodai,
Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Mr. Con, McCormack, Cable Control Files.

ORDER TO REPLY

From War Refugee Board to Norweb

Please deliver the following message to Dr. Joseph Schwartz,
242 Rua Aurea, Lisbon, from Moses A. Leavitt of the American Jewish
Joint Distribution Committee:

"We cabled Saly Mayer on July 26 QUOTE Sternbuch cabled
Rabbinical group here that 1,200 Hungarian Rabbis other leaders
are now entrained Vienna for deportation. He claims you refused
help to save this group and that immediate action may still rescue
them by repatriation. He also claims that no understanding has
been reached with you for coordination rescue activities despite
such report to WRB. Orthodox groups here deeply disturbed by
this situation and exerting great pressure on us. We are convinced
that you and McClelland are doing everything to rescue as many
people as possible, but we are not in position to answer such
charges made by Sternbuch. Although we realize that Sternbuch is
concerned primarily with Rabbinical groups we are just as interested
in rescuing these elements and we hope that every effort is being
made to save them and that every possible measure is utilized by
you to effect their rescue. Please cable soonest. UNQUOTE Can
you ascertain whether this group similar to 1200 to 1700 you re-
ported from Ankara as en route to Spain STOP Urgent you send us
soonest as full information as available STOP Remitted \$50,000 to
British Passport Control Office Istanbul STOP Accordance your analysis
Balkan rescue program for 5700 people we estimate total cost to us
would be \$2,060,000 which we authorize STOP View your plan to trans-
fer Resnik to Lisbon shall we still set up \$100,000 revocable credit
as you requested"

July 29, 1944
9:30 a.m.

Hlab 7/28/44

THIS IS WRB CABLE NO. 64

100544

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

2 mar ref 28. rehle
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS
CONTROL COPY

MJB-612
This telegram must be
paraphrased before being
communicated to anyone
other than a Government
agency. (~~RESTRICTED~~).

Jerusalem
Dated July 25, 1944
Rec'd 8:30 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

103, July 25, 1 p.m.
FOR WRB

DIVISION OF
JUL 26 1944

*7/27/44
Message sent
to Leavitt
JDC*

Joseph Schwartz requests following message be
sent to Leavitt JDC, New York.

"209. Hungarian Minister at Ankara has advised
Barlas Palestine certificate holders whose names are
registered with Swiss Consulate, Budapest, will be
given exit permits and allowed to proceed to Palestine.
There are now 8000 families holding certificates
representing approximately 20,000 individuals. Also
children up to ten years will be permitted to leave for
Palestine in accordance with request of War Refugee
Board which also asked that food be permitted to be
sent to Hungary through International Red Cross which
request was also granted. Further at the request of
Swedish Government all Jewish families in Hungary
having any connection with families in Sweden will be
permitted

7 0 0 5 4

-2-#103, July 25, 1 p.m., from Jerusalem

permitted to depart either for Sweden or Palestine. For the time being and while these decisions are being carried out deportations from Hungary stopped and it is hoped that departure certificate holders will begin within fourteen days. Most important we do everything possible together with Jewish agency agreed early departure first group in order to demonstrate practicality of this program and thus maintain also stoppage deportations. Therefore it is important that we authorize Istanbul to proceed at once with arrangements shipping at least 2,000 persons and that we guarantee cover eighty percent costs agency supplying balance. Costs of sea journey might involve five to six hundred thousand but no details yet available. Please send your authorization to Lisbon where now proceeding."

PINKERTON

RNK WSB

7 0 0 5 4 4

52 DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM CORRECTION

War Ref - Bd Ref
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DSH
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government Agency. (RESTRICTED)
DEPARTMENT OF STATE 1944
JUL 20 1944

CONTROL COPY

In telegram No. 103, July 25, 1 p.m., from Jerusalem, in second paragraph delete the number "800" and insert "8000". Sentence should read "There are now 8,000 families holding certificates", et cetera.

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

MJK

70054

7-21-44
JUL 21 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following confidential message for you from Mr. Pilpel has been received through the American Embassy in Lisbon under date of July 19:

"JDC 29, WRB 106. Saly advises murder and deportation ended Hungary at least time being. Children under 11 permitted emigrate and adults holding Palestine certificates also permitted emigrate. Possibility group from Hungary containing thousand plus may be en route Spain. Possibility another group 500 Yugoslav children from Hungary, may come Spain destined Tangiers. International Red Cross has been authorized provide assistance Hungary."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Moses A. Leavitt,
Secretary,
American Jewish Joint
Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

FHodel/sg 7/21/44

100544

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

I was R/Bd - P/lt
INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

HIS-31

PL-11

Lisbon

Dated July 18, 1944

Rec'd 6:17 a.m., 20th

Secretary of State,
Washington.

2231, [redacted] 1944, 6 p.m.

FOR LEAVITT FROM PTLE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 20
DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

JDC 29, WRB 106. Saly advises murder and
deportation ended Hungary at least time being.
Children under 11 permitted emigrate and adults
holding Palestine certificates also permitted
emigrate. Possibility group from Hungary containing
thousand plus may be en route Spain. Possibility
another group 500 Yugoslav children from Hungary
may come Spain destined Tangiers. International
Red Cross has been authorized provide assistance
Hungary. "

NORVEB

WMB WSB

*7/21/44
Message sent
to heart
net*

100547

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: June 27, 1944
NUMBER: 2183

*J. War by Bd.
J.W. Pehle*

FROM J. W. PEHLE, WAR REFUGEE BOARD FOR McCLELLAND

Through Lisbon JDC here has been advised of message from Saly Mayer concerning his contacts in Budapest who have suggested that payment of \$200,000 in Hungary might stop deportations and even allow some departures for safer countries.

Please discuss this in detail with Saly Mayer and ascertain whether payment in question could be blocked in Switzerland and, if not, whether payment could be made in installments and in what currency. I would appreciate an immediate report from you giving your personal views as to the proposal.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 67.

HULL

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

100541

INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED
JUN 26 1944
FBI - BOSTON

0576

CABLE TO HARRISON FOR McCLELLAND FROM J.W. PEHLE, WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Through Lisbon JDC here has been advised of message from Saly Mayer concerning his contacts in Budapest who have suggested that payment of \$200,000 in Hungary might stop deportations and even allow some departures for safer countries.

Please discuss this in detail with Saly Mayer and ascertain whether payment in question could be blocked in Switzerland and, if not, whether payment could be made in installments and in what currency. I would appreciate an immediate report from you giving your personal views as to the proposal.

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 57.

June 26, 1944
9:10 a.m.

JW

FH:lab 6/24/44

7 0 0 5 4

MAY 10 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following confidential message for you from Dr. Schwartz was received under date of May 8, 1944:

"Selymayer reports connection Budapest resumed. Under date April 25 Budapest says no immediate danger life or group evacuation. Think payment \$200,000 may stop deportation and even allow some departures for safer countries. Believe 600 children possess Hungarian permission depart for Istanbul immediately when water transport secured. It is belief local community that formal statement from United States that American visas available to children and adults might help. Fearing what might happen some have gone to Rumania and Slovakia where for moment situation little easier. Relief amounting to 400,000 Swiss francs remitted within ten days previous to report. Our credit plan still functioning, extent unknown. Munkarp neighborhood especially had exceptional plans being made. Selymayer asks monthly allocation be sent him at once."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Moses A. Leavitt,
Secretary,
American Jewish Joint
Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York 10, New York.

EAT HSTowler:act 5-10-44

CONTROL COPY

5/10/44

Ullrich & Co. Inc.
Rec'd to [unclear]

EJ-38
This telegram must be
paraphrased before being
communicated to anyone
other than a Governmental
agency. (SCOO)

Lisbon

Dated May 5, 1944

Rec'd 8:50 a.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1355, May 5, 11 a.m.

NRB 20. FOR LEAVITT' JOINT NEW YORK FROM SCHWARTZ

Salymayer reports connection Budapest resumed.

Under date April 25 Budapest says no immediate danger
life or group evacuation. Think payment \$200,000 may
stop deportation and even allow some departures for
safer countries. Believe 600 children possess Hungarian
permission depart for Istanbul immediately when water
transport secured. It is belief local community that
formal statement from United States that American
visas available to children and adults might help.
Fearing what might happen some have gone to Rumania
and Slovakia where for moment situation little easier.
Relief amounting to 400,000 Swiss francs remitted
within ten days previous to report. Our credit plan
still functioning, extent unknown. Hankarp neighbor-
hood especially bad exceptional plans being made.
Salymayer asks monthly allocation be sent him at once.

NORWEB

WSB
REB

10055

APR 5 1944

Dear Dr. Wise:

The following confidential message for you from Gerhardt M. Riegner was received from the American Legation, Bern, under date of March 25, 1944:

"Because of recent political developments in Hungary I'm most anxious about latest report Hungarian Jewry numbering about 800,000 and only existing important section European Jewry. Anglo-Saxon personalities, Jewish and non-Jewish, including leaders of Protestant and Catholic Churches and outstanding Americans of Hungarian origin have suggested that a world-wide appeal be addressed to Hungarian people warning them to endeavor to keep Jews by every possible means from falling into German hands and not to permit application of policy of extermination of Jews by Hungarian Quislings or German butchers.

"That one of the most important tests of behavior to be considered by the United Nations in post-war peace settlement will be the attitude of the Hungarian people towards Jews should be particularly a part of the warning.

"Similar broadcasts should be made in Hungarian language every night during the next few weeks."

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
President,
World Jewish Congress,
330 West 42nd Street,
New York, New York.

FH:lab 4/4/44

*was signed by
Mr. Piller
Loring
Message sent to
Dr. Wise 4/15/44
JH.*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: March 25, 1944
NUMBER: 1840

CONTROL COPY

Following is the substance of a message for
Dr. Stephen S. Wise, President, World Jewish Congress,
330 West 42nd Street, New York, from Gerhardt M. Riegner,
World Jewish Congress, Geneva:

Because of recent political developments in Hungary
I'm most anxious about latest report Hungarian Jewry
numbering about 800,000 and only existing important section
European Jewry. Anglo-Saxon personalities, Jewish and non-
Jewish, including leaders of Protestant and Catholic
Churches and outstanding Americans of Hungarian origin
have suggested that a world-wide appeal be addressed to
Hungarian people warning them to endeavor to keep Jews by
every possible means from falling into German hands and
not to permit application of policy of extermination of
Jews by Hungarian Quislings or German butchers.

That one of the most important tests of behavior to
be considered by the United Nations in post-war peace
settlement will be the attitude of the Hungarian people
towards Jews should be particularly a part of the warning.

Similar

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

10055

Similar broadcasts should be made in Hungarian language every night during the next few weeks.

HARRISON

00055

2

700555

*War Ref. Bd.
m-able*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: SECRETARY OF STATE, WASHINGTON
TO: AMCONSULATE GENERAL, ISTANBUL
DATED: July 6, 1944
NUMBER: 315

Copy
CONTROL COPY

[REDACTED]
The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Mr. Leon P. Denenberg:

QUOTE Received your interesting report of June 19. Eagerly awaiting further details. Certainly approve man for Hungary if feasible. List follows of endangered political Hungarians. Transmitted your message Pat to which he replies, "Zionist Organization of America cabled Barlas representing Jewish agency Istanbul our first list containing 168 names Hungarian Jewish notables for certificates additional list of 600 more will follow. Please take care facilitate exit. Have provided relief refugees Shanghai through Polish Embassy. However inform future possibilities and contacts. Working concerning your request names Rumanian Jews. Advice will follow. Use list of Barlas in case other rescue facilities. Cable all data available situation Polish Jews regards." Cabled Bertholet contact you Istanbul. You cable us names most endangered people claiming possession Western Hemisphere nationality.

