

Department of Relief and  
Recreation: Evacuation to and  
through Turkey

Evacuation to and Through Turkey  
Vol. 3, Folder 2  
6a-b

000824

6

000825

000826

CROSS REFERENCE ON .....

FOR:

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

For relative material concerning E. Jabotinsky's activities in Turkey

SEE: JABOTINSKY'S E. (SECRET FILE)

000827



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Istanbul, September 21, 1944

Dear John:

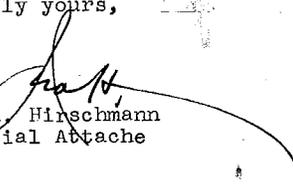
I think you will be interested in the quotation below from a broadcast of September 16 of an American newspaperman in Bucharest:

"Examination of shipping statistics has revealed that the mining in the Danube carried out entirely by the R.A.F. was 'astonishingly effective' according to one officer. Rumanian shipping on the Danube was altogether over by August and German barges trying to get petroleum products to Germany despite the mines suffered heavy losses."

This confirms the information which had been reaching us in Istanbul concerning the danger of Danubian waters for the transport of refugees, and relates directly to the decision which was made by us in connection with the Jabotinsky proposal to charter vessels to proceed with refugees from Budapest via the Danube.

with warm personal regards,

Cordially yours,

  
I. A. Hirschmann  
Special Attache

J. W. Pehle, Esquire  
Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Treasury Building  
Washington 9, D. C.

000828

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

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

August 16, 1944

CONTROL COPY

EMBASSY,  
ANKARA.  
708

The following for Hirschmann is WRB 100.

Please refer your No. 1423 of August 4 (Ankara No. 114)  
and 1449 of August 8.

Thank you for full report concerning Jabotinsky pro-  
posal. As previously indicated we rely entirely on your  
judgment concerning proposals submitted by private organiza-  
tions. Your cable is further indication that you are  
giving full and impartial consideration to all proposals  
submitted regardless of organization involved. This is  
in line with Beard's policy. Substance of your message  
has been communicated to the Emergency Committee here.

HULL  
( )

WRB:MMV:KG  
8/16/44

NE S/CR

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

000829

RECEIVED BOARD  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
AUG 19 AM 11 19

CABLE FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD TO KELLEY FOR HIRSCHMANN, ANKARA, TURKEY.

Please refer your No. 1423 of August 4 (Ankara No. 114) and 1449 of August 8.

Thank you for full report concerning Jabotinsky proposal. As previously indicated we rely entirely on your judgment concerning proposals submitted by private organizations. Your cable is further indication that you are giving full and impartial consideration to all proposals submitted regardless of organization involved. This is in line with Board's policy. Substance of your message has been communicated to the Emergency Committee here.

THIS IS WRB ANKARA CABLE NO. 100.

9:00 a.m.  
August 16, 1944

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

J. B. Friedman:ro  
8/15/44

000830

TO:

- Secretary Morgenthau
- Mr. Gaston
- Mr. Paul
- Mr. White
- Mr. E.M. Bernstein
- Mr. DuBois
- Mr. Friedman
- Miss Hodel
- Mr. Lesser
- Mr. Luxford
- Mr. Stewart
- Mrs. Taylor
- Files
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Please prepare some kind of message to Hirschmann re giving fair consideration to Jabotinsky's proposals.

J. W. Pehle  
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

000831

Aug. 12, 1944  
TO: Mr. Pehle

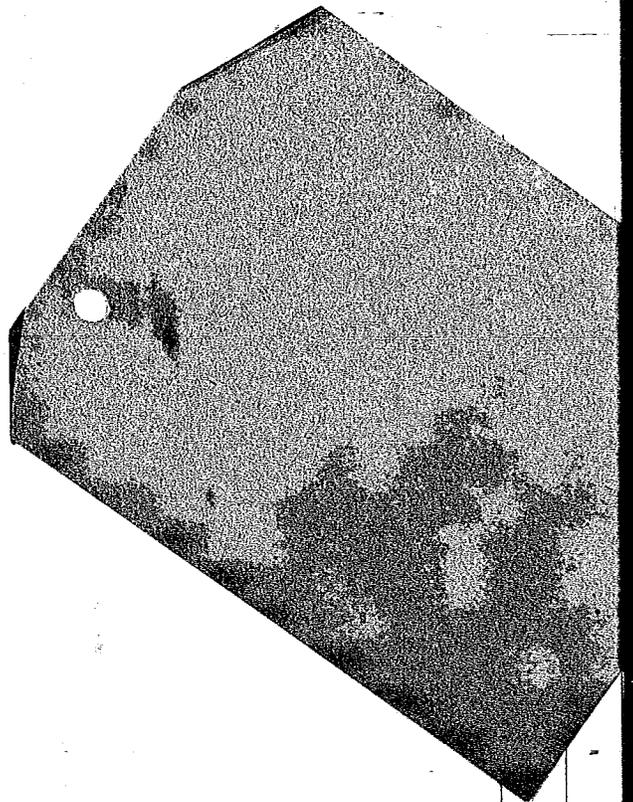
FROM: J. B. Friedman

Bergson was in today to talk about the Jabotinsky proposal. He had another somewhat garbled cable from Jabotinsky about it. I told Bergson exactly what Hirschmann had said and indicated we are not in any position to overrule Hirschmann. Bergson did not seem too insistent, but did suggest that we send a cable telling Hirschmann that we are glad to see that he is giving the same consideration to Jabotinsky

(over)

000832

proposal as to proposals  
presented by other  
people. Bergson wants  
to come in Tuesday to  
talk about the matter  
with you. I don't  
think there will be  
any difficulty in  
handling the matter  
with him.



000833

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Y

AUGUST 11, 1944 8 p.m.

REVOYLU 106 8 1710

ANDREW SOJERS

2317 FIFTEENTH NW WASHINGTON

~~IRVING HIRSCHMAN'S REACTION~~ STOP SENDING BOAT HUNGARY 1500 PASSENGERS STOP  
 IRA HIRSCHMAN'S REACTION QUOTE BOARD NEITHER APPROVES NOR DISAPPROVES  
 BUT UNQUOTE REFUSES PERMIT SPEND MONEY STOP THEREFORE DECIDED REFUSE  
 ACCEPT MONEY UNDER HIS CONTROL UNLESS BOARD INSTRUCTS HIM AUTHORISE  
 EXPENDITURE THIS PROJECT UNDERSTANDING BOAT WILL STAND BY BUDAPEST  
 UNTIL CROIKROUGE DECIDES IF DANUBIAN TRAVEL THAT MOMENT REASONABLY  
 SAFE STOP NOW INSURANCE AVAILABLE DANUBIAN TRIP REASONABLE RATE STOP  
~~IRVING HIRSCHMAN'S REACTION~~ STOP JOINT  
 UNINTERESTED PROJECT UNLESS RATIFIED BY BOARD STOP ~~IRVING HIRSCHMAN'S REACTION~~  
~~IRVING HIRSCHMAN'S REACTION~~ STOP ~~IRVING HIRSCHMAN'S REACTION~~ STOP

ERI JABOTINSKY

000834

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF

*J. W. ...*  
*...*

CONTROL COPY

JT-812 1944 AUG 10 Ankara 24

This telegram must be  
closely paraphrased before being communicated to anyone.  
Dated August 8, 1944  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS 11:19 p.m.  
(LIAISON)

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

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

1449, August 8, 3 p.m.

FOR PEHLE, WRB, FROM HIRSHMANN. ANKARA 124.

