CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS REEL
MEMORANDUM

In a communication received by Mr. Uebelboll from Mr. Aver-
buch in Bucharest, the following points were made:

1. The Russians in Romania are giving no assistance to
refugees in that country whom they regard as Russian subjects.
This would include refugees from Bessarabia, Transnistria, and
Bucovina. As Russian subjects, they will be repatriated in due
course to those areas from whence they came.

2. Neither the Hungarian Government nor the Hungarian Red
Cross feels that it has any responsibility towards those alleged
Russian refugees. They say that they have no time to do to assist
Hungarian nationals, including Hungarian Jews and types refugees
who are non-Russian. The Hungarian authorities, they say, are
responsible for their own nationals.

3. The extent of want among the Jewish people in Romania is
very great. Approximately 90 per cent of Romanian Jewry has
spent funds and may be regarded as well-to-do. The remaining
10 per cent, however, is in very straitened circumstances
sufficiently, too poor to provide for their own necessaries.
Men, women and those, who have been in labor camps, are
now returning to their homes, within they own their
facilities and food for three and a half years. They
are without food and clothing, a situation which becomes
acute with the approaching winter months. Although the men or
now are turning in vest, but is not to say that they are able to
find employment immediately, and be earn the funds necessary to
maintain their families and themselves. Efforts have not up
a budget to cover minimum requirements for the needy Jewish
people in Humamia, in the amount of 5½ billion loi. This is
to cover food, clothing, shelter; particularly in behalf of
former internees in labor camps, who are now returning, and for
refugees. The substantial part of this budget should be made
available for welfare work immediately. It is quite impossible
for the Jews in Humamia to undergo another winter under existing
circumstances.

4. the Huminian Red Cross has secured permission from the
Huminian Government to organize transports of Jewish emigrants
from Humamia until the termination of the war. Paludis is
cooperating with the Huminian Red Cross, and Everbach has found
several for composing differ cases among the various factions in
Humamia, in order that there might be broader cooperation in
refugee and relief work.

5. the captain of the Salamshin expects to return to
Istanbul with his vessel on October 26, and will return whether
or not passengers have been embarked for the voyage. It does not
appear that consent of the Huminian authorities is now necessary
for emigration from Humamia, even by sea. However, the missions
will not permit anyone to disembark for subsistence, as this
work is being used for military purposes. Consequently, Everbach
in order not to lose time in trying to secure further permission
for passengers is attempting to arrange the sailing from another
port, either Paludis or Salamshin, both of which are small ports
not being used for military purposes. It will try to embark
500 people on the Salamshin from one of these ports for the
voyage to Istanbul.

6. Paludis has action with reper to the issuance of
Bulgarian transit visas in Rumania. Although the Bulgarian authorities have notified their consul in Rumania that he is authorized to issue transit visas to applicants en route to Palestine, the instructions indicated that confirmations that Palestine certificates are available must come from the Turkish authorities. This is now being corrected to provide for confirmations by the Jewish Agency.

7. Formally, anti-Jewish laws in Rumania have been abolished. Effectively, however, there are no visible results of this abolition, as the Rumanian authorities are taking no steps to implement them in relation to the Jewish population in general.

In conversation with Dr. Joel Levy, who just returned to Jerusalem from Bucharest, he informed me that Dr. Filderman had told him of the large-scale anti-Jewish budget which Dr. Filderman thought necessary for relief purposes to the Jewish people in Bucharest. Dr. Levy confirmed that the situation of the Jews in Rumania is disastrous, and that assistance should be given immediately. He said that there were perhaps 100,000 Jews in Rumania, for whose aid he received a specific mention of approximately 30,000 Jews in Janov, which might be arranged as the community worst off in Rumania.
MEMORANDUM

October 19, 1944

During the course of a telephone conversation which Mr. Ussher had with Mr. Pomerancic from Sofia, Mr. Pomerancic advised Mr. Ussher as follows:

There have just arrived in Sofia three Hungarian Jews who once from Yugoslavia. They reported that there were 6500 Jews, for the most part Hungarians, who had been working in a copper mine in the town of Bor, near Nish, Yugoslavia. These people had been released by the allied armies when the captured this territory, or have been liberated, and the Hungarians have informed that they are at liberty to proceed wherever they wish. Of the 6500 men, who were of the ages ot 10 to 60, 5000 have been working in this mine for 10 months, and 1500 since June, 1944. At the time of the German occupation from Bor, several hundred of the women were evacuated to Belgrade with the German army to engage in the construction of fortifications there.

The Hungarians informed that the liberation pno is whether they would be willing to join the Allied forces against the Germans. 100 declared their willingness to do so, an additional 700 stated that they were ready to fight, but as it stood now, they were to seek safety from their homw in the mine to which they will go after liberation. Some of the liberated were either too young or too old to be useful for military service.

In the mine are until now, cut off from the outside world, remaining ignorant of the conditions with respect to the Jews in Bulgaria, several hundred travel agents, 2 out for Hungary upon liberation, to Jajce to join their families, some of them travel as far as Belgrade, and others as far as Sofia. Severin
That is the last with the three ambitions who came to Sofia.

...heard of these groups.

The libraries apparently cannot remain in or, and must find some place to which to go. A number of them had expressed a desire to emigrate, particularly to Palestine.

Mr. Pomerance is attempting to secure permission from the necessary authorities to travel to Rish, in order to obtain information regarding the entire group at first hand.

W/P
October 11, 194...

Please secure from Wilhelm Feldersten, Strada St. Apostoli 18,
and Janou Kaufmann, Vasile Vaplova 15, Bucharest, full report
covering following points regarding refugee emigration from
Rumania via Istanbul.

(1) Present possibility travel by sea and land.
(2) If impossible, give reasons.
(3) Are exit permits and travel documents being issued stop

Forgoing information essential prior giving consideration
telegraphic request to secure alteration Turkish Foreign Office
agreement now authorizing transit sea voyages only.
Istanbul, Oct. 11, 1944

Dear Sir:

This is the address in Bucharest:

János Kaufmann,
Vasile Variöve 15
Bucharest

Sincerely yours

J. E. Uekermann

Mr. M. Katzky Esq.,
Istanbul.
Gentlemen:

We have received no further reports regarding the death of the children, and have no further information. We have no knowledge of any new developments.

I have forwarded to you the latest information regarding the children's condition. If you have any additional information, please inform me.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Istanbul, October 5, 1944
Istanbul, October 6, 1944

Sentiment:

We have received an inquiry with regard to

... and ask for Dr. Stephen Johnson's instructions. It is not clear if

given at 15, General Stalinov Street, Belgrade.