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE AND RELIEF COMMITTEE.

SHEBA STRUNSKY. UNQUOTE

HULL

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

700550

Life Asst. B.
372
DYNES:
10:
VACOMEN
SACHTER
OSICI

CABLE TO AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL, ISTANBUL, TURKEY

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Mr. Leon F. Denenberg:

QUOTE received your interesting report of June 19. Eagerly awaiting further details. Certainly approve man for Hungary if feasible. List follows of endangered political Hungarians. Transmitted your messages pat to which he replies, "Zionist Organization of America cabled Barlas representing Jewish agency Istanbul our first list containing 168 names Hungarian Jewish notables for certificates additional list of 600 more will follow. Please take care facilitate exit. Have provided relief refugees Shanghai through Polish Embassy. However inform future possibilities and contacts. Working concerning your request names Roumanian Jews. Advice will follow. Use list of Barlas in case other rescue facilities. Cable all data available situation Polish Jews regards." Cabled Bertholet contact you Istanbul. You cable us names most endangered people claiming possession Western Hemisphere nationality.

SHEBA STRUNSKY
INTERNATIONAL RESCUE AND RELIEF COMMITTEE UNQUOTE

July 3, 1944
1:40 p.m.

BA. L.S.L.
BKKZIN:AR 0730/44

70055

FAST		RCA	DIRECT
CLASS-OF SERVICE DESIRED		<h2 style="margin: 0;">RADIOGRAM</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS, INC.</h3> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.8em;">A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SERVICE</p> <p style="margin: 0; font-size: 0.8em;">TO ALL THE WORLD — BETWEEN IMPORTANT U.S. CITIES — TO SHIPS AT SEA</p>	NO. CASH OR CHG.
FOREIGN	DOMESTIC		NUMBER OF WORDS
FULL RATE	FULL RATE		
CODE	DAY LETTER		TIME FILED
URGENT	SERIAL SERVICE		
DEFERRED	NIGHT MESSAGE		
RADIO LETTER	NIGHT LETTER		

Send the following Radiogram *"Via RCA"* subject to terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

June 28, 1944

LEON P. DENENBERG
 AMERICAN CONSULATE
 ISTANBUL
 TURKEY

RECEIVED YOUR INTERESTING REPORT OF JUNE 19TH.
 EAGERLY AWAITING FURTHER DETAILS, CERTAINLY
 APPROVE MAN FOR HUNGARY IF FEASIBLE. ~~STOP~~ LIST
 FOLLOWS OF ENDANGERED POLITICAL HUNGARIANS. ~~STOP~~
 TRANSMITTED YOUR MESSAGES PAT TO WHICH HE REPLIES
 QUOTE ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA CABLED BARLAS
 REPRESENTING JEWISH AGENCY ISTANBUL OUR FIRST LIST
 CONTAINING 168 NAMES HUNGARIAN JEWISH NOTABLES FOR
 CERTIFICATES ADDITIONAL LIST OF 800 MORE WILL FOLLOW
 STOP PLEASE TAKE CARE FACILITATE EXIT STOP HAVE
 PROVIDED RELIEF REFUGEES SHANGHAI THROUGH POLISH
 EMBASSY HOWEVER INFORM FUTURE POSSIBILITIES AND
 CONTACTS STOP WORKING CONCERNING YOUR REQUEST NAMES
 ROUMANIAN JEWS ADVICE WILL FOLLOW STOP USE LIST
 OF BARLAS IN CASE OTHER RESCUE FACILITIES STOP CABLE
 ALL DATA AVAILABLE SITUATION POLISH JEWS REGARDS
 UNQUOTE ~~CABLED~~ BERTHOLET CONTACT YOU ISTANBUL
 FULL-RATE MESSAGE UNLESS MARKED OTHERWISE

Sender's Name and Address
 (Not to be transmitted)
 Form 1001, ZA 000

70055

FAST		RCA	DIRECT
CLASS-OF SERVICE DESIRED		 RADIOGRAM R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS INC. <small>A RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA SERVICE</small>	NO. CASH OR CHG.
FOREIGN	DOMESTIC		
FULL RATE	FULL RATE		
CDE	DAY LETTER		
URGENT	SERIAL SERVICE		NUMBER OF WORDS
DEFERRED	NIGHT MESSAGE		TIME FILED
RADIO LETTER	NIGHT LETTER		
TO ALL THE WORLD — BETWEEN IMPORTANT U. S. CITIES — TO SHIPS AT SEA			

Send the following Radiogram "Via RCA" subject to terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

- 2 -

June 28, 1944

LEON P. DENENBERG AMERICAN CONSULATE ISTANBUL TURKEY

us

YOU CABLE ~~THE~~ NAMES MOST ENDANGERED PEOPLE
 CLAIMING POSSESSION WESTERN HEMISPHERE
 NATIONALITY *Int. Rescue & Relief Comm.*
 SHEBA STRUNSKY

FULL-RATE MESSAGE UNLESS MARKED OTHERWISE

Sender's Name and Address (Not to be transmitted) International Rescue and Relief Committee, 10th Park
 Form 194L TA 646

100560

CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE OF RADIOGRAMS

Radiograms of all classes may be filed at any R.C.A. Communications office. Overseas and shore-to-ship radiograms in the United States. Domestic radiograms to points served by the R.C.A. Communications, Inc. will be accepted at any Western Union Telegraph Company in those cities which are included in the R.C.A.C. domestic network.

ALL MESSAGES ACCEPTED BY THIS COMPANY ARE SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

1. To guard against mistakes, the sender of every radiogram should order it repeated; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office for comparison. The additional charge for this service is: for CDE and CDE URGENT messages, one-half the CDE rate; for other classes of messages one-half the full rate.
2. Unless otherwise indicated on its face, this is an unrepeatable radiogram and paid for as such, in consideration whereof it is agreed between the sender of the message and this company as follows:
 1. This Company shall not be liable in any case for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery of any message, beyond its own terminals. In forwarding this message to the stations or over the circuits or lines of any other communications agency this Company is hereby made the agent of the sender without liability for mistakes, neglects or delays of such other communications agency, its agents or servants.
 2. The Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the unrepeatable message rate, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum of five hundred dollars; nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any message received for transmission at the specially valued message rate, whether caused by the negligence of its servants or otherwise, beyond the sum at which such message shall be valued, in writing, by the sender thereof when tendered for transmission and for which payment is made of the amount of the repeated message rate plus an additional charge equal to one-tenth of one percent of the amount by which such written valuation shall exceed five thousand dollars.
 3. The Company shall not be liable in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruptions in the working of its circuits, or by civil or military authority, or by wars, insurrections, riots, rebellions, or the unlawful acts of individuals; nor for errors in cipher or obscure messages.
 4. No responsibility attaches to this Company concerning messages until the same are accepted at one of its transmitting offices. If a message is sent to such office by messenger, whether supplied by the Company or not, the messenger acts for that purpose as the agent of the sender; if by telephone or by telegraph the person receiving the message acts therein as agent of the sender, and is authorized to assent to those conditions on behalf of the sender.
 5. The Company will not be liable for damages or statutory penalties in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after the message is filed with the Company for transmission; provided, however, that this condition shall not apply to claims for damages or overcharges within the purview of Section 415 of the Communications Act of 1934.
 6. It is agreed that in any action by the Company to recover the tolls for any message or messages the prompt and correct transmission and delivery thereof shall be presumed, subject to rebuttal by competent evidence.
 7. The special terms governing the transmission of the messages classified below shall apply to such messages in addition to the foregoing terms.
 8. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing terms.

FOREIGN

Full-Rate Radiograms—An expedited service throughout. Plain and Cipher language admitted.

Deferred, Half-Rate Radiograms—Half rate messages are subject to being deferred in favor of full rate messages for not exceeding 24 hours. They must be written in plain language and in one language only. Any language authorized for international telegraphic correspondence may be used. Figure groups must not exceed one-third of the text and signature. Deferred service is available to most countries of the world.

Urgent Rate Radiograms—Take precedence over all other commercial messages. The word "Urgent" should be written as the first word of the address.

CDE Rates—Radiograms in code language are accepted at 60 percent of the ordinary or Urgent Rates, according to the class of service desired. Code words are limited to five letters. Figure groups may not exceed 50 percent of the total number of words in text and signature.

Radioteletype—Radioteletype messages are of two

CLASSES OF SERVICE

classes, either NLT or DLT, according to whichever class is admitted by the country of destination. NLT are delivered not earlier than the morning after the day of filing. DLT are delivered not earlier than the morning of the second day after filing. Radioteletype must be written in plain language and in one language only. Any language authorized for international telegraphic correspondence may be used. Figure groups must not exceed one-third of the text and signature.

DOMESTIC

Full-Rate Radiograms—An expedited service throughout.

Day Letters—A deferred day service at reduced rates.

Day Letters may be forwarded by the Company as deferred messages and the transmission and delivery of such Day Letters is, in all respects, subordinate to the priority of transmission and delivery of Full Rate Radiograms.

Day Letters are received subject to the express understanding and agreement that the Company does not undertake that a Day

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing terms.

R.C.A. COMMUNICATIONS, Inc.
56 Broad Street, New York, N. Y.
DAVID SARNOFF, President.

Letter shall be delivered on the day of its date absolutely, and at all events; but that the Company's obligation in this respect is subject to the condition that there shall remain sufficient time for the transmission and delivery of such Day Letter on the day of its date during regular office hours, subject to the priority of the transmission of Full Rate Radiograms under the conditions named above.

Serial Service—Individuals or firms may send any number of Serial Messages during any one day to the same person or firm and the words in each message will be accumulated to a daily total and charged at the Serial Service rate. A minimum of 15 words per serial message will apply. Serial Service messages are accepted for prompt transmission and delivery.

Night Messages (For Mexico only)—Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. at reduced rates to be sent during the night and delivered not earlier than the morning of the ensuing business day.

Night Letters—Accepted up to 2:00 A.M. for delivery on the morning of the ensuing business day.

No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing conditions.

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Toungan

May 9, 1944

Mr. Laurence Lesser
War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Lesser:

I am writing you now for the Unitarian Service Committee. Someone in your office referred to us a group of Hungarians in New York, headed by Dr. Erno Wittmann, who are greatly concerned about their relations in Hungary. As of course the War Refugee Board cannot deal with individual cases, the Board referred this group to the Unitarian Service Committee and I have been working on a plan with Dr. Wittmann for some days now. The plan, to operate, requires however some co-operation from the War Refugee Board and that is the reason I am submitting this statement and these documents to you.