Please see Embassy's 1423 and 1424 of August 4  
for my views with regard to (REDEPTEL 674, August 3)  
Jabotinsky's proposal.

KELLEY

CSB

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

000835

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

*File*  
*[Signature]*  
DATE  
August 8, 1944

TO Mr. Pehle  
FROM Mr. Friedman

This is evidently the Jabotinsky proposal which Bergson spoke about and about which we cabled Ankara. While I don't see anything we can do at this juncture, I will be a little unhappy if Hirschmann brushes off the proposal without really going into it. The idea is obviously unorthodox, but perhaps there might be something to it.

*Shall we set tight awhile before talking to the Emergency Committee here?*

*JBF*

*see 1423, Ankara  
8/4*

000836

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
DIVISION OF  
Ankara

RRR-13

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1944 AUG 7 PMD 239 August 4, 1944

Rec'd 7:40 a.m., 5th.

**CONTROL COPY**

COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS  
(LIAISON)

Secretary of State,

Washington.

1423, August 4, 1 p.m.

FOR PEHIE WRB FROM HIRSCHMANN. Ankara No. 114.

The following is for your information.

Jabotinsky submitted for my approval a scheme to  
dispatch a wooden vessel of Turkish registry from  
Istanbul to Rumania and thence via the Danube to  
Budapest to embark refugees for return to Istanbul.  
An immediate decision was requested.

My preliminary inquiries in Istanbul disclosed:

One. Traffic on the Danube is exceedingly dangerous;  
the waters are mined; and exact information as to the  
situation there is not readily obtainable.

Two. The vessel proposed was reported to be of  
too deep a draft for the Danube, and the super-structure  
too high to permit passage beneath the Danubian bridges.

Three. No information was yet available regarding  
the current stage of technical preparation and organization  
of people

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 18 1972

000837

-2- #1423, August 4, 1 p.m., from Ankara

of people in Budapest for departure.

Four. No information was yet available in terms of German control regarding the possibility of vessels transporting Jewish refugees destined to Palestine, as enemy country, to sail down the Danube via military zone through Hungary, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Rumania without interference and perhaps removal of the passengers.

I informed Jabotinsky that, as investigations were not yet complete, I could neither approve nor disapprove his project at that time but that as soon as he was able to clarify the above points (\*) possession of fuller information the project would be further considered with the view to assisting him.

Jabotinsky proposed sending a Turkish citizen to Budapest for the purpose of organizing the emigration and embarkation of refugees, and requested my assistance in this connection. According to our information the chance that this individual would succeed was remote. Consequently advised Jabotinsky that I could not be of assistance in this aspect of the proposal. I advised him further that until I was in a position to approve

his project

000838

-3- #1423, August 4, 1 p.m., from Ankara .

his project I could not authorize the expenditure of funds transmitted to him under Treasury license for rescue activities.

Jabotinsky was informed by me that if despite the foregoing he decided to undertake the above project at this time on his own responsibility it was a matter for his own decision.

Meanwhile our investigation of Jabotinsky's project and the possibility for making use of the method of Danubian passage is continuing and we shall keep you advised.

KELLEY

HTM

000833

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF  
STATE  
DIVISION OF

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

CONTROL COPY

AMI-823 1944 AUG 7 AM 9 40 Ankara  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. [REDACTED] (LIAISON)  
Dated August 4, 1944  
Rec'd 6:57 a.m., 5th.

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

1424, August 4, 2 p.m.

FOR PEHLE WRB FROM HIRSCHMANN.

Ankara's No. 115, reference Embassy's 1423,  
August 4, 1 p.m.

I have learned that the emergency committee to  
save the Jewish people of Europe is planning campaigns  
for the solicitation of funds for projects to be  
undertaken in Istanbul for the purpose of rescuing  
Jews from the Balkans.

For your information Jabotinsky has placed no  
(repeat no) other proposal for rescue work before us  
and there is little likelihood in our opinion that  
under present conditions here additional feasible  
proposals will be possible in the near future.  
Also, funds are available from present sources for  
all refugee emigration now under way or under  
consideration for the immediate future. For your  
guidance recent political developments here and other

factors

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

000840

-2- #1424, August 4, 2 p.m., from Ankara.

factors beyond control of any relief or rescue organization limit for the moment rescue possibilities and the existing difficulties cannot be overcome by the mere possession of funds. If you agree please transmit the above to Baerwald.

KELLEY

RR

000841

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

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DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

Distribution of true  
copies only by special  
instructions (W)

August 3, 1944  
TO BE SENT IN SECRET

6 p.m.

AMEMBASSY,

ANBARA

G74

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

The following cable for Hirschmann is WRB 91.

The Board has been informed that Mr. Jabotinsky has  
a concrete proposal for evacuating approximately 1,000  
refugees across the Black Sea to Turkey.

It will be appreciated if you will discuss this  
matter with Mr. Jabotinsky and ascertain the nature of  
the proposal and its feasibility. A report on the pro-  
posal and your decision is requested.

STETTINIUS  
ACTING  
(GHW)

WRB:MMV:KG  
8/2/44

S/CR

NE

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

000842

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR STEINHARDT, ANKARA, FOR HIRSCHMANN FROM THE  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

The Board has been informed that Eri Jabotinsky has a  
concrete proposal for evacuating approximately 1,000 refugees  
across the Black Sea to Turkey.

It will be appreciated if you will discuss this matter  
with Mr. Jabotinsky and ascertain the nature of the proposal  
and its feasibility. A report on the proposal and your  
decision is requested.

THIS IS WRB CABLE TO ANKARA NO. 91

2:30 p.m.  
August 2, 1944

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

*all*  
JBFriedman:css 8/2/44

*JBF JH*

000843

SECRET  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, D. C.  
AUGUST 2, 1944

*Sent after  
discuss with  
Peter Bergson  
who has received  
a cable from  
Jabotinsky.*

CABLE TO AMBASSADOR STEINHARDT, ANKARA, FOR HIRSCHMANN FROM THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

The Board has been informed that Eri Jabotinsky has a concrete proposal for evacuating approximately 1,000 refugees across the Black Sea to Turkey.

It will be appreciated if you will discuss this matter with Mr. Jabotinsky and ascertain the nature of the proposal and its feasibility. A report on the proposal and your decision is requested.

JBFriedmanccs 8/2/44

000844



THE FOREIGN SERVICE  
OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Istanbul, August 1, 1944

Dear John:

In connection with the proposal made by Jabotinsky to charter a Turkish ship via the Danube to Budapest and return for the purpose of saving the Jewish people of Europe, and about which I telegraphed to you in my No. I am enclosing a copy of my reply to Mr. Jabotinsky relating thereto.

Cordially yours,

*I. A. Hirschmann*  
I. A. Hirschmann  
Special Attache

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

encl.

000843

Istanbul, July 29, 1944

Dear Mr. Jabotinsky:

This letter relates to the proposal you have presented to the War Refugee Board for the organization you represent, to charter a vessel of wooden structure to sail from Istanbul up the Danube to Budapest; to embark from Budapest with a complement of some 1,000 refugees and thence to proceed to Istanbul. You have referred to the Turkish ship, IGOR, of 550 tons, which is at present in the Sea of Marmora, and for which, you contend, you are able to secure permission to proceed from Istanbul to Rumania and up the Danube to Budapest, and to embark the passengers and return to Istanbul. The boat is to be reconstructed for this purpose in Braila, in order to be fitted for passenger accommodation. You have indicated to us that a decision on this matter was pressing, and you requested an immediate affirmative or negative reply of the War Refugee Board, as to whether or not we would approve the project.

