

Proceedings with respect to the
Rescue of Refugees: Report Projects

Relief in Shanghai, 1941

000700

PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF & RESCUE OF REFUGEES; RELIEF PROJECTS
(RELIEF IN SHANGHAI) (JDC-HOR-JLC)

1. GENERAL
2. RABBINICAL GROUP IN SHANGHAI
3. LICENSES ISSUED FOR RELIEF IN SHANGHAI

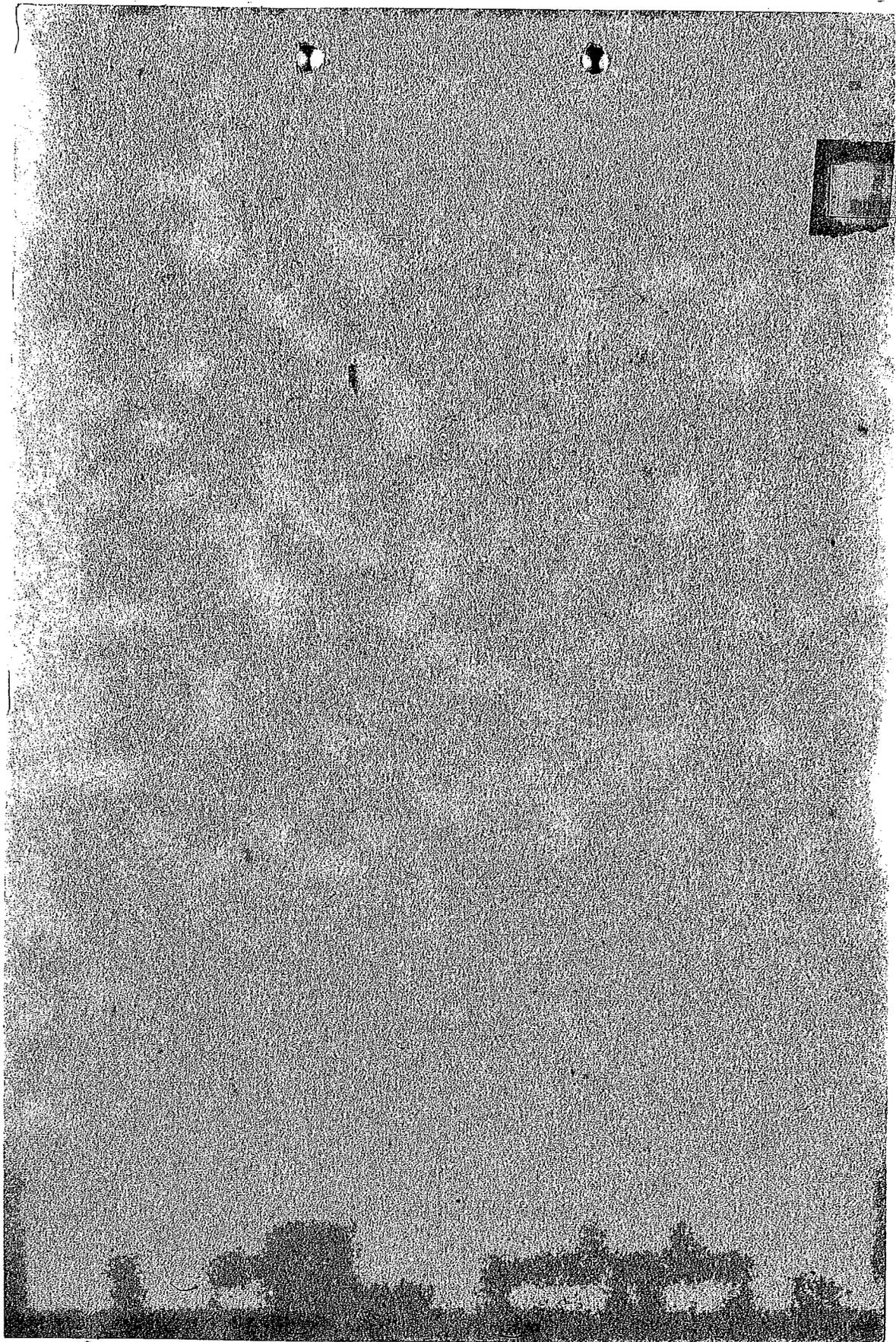
A. Jewish Labor Committee	----- Licenses	Remit. Lic. NY 629993
B. Unad Hahatzala	----- Licenses	Commun. Lic. W-2128
C.		Remit. Lic. NY 624875
		Remit. Lic. NY 646936
		Remit. Lic. NY 660331
C. American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee	----- Licenses	Remit. Lic. NY 634794
D. American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee	----- Licenses	Remit. Lic. NY 660905
E. Bankers Trust Company, NY	----- Licenses	Remit. Lic. NY 667892
F. American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee	----- Licenses	Remit. Lic. NY 691475
G. Banker's Trust Company, NY	----- Licenses	Remit. Lic. NY 673252

WAR REFUGEE BOARD RECORDS

00070

PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF AND RESCUE OF REFUGEES: RELIEF PROJECTS
RELIEF IN SHANGHAI (JDC - UOR - JLC)

700703



00000

CROSS-REFERENCE

.....
(Name of Applicant)

.....
(Application Number)

FOR LETTERS OR CABLES WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN INDEXED TO "BREAKDOWN #1"
AND WHICH REFER TO THE EVACUATION OF THE RABBINICAL GROUP IN SHANGHAI

SEE: BREAKDOWN #2

000700

12537
Bury

June 8, 1945

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Biele was received through the United States Embassy in Lisbon under date of June 5, 1945, as your No. 246:

"As a result of recent information, substance of following was given Saly: 10,976 refugees Shanghai being given assistance. Bought clothing for most needy only from 20% April funds. Seemed advisable to purchase large reserve food for which 20% April reserve used. While rapid rise in prices everything, exchange rates remain stable.

"Sent detailed monthly balance sheets which accountant controls, to Stockholm."

Very truly yours,

(Signature)
Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

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

RBH
RBHutchison: 6/8/45

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

EDW-977
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. ([redacted] W)

Lisbon

Dated June 5, 1945

Rec'd 3:51 p.m.

*War
Ref.
[Signature]
(P. [Signature])*

Secretary of State

Washington

1208, June 5, 3 p.m.

CONTROL COPY

1945 JUN 5 AM 9
DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION
LISBON

THIS IS WRB 421, JDC 246, FOR LEAVITT FROM BIELSKES

Substance of following given Saly as result recent
information: Assistance being given 10,976 refugees
Shanghai. Clothing for most needy only bought from 20%
April funds. 20% April reserve used to purchase large
reserve food which seemed advisable. Exchange rates
remain stable while rapid rise in prices everything.
Sent Stockholm detailed monthly balance sheets
which accountant controls.

BARUCH

JT

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

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

IES-1383

PLAIN

1945 MAY 21 AM 8 45ern

Dated May 18, 1945

Rec'd. 9:26 a.m., 20th

Secretary of State,
Washington.

2215, Eighteenth

MRB FROM MCCLELLAND FROM STERNBUCH TO VANDERBILT.

"We have received following messages from Shanghai:

Remittance finally availed after assured A.W. Rembach
your soonest confirmation therefore urgently confirm
unless discredited distributed per instructions original
list actually 233 increased Rosenbergs Szymonowicz
Josefmodels new born Rabinowicz Lubavicher married total
237 Josefmodel's son meanwhile died. Leaving 100 francs
over balance report clearly amounts mendel Zywicki
Mendelciger asking support Rabbi Hochmperlow signed
in name groups Rabbi Ashkenazi. Long borrowed 215 francs
for each clothing Mirrer Yeshiva and Kollel pay debt
immediately urgent. Don't support TAT from Yeshiva
sources as all sick under my care due my health don't
send to address Orthodox support signed Szmuelowicz".

This message

2- #2815, Eighteenth, from Bern

This message is more or less unintelligible to Union Rabbis representatives Switzerland and to me. We have repeatedly attempted to "Rabbis in Shanghai to wire in Polish or German instead of garbled English but without avail. 2132.

HARRIS

MJF

MAY 10 1945

Dear Sirs:

The following message for you from Sternbuch was received through the United States Legation in Bern under date of May 5, 1945:

"The following wire from Samuele Wicz, Shanghai, has been received by us 'received support specify yes Hivah unconditionally urging 12,000 francs monthly expenditure'."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Acting Executive Director

Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee,
132 Nassau Street,
New York 7, New York.

RBH
RBH:inp 5/9/45

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

MFD-743
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (██████████ TW)

Bern *am Ref Bd.*
Dated May 5, 1945 *O Day*
Rec'd 5:41 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

2631, May 5, 9 a.m.
WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

CONTROL COPY
MAY 7 - 1945
DC/L
LIAISON OFFICE

Following from Sternbuch to Vaad Hahatzala New
York.

"We have received following wire from Samuilo
Wicz Shanghai: support received specify yes Hivah
expenditure unconditionally urging 12,000 francs
monthly"

HARRISON

JMS

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

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

Shanghai
OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

DEM

PLAIN

April 24, 1945

Mar Rep B.
O'Flayer

CONTROL COPY

EMBASSY

LISBON

645, Twenty-fourth

Please deliver the following message (URE 175) to
Harold Trobe, Lisbon, from N. A. Leavitt, American
Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

QUOTE Your March 29th remitted 1,000 Sweden
under license for test parcels to Shanghai. UNQUOTE

GREW
(Acting)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
APR 25 1945
DC/L
LIAISON OFFICE

WRB:MMV:KG
4/24/45

WE

RECEIVED
APR 25 1945

RECEIVED
APR 25 1945

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY, LISBON, FROM AMERICAN LEGATION, BOSTON

Please deliver the following message to Harold Trobe, Lisbon,
from M. B. Levitt, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

USGIA YOUR MARCH 29TH RECEIVED \$1,000 SWEDEN UNDER
LISBON 3 APRIL 1945 TELETYPE TO BUREAU APRIL 1945

THIS IS WRS LISBON CABLE NO. 173

copy sent to Jde 4/19/45

3:45 p.m.
April 19, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Cohn, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel, Hutcheson,
McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files.