Let me say that there is no question about the trustworthiness of this group of individuals. I have in my possession a letter from Chauncey L. Waddell, a New York Lawyer at 55 Liberty Street, and another letter from Charles M. Walton, Jr., of the law firm of Wilkie, Owen, Otis, Farr & Gallagher at 15 Broad Street, New York, stating that Dr. Wittmann is a man of highest integrity and can be completely trusted. As the assistance of the War Refugee Board is requested simply in the matter of communications, let me say also that the Unitarian Service Committee will guarantee all expenses of cables, etc., that you may incur.

I am sending you herewith two complete sets of documents. The significance of them will be explained in the copy of the letter addressed to me by Dr. Wittmann. It is proposed that any activities carried on in Switzerland by the legal representative of Dr. Wittmann's group shall be entirely legal activities, that is, not illegal or clandestine activities.

My request is that you take the following steps to facilitate this effort at rescue:

1. Send the cable to Dr. Otto Peyer in code at our expense.
2. Send the cable to Mr. Field in code at our expense.
3. Send the letter to Dr. Otto Peyer through the Vatican pouch. You will notice in Dr. Wittmann's letter to me that he has been assured by Father Carol that such a letter would be sent through the Nuncio in Berne to Dr. Peyer if the request comes from the War Refugee Board. Of course no one has any objection to any proper censorship by any American authorities, although it is hoped that in view of the critical emergency there will be no delay.
4. Send my letter to Noel H. Field, director for Switzerland of the Unitarian Service Committee, by the same method.
5. Three days after the cable to Dr. Peyer has been sent, send all other cables except Nos. 8, 21-a, 21-b, 23, and 26.
6. Three days later still send cables 8, 21-a, 21-b, 23, and 26.

It is quite important that this chronology should be observed in the dispatching of letters and cables. A great deal of thought has been given to the plan by those responsible for it.

Lists 1, 2, and 3, which are sent to you for your information and for censorship purposes, are to be explained as follows:

List 1 is the complete list of twenty-five individuals who with Dr. Wittmann form the group that stands back of this enterprise. References are given for every individual who is not an American citizen.

List 2, the Arabic numerals of which refer to the Arabic numerals in List 1, contains the names of the persons in Hungary who it is hoped may be helped.

List 3, the Arabic numerals of which again refer to the same numbers in Lists 1 and 2, contains the names

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of the people in Switzerland who will supply information to the lawyer, Dr. Feyer, concerning the people to be helped. The names in List No. 2 will not be sent abroad in any complete way with the exception of certain people for whom no sponsors can be found in Switzerland. The information about these will be sent in cable No. 26 signed by myself. The reason why certain cables are sent after others is that these later cables contain full names and addresses and therefore should be as much as possible dissociated from other communications for reasons of security.

You will find a final document included in the batch I am sending you, which contains for the censors full information concerning the names mentioned in the various cables.

Either Dr. Wittmann or I will be glad to supply any other information that you or the censors need concerning this whole matter. I am sorry to trouble you about this but it is, even from your point of view, it seems to me worth exploring, for if this chance of serving people from Hungary exists, the War Refugee Board should know about it and should take advantage of it. I shall be very grateful, and I am sure Dr. Wittmann and his friends will share my gratitude, if you can see that these letters and messages are routed quickly through the Board and other agencies that may have to deal with them, and sent on their way. I have no doubt that some of these people are already in concentration camps or deported to Poland. Time therefore presses.

Cordially yours,

h
encl.

Charles R. Joy
Acting Executive Director

7 0 5 6

May 9, 1944

Dr. Otto Peyer
Bahnhofstrasse 70
Zurich, Switzerland

Dear Sir:

A group of Hungarians in New York has requested us to look after their friends and relations in Hungary, whose situation is described to us as follows:

The Hungarian statute of 1938 concerning Jews exempted persons whose ancestors had been born in Hungary before 1848 and who had been baptized before August 1, 1919; also half-Jews, Jews married to gentiles, etc., if baptized /called hereafter "assimilated"/.

The Nuremberg laws, which went into effect after the occupation of Hungary, cancelled all these exemptions. a considerable number of people, probably 20,000 or 30,000, who were protected by the Hungarian Government, mainly at the instigation of their churches, have lost their protection.

A few Hungarian refugees in the United States, who belong to the class of "assimilated," are trying to help their friends and relatives who remain in Hungary. These persons will be named to you by those whose names you find on the attached list who will be called hereafter "sponsors;" the persons the "sponsors" will name to you will hereafter be called "friends."

In this connection you are requested:

- a/ to obtain information about conditions in Hungary through persons familiar with Hungary like Perry, Jacques Kanitz, Eduard Wyss, and the former representative of Loew, Appern.
- b/ If exit permits obtainable:
to inform the "friends": that if they desire to leave Hungary you will act in their name and obtain for them German and Hungarian exit permits; that funds for their maintenance will be provided by us and that when later they may be able to leave Switzerland, visas and transit visas will be secured. All information must be forwarded

May 9, 1944

Mr. Noel H. Field
12 Rue du Vieux College
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Noel:

Conditions of communication are such today that it is a long time since I have actually sat down to write a letter to you, and this letter must be unfortunately a business letter in the main, since we cannot use special facilities granted to us for social correspondence. Let me just say that everything changes so rapidly in this work that we never know where we are or where we are going to be a week hence. You have probably heard already that the War Relief Board has asked Dr. Dexter to be their official attache in Lisbon and that the Unitarian Service Committee has given him a leave of absence and has appointed Elisabeth Dexter temporarily as acting European commissioner, until the Committee can decide what more permanent arrangement it wishes to make.

In the second place, the Board has asked me to go to Cairo to be their official attache there and the Committee and I have agreed, though the arrangement is subject to certain official approvals not yet secured. This again will be a leave of absence from the work of the Committee and no one knows how long the special work of the War Relief Board may last.

The special business concerning which I wish to write you has to do with the enclosed letter to Dr. Otto Peyer, an attorney in Zurich, which is I think self-explanatory. You will already have received from me a brief cable concerning this matter. I am not very hopeful about the success of the enterprise but none of us feels like neglecting any chance of success, however remote it may be, and the people in back of this move in America are a very able and distinguished group of people.

The financial guarantees come from the group itself and are wholly satisfactory to the Service Committee. The moment the Committee receives any intimation that funds are needed in Switzerland for this enterprise, they will be sent to you. No limit has been put upon the amount of

7056

Letter to ...
to ...
a long time since I ...
acquisitions of ...

Dear ...
General ...
18 Rue de ...
Mr. ...

money that may be available, though of course you should not give Dr. Peyer the impression that there are limitless funds available. Presumably Dr. Peyer, and not us, would be asked to give any necessary guarantees to the Swiss government in the way of sustenance and visas and I think probably it would be well to insist, if this does not endanger the plan, that Dr. Peyer act in all instances, your function being simply to serve him with any counsel you can give him and also as the channel through which funds and communications may reach him. You should keep a record of any expenses involved, cables, etc., and have them added to Dr. Peyer's account with the group of Hungarians here.

That is all that I think you need to know at the moment. Indeed, except for the names of individuals involved -- the group in Hungary numbers about a hundred -- it is all that I know about it.

Give my affectionate greetings to Herta. I have an appointment tomorrow to see your mother and I know she would want to send her love to you both if she knew of my writing you today. I hope military efforts may quickly open the door to Switzerland so that we can get in to see you, or better still bring you out to see us.

Faithfully yours,

Charles R. Joy
Acting Executive Director

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10056

Explanation of Cable No 21/0.

Refers to Form 21

Explanation of Cable No 22.

See List II/22

Explanation of Cable No 23

Reference to Form

Reference to

No 24.

No cable

Explanation of Cable No 25

List II/25 refers also to List No II/12

700577

Explanation to Cable No 1

Addressee Jaques Locher is the director of the Cerealia Ltd. Formerly
A. Tennenbaum & Co., Zurich, my former firm.

Name mentioned Amy is Mrs. Amy Aozel, 125 East 80th Street, New York City,
a relative of mine. List 2 No. 1.

Margit is her brother-in-law Mr. Marczk Aozel, Budapest.

Both her daughters are the two daughters of Mrs Aozel,

Mrs Tibor Nagy and Mrs Andor Vasarhelyi, their families are

the husbands and a child of each of the daughters, all Hungarian

Richard A Tennenbaum, 507 Produce Exchange, New York, N.Y.

Explanation of Cable No. 2.

Joe is Mr. Joe Bailey, 15 William Street, New York City, other details see
List 2 No. 2.

Explanation of Cable No. 3.

Andrew is Mr. Andrew de Balogh.

Ilona his mother

Szekesard where she and the addressee were both born is used to help Mr.

Ferry to remember her

Cable No. 4.

Will be submitted later.

77057

Cable No. 5 A

Laci Hungarian diminutive of Lasso,
Father and Klari Moric Berger and Klari Telek-Berger, rest of cable
refers to cable NO. 14, Mr. Paul Karn and his father and sister.

Cable No. 5 BX

Julius is Julius Hollo, M.D. of 1100, Park Avenue New York, father-
in-law of L. Berger, cable refers to Irma Hollo and Samu Szuss.

No. 6 no cable.

Cable No. 7.

Dr. Emil Delmar, list 2/7 refers to his family,
Ernoe is Dr. Ernoe Wittmann list 2/25 who is personally acquainted
with Dr. Popper, who was a well known lawyer in Vienna.

Cable No. 8.

self-explanatory.

9 no cable.

Cable No. 10.

Nicholas is Mr. Nicholas Vida, nephew of Mr. Adalbert Greiner
Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Vida are his parents
Mr. Rene Monod is a well known ~~1/1/1/1~~ banker in Geneva, knows Mr. Vida
only.

Cable No. 11.

Hugo Kammer, Jolly is Mrs. Neumann, Ella is Hugo Kammer's wife, Alfred is

Alfred Kammer, Agnes is Agnes Kammer.

Cable No. 12.

George Katona is a nephew of Dr. Ernoe Wittmann No. 25, see cable under 25.

Cable No. 13.

Mada is Mrs. Herzfeld-Kelen, wife of Dr. Alexander Kelen
Alexander is Doctor Alexander Kelen.

Cable No. 14.

Heinrichs full name is Franz Heinrich, cousin of Dr. Kern and connected with the union textile works in Budapest. His name is mentioned, because Dr. Kerns Father and sister are unknown to the addressee of the cable, who is a friend of Heinrichs.

Cable No. 15.

Lazarico is Mr. Lazar Benveniste, a Spanish citizen, living in Lausanne, Switzerland, an old friend of Mr. Kuffler.

Cable No. 16.

Mr. Bertalan Magyar, cable refers to persons on list 2/16.

Cable No. 17.

Gabor is Hungarian Gabriel, see list 2/17.

Explanation to Cable No 18/a

Willy is Mr William Fellner,

Valerie his wife, Mrs. William Fellner

Explanation to Cable 18/b

Vili is William in hungarian

Vali is Valerie in hungarian

Explanation to Cable No 19

George is Dr. George Perl, see persons on list II/19

Explanation to Cable No 20

Oscar is Mr Oscar Pfeffer

Eugen is Eugen Grusner his brother-in-law

Stefi is Stefi Strnadl an old friend

Explanation to Cable No 21/a

See list II/21 refers to persons to be helped except Forbaths

Explanation to Cable No 21/b

10057

List I

1. Mrs. Edward Aczél, 125 East 50th Str., New York City

References: Mr. B. L. Brickhouse, Vice-President of
the Guaranty Trust Company of New York,
140 Broadway, New York City.