We are advised that Caldus' immigration visas have

been authorized for his arrival, but that Turkish

immigration visas are lacking.

As our instructions are to advise of any change in

our position, we will appreciate receiving a

written confirmation of the above information.

We remain,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

[Name]

President of the Board
Istanbul, 6.10.1944.

Dear R. Katsky,

here is the cable I told you about on the phone.

And many thanks for forwarding it through Mr. Siren.

Faithfully yours

J.C. Usherall.

Sr. Katsky Rsp.

TB, Istanbul.

Their Apt.
From Usherell
For Zealony, Jerusalem.

Under commissiates following situation Bulgaria requiring immediate action order save possibilities emigration. Unlike government which comprises different political portion Jewish Consistoire consists of Communist only opposing impeding emigration although unbacked government. Visavis terrible conditions prevailing among returning Jews without roofs clothing means for opening hospitals schools our economical appearance paramount importance. Envoys demand immediate consignment 10000 LP money to be transferred from city ordnance unless you obtain receipt. Foreign exchange. Your affirmative decision will alter consignment Consistoire as well salvation policy. We discussed matter with Paramount - Paramount. Envoys request alter Paramounts appointment joint representatives on his suggestions powerfully welcomed public opinion. Capturing Colonel Najdar and tour revenue of Morlith third name will follow.

Istanbul, 9/10/1944
Translation

Extract from "JNF JIN" (Rescue), October 4, 1944

"IT IS NOT THE WAY IT LOOKS"

A Short Introduction to the History of Jewish Immigration from Emanza in the Last Decade,
by Zeev Cohen.

... Mr. A. L. Zissu, President of the Zionist organization in Emanza and secretary of the Jewish Agency for Palestine in Jerusalem, having visualised the urgent need for carrying on the emigration of Emanzan Jews to Palestine, regardless of ways and costs, has been trying on the one hand to intensify the rate of emigration and on the other to remove from its way all obstacles and impediments in which certain greedy shipping agents had been indulging, in compliance with their racist aims inside the government itself. It is a fact that years ago, in order to be able to avoid the abrupt prohibitive regulations established by the mandatory power with regard to emigration, it had been found necessary to resort to the cooperation of certain unscrupulous elements and shipping agents. That cooperation and collaboration that went with it have created conditions of transportation that were intolerable, and involved material sacrifices beyond any imagination. intimidated, these unscrupulous and unprincipled elements, many, only the agents are agents of Emanza, were at the beginning put in collaboration with shipping, high prices could be paid by the officials in charge of the transportation. Later, however, the agents started doing it all on their own account, and very often turned into actual undertakers instead of giving orders.
their jobs as shipping agents and ship-owners. They turned the
tragic problem of Jewish emigration, that is a problem of general
interest, into a criminal enterprise of blackmail and spoliation.
Thus it was very natural that these shipping agents should, by
means of graft and astronomical bribes, ensure to themselves the
cooperation of important members of the country's administration,
in order, with the help of the latter, to be in a position to
blackmail and cheat their clients on the emigration legally initiated
and carried out by the emigration office of the Zionist organization.

It is good that everybody should know that neither the
Zionist organization nor the emigration office were ever able to
 charter a single vessel nor carry out a single transport except
on the conditions of a monopoly acquired and incessantly exercis-
ed by influential agents with the connivance of the local
ship- agents have been able, by means of enormous profits, to
assume for themselves tremendous influence, both with the German
authorities as well as with the constant authorities in the Jewish
state administration. It is good that everybody should know that
these influences were so powerful an so efficient that not
even the official emigration bodies of the Jewish agency in
Constantinople were able to charter a single vessel at the cost of the
emigration office, and not to free themselves from the heavy services,
and not to prevent these influences and intermediaries, result in the creation of certain situations, both in Constantinople
and in Constantia, that could simply suppress emigration at all,
and thereby make phrasenals useless for transportation,
their quality and cost as well as to see and the general
conditions of emigration were at a certain time fully end.
completely at the discretion of that private monopoly exercised by the shipping agencies. At the end of April, 1944, Mr. Zissu, as mandator of the Jewish agency for Palestine and Romania and as President of the Zionist Organization, started a campaign intended to convince the former Government to make up its mind whether it was ready, loyal, and honest to give its support to Jewish emigration and then be prepared to hand over this matter to the exclusive competence of a Jewish public institution, as would be the Zionist Organization of Romania. I.e., on the other hand, the Government was not prepared to do it, Mr. Zissu pointed out, then it would have to admit its own insufficiency, let it be even a silent one, with these private commercial organizations that, with the aid of spoliation, had in fact monopolized the whole activity of emigration.

Thus, the Government was placed in an alternative which it could no longer fail to realize. As a result of it was that, on June 2, 1944, the Government finally gave its agreement, in principle, to the proposals stated in one of the memoranda submitted to it by Mr. A. A. Zissu. Thus, an Emigration Office was created, managed over by Mr. A. A. Zissu, mandator of the Jewish agency for Palestine, with the technical councillors to be appointed by him.

In formalized respect, achievements, both for the benefit of the Zionist organization of Romania as well as for the fate of emigration business through the humanity and clear political vision of Mr. A. A. Zissu, a possibility was found that, after hard struggle, the activity of emigration of Romanian Jews and of Jewish refugees from Hungary and Poland to Palestine should, from a spoliation and a lầnish-trade exercised by unscrupulous
shipping agents, be transformed into an institution of national

However, had Bocca, the agent of the Jewish population in

Rumania, did not dissemble, with the help of the very people who,

by this reform, saw themselves dispossessed of a source of fan-
tastic profits from crime and plunder, and also with the help of

the treasonous funds put to them at his disposal for graft, as

well as to the help of certain Jews who dressed themselves to become

instruments of others and make false political speculations or

simple profiteering on emigration, Bocca finally succeeded in

holding up the departure of boats for weeks and weeks, thus

endangering the whole work of rescue of Jewish refugees from

Sancre and Kolond of the Jewish children and orphans from Tran-
sicaria, and of young pioneers (Chelutzim). It took a good deal

of heavy struggle against the men in the Government as well as

against those working in the shadow of the former interveners

in Rumania, and it also required tremendous financial sacrifices,

until it became possible to lift the ban that prevented the depart-

ure of the boats. As an illustration to this, it is enough if

we point out that only for making possible the departure of 1

boat after the emigration office had been compelled to pay to

the Council of Public Affairs, at the cost of an under the

pressure from the International Emigration for Jewish Emi-

gration amounted to 200,000 lei, the sum of 70 million lei

(over 3,000,000 -- translatable) to say, with the almost organization

as well as the emigration office are trying to recover this sum

from the public welfare council.