Upon inquiry, the following salient facts have presented themselves:

(1) Our latest information regarding the safety of the Danube waters discloses that any boats sailing on these waters may be subject to grave danger of attack and explosion. It has been learned that, on occasion, these waters have permitted vessels to move with a degree of safety, but that this situation changes daily, and for military reasons certain belligerents completely re-mine the waters. It has not been possible to determine the exact situation on the Danube, for obvious reasons. In this connection, we are making further investigations in the hope of securing something more promising for this aspect of your interesting proposal.

(2) From information which we have thus far received, the boat you have proposed is of too deep a draft for navigation on the Danube, and we are informed additionally that bridges which cross the Danube are of too low an altitude to permit anything but boats especially designed for Danubian traffic to pass underneath.

(3) Provided that points (1) and (2) were satisfactorily concluded, there would still remain the fundamental question of prior arrangement for the embarkation of the refugees. This would mean the advance arrangement of all technicalities involved in their permission to depart from Hungary. The name of the man you suggested to send to Hungary to make these advance arrangements has been investigated, but according to our information the chances that he will be able to succeed are remote and seriously open to question.

(4) We have not yet been able to determine what degree

000046

Mr. Jabotinsky

-2-

July 28, 1944

of control exists on the Danube, for boats carrying Jewish refugees destined to an Allied country which must pass through Hungary, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and Rumania, along this zone of military operations. Naturally, this matter would have to be clarified before approving the embarkation of passengers on a voyage where diligent inquiry might perhaps reveal that the refugees will not be permitted to proceed through the Danube, and perhaps removed from the boat while en route.

It was in view of these imponderables that we advise you to say that the War Refugee Board at this stage can neither approve nor disapprove your project. Facts upon which our opinion must be based were not yet all received so that, although you required an immediate positive or negative reply, it could not yet be given.

We advise you further that the foregoing had a distinct bearing upon your request for authorization to expend funds for the proposed project. Under the Treasury license issued to your Committee, funds may be expended only upon prior approval of Ambassador Steinhardt and/or the undersigned. In view of the above circumstances, and until the various points mentioned above have been clarified, obviously the expenditure of funds therefor could not be authorized by us.

As you have been informed by me, I have been attempting to do everything within my power to find some means of assisting in any feasible proposal for the rescue of refugees, and I am hoping that the above points can be satisfactorily cleared, both for you and for us, in order for you to proceed with the enterprise, if possible. I think you will agree, in terms of your responsibility and ours, that it is essential to clear up these points before venturing on this project. Obviously there would be no justification in throwing people from the fire into the frying pan. However, if despite the foregoing considerations you wish to proceed with the project on your own responsibility, that is a matter which you will have to decide for yourself.

I shall be happy to discuss the matter with you further when the above points are cleared up to your and our satisfaction. I shall certainly endeavor to help you clarify them if possible.

With kindest personal regards,

Cordially yours,

L. A. Hirschmann  
Special Attache

Mr. Ari Jabotinsky  
Banorama Apartments  
13 Mata Gedessi  
Istanbul

IAH/b

000847

American Consulate General, Istanbul

**THE FOREIGN SERVICE**  
**OF THE**  
**UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

I. A. Hirschmann

RCM 14  
1

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

7

223

000848

1

AUG 30 1944

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

Reference is made to your letter of August 8, 1944, in which you ask the Board to clarify the recent proposal of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, Inc., to procure a ship in Turkey for the rescue of 1,000 Hungarian Jews.

The Board's representative in Ankara was requested to investigate this proposal and he has just advised us that it involves a scheme to dispatch a wooden vessel of Turkish registry from Istanbul to Rumania and thence by the Danube to Budapest to embark refugees for return to Istanbul. While Mr. Hirschmann has not completed his investigation of the matter and is not yet in a position to give his final recommendation, he has reported that his preliminary inquiries of the proposition disclose the following:

1. Traffic on the Danube is exceedingly dangerous at the present time due to the fact that the waters are heavily mined.
2. The vessel proposed by the Emergency Committee representative was reported to be of too deep a draft for the Danube and the superstructure too high to permit passage under the Danubian bridges.
3. No information is yet available regarding the stage of technical preparation and organization for departure of the refugees from Budapest.
4. No information is yet available regarding the possibility of transporting Jewish refugees down the Danube through military zones without interference and possible removal of passengers en route.

000844

- 2 -

Mr. Hirschmann advised the Board that he will continue his investigation of the matter. However, recent developments in the Balkans cast considerable doubt on the immediate practicability of this or similar schemes.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

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

724 - 6057  
EBTowler:agr 8-28-44

000850

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LOUIS H. SOBEL, *Assistant Secretary*

August 8, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

We are in receipt of a letter dated August 5, 1944 from the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, Inc. in which they raise a question with reference to the procurement of a ship to rescue 1,000 Hungarian Jews. They say that they have sent a copy of this letter to you "in order to clarify the situation." It is also suggested that "Dr. Schwartz's attitude of non-cooperation goes so far as to deny certainly easily proven facts."

We wish to join in the request that you endeavor to clarify the situation. To us, it would be extraordinary that a ship able to carry 1,000 passengers would be available, without its being known to our representatives or to your representatives; and, if it is a fact that such a ship was available, then it must have been under conditions that were impossible of fulfillment.

Sincerely yours,

*Moses A. Leavitt*

M.A. Leavitt, Secretary  
per Evelyn M. Morrissey

EMM:ir

000851

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 E. I. KAUFMANN, *Washington*  
 MILTON W. KING, *Washington*  
 JOSEPH J. KLEIN, *New York*  
 JEROME H. KOHN, *Hartford*  
 ABRAHAM KRASNE, *New York*  
 MILTON KUTZ, *Wilmington*  
 SAUL J. LANCE, *New York*  
 ALEXANDER A. LANDESCO, *New York*  
 SIDNEY LANSBURGH, *Baltimore*  
 ALBERT D. LASKER, *New York*  
 EDWARD LAZANSKY, *Brooklyn*  
 MORRIS S. LAZARON, *Baltimore*  
 CARL LEFF, *New York*  
 AL PAUL LEFTON, *Philadelphia*  
 LEO LEHMAN, *Pittsburgh*  
 ROBERT LEHMAN, *New York*  
 SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF, *New York*  
 EMIL W. LEIPZIGER, *New Orleans*  
 JACOB LEVINSON, *Brooklyn*  
 MRS. DAVID M. LEVY, *New York*  
 ISAAC H. LEVY, *New York*  
 SAM A. LEWISOHN, *New York*  
 ALBERT H. LIEBERMAN, *Philadelphia*  
 CHARLES J. LIEBMAN, *New York*  
 MAX LIVINGSTON, *New Haven*  
 CARL M. LOEB, *New York*  
 JOSEPH P. LOEB, *Los Angeles*  
 SAMUEL MARKELL, *Boston*  
 JAMES MARSHALL, *New York*  
 ARMAND MAY, *Atlanta*  
 GEORGE Z. MEDALIE, *New York*  
 JEROME MICHAEL, *New York*  
 ABRAHAM MILLER, *New York*  
 HENRY MONSKY, *Omaha*  
 CHARLES W. MORRIS, *Louisville*  
 PAUL MUNI, *Glen Head, L. I.*  
 STANLEY C. MYERS, *Miami*  
 MARCUS NADLER, *New York*  
 MAX OGUST, *New York*  
 NATHAN M. OHRBACH, *New York*  
 KURT PEISER, *Philadelphia*  
 HARRIS PERLSTEIN, *Chicago*  
 DAVID deSOLA POOL, *New York*  
 JACOB S. POTOFOSKY, *New York*  
 MEYER L. PRENTIS, *Detroit*  
 JOSEPH M. PROSKAUER, *New York*  
 BENJAMIN J. RABIN, *New York*

