Measures Directed Toward Halting Persecution - Romania, Vol. 1, Folder 3
CROSS REFERENCE ON MEASURES, DIRECTED, TOWARD, HALTING PERSECUTION (ROMANIA)

FOR:

- Amendment to this License
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- Renewal of this License
- Correspondence concerning this application
- Other (Specify)

1. FOR: FURTHER MATERIAL CONCERNING CONVERSATIONS HELD BETWEEN CREȚZIANU AND HIRSCHMANN

SEE: 1. ROMANIA AND BULGARIA (SECRET)
Secretary of State
Washington
1440, August 7, 1944

At a meeting on August 5 arranged through Simond, Mr. Cretzianu informed me that the Rumanian Government had agreed in principle to grant transit visas to Jews arriving from Hungary into Rumania provided that the Turks would grant transit visas to the same refugees. I strongly urged Cretzianu to request his Government to permit without delay the entrance of Hungarian Jewish refugees into Rumania and to allow them to remain temporarily in Rumania until such time as transportation and technical facilities were provided for their evacuation. I urged Cretzianu not to permit his Government to "construct a technical wall" against these refugees from Hungary at this time, reminding him that such action would result in increased pressure on the Rumanian Government and would be remembered to the detriment of that Government.

Cretzianu referred to the chaotic situation now existing in Rumania in regard to transit, housing, food, et cetera.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972
-2-#1440, August 7, 3 p.m. from Ankara.

Food et cetera and asserted that a sudden influx of foreign population into the country might create an acute problem which could not be solved overnight.

I stated that in my opinion the Intercross would take all measures necessary to provide such facilities including funds for these purposes if required. The latter seemed to satisfy Cretzianu.

I also informed him that the Bulgarian Government had agreed to permit refugees arriving from Rumania to enter Bulgaria and that it was taking all possible steps to facilitate the transit of such refugees to Turkey.

In the course of our conversation, I advised him as suggested in Department's 669, July 31 and referred to contents of Department's 627, July 11. Cretzianu said that he was pleased to interpret the desire of the United States Government to evacuate the oppressed Hungarian citizens to Rumania as a temporary haven as a recognition of the part of our Government that Rumania in contrast to Hungary now constituted a safe country for persecuted peoples. To this I replied that the results in Rumania would speak for themselves.

In view of Mr. Kelley's successful intervention with the Turkish Foreign Office in securing the latter's authorization
The following War Refugee Board cable 88 is for Hirschmann. Please refer to your 1366 of July 25 concerning your request to Crotsiana that the Rumanian Government issue without delay thousands of transit visas to Jews in Hungary.

In a recent discussion with the Board, Ambassador Steinhardt suggested the desirability of taking precisely such action. Your initiative on this matter is much appreciated.

You may in your discretion advise Crotsiana of the American Government's hope that the Rumanian Government will do all possible to implement the formal assurance given by the Prime Minister of Rumania to the Rumanian delegate to the ICRC (our 527 of July 11). The Rumanian Government can do so by secretly facilitating the type of admissions referred to in your 1343 of July 22 as well as by granting transit visas. It is hoped that the Rumanian Government will permit Jews to enter and remain temporarily in Rumania even though it may not (repeat not) be possible to evacuate them immediately.
CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO KELLEY FOR HIRSCHMANN, ANKARA, TURKEY.

Please refer to your 1365 of July 25 concerning your request to Cretzianu that the Rumanian Government issue without delay thousands of transit visas to Jews in Hungary.

In a recent discussion with the Board, Ambassador Steinhardt suggested the desirability of taking precisely such action. Your initiative in this matter is much appreciated.

You may in your discretion advise Cretzianu of the American Government's hope that the Romanian Government will do all possible to implement the formal assurance given by the Prime Minister of Romania to the Rumanian delegate to the ICRC (our 627 of July 11). The Rumanian Government can do so by secretly facilitating the type of admissions referred to in your 1343 of July 22 as well as by granting transit visas. It is hoped that the Romanian Government will permit Jews to enter and remain temporarily in Romania even though it may not (repeat not) be possible to evacuate them immediately.

THIS IS WAR CABLE TO ANKARA NO. 88.

July 31, 1944
10:30 p.m.

Miss Chauncey (For the Sec'y), Abrahamson, Cohn, DaBois, Friedan
Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Mannon, McCormack, Cable Control Files.
Through the intermediary of the International Red Cross representative in Istanbul, a further meeting was arranged on July 21 at Istanbul between the Romanian Minister to Ankara, Alexandru Cretzianu, Monsieur Jaquinet of the International Red Cross and myself.

I made the following urgent requests of Cretzianu:

One. In view of the reported new policy of the Hungarian Government that Jewish refugees will be permitted to leave Hungary for Palestine provided they have Romanian transit visas, I requested that the Romanian Government issue without delay thousands of such visas to Jews in Hungary who would remain in Romania only long enough to embark on the vessels from Constanța. Cretzianu promised to immediately "warmly and strongly recommend to..."
-2- #1365, July 25, 7 p.m. from Ankara

Bucharest by telegram that the above request should
be granted".

Two. In view of the explained deadlock in
Rumania which is preventing the departure of the
Turk ships and the Greek ship SMYRNIE from Constanza
(concerning which I informed Cretzianu, I
requested him to obtain information regarding the
reasons for this deadlock. I also asked Cretzianu
to urge his Government to facilitate by all possible
means without delay the departure of these vessels.
Cretzianu agreed to do so.

Three. Since it has been reported in Istanbul
that some Rumanian political personalities were
seeking to proceed from Rumania to Turkey by means
of the refugee ships I inquired of Cretzianu as
to the veracity of this report since such a situation
might possibly interfere with the movement of refugees.
Cretzianu asserted that he was aware of this possibility
and informed me that there were two categories of
politicians in Rumania who might be interested in
such voyages:
such voyages: (a) the so-called Liberals with whom he asserted he was in sympathy and who might be available to perform useful political services at this time outside of Rumania (b) politicians who are seeking to "desert the sinking ship" Cretzianu declared that he would work against the efforts of the latter to secure Turkish visas and such Rumanians employing the device of refugee ships to escape from Rumania would meet with his opposition.

Cretzianu informed me that the resolution of Mihaiu Antonescu, setting forth the auspices and authority of the Rumanian Inter-Ministerial Committee to deal with the transportation of Jewish refugees (reported to you in Embassy's 1321) was a matter of secrecy and had not as yet been disclosed, and that he would prefer that it be not publicly divulged for the present.

My impression from this interview further confirmed my view that Cretzianu is speaking for the Rumanian Government and is searching more intensively for a means of assistance in the rescue and transportation of refugees through and from Rumania.

KELLEY

WFS JJM
Secretary of State
Washington
x
1321, July 20, 3 p.m.

For your information, Gilbert Simon of the Interinterests forwarded to me today the following communication which he has received from Alexandru Crețiu, Romanian Minister to Turkey. This communication was in response to my request for information concerning the new official Romanian organization for dealing with the belligerent attitude of Jews from Rumania. The following is a translation of this document received from Simon:

"Communication received on July 13, 1944 from Mr. Alexandru Crețiu, Romanian Minister to Turkey, conveying a statement by Mahai Antonescu, Vice President of the Council of Ministers.

I wish to inform you that an Inter-Ministerial Commission has been constituted since the beginning of the month of May, under my chairmanship, for the purpose of organizing officially and efficiently the belligerent attitude..."
July 20, 3 p.m., from Ankara

attitude of Jews. During the sessions of this commission
Fischer Pilsgermann and Zimmer, the representatives of
the Jews of Rumania, have been consulted, as well as
the Commissioner for Jewish Affairs. These persons have
jointly established a practical means for organizing
Jewish emigration, with the help of either medium size
ships flying a foreign flag (which have recently affected
transports) or ships of greater tonnage which the Service
Heritage Agency may charter for that purpose.

The decision of the government has been officially
communicated to the Swiss, Swedish, Turkish and Portuguese
Legations; to the delegates of the International Red
Cross Committee; as well as to His Eminence, the Apostolic
Nuncio at Bucharest

The Inter-Ministerial Commission is in full
activity. I hope that the international organizations
which have dealt with the question of Jewish emigration
will assist it by giving it their full support.

The above communication on behalf of Ioan
Antonescu serves in our opinion to strengthen our view
that the Rumanian Government is taking measures at the
present time to assist the emigration of Jewish refugees.

KELLEY

RNK
WBB
By arrangement with Gilbert Simond of the International Red Cross, I conferred yesterday with Alexandre Cretzianu, Rumanian minister to Turkey, at the home of Simond. Cretzianu took pains to emphasize the determined efforts of the Rumanian government to assist in the transportation of Jewish refugees from Rumania. He asserted that since my absence from Turkey he had received two telegrams from Micae Antonescu to the effect that "I am doing my utmost to assist in the transportation of Jewish refugees." Cretzianu insisted that he had in his possession further corroboration that the camp in Transnistrian which had contained 48,000 refugees had been completely disbanded in March 1944, but that he could not guarantee any orderly movement of refugees, since he asserted that the bombing of Ploesti and Bucharest had caused marked confusion and chaos in Rumania for all citizens and had multiplied the difficulties connected with all traffic movements.

Cretzianu promised to verify the authority and function of the Rumanian
of the Rumanian Interministerial Committee dealing with
refugee transportation, referred to in the Embassy's
1218, July 5 for the War Refugee Board. Stating that
the Rumanians unanimously desire to withdraw from the
war provided Rumania would not become another Italy, he
warned that such a step at this time would unquestionably
bring about complete German occupation and under such cir­
cumstances "I fear that Rumania may become another Hungery
insofar as the Jews are concerned." Cretzianu emphasized
the friendly role that his government was playing at this
time in connection with the Jewish refugees. He promised
to assist in expediting the embarkation of refugees on the
ships in Constanza and to report to me through Simond
the information he will receive from Antonescu after he
has communicated our conversation to Bucharest.

Cretzianu seemed deeply impressed by the strong
warnings which our government has made to the Hungarian
leaders regarding the fate which awaits the latter for
their barbarisms and took a copy of a memorandum which I
handed to him on this subject and which he requested per­
mission to send to Bucharest.

I am proceeding today to Istanbul where I shall meet
with the Jewish organization representatives there to
form the advisory committee and endeavor to expedite the
ship movements from Rumanian.

WBB
KELLY
RFL
Distribution of
true reading July by
measured arrangement.

[Image]

Secretary of State
Washington

[Image]

FOR EARLY DEPARTURE
FROM CONSTANTINOPLE

[Image]

Azerbaijan
Dated July 3, 1942.
Read July 9th, 1942.

Reference is made to your 64, June 29. Preliminary investigations have disclosed the following information with regard to the evacuation of Jewish refugees from Constantinople to Istanbul in May and June:

The sinking of the ZEMLIZA occasioned the withdrawal on the part of the Bulgarian authorities of cooperation to release ships for refuge purposes. The Bulgarians fear the loss of additional small ships and the Germans alleged that they required the tonnage for military purposes. Steps were taken thereafter to procure small Turkish ships engaged in transporting merchandise from Istanbul to Varna, Bulgaria, under agreement between the Turkish and German Governments, since the Turkish Government does not wish to lose the big ships in foreign trade. The Jewish Agency informs us that it has arranged for four Turkish and one Greek ship to transport refugees on their return voyage from Constantinople to Istanbul. The ships are now ready for sailing at Constantza and the approximate number of passengers they can transport are: 40 on ZEMLIZA 350, MAIDA 350; 400 on ELEFANT 350, MAIDA 350, and the Greeks 500. ELEFANT 350 passengers. There is reason to hope that instead of the above mentioned five ships, the first of whose departure is expected daily, successfully conclude their voyage, they will be followed by three or other ships of similar type and under similar circumstances. Roten and I are working with representatives of the Jewish Agency and the Joint Distribution Committee to break the deadlock which is delaying the departure of these ships. Upon their arrival at the port of Istanbul we have the assurance of Ambassador Steinhardt that as a result of the personal agreement with Cevadzic, Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, there will be no difficulty in permitting the ships to disembark in Istanbul, their passengers without proper papers and in selecting for their transportation through Turkey to Palestine.

Another factor leading to the delay of the above-
AMBASSADOR,

STOCKHOLM,
1883.

The following for Johnson and Olsen is 5PM NY.

Please refer to your 2920 of August 3 relating to the
supposed sympathy of the Romanian Minister to Stockholm regarding
the evacuation of Jews from Romania.

Since the interviews described in our 982 of May 22,
Hirschmann has had further conferences with Cretzianu concerning
the same subject matter. The Romanian Government has now
indicated in a number of ways its willingness to cooperate in
refugee evacuation operations. Evacuation of refugees from
Romania apparently was recently organized on an official basis
in Romania through the creation of an Inter-Ministerial Com-
misson. Furthermore four Turkish and one Greek ship have
apparently been authorized to evacuate refugees from Constanta
to Istanbul and certain of those vessels have already commenced
operations.

For your information Hirschmann has raised with Cretzianu the
possibility of utilizing for refugee evacuation operations
the two Romanian ships now in Istanbul (our L450 of July 14).
The Romanians have also suggested certain other Romanian ships
as suitable for refugee evacuation and the implementation of
these suggestions is now being negotiated in Ankara.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP. 15, 1972
#1683, August 9, 5 p.m., to Stockholm

-2-

Inasmuch as the Board already has a satisfactory contact with the Rumanian Government through Cretziana in Turkey close to the scene of operations, it is felt that little is to be gained and confusion may result if an independent approach is now made to the Rumanian Minister to Stockholm.

STEPTINUS
(Acting)
(GLW)

WRB:165V:KG 6/6/44  NOE NE 3E  S/CR
CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO MINISTER JOHNSON, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN.

Please refer to your SW50 of August 3 relating to the supposed sympathy of the Hungarian Minister to Stockholm regarding the evacuation of Jews from Hungary.

Since the interviews described in our SW52 of May 29, Hirschmann has had further conferences with Crootsam concerning the same subject matter. The Hungarian Government has now indicated in a number of ways its willingness to cooperate in refugee evacuation operations. Evacuation of refugees from Hungary apparently was recently organized on an official basis in Hungary through the creation of an Inter-Ministerial Commission. Furthermore, four Turkish and one Greek ship have apparently been authorized to evacuate refugees from Constanta to Istanbul and certain of these vessels have already commenced operations.

For your information Hirschmann has raised with Crootsam the possibility of utilizing for refugee evacuation operations the two Hungarian ships now in Istanbul (our SW50 of July 17). The Hungarians have also suggested certain other Hungarian ships as suitable for refugee evacuation and the implementation of these suggestions is now being negotiated in Ankara.

Inasmuch as the Board already has a satisfactory contact with the Hungarian Government through Crootsam in Turkey close to the scene of operations, it is felt that little is to be gained and confusion may result if an independent approach is now made to the Hungarian Minister to Stockholm.

THIS IS WAR CABLE TO STOCKHOLM NO. 70

10:40 a.m.
August 6, 1944

Miss Chauncy (for the Sassy) Abrahamson, Cohn, DeBois, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Harmon, McCormack, Cable Control Files.
Stockholm

Dated August 3, 1944

Rec'd 4:02 a.m., 4th

Secretory of State,
Washington.

2920, August 3, 3 p.m.
FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD

From local intermediaries it would appear that the
Rumanian Minister here is very sympathetic regarding
difficulties of evacuating Jews from Rumania. He has
allegedly agreed to forward to Bucharest with his
strong support a request that the Rumanian Government
supply transportation for such evacuations. It was
considered best that the local Swedish Section of the
World Jewish Congress be the initiators of the request.
The Rumanian Minister allegedly appears convinced that
his Government will be receptive to this request and
anxious to take any step which might bring it good will.
He also allegedly seems sure that on the basis proposed
the Germans will not be in a position to refuse safe
conduct. He is allegedly very uncertain, however,
whether the Rumanians now have any vessels suitable
for such evacuation, since most transport vessels
were said.
were said to have been either sunk or badly damaged in the evacuation from Odessa. In the event that it should become established that suitable vessels are, in fact, not available, the Rumanian Minister has pointed out the following possibilities:

(One) The two Rumanian boats presently in Istanbul perhaps can be used. These were mentioned in our No. 48 for WFB (Legation's 2558 of July 9, 11 a.m.).

(Two) Possibly certain suitable Rumanian vessels, damaged at Odessa, were able to get back to Rumanian ports. If it were possible to replace the damaged instruments in Turkey, perhaps two or three boats could be made serviceable.

The Swedish Section of the World Jewish Congress has assured the Rumanian Minister that it will guarantee expenses of any such voyages, and it in turn will look to the World Jewish Congress for the necessary financial support.

As previously indicated, local Rumanian Minister allegedly feels very optimistic concerning this proposal and is forwarding it by courier to his Government in Bucharest. Apparently he dismisses entirely the possibility of any German interest in seizing serviceable Rumanian vessels on the grounds that German troop transport
-3- #2920, August 3, 3 p.m.; from Stockholm

transport requirements in the Black Sea have long since passed, and that the Germans should have no further interest in such vessels.

The Board's comments would be appreciated.

JOHNSTON

JT

WTH
2220, August 3, 3 p.m.