Unfortunately, the above examples made by the respective
bodies of the Jewish Agency abroad could no longer be cancelled except at the cost of heavy financial penalties, which would have made the cost of emigration even heavier. Thus, the Emigration Office was compelled to take over, on its own account, the heavy charge of a situation of fact, merely that emigration may continue.

The Emigration Office succeeded, however, in achieving another very important point, which was primary to the whole problem, namely to submit emigration to the following principles:

1) the principle of free passage,

2) the principle that he who does not deserve to enter evil states, whether because of his being an agent of Nazism under any form, or because of his being a person of bad morals, could not enter to take place in the harem, no matter how much money he was ready to pay. He could not do it even if he had resorted to blackmail, as was the case of Bernard Comandiz and others, we had tried to make use of pressure on behalf of the Government and the agent in question. In a matter of fact, since it was being simplified by the Emigration Office, emigration proved to be in a proportion of 62.6 per cent of the passengers of each boat.

Nevertheless, if this chapter of Jewish emigration from Comandiz took enough and passages, it is no news, during the three continents, that the office has been functioning, having to brave all storms and to face all kinds of German attacks both from within and from outside. It could not possibly reverse entirely a situation that had been lasting for years ...
Dear John:

Mr. Joseph Kleinmann, representative of the Revisionist movement of Palestine and correspondent of the Revisionist paper "Ha'ashkif" of Tel-Aviv, the "Jewish Telegraphic Agency" of London, the "Jewish Times" of London, and the "Jewish Herald" of Johannesburg, employed his imagination and wrote the statement below which appeared in the "Ha'ashkif" of September 13 and probably in the other papers listed above:

"Mr. Y. Horodowski, representative of the ZEP to Turkey disclosed in the middle of August that it was his opinion that emigration from alien countries is no longer necessary; with a liberated Palestine and Russia it is evident that the only function of the UNR will consist in pressure to be put on the respective governments, including the Hungarian, to improve conditions for Jews in their countries.

This change in Mr. Horodowski's policy means that instead of efforts to save Hungarian, Russian and Ukrainian Jews and refugees in these countries, they will have to stay there and wait for the results of UNR endeavors to obtain for them equal rights.

And it is a complete distortion of the truth and a misrepresentation of the policy of the UNR, and in view of the fact that it is entirely probable that such a statement will be or has been picked up by other papers here or in the United States for reproduction, I have issued the following affirmative statement covering the Board's policy with respect to its program from its headquarters in Turkey.

I don't think it desirable that you should be informed about this.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Horodowski
Special Attaché

J. A. Horodowski
Executive Director
American Jewish Historical Society
381 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Enc. - Adel
Istanbul, September 30, 1844

Dear Mr. Webreil:

Your letter reached me today just as I was writing one of "au revoir" to you. I am touched with your message. Now that the layout of destruction in the first range slopes seems to be over, it is possible for some of us to quietly look around and to see what we have done and what we have failed to do. I think that the rich accomplishment in the unprivileged effort to rescue parts of our little people is, in a substantial measure, due to your efforts and those of the organization you represent. I am proud of how your movement reached out into four corners of a country thousands of miles long, it is part of our great tradition.

One of the virtues of the most severe things in human life is always to put each other from separation of the means, who otherwise would not come together. This has been one of the conditions which has made separation as a balance for the court-drawn conditions by this assignment. I trust you to note that I have been influenced by the things you have been doing, and I'll be glad to have a chance always to work with you.

I hope that the future will bring us together in some mental and constructive efforts.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Name]

[Address]

Mr. [Name]

Istanbul
Istanbul, Sept. 30, 1944

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

with deep regret I have learned that soon you intend to leave for the States.

During this past period we have had the opportunity to work with you in many important matters in connection with the fate of the most unfortunate of the Jewish people in occupied Europe.

We recognize the fact that you have had a very deep human understanding towards our goal. But it is not only this. In these few lines we would also like to let you know that your friendly cooperation was always welcomed as extremely helpful.

Your support to our cause was so great and we could approach you so freely and without ceremonious that you have proved that still in the hearts of people exists the wonderful thing "democracy".

It is really a great souvenir that you have left among us and you can be assured, that it will be carried on in our hearts for ever.

We hope, that our paths will meet again in the not too distant future.

Cordially yours

mm. O. K. Umaral

"Mr. Hirschmann" P.I.A. Representative

Istanbul, Turkey
Translation

Telegram received by Mr. Ueberall from Mr. Rubin in Bucharest, transmitted from Geneva on September 28 and received in Istanbul on September 29.

"In spite of possession of governmental permission we encounter difficulties in the departure because of lack of instructions from the (Russian) Central concerning emigration stop Smyrna taken by them, Salahaldin does not receive authorization for departure stop Pandelis cabled the whole situation to Istanbul stop Pandelis awaits confirmation of the reception of his telegram and asks instantly that the respective legations in Istanbul intervene with Russia for the liberation of the boat(s) and permission for the departure of the passengers stop Do what you can, cable."

The telegram mentioned, from Mr. Pandelis to Istanbul, was not yet received (Sept. 29)
September 14, 1944

Mr. Katzki:

Mr. Ueberall telephoned at 5:30 to say that they had received the following cable from Bucharest, date unknown, sent via Geneva yesterday:

"Malgré possession permission gouvernemental rencontrent difficulté départ cause manque instructions de centrale [Russian]
concernant emigration stop Smyrne prise par eux Salahaldin reçoit pas autorisation départ stop Pandelis cible toute situation Istanbul stop Pandelis attend confirmation reception son telegramme et prie instamment que legations respectifs Istanbul interviennent auprès Russes pour libération [Greek] bateau et permission départ passagers stop Faites votre possible câblez

Rubin"

No cable has been received from Pandelis in Istanbul.
Istanbul, September 27, 1944

Dear Mr. Pinkerton:

I am writing to you on behalf of Mr. Consular, who is about to proceed to Turkey for investigation. I understand that there are some technical difficulties in the way of his departure. I have spoken to ambassador Steinmetz about him, and he has offered his support in arranging his departure, provided that the application for a Turkish visa received in time.

I should appreciate it very much if such an application could be telegraphed by the Turkish authorities in a hurry, in order to enable his arrival.