AARON S. RAUH, *St. Louis*  
 RICHARD S. RAUH, *Pittsburgh*  
 A. J. RONGY, *New York*  
 JAMES N. ROSENBERG, *New York*  
 LESSING J. ROSENWALD, *Philadelphia*  
 WILLIAM ROSENWALD, *Greenwich, Conn.*  
 MORRIS ROTHENBERG, *New York*  
 BERNARD SACHS, *New York*  
 BEN SADOWSKI, *Toronto*  
 SIMON SAKOWITZ, *Houston*  
 A. L. SALTZSTEIN, *Milwaukee*  
 E. J. SCHANFARBER, *Columbus*  
 ULYSSES S. SCHWARTZ, *Chicago*  
 WILLIAM H. SCHWARZSCHILD, *Richmond*  
 MURRAY SEASONGOOD, *Cincinnati*  
 EUSTACE SELIGMAN, *New York*  
 BERNARD SEMEL, *New York*  
 ALFRED SHEMANSKI, *Seattle*  
 I. H. SHERMAN, *New York*  
 SAMUEL SHORE, *New York*  
 WILLIAM J. SHRODER, *Cincinnati*  
 MENDEL B. SILBERBERG, *Los Angeles*  
 ARCHIBALD SILVERMAN, *Providence*  
 M. C. SLOSS, *San Francisco*  
 ABRAHAM SRERE, *Detroit*  
 JESSE H. STEINHART, *San Francisco*  
 EDGAR B. STERN, *New Orleans*  
 HENRY M. STERN, *Rochester*  
 HORACE STERN, *Philadelphia*  
 HUGH GRANT STRAUS, *Brooklyn*  
 MRS. ROGER W. STRAUS, *New York*  
 FRANK L. SULZBERGER, *Chicago*  
 LEON C. SUNSTEIN, *Philadelphia*  
 AARON TEITELBAUM, *New York*  
 JEROME T. UDELL, *New York*  
 F. FRANK VORENBERG, *Boston*  
 MRS. FELIX M. WARBURG, *New York*  
 MAX M. WARBURG, *New York*  
 DAVID M. WATCHMAKER, *Boston*  
 ADOLPH WEIL, *Montgomery*  
 FRANK L. WEIL, *New York*  
 HENRY WINEMAN, *Detroit*  
 MOSES WINKELSTEIN, *Syracuse*  
 JONAH B. WISE, *New York*  
 DAVID P. WOHL, *St. Louis*  
 MORRIS WOLF, *Philadelphia*  
 HARRY ZEITZ, *Brooklyn*

IN THE ARMED FORCES

ABNER BREGMAN, *New York*  
 WILLIAM W. GOODMAN, *Memphis*  
 MARCO F. HELLMAN, *New York*  
 HAROLD F. LINDER, *New York*  
 EDWARD A. NORMAN, *New York*  
 LEWIS L. STRAUSS, *New York*  
 MORRIS C. TROPER, *New York*  
 EDWARD M. M. WARBURG, *New York*



h.

000853

## CROSS-REFERENCE

... PROGRAM WITH RESPECT TO RESERVE & RESERVE (S) ELIGIBILITY EVACUATION TO ...  
(Name of Applicant) TURKEY

.....  
(Application Number)

1. FOR LETTER DATED, DECEMBER 1, 1944, TO MR. NEBERT PATZKI FROM LAURENCE  
STERNBERG, RE: HANCI SKY'S APPROACH TO HIS WIFE'S AID IN TURKEY

SEE: 1. "EVACUATION TO AND THRU' TURKEY" (2-b)

000854

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

CORRECTION

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

March 16, 1945

*Handwritten: [unclear] [unclear]*

**CONTROL COPY**

In cable from Ankara unnumbered (Received March 15,  
11:30 p.m. chartering of the TARI delete word "unnumbered"  
and insert "353."

DIVISION OF CENTRAL SERVICES

CSB

000855

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

RECEIVED  
DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES

JED-1850

Ankara via Army

This telegram must be  
paraphrased before 1945 MAR 16 AM Unrated  
communicated to anyone  
other than a Government  
Agency. (RESTRICTED) DC/L

Rec'd March 15  
11:30 p.m.

LIAISON

Secretary of State

Washington

353  
~~Unnumbered~~

CONTROL COPY

FOR DEPARTMENT AND WRB

As anticipated in Katzki's cable to the D R B  
(Ankara's 14, re Embassy's 2376, December 16) Ja-  
botinsky's approach to any negotiations with the  
Turkish authorities to charter the SS TARI without  
consulting the Embassy or the WRB representative,  
has afforded the Turk Minister of Communications  
an opportunity to reopen the matter of the TARI  
and to present a claim to the Embassy through the  
Foreign Office for what in effect amounts to de-  
murrage from April 9 to May 26 inclusive. The  
amount claimed is 117,500 Turk pounds being 47  
days at 2500 Turk pounds a day.

It is not yet clear whether the Foreign Office  
intends to support the claim wholeheartedly. Under  
the circumstances I have taken advantage of the fact  
that there is

000856

-2- Unnumbered, Dated from Ankara via Army

that there is no longer a WRB representative in Turkey to suggest to the Foreign Office that the Turk Embassy in Washington discuss the matter with the WRB in Washington. It might thus be possible to arrange to have the claim disposed of under reverse Lend-Lease.

STEINHARDE

MJF

000857

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
CENTRAL SERVICES  
TELEGRAPH SECTION

MES-1708

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

Ankara via Army

Undated

Rec'd. March 15, 1945  
4:35 p.m.

7/13/45

Secretary of State,  
Washington.

356

FOR DEPARTMENT AND WRB

As anticipated in Katzki's cable to the DRB  
(Ankara's 14, re Embassy's 2376, December 16) Jabotinsky's  
approach to any negotiations with the Turkish authorities  
to charter the SS TARI without consulting the Embassy  
or the WRB representative, has afforded the Turkish Minister  
of Communications an opportunity to reopen the matter of  
the TARI and to present a claim to the Embassy through  
the Foreign Office for what in effect amounts to demurrage  
from April 9 to May 26 inclusive. The amount claimed  
is 117,500 Turkish pounds being 47 days at 2,500 Turkish  
pounds a day.

It is not yet clear whether the Foreign Office  
intends to support the claim wholeheartedly. Under the  
circumstances I have taken advantage of the fact that  
there is no longer a WRB representative in Turkey to  
suggest to the Foreign Office that the Turkish Embassy

in Washington

000858

-2- #356, undated, from Ankara via Army

in Washington discuss the matter with the WRB in  
Washington. It might thus be possible to arrange to have  
the claim disposed of under reverse Lend-Lease.

STEINHARDT

RB

000859

FEB 8 1945

Dear Sirs:

Enclosed herewith is a letter dated January 4, 1945,  
which was received for you from the Turkish Ministry of  
Transports through the United States Embassy in Ankara.

Very truly yours,

*[Signature]*

Florence Hodel  
Assistant Executive Director

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

607 RBH Hutchison:inp 1/30/45 OT

000860

Mrs. Towle  
— letter of transmittal —

000861

CCFY

Translation of letter to Emergency Committee to Save the  
Jewish People of Europe from the Turkish Ministry of  
Transport.