FH:hd 4/19/45

*Just a copy sent
see above file*

2. To Harold Trobe, Lisbon

YOUR MARCH 29th REMITTED \$1,000 SWEDEN UNDER LICENSE FOR TEST PARCELS TO
SHANGHAI

M A LEAVITT
J D C

Relief in Shanghai

1957
J 13

Dear Sirs:

The following message for you from Sternbuch was received through the United States Legation in Bern under date of April 4, 1945:

"Sammelowitz in Shanghai cabled as follows
'all need special holiday support and are requesting considerable clothing relief. Rabbis Wolmark, Szymonowicz, Krawiec, et cetera have cabled as follows:
Awrombach Mirer 10,000 Kletzker 3,000 Telser 3,000 Rabbis and Kollelim 2,000 Habad 2,000 Kamenitzer 1,000 Lubliner 1,000 Betjosef 500 Slonimer 250 Radiner 250 total 23,000. Urgent your confirmation receipt otherwise it will be impossible for these individuals and groups enjoy Vaad Hahatzala emergency support. Please answer soonest".

Very truly yours,

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee,
132 Nassau Street,
New York 7, New York.

RBH
RBH:inp 4/12/45

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

ASB-93

PLAIN

1945 APR 11 AM 9 21

Bern

Dated April 4, 1945

Rec'd 2 p.m., 10th

LIAISON

Secretary of State,
Washington

CONTROL COPY

1957, Fourth
FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND

Sternbuch is having difficulty relaying messages from Shanghai to USA concerning relief questions and has therefore asked me pass following message on to you for Vaad Hatazala.

"Szmuelowitz in Shanghai has cabled as follows 'all need special holiday support and are requesting considerable clothing relief. Rabbis Wolmark, Szymanowicz, Krawiec, et cetera have cabled as follows: Awrombach Mirer 10,000 Kletzker 3,000 Telser 3,000 Rabbis and Kollélim 2,000 Habad 2,000 Kamenitzer 1,000 Lubliner 1,000 Betjosef 500 Slonimer 250 Radiner 250 total 23,000. Urgent your confirmation receipt otherwise it will be impossible for these individuals and groups enjoy Vaad Hahatzala emergency support. Please answer soonest!'.
HARRISON

EDA

Note: Delay due to non-receipt.

Copy to Shanghai

March 31, 1945

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Harold Trobe was received through the United States Embassy in Lisbon under date of March 29, 1945:

"Re cable from Gottfarb substance of which follows please advise: Insured registered letters to Shanghai up to two kilos weight may be sent. The mail connections via Russia are open. Plan I would like to carry out of sending injection syringes medicines and first rate food this way has been discussed with Bitkar. Bitkar is interested and states according customs regulations permissible provided the material corresponds to the value declared when mailed. Is it possible to receive approximately \$1,000 from JDC for first experiment. American Legation's opinion best that blockade be cleared by New York."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

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

VEastin: 3/31/45 *RF*

MENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

EOC-256
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (W)

Lisbon
Dated March 29, 1945

Rec'd 3:42 p.m.

War Ref. 221.
O. Stuyver

Secretary of State,
Washington.

CONTROL COPY

682, March 29, 11 a.m.

THIS IS WRB 517 JDC 206 FOR LEAVITT FROM TROBE

Please advise us recable from Gottfarb substance
of which follows: possible send insured registered
letters to Shanghai up to two kilos weight. Mail
connections open via Russia. Have discussed with
Bitkar plan I would like to carry out of sending
injection syringes medicines and first rate food
this way. Bitkar interested states permissible ac-
cording customs regulations provided material corres-
ponds to value declared when mailed. Is it possible re-
ceive for first experiment appropriation of \$1,000
from Joint? In opinion American Legation best that
blockade be cleared by New York.

WTD

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

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

Relief to Shanghai (1)
DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

*War Ref Bd
to Slawitz*
February 26, 1945

Noon

LEN

Distribution of sums
resulting only be special
arrangement. [redacted] W)

AMEMBASSY

LISBON

332 X

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FEB 27 1945
LIAISON OFFICE
CONTROL COPY

The cable below is WRB 146.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to
Harold Trobe from M. A. Leavitt of American Jewish Joint
Distribution Committee:

QUOTE Remitted Galy Mayer \$100,000 Shanghai grant
February and \$400,000 second half February Switzerland.

UNQUOTE

GREW
(Acting)
(GLW)

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

WRB:MMV:KG
2/24/46

WE

FEB 27 1945
RECEIVED

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

1012

CABLE TO AMERICAN EMBASSY LISBON, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver following message to Harold Trobe from

M. A. Leavitt of American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

QUOTE REMITTED BILLY MAYER \$100,000 SHANGHAI GRANT
FEBRUARY AND \$400,000 SECOND HALF FEBRUARY SWITZERLAND.
UNQUOTE

THIS IS WIRE LISBON CABLE NO. 146

copy sent to Leavitt 2/21/45

2: 30 p.m.
February 21, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y), Akzin, Cohn, DuBois, Gaston, Hodel,
Hutchison, McCormack, O'Dwyer, Files

RH
RH Hutchison: 2/20/45

.....
Cable to Harold Trobe, Lisbon, thru WRB

3
REMITTED SALY MAYER \$100,000 SHANGHAI GRANT FEBRUARY AND \$400,000 SECOND HALF
FEBRUARY SWITZERLAND

Leavitt - JDC

125 of your Shanghai
2/15/45

February 15, 1945

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Harold Trobe was received through the American Legation in Lisbon under date of February 12, 1945:

"JDC 167. Spent about \$119,000 for relief in Shanghai during January, 86% of which Saly Mayer advises was for food. For February Saly already transferred 200,000 Swiss francs and he expects transfer this month 200,000 Swiss francs additional."

Very truly yours,

Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Assistant Executive Director

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

✓ RDrury 2/15/45

RD

10012

RECEIVED
FEB 13 1945
STATE DEPT.

STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DEPT. OF STATE

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES
TELEGRAPH SECTION

DE

1945

Walt R. [unclear]

MCG-1428

Distribution of

1945 FEB 12 AM 10 31 Lisbon

reading only by special arrangement. ([redacted] W)

Dated February 12, 1945

RECEIVED
AM [redacted] Rec'd 7:55 p.m.
(LISBON)

Secretary of State,
Washington.

Sent 2/15/45
CONTROL COPY

315, February 12, 6 p.m.

THIS IS WRB 311 JDC 167 FOR IEAVITT FROM
HAROLD TROBE.

Approximately \$110,000 spent for relief during
January in Shanghai of which 86% for food Saly Mayer
advises. 200,000 Swiss francs already transferred
by Saly for February and he plans this month transfer
additional 200,000 Swiss francs.

NORWEB

JMS

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

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

January 4, 1948

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

10 p.m. 137

CONTROL COPY

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

AMLEGATION

BERN

64

The cable below for McClelland is WRB 349.

Please deliver following message to Isaac Sternbuch,
3 Toufener Strasse, St. Gall, from Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz
of the Vaad Mahatzala Emergency Committee:

QUOTE Sent you six remittances of 428,816 francs each.
advise whether any developments on Shanghai evacuation and
whether you remitted there all funds with complete instruc-
tions. You must inform Szmulowitz we greatly disturbed at
continued unjustified complaints. Our funds from various
sources such as Vaad Mahatzala, Yeshivoth and individuals.
Our distribution scheme equitable and funds distributed as
given and ordered. Please endeavor avoid disagreements since
our work suffers thereby. UNQUOTE

STATINIUS
(GHW)

WRB:MMV:KG
1/4/48

WE

SWP:SD
DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, BERN, FOR MCCLELLAND FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Please deliver following message to Isaac Sternbuch, 3 Teufener
Strasse, St. Gall, from Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz of the Vaad Hahatzala
Emergency Committee:

QUOTE SENT YOU SIX REMITTANCES OF 428,816 FRANCS EACH. ADVISE
WHETHER ANY DEVELOPMENTS ON SHANGHAI EVACUATION AND WHETHER YOU
REMITTED THERE ALL FUNDS WITH COMPLETE INSTRUCTIONS. YOU MUST
INFORM SZMULEWITZ WE GREATLY DISTURBED AT CONTINUED UNJUSTIFIED
COMPLAINTS. OUR FUNDS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES SUCH AS VAAD
HAHATZALA, YESHIVOTH AND INDIVIDUALS. OUR DISTRIBUTION SCHEME
EQUITABLE AND FUNDS DISTRIBUTED AS GIVEN AND ORDERED. PLEASE
ENDEAVOR AVOID DISAGREEMENTS SINCE OUR WORK SUFFERS THEREBY UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 349.

30 a.m.
January 3, 1945

Miss Chauncey (for the Sect'y) Ackermann, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Gaston,
Hodel, Marks, McCormack, Pehle, Files

copy sent
Vaad Hahatzala
1/3/45
RH
FH:hd 1/2/45

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET
(ROOM 619)
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

December 29, 1944

War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Miss F. Hodel

Dear Miss Hodel:

May we ask you to please expedite the enclosed message through facilities of the War Refugee Board.

We are indeed thankful for the many courtesies which you have extended to us on the many occasions that we have had to turn to the War Refugee Board during the year.