I am hoping to leave off in January on the way to England, and it would be very useful and one of the objectives of a visit to this opportunity of seeing you again.

I shall be glad to hear from you.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Special Attaché

[Name]

American Consul General

Jerusalem, Palestine
September 27, 1944

MEMORANDUM:

Mr. Ueberall telephoned that 9 emigrants had arrived from Plovdiv, bearing Palestine certificates.
Istanbul, September 28, 1844

Dear Sir,征服者:

Thank you for the memorandum which you left to

loods which connected with the information relative to you and your adventure in the

This is another example of the historical events which are

made available to us, and I want you to know what

I appreciate it.

I understand that you are leaving for Europe and

America as a special representative for the

English mail forward of New York, and I do not anticipate but that you will have as much success as

you enjoyed in your previous connection, and you have

with you all of my good wishes.


Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Mr. [Name]

[Title]

[Address]
Istanbul, September 23, 1944

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

The "boys" as we call them who have been conducting the small boat movement from Rumania are running out of personnel since several of their associates have gone up to Bulgaria. They have asked our assistance in arranging for an entry visa for one of their men presently in Palestine who is an American citizen. His name is Schmaya Samora, born October 17, 1910 in Cleveland, Ohio. He is the bearer of United States passport No. 416 issued in Athens. He entered Turkey on November 17, 1940 and left February 28, 1941.

These men are extremely able, in my opinion, and I think their efforts should be encouraged and recommend that the entry visa be authorized.

Sincerely yours,

L. A. Hirschmann

Honorable Lawrence A. Steinhardt
Ambassador to Turkey
American Embassy
Athens
Here are data of my friend Zameres. It is kindliest requested to help him in getting a Turkish entry-visa.

Sohnarya Zameres
17.10.1910, Cleveland Ohio.
USA passport 416 issued in Athens.
Entered Turkey 17.11.40, left 25.2.41.

Istanbul, 21.5.1941.
Istanbul, 21.9.1944

Dear Mr. Herschmann,

Here is the stuff we have talked about last night.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you for the pleasant evening we have spent with you and Mr. Katzky.

Cordially

yours

J. E. Uterall

Mr. I. Herschmann Esq.
11 Air Apt.
Istanbul.
T.E. HART

Tallaght, Sept. 12, 1944

S 164

Subject: Passport 170, a request that I.C.O.S. cease contributing to Jewish agency.
Istanbul, November 1944

Dear Mr. Carlos:

Thank you for your letter of October 30 in which you have included a report of the committee set up on behalf of the rescue committees in Istanbul on the sinking of the S.S. Mefkura.

We are considering the inclusion of a copy of this report in my own report which will be submitted to the War Refugee Board in Washington.

Cordially yours,

J. A. Hirschman
Special Assistant

Mr. Carlos

Ihrer Amtsleute
Istanbul.
Dr. E. Hirschmann,
Mister Aperman,
Istanbul-Beyoglu.
---------------------

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

In accordance with our conversation, I am sending you the report on the sinking of M/V "MACHUCA". This report is being submitted by the commission set up on behalf of the Rescue Committee in Istanbul, which made a thorough investigation on the tragic circumstances under which the M/V "Machuca" was sunk. The report has been approved unanimously.

I shall be glad if you will be so kind as to confirm the receipt of the report and inform me of your position in the matter.

Sincerely yours,

I care,
REPORT
ON THE SINKING OF THE M/V "MEFKURE".

The m/v "MEFKURE" was reported to have been sunk in the Black Sea on August 5, 1944, between Ahtopol and Igneada, at a point variously estimated between 7 and 15 miles off the coast, with roughly 320 passengers on board. This report is being prepared by a commission of three persons designated by agencies interested in the rescue of Jews from occupied areas:

Mr. Ghazim Barlas,  
Jewish Agency for Palestine, Istanbul

Mr. Saul Meyerov,  
Member of the Palestine Rescue Committee, Istanbul

and  
Mr. Reuben D. Reznik,  
American Joint Distribution Committee, Istanbul

The report is to be made available to the interested organizations and Government agencies concerned with this matter.

1) THE VESSEL

The m/v "MEFKURE" a wooden motor-boat of 120 tons (40 registered net tons) was built in 1929 with a motor of 77 HP. It is claimed that its motor was changed about three years ago. It is registered in the port of Istanbul under No. 624 and in the port of Sile under No. 127. It is stated that its motor was examined on June 21, 1943 and that permission for navigation was effective until June 22, 1944. It is also reported that the "MEFKURE" left Turkish waters on May 15, 1944.

2) THE CAPTAIN

The boat was operated by KAZIM TURAN, Captain, and a crew of six. KAZIM is a man in late thirties or early forties. He has been engaged in navigation since 1929 when he entered the maritime service as ordinary seaman. He worked aboard the "MEFKURE" in 1933, 1934, 1936 and 1939 as a member of the crew. On June 26, 1939 he passed an examination and was licensed to operate the "MEFKURE" or a similar ship, this rating being the equivalent of a third mate on a larger vessel. KAZIM TURAN is registered under No. 314/1957.

3) STATEMENT OF FACTS

On August 5, 1944 at 8:30 p.m., the m/v "MEFKURE" along with two other boats, the m/s "MORINA" and the m/s "BULBUL" sailed from the Port of Constanta. Each of the boats had aboard 140 refugees who were to be brought to the Port of Istanbul to proceed from there to Palestine. The "MORINA" and 308 passengers, the "BULBUL" 300 and the "MEFKURE" roughly 300 passengers. Before weighing anchor, the captains of the three boats were ordered to visit the
harbour master of Constanţa and were given the sailing orders, a copy of which is appended to this report. The "MFK" and "BULBUL" followed a course set by the "MORINA" but lost the "MORINA" sometime during the second day because of the latter's faster speed.

Aboard the "MORINA" was a pilot ordered there by the Rumanian naval authorities, and the Captain of the "MFK" claims that on his boat were two Rumanian petty-officers. The Captain of the "MFK" claims that the "MORINA" left the harbour first, the "BULBUL" second, and the "MFK" third. All boats sailed at what he estimated to be approximately 5 knots on a north-easterly course.

After being out one hour motor trouble developed on the "MFK" but the boat was not delayed since it was towed by one of the three Rumanian motor torpedo boats which were designated to escort the three motor-ships to Bulgarian waters. The repairs on the motor were completed within one hour.