FOR W.R. REFUGEE BOARD

From local intermediaries it was reported that the Rumanian Minister here is very sympathetic regarding difficulties of evacuating Jews from Rumania. He has allegedly agreed to forward to Bucharest with his strong support a request that the Rumanian Government supply transportation for such evacuations. It was considered best that the local Swedish Section of the World Jewish Congress be the initiators of the request. The Rumanian Minister allegedly appears convinced that his Government will be receptive to this request and anxious to take any step which might bring it good will. He also allegedly seems sure that on the basis proposed the Germans will not be in a position to refuse safe conduct. He is allegedly very uncertain, however, whether the Rumanians now have any vessels suitable for such evacuation, since most transport vessels were said to be

DECLASIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date: SEP 15 1972
were said to have been either sunk or badly damaged in the evacuation from Odessa. In the event that it should become established that suitable vessels are, in fact, not available the Rumanian Minister has pointed out the following possibilities:

(One) The two Rumanian boats presently in Istanbul perhaps can be used. These were mentioned in our No. 28 for WRB (Legation's 2538 of July 9, 11 a.m.).

(Two) Possibly certain suitable Rumanian vessels, damaged at Odessa, were able to get back to Rumanian ports. If it were possible to replace the damaged instruments in Turkey, perhaps two or three boats could be made serviceable.

The Swedish Section of the World Jewish Congress has assured the Rumanian Minister that it will guarantee expenses of any such voyages, and it in turn will look to the World Jewish Congress for the necessary financial support.

As previously indicated, local Rumanian Minister allegedly feels very optimistic concerning this proposal and is forwarding it by courier to his Government in Bucharest. Apparently he dismisses entirely the possibility of any German interest in seizing serviceable Rumanian vessels on the grounds that German troop transport...
-3- #2920, August 3, 3 p.m., from Stockholm

transport requirements in the Black Sea have long since passed and that the Germans should have no further interest in such vessels.

The Board's comments would be appreciated.

JOHNSON

JT

VTD
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Stockholm
DATE: May 22, 1946
NUMBER: 962

From War Refugees Board to Minister Johnson and Olsen

Reference your 1596 of May 8 concerning the sympathetic attitude of new Bulgarian Minister to Stockholm toward the Jewish situation.

For your confidential information, a similar situation was exploited by Hirschmann, the War Refugees Board attaché in Ankara, with regard to the Russian Minister to Turkey, who in addition to being sympathetic on the Jewish question, was reputedly close to Marshal Antonescu. With Ambassador Steinhardt's approval two personal interviews were arranged between Hirschmann and Minister Grozianu at the home of the Intercessor representative at Ankara with whom Hirschmann is personally friendly. It was felt by Ambassador Steinhardt and Hirschmann that a direct approach of this type would make a much greater impression on the Russian Government than an indirect approach.

Following is an account of Hirschmann's interviews with Grozianu.

At outset of interview Hirschmann made it clear that his sole function in Ankara was as representative of the War Refugees Board to deal with refugee problems, that the discussion was to be confined exclusively to this subject, and that any other interpretation placed upon the conversation either by Grozianu or his Government would be a deliberate distortion. Hirschmann then outlined to Grozianu the outraged feeling of the Government of the United States at the brutal treatment which was being accorded the Jewish minority and other refugees in Romania and the United States' determination to do everything in its power to rescue such refugees who are in imminent danger of death and to find haven of refuge for them. Hirschmann warned that our Government would keep in mind in the future any continuation by the Romanian Government of these policies of Hitlerite persecution, and that the Russian Government would be well advised in its own interest to take advantage of such opportunities as may be available to it in the future to permit refugees to depart across its borders. Grozianu was invited by Hirschmann to report the substance of the above interview to his Government. Grozianu assured Hirschmann that the Soviets had not taken over from Romania the administration of Transnistria, which was directly in the path of the retreating German army and where many thousands of Jews were held in Romanian concentration camps, no bodily harm would come to any of the many Jews in Transnistria. Grozianu also gave Hirschmann a definite assurance that an arrival of evacuation vessels at Constanta to embark up to 5000 Jewish refugee children, the necessary transportation and exit visas would be provided promptly. Lastly Grozianu promised to send an urgent message to Bucharest reiterating in the strongest terms that efforts he made at once to transfer the Jewish refugees held in Transnistria to Russian proper.

A few days later Grozianu requested a second interview with Hirschmann in which...

Sy squeezing 002
in which Hirschmann was advised that the Bulgarian Government had decided to transfer the Jews in Transylvania to Romania proper and that the transfer had already commenced. Since then approximately 40,000 Jews have been removed from Transylvania, and some of these have been evacuated to Palestine through Constantza.

Because of the conspicuous success of this direct approach to the Bulgarian Government, Hirschmann with Ambassador Steinhardt's approval decided to make a similar approach to the Bulgarian Government. An interview was arranged on or about March 20 between Hirschmann and Minister Balabanoff of Bulgaria at the home of the Intercessor representative at Ankara. Hirschmann opened this interview in the same fashion as the interview with Gretzmann. Balabanoff was advised by Hirschmann that the reports of the brutal treatment accorded to the minorities in Bulgaria, especially the Jews, had outraged the Government and people of the United States and that Bulgaria in the near future would be called upon to answer therefor. After advising Balabanoff of this Government's determination to save refugees, Hirschmann warned that any continuation of the execution of these policies of Mass persecution would be borne in mind by our Government in the future and that the Bulgarian Government would be well advised in its own interests to take advantage of such opportunities to permit refugees to depart across its borders as might be available to it in the future. It was suggested to Balabanoff that he report Hirschmann's remarks to his Government.

Imply Balabanoff stated that the maltreatment of minorities in Bulgaria had resulted from the policies of Obrenovitch. The former Minister of Interior, the Balabanoff asserted had been a tool of the Germans and was no longer a member of the Government. Balabanoff stated that of late the Jews had been given much better treatment in Bulgaria and that he had reason to believe the pressure against them would continue to relax. Hirschmann suggested that Balabanoff dispatch a once an urgent cable to his Government recommending that the same treatment as that accorded by other Bulgarian citizens be accorded henceforth to the Jews and all other minorities in Bulgaria, that the deplorable conditions under which the Jews and other minorities are living in concentration camps be accelerated at once and finally that the Bulgarian Government take immediate steps to authorize the granting of visas and to provide transportation for all refugees who wish to leave for Turkey or Palestine.

On or about April 6 Hirschmann arranged a second interview with Balabanoff. The latter apparently had received no reply to the telegram and long memorandum which he claimed to have dispatched to his Government after the first interview. Balabanoff claimed however to have received word indirectly that the Bulgarian Government was relaxing its attitude toward minorities and particularly the Jews and that Jews were being permitted to leave Bulgaria by both ship and train. He referred to the handing of Saria on to possible reason for his not having heard from his Government. Balabanoff stated further that Christoff, one of the leaders of his Government, had expressed himself in letters to him as sympathetic with the Jewish refugees. Since the above dated nothing farther has been heard from Balabanoff.

If in your opinion the newly appointed Bulgarian Minister to Stockholm appears sincere in his attitude toward the Jewish refugees problem, it is suggested that a direct approach be made along the lines of Hirschmann's interview with Balabanoff. In such an interview it could be pointed out that the
Bulgarian Government's failure to reply to Belabonoff's telegram and memorandum has created an unfavorable impression on this Government and that such action will be taken into account in the final reckoning, for it is indicative that Bulgaria has not yet determined to turn its back on the East ideology of race and minority persecutions. Following is quotation from nation wide radio broadcast made by John Fehle on May 14. Referring to satellite nations, Fehle stated:

"We cannot bring about a more liberal attitude toward the refugees by making it clear to those countries that the United States and the United Nations will bear in mind their treatment of minorities when the time for final settlement comes."

If the Bulgarian Government is sincere in its claim made through Belabonoff to have relaxed its attitude toward minorities and particularly the Jews, there is no better way of manifesting such a changed attitude than by permitting Jews and other refugees to emigrate to Turkey and Palestine by both rail and ship. No such organized exodus has yet come to the attention of the War Refugee Board despite Belabonoff's claim to the contrary.

The possibility of an orderly evacuation of refugees from Bulgaria to Turkey by land should be thoroughly canvassed. In addition the Bulgarian Government may find it to its advantage to press Bulgarian ships into evacuating refugees from Bulgarian ports by sea. Such ships would be protected by a safe conduct from the Russian, British and American Governments which would not be expected to operate their ships without fair compensation. In this connection see our No. 888 of May 12, indicating that certain ships flying the Bulgarian flag may perhaps already have taken some very limited advantage of this type of arrangement. It is the War Refugee Board's desire to start an exodus of refugees from Bulgaria similar to the one which took place from Constantza during April and which it is hoped will continue. Alternatively the Board would desire to increase evacuations from Constantza by the use of additional Bulgarian shipping. Inasmuch as the Bulgarian ships mentioned in our No. 888 have apparently operated without benefit of a German safe conduct, this may be a solution to German delay action in granting safe conduct which have immobilized the ZARIN to date.

Further developments should be sent to us promptly.

This is War Refugee Board Cable No. 12.

WILL

CC: Neale, Abrahamson, Anin, Bernholtz, Cohn, Deutsis, Friedman, Gusten, Hecht, Kappel, Leser, Nieren, Neumann, Marks, McDermott, Nagy, Smith, Stanish, Stewart, Wainstein, W. S. Wattle, Fehle, Wills
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

November 21, 1944

TO: Mr. John W. Fehle
War Refugee Board

FROM: Lester C. Houck
Chairman, Reporting Board

There are attached hereto photostatic copies of four reports concerned with the Jewish situation in Rumania which we believe will be of interest to the War Refugee Board. These are for your retention.

Attachments 4
RECORDS OF THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Projects and Documents File

Measures Directed Toward Halting Persecution — Romania (Vol. 1, No. 6)
YOUR EXCELLENCY,

We beg to request you - for the following reasons - to be good enough as to approve of:

1) The restitution in kind and free of all charges of urban and rural real estate as well as movables, having either commercial or civil object, of all ships and vessels afloat at sea or on rivers, which were expropriated by the laws of the former régime, being in possession of the C.N.R. (National Centre of Roumanisation), sold, consumed or pilfered.

2) The reinstatement of landlords and leaseholders of landed property, vessels, industries, etc., providing immediate possibility of utilization - due on the 26th of October 1944 - for the urban landlords as well as for the tenants of the dwellings out of which they had been evacuated, so that the actual C.N.R.-tenants should either recoup the flats they habituated formerly or those presently occupied by the Jewish landlords or tenants, while if they had had no flats in Bucharest, to be allotted flats of Germans, etc.

3) The payment within three months of the amounts necessary for repairs of damages caused either by wrongful use or lack of keeping.

4) The cancelling of all sales carried through under compulsion on base of art.23 D.L. of urban expropriation and bearing reference to paragraph 11 of the juridical Statute about Jews from the 9th or August 1940.

5) The cancelling by law of all public leases or mutual agreements through which rent - higher than that of October 1941, making allowance for legal extra charges - was agreed upon, granting pardon retroactively for any offence against laws restricting the extra charges.

6) The restitution of all mortgage bonds expropriated, with a possibility of booking them again on the unilateral request of the Jewish creditor, while the debtor will have to request compensation from the State.

7) The cancelling of all laws compelling Jewish tenants to pay taxes which other tenants were exempted from, like the one of 10% on the value of the lease.

The problem concerning the restitution of rents and fines raised by the C.N.R. either from the expropriated Jewish landlords or from others, as well as fraudulent evictions, from the 1st of December onwards, are to be examined later on.

The Jewish population has been expropriated, losing rural and urban property - 16th industrial or commercial object - as well as moveables and real estate. 317% agricultural possessions were expropriated, rising to 45.035 hectares or soil cultivated on cereals, hay, melons and vineyards; 521 woods alt. 47.4; 99 timber factories; 313 industrial properties; 590 of which are mills, 125 vessels afloat and 30.651 urban properties, representing 93.360 flats, 206,452 of which in the counties and 17,655 in the
Capitul, up to the 6th of September 1948, in conformity with the statements of the former Government made known on the occasion of its three years' existence (Bureaustria, 1943, pag. 136-138).

It is well worth revealing that all accusations brought against the Jews - accusations of having bought up rural estates have turned out to be the instrument of ill-intended people or that of "ignorами" who meant to plan the future of the country by making use of far-fetched reality.

In the same treatise, indeed, entitled "Three Years of Government", in which the properties resulting from expropriation of Jews are counted up, the total amount of properties in the whole country is pointed out, with the following result: The total agricultural surface - soil cultivated on cereals, hay, meadows and vineyards - amounted, in 1948, to 11,390,000 hectares, excluding Basarabia, Bucovina and Northern Transylvania, so that, by expropriating 46,030 hectares, it results that the Jews who represented 2.7% out of the entire population were not owning but 0.6% out of the agricultural surface, which means 15% out of the surface ratio.

The total surface covered by woods was 4,350,913 hectares, of which Jewish people were owning but 47,455 hectares, which means practically 0.96% or one third of the surface ratio.

The dictatorial, Hitleristic and antisemitic Government being thus, it has brought down its own accusations with which it had been intoxicating the Roumanian population.

For urban properties the price was fixed up to eight times worth the income stated in the tax-roll, although the law for duty-stamps imposed at least 15 times the income stated in the roll, - from the beginning the price was cut down to half of the real value; as the income had in the meantime risen considerably, without the amount having been paid, the amount would have been cut down to less than a quarter of the real value, and as the amount was payable in bartered bond and only at 7%, the amount did practically not exceed 10-15% of the real value.

For the other properties, the amount would rise to the same ratio, though by other means.

Which meant a spoilage and nowise an expropriation.

The rural properties were taken in hand from the very day of expropriation. Along with all the movable property, the whole inventory, dead or alive, the stocks of cereals and fodder to be found on the expropriated estates or anywhere, in case they were destined to serve the exploitation of those estates, as well as the stocks sold through documents without certain dates, all wine which was found in the store cellars, even years old wine. The woods were taken with all constructions, installations, tools and railway lines. The mills with all implements, with the entire inventory, dead and alive, and with all stocks of products and raw materials. Agricultural factories producing alcohol, with implements, whole inventories, dead and alive, as well as all stocks of products and raw materials. Forest industries, with all machines, implements, inventory, dead and alive. Ships and vessels afloat were taken in hand as well from the very day of the promulgation of the law.

Almost all the moveables, cereals, animals, wood, wines, machines, tools, etc. were pillared and agitation by the "Kolonari" or by the leaseholders who were brought forth by the former, so that, when restituted, some of the above-mentioned items are not to be made use of any more.
Woods were hewn down without regard to any obligations of replanting.

The urban properties were taken in hand after six months although, on the occasion of Dr. W. Pillen's address, on the first of April 1941, a promise was sternly granted according to which no one would be turned out of his house and that the expropriation would take ten years. Now, the landlords as well as the tenants were turned out of houses and homes by force methods, in rain, cold, and snow; sick people, some of whom even lame, without any regard whatever to their doubtful possibility of providing a home, without at least the rent or the lease levied pro rata temporis being restituted to them, without regard to stipulated terms, and mostly even without a notice given, but within an hour or two having their furniture flung out into the street; evictions which ruined a great part and pauperized nearly all, on account of the exorbitant rents they were obliged to pay, as most of them sold all they possessed in order to be able to pay through the nose the rents driven up by machinations, while those that had nothing to sell came down to living in promiscuity, 6-8 persons in one room, expulsions which even brought forth suicides which are practically murders.

After Jews were no more admitted to Stately hospitals—though they were paying taxes to the sick funds—, although the Jewish doctors were forbidden to see any other patients but Jewish ones, the sick people were driven out of the Jewish hospitals which were taken over by the State, while the Jewish doctors were turned out of their dwellings, out of the Jewish districts, having their well-introduced practice checked and having so the only patients they were allowed to see taken away.

In the law, the solution of the restitution of the properties is based on the nullity of public order—resulting from the inconstitutionality of the expropriating laws, inasmuch as they were based on the ethnical origin of the owners as well as on the fact that those laws, putting the property into the hands of the State before its having paid the amount, actually brought about a confiscation, forbidden through paragraph 10 of the Constitution.

Even without the Constitution of 1923 having been restored, the solution could not have been but the above, because the Government that had emitted these laws was the ally of Germany which publicly declared war upon the Jews from everywhere and which, by applying racial laws declared to be the enemy of the Jews in Romania by depriving them of their rights as citizens and considering them as foreigners, as enemies.

The laws and conduct of the former régime towards the Jews are bound to be considered as violations of a foreign Government towards Romanian citizens and must be treated as such.

The way the actual Government has put the Constitution into operation, by abolishing all those laws which had offended against it, no intermediary solution may be conceived, because the upkeep of any contract or right obtained by the State would mean an offence against the Constitution, which would mean the abrogation of racial laws concerning the ethnic Romanians, but their maintenance concerning the Jews, the reinstatement of the Constitution for the Romanians, but the upkeep of the racial laws for the Jews.

Moreover, in North Africa, in Italy, in France, in Belgium, in Bulgaria and in Germany, identical steps have been taken, applying the law not only to the restitution of property of all Jewish possessions, but also
the punishment of all those who have bought or availed themselves of them. The same procedure was applied after the Great War for all the sold or hired possessions in the occupied territory.

In fact, we do notice that the expulsion of the Jews from their dwellings was not even dictated by public necessity, quite on the contrary, but for real want of dwellings, but for the sake of propaganda for the Government, as well as in order to incite the Jews against the Roumanians, which aims are just opposed to the Government of the "Democratic Block" and to the Constitutional Regime.

Indeed, most of those who took advantage of the dispose session of the Jews were people who had their homes in the same locality, even if there were some who had come from the country and had no home, the Government - applying the laws - was able and had to quarter them in all the houses, making no difference, e.g., in the existing vacant flats, for, if the Jews who had been turned out found vacant flats, it means that there were more dwellings available than tenants and the Government, accordingly, was not obliged to turn out the Jews, but could and had to quarter refugees and others of similar categories in anyone's house or in the vacant flats.