Turkish Translation

Turkish Republic  
Ministry of Transport  
Department of Sea Transport  
Business: Repatriation  
Sayı: 2883

4.1.48

8049  
30

Emergency Committee  
Lomartın Caddesi No. 18/3  
Teşvikiye

Answering your request of 25.10.1944:

The transport of Jewish Emigrants from the Balkan countries to  
Palestine has been for the time being stopped.

Therefore the obtention of a ship for the transport of the  
Jewish Emigrants in question is not possible.

Your communications are welcome

Minister of Transport  
/by/ R. Ilgar

000815

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



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

To: Mr. Pehle  
From: Mr. Warren

Reference is made to your communication of January 20, 1945 and enclosures thereto concerning possible objection on the part of the State Department and of Censorship to the release and delivery of the message from the Turkish Minister of Transport received as one of the enclosures in question.

Neither the Department nor Censorship has any objection thereto.

*George H. Warren*

Enclosures



000863

JAN 20 1945

TO: Mr. Warren

FROM: Mr. Pehle

I send you herewith a personal letter which Mr. Katzki has addressed to me with the request that I forward the enclosures to the Emergency Committee. Will you please advise me whether there is any objection from the standpoint of the State Department or Censorship to the delivery of these enclosures to the Emergency Committee.

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

Attachment.

*JH* - Per  
Request of Mr. Pehle.  
FH:hd 1/20/45

000864



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Istanbul, January 8, 1946

Personal

Dear Mr. Peck:

Mr. Uri Jabotinsky, representing the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, has requested that I transmit to you, for delivery to his Committee, the enclosed copy of a letter dated January 4, 1946, which he received from the Turkish Ministry of Transports, and the appended translation thereof into English. This letter relates to the request he had previously made for authorization to send a Turkish vessel from Istanbul to Constanza for purposes of transporting emigrants from Rumania to Haifa, Palestine. In this connection, I have sent you a number of telegrams relating to restrictions surrounding emigration from the Balkans to Palestine, and others relating to Mr. Jabotinsky's specific project.

If you have no objection, will you please deliver the enclosed letter to the Emergency Committee. The extra copy is for your files.

Mr. Jabotinsky, in his letter to me, writes: "I am now considering further steps in this matter, and shall let you know as soon as my plans mature." I am not sure what this means in terms of Emergency Committee activities. I think, however, that in delivering the Ministry of Transports' letter to the Emergency Committee, they should be informed of all circumstances relating to the restrictions upon emigration, as I have advised you of them, as an interpretation of the Ministry's letter. This letter by itself, in the absence of such further explanation, may be subject to misinterpretation, or worse.

I have asked Mr. Jabotinsky to let me have, for the Board, a report on the activities of the Emergency

000865

Committee in Turkey. He advises me that this is now being prepared and will be ready as soon as a final report can be secured from Mr. Karpman in Armenia, who is concerning himself with revision list and emergency Committee at same. As soon as I receive this report from Mr. Jabotinsky, I shall forward it to you.

Sincerely yours,

*Herbert Katzki*  
Herbert Katzki

Mr. J. W. Perle, Executive Director  
War Relocation Authority  
Treasury Building  
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosure: 2 copies of letter from Ministry of  
Transports

000866

January 25, 1945

Dear Mr. Leavitt:

The following message for you from Judah Magnes was received through the American Consulate General in Jerusalem under date of January 22, 1945:

"The request of Jabotinsky for authority for SS TARI or any other Turkish ship to embark emigrants destined for Palestine at Constanza was refused by Turkish Ministry of Transport. His Washington principals have been advised of the refusal by Jabotinsky.

"Ambassador in Ankara and War Refugee Board in Washington are fully advised concerning this matter.

"No transportation of immigrants from Constanza to Haifa is planned by Jabotinsky."

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

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

RDR  
RDrury 1/25/45

000867

2 WarRef Bd  
(Paper)

FROM: American Consulate General, Jerusalem  
TO: Secretary of State, Washington  
DATE: January 23, 1945  
NUMBER: 13

CONTROL COPY

SENT 1/25/45  
RS

Noted below is paraphrase of message received from Herbert Katzki  
Ankara by Magnes. He asks that Joint Distribution Committee New York be  
given this message. (Reference Department's cable of January 9, No. 3.)

The request of Jabotinsky for authority for SS BARI or any other  
Turkish ship to embark emigrants destined for Palestine at Constanza was  
refused by Turkish Ministry of Transports. His Washington principals have  
been advised of the refusal by Jabotinsky.

Ambassador in Ankara and War Refugee Board in Washington are  
fully advised concerning this matter and you may wish to suggest that  
permission to examine boards files be requested by JDG.

No transportation of immigrants from Constanza to Haifa is planned  
by Jabotinsky.

PINKERTON

BC/L:GFI

1-23-45

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

000868

2 War Ref Bd.  
(Pehle)  
11/1/45

ORIGINAL TEXT OF TELEGRAM

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington  
TO: American Consulate General, Jerusalem  
DATED: January 9, 1945  
NUMBER: 2

**CONTROL COPY**

FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

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

Emergency committee to save Jewish people advises us Jabotinsky chartered ES TARI for \$200,000 and for additional \$100,000 for provisions other charges 1500 to 1700 immigrants from Rumania can be transported to Haifa directly. They request we finance this project. Please discuss with Jewish Agency and ask Jewish Agency to cable us directly whether certificates are available for these immigrants. We would appreciate receiving any other information you or Jewish Agency may have received from Istanbul concerning proposal.

STETINIUS

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

000869

CABLE TO AMERICAN CONSULATE, JERUSALEM, FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD

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

QUOTE EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE JEWISH PEOPLE ADVISES US  
JABOTINSKY CHARTERED SS TARI FOR \$200,000 AND FOR ADDITIONAL  
\$100,000 FOR PROVISIONS OTHER CHARGES 1500 to 1700 IMMIGRANTS  
FROM RUMANIA CAN BE TRANSPORTED TO HAIFA DIRECTLY. THEY  
REQUEST WE FINANCE THIS PROJECT. PLEASE DISCUSS WITH JEWISH  
AGENCY AND ASK JEWISH AGENCY TO CABLE US DIRECTLY WHETHER  
CERTIFICATES ARE AVAILABLE FOR THESE IMMIGRANTS. WE WOULD  
APPRECIATE RECEIVING ANY OTHER INFORMATION YOU OR JEWISH  
AGENCY MAY HAVE RECEIVED FROM ISTANBUL CONCERNING PROPOSAL UNQUOTE

2:30 p.m.  
December 29, 1944

*Copy sent  
for c 12/30/44  
PS*

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

PH:hd 12/29/44

*JLA*

000870

In reply please  
refer to: 80125

80125

Dear Judge Bennett:

Reference is made to your telegram of December 30, 1944, requesting prompt consideration of the request contained in your letter of December 7, 1944, addressed to Mr. John E. Pehle, Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, concerning your desire to transfer \$200,000 to Turkey to finance the charter of the S.S. Tari.

In view of advice which we have received from the War Refugee Board to the effect that Mr. Jabotinsky's request for a Turkish vessel to transport emigrants from Rumania to Palestine has been refused by the Turkish Ministry of Communications, this Office will take no further action in the matter under reference.

Sincerely yours,

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Judge William S. Bennett,  
Emergency Committee to Save the  
Jewish People of Europe,  
25 West 45th Street,  
New York 19, N. Y.