With our deepest appreciation,

Very respectfully yours,

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A. Kalmanowitz
Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

AK:r

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

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

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

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

December 29, 1944

Message to Isaac Sternbuch
3 Teufener Strasse
St. Gallen, Switzerland
through American Legation, Bern.

SENT YOU SIX REMITTANCES OF 428,816 FRANCS EACH. YOU MUST INSIST
THAT BANK PAY YOU COMPLETE SUM REMITTED WITHOUT DEDUCTING SINCE FUNDS
CONSECRATED FOR RESCUE. ADVISE WHETHER ANY DEVELOPMENTS ON SHANGHAI
EVACUATION AND WHETHER YOU REMITTED THERE ALL FUNDS WITH COMPLETE
INSTRUCTIONS. YOU MUST INFORM SZMULEWITZ WE GREATLY DISPURBED AT
CONTINUED UNJUSTIFIED COMPLAINTS . OUR FUNDS FROM VARIOUS SOURCES SUCH
AS VAAD HAHATZALA, YESHIVOTH AND INDIVIDUALS. ~~THE~~ OUR DISTRIBUTION
SCHEME EQUITABLE AND FUNDS DISTRIBUTED AS GIVEN AND ORDERED. PLEASE
ENDEAVOR AVOID DISAGREEMENTS SINCE OUR WORK SUFFERS THEREBY.

*Eliminated
of the
Vaad source
with Schach
AT*

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

RABBI ABRAHAM KALMANOWITZ

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

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

5.16 Stack

December 27, 1944

Dear Sirs:

The following message for Rabbis Grosowsky, Kalmanowitz, Kotler and Lwowitz from Rabbis Wolf Jacobson, Abraham Jakobsohn, and S. Wolbe was received through the American Legation in Stockholm under date of December 21, 1944:

"Received following message through Foreign Office of Sweden: At Mirer College in Shanghai there are 18 females, 205 males, 16 children, in addition to 31 females, 128 males, and 51 children from the other affiliated organizations. They are out of money and request immediate transfer of funds, figuring 120 Swiss francs per month per person, and in addition one extraordinary support for relief fund "TAT" of Rabbi Lewenstein.

"Also we have received during past few days messages with exasperated complaints cabled from every college (Kamenitz, Lublin, Klezk, Lubawitch, Wiladashkovno-Kolel, Radin, Rabbinical group) also from the older pupils of Mirer. Heads of the other colleges are demanding that support for them be sent to Rabbi Ashkenazi directly. Pupils of Mirer desire that their support be sent personally to each student and ask that you demand their signature on receipts covering future transfers and past transfers also.

"Mail contact with Shanghai since August not possible.

"With relief appeal we are working for the colleges. Even the Government of Sweden however is not able to obtain emigration allowance for citizens of Sweden residing in Shanghai. We will again report to you soon. Please do not appeal to authorities of Sweden before consulting us.

"Regarding Rabbis who were deported from Lithuania, we are unable to do anything."

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

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

✓
Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee,
132 Nassau Street,
New York 7, New York.
RDR
RDrury 12/27/44

STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

DHC-326

Distribution of
true reading only by
special arrangement.

1944 DEC 22 PM 4 44 Stockholm

Dated December 21, 1944

Rec'd 9:15 P.M.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

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

CONTROL COPY

5216, December 21, 5

Addressed to Rabbis Grosowsky, Kalmanowitz,
Kotler and Luowitz, Vaad Hahazalah Emergency Committee
New York is following message from Rabbis Wolf Jacobson,
Abraham Jakobsohn and S. Wolbe. This is our number 115
for MRE.

"Following message received through Swedish Foreign
Office: In Shanghai there are at Mirer College 205
males, 18 females, 16 children, besides 148 males, 51
females, 51 children from the other connected institutions.
They have no more money and ask for immediate money
transfer calculating 120 Swiss francs per person each
month, and further one extra ordinary support for Rabbi
Levenstein's relief fund "TAT".

During last few days we have also received cables
from every college (Kamenitz, Klezk, Lublin, Lubavitsch,
Radin, Wiladashkovno-Kolel, Rabbinical group) as well as
from the older Mirer pupils with exasperated complaints.

DECLASSIFIED LEADERS
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

December 26, 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Joseph Schwartz was received through the American Legation in Peking under date of December 21, 1944:

Was transmitted to Shanghai 65 million Chinese dollars in October, 80 in November and 91 in December. An additional 70 million for December is being requested by the committee and this we had to deny since we have already exceeded our budget. However we did allow 100,000 Swiss francs for clothing in December as a special one time grant, and a like amount in January for the same purpose. It is reported by the committee that 12,000 persons are at present on full relief and many of them are aged and sick. Also there are a number of frostbite cases as a result of severe winter weather.

"In view of the uncontrolled inflation and greatly increasing prices we will have to expect ever increasing demands for further aid. A great number of refugees have now been in Shanghai six years with no new clothing; therefore a one time grant was absolutely necessary for this purpose. In view also of increasing prices committee desires to lay in now some stocks for the coming months of winter.

"You should, I believe, figure budget minimum \$100,000 beginning with January."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Peble

J. W. Peble
Executive Director

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

RDrury 12/26/44

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

JP-259

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

Bern

Dated December 21, 1944

Rec'd 6:30 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

^X
8255, December 21, 6 p.m.

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND.

Kindly deliver the following message from Schwartz

to Leavitt of JDC:

"We sent to Shanghai in October 65, in November 80 and in December 91 million Chinese dollars. The committee is asking for an additional 70 millions for December which we had to refuse because our budget has already been exceeded. We did however grant 100,000 Swiss francs as a special one time grant for clothing in December and a similar amount for the same purpose for January. Committee reports that 12,000 people are now on full relief many of them sick and aged. There are also numerous cases of frostbite due to hard winter weather.

With present uncontrolled inflation and tremendously increasing prices we can look forward to ever increasing demand for additional help. Many refugees have been in

Shanghai

CONTROL COPY

Sent 11x6/44
RS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS
DIVISION
1944 DEC 22 10 00
RECEIVED

DEC 22 1944
RECEIVED

-2- #8255, December 21, 6 p.m., from Bern.

Shanghai six years now without any new clothes, a one time grant therefore for this purpose was absolutely necessary. Also with rising prices committee wishes lay in some stocks now for coming winter months.

Believe you should figure budget beginning January minimum \$100,000".

HUDDLE

DU

DEC 21 11 53

RECEIVED

November 28, 1944

Dear Sirs:

The following message for you from Isaac Sternbuch was received through the American Legation in Bern under date of November 22, 1944:

"Efforts are being made by us to reorganize the dispatch of parcels being sent to Shanghai. Repeated complaints have been coming to us recently regarding the method of distribution of relief funds in Shanghai and we have requested S. Z. Muelowicz to provide to us for each group accurate figures. The following reply has been received: Mirer Kolliel 36 persons, Mirer Jescpleah 181, Rabbis 44, Wilno Kowner Kollielim 35, Mirer Hanhala 3, married students of Rabbis 23, Kamenetzer 14, Lubliner 30, Kletzker (including 3 families) 15, Beth Joseph (including 1 couple) 10, Telsher (including 4 families totaling 13 persons), Chabad 3, Raduner 3, Slonimer 3, Boledim 7, (*) 18. Total number 454 people.

"Separate from Rabbis group is Wilner Kowner Kolliel. We request that distributions in the future, to avoid any misunderstandings, be based precisely on this new plan." (*) apparent omission.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee,
132 Nassau Street,
New York 7, New York.

✓
R5
RDrury 11/28/44

RECEIVED
NOV 22 1944
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

INCOMING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

5 was Ref. to [unclear]

ALH-1761
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement.
Bern
Dated November 22, 1944
Rec'd 2:55 a.m., 23rd

Secretary of State,
Washington

CONTROL COPY

7685, November 22, 4 p.m.

Message sent 11/29/44

FOR WRB FROM MCCLELLAND. FOR RABBI KALMANOWITZ, RE

EMERGENCY COMMITTEE, UNION OF ORTHODOX RABBIS, FROM STERNBUCH.

For Secretary of State
test of [unclear] [unclear]
[unclear] [unclear] [unclear]

We are attempting reorganize sending of parcels to Shanghai. Since we have recently received repeated complaints concerning distribution scheme of relief funds in Shanghai we asked S. Z. Muslowicz to furnish us with exact figures for each group. We have received following answer: Mirer Jasoplwah 181 persons, Mirer Kolliel 36, Rabbis 44, Mirer Hanhala 8, Wilner Kowner Kollelim 35, married students of Rabbis 23, Lubliner 30 Kamenetzer 14, Kletzker (including 3 families) 15, Telsher (including 4 families numbering 13 persons) (*) 18, Beth Joseph (including 1 couple) 10, Chabad 3, Slonimer 3, Raduner 3, Boledim 7. Total 454 persons.

Wilner Kowner

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 15 1972**

073

-2- #7685, November 22, 4 p.m. from Bern

Wilner Kowner Kolliel is separate from Rabbis
group. We ask that future distributions be exactly
based on this new scheme to avoid misunderstandings.

HUDDLE

RR

(*) Apparent cmmission

DEPARTMENT

DLA OF
Distribution of this
STATE only by special
arrangement. (W)

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

November 13, 1944
10 P.M.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

1944 NOV 13 AM 10 28

COMMUNICATIONS
SECTION
(LANSON)

CONTROL COPY
Security reasons the
this message must
be retained.

AMLEGATION

STOCKHOLM
2287

The cable below for Olsen is WRB 242.