The proof that it was not lack of dwellings that determined the Government to turn out the Jews lies also in the fact that when, for the sake of public order, it was reduced to the necessity to prolong the leases of the Jews as well, the Government prolonged them only for all the Roumanian landlords, but kept on the prohibition of prolongation in C.N.R.-houses, namely in houses which were considered the State's property.

In the exposition of the reasons supporting the law of the 25th of October 1943 we are told:

"At the same time we wanted to put an end to the illegal machine of prices carried on through the shifting of tenants caused by the evacuation of the Jews out of C.N.R.-buildings, a situation which is now leading to an exorbitant increase of the rents of the private flats. It stands to reason that the steps we are suggesting are not meant to defend the Jews, but to prevent a disequilibrium in the price of flats by a sudden increase of the rents."

In the exposition of the reasons of the law of April the 8th, 1943, they admit that the free transactions to which the leases for Jews had been left until then had led to an uncommon increase of rents and frequently to an unallowed mechanism of prices on part of the landlords, a situation which is called "disastrous" by the legislator and which, as such, "could not be let go on."

To this confession - based on more than a thousand requests handed in, as well as on the inquests made by the Public Prosecutors of Bucharest and by all similar offices of the land - hundreds of press-out are enclosed which show that for a single room the Jews were asked 300,000 lei, for two rooms 500,000, etc., as
well as advertisements for vacant flats with the remark: "Jews preferred", advertisements which bespoke the existence of vacant flats.

While the Jews, turned out of their homes, were left at the discretion of the "illicit and disastrous machination of prices", the tenants who had occupied their flats did not even pay the minimum rent fixed by law, but often 30–40% of the locative value, resulting from the assessment of taxes, or from the anterior leases, this devalorizing the flats, etc.

Some landlords let their own flats at illicit prices, while numerous tenants pocketed the compensation for evacuating the flats from the Romanian landlord or the homes in which they lived, in order that the former as well as the latter should get into the C.M.R. houses almost for nothing.

Moreover, the solution suggested by us will cause to stop their illegal stay, without though leaving them without a shelter, for they will either enter their former flats or those presently occupied by Jews, so that no trouble may be caused.

On the contrary, this step will give satisfaction to the greater majority of Romanian landlords who have been complaining of the profiting Romanian landlords, for there had been created: "two classes of landlords: the ones with lower rents, obliged to support the burden of the prolonged leases with extra charges fixed by the State, the others with higher rents who always deemed themselves entitled to charge freely whatever extra amount". (Exposition of reasons in the Legal Decree of April the 6th, 1943.)

The reinstatement of the Jewish landlords and tenants into the flats out of which they had been expelled without leaving any Romanians without shelter will accordingly reestablish the equality of all landlords, will put an end to the existence of two classes of landlords, and will likewise incur the existence of two classes of tenants.

The Jewish tenants will reintegrate their flats by paying the rent according to the laws of prolongation, while the Romanian tenants will enter the flats of the Jews, without their paying the illegal rents paid by the Jewish tenants, but paying the rents according to leases signed in 1941, plus legal extra charges.

Should any Jewish tenants not be inclined to enter their former flats, and for the sake of giving satisfaction to equality revindicated by Romanian landlords, a law is required which would cancel any official leases or mutual agreements between Jewish tenants and their landlords who had fixed a rent exceeding the rent of October 1941, plus legal extra charges, granting retroactively par- om for offenses.

We trust that the actual Democratic Government will supersede the example of immorality given by the former government by
an example of morality, which always ought to be given by the State.

Indeed, establishing through law that the private landlords have to prolong the leases of the Jews, while the G.N.R., i.e. the State, refuses to grant prolongation in its own mansions, the State gives an example of immorality.

The democratic state can and must set a good example, which essentially should be:

a) the immediate evacuation of all premises representing the property of the Jewish Community or corporations as juridical persons:

- 330 temples, synagogues and houses of prayer
- 17 hospitals
- 2 sanatoria for holiday colonies
- 92 schools
- 6 orphanages
- 26 houses for the old folks
- 55 ritual bathing-houses
- 65 cemeteries
- 31 parish dwellings
- 87 poultry slaughters
- 10 factories of Easter bread
- 7 quarters of the community
- 3 grounds, former temples or synagogues
- 1 vineyard
- 1 kitchen-garden
- 1 canteen
- 1 shed for a hearse

b) The immediate evacuation of all premises belonging to the Jews, called into requisition, expropriated, or occupied by the G.N.R., or through any other means of the multiple creations of the former regime, or by any public authority, carrying out evictions into the flats of Germany or into any other flats, for to keep occupied Jewish flats only would mean the abolition of racial laws to the benefit of the Romany, Germans, Hungarians, etc., but to keep them up to the detriment of the Jews.

c) Making use of the flats of Germans - who are chiefly responsible for all that has happened - for the eventual quartering of all Romanyans who, through the restitution of the property and the benefit of the Jews' flats would not find any abodes, to which ends an immediate census would have to be carried through of their dwellings.

d) Finally, if need be, the quartering in houses representing the property of Romanian landlords, starting on those who have availed themselves of the war, as we have been making sacrifices for three years and it is fair that those left without homes should be allotted abodes - to the extent to which the actual flats of reinstated Jews, of the Germans, etc. should not be ample enough, for it is only fair that the Romanyans should share with us the sacrifices imposed by those without homes.

e) Moreover, for all damages caused by air-raids we must not forget that about five thousand Jews have emigrated within the last three years; that about 30,000 Jews have evacuated out of villages and small towns which are not district capitals, will come back to their homes; that numerous Romanian refugees from Moldova will get back to their homes, inasmuch as the armistice has been
signed; that the Roumanian refugees from Basarabia and Bucovina will go to the Ardeal to occupy the places left free by Germans, Hungarians and murdered Jews; that all the refugees from Northern and Southern Ardeal will soon be able to take in their former residences; that a great number of Germans, Saxons and Hungarians have left and will leave the capital and other towns, as well in the mother-country as in the Ardeal, etc., so that there is no serious reason whatsoever to believe that anyone might be in danger of remaining homeless.

However it be, we do not reckon it admissible that, under a democratic régime, the Jews should keep being the scapegoat, while the others should go on reaping all benefits. For, if there were any profiteers of the former régime, it was not the Jews who were the profiteers, so that, if the restitution of property and possession is ordered, it does not mean that they would be turned into profiteers, but that at last an act of justice would be done to them, after years of martyrdom.

The procedure. As to the taking possession by the landlords or tenants, it is effected automatically through law, with the following procedure:

a) The Jews will either come into possession directly, without any formality, in which case the reinstatement is equivalent to a renunciation to any compensation for damages, transformations, etc.

b) or - if the owner intends to set up claims - he will notify the C.N.R. and the present occupant to be present on the day and at the hour timed, when he will appear with the bailiff - in the country with the sheriff - in order to draw up an official report, or will demand the appointing of an expert through a presidential order.

The former Jewish tenants will let know their Jewish landlord and the present tenant of the C.N.R. - by means of a registered post card - that they mean to reenter their homes; they will inform the latter about the flat they are occupying, about the rent stipulated in the lease, without any taxes, a session transferable to their own landlord, without any notification.

Properties handed over to ministries and which hold investments of the latter, if the landlord states through registered post card that he will take in hand the installation, in conformity with the Civil Code, he will restitute the amount invested - after subtracting the rents and compensations, the taxes, insurance fees, etc.

If he will, in the same way, declare that he does not require them, the State will take them off, putting the premises at once into the condition they found them in when taking them over.

Disregarding the principles of the Civil Code would mean - we repeat it - to keep up the racial laws, though the Constitution of 1923 has been restored.

The redemption of indivisible parts by ethnic Roumanian owners is laid down in Art. 1 of the law 284/34. The right of the State to own property being abolished, the sale of the indivisible
parts is null and void, in conformity with the Civil Code, so much the more as the buyer did actually know the vice of the object purchased and accordingly assumed the risk.

Of course, the State will restitute the amount pocketed to the buyer.

The Jewish fellow-owner will be entitled to ask from the Law Court the erasure of the transcription of the sale, without any taxes, on base of an authenticated declaration through the law court.

Donations and sales between husband and wife, based on art.5 of the law 357/41 and of art.6 of the law 247/43, the donor, respectively the seller, will, through an authenticated declaration in front of the law court, declare null and void the donation or sale and, supported by it, will himself demand the erasure of the transcriptions without any kind of taxes.

Expropriations for the sake of public utility. All expropriations of Jewish houses, on base of any law, in the spell from the 4th of September 1940 to the 23rd of August 1944, are null and void, without any formality, if the Jewish owner who was expropriated gives an authentic declaration and restitutes the amount, in case he received it - less the out for the spell along which the house was occupied by the buyers - and requires erasure of the transcriptions, without any taxes, on base of the authentic declaration.

Immediate taking over of all properties expropriated besides the urban ones. Inasmuch as the Jews have lost the use of all properties - excepting the urban ones - on the day of the promulgation of the expropriation law, thus losing new and old crops, etc., it is fair that the reinstatement, too, should be carried through on the very day of the promulgation of the retrocession law.

Immediate payment in kind of all movables, inclusively those abstracted, destroyed, etc. As shown above, the landed property was taken over with new and old crops, tools, installations, animals, of which a considerable part was abstracted or sold less at derisory prices; it is fair that the State should restitute in kind all the cattle, cereals, wines, machines, etc., which were handed over. The State prosecuting those guilty - the creators of the laws as well as those that applied them dishonourably and those that profited or abused, for restituting the pocketed amount to the Jews would mean to restitute them only 1/56 of their value. The sale having been executed without their will, it is not they who shall bear the consequences, a tax may be possibly imposed on all the houses of all inhabitants - inclusively those of the excepted Jews -, out of which shall be bought only the abstracted or destroyed properties in order to restitute them in kind.

Thus, an example of social solidarity is given; the right is reestablished, and productive properties which will supply the budget will be handed over to public traders.

The-like system was introduced by the former régime through the law decree Nr. 3386 /1940 for the Romanisation of the
staffs in establishments. The seized Jews were to be employed for various works. For their payment, a tax of 1% will be instituted, calculated to the total amount of salaries paid by any establishment.

Anything may be conceived, but to keep the ruin of the Jews, to reestablish the industries without any machines or raw materials, agricultural soils without any tools, cattle, etc., would mean to keep up the racial laws of them. Right can and must be brought in for the benefit of all, with the sacrifice of all, if need be.

The management of the properties from the 31st of August up to the handing over. From the 31st of August on, the C.N.R., losing its property, has lost whatever right to cash rents, so that the amounts that have possibly been cashed will be restituted on handing over.

The prosecution through the C.N.R. of alleged debts contracted by the former Jewish landlords. The C.N.R., discontented with having cashed and not restored the rents they had received out of the exempted flats, prosecuted the exempted Jews through the Board of assessment, charging the restitution of rents collected before having ceased any exemption. Frequently, even the amount cashed is charged under the title of "fine". The cancelling of all liabilities of former exempted Jews is a most pressing affair.

The cancelling of outstanding taxes. All unpaid taxes, due for expropriated property will be erased in the tax rolls. Jewish landlords not being liable to debts as far as the 26th of October 1944.

The revision of the income registered in the rolls. The revenue office has carried out new assessments which the C.N.R. did not comply with, while the landlord was not admitted. All those require a revision.

The restitution of mortgage bonds. Up to the last of August, 1943, a number of 564 mortgage bonds was expropriated, rising to a total amount of 160,000,000 lei (three years of government). The expropriation is due to be cancelled. Should the State have proceeded to cashing, though, this cashing is not opposable to the landlord, according to legal norms, the debtor having to cash the amount paid out to the State without any right. The Jewish mortgage creditor will, based on an authentic statement, demand the cancelling of the mortgage.

The restitution of ships and vessels, etc. The expropriated ships and vessels were managed by the Under Secretary of State for the Admiralty on basis of an agreement published in the official paper "Monitorul Oficial" number 194/1942, which stipulated the upkeep of vessels and inventories, as well as their substitution in case of loss on account of navigation or war risks; an indemnification to be efectuated within 30 days, in the shipyard of the German D.L.S.C. Society, to which the office of the Under Secretary of State for the Admiralty had sold almost the whole shipyard area.
As the D.D.S.G. Corporation have complied with these stipulations as far as the tonnage of the Christian ship-owners is concerned, - which means they are to restitute them the tonnage demanded and effect repairs -, the property of those responsible for not carrying out the stipulations concerning the shipyards of Jews expropriated will have to be affected, while, in the meantime, the losses incurred will be equally made up for by all shipowners, by means of subjecting them all to taxes which will enable them restitution of Jewish ships lost and make possible the repair of those still existent.

Besides the restitution, all leases for shipping transports will have to be cancelled; the cancelling of the Law Decree Nr. 501/4.I.1941, concerning the cession of river vessels, the former Jewish grantees being re-instituted in their old rights.

Properties, the owners of which are absent. All property, movable or real estate, the owners of which are absent, will be temporarily taken in hand by the local Jewish Community or, otherwise, by the Community residing in the capital of the district into the possession of which they are due to get; unless the owners or heirs do not appear within the term settled through the Civil Code for non-attendance, the Romanian Bank of Credit will restitute to those legally entitled, respectively to the Community, the equivalent of 10% out of the gross amount of income realized through the management or liquidation or property left by Jews and which was deposited on the strength of the law of the 30th of April, 1941.

We trust that Your Excellency will kindly approve of our requests which have been examined so as to make amends for illegalities, without prejudicing any Romanians or rendering difficulties to the State. Hybrid solutions would mean an offence against the Constitution come into operation anew, it would mean, we are bound to repeat, its coming into operation favourising Romanians, Hungarians, Germans, etc., which means, all those who have not suffered but who, on the contrary, have availed themselves of the racial laws against the Jews, i.e. against all those who have suffered.

We beg Your Excellency to receive the assurance of our utmost respect.

President
Dr. W. Filderman

General Secretary
M. Davidovicii
WARCRIMES, REPRESSION AND SUFFERINGS OF THE JEWISH POPULATION IN ROMANIA FROM THE SUMMER OF 1940

IV. Massacres and assassinations

During the Legionary Government 4 Jews were killed in Bucharest, 11 in Floresti during the night of Nov. 17-18, and one Jew at Pricova (Oltmtara) on Jan. 17th, 1941, and 100 Jews during the Rebellion of Jan. 21 to 24.

From June 29 to July 6, 1941, between 3,000 and 7,000 Jews were killed in Iasi (at the police headquarters, in the streets and houses as well as in two trains filled with refugees from this city). Nearly all were men, supporters of families.

From June 22 to July 20, 1941, every single Jew in the villages of North Bukovina (districts of Cernăuți and Brodajen) was killed. According to the census of 1940 there were 17,395 Jews in these villages.

On July 3 and 6, 1941, date of the occupation of Cernăuți, over 3,000 Jews were killed in the suburbs of the town.

On July 8, 1941, 500 Jews headed by the community rabbi, Dr. Mark, were killed at Cernăuți on the bank of the River Prut.

Along the road followed by the armies advancing into Bukovina, countless Jews were killed, thousands, perhaps tens of thousands. The exact number will never be known.

On July 17, 1941, during the occupation of Chicău, over 4,000 Jews were killed in the suburbs of the town.

On August 1, 420 Jewish intellectuals were removed from the Chicău ghetto, taken 2 km away from the city, and shot.

During the first week of August 1941, 300 Jews were selected at random from the ghetto of Chicău, taken to Ghidighici, and shot.

During the month of October, during the deportation across the Dniester, countless Jews were killed or died from torture, especially those who had been tortured on the way from Chicău to Orheiu, Soroca, Maroșești and Remia and still further on the well worn roads leading across the Dniester.
During the winter of 1941-42, 50,000 Jews died of starvation, cold and sickness (especially epidemic typhus) and from utter misery.

On the day of Yom Kippur 1942 about 700 Jews, deported from Bukovina, were killed at Mostovol in Southern Transnistria.

II/. Torture, beating and cruel treatment

During the Legionary Government, thousands of Jews in the entire country were beaten, tortured and terrorized by the Legionary Police, guards and by the corporation of legionary workers.

Later, many Jews were enrolled in detachments to work for public service. These were beaten and tortured in the prison camp of Targu Jiu, as well as in evacuation and deportation convoys.

III/. Plundering

From the very first until the very last moment until the fall of the Legionary regime, the Jewish population of the entire country had been the victims of continuous plundering, to an unbearable extent. This plundering being directed and executed by local authorities and citizens ranging from the highest to the most insignificant.

IV/. Legionary aid

A group of institutions having a philanthropic character favouring the legionaries plundered the Jews by means of terrorizing and torture. Tens of millions of lei were stolen, especially at Piatra Neamț, Buhuși, Tg. Neamț, Iași, Bucharest (town hall no.3, III Blue) Ploiești and Târgoviște.

V/. Confiscation of warehouses and commercial enterprises

An action, brought up it seems by the Vice President of the Council of Ministers personally, was taken from Oct. 1940 to Jan. 1941, spreading all over the country, authorizing the plundering of all commercial and industrial enterprises owned by Jews. In this savage way it became possible, buy a few lei for a thousand lei (and this in 90% of the cases non paid) the whole Jewish commerce in Transylvania (excepting the city of Timișoara), the whole commerce in Oltenia (excepting one single firm in Craiova) and the entire Jewish commerce of the following towns: Câmpina, Brăila, Constanța, Giurgiu, Slatina, Galați, Vâlcea, Calarasi, etc., as well as many commercial and industrial firms in Bucharest and other parts of the country. The total sum of this plundering can never be drawn up. A small part was restored to the owners after the fall of the regime.
0/. Plundering of households

Another action of smaller proportion was brought up at the same time against household goods. By the same methods of terrorizing and torturing Jewish households were laid bare of the last chair, sheet and pillow, without notion of enormous quantities of valuable jewelry, precious libraries and other objects of artistic value.

a/. The rebellion

During the 3 days of the Rebellion, Jewish institutions, business concerns and homes were burned and devastated. Damages amounted to about 400,000,000. Restoration of the homes thus destroyed and aid to widows and orphans made a heavy draw on the funds for community social aid.