EWO:Flaherty:gr 1/6/44

000871

New York Post

JAN 8 1945

## British Restrict Transfer of Balkan Jews

London, Jan. 8 (AP)—Britain is again restricting the transfer of Jews from the Balkans to Palestine, a Foreign Office spokesman said today, but he denied a report that Britain was canceling a promise to give Palestine visas to all Jews arriving in Turkey.

The report was made today in

New York by Alex Wilf, executive director of the American League for a Free Palestine. Wilf said he had received word from Eri Jabotinsky, member of the Hebrew Committee of National Liberation, who went to Turkey to arrange for evacuation of European Jews, that Britain had compelled Turkey to stop the is-

suance of transit visas to European Jews bound for Palestine.

"Jabotinsky does not know the facts," the Foreign Office commentator said, adding that during the crisis in Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria when the Jews were menaced and persecuted by the Germans those reaching Turkey were given visas for Palestine and elsewhere.

"But," he said, "that was during an emergency and that emergency no longer exists. There is no reason for the Jews to leave those countries now."

With much of Europe free now, he explained, restrictions on entry into Palestine had been tightened.

000872

JAN 6 1945

Dear Judge Bennett:

In connection with your letter of December 27, 1944, which was referred to the Treasury Department for action, I wish to advise you that the representative of the A.R. Refugee Board in Ankara, Turkey, has just cabled the Board to the effect that Mr. Jabotinsky has informed the Embassy that his request for a Turkish vessel to transport emigrants from Rumania to Palestine has been refused by the Turkish Ministry of Communications. Mr. Jabotinsky also informed the Board's representative that he proposed to wind up his activities in three to four weeks as representative in Turkey of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

Very truly yours,

(signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Judge William S. Bennett,  
Emergency Committee to Save the  
Jewish People of Europe,  
25 West 43rd Street,  
New York 19, N. Y.

*Original signed  
by Mr. Pehle*

*Cleared  
with Gen. Warren - State  
FHhd 1/5/45 JJA*

000873

100-1-1-1  
100-1-1-1  
b-6

RA-888  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (W)

Ankara

Dated December 31, 1944

Rec'd 5:50 p.m.;  
January 1, 1945

Secretary of State

Washington

2439, December 31, 1 p.m.

FROM KATZKI TO PEHLE WRB ANKARA'S NO. 208.

Jabotinsky informs us (see Embassy's 2376,

Ankara's 205) that his request for a Turkish vessel to transport emigrants from Rumania to Palestine met with a refusal from the Ministry of Communications. He attributes the refusal to intervention by the British Embassy.

In my opinion this refusal is consistent with the termination of the general agreement referring to the admission into Turkey intransit of emigrants from the Balkans proceeding to Palestine as reported in Embassy's 2402. Ankara's 206 such termination to be regarded as a stage in the regularization of emigration to Palestine as outlined in Ankara's 205 under reference.

For your confidential information Jabotinsky

informed

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
**CONTROL COPY**  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

For security  
text of  
recovery

000874

-2- 2439, December 31, 1 p.m. from Ankara

informed us that as representative on the emergency  
committee in Turkey he proposes winding up his  
activities in 3 or 4 weeks.

STEINHARDT

WMB

000875

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

AIT-971  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. (██████-W)

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM

Ankara

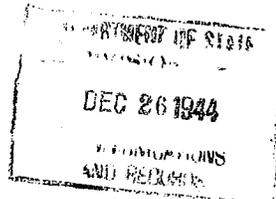
DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

Dated December 22, 1944.

Rec'd 7:03 a.m., 24th.

Secretary of State,  
Washington:

2402, December 22, 10 a.m.  
FROM KATZKI TO PEHLE HRB



Russian authorization was finally secured by the  
Ambassador to enable the 608 refugees and emigrants  
Hungarians, Poles and Rumanians all proceeding from  
Rumania to Palestine who were detained at Stara-Zagora  
and Kazanlik Bulgaria (see Embassy's <sup>2226</sup>~~222~~, Ankara's  
189 and Embassy's 2256, Ankara's 191) to continue their  
voyage. (Ankara's No. 205) the first group comprising  
280 persons departed from Stara-Zagora immediately  
upon receipt of authorization and arrived at Karaagac  
on the Turk frontier on December 21. Istanbul  
representatives of the Jewish agency called upon the  
Istanbul British passport control office during the  
morning of December 21 to obtain the necessary documents  
in accordance with the general agreement between  
the American and British Embassies and the Turk Foreign  
Office

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

000876

-2- #2402, DECEMBER 22, 10 a.m., from Ankara.

Office for the issuance of Turk visas to all refugees concerning which you have been informed in order that the group might be permitted by the Turk authorities to enter Turkey in transit. The representatives were advised by the British passport control office that the latter had been informed earlier in the morning by the British Embassy in Ankara that on the afternoon of December 20 the British Embassy had notified the Turk Foreign Office in writing that the general agreement referred to should be regarded as terminated. This cancellation was made without notice to Ayrasca and Steinhardt who on behalf of the American Embassy and the WRB had initiated and carried on the negotiations resulting in the general agreement nor to the Jewish agency nor to the British passport control office in Istanbul nor to me as representative of the Board. The British Embassy when advised of the arrival of the group at Turk frontier stated its decision must stand and matter must be referred to Jerusalem. During the afternoon of December 21 before it was possible to attempt to find even a temporary solution the 280 persons were returned to Bulgaria

000877

-3- #2402, DECEMBER 22, 10 a.m., from Ankara.

Bulgaria and are now at Stalingrad to which the remaining 328 detainees in the meanwhile had proceeded en route to Turkey and Palestine.

It should be noted that the 608 people departed from Rumania in good faith on or about November 16 en route for Palestine in accordance with an agreement then in force which gave them the right to expect that they would be permitted to enter Palestine and that Turkish transit facilities would be accorded them. Through no fault of their own their emigration had been interrupted in Bulgaria and they are now subject to disadvantage as the result of the cancellation by the British of an agreement, without warning, which cancellation is being enforced retroactively.

The foregoing summarizes the situation as of noon December 22. Ambassador Steinhardt expects to discuss the situation with the British Ambassador immediately. You will be kept informed of developments.

STEINHARDT

RB

000878

In reply please  
refer to: 78876

My dear Judge Bennet:

Your letter of December 7, 1944, addressed to Mr. J. W. Pehle, Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, concerning your desire to transfer \$200,000 to Turkey to finance the charter of the S.S. TARI for the purpose of transporting some 1600 refugees and indigents from Constanza to Haifa has been referred to this Office for consideration.

In order to facilitate consideration of your request, it is suggested that this Office be provided with more detailed information concerning the ultimate disposition of the funds involved and the identity of the parties from whom the S.S. TARI is to be chartered. Any additional pertinent information which you have available will be helpful to us in the consideration of this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Judge William S. Bennet, Co-Chairman,  
Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish  
People of Europe, Inc.,  
25 W. 45th St.,  
New York, New York.

EWO:Flaherty:emj 12/20/44

000879

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

INCOMING  
TELEGRAM  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

JMM-1652  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. ( [REDACTED] W)

ANKARA  
Dated December 16, 1944

Rec'd 9:22 p.m., 19th.

Secretary of State  
Washington

**CONTROL COPY**

2376, December 16, 11 p.m.

X  
FROM KATZKI TO PEHLE WRB, Ankara's No. 205.

The following information was provided by Jabotinsky concerning his proposed charter of the SS TARI (Department's 1157 WRB 134): He has requested the Ministry of Communications to grant permission for a voyage on the TARI under charter to transport emigrants from Constanza direct to Haifa. The TARI will carry up to 1600 passengers. If permission for the trip granted, he has requested the Ministry to authorize the voyage of another vessel. The Ministry of Communications has referred to the Turkish Foreign Office, whose decision has not yet been given.