Please deliver paraphrase of the following message to Rabbi

Wilhelm Kolbe, 11 Olefsgotten, Stockholm, from Rabbi Abraham
Kalmannowitz of the Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee:

QUOTE Recent Shanghai reports alarming. Inflationary prices
and sickness endanger existence. Urge you take following measures
(1) endeavor send food clothing parcels medicaments to our rab-
binical group in Shanghai by arrangement of Swedish and Japanese
Governments. (2) urge intercession of Swedish Government for out-
right release of this religious rabbinical group. (3) endeavor
secure Swedish citizenship for entire group to facilitate release
will send you entire list. Enlist cooperation support Rabbi
Ehrenpreis these projects. UNQUOTE

STETTINUS
ACTING
(GLW)

WRB:MMV:AG
11/13/44

NOE

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

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

Please deliver the following message to Rabbi Wilhelm Kolbe,
11 Olefagotta, Stockholm, from Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz of the Vaad
Mahatzala Emergency Committee:

QUOTE RECENT SHANGHAI REPORTS ALARMING. INFLATIONARY PRICES
AND SICKNESS ENDANGER EXISTENCE. URGE YOU TAKE FOLLOWING MEASURES
(1) ENDEAVOR SEND FOOD CLOTHING PARCELS MEDICAMENTS TO ONE
RABBINICAL GROUP IN SHANGHAI BY ARRANGEMENT OF SWEDISH AND
JAPANESE GOVERNMENTS. (2) URGE INTERCESSION OF SWEDISH GOVERN-
MENT FOR OUTRIGHT RELEASE OF THIS RELIGIOUS RABBINICAL GROUP.
(3) ENDEAVOR SECURE SWEDISH CITIZENSHIP FOR ENTIRE GROUP TO
FACILITATE RELEASE WILL SEND YOU ENTIRE LIST. UNLIST COOPERATION
SUPPORT RABBI INTERPRETS THESE PROJECTS UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 242.

*Copy sent
to Vaad Mahatzala
11/8/44*

3:45 p.m.
November 8, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Secty) Abramson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman,
Hodel, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Files

RDrury 11/8/44 *DM*

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET

(ROOM 819)

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

Message to Rabbi Wilhelm Wolbe
11 Olefsgotten
Stockholm, Sweden
through American Embassy, Stockholm

Recent Shanghai reports alarming. Inflationary prices and sickness endanger existence. Urge you take following measures 1) endeavor send food clothing parcels medicaments to our Rabbinical group in Shanghai by arrangement of Swedish and Japanese Governments. 2) Urge intercession of Swedish Government for outright release of this religious Rabbinical group 3) Endeavor secure Swedish citizenship for entire group to facilitate release Will send you entire list stop Enlist cooperation support Rabbi Ehrenpries these projects

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A. Kalmanowitz
Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

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

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

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

REB
Distribution of true
reading only special
arrangement. (W)

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

9 p.m.

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

SEP 14, 1944
7. War
(Handwritten initials)
CONTROL COPY
For security reasons the
text of this message must
be carefully guarded.

AMLEGATION

STOCKHOLM

²²⁰⁶
The cable below for Olsen is WRB 242.

Please deliver paraphrase of the following message to
Rabbi Marcus Ehrenpreis, Stockholm, from Rabbi Abraham
Kalmanowitz of the Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee:

QUOTE Recent Shanghai reports alarming. Inflationary
prices and sickness endanger existence. Urge you take fol-
lowing measures (1) endeavor send food clothing parcels
medicaments to our rabbinical group in Shanghai by arrange-
ment of Swedish and Japanese Governments. (2) Urge inter-
cession of Swedish Government for outright release of this
religious rabbinical group (3) Endeavor secure Swedish citi-
zenship for entire group to facilitate release. Will send
you entire list. Urge you lend fullest cooperation Rabbi
Wolbe and Committee. UNQUOTE

SPETTENIUS
(MINE)

WRB:MMV:KG
11/13/44

NOE

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parka Date SEP 15 1972

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

Please deliver the following message to Rabbi Marcus Ehrenpreis, Stockholm, from Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz of the Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee:

QUOTE RECENT SHANGHAI REPORTS ALARMING. INFLATIONARY PRICES AND SICKNESS ENDANGER EXISTENCE. URGE YOU TAKE FOLLOWING MEASURES (1) ENDEAVOR SEND FOOD CLOTHING PARCELS MEDICAMENTS TO OUR RABBINICAL GROUP IN SHANGHAI BY ARRANGEMENT OF SWEDISH AND JAPANESE GOVERNMENTS. (2) URGE INTERCESSION OF SWEDISH GOVERNMENT FOR OUTRIGHT RELEASE OF THIS RELIGIOUS RABBINICAL GROUP (3) ENDEAVOR SECURE SWEDISH CITIZENSHIP FOR ENTIRE GROUP TO FACILITATE RELEASE. WILL SEND YOU ENTIRE LIST. URGE YOU LEND FULLEST COOPERATION RABBI WOLBE AND COMMITTEE. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 243.

3:45 p.m.
November 8, 1944

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

RD
RD:ury 11/8/44

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

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

Message to Rabbi Marcus Ehrenpreis
Stockholm, Sweden
through American Embassy
Stockholm, Sweden

Recent Shanghai reports alarming. Inflationary prices and sickness endanger existence. Urge you take following measures 1) endeavor send food clothing parcels medicaments to our Rabbinical group in Shanghai by arrangement of Swedish and Japanese Governments. 2) Urge intercession of Swedish Government for outright release of this religious Rabbinical group 3) Endeavor secure Swedish citizenship for entire group to facilitate release Will send you entire list stop Urge you lend fullest cooperation Rabbi Wolbe and Committee

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A. Kalmanowitz
Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

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

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

1
①

*2 (row) Rep. BW
Piller*

CABLEGRAM BOARD OF ISRAELI BOARD

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATE: November 13, 1944
NUMBER: 3350
X

CONTROL COPY

For McClelland from War Refugee Board.

Please deliver the following message to Isaac Sternbuch,
St. Gall, from Mordechai Kalmansonitz of the Vaad Hachatsala
Emergency Committee:

Quote Recent Shanghai reports alarming. Inflationary
prices and sickness endanger existence. Urge
you take following measures (1) endeavor send food
clothing parcels medications to our rabbinical
group in Shanghai by Swiss and Japanese Governments
(2) urge intercession of Swiss Government for
outright release of this religious rabbinical group.
Have cabled you 106,750 Swiss francs through Polish
Consulate. Forward to Rabbi Szmulewicz with exact
instructive message. Advise us when receipt confirmed.

Unquote

This is WRB Bern cable No. 266.

STETTINIUS
(ACTING)

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

11 14

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

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

QUOTE RECENT SHANGHAI REPORTS ALARMING. INFLATIONARY PRICES
AND SICKNESS ENDANGER EXISTENCE. URGE YOU TAKE FOLLOWING MEASURES
(1) ENDEAVOR SEND FOOD CLOTHING PARCELS MEDICAMENTS TO OUR RABBINICAL
GROUP IN SHANGHAI BY SWISS AND JAPANESE GOVERNMENTS (2) URGE
INTERCESSION OF SWISS GOVERNMENT FOR OUTRIGHT RELEASE OF THIS
RELIGIOUS RABBINICAL GROUP. HAVE CABLED YOU 106,750 SWISS FRANCS
THROUGH POLISH CONSULATE. FORWARD TO RABBI SZMULEWICZ WITH EXACT
INSTRUCTIVE MESSAGE. ADVISE US WHEN RECEIPT CONFIRMED. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB BERN CABLE NO. 266.

3:45 p.m.
November 8, 1944

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman,
Hodel, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Miles

*Copy sent
Jag that
11/8/44
RS*
RDrury 11/8/44

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET
(ROOM 819)
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

November 6, 1944

Message to Isaac Sternbuch
St. Gallen, Switzerland
Through American Legation, Berne.

Recent Shanghai reports alarming. Inflationary prices and sickness endanger existence. Urge you take following measures

- 1) Endeavor send food clothing parcels medicaments to our Rabbinical group in Shanghai by Swiss and Japanese Governments
- 2) Urge intercession of Swiss Government for outright release of this religious Rabbinical group stop Have cabled you 106,750 Swiss francs through Polish Consulate. Forward to Rabbi Szmliewicz with exact instructive message Advise us when receipt confirmed

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE



Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

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

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

*I was typed
P.H.H.*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: November 4, 1944
NUMBER: 3765
*

For McClelland, from War Refugee Board.

Please deliver the following message to Isaac Sternbuch,
St. Gall, from Rabbi Kalmanowitz of the Vaad Hahatzala Emergency
Committee:

QUOTE Have cabled you 25,641 Swiss francs through
Polish Consulate. Please forward to Rabbi Szmulewicz
together with exact instructive message and details of
distribution. Advise us when receipt confirmed by
Szmulewicz. UNQUOTE

This is WRB Bern cable No. 257.

STETTINIUS
ACTING

CONTROL COPY

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

000140

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET
(ROOM 818)
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

October 31, 1944

MESSAGE TO ISAAC STERNBUCH
ST. GALLEN, SWITZERLAND
THROUGH AMERICAN LEGATION, BERN

HAVE CABLED YOU 25,641 SWISS FRANCS THROUGH POLISH CONSULATE.
PLEASE FORWARD TO RABBI SZMULEWICZ TOGETHER WITH EXACT INSTRU-
CTIVE MESSAGE AND DETAILS OF DISTRIBUTION. ADVISE US WHEN
RECEIPT CONFIRMED BY SZMULEWICZ

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A. Kalmanowitz
RABBI ABRAHAM KALMANOWITZ

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

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

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

October 18, 1944

6 p.m.

Handwritten note: This is a copy of a message received only by [redacted] and [redacted]

AMEMBASSY

OCT 20 1944

LISBON
32 X

The cable below is WRB 107.