0/. Plundering of deserted and evacuated homes

The Jewish population of the whole country was plundered later during the evacuation of market towns and villages and again during deportation.

Convoys of evacuees were stopped, either at their departure from place of origin or before arriving at destination. Those who were not able to take with them everything of value from the small houses and properties had to stop in order to make their journey to Ellis. In any ease the population noticed. In the plundering, with the consent of the authorities, Jewish property was taken from others by the departure of their owners and left to all the inhabitants of the town. At Belzit, for instance, in the Jewish cemetery were taken and set up as stage to the entrance of the inadequate dwellings.

Later a law decreed the state itself take control. Proceedings allowed to any public authority of all goods belonging to evacuees, basic goods being unconditional.

0/. Summary of facts

Number of Jews killed in the first month of the survey was about 52,000. Establishments of Jewish households were destroyed, or the gold, silver, and jewels stock in the houses. Then the same establishments were looted. All property were bought for 400,000,000. All the money

IV/. Conclusion

To the laws of civilization, the following property have been taken from the Jews:

- Inland property such as titled land, forests,
waste land, vineyards, farms, orchards, vegetable and flower gardens, together with their complete inventory of implements, tools, live stock, grain and fodder to be found in the aforesaid property.

b. Forests together with buildings already erected, sawmills, railways, mills of all sorts, even located in towns, water cranes, & refineries for the production of vegetable oil, machines for making rustical wooden material together with the land on which these mills were erected, dead & live stock and stocks of raw and finished material; factories for the production of spirits, located even in towns, together with the land on which they were built, their out-buildings, installations, inventories and entire stock of finished and raw products; forestry exploitatons with all buildings, land and installations.

c. It has been found that by a decision of the National Defense Ministry published in the M.O. No.145/1941 the following 100 vessels and other sea-going or rivercraft were listed in the inventory of the N.F.R. Naval basin, having been expropriated from Jews:

6 tug boats totaling 2410 HP
3 grain elevators 50 HP each
80 barges, capacity 100,000 tons
8 6,562 tons
3 tankers 2,755 tons

d. Urban property and landowners rights.

e. Dairy farms, bakeries, factories for the milling of flour, factories for the commercial production of spirits or grain or wine, first & second class distilleries, stills for the production of rye and potatoes, alcohol, beverages derived from grapes and prunes. Factories for drug production, rights of subsoil exploitation if the top soil is owned by a Jew, wood and its by products if the owner or contractor for the exploitation of the forest is Jewish, all wood industry, indifferent whether found in the forest, in deposit or in course of transportation, all inventories, dead & live stock, tools, buildings, railways belonging to the exploitation of the aforesaid.

f. Shares infilm concerns or travel bureaus.

g. Mortgages belonging to Jews.

h. Property owned by the Jewish community, excepting a few temples and synagogues.

i. Commercial and industrial enterprises belonging to Jews in Bessarabia and Bukovina.
The exact value of appropriated Jewish property is not known, but it may be presumed, considering the budget of the National Center of "Roumanization" for the year 1942-43 that the income from the administration of this property totals 4,650,000,000 Leu.

V/. Confiscation

The following articles were confiscated by law or through administrative measures:

- Radio sets
- Movie sets
- Skis
- Binoculars, cameras, and pocket flashlights
- (the latter only in certain districts)

Commercial or industrial enterprises condemned by law for insufficient or disrespect of blackout measures.

VI/. Requisition

Begun in the days of the Legionary regime, these requisitions were made without paying indemnities:

- Almost all Jewish schools
- Almost all Jewish hospitals over the country as well as vast number of instruments and appliances taken from the offices of Jewish doctors;
- Nearly all homes for orphans and old people;
- Many synagogues requisitioned and converted into warehouses, gymnasia, etc.

VII/. Harassment

In the days of the Legionary regime, the authorities proceeded to harass the Jews. The situation thus created by the Legionaries continued to exist even after their fall from power on Sept. 6th 1940. There violence was greatest, that is, in Bucharest, Buchia, Zara, Magurele, Sinaia, only 10% of the former Jewish population remain.

Massive harrassing was done during the legionary regime by the local police, especially in the villages of the districts of Hârâș and Suceava.

VIII/. Expulsion

After the earth quake of 1940 the Jewish population of the villages of Râșnov was not allowed to return.

Simultaneously with the declaration of war and
during the following few weeks the entire Jewish rural population was annihilated. Initially, all market towns were evacuated by order of the "Voluntary Police."

More than one million souls took the road to milch. Nearly one-half of them were transported under horrible conditions hundreds of kilometers where they died en route in utter misery. In the years of duration of this criminal policy, uncounted, in spite of all periodic efforts to permit registration.

X/. Internment - Hostages

Begun in the days of the legionary regime by sending individual Jews to the prison camps, large J.I.C. the internment continued on a greater scale after the declaration of war. All the Jewish population of Odessa, all able-bodied men of Odessa, Ias, and a large part of the male population of Mihai Neamţ, Iosefin and Susani were interned. In the whole of the rest of the country, hundreds of Jews were interned as hostages, answering with their lives for the acts of their collaborators. The internment of hostages lasted from June 28, 1941, to January 23, 1943.

X/. Ghetto

Simultaneously with the end of the occupation of Bessarabia and Bukovina, the remainder of the small Jewish population left alive in these districts was rounded up and concentrated in 5 centers. In September, the situation was as follows:

Ghetto Șeșter, Și Edene (Rotin) 20,909
          Șeșteri (Soroca) 10,797
          Șeșteri (Soroca) 24,000
          Șeșteri (Soroca) 10,996
          Șeșteri (Soroca) 40,497

Jews from Germania had been sent up in ghettos on October 11th, 1941.

XI/. Deportation

Between Oct. 1941 and Oct. 1942 one half of the Jewish population in the country was deported across the river. This, they were told, was the way. The conditions of the deportation were such that one half of those deported to the prison camps and ghettos of Transnistria died on the way, while the other half died in the first winter after their arrival. In aid to these deported people over 100 million lei were spent. If one adds to this the amount of individual aid, one can presume that over a
XII. Exclusion from the right to working

Even before the installation of the reactionary regime, this exclusion from many spheres of activity was prepared by juridical statute.

a) Liberal professions

With very few exceptions the right of working for Jewish lawyers, engineers, architects, newspapermen, exporters and druggists (these without exception) was abolished. By another law the activities of Jewish doctors were greatly reduced. In the course of time actors, musicians, artists and sculptors were excluded from their professions as activity, all remaining without means of earning their living. Only after two years none of them were able to find temporary work.

b) Public and private employers

By the law of Germanisation (1) concerning the personnel of any enterprise, a vicious action was taken which resulted in the exclusion of the majority of the Jewish personnel. The juridical statute permitted the excluding of all Jewish public service personnel.

c) Artisans

Although the statutes of many artisans' guilds and associations of apprentices were annulled, although many of the entries were altered so to deprive the right to work through private enterprises, this right was not abolished owing to the constant and complete annihilation of Jewish artisans in public service work.

d) Agriculture and Industry

Through juridical statute and alteration of law, the economic activity of the Jewish peasantry in the various regions of Germany was abolished. The owners of land and of enterprises were compelled to maintain the Jewish workers in the land, to prevent them from finding employment. The government of the nation, whether directly or indirectly through the mediation of the nation's banks, was opposed to regulations.

Through administrative measures for war economy all Jewish workers from the list of workers and employers were to be excluded from the work of production. The same prohibition applied to the Jewish workers engaged in industry. The list of Jewish workers was to be abolished. The government of the nation, whether directly or indirectly through the mediation of the nation's banks, was opposed to regulations.
III/1. Labor in public works service

From the autumn of 1940, owing to the abusive powers of prefects and mayors, Jewish labor in public works departments (labor named obligatory labor) was instituted as a legal obligation in Dec. 1940 and militarized organized from August 1941. For 3 years practically without interruption (a slight pause in the winter of 1941-1942) over 100,000 Jews, men & women, were forced to hard labor such as labor on roads, railways, stone & rock quarries, street cleaning, removing snow, removing bodies and wounded from the ruins occasioned by the bombardments, removing unexploded bombs, etc. Although by law the age of those forced into public service labor was limited between 18 and 50 years, this age limit was so extended, owing to administrative abuses, that it comprised children of 16 and people over 70.

The legal and administrative dispositions for the wages and aid to laborous families became literally unexistent to the extent that upkeep, clothing, medical assistance of the laborers and their families became aload, one of the heaviest, on the Jewish unions and on private initiative.

IV. Extraordinary taxation

The Jewish population excluded from the right to work, impoverished by the torrent of taxes and sufferings mentioned above, was at all times obliged to make gigantic financial sacrifices.

Jews were obliged to subscribe to the Reintegration Loan four times the sum demanded of other citizens of the country. Up to 20 May 1942, Lei 1,294,200.14 were paid, but later by the severe application of the Reintegration Loan the sum was greatly increased.

Jews all over the country, and especially in Bucharest, were obliged to collect and hand over thousands of hospital beds, complete with sheets, blankets & pillows. This cost approximately 200 millions.

All Jews were obliged, first by administrative measures, then by a few laws, to collect a stock of clothing to be handed over to the military authorities. In concordance with these laws, clothing valued at 1,790,202.850 lei and sums in place of clothing amounting to 9,952,800 lei were handed over as well as forfeits amounting to 100,000,000 by those unable to hand over clothing.

100,000,000 lei was contributed by order to the fund for the Invalids Palace.

Enormous taxes were required from the Jewish population for the buying of rights to exercise once again their professions.
and for exemption from public service labor. These taxes amounted in 1943 to 226,144,205 lei and in 1944 until 13 June to 1,729,807,524 lei.

One single category of Jews (especially intellectuals) paid taxes for exemption from the illegal obligation of labor in removing snow. These taxes amounted in 1943:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Province</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Jewish population paid a special tax of 4 billion lei of whom 734,135,506 lei was paid up till now.

The Jewish population was forced to pay a higher price for bread, more than double the price paid by other citizens.

The Jewish population was obliged to pay military taxes which enlarged by 40% individual taxation. For some categories, military taxes were tenfold, representing four times the sum of the usual taxes.

IV/. Miscellaneous

During the four years a whole series of measures were taken, by law or by administrative means, which surpassed each other in aggravating the sufferings of the Jewish population and which have contributed to their impoverishment.

The legionaries organised the boycott of the Jewish enterprises, either by notices such as "Jewish store" or by posting armed legionaries at the doors of the concerns, prohibiting entrance.

The Legionary Government closed the doors of State schools and Universities to all Jewish students. New schools of all grades had to be organised and this with the greatest difficulty, owing to the fact that most of the Jewish school buildings as well as the professors had been harried the whole time by obligations to do public service labor.

Jews were no longer allowed to possess radio sets, to have Christian domestic help, to buy their provisions in market outside of specified hours, to circulate in specified hours (in certain towns), to go to public baths, beaches, and certain public restaurants, to travel without permits, which were issued with the utmost parsimony only by the Ministry of Interior, etc., etc.

In certain towns, Jews were obliged to wear a distinctive badge, this fact causing a series of serious incidents.
which paralysed the activities of all those who still possessed some activity. This badge was removed in Sept. 1941, being retained only in the towns under the Bukovina Government, where it lasted until 1 January 1944.

Ration cards for the Jews were marked, being valid only for reduced quantities; in some cases 20% less than the natives or other citizens.

Jewish tenants of property expropriated from Jewish proprietors were obliged at first to pay larger rents than those demanded from other tenants. Later, however, their leases were no longer renewed and they were evicted almost without exception, even the former owners and even owners exempted from expropriation laws. Jewish tenants in general were excluded from benefiting by the laws for renewing leases until April 1943.
Sir,

We have the honour of forwarding to the present memorandum the situation of public and private employees, of apprentices, workmen, etc., demanding, for the reasons which follow, that you be kind enough to approve.

1. That all Jewish private employees and apprentices, who have been in the employment of the former Government, be reinstated with all their former rights and privileges, in enterprises in which they used to work, or in similar private enterprises, or in other similar or auxiliary institutions.

2. That all Jewish apprentices, whose time of service has expired before the date of this memorandum, be considered in their capacity or that of persons employed in the employment identical or similar to those in which they used to work, have been reinstated.

3. That this privilege be extended to all those who have been dismissed or whom the employment of the former Government, at the time of this memorandum, or at any time since the date of the referendum of 1919, consider in their capacity of persons or similar to those in which they used to work, have been reinstated.

We are, Sir, yours faithfully,

[Signature]

[Date]
"Everyone's work is a source of riches and any persecution is a source of anything".

These laws show the democratic spirit and the wisdom of the leaders of the Country, confirmed by events in the last years, as it has been proved that from the moment in which was started the persecution of Rumanians, according to the differences of religion of race, the Country has been overrun by anarchy, and according to the declarations of the Secretary of State for National Economy, General Popescu: "The Country's economy has been Germanised, instead of being passed into the hands of the Rumanians".

9) The Law for the Organization of the Trades from 1911 which, for the first time, has tried to introduce a distinction between citizens and Rumanian protégés, - consequently not according to race, but only according to citizenship, - but H.M. King Carol I put the following written resolution on the memorandum which was presented by the Union of Rumanian Jews:

"The Secretary of State for Industry and Commerce to consider seriously and take the necessary measures concerning the demand which we deem right. Such a numerous population which has been established here for hundreds of years cannot exist without living by its work. Accordingly, the Government gave up the distinction which was intended to take away from the Jews in Rumania the right to work.

10) The Law made in 1920 maintained the traditional legislations, without making any distinction between Rumanian citizens and protégés in respect of the right to work.

11) The Law made in 1924, maintaining the former laws, but using the word "Rumanian", has caused a member of Parliament to ask that this word be replaced with the expression "Rumanian citizen", so that on no account citizens of a different race be deprived of the right to work. It was answered that the amendment was superfluous, because: "The notion of Rumanian as it is used in the Law is understood in its constitutional meaning".

In the debates on the Constitution it was established that by "Rumanian" one understands all the citizens, without distinction of origin, race, language or creed.

12) The Bill which was intended to be brought before Parliament in the spring of 1927 made discriminations according to race, between citizens on the one hand, and between citizens and Rumanian protégés on the other hand; but it was abandoned as a result of the interventions which were made.

13) The Decree from the 16th November 1940 for the Replacement of Jews with Rumanians in Enterprises has suppressed the right of the Jews to live by suppressing their right to work. All enterprises - excepting Jewish institutions with a religious or cultural character - have been compelled to dismiss their Jewish employees - with the exception of invalids and orphans from the World War - up to the 31st December 1941, which term was later renewed by various decisions.

The obligation to dismiss the personal includes the apprentices and even the members of the family of the owner of the enterprise, - his own parents or children, or even the owner's
husband or wife or children were allowed to represent. In the event that any of these persons were represented, and only for the duration of the controversy.

The issue of compensation under the Law of Human Rights and the basic workers' rights. The basic workers' rights, who were dismissed, were to be compensated. The compensation was paid according to whether the employee was dismissed or not.

The maximum of compensation was to be two-thirds of the previous salary. The compensation was paid in two equal installments. The second installment was paid in the third month. Payment of compensation was not to be withheld after the third month. Under no circumstances could the compensation be less than thirty thousand lei.

Payment of higher compensation than that allowed by the law was sanctioned with a fine equal to ten times the sum of the compensation paid in the case, and the refusal to comply the other conditions was declared as a criminal offense and the taking over of the enterprises by the state, or its liquidation.

The free present were to be occupied by Romanians - other than Jews, Jews, or Romanians, etc.

Concerning the fate of those dismissed, the law was granting them a right to being used for works of public utility, according to a formula which was to be established later on, and in order to cover the expenses with the Jews in carrying out these works, other expenses and necessary by the application of the law, the enterprises with more than five employees were compelled, to pay in the light of social insurance a special tax amounting to the total of the salaries and wages paid to all their employees.

About these diabolical measures, the author of the law says in its exposition of motives, that they were not troubling any one; that the replacement of Jews with Romanians was being made "gradually" and that, of pity for the Jews, he was being able to that they got:

"equitable compensation" and "means of living in the future".

To cancel the right to compensation, to go far enough with the savagery as to fix a maximum of sixty thousand lei, that is to reduce the exceptional reduction, and to punish the employer who, out of his own pocket, would like to pay the employee more than the law allows, all this means "equitable compensation".

To grant those dismissed, the right to be used for works of public utility - roads, railways, etc., that is to degrade them to the rank of unskilled workmen, means to see that they get "means of living in the future".

Believing that he could cover with words those measures
which were equivalent to a death sentence by inquisition, the law-giver had the courage to affirm that the law was offering: "the most human solution possible".

because: "this replacement of Jews by Romanians was going to be made gradually, ensuring for the Jews dismissed equitable compensation and means of living in the future".

Thus, to dismiss all Jewish employees in three months means "gradual dismissal", and to degrade them, granting them the "right to be used in works of public utility" - which was not done at all, means to ensure that they have means of living in the future, and to cancel their legal rights in case of dismissal, and so on with damages as to punish the employer who offers larger sums of compensation, means "the most human solutions possible".