The captain of the "MFK" claims that the boat continued to sail unexpectedly till 5 a.m. of the morning of August 4, 1944 when they sighted a black object about 300 metres off the stern of the m/s "MFK". One of the Rumanian sailors identified this as a German patrol boat. After dawn, the Rumanian naval men aboard the "MFK" and the other boats were taken off by the Rumanian motor torpedo boats. The captain of the "MFK" claims that he continued to follow the course set by the "MORINA"; he continued to follow that course even when the moon rose.

The captain of the "MFK" claims that on August 5, 1944 at 1110 Romanian time (2110 Turkish time), he observed a rocket explode above the mast of the "MFK". At 1230 and 1233 Constanţa time), after he determined that the rocket was not fired from his own boat, the captain of the "MFK" claims in a report submitted (copy of which is attached hereto) that he ordered a stop signal hoisted and that he stopped his motor immediately. According to previous interviews it is not clear as to whether he indicated by signals or otherwise that he had seen the rocket. He admits, and the survivors confirm it, that the "MFK" was completely blacked out and that it had no navigation lights, but it is reported that in a later interview the captain claimed that the boat had green and red navigation lights. He further states that after the first rocket was fired and the ship stopped, he instructed the crew to put on life-belts and gave similar instructions to the passengers: He said "...I ordered my crew to put on life-belts and made the passengers understand through interpreter and signs..." At that time he also recognised a black object some 300 meters behind the "MFK". Five minutes after the flares had exploded, the black object behind the "MFK" commenced to fire. The first shell fell into the sea about 15 meters from the stern of the boat to the starboard side, the second shot was fired closer to the boat, but did not strike the boat; the third shot fired immediately afterwards struck the boat on the starboard side and caused considerable damage of the
points where it struck. Some of the survivors claim that the boat was struck near the captain's cabin and that the boat began to burn immediately after it was struck. There is an agreement that immediately after the gun-fire, machine-gunning began and that the larger gun-fire continued, causing more damage to the boat and increasing the blaze. The British Naval expert identified the larger gun-fire as coming from a 20 m/m automatic cannon using the explosive type of missile. (Attached hereto is copy of a report of a British Naval Expert, loaned to the inquiry committee by the British Naval Attaché in Istanbul.) It is claimed that the firing continued for roughly fifteen minutes and that the ship was almost entirely ablaze shortly after the first few shots were fired.

The attacking vessels were identified by the British Naval experts as submarines and some of the survivors think that they might have been patrol vessels about thirty metres length. The captain identified the attacking boats as submarines.

It is claimed that the gun-fire continued at a violent rate and that the machine-gunning was even aimed at people who had jumped overboard. Two of the members of the crew were killed by machine gun-fire. The captain and the remaining four members of the crew left the "BULDUL" in the only life-boat available, and remained there until the captain thought that the dinghy would be attacked by gun-fire.

It is variously estimated that between forty and sixty persons jumped overboard and that the remaining passengers on the "BULDUL" lost their lives either by being burned to death or having gone down with the ship.

It is estimated that the "MARKUR" remained above sea in a burning condition between 20 and 30 minutes. Most of those who jumped overboard drowned before they had gone very far, about twenty to thirty of those who were in the sea remained there for about four-five hours. Of that group only 3 survivors reached the m/s "BULDUL" about 4:15 or 4:45 a.m. The survivors and those who came along with them part of the way, were carried towards the m/s "BULDUL" by currents on a raft which was blown off the m/s "MARKUR". Some of the survivors claim that the life-saving equipment was defective and that before very long it soaked up the water too quickly and had to be discarded. Other survivors made a statement about the quality of the equipment. It appears that they owe their rescue largely to favorable currents and to one of the rafters blown off the "MARKUR".

All of the survivors claim that the boat was overcrowded and that there was a limited access from the boat. Another difficulty was the lack of means of communication between the passengers and the captain and crew, since the latter two could not speak any of the six or seven languages spoken by the passengers.
In this connection, a representative on behalf of a group arranging for the movement of the vessels handling refugee traffic, indicates that instructions were given to their representative in Constanța not to overload the vessels. The pressure of demands on the part of the refugees, it was reported to him from Constanța, made it necessary to accommodate more than was originally intended.

The attacking vessels were not clearly identified by any of the survivors; all agree that there were three, and some claim that gun-fire came from all of them. Two of the survivors claim that the boats were German. All of the survivors claim that the three boats were photographed by German naval authorities at the time they left Constanța.

4) SURVIVORS:
There were 5 survivors:
1 - Joseph Axelrad, aged 33,
a native of Szigetin, Poland, who received burns and other injuries,
2 - Joseph Bank, aged 33, from Kolomea, Poland, who also received burns and injuries,
3 - Hilda Warmbrand, aged 23, a native of Romania, uninjured and a poor swimmer,
4 - Ladislav Filop, aged 22, a native of Hungary, he was one time a well known amateur swimmer; his wife;
5 - Veronika/ Vera Filop, aged 18, who was 9 months pregnant, and who is now in Istanbul expecting her child.

All the survivors reached the m/s "MULUZ" at roughly 4:45 a.m. on August 5, 1944. After boarding the "MULUZ", they sailed with it until the mouth of the Halkhorus where heavy weather prevented its entrance, and the "MULUZ" returned to Igaena on August 6, 1944, where all the passengers were disembarked then taken overland to Istanbul, where they arrived on August 14, 1944.

5) CONCLUSION:
a) Facts do not clearly indicate whether the "MULUZ" was sunk as a result of a deliberate attack or as a result of the negligence of the captain in failing to a signal from a patrolling ship.
b) A British naval expert, on the basis of interviews with the captain, came to the following conclusion:

"... All evidence shows that "MEFKURE" was sunk on August 5, 1944 about 1130 local time, about twenty-five miles N.E. of Igeaada by gunfire from one or two (or possibly three) submarines on the surface. The gun used was probably a 20 m/m automatic cannon with explosive missiles.

It is evident that the skipper of "MEFKURE" lost his head and abandoned ship at the first hit; his statement that he received no warning is therefore discounted in view of the statements of

1) the captain of the "BULBUL" (a steady witness) that he saw a red rocket fired on his starboard bow at about 2215 at approximately the point where "MEFKURE" was at the time.

2) other survivors of the "MEFKURE" who state that the enemy vessel made lamp signals in the direction of the ship, and fired a red rocket...

We could not establish the identity of the attacking vessels, although some of the survivors are willing to state that the vessels were German.

c) It is clear that the "MEFKURE" was overcrowded.

d) It is clear that the captain abandoned the ship before all passengers were given the opportunity to leave or before he made efforts to provide for their safety.

e) The tragedy and fate awaiting refugees in enemy occupied countries; the difficulties of arranging transports and the obstacles caused by many other circumstances beyond the control of the persons engaged in this enterprise, made it necessary to assume risks that might not otherwise have been undertaken.