Please deliver ^{paraphrase of} the following message to Robert Pilpel from M. A. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

QUOTE Advise Saly Mayer we remitted to him \$45,000 for Shanghai representing \$10,000 increase for month of September and \$35,000 for October budget. UNQUOTE

HULL
(GLW)

CONTROL COPY

WRB:MMV:KG
10/18/44

WE

SWP

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72 (D)
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

CABLE TO NORWEGE, LISBON, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Please deliver the following message to Robert Pilpel from

M. A. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

QUOTE ADVISE SALY MAYER BE REMITTED TO HIM \$45,000 FOR SHANGHAI REPRESENTING \$10,000 INCREASE FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER AND \$35,000 FOR OCTOBER BUDGET. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO LISBON NO. 107.

9 a.m.
October 14, 1944

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

*Copy sent
SDC 10/17/44
RS*
RDrury 10/13/44

October 2, 1944

Dear Sirs:

The following message for you from Rabbi Tolbe was received through the American Legation in Stockholm under date of September 29, 1944:

"The latest cable from Rabbi Shmulowitz in Shanghai states that rapid inflation is resulting in unforeseen requirements for funds necessary to support immediately our own program as well as the Mireryeshivahs and Mirerkolels part of the community program. It is reported by Shanghai that all is well."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee
132 Nassau Street,
New York 7, New York.

RDrury 10/2/44

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

CH-622
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (██████████-W)

Stockholm
Dated September 29, 1944
Rec'd 11:55 a.m.

Secretary of State
Washington

3946, September 28, 2 p.m.

X
This is our No. 88 for War Refugee Board.

The following is for Rabbi Kalmanowitz from
Rabbi Wolbe.

According to most recent cable from Rabbi Shmulowitz
in Shanghai rapid inflation is causing unforeseen demands
for funds necessitate immediate support for our own pro-
gram as well as Mirereshivahs and Mirerkolels portion
of community program. Shanghai reports that all is well.

JOHNSON

CSB

██████████
For security reasons the
body of this message must
be destroyed.

CONTROL COPY

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

Message sent 10/2/44
RF

SEP 29 1944
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

ועד ההצלה
VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

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

September 20, 1944

War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Att: Miss F. Hodell

Dear Miss Hodell,

We enclose two cables which we would respectfully ask the War Refugee Board to expedite to Rabbi Wilhelm Wolbe and Dr. Ehrenpries.

We anxiously await your call in reference to our requests for the licenses which would enable us to cable and forward funds to rabbis and scholars in the territories of Lithuania and Poland freed by the U.S.S.R.

With sincerest appreciation,

Very respectfully yours,

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

A. Kalmanowitz
Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

AK:r

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

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

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

OUTGOING TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS

July 14, 1944

Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement. (S) (W)

7 p.m.

H. Van Dyke
Pelle

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
JUL 15 1944
DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS & RECORDS

CONTROL COPY

AMLEGATION,

STOCKHOLM.

1394^X

The following WRB cable no. 51 is for Olsen.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to Rabbi Wilhelm Wolbe, 11 Olefagotten Strasse, Stockholm, from Vaad Mahatzala Emergency Committee:

QUOTE Have forwarded to Rabbi Chaim Szmulewicz Shanghai via Polish Consul and Sternbuch in Switzerland 214,300 Swiss francs for distribution among rabbis and rabbinical scholars in Shanghai Stop Contact Szmulewicz inquire if above sums received and distributed as instructed Stop Cooperate with Olsen and endeavor send courier to Lithuania with funds for rescue of great rabbis and religious leaders UNQUOTE.

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

HULL
(GIW)

WRB:MMV:EG
7/13/44

S/OR

NOE

BWP

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

CABLE TO STOCKHOLM

To Johnson for Olsen from War Refugee Board.

Please deliver following message to Rabbi Wilhelm
Wolbe, 11 Olefsgotten Strasse, Stockholm, from Vaad Hahatzala
Emergency Committee:

"Have forwarded to Rabbi Chaim Szmulewicz Shanghai
via Polish Consul and Sternbuch in Switzerland 214,300
Swiss francs for distribution among rabbis and rabbinical
scholars in Shanghai Stop Contact Szmulewicz inquire if
above sums received and distributed as instructed Stop
Cooperate with Olsen and endeavor send courier to Lithuania
with funds for rescue of great rabbis and religious leaders."

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO STOCKHOLM NO. 51.

4:35 p.m.
July 10, 1944

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

EST

EBTowler:agr 7-8-44

JW - P.S.L. d

Copy sent to
Vaad Hahatzala
7/11
FH/dh

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET
(ROOM 818)

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

July 7, 1944

MESSAGE TO RABBI WILHELM WOLBE
11 OLEFSGOTTEN STRASSE
STOCKHOLM SWEDEN
through AMERICAN LEGATION, STOCKHOLM

HAVE FORWARDED TO RABBI CHAIM SZMULEWICZ SHANGHAI VIA
POLISH CONSUL AND STERNBUCH IN SWITZERLAND 214,300 SWISS
FRANCS FOR DISTRIBUTION AMONG RABBIS AND RABBINICAL SCHOLARS
IN SHANGHAI STOP CONTACT SZMULEWICZ INQUIRE IF ABOVE SUMS
RECEIVED AND DISTRIBUTED AS INSTRUCTED STOP INQUIRE ALSO IF
RECEIVED FROM DAVID AND ASHKENASI STOP COOPERATE WITH OLSEN
AND ENDEAVOR SEND COURIER TO LITHUANIA WITH FUNDS FOR RESCUE
OF GREAT RABBIS AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS

VAAD HAHATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

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

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

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



SPECIAL DELIVERY

NEW YORK CITY
JUL 7 1944

War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Att: Miss F. Hodell

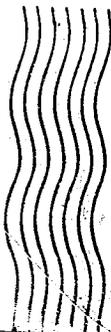
JUL 8 AM 7 25
96-7

100760

55

Brook

Entrance



10076

No. 7319

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

In reply refer to
SWP 893.4241/2

June 2, 1944

The Secretary of State presents his compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of the Treasury and in accordance with a previous conversation between Mr. Robert B. Parke of the Foreign Funds Control and an officer of the Department of State encloses herewith for the information of the Foreign Funds Control and such action as it may deem appropriate a copy of despatch No. 8038 dated April 29, 1944, from the American Legation at Bern and a copy of its enclosure, a translation of a note dated April 26, 1944 from the Swiss Foreign Office which quotes a telegram from the Swiss Consulate General at Shanghai containing a message for the "Institution Chinese Blind" of 156 Fifth Avenue, New York from a Mr. Fryer.

Enclosure:

From Legation Bern,
no. 8038, April 29,
1944, with enclosure.

No. 8038

Via Airmail Pouch.

Bern, April 29, 1944.

Subject: American Interests - China
Financial transaction
"Institution Chinese Blind".

The American Minister at Bern has the honor to enclose, for the Department's information and for such action as it may deem appropriate, a translation of a note dated April 26, 1944, from the Swiss Foreign office which quotes a telegram from the Swiss Consulate General at Shanghai, containing a message for the "Institution Chinese Blind" of 156 Fifth Avenue, New York, from a Mr. Fryer.

The Swiss Foreign Office has been informed by the Legation, in view of the provisions of the Department's telegram No. 195 of January 23, 1943, that it is not in a position to accept the message for transmission to the addressee in the United States and has suggested that reimbursement of the telegraphic charges incurred be sought from Mr. Fryer.

It is believed that the Department may possibly wish to inform the Treasury Department of the message contained in the enclosed note with a view to appropriate investigation.

Enclosure:

Translation of Swiss Foreign Office
note dated April 26, 1944.

File No. 310
TJH/dmh
In quintuplicate to Department.

FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT
Division of Foreign
Interests

dated April 29, 1944, from the
American Legation, Bern.

B. 24 USA (13) 1-HE/Do

No. 21298

TRANSLATION

The Division of Foreign Interests of the Federal Political Department has the honor to inform the Legation of the United States of America that it has received from the Swiss Consulate General at Shanghai the following message which Mr. Fryer desires forwarded to the "Institution Chinese Blind", 156 Fifth Avenue, New York:

"Since beginning 1942 have drawn on you for equivalent of SW. francs 50,000 payable after war. May I continue drawing on you monthly SW. francs 4,000 maximum requirement for continuation work and maintenance myself and daughter thereby assuring exemption internment."

The cost of transmitting this message amounts to 50 Swiss francs.

Bern, April 26, 1944.

TJH/ag

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SHEET

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: May 26, 1944
NUMBER: 1920

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver the following message to Isaac Sternbach, Postfach 128, St. Gallen, Switzerland:

Cable whether you sent to Rabbi Shmalevitz \$5,000 and 64,350 francs for Shanghai refugees, and whether you get acknowledgment of receipt. Give cable information regarding proposed refugee evacuation from Shanghai. Try to obtain Swiss government's cooperation in speedily evacuating rabbinical group totalling 475 persons.

Please send messengers with funds to heads of Jewish communities in Hungary advising them to leave cities and disperse in countryside, preferably near Yugoslav and Slovak borders. Attempts will be made to provide them with food and other necessities. Vaad Hahatsala Emergency Committee, Rabbi Abraham Kalmanovitch.

THIS IS WER CABLE TO BERN NO. 23

WILL

Sent to State
May 20, 1944 2:00 p.m.

BAKzin:jp 5/19/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

CC: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn, DeLois, Friedman, Gaston, Hadel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mann, Laxford, Nansen, Markin, MacDonach, Sargey, Smith, Standish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Fekio, Files.

000765

1533
MAY 29 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Dr. Joseph Schwartz was received from Lisbon under date of May 23, 1944:

"Received report from Shanghai indicating number on relief increased to 7,400. Giving these bread and one hot meal per day. Second meal given aged, undernourished and ill may have to be discontinued for lack money. Some receive cash in place meals. Five camps being managed by committee who supply soap, baths and operate hospital, medical and dental clinics, also aid patients in isolation and insane hospitals and give aid toward funerals. Minimum required monthly budget 140,000 Swiss francs. Borrowing locally no longer feasible. Committee set up by Margolis still carrying on.