The pretext of the law is the necessity:

- to harmonize social life with the interests and aspirations of the nation",

to which ends:

- the most complete replacement of Jews possible by Romanians in all fields of activity, and first of all in that of work, cannot be delayed".

The statement that the elimination of the Jews was necessary to harmonize social life with the interests and aspirations of the nation is disproved by statistics which were clearly showing the superiority of the Romanians and Germans and the decrease of the Jews. Consequently, if we put the elimination of the Jews which stood in the way of the interests and aspirations of the population.

Until 1930, considering the census of 1930, which gives a total population of 18.087.020 inhabitants, and taking in account the publications of the Central Institute of Statistics between 1920 and 1940, the probable population on the 1st January 1920 was 17.985.451 inhabitants, that is a growth of 111.500. If from this last figure we subtracted the population of the Danubian territories, the population must have been on the 6th September 1930, at which date the legionary régime came to power, 10.577.020 inhabitants, which, divided according to nations, proves that from 1920 to 1940, the number of:

- Romanians had increased from 72.9% to 83.0%, that is by 16.1%,
- Germans from 4.1% to 4.6% " " 19.5%,
- whilst the number of Jews had decreased from 24.0% to 2.5% " " 87.0%.

As can be seen from these figures that it was not the Jews who were threatening the interests and aspirations of the nation.

It is interesting to consider not only the proportion of Jews in the population of the whole country, but the ratio of Romanians to every single minority. The figures published only can give an exact image of the proper...
The following are the figures for 1930 and 1940:

For 1 German to 17 Romanians in 1930, we have 1 German to 17 Romanians in 1940.
For 1 Hungarian to 9 Romanians in 1930, we have 1 Hungarian to 8 Romanians in 1940.
For 1 Jew to 17 Romanians in 1930, we have 1 Jew to 55 Romanians in 1940.

It follows from this that, in respect of Jews, the ratio has doubled in favour of the Romanians, the Jews being with 1 Jew to 55 Romanians still outnumbering the Hungarians, which figures prove the superiority of the anti-Semitic sentiment. As to-day more than one of the Jewish population of Romania is of the economic class, it is obvious that it is necessary to append the appendix showing the data concerning the 1910-11 Old Survey. However, as the last data for the year 1911-12 are not available, the comparison cannot be made. However, for the year 1910, the data have been taken from the Central Bureau of Statistics, and it is stated that the Jewish population increased from 1,020,000 to 1,520,000, while the Hungarian population increased from 1,520,000 to 1,720,000. This shows that the Jews have increased at a much higher rate than the Hungarians, and it is obvious that the anti-Semitic sentiment is well-grounded.
Not only by engaging Hungarian employees in considerable proportions were the Jews the only element who has not sabotaged, but, on the contrary, the Romanian aliens penetrate in trades which they have no right to enter, and to form the capital of the small Romanian businessmen and artisans.

From the Monograph of Co-operation in Romania, 1906-1935, pag. 299, (Dr. T. Calau), it results that the Jews had the fewest co-operatives.

There were:
1 German co-operative 121 members
1 Hungarian  330
1 Hungarian  354
1 Jewish  526

The only co-operatives belonging to a minority which have received Romanian members have been the Jewish ones.

Returning to the savage Law of 1940, the Germans themselves have condemned it, qualifying it as disastrous for the Romanians, respectively the Romanian economy. In a conversation which Dr. W. Pfleiderer had with Professor Dr. Förtsch, the latter told him that he knew from the legionaries themselves that the German Envoy to Romania, Fabritius, criticizing the Law for the replacement of the Jews with Romanians, had told the legionaries that they were not only devoid of political knowledge, but that they were quite apolitical, showing them that if the Law should be enforced, it would compromise the Country's whole economy. This is what actually happened, if we consider that students of theology, waiters, lift-boys and people like these have been charged to keep the books in enterprises with no less than 5000 current accounts, to manage departments for carpets, silk goods, etc., in large stores.

If there is any doubt about all that has been said above, we shall examine what the real figure of employees in general is, and in what measure the Jews have occupied the places of the Romanians.

In 1938, the number of workmen figuring on the list of the labour exchanges was 466,184, and of the private employees was of 120,000, that is a total of 586,184 (Contributions to the Problem of the Reorganization of Credit, vol. I, pag. 208 et seq.).


To-day, the employees paying social insurance taxes, from the benefits of which the Jews are excluded, are about as many as 750,000.

The real figure of Jewish employees. The indications given by the former Secretary of State for Labour, Dr. Dănuțescu, ("Vinul" of the 15th June 1942) show that in the whole Country there were on the 16th November 1940, a number of 28,225 Jewish employees, 21,354 of which were bureaucrats and 1,997 workmen, a number reduced on the 1st March 1943 to 5,306, of which 5,199 bureaucrats and 1,507 workmen.

The same Secretary of State, Dr. Dănuțescu, stated that 17,906 Jewish employees were employed in Bucharest in 1940, and on the 1st March 1943 only 3,018, which means that in Bucharest the reduction has been still more drastic.
Consequently, there must be a large, if not sudden, decrease in the number of Jewish employees who were dismissed as a result of the pogroms, which in some cases will lead to the complete liquidation of Jewish enterprises, and in other cases to the amalgamation of Jewish enterprises with non-Jewish ones. This will particularly be the case in the food industry, where the reintegration of the Jews is not easy and possible, and not presenting any serious difficulty.

Their reintegration is imperative as a consequence of the abrogation of the racial laws and the restoration of the Constitution. To say that reintegration would mean that Democracy and Jewry, which is now being reinstated, are once again recognized, is quite inadmissible. Their rights ought to be kept up all the same, and thus the Jewish workers, apprentices, and employees, must be reemployed at their old jobs.

It is a question what happens with those who have taken their places. The problem has a social feature which we do not understand properly, and it is not our opinion that those who have taken the place of the dismissed will be able to re-assume their positions. The problem is easily solved if dismissed Jews are reinstated from which enterprises they are dismissed, and if these had been liquidated, they will have to be placed in identical or similar Jewish or State enterprises in proportion to the total of the Jewish personnel employed by these.

Concerning the Romanian workers who have taken their places or shadowed them, they will be divided among all identical or similar Jewish private or State enterprises in proportion to the total of their personnel.

In this way, every enterprise will have a few more employees who will not be an unbearable extra charge on their budget, and no unemployment will be caused by employers because of dismissal of Jewish workers. Unions will commonly develop new enterprises which may pass on to activity and to the Romanians who have replaced or shadowed the re-integrated Jews.

On the other hand, about 40,000 places will be not free by the dismissal of the Germans and prejudicements so that any fear of conflict is out of the question.

Concerning the payment of the salary for the duration of the years in which they have not been working, this appears as an absolutely necessary act, conforming with the law and the States of fact.

It is a fact that a public employee dismissed by the State, who wins his case before the Courts, is reinstated, receiving his salary from the date of his dismissal up to that of his reintegration - no matter whether the employee has had or not another occupation in the meantime.

As the State, by means of a law, has forced the employers to dismiss the Jews, it is inconceivable that the State, which bears the full responsibility for the dismissal of its employees, contrary to the norms of Common Law, shall refuse to pay the salaries of the employees dismissed in discord with constitutional norms.
The states of fact justify the demand. The dismissed Jews have been sent to do hard work in inhuman conditions, without equipment, frequently without being fed, without giving any assistance to their families, although the Military Statute of the Jews, establishing that the work of the Jews is done according to the norms indicated by the Ministry of National Defense, and the offenses are of the competence of the Courts Martial, compels the State to grant them the same treatment as that of the soldiers.

Most of them have returned naked, barefoot and hungry, and have found their homes destroyed; because, having been chased out of their houses, they were compelled to sell even their pillows in order to be able to pay the extraordinarily high rents which were asked from them.

For their equipment alone nearly one billion lei are needed, which sum will grow as the situation in Moldavia becomes known.

In such conditions, the employees could not even take back their notes. They need a sum of money in order to dress themselves and to gather the necessary things for a home.

Concerning the compensation for holiday leave, to which the Jewish employees retained were entitled, as the law forbids their employers to give it to them, paying it instead to the Board of Social Insurance, it appears necessary that these sums of money be paid by the Jewish employees, and that on the other hand, the Board of Social Insurance pays back the sums advanced for medicines and medical assistance, such expenses being caused by the abrogated law.

Concerning pensions, we propose that, on the one hand, the State should pay into the Social Insurance Scheme the amounts due for the years during which they had been eliminated, and on the other hand, that these years be reckoned as working years.

Various societies, like the Institute of Professional Orientation, have organized professional courses of study authorized at the Board of Social Insurance that the possessors of certificates attending that they have attended such courses be admitted at the qualifying professional examinations like all other Romanians, who have attended similar schools (short-hand typing schools, etc.).

Having art. 4 of the Law for the replacement of Jews by Romanians on 10 November 1940, a contribution of 1% was fixed on the total salaries paid to employees, which was cached by the Institute of Jewish Affairs in order to cover losses of Jewish employees dismissed by virtue of the law on the purchase of public utility (art.3).
although the contributions have been paid for four years, the
norms of payment have not been established, yet, according to Art. 6,

Such being the case, this fund must be reclaimed from the
Board of Social Insurance, to serve for the payment of salaries of
public and private employees, for the duration of their dismissal.
For otherwise the Board of Social Insurance would be getting 7% of
without reason and the state's expenses unnecessarily prolonged.

We remain, Sir, yours faithfully,

President

Mr. Příhaze

General Secretary
General statement on the actual situation of the Jews in Roumania, October 1944

Geography

Included in the boundaries of Greater Roumania as created by the Peace Conference on 1919, are about 700,000 Jews, who represent about 4.4 of the total population of the country. By the natural increase in the population this number increased during 20 years to about 750,000 but in 1940 the proportion dropped to 3.0%. The only officially established figures for this period in that of December 1940, after the most accurate census ever made in Roumania, and shows a population of 756,950 Jews, distributed as follows:

- Bessarabia: 3,523
- Bukovina: 94,216
- Dobrudja: 4,071
- Moldavia: 142,206
- Bessarabia: 226,388
- Bukovina: 93,101
- Transylvania: 81,503
- Banat: 14,043
- Oravina-Harman: 97,287

This population was settled:

- In rural localities: 236,926
- In urban localities: 520,024

It should be pointed out that of the rural Jewish population 122,345 were settled in Bessarabia and North Bukovina which were returned to Soviet Russia and that about 60,000 lived in the Transylvania territory transferred to Hungary where recently almost all the Jews have been deported or done away with.

Today there is not a single Jew in the rural localities.

It is to be supposed that with the normalisation of living conditions a Jewish population will settle in the villages but this will not include more than 10% of the total.

The official figure of the Jewish population in June 1940, when the transfer of territory began, was 769,741.

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After the transfer and the reoccupation of territories (Maramaros and Bukovina) and the campaign against Soviet Russia (begun on June 22, 1941) the number of Jews should have been 604,791 in Sept. 1944.

In fact, according to an official census made on April 6, 1944, within the then boundaries of Romania and the official census of September 1941 in Maramaros and Bukovina, there were no more than 429,344 Jews in Romania at that time. The difference of about 180,000 persons is made up of:

- about 20,000 deported during the Russian occupation of Maramaros and Bukovina;
- 50,000 who left together with retreating Russian army;
- 41,000 killed by German and Romanian troops.

To this last figure must be added about 4000 Jews killed in the course of a massacre organized by the Romanian authorities, assisted by SS troops, at Iassy on June 25, 1940.

As a consequence of the mass deportations, especially in Maramaros and Bukovina in October and November 1941, the Jewish population has been reduced considerably. At the time of final census on May 6-9, 1942, the figures showed only 292,140 Jews.

Of course, it is not possible now to give an accurate figure for the Jewish population of actual Romania. From the above figure (292,140) it is necessary to subtract 19,354 Jews who remained in the territory taken over again by Soviet Russia and about 4000 who emigrated to Palestine. Of the latter group 1200 were children of the latter group, 1200 were children of the latter group, 1200 were children of the latter group, 1200 were children of the latter group, 1200 were children of the latter group, 1200 were children of the latter group, 1200 were children of the latter group, 1200 were children of the latter group.

Professional Literature

It is very difficult to give an exact picture of the professional distribution of the Jews in several Romanian towns.

In the table below, the number of Jews with professional qualifications is indicated:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Town</th>
<th>Number of Jews with professional qualifications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bucharest</td>
<td>123,778</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iasi</td>
<td>44,350</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constanta</td>
<td>30,221</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Timisoara</td>
<td>26,193</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluj</td>
<td>23,250</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The following is a distribution by type of profession:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of profession</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Working</th>
<th>Unemployed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>All types</td>
<td>107,012</td>
<td>99,470</td>
<td>47,642</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>merchant &amp; workers</td>
<td>39,114</td>
<td>24,608</td>
<td>14,306</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office &amp; commercial</td>
<td>51,139</td>
<td>14,431</td>
<td>16,725</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employees</td>
<td>26,311</td>
<td>9,903</td>
<td>10,308</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commercial &amp; industrial employees</td>
<td>54,248</td>
<td>3,421</td>
<td>1,951</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fisse professionals</td>
<td>3,275</td>
<td>2,609</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>domestic body &amp; Hebrew clergy</td>
<td>7,245</td>
<td>4,399</td>
<td>2,846</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the last two and a half years the situation grew worse especially for the workmen (due to the fact that they had to do forced labor), for the office and commercial employees (because the Government insisted upon their dismissal) and for employers (because of the forced liquidation on the one hand and the aerial bombardments on the other hand). Although the pseudo-democratic Government has done nothing as yet to ameliorate this situation, it is supposed that at least a part of those who are out of work now will be able to return to their activity if political and financial help will come from abroad.

The political situation

A foreign observer accustomed to the political scruples of western public opinion would have a very wrong idea of the political situation of Roumania if he were to judge it according to the actual manifestations of the press and public opinion. He would leave the country with the opinion that it is communist.

It has not been possible to speak of a serious current of public opinion in Roumania, still less at the present time. The mass of the population – the peasant class – is politically unanimous. Workmen, especially those of industrial concerns, have acquired more or less education and political consciousness and their natural inclination is to the left, even the extreme left. Middle class citizens, including the majority of the intellectuals without any ideological convictions remain in the center and swing to the left or right as the wind may blow.

In the capital, by means of clever propaganda and an energetic but unconvincing press, an atmosphere suitable for the breeding of communism has been created. But 60% of the group which today upholds the communist movement, upheld with the same vigor the dictatorial regime. And if, by any
absurd shame, there might be a possible return to democracy. In this connection, should not the Communist regime be treated with some respect? There is, after all, no evidence that the regime is purely anti-Semitic. The sense underlying the Romanian public opinion was that of growing discontent.

The same considerations apply, in great measure, to the Jewish population also. Although much more numerous than the rest of the Romanian population, the Jews of Romania are almost completely without political organization.

The two parties of the center, the National Liberal and the National Peasant Party, disorganized after years of inactivity, have hardly been able to reestablish something of their previous standing. The participation of Jews in either organization is practically nil; certainly, some in the past both parties were used alternatively, and supported by Jewish support, especially in elections.

The other two parties, the Social Democratic and Communist, because of 21 years of persecution, are today and have counted many Jewish leaders and martyrs. Today both are enjoying, more especially the Communist Party, a strong Jewish support, in spite of there being very few Jews among its leadership who are manifestly Polish. It cannot be denied, and that there exists at the nerve of this opposition, ideology or conviction.

Currents in Romania

The Jewish population has not yet recovered from the fear and horror created by these last 6 years of dictatorship, during 4 of which racial persecution was the order of the day. One can hardly imagine that reconciliation with a people inculturated with anti-Semitic hate, and especially with the class still in power today whose interests would be directly attacked, if complete justice is to be done and Jews reinstated in their rights and their property. In this case a single example might be edifying.

Rural and urban Jewish property has been entirely expropriated and the Jews have been thrown out of their homes. In two months the Government has done absolutely nothing to mitigate this plundering. Some of the people who profited by this situation have returned the occupied houses to their owners but very few. The great majority still reside. Among these are high dignitaries of the State, army officers, magistrates and high functionaries who today hold the political and administrative reins of the country. Even one of the "heads of the regime" recently, after being thrown out of his house for nearly a year, he could move in.

CONFIDENTIAL
Because of this uncertain situation regarding the future, to which is added the fact that a great portion of the population is in dark misery, Jews have a strong tendency to emigrate. Thus, if mass emigration should be permitted, more than half of the Jews of Romania would leave at once by any means and without any regret. But this is not possible in a short period of time, and it is to be presumed that after all the anti-Semitic atmosphere will fade away and the country, which is very rich, will recover and will permit a prosperous and quiet way of life. Then, the percent of those who wish to emigrate will fall more and more until it will be limited to 10-15% of the population.

The mirage of emigration has made Zionists out of a great part of the population. The Zionist movement is today supported by 40-50,000 adherents, representing nearly all the currents of world Zionism. It is well understood that the fractions holding to the left and extreme left are the most powerful. Of course, participation in Zionist activities hinders no one from activity in any other political sphere.

The Jews of Romania are represented by many political organizations for the recuperation and the preservation of the rights of which they were deprived.

One of the oldest, with much authority and great prestige, is the Union of Romanian Jews, presided by Dr. W. Filderman. Owing to a fighting tradition, often crowned by success and especially owing to the personality of its leader, the Union of Romanian Jews has today the unrecognizable consent of the great majority of the Jewish population.