Istanbul, 1.7.44.

Oh. MARLAK

O. HAEKUSH

R.D. HUSNIK
Istanbul, September 2, 1944

Dear Mr. Salle:

Thank you for your letter of August 17.

I suppose you wrote now, considering the rush of events in Europe, that the contents are obsolete.

Sincerely yours,

J. J. Lieben
Chief Editor

Ad
Ankara: August 18, 1944.

Mr. Ira A. Hirschmann
War Refugee Board
American Consulate General
ISTANBUL

Dear Mr. Hirschmann:

Enclosed you will find copy of a cable I received today from Prof. Marcus Ehrenstein, Stockholm.

I shall take up this matter with you on my arrival in Istanbul.

With best regards I am,

Sincerely yours,

Ch. Dnlon.

encl.
Yours 5/8 on request world Jewish Congress Swedish Section received following proposition from Hungarian Government by its Minister Stockholm entails transportation possible with Hungarian boats still Hungarian balancing ZMP or with Rumania Transylvania laying Istanbul which could be sold for this purpose since Hungarian went known to guarantee payment and receive written guarantee whereafter Rumanian stating costs still Turkish Palestine visa and Allied evacuee to secure through you Hungarian securing Germaine's evacuee to slave regarding Hungarian boats selling selling proceed probably see our wire 3/9 since War Refugee Board's representative here informed us三个的 you in contact Hungarian Minister there therefore we elect-in continuing negotiations until your further cable stating whether saving more Rumanian have depending funds or only boats

Vorgus Norsell
Istanbul, August 30, 1944

Sir: Colonel:

I am able to acknowledge with thanks the list of the statistics regarding aircraft in transit through Istanbul since January 1, 1944. These figures, however, were not as complete as I had expected. I regret the inconvenience this may have caused you.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Title]

[Name]

Istanbul
Istanbul, August 28, 1940

Dear Sir,

I am writing to inform you of the recent developments in the area. The situation has escalated, and we are facing significant challenges. Immediate action is necessary to prevent further deterioration.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

[Date]
Mr. Hershmann,

In one of your remarks you said that your work has been done with the various agencies working in rescue activities in Turkey. My question is if and why do you include the Jewish Agency, which has the greatest if not a principal part of all Holocaust aid and relief - under the general name of various agencies?

Yours truly,

[Signature]

June 25, 1934
Mr. J. A. Hirshman
Husl. Apt. 5
Istanbul

Dear Mr. Hirshman,

I refer to your letter of August 11, 1944, with regard to Mr. Bernstein's criticism of the lack of food and water on the train of refugees to Palestine. It will perhaps be sufficient if I mention the condition of food supplied at the last transport of 36 refugees, who left for Palestine on the 15th Inst.:  

400 food-packets
(except containing vegetables, cheese, etc.)
576 breads
170 kg. tomatoes
2500 cucumbers
170 kg. peppers
20 boxes cigarettes
50 jars of water

In addition 20 boxes were given from the supplies received at the station, where the refugees were placed, e.g., good and large amounts of tea and sugar. Stall workers were instructed to send the train and supply water and vegetables, if needed.

The supply of tea is in accordance with the statement of food in Turkey. I am not inclined to obtain this through thePrefecture to ask for refugees in Turkey other treatment than that received in every other station.

I cannot understand how, inasmuch as we could not have the children being kept up all night, or the train being taken to the station, Telegraph is it is desired to prevent such inconvenience occurring. I am not sure how I can assist you further, other than to express the great appreciation for the assistance given.

Yours sincerely,

C. Erleas
Immigration Department
The Jewish Agency for Palestine

Immigration Department
Jerusalem

Istanbul, August 24, 1944
The Committee appointed by the Turkish government in Istanbul to determine the nature and causes of the sinking of the H.S. "HESPERIA" makes the following interim report on the results of interviews with all the five survivors of the ship.

At or about 12.20 a.m. on August 9th, S.S. "HESPERIA" was attacked by a boat or boats with miscellaneous gunfire, as a result of which the S.S. "HESPERIA" was sunk.

Further investigations are proceeding and all facts are being fully explored. In due course the final report will be submitted.

This interim report has the unanimous concurrence of all members of the Committee.

Signed:

[Signature]

Secretary
JERUSALEM, August 17, 1944

Dear Mr. Hirshov,

In reference to our collective information of the decision of the Advisory Committee and in accordance with the request made on the 15th of August, 1944, requesting transit facilities via Turkey for Jewish refugees from Germany, I have the honor to refer to your attention to the following:

The introduction of the Jewish refugees to the area at present inhabited by Jewish refugees, in accordance with the terms of the 15th of August, 1944, is attended with difficulties due to the following:

Due to the financial situation,

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]
British Embassy,
ANGORA.

12th August, 1944.

Dear Mr. Barlas,

I promised to inform you of what has been done about the Turkish transit visas for Jewish refugees.

2. Instructions have been sent to the Turkish Consuls at Bourgas, Constanza and Budapest. The Turkish Consul at Budapest is authorized to grant Turkish transit visas on application to any number of applicants provided that one or other of the following documents is held:

(a) American immigration visa issued after 1941,

(b) One of Dr. Golding's letters certifying that the holder has been granted a Palestinian immigration certificate (I do not suppose that many of these will actually be available),

(c) A Swiss certificate on the terms proposed by us or an endorsement on a child's passport, as arranged in April 1943,

(d) A certificate to the effect that the holder is a Jew, issued by Mr. Kraus or his successor should he give up his post.

3. Similarly the Turkish Consuls at Bourgas or Constanza may grant between them up to 400 visas every ten days to people bearing documents of any of these four types.

4. For the moment transport will be made by the "Vita" or "Pirina", and the Bulgarian Government have been informed of what the Turks are doing. Kemal Ais has agreed that if either or both of these ships should become disabled or otherwise prevented from continuing to transport refugees, the arrangements will be modified. I suggest that you should keep in mind the possibility that another ship may have to be substituted at short notice, and that you should be prepared to suggest the name of a substitute ship if need be, as we cannot tell what may happen.

5. Similarly the Ministry of the Interior have been asked to admit henceforth into Turkey without reference to Ankara any refugees arriving at Turkey's land frontier without Turkish visas provided that they hold and can produce, to the frontier authorities, one or other of the four

C. Barlas, 1944.

a/o Passport Control Officer,
ISTANBUL.
types of documents described above.