"Think it possible arrange Lisbon through International Red Cross for buying food here and Azores for Yugoslavian work camps. Request you apply license making it possible for us to do so.

"Requesting Salymayer find out whether \$200,000 payment may be blocked Switzerland to be paid end of war. Will advise soon as possible."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

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

FH:lab 5/27/44 JWA ✓

DEPARTMENT
OF
STATE

INCOMING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
COMMUNICATIONS
AND RECORDS

ALL SECURITY AREAS AND
TEXT OF THIS MESSAGE MUST
BE CAREFULLY RECORDED.

DSH-436
Distribution of true
reading only by special
arrangement. (W)

Lisbon

Dated May 23, 1944

Rec'd 3:21 p.m.

*5/29/44
Message sent to
Leavitt
JTH*

Secretary of State,
Washington.

^X
1558, May 23, noon.

This WRB ^X48. JDC 7. SCHWARTZ FOR LEAVITT.

Received report from Shanghai indicating number on relief increased to 7,400. Giving these bread and one hot meal per day. Second meal given aged, undernourished and ill may have to be discontinued for lack money. Some receive cash in place meals. Five camps being managed by committee who supply soap, baths and operate hospital, medical and dental clinics, also aid patients in isolation and insane hospitals and give aid toward funerals. Minimum required monthly budget 140,000 Swiss francs. Borrowing locally no longer feasible. Committee set up by Margolis still carrying on.

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Requesting Salymayer find out whether \$200,000 payment may be blocked Switzerland to be paid end of war. Will advise soon as possible.

EJH
EDA

NORWEB

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

Mr. Schmidt

MAY 11 1944

J. W. Pehle

Re: Relief to destitute refugees
in Shanghai.

You will recall that in December 1943, the Treasury licensed the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (NY 595343) to send a message through the International Red Cross to the JDC Committee in Shanghai, authorizing the latter to borrow the local currency equivalent of 110,000 Swiss francs per month for a period of 12 months. Operating under this borrowing authorization, the JDC Shanghai Committee has been able to provide one meal a day for some 10,000 stateless refugees in Shanghai whose very lives depend upon this meager relief.

The JDC here has recently been advised through Lisbon and Stockholm (cables attached) that the Shanghai Committee is no longer able to borrow locally against the above-mentioned authorization and that financial assistance is needed immediately if the feeding program is to continue.

In view of the fact that the lives of these 10,000 refugees are at stake, and in view of the fact that there appears to be no other way to save their lives except by direct financial help from the United States, I strongly recommend and urge that the Treasury grant a license at once to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to remit \$25,000 a month either through Sweden or Switzerland to the International Red Cross delegate in Shanghai for the use of the JDC Committee in Shanghai for this refugee relief program.

Favorable action by the Treasury on this request would appear to be supported by the licenses recently issued to the Polish Government, permitting remittances totalling \$50,000 through Switzerland for the relief of some 500 refugee Polish rabbis and scholars in Shanghai.

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

374
FH:lab 5/11/44

000765

Mr. Schmitt

J. W. Pehle

Re: Relief to destitute refugees
in Shanghai.

You will recall that in December 1943, the Treasury licensed the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (NY 595343) to send a message through the International Red Cross to the JDC Committee in Shanghai, authorizing the latter to borrow the local currency equivalent of 110,000 Swiss francs per month for a period of 12 months. Operating under this borrowing authorization, the JDC Shanghai Committee has been able to provide one meal a day for some 10,000 stateless refugees in Shanghai whose very lives depend upon this meager relief.

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FH:lab 5/11/44

C
O
P
Y

NOB-852

PLAIN

Lisbon

Dated May 1, 1944.

Rec'd 6:23 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

1316, May 1, 6 p.m.

WRB 13.

FOLLOWING FROM JOSEPH SCHWARTZ FOR LEAVITT JOINT DIS-
TRIBUTION COMMITTEE NEW YORK.

"Following report received from Shanghai first four
months 1944 through local community:

'All figures below mentioned are local dollars and in
thousands. Our credit balance first January 1758/ received
during January February March 1944 various local loans and
Swiss donation total 24894 receipts in April almost nil
total receipts 26652. Expenditures for feeding, 15487;
housing, 3911; medical, 992; cash instead of food 2039;
monetary assistance loans 143; various donations, 240; adminis-
tration expenses, 96, total, expenditure until 31st March
approximately 23000. Since April first till today spent entire
cash balance approximately 3692. Are without funds and without
possibility of paying overdue bills and without money for May
expenditures estimated 140.00 Swiss francs. At present impos-
sible borrowing locally urgent help required telegraph imme-
diately in case no assistance forthcoming immediately will be
forced to stop next week hot meals and reduce bread distri-
bution. Mailing monthly statements with fullest particu-
lars.' * * * *

NORWEG

C
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P
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PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 5, 1944
NUMBER: 1583

██████████
ATTENTION OF WAR REFUGEE BOARD, OUR NO. 7.

The following message has been received from the Shanghai agent of the Joint Distribution Committee by Rabbi Wolbe:

Owing to difficulties of raising sufficient funds, the local Joint position is most desperate. It is immediately desirable that arrangements be made to pay Swedish kroner to Stockholm's En-skilda Bank for the account of Banque Indo-China Shanghai up to 110,000 kroner, which are actually the requirements for one month. Money should be placed at disposal of C. Brahn, 133 Yuen Minguen Road, and we ask that this request be made to the Stockholm bank. Brahn is Chairman of the local Joint and we submit this for your information. Please telegraph possibilities promptly and immediately. Signed Brahn.

I have suggested to Wolbe that while this matter is being considered he cable Brahn and inquire whether, against guaranteed credits, he is not able to borrow funds locally.
* * *

JOHNSON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

May 11, 1944

Mr. Schmidt

J. W. Pehle

Re: Relief to destitute refugees
in Shanghai.

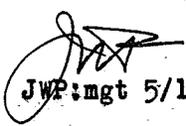
You will recall that in December, 1943, the Treasury licensed the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (NY 595343) to send a message through the International Red Cross to the JDC in Shanghai, authorizing the latter to borrow the local currency equivalent of 110,000 Swiss francs per month for a period of 12 months. Operating under this borrowing authorization, the JDC Shanghai Committee has been able to provide one meal a day for some 10,000 stateless refugees in Shanghai whose very lives depend upon this meager relief.

The JDC here has recently been advised through Lisbon and Stockholm (cables attached) that the Shanghai Committee is no longer able to borrow locally against the above-mentioned authorization and that financial assistance is needed immediately if the feeding program is to continue.

In view of the fact that the lives of these 10,000 refugees are at stake, and in view of the fact that there appears to be no other way to save their lives except by direct financial help from the United States, I strongly recommend and urge that the Treasury grant a license at once to the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee to remit \$25,000 a month either through Sweden or Switzerland to the International Red Cross delegate in Shanghai for the use of the JDC in Shanghai for this refugee relief program.

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

Executive Director


JWP:mgt 5/15/44

*War Ref Bd
Mr. Brahn*

PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Stockholm
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 5, 1944
NUMBER: 1683

CONTROL COPY

ATTENTION OF WAR REFUGEE BOARD, OUR NO. 7.

The following message has been received from the Shanghai agent of the Joint Distribution Committee by Rabbi Wolbe:

Owing to difficulties of raising sufficient funds, the local Joint position is most desperate. It is immediately desirable that arrangements be made to pay Swedish kroner to Stockholm's Enskilda Bank for the account of Banque Indo-China Shanghai up to 110,000 kroner, which are actually the requirements for one month. Money should be placed at disposal of C. Brahn, 133 Yuen Minguen Road, and we ask that this request be made to the Stockholm bank. Brahn is Chairman of the local Joint and we submit this for your information. Please telegraph possibilities promptly and immediately.
Signed Brahn.

*5/8/44
Message sent
to board.
H*

20 11 5A 3 YAH ANJ

I have

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

I have suggested to Wolbe that while this matter is being considered he cable Brahn and inquire whether, against guaranteed credits, he is not able to borrow funds locally.

Vaadha Hazalah of the Emergency Committee received from Rabbi Wolbe the following:

Regarding Lithuania I have received some information. There were still 9,000 in ghetto at Kaunas and 2,000 in ghetto in Siauliai in January. Further information is awaited as to whether there are still rabbis and scholars among them. Secure permits to enable immediate transfer when required and please keep larger amount ready. We must keep strictly confidential any information regarding this support.

*5/18/44
Wolbe says not
to loan money
J.H.*

JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, D.C.
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
RECEIVED

JUN 13 PM 11 02

MAY 8 1944

Dear Rabbi Kalmanowitz:

The following confidential message for the Vaad Mahatsala Emergency Committee from Rabbi Wolbe was received under date of May 5, 1944, from the American Legation in Stockholm:

"Regarding Lithuania I have received some information. There are still 9,000 in ghetto at Kaunas and 2,000 in ghetto in Siauliai in January. Further information is awaited as to whether there are still rabbis and scholars among them. Secure permits to enable immediate transfer when required and please keep larger amount ready. We must keep strictly confidential any information regarding this support."

C Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

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

EBT
EBTowlertagr 5-8-44 JH

MAY 8 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

Under date of May 5, 1944, the American Legation in Stockholm advised us that the following confidential message has been received by Rabbi Wolbe from the Shanghai agent of the Joint Distribution Committee:

"Owing to difficulties of raising sufficient funds, the local Joint position is most desperate. It is immediately desirable that arrangements be made to pay Swedish kroner to Stockholm's Enskilda Bank for the account of Banque Indo-China Shanghai up to 110,000 kroner, which are actually the requirements for one month. Money should be placed at disposal of C. Brahn, 133 Yuen Minguen Road, and we ask that this request be made to the Stockholm bank. Brahn is Chairman of the local Joint and we submit this for your information. Please telegraph possibilities promptly and immediately.
Signed Brahn."

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

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

EBTowler:agr 5-8-44 *EB*

Amule message

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMLEGATION, Bern
DATE: May 4, 1944
NUMBERS 1506

FROM THE AMERICAN BOARD TO HAMBURG

Please deliver the following message to Yehoshua Shalom
& Yehoshua Shalom, St. Gallen, from Rabbi Abraham Kohn
of the Vaad Rabattala Emergency Committee:

"Advice Szolemovic that Heschel's Agudat Israel
cannot give any financial support. All requests for
aid on behalf rabbis, scholars, Kollelin families must
be directed to Vaad Rabattala Rabbi Kohnowitz. Advise
him also \$5,500 Swiss francs sent through you and arrang-
ing additional such transmissions - if this method is
preferable, advisable temporarily postpone support
additional fifty rabbis".

THIS IS WRS CABLE NO. 13.

BULL

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

at Messrs. Abrahamson, Akiva, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin,
Lester, Lusk, Mann, Manna, Marks, McCormack, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish,
Stewart, Weinschein, R. D. White, Paris, Files

000777

*War Refugee Bd
(Mr. Pehle)*

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Stockholm
DATED: May 4, 1944
NUMBER: 831

CONTROL COPY

files

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO JOHNSON.

For Wilhelm Wolbe, 11 Olefsgotten Strasse, Stockholm,
from Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz of the Vaad Hahatzalla Emergency
Committee.

Your April 24th received please inform Szmulewicz that
\$2,800 Swiss francs remitted through Sternbuch Switzerland -
if this transfer method preferable, advisable temporarily post-
pone support additional fifty Rabbis. Greatly concerned fate
great Rabbis religious leaders in Lithuania - if possible
arrange courier to Lithuania endeavor rescue maximum number we
guarantee expenditures and necessary funds. Advise through
American Legation.

This is WRB Stockholm cable no. 8.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 15 1972

000178

MEMBER:
DATE:
JOB:
BY:
OFF:

CABLE TO STOCKHOLM

From War Refugee Board to Johnson

Please deliver the following message to Wilhelm Wolbe,
11 Olefsgotten Strasse, Stockholm, from Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz
of the Vaad Mahatzala Emergency Committee:

"Your April 24th received please inform Smalawicz
that \$5,800 Swiss francs remitted through Sternbuch
Switzerland - if this transfer method preferable, advisable
temporarily postpone support additional fifty Rabbis Stop
Greatly concerned fate great Rabbis religious leaders in
Lithuania - if possible arrange courier to Lithuania
endeavor rescue maximum number we guarantee expenditures
and necessary funds. Advise through American Legation"
THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 8

May 2, 1944

FSB
FH:lab 4/29/44

CONTROL COPY

*4 - War Ref Bd
(Mr. Dehle)*

NCB-852

PLAIN

Lisbon

Dated May 1, 1944.

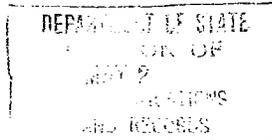
Rec'd 6:23 p.m.

Secretary of State,

Washington.

X
1316, May 1, 6 p.m.

WRB 13.



FOLLOWING FROM JOSEPH SCHWARTZ FOR LEAVITT JOINT
DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE NEW YORK.

"Following report received from Shanghai first
four months 1944 through local community:

'All figures below mentioned are local dollars
and in thousands. Our credit balance first January
1758 received during January February March 1944
various local loans and Swiss donation total 24894
receipts in April almost nil total receipts 26652.
Expenditures for feeding, 15487; housing, 3911; medical,
992; cash instead of food 2039; monetary assistance
loans 143; various donations, 240; administration
expenses, 96, total, expenditure until 31st March
approximately 23000. Since April first till today
spent entire cash balance approximately 3652. Are
without funds and without possibility of paying over-
due bills and without money for May expenditures
estimated 140.00 Swiss francs. At present impossible

borrowing

NCB-1316, May 1, 6 p.m. from Lisbon.

borrowing locally urgent help required telegraph
immediately in case no assistance forthcoming
immediately will be forced to stop next week hot
meals and reduce bread distribution. Mailing
monthly statements with fullest particulars.

Local community will make special one time grant
\$5,000 to meet emergency. SS MILCA arrived Istanbul
from Constanza yesterday carrying 272 refugees who
leaving by train today for Palestine. This is
fourth boatload to arrive."

NORWEB

EJH
WTD

5/4/44
Management
Board

10078

MAY 4 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Dr. Joseph Schwartz was received from Lisbon under date of May 1, 1944:

"Following report received from Shanghai first four months 1944 through local community:

'All figures below mentioned are local dollars and in thousands. Our credit balance first January 1758 received during January February March 1944 various local loans and Swiss donation total 24894 receipts in April almost nil total receipts 26652. Expenditures for feeding, 15487; housing, 3911; medical, 992; cash instead of food 2039; monetary assistance loans 143; various donations, 240; administration expenses, 96, total, expenditure until 31st March approximately 23000. Since April first till today spent entire cash balance approximately 3652. Are without funds and without possibility of paying overdue bills and without money for May expenditures estimated 140.00 Swiss francs. At present impossible borrowing locally urgent help required telegraph immediately in case no assistance forthcoming immediately will be forced to stop next week hot meals and reduce bread distribution. Mailing monthly statements with fullest particulars.'

"Local community will make special one time grant \$54000 to meet emergency. SS#MILKA arrived Istanbul from Constansa yesterday carrying 272 refugees who leaving by train today for Palestine. This is fourth boatload to arrive."

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

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

PH:lab 5/4/44

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

Please deliver the following message from War Refugee Board to Rabbi W. S. Wolbe, 11 Olofsgatan, Stockholm, Sweden:

QUOTE Gravely disturbed your report of Lithuania. Cable War Refugee Board for us through American Legation your rescue plans and if you can utilize funds for relief and rescue of Rabbis and religious leaders in Lithuania. Have cabled 85,800 Swiss francs to Rabbi Shmulewits through Switzerland. Vaad Habatsalah Emergency Committee, Rabbis Aaron Kotler and Abraham Kalmanowits. UNQUOTE

THIS IS WRB STOCKHOLM CABLE NO. 5

April 22, 1944
11:15 a.m.

L.S.L.
BAKzin:LSLesser:als 4/21/44

ועד ההצלה

VAAH HAHATZALA

*(Emergency Committee for Refugee Scholars,
Yeshivoth, Rabbis and Communal Leaders)*

132 NASSAU STREET
(ROOM 819)
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

Message to be transmitted to

Rabbi W. S. Wolbe
11 Olofsgatan Stockholm, Sweden.

Gravely disturbed your report of Lithuania, cable us through
your legation your rescue plans and if you can utilize funds for
relief and rescue of Rabbis and religious leaders in Lithuania
stop. Have cabled ~~85~~ 85.900 Swiss Francs to Rabbi Shmulewitz through
Switzerland

Vaad Hahatzalah

Rabbis Aaron Kotler
Abranam Kalmanovitz

000780

CONTROL COPY

*5-1 as per [unclear]
[unclear]*

BJR - 792
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Governmental agency. (BR)

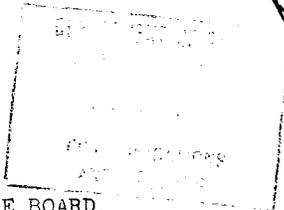
Stockholm
Dated April 24, 1944
Rec'd 8:20 p.m.

*4/26/44
Message sent to
Kalmancowitz
J.T.
File*

Secretary of State,
Washington.

X
1435, April 24, 10 p.m.

OLSEN'S No. 4 FOR WAR REFUGEE BOARD.



Rabbi Wilhelm Wolbe requests the following message to be transmitted to Rabbi Abraham Kalmanoivetz, 540 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, New York:

"Have constant contact with Rabbi Shmuloivetz, Shanghai. Price increase there enormous. If transfer via Stockholm possible please try to obtain joint DISCO support also religious groups and advise exact proportion of funds contributed by each and how it should be expended. Please help Rabbis Rogow and Koidanowsky. Every connection with Balticum absolutely unavailable and we are trying utmost obtain information".

I discussed above message with Wolbe and advised him that he should (*) more specific details of situation in Shanghai, particularly as to what type of program can be carried out and what funds are needed. He will comply. Also explained general desirability of transfers

of free

00079

-2- #1435, April 24, 10 p.m., from Stockholm.

of free exchange and suggested he inquire of Shanghai group whether they could borrow funds locally against authorization and guarantee of joint DISCO or other groups to repay dollar equivalent after the war. Am not too impressed with Wolbe's ability to grasp necessities of this type of problem.

JOHNSON

BB

(*) apparent omission

ועד ההצלה

VAAD HAHATZALA

(Emergency Committee for Refugee Scholars,
Yeshivoth, Rabbis and Communal Leaders)

132 NASSAU STREET
(ROOM 818)
NEW YORK 7, N. Y.
PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

File

*Nassau
Rue
132
New York
7, N.Y.
1944*

April 13, 1944

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

Att: Miss F. Hodell

Dear Miss Hodell:

We enclose copy of a message sent to the State Department for transmission to Mr. Isaac Sternbuch in Switzerland. In the draft of the message which we sent you on April 12th for transmission to Mr. Sternbuch, sum 85,000 francs was mentioned. It should be corrected to read 85,800 . May we ask you to please make the correction if the message has not been dispatched.