An effort for the reestablishing of a Jewish political party seems to be bound to fail. A recently formed committee for the coordination between the Jewish population and the Government is working for the restoration of their rights. This committee, the Jewish General Council, composed of Jewish representatives of the Romanian political parties and the Union of Romanian Jews, is also presided over by Dr. W. Filderman.

The Jewish population is also organized in religious committees in each town, whose duties comprise the solving of vital, educational and social problems. All communities are united into a Union of Communities, also presided over by Dr. W. Filderman.

A strong current of assimilation has never existed among the Jews of Romania, intellect, interests and individual development of individuals and Lamism is unhindered by any influence. Thus, in May 1933, there were in Romania
Baptisms in other religions
4,611
Mixed marriages
4,145
Children issued from mixed marriages
2,942

Out of the 4,611 baptisms, 1,350 changed their religion after the institution of the dictatorial regime and it is estimated that this number has grown during the last 2 years by about 3000 cases. Among all those who have rejected religion during this time, there is a tendency to revert to the Jewish religion.
Aid for Romanian Jews

BUCHAREST, March 3 (AP)—The Romanian section of the World Jewish Congress, the Jewish party and the Union of Romanian Jews finished preparations today for meeting 17,000 Jews coming back from that portion of the Russian Ukraine across the Dniestr River formerly occupied by Romania.

The Romanian Jews. survivors from former ghettos in that area, will enter Roumania at five points, where they will receive clothes and other necessities.
Rumanian Jews To Aid Refugees

BUCHAREST, March 3 (A. P.)—The Rumanian section of the World Jewish Congress, the Jewish Party, and the Union of Rumanian Jews finished preparations today for meeting 17,000 Jews coming back from that portion of the Rumanian Ukraine across the Dniester River, formerly occupied by Rumania. These people, survivors from former ghettos in that area, will enter Rumania at five points where they will receive clothes and other necessities.
Gain for Romanian Jews

Romanian citizens of Jewish descent who served in compulsory labor battalions during the Incumbency of the Nazi-controlled regime of General Ioan-Alexandru Antonescu are to be credited with equivalent terms of military service, the Bucharest radio said in a broadcast reported yesterday by the Federal Communications Commission.
Romanian Jews to Get Aid

BUCHAREST, Jan 6 (Delayed)

The Romanian branch of the American Joint Distribution Committee, in cooperation with an International Red Cross committee, plans this month to distribute 1,000,000,000 lei to assist Jews who have returned from Transnistria and others who have been freed from concentration camps. It was announced today. (The lei is not quoted in foreign exchange. At pre-war rates it was worth one cent. Transnistria is a part of the Ukraine which had been assigned to Romania by the Germans after their campaign in the East.)
Romania—
To Avenge
Jews

Bucharest, Jan. 6 (ONA)
—The draft of a law to punish war criminals was made public here yesterday by Romanian Justice Minister Patrascanu.

The law specifies that those who participated in the persecution of Jews will come within the category of war criminals. Varying punishments provided include capital punishment, hard labor for life and from five to 20 years at hard labor.

The law ordains persecutors of Jews as those who ordered cruelties inflicted on the Jewish population or themselves committed such acts, ordered the establishment of ghettos and concentration camps, deported them, participated in transportation of Jews for the purpose of mass extermination, applied or ordered inhuman treatment of Jews, and those who enriched themselves through the anti-Jewish racial laws of the former Romanian government.
To Distribute Funds
To Jews In Romania

Bucharest, Jan. 4 (AP-De-
layel)—The Romanian division of
the American joint distribution
committee, in co-operation with an
international Red Cross commit-
tee, plans this month to distribute
1,000,000,000 lei to assist Jews who
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Lei are not quoted in foreign
exchange. At prewar rates (10 lei
was worth 1 cent).

Transnistria is a part of the
Ukraine which had been assigned
to Romania by the Germans after
their campaign in the east.
Romania Restores Most of Rights to Jews

Bucharest, Dec. 15 (Delayed) (P). King Mihal signed a decree today abolishing Jewish restrictions and establishing the groundwork for the return of full rights of citizenship for Romanian Jews.

The new law restores property rights and contemplates complete equality in economic and social spheres, but Dr. William Fielderman, leader of Romanian Jewry, charged it dropped certain passages from the bill of form. Konstantin Sanatoga which "made it unacceptable to Jews."
BANS ON JEWS REMOVED

Rumania Moves to Restore Full Rights of Citizenship

BUCHAREST, Rumania, Dec. 19 (Delayed) — King Michael signed a decree today abolishing restrictions on Jews and establishing the groundwork for the return of full rights of citizenship for Rumanian Jews.

The decree, prepared by Justice Minister Lucatinu Patrascanu and approved by the Cabinet, was criticized by Dr. William Filderman, leader of Rumanian Jews, who declared that a bill prepared by the former government of Gen. Constantin Banulescu would be preferable. The new law restores property rights and contemplates partial equality in economic and social spheres, but Dr. Filderman charged that elimination of certain passages in the earlier bill made it unacceptable to Jews.
Anti-Semitism Abolished
By Decree in Romania

Jewish Leader Criticizes Act
Signed by King Michael

BUCHAREST, Romania, Dec. 13.—King Michael signed a decree today abolishing
anti-Semitic restrictions and establishing the groundwork for the return of full rights of citizenship for Romanian Jews.

The decree, prepared by Justice Minister Lucrinescu and approved by the cabinet, was criticized by Dr. William Filderman, leader of Romanian Jews, who declared a bill prepared by the former government of General Constantin Sandulescu would be preferable.

The new law restores property rights and contemplates complete equality in economic and social sphere, but Filderman charged it dropped certain passages from the Sandulescu bill which "made it unacceptable to Jews."
New York World-Telegram
DEC 18 1944

Romanian Jews Oppose New Law

By the Associated Press.

BUCHAREST Dec 15. (Dis­
closed) - King Michael signed a
decree today abolishing Jewish re-
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The decree was criticized by Dr.
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law "contemplates complete equality in
economic and social spheres but
Dr. Filderman charged it dropped
certain passages from the Sta-
daescu bill which "made it un-
acceptable to Jews."
Bucharest, Dec. 26 (Delayed).

King Michael signed a decree today abolishing Jewish restrictions and establishing the ground for the return of full rights of citizenship for Romanian Jews.

The decree, prepared by Justice Minister Lucretiu Patrascanu and approved by the cabinet, was criticized by Dr. William Filderman, leader of Romanian Jews, who declared a bill prepared by the former Government of Gen. Constantin Brătianu would be preferable.

The new law restores property rights and contemplates complete equality in economic and social spheres, but Dr. Filderman charged that it dropped certain provisions from the Brătianu bill which "made it unacceptable to Jews."
Rumania Ends Anti-Jewish Laws

BUCHAREST, Rumania, Tuesday, Dec. 13 (Reuter)—A number of laws reversing the anti-Semitic ordinances of the Antonesc regime were promulgated here today. They provide for the reinstatement of Rumanian Jewish public and private employees, for the return of expropriated Jewish property, and for the revision of contracts drawn up under the pressure of the anti-Semitic agitation under the Antonescu regime.
NOV 1 4 1944

AMERICAN CITIZENS
IN RUMANIA SAFE

WASHINGTON, Nov 13—American citizens living in Rumania apparently are well and unharmend, Roy M Melbourne, Foreign Service officer, who has just arrived in Bucharest for the protection of American interests, cabled to the State Department today.

Mr Melbourne was said to have based his report on personal interviews with individual Americans and on statements of the Swiss Legation, hitherto in charge of American interests in Rumania.

As soon as possible, the State Department announced, notice will be given when persons in the United States may communicate directly or through the department with friends and relatives in Rumania.

State Department records indicate that there are about 500 American residents in Rumania.

BUCHAREST, Nov. 12 (Delf/Ste)
1D—The German and Hungarian governments, accepting a request from Rumania, will permit a Red Cross commission to inspect the situation of Romanian Jews in Hungary, international Red Cross circles said today.
RUMANIAN TRAGEDY

The war will have been fought in vain if in its wake the old evils are allowed again to take root. A recent dispatch to this newspaper from its Near East correspondent, Joseph M. Levy, says that in Rumania the cessation of fighting has brought little peace and restored few rights to the Jewish citizens of that unhappy Balkan country. Deprived of their jobs and their homes and thrown in concentration camps by the Antonescu regime, they are freed by Allied action, only to find both their homes and their jobs held by "Aryans" whom the present Government of Rumania has taken no action to dispossess. Many will starve, or freeze to death this winter, Mr. Levy says, unless the Allied Governments take some action, either direct or through pressure on the Rumanian Government, to restore to the Rumanian Jews not only their rights but their property, and to provide for them until that is done. Such action is only simple justice for the 270,000 who have suffered so much for no other reason than that they were Jews.
New York World-Telegram

Romanian Wrongs Charged by Jews

"Peace terms with Romania will "remain an empty gesture" unless immediate steps are taken to provide justice for the oppressed Jews there, declared the American Jewish Conference and the World Jewish Congress in a joint statement issued yesterday. This was concurred in by the United Romanian Jews of America.

The statement charged that "economic and political disabilities have been imposed upon the Jews in Romania by a regime in power." Attention was called to the "deep suffering of Jews from lack of food and clothing."
PLEA FOR RUMANIAN JEWS

Letter Sent to Hull Asks Action to Halt Discrimination

The American Jewish Committee made public yesterday a copy of a letter sent to Secretary of State Cordell Hull asking him to take necessary action to stop discrimination against Jews in Rumania.

The letter points out that "nothing has been done to make tolerable the existence of 270,000 Rumanian Jews who escaped extermination and survived internment in concentration camps. Rumanian authorities stand in the way, even when temporary makeshifts can be devised."

The committee asked that Mr. Hull make representations to the Rumanian authorities and to instruct its representatives on the Allied Control Commission to do everything in their power toward removing discriminations still existing against Jews and restoring to them the rights and possessions of which they were stripped by the Nazi regime.

The letter to Secretary Hull was signed by Joseph M. Priskauer, president of the American Jewish Committee. Copies were sent also to Lord Halifax, British Ambassador to the United States, and Andrei Gromyko, Soviet Ambassador to the United States.
Romania Plans
To End Laws
Against Jews

Foreign Minister
Says Jewish Property to
Be Restored

BUCHAREST, Oct. 26.—The Romanian Foreign Minis-
ter Crigore Niculescu-Buzeste, in an exclusive
interview today, declared that his Government soon will announce
legislation eradicating all traces of
racial legislation and restoring all
property confiscated from Jews.

The Minister outlined the Gov-
ernment policy as follows:

1. The Aug. 30 decree re-estab-
lishing the constitutions of 1866
and 1923 makes all Romanian
subjects equal before the law
and eliminates all discrimination result-
ing from race or religion. The Gov-
ernment feels, however, that spe-
cific decrees abolishing all discrimi-
nation legislation are necessary and
will issue them shortly.

2. Property

Legislation is being drafted to
establish machinery for restoring
all property confiscated
during the Antonescu regime. De-
crees covering this soon will be is-
ued.

3. All Government departments
have been instructed to reinstate
Jewish employees dismissed by the
Antonescu regime. The Foreign
Ministry already has acted on this.

4. Professional organizations
have been ordered to readmit Jews,
allowing them to resume the prac-
tice of their professions. The rein-
statement of Jewish civil employees
and professionals is being accom-
plished by administrative order
rather than by official decrees, in
order to speed the process.

Palestine

Discussing the question of Pale-
tine, Niculescu-Buzeste said that,
although the Romanian Govern-
ment will exert no pressure on Jews
to induce their emigration, per-
sons wishing to go to Palestine will
be assisted whenever possible. He
suggested that transportation for
such emigrants could not be fur-
ished at present, because all Ro-
manian shipping is being used in
the war effort.

"The Government," he added,
"finds it natural that Jews wish to
create a national home in Palestine
and, therefore, has expressed an ad-
mirative attitude toward Zionism."
Jews in Rumania Fail to Get Rights

150,000 Face Starvation and Cold, Ignored in 'Freedom' by 'Democratic' Regime

BY JOSEPH M. LEVY

In Istanbul, Oct. 22 (Delayed)

Out of 370,000 Rumanian Jews who survived massacres, deportations and forced labor camps, 150,000 face starvation or death from cold. They are without clothes or food and without roofs over their heads. A vast majority of the children are undernourished and sickly, while their parents are on the verge of tuberculosis. Medical supplies are non-existent and most of the sick are left to die.

When in 1940 Premier Ion Antonescu promulgated a law calling for the "Romanization" of all persons in every profession and business, scores of thousands of Jews were dismissed and sent to forced labor camps. With the overthrow of the Antonescu regime, these camps have been abolished, and the Jews who survived the hard labor returned to their respective towns hoping to resume their old jobs.

But to their consternation they discovered that they had neither jobs nor homes to go back to. Both had been occupied by "Aryans." Although six weeks have elapsed since the Romanian armistice was signed, all appeals to the Government to enact a law forcing employers to rehire Jews in their former jobs remain unheeded.

Even the leaders of the Communist and Social Democratic parties were so-called banner-bearers of the "justice for all" in Rumania, refused to intervene on behalf of these Jews. These leaders are counting on non-Jewish Rumanian wage-earners, "who must not be antagonized," I learned during a recent visit to Rumania.

The Jewish community of Jassy was in a most deplorable state. These people had been exposed to a systematic campaign in which thousands of them were slaughtered and those who escaped death at the hands of the Rumanians and German hooligans lost their possessions as a result of bombardments. Today there are about 20,000 Jews in Jassy without resources.

This writer saw a heart-rending appeal for urgent relief from the Rumanian community in Jassy to the Hebrew congregation of Bucharest, but the latter were unable to respond, since more than 100,000 Jews in Bucharest are destitute. Jews in the provinces at the disposal of the Central Jewish Committee in Bucharest barely suffice to feed—and poorly at that—a few thousand persons at a time when scores of thousands are crying for food.

The need for medical treatment is most urgent, but it is unobtainable owing to the lack of medications and hospital facilities. Deaths caused by malnutrition and the absence of minimum care are increasing daily. Leading Jews in Bucharest told this writer that the entire Jewish population of Rumania was hoping that the United States Department of State would hasten to grant permission for representatives of the American Joint Distribution Committee to proceed to Rumania to help alleviate the suffering of Jews there.

Catastrophically, the anti-Jewish laws in Rumania have been abolished, but the Government is not taking any action to restore Jewish property and personal rights, let alone that enjoyed by other Rumanian citizens. Abrogation of the anti-Semitic laws has freed the Jews from concentration and forced-labor camps, but they are able to do little with this freedom.

Unable to retake possession of their homes, the Jews are forced to share tiny rooms or abodes with three other families, or pay fabulous black market rental for small apartments which are virtually unobtainable. The Government even refuses to restore Jewish institutions, such as schools, houses for the aged, and hospitals, some of which are critically needed.

This writer saw the Godsdard School, accommodating 1,200 pupils, which was confiscated by Antonescu's storm troopers and subsequently converted into a military hospital. This school, which is now in use, would serve as a refuge for hundreds of homeless Jews, but the military authorities have declined to release it on the ground that repairs would cost too much.
TO: Friedman  
5/2/44

I suggest that a copy of this dispatch be given to Herishan to take with him on his return to Turkey. It's contents are so completely at variance with the statements submitted by the Rumanian Government (in French) concerning Antonescu's disappearances of anti-Semite excesses, that it might well be taken up with Gestapo at an appropriate time.

Matthew J. Marks  
TR-6

PS: It's a way of letting Gestapo know that we are following our...
Friedman suggested this would be good material for broadcasting to enemies if the air is clear before Friedman's return.
Extract From JTA Daily News Bulletin

VOL. XI. NO. 106 (26th year)

Tuesday, May 9, 1944

Published By The Jewish Telegraphic Agency

106 East 41st Street, New York 17, N. Y.

RUMANIA ORDERS YELLOW BADGES FOR JEWS IN MOLDAVIA; ARRESTS EMIGRATION LEADER

ZURICH, May 8. (JTA) — Jews in the Moldavian section of Rumania, who have been exempt from wearing yellow badges, were ordered to don the yellow Mogen David this week, the official German news agency DNB reports today from Bucharest.

The order was issued by the Rumanian Minister of the Interior on the pretext that the measure was necessary "because of frequent collaboration between Jews and Russian parachutists."

The German news agency also reported the arrest in Bucharest of a Jewish leader named Dr. Hentser, whom the report describes as "president of the Zionist Emigration Organization." Dr. Hentser was charged with bribing Rumanian officials in order to facilitate the emigration of Jews from Rumania.
Mr. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I sincerely appreciate your forwarding to me the report concerning the relief needs of the Jewish population in Roumania transmitted to you by your representative in Turkey.

The information contained therein will be of great help to our organization in advising our members of the actual condition of our people in Roumania.

With personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Charles Sonnenreich

THE UNITED ROUMANIAN JEWS
of AMERICA

110 West 40th Street, New York 18, N. Y.
Telephone Lackawanna 44535

January 25, 1945
United Romanian Jews of America  
110 W. 40th Street  
New York 18, New York  

Gentlemen:

The enclosed copy of a report concerning the relief needs of the Jewish population in Rumania, written in Bucharest and transmitted to the War Refugee Board by its representative in Turkey, is hereby transmitted to your organization in the belief that it may be of interest to you.

Copies of this report are also being transmitted to other interested organizations.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Enclosure

Bakelman 1/10/45
January 23, 1945

In reply refer to #307

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

Dear Mr. Peble:

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 19th, and its interesting accompanying reports relative to the relief needs of the Jewish population in Rumania. We hope that you will keep us informed on this matter; we do wish to inform you at this time that we have taken various steps in an attempt to alleviate the needs of the Jews in Rumania.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt G. Groszman
Rescue Department
World Jewish Congress  
1834 Broadway  
New York 23, New York

Gentlemen:

The enclosed copy of a report concerning the relief needs of the Jewish population in Rumania, written in Bucharest and transmitted to the War Refugee Board by its representative in Turkey, is hereby transmitted to your organization in the belief that it may be of interest to you.