6. Provided therefore that you can get the news to your correspondents in the three countries concerned and arrange for them to issue certificates to genuine Jews, affairs should progress favourably. We count on you of course to see that the issue of the certificates is carried out satisfactorily.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) A.G. Maby
Istanbul, August 16, 1944

Dear Mr. Harlas:

Mr. Donenberg tells me that he has made broad criticisms of the lack of food and water on the trains carrying the refugees to Palestine. He insists that there is only one-half a loaf of bread per day per person and no water at the various stations; that your information is incomplete. He also states that he physically saw children on the train being brutally beaten by youngsters somewhat older than the children who were in charge of them and were unstable and unfit for such positions. I should be interested in your opinion regarding the above.

I am only repeating what he told me.

Cordially yours,

A. Hirschmann

Mr. Chaim Harlas
Misirli Apt. 17
Istiklal Caddesi
Istanbul
16.8.1944.

Dear Mr. Katzky,

this is the cable I told you about. Will you, please, say O.K. and send it to Palestine through the Embassy channels?

Thanking you very much

I am

yours

J.E. Umerpall.

Mr. Katzky Esqu.
Pera-Palas.
From: Deborah
To: Zealoty

Your cable 9/3 Legal investigation from Hungary did not yet evacuate details re-cable Varja-Momann 9/8. Investigation from Hungary into Bemba going on, details re-concentrated Bemban interests regarding possibility of extradition. Arrangements are being made to increase penetration.

Investigation on French disaster still unfinished. One may certainly attacked目前已 small battalions on midnight August 4th. There is no reason to believe that this will be a recent event a nation further surgery. Market regarding but transportation continued.

The police court has achieved most important elevation. Report obtained. Need information lack of Hungarian court facilities of deliberation length for previous judicial reports. Additional information is needed on existing new reports on July.

The case presentation is subject to possible. Must be considered all information.

11/11
Istanbul, August 16, 1944

Dear Sir, Darling:

In accordance with your request, we are enclosing herein for your confidential information a copy of a telegram from the British Embassy, Cairo, to the Foreign Office, London, dated 15th August, 1944.

This telegram referred to personnel who have been dealt with the Turkish authorities with regard to the issuance of Turkish transit visas to applicants of prefer in company, surname and initials.

Yours truly,

[Name]
Second Attache

[Address]

[Initials]

Istanbul
Istanbul, August 15, 1944

Dear Sir, Senator,

I have the honor to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of your letter of August 7, by which you informed me you had transmitted to us a set of material and letters with regard to the situation of Germans in various countries. I have found the material to be of great interest and assistance to us, as was the material which you sent available to me on an earlier occasion, and for which I am very grateful.

To have it possible to provide us with copies of reports which might come to you in the future, as well be grateful.

I am writing as a result of urgent and urgent manufacturing needs of the past few days since last I sent an opportunity to discuss our mutual relations with you under these conditions, I am eager to discuss with you this mutually beneficial moment and will telephone to you within the course of the next few days.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

[Address]

[Signature]

[Address]

[Signature]

[Address]
Burlas Missionnair Weidlich caddesi, Istanbul

15/8/44

Suis informé par Thierry que premier convoi

2195 Juifs hongrois munis tous visas prêts

Partir pour Bucarest stop transit Allemagne

Manque main negotiations encours stop police

Aviser Hirschmann rempart 683
Dr. J. Goldin

Istanbul, 11.6.44.

Mr. Katzky,
War Refugee Board,
c/o American Consulate General,
Istanbul

Dear Mr. Katzky,

I enclose a copy of the list of passengers who arrived in Istanbul by motorboat NOKINA on the 6th inst. and left for Palestine on the 9th inst.

Sincerely yours,
urgent
berlas perapalas istanbul
bucuresti 10.8.44 19:30
65 um hagartransporte und weiterbeförderung möglichst rasch zu beginnen bin wegen albaniuia wie folgt
uebereingekommen und morgen vertragabschluss zwei
punkte transportpauschale fuer jede tour viertausend
reinende zweihundert millionen lei plus versicherungs-
praemie in lei fuer equipageversicherung voraussichtlich
weitere zwanzigmillionen lei zum 85 agenturprovision
voraussichtlich dreisigmillionen zusammen also zweihundert-
fuenftausend millionen lei oder funfundsechstausend lei
pro kopf stop ausserdem verpflichtung entweder erzeugt
bankgarantie beim dortigen rumenischen konsulat auf
namen serviciul maritim roman bucuresti fuer funfundmillionen
schweizerfrancs allieschifferversicherung und erspart euch
praemie oder aber versichert tatsaechlich schiff fuer
gleichen betrag stop auch eurer wahl und ermessen stop
wenn morgen absolviere kann albaniulia spatestens
zehn tagen mit viertausend passagieren abfahren und
dann werden weitere zwei ahnliche schiffe in den
dienst gestellt sodass hagartransit rasch abwickelbar
stop um versorgerungen vermeiden bitte drueket art der
vollgogenen versicherung da dies hauptvoraussetzung fuer
abfahrt - zinsu -
abchrift

barlas perapalace istanbul

buoarest 12.3.44

70 abgeschlossen altajulia abfahrt moeglich neun
tagen wenn ihr bis dahin versicherungsfrage gelost
in einer der drei folgenden arten stop entweder
erlaeget rumenische gesellschaft bern bankgarantie
fuer funf millionen schweizerfrancs namen serviciul
maritim roman oder versichert effektiv schiff fuer
gleichen betrag oder aber verguetet serviciul
maritim roman je eine million schweizer pro
transport viertausend passagiere und dieselbe
uebernimmt risiko stop wachlet wie euch am besten
passt aber entscheidet und bestaetigt raschest
damit hagar transpuitim zeitlich benachrichtigen
um an der ersten reise teilnehmen zu koennen
stop betreife dor de mare kapazitaet 250
passagiere koennen... stop... betreife... dor... de... mare
250 passagiere bitte druekt ob ihr je
funfhundert schweizer pro kppf verguueten kenner
stop dieser preis ist inklusive versicherung zu
verstehen stop ausgelegenheit aussereet wichtig
erwartet positive erledigung erwartet raschsten
verschiffung der geretteten um der panik ende zu
machen =

nico
From: Signal-Hall
To: Zephyr

D.G. 1846

Your cable 7/8 Standard will stay until saved.

Important news will be sent to me. The Embassy is now a safe
locale.