During the discussions concerning the transfer of the above sum, we were advised that the Legation in Bern would be notified to assist the relay of the funds from Switzerland, and we therefore respectfully request the cooperation of the Board that such advices be given to the Legation in Bern.

With our devoted thanks and appreciation,

Very respectfully yours,

Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee

A. Kalmanowitz
Rabbi Abraham Kalmanowitz

00078

MESSAGE TO BE TRANSMITTED TO
ISAAC STERNBUCH IN SWITZERLAND
THRU AMERICAN LEGATION IN BERN

POLISH MINISTRY OF FINANCE IN UNITED STATES REMITTED TODAY
OUR 85,800 SWISS FRANCS TO POLISH EMBASSY TO BE GIVEN YOU
FOR TRANSMISSION TO RABBI SZMULEWICZ IN SHANGHAI.
PLEASE ARRANGE IMMEDIATE TRANSFER AND ADVISE US WHEN REMITTED.

VAAD HANATZALA EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
RABBI ABRAHAM KALMANOWITZ

000190

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

March 9, 1944

I discussed the attached proposals of the Vaad Hahatzala and the Jewish Labor Committee with Mr. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. He advised me that Miss Margolis was convinced that no harm would come to the refugees in Shanghai or to the persons lending money for their support inasmuch as the Japanese authorities have been fully informed of the borrowing technique used to support refugees in Shanghai. She states that the Japanese have no objection to the borrowing so long as the money is obtained from neutrals.

Leavitt also pointed out that the sending of remittances to Shanghai are channeled through Geneva and Tokio, and ~~are~~ made at the official rate which is somewhat higher than the rate obtained in borrowing locally.

F. Hodel

000791

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

March 9, 1944

I discussed the attached proposals of the Vaad Hatzala and the Jewish Labor Committee with Mr. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. He advised me that Miss Margolis was convinced that no harm would come to the refugees in Shanghai or to the persons lending money for their support inasmuch as the Japanese authorities have been fully informed of the borrowing technique used to support refugees in Shanghai. She states that the Japanese have no objection to the borrowing so long as the money is obtained from neutrals.

Leavitt also pointed out that the sending of remittances to Shanghai are channeled through Geneva and Tokio, and ~~are~~ made at the official rate which is somewhat higher than the rate obtained in borrowing locally.

F. Hodel

FH:hd 3/11/44

000792

THE AMERICAN JEWISH
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, Inc.

270 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

PAUL BAERWALD, <i>Chairman</i>	<i>Vice-Chairmen</i>	I. EDWIN GOLDWASSER, <i>Treasurer</i>
MRS. FELIX M. WARBURG, <i>Honorary Chairman</i>	GEORGE BACKER	ALEXANDER A. LANDESCO, <i>Treasurer</i>
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FRANK H. SULZBERGER, <i>Vice-Chairman, National Council</i>	ALEXANDER KAHN	MOSES A. LEAVITT, <i>Secretary</i>
	<i>European Executive Council</i>	
JOSEPH C. HYMAN, <i>Executive Vice-Chairman</i>	BERNHARD KAHN	
	<i>Honorary Chairman</i>	
	JOSEPH J. SCHWARTZ	
	<i>Chairman</i>	

March 9, 1944.

Miss Florence Howell,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear ^{Florence} Miss Howell:

For your information, I enclose copy of a
cablegram re Shanghai, which we received from Mr. Marc Peter.

Sincerely yours,

Moses A. Leavitt
Secretary

MAL:rh
encl.

000793

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS
in Geneva, Switzerland
Delegation to the
United States of America
1645 Connecticut Ave. N.W., Washington 9, D.C.

March 3, 1944 Ref. S/4/f

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

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

Referring to my letter of Feb. 1st and your letter of Feb. 4, I am sending you here-
with a copy of a cable I received from Geneva.

Believe me, Dear Mr. Leavitt,

Yours sincerely,

signed Marc Peter

Delegate of the International
Committee of the Red Cross

MP/AL
1 copy

Copy of incoming cablegram received from: INTERCROIX ROUGE received: March 2, 1944
Geneva, Switzerland

845 YOUR 689 REFERENCE OUR SCL49 EGLE NOT ACTUALLY UNABLE RENDER ASSISTANCE BUT
SUPERVISION AND CONTROL DISTRIBUTION FUNDS BY HIM RENDERED UNDESIRABLE OYING
CONTINUOUS DISPUTES AMONGST FRACTIONS IN THE SPECIFIED AREA STOP HAVE NEVERTHELESS
RECALLED EGLE REQUESTING HIM CONTINUE ASSISTING INSOFAR AS CONDITIONS DO NOT RENDER SUCH
ASSISTANCE IMPOSSIBLE STOP WILL KEEP YOU ADVISED STOP PLEASE INFORM LEAVITT OF
DIFFICULTIES AND QUESTION IN SUSPENSE STOP FOR YOUR INFORMATION NEW REGULATION BY
AUTHORITIES IN SHANGHAI SPECIFIED ALL MONEY TRANSFERS BY IRCC FOR RELIEF PURPOSES MUST
HENCEFORTH FOLLOW GENEVA TOKYO SHANGHAI ROUTE AND RATE EXCHANGE FIXED AT CRB DOLLARS 5
POINT 50 EQUALS 1 SWISS FRANC

INTERCROIXROUGE SC671

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INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND
DELEGATION TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
1645 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington 9, D.C.

February 1, 1944

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

My dear Mr. Leavitt:

We have received the following message from Geneva:

In reference to Mr. Leavitt's cable of December 29, 1943, the Shanghai Joint Distribution Committee replies: "GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT MESSAGE FROM JOINT HEAD OFFICE AND SHANGHAI JOINT WILL ACT ACCORDINGLY EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO JOINTDISCO HEADOFFICE AND THANKING MISS MARGOLIS FOR QUICK AND EFFICIENT ASSISTANCE."

The International Committee of the Red Cross fears that owing to new regulations, the Delegate in Shanghai, Mr. Eglé, will be unable to assist. They will revert, however, when more details are available.

Sincerely yours,

Marc Peter
Delegate

MP:MH

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation
A-L

DATE:

October 4, 1943

SUBJECT:

PARTICIPANTS:

Rabbi Goldmann,
Rabbi Kalmanowitz,
Mr. Tress, of Agudath Youth Council, and
Mr. Long.

COPIES TO:

*** 1-1483
Mr. Tress came in with the two rabbis by appointment. They stated that Rabbi Kalmanowitz had been one of the delegation received by the Secretary of State about ten days ago in which the Secretary was reported to have stated that he would talk to me and to Mr. Norman Davis and suggested that they see each of us.

They presented the case of 464 members of a rabbinical group which had miraculously been kept together since they left Poland and were now in Shanghai. They were stated to have been suffering and that the great desire of the rabbis was that they be saved as a unit and brought out of the jurisdiction of the Japanese in order that the culture, education, intellect and religious significance which they embodied could be saved to the Jewish people and to the world. They stated that they had heard from Jerusalem that these people needed help in an emergent manner and they wanted to have them exchanged. They realized the United States was making an exchange to get Americans out of Japanese control. They would like to present the thought that we undertake to exchange the rabbinical group out. They desired them to be included in the third exchange if there was to be one. They assumed there would be one. They had discussed the matter, apparently, about the exchange with the British. They had not succeeded as the Polish quota was very small. All of these persons bear Polish passports and are of Polish nationality. Most of them have visas either for the United States, Canada or Palestine, except a number which the Polish Ambassador here is alleged to have stated he would permit to join the Polish group presently resident in Mexico. Consequently, destination was not the trouble. The real difficulty was transportation and something to exchange for them. They had

nothing

RECEIVED

MR. ROHR.
MR. HARRIS.
MR. KELLEY.
MR. GIBSON.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

nothing to offer in the way of quid pro quo. They hoped that the United States could include them amongst its citizens in the next exchange.

I professed our deep interest in their situation and the hope that the Department of State could continue to be of service to them and for them. I reminded them that this group had been amongst the thousands of persons the Department of State had saved out of Poland, Latvia, Estonia, Lithuania and Western Russia during 1940 and 1941 and that we had not lost interest in them and would be glad to do anything within the range of our possibilities to further their movement out of the hands of the Japanese.

I then proceeded to paint the picture of the Americans in Japanese hands both in the Philippines and in China, stated the real hardships that they were undergoing and the fact that as regards the Philippines there was no person to represent the American interests or to protect the American citizens from the vicious treatments imposed upon them by the Japanese and that our people in China were all interned and suffering from great privations. I further stated that it would be most difficult to justify to the American people the inclusion of non-Americans in a passenger list for exchange if they displaced American citizens who would thereby be forced to wait in internment camps and under privations and cruel treatments which they were undergoing in the Far East. I stated that we should speak frankly and understand all of the difficulties which lay in the path of an exchange. However, in spite of those difficulties, if they would think of ways and means which the United States Government might adopt to further the cause of removing these rabbis from Shanghai, we would be very glad to hear from them and would be willing to adopt any practical method which they suggested and to give it our help. In addition to that we would exert our thought and we would be very glad to devise ways and means if it were at all possible and that our interest would continue and that we would do whatever we could to arrange for their withdrawal, but it was necessary to face the realities in order that they might not be too optimistic. It had taken us more than a year to arrange for the exchange now taking place. In the immediate future we propose to suggest another exchange. Whether they could be included in that depended upon a variety of factors, but if they could not be included in that we would be very glad to have suggestions from the rabbis here in America as to how the release of their colleagues in Shanghai might be effected and we would do everything practical along that line.

They left with me a copy of a telegram from Jerusalem, a list of the persons in Shanghai (484) and a typewritten signed plea for the Department's help. They said they wanted to talk

to