Copies of this report are also being transmitted to other interested organizations.

Sincerely yours,

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

Enclosure
Gentlemen:

The enclosed copy of a report concerning the relief needs of the Jewish population in Rumania, written in Bucharest and transmitted to the War Refugee Board by its representative in Turkey, is hereby transmitted to your organization in the belief that it may be of interest to you.

Copies of the material contained in pages 2 through 9 of this report are being transmitted to other interested agencies.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Pahl
Executive Director

Joint Distribution Committee,
100 E. 42nd Street,
New York, N. Y.

Enclosure.
Emergency Committee to Save
the Jewish People of Europe
25 W. 45th Street
New York 19, New York

Gentlemen:

The enclosed copy of a report concerning the relief needs of the Jewish population in Rumania, written in Bucharest and transmitted to the War Refugee Board by its representative in Turkey, is hereby transmitted to your organisation in the belief that it may be of interest to you.

Copies of this report are also being transmitted to other interested organisations.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Enclosure
JAN 19 1945

Vaad Nahatzala Emergency Committee
132 Nassau Street
New York 7, New York

Gentlemen:

The enclosed copy of a report concerning the relief needs of the Jewish population in Rumania, written in Bucharest and transmitted to the War Refugee Board by its representative in Turkey, is hereby transmitted to your organization in the belief that it may be of interest to you.

Copies of this report are also being transmitted to other interested organizations.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehl

J. W. Fehl
Executive Director

Enclosure

Bakzinar 1/16/45
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE January 13, 1945

TO Miss Nadel

FROM Mr. Akzin

On Several occasions, representatives of the various organizations expressed their disappointment at receiving from us very little information or material. I believe that the enclosure to Katzki's letter of December 22 provides welcome opportunity to give to such organizations information that they will undoubtedly find both interesting and helpful.

The enclosure contains a report on the condition of the Jews in Rumania and on the means to help them. Katzki states in his covering letter: "It is quite likely that the question of relief for the Jewish people in Rumania is not a problem for the War Refugee Board. However, other agencies, public and private, which are providing assistance for Jewish people in Rumania, or which might be interested in granting assistance, might be interested in reading the report."

It would therefore violate no confidence if we prepared copies of the report and distributed them among suitable organizations.

If you agree with the above, I would suggest that copies be sent to the following organizations: Joint Distribution Committee, World Jewish Congress, Vaad Nahatzala Emergency Committee, Emergency Committee to Save the Jews of Europe, and Union of Romanian Jews.

Do you want me to prepare the copies and covering letters?
Dear Mr. Pehle:

We have heretofore informed you telegraphically of information which we had received from Rumania regarding relief requirements of the Jewish people in Rumania, including Rumanians and refugees who have come to that country. We have just received a detailed report, prepared by a member of the Relief Committee of the Union of Rumanian Jewish Communities. I think that this report, dated October 2, 1944, of which a copy is enclosed, tells its own story. We have translated this report literally from the German, in order not to change either the language or the sense of what the writer of the report has tried to convey.

It is quite likely that the question of relief for the Jewish people in Rumania is not a problem for the war Refugees Board. However, other agencies, public and private, which are providing assistance for Jewish people in Rumania, or which might be interested in granting assistance, might be interested in reading the report.

The information which currently is being received in Istanbul concerning the situation of Jewish people in Rumania continues to emphasize the need of the people there and the urgency of providing assistance, particularly in kind, if this can be done, in preference to cash aid.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Katzki

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Executive Director
War Refugees Board
Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosure: Translation of report
Translation

Dr. Z. COSTINER

THE PRESENT RELIEF NECESSITIES OF THE JEWISH PEOPLES, THE NECESSARY FUNDS AND THE MEANS FOR COVERING THEM.

2. OCTOBER 1944
THE PRESENT RELIEF NEEDS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE, THE NECESSARY FUNDS AND THE MEANS FOR COVERING THEM

INTRODUCTION

In our capacity as members of the American Joint Distribution Committee committee in Rumania, working day by day for four years, we have organized all Jewish relief in Rumania, coordinated it, supervised and supported it.

We give once again below the text of our memorandum, which we on October 2 of this year handed to the leaders of the Jewish people of the country and to prominent persons.

The problem of relief work for the Jewish people comprehends two chapters:

A: Assistance for living needs (food, shelter, clothing)

B: Constructive assistance, that is, productivization through the return of Jews to work (retraining, etc.)

In the present memorandum we consider only the first chapter, for this is the most urgent, if the pitiable state of the poor Jewish people, in view of the coming winter, is to be remedied.

The question now is to save life itself.

The second chapter, the rehabilitation work, includes exhaustive details, which we are reserving for the AJDC delegates, whom we are awaiting here with interest and impatience.

We only remark in passing that this rehabilitation work will have Jewish cooperatives as its main feature, most important being the credit cooperatives, which were created here after the war by the American Joint Reconstruction Foundation, with whose central and directive committee we worked until the outbreak of the present war.

We will reactivate and develop these institutions, and at the same time we will found and support production and consumers' cooperatives.

Cheap and long-term credit will be the means to further the rebuilding of homes and small businesses.

A second foundation for reconstructive relief work will be the founding and support of practical handwork-schools, with a program of study covering six to twelve months.

We will draw into these schools, not only young people, but also those who must change their trades, because their former callings and employments have no place in the new social and economic order.
A.

IMMEDIATE RELIEF.

Food, Shelter and Clothing.

I. THE NEEDS.

The urgent and difficult relief problems.

The condition of suffering and poverty, in which the larger part of the Jewish people of Rumania finds itself today, after the economic destruction of the productive elements, taxes and imposts of all kinds, and especially after the hard years of forced labor, which degraded both physically and morally precisely those generations which comprise the best elements of the population, that is the men between the ages of 18 and 50 years, calls forth difficult and urgent relief problems, which must not only be brought to the attention of the leaders of the Community, but also must lay claim upon those whose means and financial resources give them the responsibility for undertaking the solution of this problem, and thus to fulfill the social commandment which, from this moment, is laid upon them.

So long as we cannot reckon on the resources and public funds of the State to satisfy Jewish needs, these needs remain specific and can be covered only with Jewish means.

The principal categories of needs.

The assistance, for which the Jewish people are waiting today, comprehends two chapters, as follows:

A. Immediate Relief (Food, Shelter and Clothing)

and

B. Constructive Assistance, that is, Productivisation, Retraining, and so on.

We will consider here only the first chapter:

The chief categories of those, whose circumstances are such that they are no longer able to satisfy their most elementary needs, are as follows:

A. Those returning from forced-labor battalions, and those freed from concentration camps and prisons.

The total number of those who made up the forced-labor battalions, who filled the internment camps and the prisons, comes to about ...... 45,000. Of these, about 30,000 for nearly three years have been working in foreign labor battalions, far from their families, in stone-quarries, in
forests, on railroad lines and road-building, altering the course of rivers, etc.

The routine of these battalions or work-camps was, in most cases, scarcely different from that of chaingangs and prison camps, to which was added the hatred and cruel treatment of the camp commandant.

Work beyond all limits and powers, miserable lodgings, insufficient food, bad sanitary conditions, brutal and cruel treatment— that was the routine.

These unfortunates labored, torn from their families, whom they had to leave behind in misery and want, with no possibility of seeing them, or at most only once or twice a year.

Totally insufficient clothing, the men in tatters, without shirts, barefoot, so did most of them appear, for what the Community was able to do for them was quite insufficient.

Not much easier was the work of the local detachments, that is, those who worked in the districts where they lived. But at least these had the consolation of seeing their families, if not daily, at least from time to time.

It is superfluous to dwell on the conditions under which the Jews were thrown into political camps and prisons, that is, those who were left over after the deportation to Transnistria had been carried on in full swing among them, and made many into cripples for life.

This whole army of afflicted persons is now returning home.

They deserve the first help in cash, to meet their first needs and to give them the possibility for a swift recovery, and a rest to recover their breath. This relief was fixed at .... 4000 Lei per person, but this advance could be granted only for .... 15,000 persons, for further disbursements had to be given up because of a lack of cash.

B. The repatriates from Transnistria (16 - 18,000)

What which can be learned from one person or another, or what those people who spent a few days in Transnistria with the deportees could see with their own eyes, can give only a very incomplete picture of what this episode actually meant, an episode whose tragedy is without equal in history, and which is still waiting for its historian.
C. The repatriated
orphans (2000)

Of the more than 5000 orphans, whose parents in Transnistria were victims of mass-murder, or were killed gradually, about 2000 orphans have returned, who were to emigrate to Palestine. But only a small part could leave, while the rest were cared for in improvised orphanages; a certain number were provisionally taken into child-loving families.

Thus, about 1000 orphans will remain in charge of the Jewish Community, whose care and upbringing becomes a problem of extraordinary importance.

D. The Jews driven from their homes in villages and small towns, who have gathered in the district capitals (about 20,000, among whom the poor number 20,000)

A total of over 30,000 Jews were compelled, during 1940 and the first half of 1941, suddenly to leave their homes, giving up their businesses, and leaving behind their goods and chattels.

This measure was taken on the grounds that the purification of the country was beginning therewith.

These dispossessed persons became a charge on the Jewish Communities of the district capitals (or other more important cities).

Their condition is one of the most miserable, and from the point of view of their need, they are in a condition similar to those returned from Transnistria.

A few cities and towns were completely evacuated: Palticeni, Pascani, Tg. Frumos, Tg. Neamt. The number of evacuees comes to about 16,000.
F. Those affected by bombardment
(about 10,000 families, 10,000 poor)
In a few cities, as for instance Ploesti, the whole Jewish population, just as the rest of the population, were evacuated, losing all their possessions.

In Craiova, Turm Severin, Jassy, Galatz and in other cities, whole sections of the city were destroyed, all goods and chattels burned or stolen, and the people beggared.

From data to hand, which we have received to date, the number of bombed-out families is about ...... of whom more than half remained behind without means of existence, and who require help.

G. Jewish refugees from Poland, Hungary, and other countries, at present about 2000 in this country, with infrequent exceptions, all poor.
The Jewish population supported them to the extent possible from their meagre resources, and at the same time they were aided by the good will of the International Red Cross.

We are enumerating the categories in the chronological order of their pauperization, but according to the weight of their misfortune.

Total of the poor, about 140,000

The total of the above-mentioned categories, not counting the foreign refugees, gives us an approximate number for the poverty-stricken Jews in the country: 140,000 souls cannot earn their livelihood, and need assistance.

Since many of the poor belong to several categories at the same time (for instance, persons from the forced-labor camps also belong to the groups who were evacuated from the villages and small towns) we have corrected our figures for purposes of equalization by not counting the customary and permanent categories of poor cared for by the Community (old persons, the sick, widows).

II. NECESSARY FUNDS

Food, shelter and To those, who know the condition of the Jewish
clothing for 140,000 souls, or at least 100,000.

Relief (food and shelter).

The return of the breadwinner to a productive pursuit is a wearisome problem, whose solution is for many reasons complicated by uncertain elements and difficulties.

If we nevertheless assume, taking we believe, an optimistic point of view, that at most 25 per cent will be in a position, during the next three months, to earn their own living, the number of the poor who must be cared for by the Community is reduced to 100,000 souls.

If we reckon with 175 Lei per person per day, then the sum to cover the elementary and indispensable needs (food, shelter, heat) will amount daily to 17,500,000 Lei, and in the three months (October, November and December 1944) to 1,575,000,000 Lei.

Our estimates, based on data compiled from reports and requests to hand, show that at least 70,000 Jews in the different categories (see above) absolutely need clothing, shoes, linen to protect them from cold and illness, and to enable them to take their deserved place in society with proper clothes, and to return to their employment.

If we reckon with 25,000 Lei for a complete outfit (suit, shoes, linen) then it will require, in order to clothe these unfortunate for the approach of winter, the sum of 1,750,000,000 Lei.

Thus, relief to cover the most urgent needs in the following three months (October, November, December) will require:

Advances for relief (food and shelter) . . . . . . . Lei 1,575,000,000.--

Total . . . . . . . . . . . . Lei 3,325,000,000.--

III. PROCUREMENT OF FUNDS.

1. Duties of the State toward the citizens whom it ruined through race-laws and savage measures.

The interests of the Jewish people in relation to the making good of losses sustained as a
result of the war will be taken up with the general problem relating to the whole population.

Quite otherwise, however, is the case when the race-laws and decrees are under consideration, through which innocent people were robbed not only of their natural rights to work and to earn their livelihood, but were hounded from their homes without cause, robbed of all their possessions, driven out, like animals, or even worse, over the borders of the country and given over to the mercy of the beasts in the so-called deportation camps, where tens of thousands were murdered or died a pitiable death from hunger and illness.

The duty of the State to make reparation for these wrongs is a primary step in the reinstatement of the Jews into all their constitutional rights, as well as their natural rights.

Similar is the condition of the Jews uprooted from the villages and small towns, who lost all they had and for years wandered among strangers.

The formulation of these requests requires the preparation of statistical data, investigations and estimates, which is a question of time.

Today, nevertheless, relief organizations are faced with the acute problem, to help this multitude of paupers, and to provide food, clothing and shelter now, with the coming of winter.

The Jewish population, exhausted by anti-Jewish economic decrees, and especially through the numerous and manifold taxes which have been imposed on them in recent years, is not in a position to meet these needs alone.

It is thus necessary to ask the State to aid in the relief of the impoverished Jews, and, for the present, to guarantee a monthly sum of 250,000,000 Lei, at least for the winter months.

This help is truly deserved by the Jewish Community, for this Community was compelled by the authority of the former government to provide billions for the Organization of Social Welfare, and other charitable organizations.

2. The necessity for requesting contributions from wealthy Jews.

Until the social policy of the country is such that it is in a position to take care of all its poor citizens in its own program of social relief, the Jewish population will have to care for its poor.

We have referred above to the scope of Jewish poverty.

However quickly the process of reintegration of the Jews into economic life develops, nevertheless for the time being they must be given assurance of relief assistance.
Aside from this, general relief will have to be given for many years for declassed persons, who cannot reestablish themselves, such as cripples, old persons, orphans, etc.

The only way to provide the necessary means of assistance is that of obligatory contributions.

Voluntary contributions by well-to-do Jews could never and will never lead to any result.

It would be naive to assume that one could succeed by means of persuasion to achieve anything more than charity, which would hardly serve to cover the needs for feeding some of the people.

Their participation in Jewish social assistance must be secured by means of legal regulations.

Commissions made up of persons who know their responsibility, should function in every locality, each one with a Jewish delegate from a representative body of the Jewish Communities, and these commissions should establish the contributions.

The funds resulting from the contributions and the state subsidy, together with the subsidy from foreign Jewish organizations, will be placed at the disposition of a Central Committee for Assistance, according to the needs and circumstances.

We will speak further, in more detail, of this Central Committee for Assistance in a separate report.

3. Support of relief work through foreign organizations.

As always, and especially after the suffering and destruction caused by the war, the great foreign Jewish organizations will surely support the relief work, and especially the economic reestablishment of the Rumanian Jewish people.

It is, nevertheless, known, and it is not out of place here to repeat, that these organizations can only take hold when a methodical program can be set up, which in the first place will be undertaken through local means and efforts.

In other words, these organizations assist in covering the relief needs, but do not cover the needs in their full measure.

The more significant the local efforts and contributions, the more effective is the support and the more cheerfully will it be offered.

Only under these conditions can the well-to-do Jews of the country count on the help of foreign organizations, by fulfilling specific responsibilities, which indeed are their own.
In the reconstructive field (reproductivization of the Jewish masses, retraining, credits for the development of cooperatives, etc.) the support of these organizations increases proportionately.

The problem of constructive assistance will be the subject of a special report.

I conclude, permit us to guarantee that the brief conclusions given in this memorandum are the result of confirmation and reflection over a period of several years, during which time I have labored among sympathetic personalities in behalf of the suffering Jewish people.

Without an urgent consideration of the above proposals and suggestions, which come out of the actual situation and the hard reality of the suffering, we do not see how the exceptionally difficult problems of help for the Jews, with the coming of winter, can be solved.

Bucharest 2/10, 1944
Dr. Costiner
Dr. R2/DZ
The above report was given to us on the 2/10/944 by Dr. Costiner, the exceptional and meritorious administrative leader of the Relief Committee (Social Assistance section of the Association of Jewish Communities).

Since that time, we have received new difficult problems to solve, such as:

Thank God, up to now about 10,000 (ten thousand) Jewish souls, nearly all men, have emerged from the liberated areas of Ober-Siebenbürger, Hungary and Russian Carpathia.

These can and must receive urgent help from us, through us. The means at our disposal, up to now, are absolutely insufficient.

Dr. W. Filderman, President of the Joint and of the Association of Communities in Romania, and I myself, together with the delegates of the International Red Cross, are making the greatest efforts, and daily, through competent channels in Switzerland, are arousing the American contributors, to place suitable sums at our disposal without delay.

In this way, I also beg my competent brothers in Istanbul, as well as in Palestine, to make it their task at once to arouse in a suitable way the Joint and the World Jewish Congress.

Bucharest 1/12/944

Wilhelm Fischer

in the capacity of Chairman of the Relief Committee.
Secretary of State,
Washington.