Jabotinsky made two requests of the Emergency Committee: (1) advise whether the committee would be willing to finance a voyage from Constanza to Haifa involving the expenditure of approximately \$200,000, (2) authorization to execute

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

000880

-2- #2376, December 16, 11 p.m., from Ankara

to execute a contract in the name of the Emergency Committee, if its response to (1) above is affirmative. He requested no funds and has nothing concrete in hand on which to base such a request. Jabotinsky plans to pay only amounts due in Turkey under the contract, expenditures in Rumania to be met by traffic collected there from a percentage of passengers who will be selected on the basis of their ability to pay their own fares. The emigrants will be selected from among those persons for whom Palestine certificates have been authorized, either from Palestine or by Jewish Agency confirmations previously issued in Istanbul during the emergency period. Selection and details are to be under the direction of Klarman, the revisionist representative in Rumania, and other persons associated with Jabotinsky states that he will discuss with the British Passport Control Office in Istanbul, after the execution of the contract, whether the Palestine entry certificates shall be issued in Istanbul or upon the arrival of the vessel in Palestine.

The emigration project is to be regarded as one involving the normal emigration of Jewish people from Rumania to Palestine, and not necessarily a rescue operation in aid of persons in peril of their lives because of Nazi

RECEIVED  
F. BOARD  
D.C.

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-3- #2376, December 16, 11 p.m., from Ankara

of Nazi oppression. Whether or not the Emergency Committee wishes to engage in this type of activity is a question for it to decide. Although emigration, which recently has taken place from Bulgaria and Rumania, has in his opinion, with one exception, included a fair representation of all groups and parties, including those in whom Jabotinsky is interested, pursuant to ratios established in Palestine, Jabotinsky believes that emigration to Palestine from Bulgaria and Rumania should be removed from the "monopoly" of the Jewish Agency, and that the "element of competition" as evidenced by his projects Jabotinsky introduced as a "healthy" factor. He expects to receive a decision, of which he will inform us, from the Turkish Foreign Office during the week of December 17. The Emergency Committee already has authorized Jabotinsky to execute a contract for a Turkish vessel.

The foregoing concludes the information provided by Jabotinsky. In Embassy's 2178 Ankara's 185 you were informed of restrictions which have been placed upon immigration into Palestine. The representative of the Jewish Agency in Istanbul informed me that he had been officially advised by British Passport Control Office:

(1) emigration

000882

-4- #2376, December 16, 11 p.m., from Ankara

(1) emigration from Rumania and Bulgaria is not now regarded as a measure for saving of lives of people in peril of death. Consequently emigration from these two countries to Palestine is restricted by the terms of the White Paper. Emigration from Rumania to Palestine for the six months beginning October 1 is limited to 3500 persons. (Comment: as of today the unused number of certificates are 1400 to 1500 and 800, respectively.) Emigration to Palestine is to be conducted on a selective basis as it was prior to outbreak of war through various local Palestine offices of Jewish Agency according to established schedules; (2) local Palestine offices of Jewish Agency which has responsibility in emigration to Palestine must assist in exercising control of emigration to Palestine from Rumania and Bulgaria. Prior approval of emigration must be secured from local British authorities. When British Consulates in Rumania and Bulgaria are re-opened this will take the form of issuance of entry certificates by respective Consulates. (Comment: As a practical matter where emigrants arrive individually in Istanbul on basis of British Passport Control Office in Istanbul since individual emigration readily can be kept within 1500 monthly overall limit reported in

Ankara's 185.)

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-5- #2376, December 16, 11 p.m. from Ankara

Ankara's 185). When large groups are organized the Palestine office in Rumania or Bulgaria must notify Istanbul so that the passport control office might in turn advise Jerusalem in order to synchronize their travel with emigration from other areas to keep within 1500 limit of monthly admissions to Palestine. For your confidential information the passport control office in Istanbul unofficially advised the Istanbul Jewish Agency representatives that if the total number of emigrants for Palestine exceeds 1500 in one month the number 1500 exceeding 1500 perhaps might be admitted to Palestine but sent to some other destination. Likewise if the number of emigrants from Rumania and Bulgaria exceeds 3500 and 1500, respectively, for the six months beginning October one the excess might be similarly treated. (Comment: People might set out for Palestine but not arrive there at all unless control is exercised).

In my opinion in view of British restrictions regarding Palestine immigration approval of Jabotinsky's project conducted independently of the Jewish Agency must be regarded with caution. If executed it might create a complicated and difficult situation especially

were a vessel

000884

-6- #2376, DECEMBER 16, 11 p.m. from Ankara

were a vessel transporting 1600 emigrants from Rumania to Palestine suddenly to appear in Istanbul or Haifa.

In discussing the foregoing with the Ambassador he deplored the fact that Jabotinsky had approached the Turk authorities to charter the SS TARI without consulting the Embassy or the representative of the War Refugee Board. The Ambassador observed that had Jabotinsky sought to charter an unnamed vessel he would not (repeat not) be disturbed but that in specifically requesting the "TARI" Jabotinsky may well have encouraged the Turk authorities to regard the approach as a renewal of the lapsed negotiations for the "TARI" resulting in the presentation by the Turk authorities of a claim growing out of the former negotiations.

STEINHARDT

WSB

000885

DEC 13 1944

MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Belmont

From: Mr. Pahle

There is forwarded to you herewith for consideration and appropriate action a letter received by the War Refugee Board from the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe. Also attached is a copy of a message to Ambassador Steinhardt and War Refugee Board Representative Katzki in Ankara, Turkey, which the War Refugee Board has asked the Department of State to dispatch. The War Refugee Board will, of course, make available to the Treasury any report which is received from Mr. Katzki on the proposal involved.

(Signed) J.W. Pahle

Attachments.

FB  
JW  
FH:hd 12/13/44

000886

DEPARTMENT  
OF  
STATE

OUTGOING  
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF  
COMMUNICATIONS  
AND RECORDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

CORRECTED COPY

1944 DEC 14 PM  
December 11, 1944

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608 p.m. 018  
A. R. G. M. S.  
(LAWSON)

AMEMBASSY

ANKARA

CONTROL COPY

1157

The cable below for Katzki is WRB 134.

Emergency Committee has asked Board to recommend

issuance of appropriate Treasury Department license  
to permit transfer of \$200,000 to Jabotinsky for  
charter of SS Tari to transport 1600 Jews from  
Constanza to Haifa. Although refugee problems in  
liberated areas are not regarded as being within  
Board's functions (see WRB cable No. 106 of September  
7, 1944, to Ankara), we would appreciate having  
report from you on the matter as soon as possible  
in order to be in position to give background material  
to Treasury.

STETINIUS  
(GLW)

WRB:MMV:KG NE SWP

NOTE: Originally issued with "~~SECRET~~" rubric.

HPL

NOT SECURITY SENSITIVE FOR  
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DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72  
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 18 1972

000887

CABLE TO STAMBUL, ANKARA, FOR KATZKI FROM THE REFUGEE BOARD

Emergency Committee has asked Board to recommend issuance of appropriate Treasury Department license to permit transfer of \$200,000 to Jabotinsky for charter of S.S. Tari to transport 1600 Jews from Constanza to Haifa. Although refugee problems in liberated areas are not regarded as being within Board's functions (see WRB cable No. 106 of September 7, 1944, to Ankara), we would appreciate having report from you on the matter as soon as possible in order to be in position to give background material to Treasury.