Mrs. I. B. H. Kuper, 17 Traill Street, Cambridge, Mass

2. Joe Ballay /Ballay & Co./ 15 William Street, New York City.

American citizen

3. Mr. Andrew de Balogh, 405 East 54th Str., New York City

References: Andrew Gomori, Vice-president of the
Manufacturers Trust Co., New York City.

H. I. Frank, attorney with Messrs. Riegelman
Strasser Schwartz & Spiegelberg, 160 Broadway,
New York City.

4. Dr. Victor Bátor, attorney, 30 East 72nd Str., New York City

References: Dr. Howard Travers, Chief of Visa Dept.,
Washington, D. C.

5. Mr. László Berger, Hotel Ten Park Ave., New York City

American citizen

6. Dr. Dániel László, 1391 Madison Ave., New York City.

American citizen

7. Dr. Emil Delmár, 125 East 50th Str., New York City

References: Survey of Foreign Experts, 11 W 42 St N.Y.C.
Committee for the Protection of Art
Monuments. Frick reference library, N.Y.C.

8. Mr. Tibor Fabian, 159-00 Riverside Drive, New York City

References: Mr. Otto L. Kramer, 311 East 72nd Str., N.Y.C.
Mr. Heinz W. Gottwald, c/o Chemical Bank
& Trust Co., 165 Broadway, N.Y.C.

9. Mr. Anthony Géber, in the U.S. Army overseas
American citizen
10. Mr. Adalbert Greiner, 930 Fifth Ave., New York City
References: Harold H. Holden, c/o Oxford
Paper Co., 230 Park Ave., N.Y.C.
Marvin Preston, c/o Longview
Paper Corp., 250 Park Ave., N.Y.C.
11. Mr. Hugo Kammer, 502 Park Ave., New York City
References: Mr. Charles M. Walton Jr. 15 Broad str.
Mr. William Fitz Gibbon 15 Broad str.
N.Y.C.
12. Mr. George Katona, 5836 Stony Island Ave., Chicago, Ill.
American citizen
13. Dr. Alexander Kelen, 25 Central Park West, New York City,
References: Mr. Benjamin Weiss, 400 Wall str. N.Y.C.
Mr. Joe Miller, 12 E 41 str., N. Y.C.
14. Mr. Paul Kern, attorney at law, 60 Broad Street, New York City
American citizen
15. Mr. Armand Kuffler, 20 East 76th Str., New York City.
References: W.H. Alston, 103 Park Ave., N.Y.C.
J.B. Gary, 630 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C.
16. Mr. Bertalan Magyar, 1000 Park Ave., New York City.
References: Mr. O.L.S. Gross, manager of the
National City Bank, 32nd str. Branch,
New York City;
Mr. Maurice Hellmann, 17 E 42nd str.
New York City.
17. Mr. Gabriel Neumann, 15 East 58th Str., New York City
References: Chauncey L. Waddell, c/o
Barrett Herrick & Co., 55 Liberty str
New York City;
Mr. Charles M. Walton Jr., c/o
Milkie, Owen, Otis, Farr & Gallagher,
15 Broad Street, New York City.

700570

18. Prof. William Fellner, California University, Berkly, Cal.

References: Mr. Mark Mitnitzky, 1275 Madison Ave., New York City;

Miss Martha Anderson, 1 W. 67 Str.
N.Y.C.

19. Dr. George Perl, 10 Hadden Road, Scarsdale, N.Y.

References: Mr. Lawrence Ottinger, President of the U.S. Plywood Corp., 616 W. 46 Str., N.Y.C.

Mr. Harry K. Gottlieb, attorney, 221 South LaSalle Street, Chicago, Ill.

20. Mr. Oscar Pfeiffer, 3900 Cote des Neiges Rd., Montreal, Canada.

References:

21. Dr. George Popper, 327 East Ridgewood Ave., Ridgewood, N.J.

References: Mr. William S. Glasser, 155 Elison Str. Paterson, N.J.

Mr. William T. Richter, 143 Central Ave., Glen Rock, N. J.

22. Dr. Stephan Rosenak, 1100 Park Ave., New York City.

American citizen

23. Mr. Aladar Sage /szegő/, 590 Riverside Drive, New York City.

References: Mr. Michael Pealig, 342 Madison Ave. NYC
Mr. Joseph Miller, 1898 Harrison Ave., Bronx, N.Y.

24. Dr. Stephan Wahl, 14 East 90th Str., New York City

American citizen

25. Dr. Erno Wittmann, 125 East 50th Str., New York City

References: Major Claude M. Terrell, 1136 Fifth Ave., N.Y.C.

Mr. Clarence Hunter, vice-president
New York Trust Co. 165 Broadway, NYC.

100577

List II

1. Mrs. Edward Acsel, 128 East 80th Str., New York City.

Persons to be helped: Mrs. Tibor Nagy, nee Agnes Acsel, age 29, daughter,
Mr. Tibor Nagy, age 38, son-in-law, formerly with the
Hungarian National Bank (related to Mr.
Bela Bohrer, former president of the
Hungarian National Bank).
Marianne Nagy, age 8, grand-daughter

Mrs. Andor Vasarhelyi, nee Elizabeth Acsel, age 27, daughter
Mr. Andor Vasarhelyi, age 30, son-in-law, farmer, graduate
of the Budapest University, expert in breeding
cattle. Farmed jointly with his father at
Bossa puszta (Borsod County) on 8000 acres,
later Laposmajor (Zobor County) on 1000 acres
and Daru-Sziget (Hajdu County) on 1200 acres.
Andris George Vasarhelyi, age 6, grand-son

2. Mr. Joe Hallay, 16 William Street, New York City.

Persons to be helped:

Dr. George Hallay, brother, attorney and farmer, and
his wife

3. Mr. Andrew de Balogh, 408 East 84th Str., New York City

Persons to be helped: Mrs. Ilona de Balogh, mother, age 64
Peter de Balogh, brother, age 24, farmer
in Yelso-Beg County of Sopron.
great expert in farming.

4. Dr. Victor Bator, attorney, 30 East 72nd Str., New York City

Persons to be helped:

Mrs. Elisabeth Lessni, Budapest, sister
Mrs. László Szilasy, Budapest, sister

5. Mr. László Berger, Hotel Ten Park Ave., New York City

Persons to be helped:

Maurice Berger, father, age 69
well known banker in Budapest,
trading under the firm Katona & Co.,
Budapest V, Hold utca 69

Klara Telek-Berger and her daughter Eszsi, age 16,
sister and niece.

Irma Hollo, age 60, aunt, Grof Teleki Pal utca 8, Budapest,

Samu Szusz, uncle, Gyulai Pal utca 8, Budapest

6. Dr. Daniel Lasslo, 1591 Madison Ave., New York City

Persons to be helped:

Philip Lasslo, father, age 74, Beregszasz
Mrs. Philip (Giacella) Lasslo, age 64, mother, Beregszasz
Mr. and Mrs. Alex Halass, age 42 and 42 respectively,
uncle and aunt, both living in Ungvar (very
likely already in a concentration camp)

7. Dr. Emil Dolnay, 125 East 50th Str., New York City

Persons to be helped:

Mrs. Ladislav Popper, niece, age 36, and her husband
Mr. Ladislav Popper, age 42, and their
2 boys, age 10 and 12, all of them in Budapest

Mr. Stephan Fuzsiki, nephew, age 46 and his wife, age 40
their 2 boys, age 10 and 8, all in Budapest

Dr. Ludwig Vas, nephew, age 40, Budapest

Miss Alice Fuzsiki, age 48, niece, Budapest

8. Mr. Tibor Fabian, 189-60 Riverside Drive, New York City

Persons to be helped: Mr. Desider Partos, father-in-law, age 69 and his wife, Mrs. Desider Partos nee Eleonore Kaufthal, age 69, Budapest, address: Eszot Istvan Korut 24, Budapest
Mr. William Freisinger, brother-in-law, age 58
Mrs. William Freisinger, nee Joan Fabian, age 49 sister,
address: Graf Zichy Jenő utca 47, Budapest

9. Mr. Anthony Geber, in the U.S. Army overseas

Persons to be helped: Anthony Geber, father, age 63, Budapest
Mrs. Anthony (Klara) Geber, age 60, Budapest, mother (Mr. Geber was head of department of Ministry of Commerce)

10. Mr. Adalbert Greiner, 980 Fifth Ave., New York City

Persons to be helped:

Mr. and Mrs. Alexander Vida, parents,
brother-in-law and sister-in-law
address: Ermelléki utca 15, Budapest

11. Mr. Alvaro Kammer, 608 Park Ave., New York City

Persons to be helped: Miss Agnes Kammer, age 17, Budapest, niece
Mr. Alfred Kammer, age 68, Budapest, brother-in-law

Mrs. Jolly Schwartz Neumann, widow and son George Orbán, manager of the Kammer Textile works in Budapest, friends.

12. Mr. George Katona, 5886 Stony Island Ave., Chicago, Ill.

Persons to be helped: Sigismund Katona, father, formerly president of the Gisella Mill Corp., Budapest, a large flour mill company with establishments in Budapest, Gyongyos and Szombathely and his wife, Mrs. Sigismund (Olg) Katona, nee Wittmann, mother

Mr. Istvan Katona, brother, with his wife Mrs. Ilona Katona and their 2 children.

Mr. Istvan Katona was general manager of the above mentioned mill.

13. Dr. Alexander Kohn, 25 Central Park West, New York City.

Persons to be helped: Mr. and Mrs. Doktor Simon, brother-in-law and sister, (nee Gitta Kohn) age 45,

Mr. and Mrs. Istvan Hajnal, brother-in-law and sister (nee Irene Kohn) age 38 and their 2 children Judith, 16, and Gyuri 7 years old.

ally Korona uoca 4, Kaposvar (Hungary)

Mr. and Mrs. Pal Merson, brother-in-law and sister, (nee Olga Kohn), age 36 and their 2 children Agi 8, and Susi 6 years old

address: Tavirde uoca 11, Szekesfehervar

Mrs. Margit Mersfeld, mother-in-law, 67 years old

Mrs. Susi Sander, sister-in-law, and her husband Mr. Pal Sander, (Susi Sander age 38), their child Eva, age 15

14. Mr. Paul Kern, 60 Broad Street, New York City

Persons to be helped: Julius Kern, father, age 78

Mrs. Alexander Fabian, sister, age 38

Mr. Alexander Fabian, brother-in-law, age 49,

Gabriel Fabian, age 18, nephew

George Fabian, age 14, nephew

16. Mr. Armand Kaffler, 20 East 76th Str., New York City

Persons to be helped: Mrs. Anna Bartok, sister

16. Mr. Bertalan Magyar, 1000 Park Ave., New York City

Persons to be helped: Mrs. Margit Fried, widow, age 87, Budapest, sister,
Mrs. Tivadar Feher, " 50 " , sister her
2 sons, age 18 and 21, nephews
Mrs. Olga Hirschfeld, age appr. 66, Budapest, mother-in-law
Mrs. Elisabeth Barta, " " 48 " sister-in-law
Mr. László Hirschfeld, " " 50 " brother-in-law
Mr. Georges Hirschfeld, " " 40 " brother-in-law
his wife, age 30,
his son, age 18