X 153, January 30, 1 p.m.
FROM KATZKI TO PEHLE, WRB. ANKARA'S NO. 9.

We are informed by Jewish Agency representatives in Istanbul that Dr. Ernst Marton received no reply to his memorandum to the Rumanian Government proposing the exchange of certain enemy nationals held in Rumania for deportees from Transylvania (see Embassy's 2225, Ankara's 188 and Department's 103, WRB 139). No additional information has been received in Istanbul from Rumania regarding the memorandum.

The New York Jewish Telegraphic Agency news bulletin of December 13, 1944 received in Istanbul, carries an item with a Bucharest date line summarizing the response by the Hungarian to the Rumanian Government to the latter's proposal that the International Red Cross send a commission to investigate the fate of Transylvanian deportees. According to this item the Hungarian Government denied the allegations upon which the proposal of the Rumanian Government was based.

STEINHARDT
DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972
Dear Mr. Pehle:

By this time you will have received our telegram referring to Dr. Ernst Néaton's proposal to the Rumanian Government that steps be undertaken to exchange certain enemy nationals held in Rumania for Transylvanian deportees, and to the response of the Hungarian Government to the Rumanian proposal that an International Red Cross Commission be permitted to investigate the fate of Transylvanian deportees. Undoubtedly you have had opportunity to secure the Jewish Telegraphic Agency bulletin of December 13, 1944, to which we referred in our telegram.

To complete your records, there is enclosed herein the extract from the bulletin, which was received in Istanbul from New York.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Katzki

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

Enc: Extract from bulletin of December 13, 1944
BUGAHERST, Dec. 12. (JTA) -- The Romanian Government today made public the text of a reply received from the pro-Hitler government of Hungary to its request, sent through the International Red Cross, asking that a special commission be permitted to investigate the situation of 150,000 Jews reported to have been deported by Hungary from the part of Transylvania annexed from Romania. The request, sent two months ago, indicated that Romania would take reprisals against Hungarians living on Romanian soil should the Hungarian Government fail to give a satisfactory answer.

The answer of the Hungarian Government, transmitted through the Red Cross, and received here today by the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reads: "Transylvanian Jews have not been deported, but have been sent to work in auxiliary services. The Government of Hungary asked the International Red Cross to send a commission composed of Romanian and Hungarian representatives to investigate the situation. The Hungarian Government considers the request of the Romanian Government a pretext to justify persecution of Hungarians in the Romanian-held part of Transylvania. The Hungarian Government thinks it strange that Romania should display an interest only now in the situation of the Transylvanian Jews."

In a statement to the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Dr. Ernest Marton, chief of the department established by the Rumanian Government to deal with Jewish affairs in North Transylvania, declared that reliable reports in the hands of the Rumanian Government establish the fact that of the 150,000 Jews who lived in northern Transylvania about 120,000 men and women of all ages were deported to Poland and Germany during the months of May and June. The remaining Jews were sent to forced labor and are being treated as war prisoners.

"The reply of the Hungarian Government, thus, does not coincide with the facts gathered by us and substantiated by many eye-witnesses," Dr. Marton said. "We have testimony from eye-witnesses who, arriving from Poland, stated that Transylvanian Jews under the age of 15 and over the age of 65, including invalids and sick, were murdered in the gas chambers of Oswiecim."
Secretary of State,

Washington.

648, January 26, 3 p.m.

FOR THE FROM MELLAND

Department's 387, January 23, 1945's 376 refer by

8385 December 22.

Do you?

HUBBLE

RB
ANKARA

103

The following for Katski is WRB 139.

Department and War Refugee Board appreciate information contained in your 2226 of November 20, 1944. Please advise us of any further information bearing on the subject.

GREW

(acting)

(GLW)

WRB: KW:

1/23/45

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 1 5 1972
The following for Nekländ is VER 376.

Department and War Refugee Board appreciate information contained in your 8280 of December 22, 1944. Please advise us of any further information bearing on the subject.

OREST
(Acting)
(GLW)
CABLE TO AMLEGATION BEHN, SWITZERLAND, FOR MCCLELLAND

Department and WHB appreciate information contained in your 826/6 of December 22, 1944, which is being considered by Department. Please advise us of any further information bearing on the subject.

THIS IS WHB BERN CABLE NO. 376.

10:30 a.m.
January 23, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Ackermann, Ackin, Cohn, Drury, Daskis, Gaston, Hodel, Marks, McCornack, Peles, Files.

Bakshinor 1/18/45  R. F. W.
CABLE TO EMBASSY ANKARA, TURKEY, FOR KATZKI

Department and WRB appreciate information contained in your 2225 of November 20, 1944, which is being considered by Department. Please advise us of any further information bearing on the subject.

THIS IS WRB ANKARA CABLE NO. 139.

10:30 a.m., January 23, 1945.

Miss Chauncey (for the Secy) Ackermans, Ackin, Cohn, Drury, Dabois, Gaston, Hodel, Marks, McCormack, Pohla, Files.

Bakrmar 1/18/45 PA JD
December 23, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Mr: Cable No. 8265 of December 22, 1944, from Bern

I spoke to Mr. George Warren about cable No. 8265 of December 22, from Bern, regarding Kastner's message that the Germans in Budapest are interested in the possibility of an exchange of persons in their custody for Germans captured in Romania.

I pointed out to Mr. Warren that this proposal was substantially similar to the one reported by Katzki in his cable No. 2225 of November 20 from Ankara. I reminded Mr. Warren that Mr. Friedman had spoken to him at the time the earlier cable from Ankara had been received and that it was at that time agreed that this whole matter of exchange would be followed closely by Mr. Warren. Mr. Warren stated that he would inquire as to whether there was any other information in the State Department with regard to this exchange proposal.

I advised Mr. Warren that I would prepare a cable to Katzki informing him of McClleland's cable from Bern and one to McCllelland informing him of Katzki's earlier cable. Mr. Warren requested that I hold these cables up until he has had an opportunity to examine into the matter.

I informed Mr. Warren that I had discussed these two cables with Mr. Friedman, who took the position that we should not at this time request McCllelland to obtain a more concrete proposal from the Germans through Kastner, as such a step might be resented by the Russians. Mr. Warren agreed with this viewpoint.

MyMarks
MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Re: Cable No. 8265 of December 22, 1944, from Bern

I spoke to Mr. George Warren about cable No. 8265 of December 22, from Bern, regarding Eastein's message that the Germans in Budapest are interested in the possibility of an exchange of persons in their custody for Germans captured in Rumania.

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The following message is from Budapest for EMB.

We have received word from Kastner in Budapest recently that the Germans, leader of SS, in particular, are greatly interested in possibility of exchanging individuals in their custody against Germans captured in Russia (for example, directing personnel of Central Jewish office at Treblinka). Can we perceive any possibility of Russians and Russians coming in this way? Kastner reports that there is a lot of certain Jews in the hands of Germans who could be bothered, short of actual exchange, by securing even agreement from Russians to permit ICGS access on reciprocal basis to interned Germans in Russia.

MBG103

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-1-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972
Secretary of State,

Washington.

2226, November 20, 8 p.m.

FROM KATZKI TO BIRD JUB, ANKARA'S 188.

One. According to reports received by Jewish agency representative in Istanbul, Doctor Stefan Nerton, former member of the Romanian parliament for Cluj, Transylvania submitted a memorandum to the nationalists containing proposals (one) from medical, financial and other types of assistance for 500 to 500 Romanian Jews who remained in the Odessa section of Transylvania after the German and Hungarian armies were driven out; (two) for the registration and safeguarding of the real and personal property of the 140,000 Jews deported from Odessa to Germany or elsewhere. These properties, which had been confiscated from the Jews by the Hungarians, are now without ownership; (three) for the rescue by exchange, similar to prisoners of war, of Jews deported from Odessa, of whom it is believed 300 are still alive with reference to point (three) the memorandum states that all Jews originating from Odessa automatically became Romanian citizens without distinction if at the date of the occupation they had been deported by the Nazis to Germany or to Poland. It is suggested that the Romanian Government seize the exchange of the deported Jews for the "great number of German subjects as well as suspected persons who upon joining the German army lost their status as Romanian subjects in the eyes of the law as did their families".

Two. A radio broadcast on October 30 from Romania intercepted by the Office of War Information in Istanbul stated the following:

"Because of information received regarding the present situation of Romanian citizens in Germany and Austria of Jews deported from the north of Transylvania and of Jews of Romanian nationality who are in Germany or Hungary or in territories occupied by the Germans the Romanian Government has requested that the International Red Cross make an inquiry concerning the fate and the situation of the "Romanian subjects and at the same time has requested the Indian Government to advise Berlin and Budapest that the Romanian Government will apply reprisals toward German and
November 20, 8 p.m., from Ankara

Hungarian subjects and toward the respective ethnic minorities."

Chairman: Jewish agency representatives in Istanbul are in receipt of teletype from Budapest via Geneva in which Castner refers the Jewish agency representative in Budapest proposals and exchange through the International Red Cross similar to Norton's above referred to rescue of Idar Jews for German nationals in Hungary.

Castner states that the Germans have promised to consider the matter provided the Hungarians are in agreement and that as he views the situation the possibility for making an exchange depends largely upon the attitude of the Hungarians, the United States, and Russian Governments.

Your, as are without first hand knowledge of the position in Bucharest. Nevertheless, the exchange of the position in Bucharest. Nevertheless, the exchange proposals whether of Hungarian and Hungarian Jews on the one side for Germans and Hungarians on the other, or some combination thereof, would seem to merit further inquiry and investigation. As shall make such additional inquiry as any be possible from here and shall keep you informed. Will you please inform us of the action you take.

Yours,

STIRNHAUS

His Honor (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Akiva, Cohn, Curry, Judica, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Lesser, Marks, Mannon, McCormack, Pahl, Pilas.
Dear Mr. Leavitt:

I am enclosing as of possible interest to you copies of two Rumanian newspaper articles, which were received through the United States Embassy in Turkey.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Meas A. Leavitt,
Secretary,
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,

Enclosures.
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESENT WAR REFUGE BOARD

To:
(1) Mr. and Mrs. Starwacki
(2) Miss Nosel
(3) Miss Hodel

Miss Hodel has not seen yet,
I think the first result
must already be com-
ministered to the Union
of Representatives.

Sent to J.O.C. today.
At Miss Hodel's suggestion.

From:
Dear Dr. Fehle:

I am sure you will find of interest the enclosed two extracts from Romanian newspapers, which were received during the past few days in Istanbul. One, from the Călărețul Israelit, December 31, 1944, relates to an application made by the Union of Jewish Communities in Romania for the repatriation to Romania of Jewish people, originating from territories which have remained Romanian, who are now in territories occupied by the USSR. The second extract, from the Renasterea Noastra, December 31, 1944, reports on a rehabilitation program undertaken by the American Joint Distribution Committee.

I am enclosing extra copies of each of these items, in the event that you deem it desirable to make copies thereof available to the Joint Distribution Committee.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Herbert Katzki

Mr. J. W. Fehle, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosures: Copies of newspaper extracts
The Union of Jewish communities, on November 20th, 1944, submitted to General Vinogradov, Chairman of the Allied Armistice Commission, a memorandum asking for the repatriation from the U.S.S.R. to Rumania of some 8,000 Jews originating from the territories which have remained Rumanian.

Most of these Jews had been taken to Transnistria, either as deportees, or as members of the Jewish compulsory labour squads. However, they cannot be regarded as anything but Rumanian subjects and should therefore be repatriated.

The memorandum, signed by Dr. W. Fildermann, "met with favourable attention on the part of General Vinogradov, who informed Dr. Fildermann that some 2,000 Jews of those remained in the Soviet Union, have asked to be repatriated to Rumania." The U.S.S.R., General Vinogradov stated, "has notified the Rumanian Government that it had fulfilled all formalities necessary for their repatriation. However, the Rumanian Government has not given its reply yet.

Subsequent to this, the Union of Rumanian Jews made a series of demarches, and finally obtained the Government's permission for the repatriation of 566 Jewish families -- numbering some 2,000 persons -- to Rumania.

The American Joint Distribution Committee, through the International Red Cross, has provided the necessary equipment and food for the repatriated.
The activity of the American Joint Distribution Committee

Important Sums for Relief to Repatriated

Equipment for 35,000 Persons.

The Hungarian committee of the American Joint Distribution Committee, presided by Dr. W. Fildermann, has decided, in agreement with the International Red Cross Committee, to grant its support for the rehabilitation of Jews repatriated from Transnistria, liberated from prisons and concentration camps where they have been kept on political charges, and also to the widows and orphans of the Jassy Pogrom of June 1941.

This support is not a mere grant in aid for one's upkeep, but a fund providing for individual rehabilitation the amount of 75,000 Lei per head of every adult member of each family. This work will require the sum of one milliard Lei, the distribution of which, throughout the country, will take place in January.

Apart from this, the committee has required raw materials necessary for the equipment of 35,000 people. The arrangement will be that the equipment should be made by each community, with its own means, from the material placed at its disposal. Half of that material has already been distributed so that 17,000 persons are already equipped.
Dear Sirs:

Enclosed with this letter are copies of two reports which were received for you from Bertrand Jacobson through the United States Mission in Bucharest.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

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

Enclosures.
CONTROLL COPY

SUBJECT: Transmission of two reports from the
HICEM representative in Bucharest

THE HONORABLE
THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
WASHINGTON.

SIR:

I have the honor to enclose two brief reports that were handed to me by Mr. S. Bertrand Jacobson, HICEM representative in Bucharest. I have accepted these reports for transmission to the Department for the information of the officers who are concerned with Rumanian affairs.

If the Department considers it appropriate, Mr. Jacobson will be grateful if copies of these are sent to HIAS-ICA Emigration Association of New York.

Respectfully yours,

Burtor I. Barry
United States Representative in Rumania

Enclosures: 11

As stated

BYB:da
640.1
Ozali to Department
Enclosure No. 1 to Dispatch No. 52 from
The United States Mission, Bucharest,
Romania, dated January 5, 1945.

December 29, 1944.

To: Harold Herrick, Esquire,
American Minister

From: ... Sonnenblum, HICEM representative.

Subject: Statistics-Jewish Population of Rumania.

In the belief that figures showing the number of
Jews living in Rumania are of interest to you, I have
prepared the following statistics on the subject:

1. According to the census of 1942 (July),
   the total Jewish population of Rumania
   amounted to ........................................... 269,610

2. The total today is approximately .... 265,000
   which, broken down according to regions,
   is distributed as follows:
   - Southern Bukovina (which remained
     Rumanian after the Armistice of
     August 1944) ..................................... 3,500
   - Transylvania (not including northern
     Transylvania recently reconquered) ........ 39,500
   - Old Kingdom ...................................... 242,000

3. Bessarabia in the census of July 1942
   had a population of Jews .................. 101
   of which 100 at Chisinau and 1 at
   Tarnopol.
   In 1930 the Bessarabian Jewish popu-
   lation was ........................................... 170,826
   (No figures are available showing the
   Jewish population of Bessarabia after
   its annexation to the U.S.S.R.)

4. Bukowina. The Jewish population of
   this province according to the 1930
   census was ....................................... 129,233
   but after the deportations in 1941
   and 1942, to Transnistria, it fell to
   17,169
   of which 10,724 were in Cernowitz.

5. Northern Transylvania, reconquered by
   the Ruseo-Austrian armies, had a popu-
   lation of 150,000 Jews in 1930, but
   according to investigations now being
   made in that area, not more than 6000
   Jews.

MIA-ICA EMIGRATION ASSOCIATION
OF NEW YORK (HICEM)
Temporary Office: c/o International
Red Cross, 7 Stade Palace,
BUCHEST.
Bucharest, in 1942, had a population of 38,048 Jews which number, following the Armistice of August 23, 1944 probably increased to 110,000 following the influx of Jews from the provinces.

S. Bertrand Jacobson.
According to the best trustworthy data, which I have carefully checked with the responsible Jewish relief committees, the following figures present a fairly accurate picture of the number of Hungarian Jewish refugees now in Romania. I have divided them into three categories which indicate their status before they escaped across the Hungarian frontier.

Category 1. This group consists of Hungarian Jews who escaped deportation from Hungary and who clandestinely crossed the Hungarian border since June 1944. They were not subject to forced labor in Hungary and there are numerous family groups among them. They are living principally in Transylvania, Arad, and Temesvar (Timisoara). Their number is about: 1500

Category 2. This group consists of Hungarian Jews who were deported from Hungary to do forced labor in the copper mines at Bor, Yugoslavia. Of the original 7000 in this group, approximately 3000 were freed by Marshal Tito's forces and were permitted by the Serbian authorities to cross the frontier in September and October 1944. A very small number emigrated to Palestine. The number of this category in Romania is: 3200

Category 3. This group consists of Hungarian Jews who were members of forced labor battalions in Hungary and were taken prisoner by the advancing Russo-American forces. Most of them have been liberated and are living principally in Transylvania, Arad, and Temesvar, and they are considered as refugees. They are principally from Hungary proper, and from Northern Transylvania recently reincorporated into Romania. Their number is about: 8000

The total number increases daily as the result of infiltrations into Romania of Hungarians still escaping from
From Hungary.

To the figure of 40,000 Hungarian civilian refugees in Bratislava should perhaps be added between 4,000 and 5,000 Hungarian Jews who were recently liberated from Hungarian forced labor columns by the Russian-Norwegian offensive. This group is in Northern Transylvania, where some of them originally resided.

The total amount spent on relief of the above refugees, in cash, from June to November 30, 1945, amounts to 486,500,000 lire. Relief was granted not only for maintenance but also for the purchase of clothing equipment.

In accordance, Jacobson.