Re: WRB cable no. 144.

12/11/44

12:53 p.m.

Miss Chauncey (for the secretary), Abrahamson, Ackermann, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Hodel, Mannon, McCormack, Files

*JAC JB*  
FR:hd 12/11/44

000888

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EMERGENCY COMMITTEE TO SAVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE, INC.  
25 W. 45th Street, New York 19

December 7, 1944

Mr. John Poble, Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Treasury Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Poble:

We received several communications from Mr. Eri Jabotinsky, in Istanbul, about the negotiations for the charter of the S.S. TARI for the purpose of transporting some 1600 Hebrews from Constanza to Haifa. These would be, to a great degree, refugees who have recently escaped from German-occupied territory or Hebrews who find themselves now in Rumania completely destitute.

In addition to the good it is doing for the people themselves, their transportation may very well result in additional Jews from German-occupied territory being able to enter Rumania. This morning we received a cable from Mr. Jabotinsky informing us that the deal is about to be made with the owners of the TARI and the consent of the Turkish Ministry of Transport, and will involve an approximate cost of \$200,000. We have instructed Mr. Jabotinsky to proceed and are now endeavoring to secure the necessary funds.

We are, therefore, writing to request your assistance in this matter. Mr. Bergson will return to Washington on Monday and will then present you with further details of the undertaking. Meanwhile, could you please transmit and recommend our request to the Foreign Funds Control Division of the Treasury Department to grant us the necessary permit for the transfer of the sum of \$200,000 to Turkey for the above purpose.

I don't have to tell you how important and urgent we consider this matter, and we shall be grateful for your good offices in securing for us the necessary permit as early as possible.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ William S. Bennet

Judge William S. Bennet  
Co-Chairman

000888



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Istanbul, November 25, 1944

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am enclosing herein a copy of a letter dated November 20, 1944, addressed to Ambassador Steinhardt by Mr. Jabotinsky of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe.

Although we have not been informed by Mr. Jabotinsky, we assume from his letter to the Ambassador that he is again out in the market to charter a boat to carry emigrants from Rumania to Palestine. We have no information concerning this project.

Several things are implicit, however, in Mr. Jabotinsky's letter. From paragraphs 1 and 2, both the Ambassador and I came to the conclusion that he apparently has made certain representations to the Ministry of Transportation which brought up the question of the S. S. Tari deal, which, somehow or other, the Ministry of Transportation seems to associate with Jabotinsky's request.

Paragraph 3 probably relates to the letter that we wrote to Mr. Jabotinsky at the time we were informed of the limitations placed upon emigration to Palestine from Rumania and Bulgaria for the 6-months' period beginning October 1, and in which we advised Mr. Jabotinsky not to assume that either the Embassy or the War Refugee Board would be able to extricate him from whatever project he might wish to undertake. We sent you a copy of this letter in our letter to you of November 17.

After discussing Mr. Jabotinsky's letter, both Ambassador Steinhardt and I thought it advisable not to enter into any discussion with him, and accordingly, in the name of the War Refugee Board, we addressed a reply to him under date of November 20, of which a copy is enclosed.

We are sending the copies of the two letters to you so that you will be fully informed in the matter.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

*Herbert Katzki*  
Herbert Katzki

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

000890

C O P Y

ERI T. JABOTINSKY

Emergency Committee  
to Save the Jewish People of Europe  
Washington, D. C.

Ankara, November 20, 1944

The Honorable  
Laurence A. Steinhardt  
American Embassy  
Ankara

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

This is the matter I wanted to see you about: - The emergency Committee is planning to charter a Turkish ship - a freighter of about 3,000 tons - for the transportation of 1,500 Jewish refugees from Constanza to Haifa. The Ministry of Transportation are willing to authorize the use of such a ship but, before doing so, they want to know what the situation is concerning the TARI.

They suggested that the TARI transaction should be closed through a letter from the Embassy stating that, the condition of replacing the TARI by another boat being no longer acceptable, the deal should be voided.

All the prospective passengers would, of course, be chosen from among the present holders of Palestine Certificates and their number would be well within the limits of the quota now available.

Knowing your constant endeavors to organize the refugee transports just on those lines, I have decided to approach you directly with the request of informing the Ministry of Transportation as suggested above or, should this not be practicable, of kindly instructing me as to how I should proceed.

Thanking you for your interest,

Very sincerely yours,

ERI JABOTINSKY  
Bellevue Palace, Ankara

P.S. I shall remain in Ankara, at the Bellevue, today and tomorrow at your disposal.

000891

COPY

Ankara, November 20, 1944

Mr. Eri T. Jabotinsky  
Emergency Committee to Save the  
Jewish People of Europe,  
Bellevue Palace Hotel,  
Ankara.

Dear Mr. Jabotinsky:

The Ambassador has referred to me for reply your letter of November 20th in connection with the contemplated charter by the Emergency Committee of a Turkish freighter to transport Jewish refugees now in Rumania to Palestine, and in which you make inquiry concerning the negotiations which were carried on early in the year between the Embassy and the Turkish Government looking to the charter of the Turkish S.S. TARI.

As you are aware, the negotiations for the S.S. TARI were successfully concluded subject only to the granting of a safe conduct by the German Government which was never forthcoming, notwithstanding the intercession of the Turkish Government, the Vatican and various neutral powers. When it became apparent that it would not be possible for the S.S. TARI to make the trip, the proposed charter was allowed to lapse through the courtesy of the Turkish Government. As we understand the present position, no further action is expected of us by the Turkish authorities.

The War Refugee Board at the present time is not undertaking the charter of vessels for the movement of refugees from Rumania to Palestine.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Herbert Katzki,  
Representative  
War Refugee Board

HK:pe

000892

H. Katzki, Representative  
War Refugee Board  
THE FOREIGN SERVICE

OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

c/o United States Embassy  
Ankara, Turkey

7  
J. W. Pehle, Esquire  
Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Treasury Building  
Washington 25, D. C.

C.B.

SWB

000893

BJR  
Distribution of true  
reading only by special  
arrangement. [redacted]

September 7, 1944  
3 p.m.

EMBASSY

ANKARA

Circular

The following WRB cable no. 106 is for Hirschmann

Several requests have already been received by the War Refugee Board for financial assistance in the relief of refugees in areas liberated by the Allied military forces

For your information and guidance War Refugee Board activities are to be strictly limited to the rescue and relief of the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death, that is, who are still in enemy-occupied territory. Refugee problems in liberated areas are not (repeat not) regarded as being within the Board's functions. Accordingly, if you receive requests limited to the relief and assistance of refugees in areas liberated from the Germans, you should refer such problems to UNRRA, the appropriate military authorities, the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees, private refugee organizations, or other national or international groups which are authorized to deal with matters of this nature.

The foregoing shall not be construed to limit the activities of the Board dealing with arrangements for the removal of refugees in liberated areas whose presence serves to discourage and prevent the rescue of additional refugees from enemy-occupied areas.

This message has been repeated to the other WRB Special Representative abroad.

HULL  
(GLW)

CODE ROOM: Please repeat, using following opening sentences, to the missions below.  
Stockholm - The following WRB cable is for Olsen  
Lisbon - The following WRB cable is for Dexter  
Caserta - The following WRB cable is for Ackermann.

WRB:MMV:KG NE NOE WS SE SWP  
9/7/44

Miss Chauncey (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Cohn, Drury, DuBois, Drury, Friedman, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Mannon, McCormack, Marks,

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-78  
By R. H. Parks Date **SEP 18 1972**

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**

000894