Mr. Andor Kiss, cousin, age 58, Budapest,
his wife, age 40, his
son, age 12

17. Mr. Gabriel Neumann, 10 East 58th Str., New York City

Persons to be helped: Jonas Neumann, father, age 67, Yatra utca 16, Budapest
Mrs. Jonas Neumann, mother,
Eduard Neumann, brother, age 61, Lendvay utca 17, Budapest
Dr. Lajos Erdely, brother-in-law, Rakosy ut. 14, Budapest
Mrs. Lajos Erdely, sister-in-law

1058

18. Prof. William Fellner, California University, Berkly, Cal.

Persons to be helped: Mrs. Julius Lakatos, widow of Mr. Gyula Lakatos, H.P., sister,

Mr. Paul Fellner, brother, former Member of Parliament,
partner of the Concern "Wilhelm Leipziger
Alcohol & Sugar Factories", Budapest,

Mr. Alfred Fellner, brother,
his wife, and
1 child

Mr. George Fellner, brother, farmer,
his wife and
children

19. Dr. George Perl, 10 Hadden Road, Canadale, N.Y.

Persons to be helped: Mr. Andrew Svad, brother-in-law, banker, age 40, Budapest
Mrs. Andrew Svad, nee Clara Perl, sister, age 50, their
son, Paul Svad, age 9

Mr. Robert Guttmann, half-brother, 41 years old,
specialist in wool and in sheep raising

20. Mr. Oscar Pfoffer, 3980 Cote des Haiges Rd., Montreal, Canada.

Persons to be helped: Mr. Eugen Grassner, age 48, brother-in-law, Gyongyes
Mrs. Steffi Strnadek, age approx. 50, old friend of Mrs. Oscar
Pfoffer

21. Dr. George Pepper (also on behalf of Mr. Emma Forstath), 527 East Ridgewood Ave.,
Ridgewood, N.Y.

Persons to be helped: Mrs. Charles Pepper, nee Margaret Prepper, mother, age 60

Mr. Emanuel Agoston, brother-in-law, age 59,
Mrs. Emanuel Agoston, born Lidia Pepper, sister, age 40
address of all three: Mivess utca 6, Budapest

Mr. Alexander Jankovfy, father-in-law, age 68
Mrs. Alexander Jankovfy, mother-in-law, age 68
address: Maria Valeria utca 18, Budapest

22. Dr. Stephen Koszrak, 1140 Park Ave., New York City

Persons to be helped: Dr. Miksa Koszrak, father, age 70,
Mrs. Blanka Koszrak, mother, age 62,
Dr. Bela Berend, brother-in-law, age 63, his wife
Margit, sister, and their
2 children, George and Veronica
all independent
Dr. Miksa Koszrak is a leading surgeon
in Budapest;
Dr. Bela Berend was well known for his
liberal attitude in defending exposed
Democrats, liberals, workmen etc.

23. Mr. Adlar Szego(Szego), 890 Riverside Drive, New York City

Persons to be helped: Dr. Miklos Szego, brother, age 66, Szekesfehervar,
Mrs. Adlar Szego, sister-in-law, age 69 "
their son Ferenc Szego, 17 years old "
Mr. Alexander Szego, brother, age 61, Budapest,
Mrs. Alexander Szego, sister-in-law, age 46, "
Mr. Joseph Szego, brother, age 68, Budapest,
Mrs. Joseph Szego, sister-in-law, age 46, "
their daughter, Miss Anna Szego, age 18 "

24. Dr. Stephen Szah, 14 East 90 th Str., New York City.

Persons to be helped: Mr. Jono Bardos, brother-in-law, age 69
Mrs. Bardos nee Ilonka Szah, age 49, sister

25. Dr. Erno Wittmann, 125 East 60th Str., New York City

Mrs. Clara de Fuschl-Wittmann, daughter,
her son, age 6,
Mrs. de Fuschl has a degree of
Horticultural College;
Mr. Alexander Harassti, brother-in-law, age 43
graduated from University of Agriculture
Mrs. Irene Harassti, mother-in-law, her
daughter Lilly, and granddaughter Susanna

S

10058

List III

- Re 1. Jacques Locher, c/o Cerealia Ltd, 83 Talstrasse, Zuerich
- Re 2. Julius Perry, Nueschelerstrasse 49, Zuerich
- Re 3. Julius Perry, Nueschelerstrasse 49, Zuerich
- Re.4. Jacques Kanitz, 2 Bundesplatz, Bern
- Re.5. Dr. Kurt Grimm, Utoquay 47, Zuerich
and
Agnes Szekula, 123 Rue de Lausanne, Geneva
- Re.7 Dr. Hans Popper, Quai Gustave Ador 60, Geneva
- Re.8 Edward Dussy, Burgstrasse 157, Basel-Rieten
- Re.10 René Monod, 4 Boulevard du Theatre, Geneva
- Re.11 Jacques Kanitz, 2 Bundesplatz, Bern
- Re.13^c Deneb Deutsch, Leonhardstrasse 1, Zuerich
- Re.14 Luchsinger's Handelsgesellschaft, Bahnhofenge, Zuerich
- Re.15 Spierer Freres, 1 Place du Port, Geneva
- Re.16 Walter Thelen, Hôtelstrasse 15, Zuerich
- Re.17 Julius Perry, Nueschelerstrasse 49, Zuerich
- Re.18 Agnes Szekula, 123 Rue de Lausanne, Geneva
and
George Solti, c/o Zahn, 20 Fröhlichstrasse, Zuerich
- Re.19 Dr. Julius Halberstam, Glarnerhof, Glarus, Switzerland
- Re.20 Andreas Griesner, 29 Rosenthalstrasse, Basel
- Re.21 Rudolf Steinmann, Peter Merianstrasse 18, Basel
- Re.22 Mrs. Rose Darda, 8, Rue Michel Chauvet, Geneva
- Re.23 L. F. Mayer, Zinggeneck, Luzern, Switzerland
- Re.25 Julius Perry, Nueschelerstrasse 49, Zuerich
- No.12 is included in No.25; Nos.6, 9 and 24 do not have sponsors in Switzerland, and notify Dr. O. Peyer directly.

MAY 12, 1944

OTTO FEYER

BAHNHOFSTRASSE 70 ZUERICH SWITZERLAND

GROUP HERE INTENDS START ACTION HELP FRIENDS IN HUNGARY STOP
PLEASE FIRST GATHER INFORMATION THROUGH PERSONS FAMILIAR WITH
HUNGARY LIKE FERRY JACQUES KANITZ BERN EDUARD WYSS BANQUE
POPULAIRE SUISSE BERNE AND FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF LOEW
ANGERN AND REPORT IF AND UNDER WHAT CONDITIONS EXIT PERMITS
OBTAINABLE SECOND IF YOUR REPORT AFFIRMATIVE CONTACT PERSONS
IN HUNGARY TO BE NOMINATED TO YOU BY THIRD PARTIES IN
SWITZERLAND WHO WILL APPROACH YOU AND INFORM THEM THAT WE
WILL PROVIDE FUNDS FOR TRAVEL AND SUSTENANCE IN SWITZERLAND
AND WHEN THEY ARE ABLE TO LEAVE ^{SWITZERLAND} VISAS TRANSIT VISAS AND OTHER
PERMITS AND FUNDS NECESSARY STOP ALL INFORMATION TO BE
FORWARDED BY RELIABLE INTERMEDIARY WITHOUT ENDANGERING THEIR
SITUATION STOP REQUEST NECESSARY AUTHORIZATIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS
FROM THOSE READY TO LEAVE FOR OBTAINING HUNGARIAN AND GERMAN
EXIT PERMITS THIRD CONTACT OUR REPRESENTATIVE NOEL H FIELD
12 RUE DU VIEUX COLLEGE GENEVA AND CABLE ANSWER THROUGH HIM
ALL EXPENSES AND FEES PAID FROM HERE

CHARLES R JOY UNITARIAN SERVICE COMMITTEE
25 BEACON STREET, BOSTON, MASS.

MAY 12, 1944

NOEL FIELD
12 RUE DU VIEUX COLLEGE
GENEVA SWITZERLAND

UNITARIAN SERVICE COMMITTEE REQUESTS YOUR COOPERATION
IN PLAN OF GROUP OF HUNGARIANS HERE TO BRING OUT
FRIENDS FROM HUNGARY BY WHOLLY LEGAL METHODS ALL
LEGAL EXPENSES TRAVEL AND SUSTENANCE MONEY GUARANTEED
DR. OTTO PEYER BAHNHOFSTRASSE 70 ZUERICH IS REQUESTED
TO ACT AS LAWYER AND WILL BE FULLY INFORMED PLEASE
ASSIST WITH COUNSEL AND FACILITIES FOR COMMUNICATIONS

CHARLES R. JOY

7 1 0 5 8

JACQUES LOGER care GERRALIA LTD

88 TALSTRASSE ZUERICH SWITZERLAND

CONTACT DR OTTO FRYER 70 BAHNHOFSTRASSE ZUERICH
COOPERATE WITH HIM IN INTEREST ANNY'S BROTHER
IN LAW MARCZI BOTH HER DAUGHTERS AND THEIR
FAMILIES AND INFORM ME ABOUT THEIR HEALTH
AND SITUATION THROUGH HIM

RICHARD

058

JULIUS PERRY

MUESCHELERSTRASSE 49 ZUERICH SWITZERLAND

PLEASE CONTACT DR OTTO PEYER BAHNHOFFSTRASSE
70 IN THE INTEREST OF MY BROTHER AND HIS
FAMILY

Joe

1058

3

Julius Perry

Nueschelerstrasse 49 Zürich Switzerland

Please contact Dr Otto Peyer 70 Bahnhofstrasse
Zürich in the interest of Ilona from Szekszárd
and her son Peter thanks

Andrew

S

1059

Jaques Kanitz

2 Bundesplatz Bern Switzerland

Should opportunity arise to help my sisters
Elisabeth René and Marie Reval please do whatever
possible at my expense.

Victor

11059

DR KURT ORLEM

UTOQUAY 47 ZUERICH SWITZERLAND

PLEASE CONTACT DR OTTO PETER HAINSOFFSTRASSE
TO ZUERICH REGARDING FATHER GEMMY AND NIECE
ALSO TRY OBTAIN FROM MY FATHER ADDRESS OF
MY PRIME PAULS FATHER JULIUS AND SISTER
EDITH FOR SAME PURPOSE PLEASE COOPERATE
FULLY EXPENSES GLADLY REFUNDED WARMEST THANKS

LACI

512

AGNES DE BEKULA

128 RUE DE LAUBNER

GENEVA SWITZERLAND

PLEASE CONTACT DR OTTO FEYER DANNOFOTASSER
TO BUEHCHI REGARDING ISSA AND MANDA MANT
THANKS LOVE

JULIE

10059

Dr Hans Popper

60 Quai Ador Geneva Switzerland

Please contact Dr. Otto Peyer 70 Bahnhofstrasse
Zurich and cooperate with him in matter of my
nieces and nephews stop Erno also asks you to
request Peyer to consult with you before he takes
decision or sends information outside Switzerland
stop advise me through ~~Heel-H. Field~~ Geneva stop
inform also Maria Graf Grindelwald

Emil

EDUARD DUSSY

BURGSTRASSE 157

RIETEN BASEL SWITZERLAND

PLEASE CONTACT DR OTTO PEYER

BAHNHOFSTRASSE 70 ZUERICH COOPERATE

WITH HIM IN THE INTEREST OF MY

SISTER AND HER HUSBAND WILLIAM

FREISINGER GROF ZICHY JENO UTCA 47

AND MY PARENTS IN LAW DESIDER PARTOS

SZENT ISTVAN KORUT 24 IF YOU HAVE

POSSIBILITY INFORM ME ^{THROUGH DR PEYER} ABOUT THEIR

HEALTH AND SITUATION WE ALL WELL

AND HEALTHY VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR

KINDNESS PLEASE INFORM ROBERT STEINMANN

TIBOR FABIAN

7 0 0 5 9

RENE MONOD

4 BOULEVARD DU THEATRE

GENEVA SWITZERLAND

CONTACT DR OTTO PEYER BAHNHOFSTRASSE

70 ZUERICH COOPERATE WITH HIM IN

THE INTEREST OF MY PARENTS AND

ME THROUGH PEYER
INFORM ABOUT THEIR HEALTH AND SITUATION

NICOLAS

Jaques Kanitz

2 Bundesplatz Bern Switzerland

Please contact Dr. Otto Peyer 70 Bahnhofstrasse
Zurich cooperate with him in the interest of
Jolly and her son also Elias brother Alfred
and my unmarried niece Agnes

Hugo

7 0 0 5 9 0

DIKES DEUTSCH

1 LEONHARDSTRASSE ZURICH SWITZERLAND

CONTACT DR OTTO PEYER BAHNHOFSTRASSE
TO ZURICH AND INFORM HIM OF MOTHERS
ADDRESS STOP SHOULD STEPS BE TAKEN
OBTAIN FOR PEYER ALSO ADDRESSES OF
ALEXANDERS SISTERS STOP WE ARE WELL
IF POSSIBLE SEND
~~WE ARE ANXIOUS TO GET~~ NEWS THROUGH PEYER

MAGDA AND ALEXANDER

1054

Luchsinger s Handelsgesellschaft

Bahnhofenge

Zurich Switzerland

Please contact Otto Peyer Bahnhofstrasse
70 Zurich matter Regarding Heinrich Union
Textil and relatives especially my father
and sisters family

Paul Kern

1059

Spieler Freres

1 Place du Port Geneva Switzerland

Please assist Lazarico in helping our
relatives by contacting Dr Otto Peyer
Bahnhofstrasse 70 Zurich

Armand Kuffler

1060

WALTER THELEN

15 RÖTELSTRASSE

ZÜRICH SWITZERLAND

PLEASE CONTACT DR OTTO PEYER BAHNHOFSTRASSE
70 ZÜRICH COOPERATE WITH HIM IN THE
INTEREST OF MY SISTERS MY SISTER IN LAW
AND MOTHER IN LAW STOP IF YOU HAVE
POSSIBILITY INFORM HIM ABOUT THEIR
HEALTH AND SITUATION STOP WE ALL WELL
AND HEALTHY STOP EXCEEDINGLY GRATEFUL
FOR YOUR KINDNESS

BERTALAN
114 East 32 STREET

Julius Perry

Hueschelerstrasse 49 Zurich Switzerland

Please contact Dr. Otto Peyer Bahnhofstrasse

70 Zurich cooperate with him and brother

Zsiga in interest of my and my wifes family

and inform ^{ME THROUGH PEYER} about their health and situation

thanks

Gabor

060

May 2, 1944

Dear Dr. Joy:

The group which I and some of my friends formed in order to help our Hungarian relatives and friends, and to whom you so graciously promised your help, consists of the members whose names are listed on the enclosed list I. On this list the references of each partaker of the group are also listed.

The enclosed list II gives you the names of the persons to be helped in Hungary, and list III the names of the parties to be contacted in Switzerland, following the explanation I beg to give you hereafter.

As I had the privilege of telling you already, it is not our intention to use the names of the relatives and friends in Hungary in any kind of correspondence or cable to be sent from the United States abroad -- except in some cases where the parties here are willing to take this risk -- since we are afraid that should those names be revealed to the German authorities, persons in Hungary who, perhaps, are in safety now, might be put into concentration camps. Therefore, each party instead of mentioning the names of his relatives and friends, names one or more persons in Switzerland who, when requested, will be able to name his relatives in Hungary. List III gives the names of these Swiss friends.

To safeguard the anonymity of the persons involved, each party mentioned on list I is designated by an arab number, and the corresponding arab numbers are mentioned in list III together with the Swiss persons to be contacted on behalf of the respective party. For example, Mr. Hugo Kasser has the number 11 which number appears on list III beside the name of his Swiss friend, Mr. ^{Edmond} ~~Edward~~ Kees. In future cables and correspondence this kind of code might be helpful.

We wish to instruct Dr. Otto Peyer, attorney in Zurich, 70 Bahnhofstrasse, to obtain first of all some general information about the situation in Hungary, especially if Hungarians who are considered as Jews can leave the country with the permit of the competent authorities. Dr. Peyer is a well known lawyer in Switzerland with whom I personally have cooperated for about 20 years with best results. Dr. Peyer's former senior partner is attorney Dr. Konrad Bloch, now residing in New York City. Upon Dr. Bloch's advice we plan to inform Dr. Peyer that he shall seek advice of other persons conversant with the situation in Hungary, especially such lawyers etc. who specialize in negotiating with the German authorities, the Gestapo etc., and who following previous experience of Dr. Bloch were able to arrange in the past exit permits from the occupied Netherlands, Germany, and Austria to neutral countries. In the cable to be sent to Dr. Peyer he is requested to get also in touch with the former representative of Loew, Angern. The family Loew were landowners in Angern near Vienna, Austria, and they were among Dr. Konrad Bloch's clients, whose office arranged with the help of the German Baron Martin Nichtenhufen the necessary permits for them to leave Austria and emigrate to Switzerland. This, however, happened many years ago, and Dr. Bloch does not know, whether Baron Nichtenhufen, who lives in Lugano, Switzerland, is still available for similar services, and whether he still has the necessary influence.

Furthermore, the instruction to Dr. Peyer will read that should he ascertain that exit permits are obtainable in Hungary, he shall endeavor to get in touch with the persons named to him by the Swiss friends of our group, and ask them if they wish to leave Hungary and are ready to do so, and see that Dr. Peyer shall obtain foreign visa for them. Dr. Peyer's attention should be called to the fact that such information must be sent in such manner that the relatives shall not be endangered.

Moreover, Dr. Peyer shall be informed that all his fees and expenses will be paid by the group in America, and that

his answer and reports have to be sent through your representative in Geneva.

May I request you to forward to your Geneva representative copy of the communications we sent to Dr. Peyer?

We furthermore propose that each member of our group shall cable to his respective friend in Switzerland Dr. Peyer's address requesting him to mention to Dr. Peyer the name of his relatives.

It would greatly help us if we could not only cable to Dr. Peyer but send him a letter also, giving him full details without mentioning, of course, the names of those people in Hungary to be helped. As I already told you, I approached H.E. the Apostolic Nuncio in Washington, requesting the favor of having such a letter forwarded by diplomatic pouch. His secretary, Father Carol, answered me that this could only be done if our group is sponsored by the War Refugee Board, i.e., if the letter is sent over to him by the War Refugee Board with the request to have it forwarded through the Nuncio in Bern to Dr. Peyer.

I am also informed that the Swiss Courier will leave shortly with the Swiss diplomatic pouch, and that the Swiss Consul General would be willing to include in the pouch a letter written to Dr. Peyer by your Committee. The letter will be previously submitted to the U.S. censor.

It is, therefore, our request to you, dear Dr. Joy, in case your Committee has no other means of forwarding such a letter to Dr. Peyer, to avail yourself of one of these opportunities.

I am enclosing for your information text of the proposed cable and letter to Dr. Peyer, and will hand over to you shortly the individual cables to be sent.

Thanking you for all your kind endeavors in the matter, I remain

yours respectfully,

Dr. Erno Wittmann

11060

Agnes de Szekula

123 Rue de Lausanne Geneve Switzerland

Please contact Dr. Otto Peyer Bahnhofstrasse

70 Zürich about Williams and Valeries relatives

Willy

George Solti care of Zahn

20 Fröhlichstrasse Zürich Switzerland

Please contact Dr. Otto Peyer Bahnhofstrasse

70 Zürich about my and Valis relatives

Vili

7 0 0 6 0 0

Dr Julius Halberstam

Glarnerhof Glarus Switzerland

Kindly contact Dr Peyer a lawyer in Zurich
70 Bahnhofstrasse who will assist my sister
her family and my halfbrother stop please
inform him if possible their health and
situation stop we all well

George

11
E

Andreas Gruszner

Rosenthalstrasse 29 Basel Switzerland

Please contact Dr. Otto Peyer 70 Bahnhofstrasse
Zürich in the interest of Eugen and Steffi

Oscar

S

10060

ROBERT STEINMANN

PETER MERRIANSTRASSE 18

BASEL SWITZERLAND

PLEASE CONTACT DR OTTO PAYER
BAHNHOFSTRASSE 70 ZUERICH COOPERATE
WITH HIM IN THE INTEREST OF MY
MOTHER SISTER BROTHER IN LAW
AND MY PARENTS IN LAW DESIDER
JAKABFY MARIA VALERIA UTCA 19
BUDAPEST IF YOU HAVE POSSIBILITY
INFORM ME ABOUT THEIR HEALTH
AND SITUATION WE ALL WELL AND
HEALTHY VERY GRATEFUL FOR YOUR
KINDNESS PLEASE INFORM EDUARD
DUBSY

GEORGE POPPER

DR ARNOLD LANG

CASE STAND 113 GENEVA SWITZERLAND

PLEASE CONTACT DR OTTO PRYER
BAHNHOFSTRASSE 70 ZUERICH COOPERATE
WITH HIM TO HELP MY FAMILY AND TRY
INFORM ME THROUGH HIM ABOUT THEIR
HEALTH AND SITUATION THANKS

THOMAS FORBATH

7 0 0 5 1 1

Rose Darda

8 Rue Michel Chauvet Geneva Switzerland

Please contact Dr. Otto Peyer 70 Bahnhofstrasse
Zürich and cooperate with him in the interest
of my parents my sister and her family

Stephan

100610

DR L F MAYER

ZINGEN:OK LUZERN SWITZERLAND

UPON RECOMMENDATION DR ARNDT PLEASE CONTACT
DR OTTO PAYER VO BAHNHOFSTRASSE ZUERICH COOPERATE
WITH HIM IN INTEREST OF MY BROTHERS ALEXANDER
AND JOSEPH AND DR NIKOLAUS SZEGO SZEKESFEHENVAR
AND FAMILY INFORM US ABOUT THEM THROUGH PAYER

ALADAR SEGE
390 RIVERSIDE DRIVE

25

JULIUS PERRY

MUESCHLENERSTRASSE 49 EURENICH SWITZERLAND

PLEASE CONTACT DR OTTO PETER BAHNSOFSTRASSE 70
IN THE INTEREST OF MY DAUGHTER SISTER AND MY
WIFE'S FAMILY THANKS

ERNEST

S

7 0 0 6 1 1

WILLIAM EMERSON, CHAIRMAN

ROBERT C. DEXTER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

EDWARD B. WITTE, TREASURER

Unitarian Service Committee

26

NEW YORK OFFICE

40 East 35th Street, New York 16, N. Y.

TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 5-1743

PERCIVAL BRUNDAGE
CHAIRMAN N. Y. COMMITTEE

HENRY E. MULLER
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY



May 12, 1944

OTTO PEYER
BAHNHOFSTRASSE 70
ZURICH SWITZERLAND

THERE ARE NO SWISS SPONSORS FOR FOLLOWING PERSONS
WHO NEVERTHELESS SHOULD BE INCLUDED AMONG THOSE
TO BE HELPED MR. AND MRS. PHILIP LASZLO BEREGSZASZ
MR. AND MRS. ALEX HALASZ UNGVAR MR. AND MRS.
ANTHONY GEBER BUDAPEST MR. AND MRS. JENO BARDOS
BUDAPEST

CHARLES R JOY
UNITARIAN SERVICE COMMITTEE

00

000610

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

October 24, 1944

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

STATEMENT

5. Wm. Ref. Bd. (M. Palle)

COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS (LIAISON)

1944 OCT 25 PM 3 08

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMLEOATION,

STOCKHOLM

2158

The cable below for Olsen is WRB 118.

Please deliver paraphrase of the following message to Rabbi Wilhelm Wolbs, 11 Olefegotten Strasse, Stockholm, from Rabbi Aron Kotler and Abraham Kalmanowitz, of the Vaad Hanatzala Emergency Committee:

QUOTE Greatly disturbed developing Hungarian situation. Last hours for rescue of unfortunates held by Germans. Urge you confer with Dr. Ehrenpreis. Explore every possible avenue of rescue. Advise if funds needed. Cable us what done for rescue Rabbi Wasserman and Grodzinski. Take all steps, money passports and like to save them. UNQUOTE

STEPHENUS (APPROX) (ELM) ACTING

CONTROL COPY

WRB:MMV:OMH 10/24/44

NOE

8E

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

000611

CABLE TO DIRECTOR J. HARRIS, STOCKHOLM, FOR INFO, FROM THE FOLLOWING SOURCE

Please receive the following message to Rabbi Eliezer Selig,
11 Blefngotten Strasse, Stockholm, from Rabbi Israel Kattler and Abraham
Feldman, of the New York Emergency Committee

WE ARE GREATLY DISTURBED BY THE SITUATION IN SWEDEN.
WE FEEL THAT THE GOVERNMENT IS NOT DOING ENOUGH TO
PROTECT THE JEWS. WE URGE YOU TO TAKE
ACTION. WE ARE SURE YOU WILL TAKE THE NECESSARY
STEPS TO PROTECT THE JEWS IN SWEDEN.
WE ARE SURE YOU WILL TAKE THE NECESSARY
STEPS TO PROTECT THE JEWS IN SWEDEN.

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 118.

2:10 p.m.
October 21, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel,
Lesser, Mamon, McCormack, Files

RDrury 10/21/44

100611

2 Pella (WAB)

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATE: October 24, 1944
NUMBER: 3625

For McClelland, from War Refugee Board.

Please deliver the following message to Isaac Sternbuch,
St. Gall, from Rabbis Aron Kotler and Abraham Kalmanowitz of
the Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee:

QUOTE Greatly disturbed developing Hungarian situation.
Last hours for rescue of pitiful remnant held by
Germans. Do not spare money or effort endeavor
coordinate last minute action with Mr. McClelland
and Mayer. Advise what done for rescue of Rabbis
Wasserman Grodzinski. Take all steps money passports
and like to save them. UNQUOTE
This is Bern cable No. 232.

HULL

CONTROL COPY

1001 2 13

RECEIVED

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

1944

Office of War Relocation Administration

Department of Justice

Director of War Relocation Administration

ORIGINAL FILE

Number:

Date:



CABLE TO MINISTER BERSON, BERN, FOR MC CLELLAND, FROM W/ REFUGEE BOARD.

Please deliver the following message to Isaac Sternbuch, St. Gall,
from Rabbis Aron Kotler and Abraham Kalmanowitz of the Vaad Hatzala
Emergency Committee:

QUOTE GREATLY DISTURBED DEVELOPING HUNGARIAN SITUATION. LAST
HOURS FOR RESCUE OF PITIFUL REMNANT HELD BY GERMANS. DO NOT
SPARE MONEY OR EFFORT ENDEAVOR COORDINATE LAST MINUTE ACTION
WITH MR. MC CLELLAND AND MAYER. ADVISE WHAT DONE FOR RESCUE OF
RABBIS ABRAHAM GRODZINSKI. TAKE ALL STEPS MONEY PASSPORTS
BE LIKE TO SAVE THEM UNQUOTE

WRB 232 to Bern

*Copy sent to
Vaad Hatzala
10/21/44
R Drury*

RDrury 10/21/44

JW -

7 0 0 6 2

CABLE TO MINISTER JOHNSON, STOCKHOLM, FOR OLSEN, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Rabbi Wilhelm Solte,
11 Olefagotten Strasse, Stockholm, from Rabbis Aron Kotler and Abraham
Kalmenowitz, of the Vaad Habatzels Emergency Committee:

QUOTE GREATLY DISTURBED DEVELOPING HUNGARIAN SITUATION.
LAST HOURS FOR RESCUE OF UNFORTUNATES HELD BY GERMANS. URGE
YOU CONFER WITH DR. EHRENPREIS. EXPLORE EVERY POSSIBLE AVENUE
OF RESCUE. ADVISE IF FUNDS NEEDED. CABLE IN NEXT HOUR FOR
RABBIS BASSERMAN AND GRODZINSKI. THEY ALL WANT MONEY
MONEY BASSERMAN AND LIKE TO SAVE THEM UNQUOTE

WRB 118 to Stockholm

RD:ury 10/21/44

Copy sent to
Vaad Habatzels
10/21/44
JGA -

10062

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET
(ROOM 819)
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

October 20, 1944

War Refugee Board
Treasury Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Att: Miss F. Hodel

Dear Miss Hodel,

On October 14th, we sent a telegram to Mr. Pehle in which we requested that the following cable be sent to Mr. Sternbuch in Switzerland and Rabbi Wilhelm Wolbe in Stockholm:

"Informed that the Germans before leaving Kovno, Lithuania took with them five of the greatest Rabbis. Two of them we know the names of - Rabbi Elchonon Wasserman and Rabbi Abraham Grodzinski. Please do everything in your power to make contact to save them and try to get Swedish passports. Money no objection."

May we ask you to please advise us if the messages were dispatched?

We would also respectfully ask you to dispatch the enclosed messages through the War Refugee Board.

With sincerest appreciation,

Very respectfully yours,

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A. Kalmanowitz
Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

AK:r

*Approved by Akgr
10/17/44
Copies Rec'd
10/20/44
VAAD*

To rescue, save and preserve from war destruction the Torah values
(Yeshivoth, Rabbis, Scholars and Communal Leaders)

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

10062

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET

(ROOM 819)

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

October 30, 1944

MESSAGE TO ISAAC STERNBUCH
ET. CALLEN SWITZERLAND
THROUGH AMERICAN LEGATION BERN

GREASILY DISTURBED DEVELOPING HUNGARIAN SITUATION. LAST HOURS FOR
RESCUE OF PITIFUL REMNANT HELD BY GERMANS. DO NOT SPARE MONEY OR
EFFORT ENDEAVOR COORDINATE LAST MINUTE ACTION WITH MR. MCCLELLAND
AND MAYER. ADVISE WHAT DONE FOR RESCUE OF RABBI WASSERMAN
PRODZINSKI. TAKE ALL STEPS MONEY PASSPORTS AND LIVE TO SAVE TIME.

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

RABBI ARON KOTLER
ABRAHAM KALMANOWITZ

*To rescue, save and preserve from war destruction the Torah values
(Yeshivot, Rabbis, Scholars and Communal Leaders)*

*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 819)
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

October 10, 1944

MESSAGE TO RABBI WILHELM WOLBE
11 OLEPSGOTTEN STRASSE
STOCKHOLM SWEDEN
THROUGH AMERICAN LEGATION STOCKHOLM

GREATLY DISTURBED DEVELOPING HUNGARIAN SITUATION. LAST HOURS FOR
RESCUE OF UNFORTUNATES HELD BY GERMANS. URGE YOU COLLABORATE WITH DR.
EMERGENS. EXPLORE EVERY POSSIBLE AVERAGE OF RESCUE. ADVISE IF
FUNDS NEEDED. CABLE US WHAT TONE FOR RESCUE RABBI WASSERMAN
AND BRODZINSKI. TAKE ALL STEPS, MONEY PASSPORTS AND LIVE TO
SAVE THEM

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

Rabbi Aron Kotler
Abraham Valmanowitz

*To rescue, save and preserve from war destruction the Torah values
(Yeshivoth, Rabbi, Scholars and Communal Leaders)*

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

7 0 0 6 2

V. H. E. C.
132 NASSAU STREET
Suite 819-820
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

ST 21 AM 7 06

133
2



SPECIAL DELIVERY

SPECIAL DELIVERY

War Refugee Board

Treasury Bldg.

Washington, D. C.

Att: Miss F. Hodol

00062

September 12, 1944

Dear Sirs:

The following message for you from Rabbi Wolbe was received through the American Legation in Stockholm under date of September 9, 1944:

"Your latest cables have been received. As a result of renewed deportations the Swedish Ambassador and the Ambassadors of all other neutrals saw Northy and obtained the promise that the government of Hungary will take all measures to stop deportations.

"A special representative has been sent by the Swedish Government to Budapest for the purpose of handling all problems relating to the rescue of Jews. It is contemplated that houses will be bought for the account of the Legation of Sweden pursuant to Swedish extraterritorial rights and that Jews will live in these houses.

"Immigration visas are being granted by our authorities, also letters of protection, citizenships, and provisional passports. Certain expenses relating to these matters have been agreed to by us and we hope you are in agreement. After receiving your advice by cable I saw Professor Ehrenpreis. It was stated by him that nothing more than has already been undertaken can be done and that special plans cannot be undertaken not even on behalf of children. To appeal again to the King is not possible. At present there are no possibilities for the Bergen Belsen group. Food packages are the only thing that could be forwarded from here. By next week we hope that general licenses will be granted for food packages, principally for the Jews in Germany. Regarding this please advise Jacob Rosenheim. Regarding Lithuania, it is not yet possible to

- 2 -

arrange connections and so we have been unable to
contact the camp in Krotingen."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Vand Mahatsala Emergency Committee,
132 Nassau Street,
New York 7, New York.

RW

EDrury 9/12/44

✓

10062

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

RP-686
Distribution of true
reading only by
special arrangement
[redacted] W)

Stockholm

Dated September 9, 1944

Rec'd 9:31 p.m.

CONTROL COPY

DIVISION OF
SEP 11 1944
COMMUNICATIONS

Secretary of State

Washington

3582, September 9, 9 p.m.

Latest cables received. (Following [redacted])

Rabbis Aron Kotler and Abraham Kalmanowitz of
Vaadchahatzalah Emergency Committee from Rabbi
Wolbe and is our No. 78 for WRB). On account of
renewed deportations Swedish Ambassador and all
other neutral Ambassadors visited Horthy and
received promise that Hungarian Government will
do everything to end deportations.

*Message sent 9/14/44
Riv*

The Swedish Government has sent a special
representative to Budapest to handle all problems
in connection with the rescue of Jews. It is planned
to buy houses for account Swedish Legation under
Swedish extraterritorial rights and in which Jews
should live.

Our authorities are granting immigration visas,
letters

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-79
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 14 1972

100520

-2-#3582, September 9 p.m., from Stockholm

letters of protection, provisional passports and citizenships. We have agreed to some expenses in this connection to which we hope you will agree. Following your cable advice, I visited Professor Ehrerpreis. He says that more than has already been undertaken cannot be done and no special arrangements can be undertaken even for children. A renewed appeal to King is absolutely impossible. Also we have presently no possibilities for the group in Bergen Belsen. Only food parcels could be sent from here. It is hoped by next week that general licenses will be effectuated for food parcels principally granted for Jews in Germany. Please also inform Jacob Rosenheim about this. With regard to Lithuania, it is still impossible to obtain connections and therefore we have not been able to obtain contact with the camp at Krotingen.

JOHNSON

EDA

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATE: June 19, 1944
NUMBER: 2104

CONTROL COPY

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Mr. Isaac Sternbuch, 3 Teufener Strasse, St. Gallen:

"Cable whether rescue through passports still feasible, also whether foreign consular letter stating that its government registered application for citizens is thereby extending to applicant protection as citizen sufficient.

Regarding Neutra rabbi's also Freudiger's plans inform us details of rescue already accomplished through money remitted thereby enabling us send additional sums. Also inform us details rescue already accomplished Holland, France, Belgium.

Contact Griffel Wolbe helping them in all rescue projects. Contact McClelland explaining him your plans and trying to secure his assistance. Advise Freudiger to contact Saly Meyer requesting Joint's major financial assistance.

Remitting \$100,000 in Swiss francs for all rescue projects. More money forthcoming soon.

Abraham Kalmanowitz,
Vaad Hatzala

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 46

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

HULL

NOVA
RECEIVED
JUN 15 1944
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

CABLE TO MINISTER HARRISON, BERN, SWITZERLAND

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Mr. Isaac Sternbuch, 3 Teufener Strasse, St. Gallen:

QUOTE Cable whether rescue through passports still feasible, also whether foreign consular letter stating that its government registered application for citizenship thereby extending to applicant protection as citizen sufficient.

Regarding Neutra rabbi's also Freudiger's plans inform us details of rescue already accomplished through money remitted thereby enabling us send additional sums. Also inform us details rescue already accomplished Holland France Belgium.

Contact Griffel Wolbe helping them in all rescue projects. Contact McClelland explaining him your plans and trying to secure his assistance. Advise Freudiger to contact Saly Meyer requesting Joint's major financial assistance.

Remitting \$100,000 in Swiss francs for all rescue projects. More money forthcoming soon.

Vand Hahatzala

Abraham Kalmanowitz UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 45

June 15, 1944

2:00 p.m.

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

Bh. LSE. JH-

BAkzin:ar 6/12/44

10063

b

000630

CONTROL COPY

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMCONSUL, Jerusalem
DATED: July 19, 1944
NUMBER: 129

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Mr. David Remez, 115 Allenby Street, Tel Aviv, Palestine, from Israel Mereminski, 510 W. 112th Street, New York:

QUOTE Press published today Hungary's refusal recognize neutral passport visas received Hungarian non Hungarian Jews after July 1. Above raises doubts among certain interested circles whether your July 2, practicable feasible. Cable immediately same way your opinion above also why you think Switzerland can fulfill your suggestion including all Istanbul information useful here. UNQUOTE

HULL

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

10063

SECRET
TO THE DIRECTOR
OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

Cable to American CONSULATE GENERAL, JERUSALEM, PALESTINE

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Mr. David Remes, 115 Allenby Street, Tel Aviv, Palestine, from Israel Mereminski, 510 W. 112th Street, New York:

QUOTE Press published today Hungary's refusal recognize neutral passport visas received Hungarian non Hungarian Jews after July 1. Above raises doubts among certain interested circles whether your July 2 practicably feasible. Cable immediately same way your opinion above also why you think Switzerland can fulfill your suggestion including all Istanbul information useful here.

ISRAEL MEREMINSKI UNQUOTE

Ba. R. S. L.
BAKsin:ar 7/15/44

JH

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WU6 NL

NEWYORK NY JUL 14 1944

1944 JUL 15 AM 8 23

WAR REFUGEE BOARD

MAIN TREASURY BLDG

PLEASE TRANSMIT DAVID REMEZ TEL AVIV/115 ALLENBY URGENT MESSAGE
 /QUOTE PRESS PUBLISHED TODAY HUNGARYS REFUSAL RECOGNIZE ^{neutral} ~~(SWEDISH)~~
 PASSPORT VISAS RECEIVED HUNGARIAN NON HUNGARIAN JEWS AFTER JULY
 FIRST STOP ~~AB~~ ABOVE RAISES DOUBTS AMONG CERTAIN INTERESTED CIRCLES
 WHETHER YOUR JULY SECOND PRACTICABLE FEASIBLE STOP CABLE IMMEDIATELY
 SAME WAY YOUR OPINION ABOVE ALSO WHY YOU THINK SWITZERLAND CAN
 FULFILL YOUR SUGGESTION INCLUDING ALL ISTAMBUL INFORMATION
 USEFUL HERE UNQUOTE / THANKS YOUR COOPERATION

ISRAEL MEREMINKI. S

822 AM JUL 15 1944.

2881/2

Palestine

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ISRAEL MEREMINSKI
American Representative of the
HISTADRUT
General Federation of Jewish Labor
in Palestine.

ישראל מערעמינסקי
אמעריקאנער פארטרעטער פון דער
אלגעמיינער אידישער ארבעטער-
ארגאניזאציע „הסתדרות“ אין א"י.

510 WEST 112th STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y. July 11th. 1944. MONUMENT 2-5809

Mr. J.W. Pehle,
War Refugee Board,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle :

I am herewith transmitting to you an urgent Rescue proposal received by me from the Executive of the Histadrut.

The Histadruth Executive received latest direct reports and discussed the Jewish situation in Hungary and France . They decided it is imperative that the USA. Government , particularly the President should initiate and get without delay the following:

1) Consent of Allied Nations to grant Refugees right of entry to all Territories under their administration.

2) On this basis request Neutral Countries to permit transit refugees.

3) Allied Nations should empower Swiss Government instruct its Embassies Occupied Countries give every Jew certificate as entry permit to Allied Administrated Territory. The Histadruth is certain that prompt fulfilment of the above program is the main way to save the Remnants of Israel.

Kindly let me hear your opinion and attitude to the above. I am certain that the Vaad Leumi (Jewish National Council of Palestine) is behind this request which will certainly be supported by the World Jewish Congress.

Very truly yours,

J. Mereminski
Israel Mereminski

I. Mereminski
520 West 112 St.
New York, N.Y.



Air mail Special Delivery

Mr. J.W. Pehle
Executive Office of the President
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.



00063

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000636

2 - War Ref. Bl. Files

PARAPHRASE OF TELETYPE RECEIVED

FROM: American Consulate General, Jerusalem
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: July 29, 1944
NUMBER: 106

CONTROL COPY

The following message is for WRE, attention of Israel
Leleminski from Meshel Frumkin and Goldie Myerson.

A letter from Lvov underground which was written a
month ago gives horrible details concerning Hungarian
Jews deported to Poland. This letter states four trains
arrive at Oswienzim daily, consisting of forty-five coaches
each containing twelve thousand people to be exterminated.
The bombing of Oswienzim and railway transporting Jews is
demanded in this letter and particulars of plan are given.
Letter states that with large sums thousands may be rescued
in various ways. London and Geneva have been asked by us
that (one) Red Cross demand repatriation of all deportees;
(two) Red Cross be asked whether Hungarian deportations have
stopped in fact; (three) authority to supervise existing and
future concentration camps be obtained by the Red Cross;
and (four) that Red Cross secure permission and instruct their
representatives to visit deportees and give them maximum aid.
It is urgent that identical requests of the Red Cross be made
by the United States. A cable that Hungarian Government is

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

10063

prepared to permit exits of all children under ten years of age is being sent by Silbershein. It is suggested that up to 80,000 such children still alive should be permitted free entry by free countries, and to this end maximum pressure should be brought to bear. In order to procure for them official entry certificates to the Americas and other countries, similar to Palestinian certificates sent from here, immediate contact should be established by you with Hungarian Jews in the United States for the purpose of obtaining addresses of their relatives in Hungary. You are requested to transmit certificates through Swiss Consulates. Although excessive publicity should be avoided in connection with Hungarian declaration, the urging of change in annihilation policy should be continued. Frequent broadcast Poland warning against Nazi's fiendish plan to exterminate remaining Jews while retreating and to ask help of population in hiding Jews, promising to reward those who help and the contrary, has been requested by Anshelreiss. Similar broadcast from the United States is important.

PINKERTON

DCR:LBH 8/3/44

7 0 0 6 4

RECEIVED BOARD
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.
PM 3 37

AUG 7 1944

Dear Mr. Mereminski:

The following confidential message for you from Heshel Frumkin and Goldie Myerson was received through the American Consulate General in Jerusalem under date of July 29, 1944:

"A letter from Lvov underground which was written a month ago gives horrible details concerning Hungarian Jews deported to Poland. This letter states four trains arrive at Oswiensim daily, consisting of forty-five coaches each containing twelve thousand people to be exterminated. The bombing of Oswiensim and railway transporting Jews is demanded in this letter and particulars of plan are given. Letter states that with large sums thousands may be rescued in various ways. London and Geneva have been asked by us that (one) Red Cross demand repatriation of all deportees; (two) Red Cross be asked whether Hungarian deportations have stopped in fact; (three) authority to supervise existing and future concentration camps be obtained by the Red Cross; and (four) that Red Cross secure permission and instruct their representatives to visit deportees and give them maximum aid. It is urgent that identical requests of the Red Cross be made by the United States. A cable that Hungarian Government is prepared to permit exits of all children under ten years of age is being sent by Silbershein. It is suggested that up to 80,000 such children still alive should be permitted free entry by free countries, and to this end maximum pressure should be brought to bear. In order to procure for them official entry certificates to the Americas and other countries, similar to Palestinian certificates sent from here, immediate contact should be established by you with Hungarian Jews in the United States for the purpose of obtaining addresses of their relatives in Hungary. You are requested to transmit certificates through Swiss Consulates. Although excessive publicity should be avoided in connection with Hungarian declaration, the urging of change in annihilation policy should be continued. Frequent broadcast Poland warning against Nazi's fiendish plan to exterminate remaining Jews while retreating and to ask help of population in hiding Jews, promising reward to those who help and the contrary, has been requested by Anshelreiss. Similar broadcast from the United States is important."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Israel Mereminski,
General Federation of Jewish
Labor in Palestine,
New York, New York.

EBT
EBTowler:agr 8-5-44