The Embassy is now a safe locale.

Your cable 7/8 Standard will stay until saved.

Important news will be sent to me. The Embassy is now a safe
locale.
Contrat
entre Bay Kazim
et W.2. Synd.

1) Bay Kazim se met à notre disposition pour toute
affaire en relation avec le transport des émigrants
de Hongrie jusqu’au Delta du Danube en mer Noire ou
bien directement jusqu’à Istanbul.
2) Bay Kazim nous informera de toute proposition ou
possibilité en relation avec ce transport, et nous
le soumettra pour la décision.
3) Bay Kazim se charge de l’obtention de tous permis
nécessaires pour le transport sur le Danube.
4) Bay Kazim lui-même accompagnera les transportes de
Budapest au moins jusqu’à la Mer Noire.
5) Bay Kazim fera tout le nécessaire pour assurer les
transport des émigrants même si les bateaux ne seront
pas arrêtés par lui.
6) Bay Kazim est autorisé de se mettre en communication
avec les pilotes des bateaux roumain, hongrois,
yugoslaves et autres, naviguant sur le Danube,
en but de l’organisation de ceux transportes.
La décision définitive sur l’afretement des bateaux
resta en nos mains. En cas de besoin, Bay Kazim est
prêt de travailler, selon nos demandes, avec une autre
société de transport ou bien avec la Croix Rouge.
7) A partir du jour où ce contrat entre en vigueur,
Bay Kazim reçoit de nous des gages mensuels fixe
s’élèvant à Sr. 500,– en Suise.

9) Si, où les moyens de transport sont procurés par
Bay Kazim et les transports arrêtés par lui il
reçoit Sr. 50,– par tête de chaque réfugié.
10) Pour le voyage sur le bateau des émigrants jusqu’à
l’embouchure du Danube, Bay Kazim reçoit une prime
extra-ordinaire de Sr. 100,– par voyage.
11) Ce contrat entre en vigueur le jour de l’arrivée de
Bay Kazim en Roumanie. Il est valable pour une année.
mais les deux parties ont droit à la réiliation
avec préavis de trois mois.

Istanbul le 4/9/1944.
Mr. Ira Hirschmann  
American Consulate General  
Istanbul

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

I refer to our conversation concerning  
Mr. E. Jabotinsky’s proposal with regard to shipping  
arrangements.

I received the following cable from  
Mr. Shertok on the matter:

"New York cables Bergsons Emergency Committee  
publishing sensational advertisements about  
possibilities appealing for unlimited funds  
creating impression new avenues opened by  
Mr. stop cabled America Full facts for  
publishation concluding may fundraising  
outside Agency Joint in undesirable."

I really do not know to which activities  
Mr. Jabotinsky refers, but I think you will be interested  
to know how these matters are being published in the  
U.S.A.

For your information, please.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ch.Barlas
Istanbul, July 20, 1944

Dear Mr. Lohind:

Regarding the telegram of July 19, 1944 which was requested to send to the British Government authorities through Mr. Solih, via the International Red Cross, I wish to inform you that this was dispatched by cable and I have every reason to believe that it has arrived.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

1. A. [Name]
Special Delegate

Mr. Lohind
47 Imperial Double
Istanbul, Turkey
from Vienna to Washington

subject: Emigrations from Hungary.

July 24, 1844
The number of families for whom transit visas have been approved since January 1943 till June 1944 is 341 (approx. 950 persons) including a group of 48 children. During this period 197 families (457 persons) and the group of 48 children arrived. It is to be concluded therefore that about 445 immigrants are still waiting exit facilities from the Bulgarian authorities.

In addition, a number of certificate holders are waiting their turn for inclusion in the next transit lists.

2) The Foreign Office has sent authorization for 450 children (6 groups composed of 75 children each) which was not used till now because of difficulties in obtaining the exit permits in due time.

3) I understand that the question arose as to how to identify Jewish immigrants arriving at the Turkish frontier, in order to avoid the entry of undesirable non-jews. I think that this difficulty could be easily removed by instructing the frontier authorities to allow the entry of any Jewish refugee in possession of a certificate of the Jewish community in Roumania, in the effect that he is registered with the Jewish community in Bulgariia.

Pending your views in this question, I remain,

Best regards,

Sincerely yours,
Mr. I. Hirschmann  

c/o American Embassy,  

Istanbul, 22.7.44

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

I am sending you a note about my conversation with Baron Thierry, Hungarian Minister, in Ankara pertaining to emigration and deportation of Jews in Hungary.

May I ask you to inform me when we could discuss the matter.

With best regards

I enccl.
Notes regarding the situation of Jews in Hungary.

I was informed by phone on the 14.7.a.c. that the Hungarian Minister received a message for me from the Hungarian Government regarding the situation of Jews in Hungary.

I called on the Hungarian Legation in Ankara on the 15.7.a.c. Baron Thierry informed me that the Legation has been instructed to convey to me the following communication:

I.) 1. - The Hungarian Government agreed to my demand to grant exit-facilities to emigrants on behalf of whom immigration certificates to Palestine have been approved, according to the lists which have been sent to the Swiss Legation in Budapest (actually about 5000 cases).

The Government is willing to accelerate the action and to authorise the issue of the exit permits without delay.

2. - The question of transit via Rumania as well as the transit via Bulgaria, if transports will be sent by land, is being considered. It is understood that the transit via Turkey has been approved in principle.

3. - The financing of the travel expenses till the Hungarian frontier will be arranged from local sources.

II.) Baron Thierry further informed me, that the Hungarian Government have received the following proposals with regard to the rescue of Jews in Hungary.

1. - The Swedish Government submitted the proposal, that Hungarian Jews who are related to Jewish families in Sweden should be given permission to emigrate to Sweden or Palestine.

2. - The British Government asked, through the intermediary of the Swiss Federal Government, to facilitate the emigration of prospective immigrants to Palestine.

3. - The War Refugee Board proposed:
   a) to allow the sending of foodstuffs-parcels for Jews in Hungary,
   b) to grant exit permits for Jewish children aged under 10 years to emigrate to Palestine.

The Hungarian Government accepted these proposals and made the necessary steps with the German Authorities in order to assure the transit through the German occupied territories. The German Authorities consented in principle to this demand.
It has been further agreed that, as long as these schemes are under consideration, the deportation of Jews from Hungary will be discontinued.

On the other hand it is contemplated to employ Jews for work in the country.

III.) In addition Baron Thierry informed me unofficially of the following:

1.- The Hungarian Government is preparing a communiqué regarding the treatment of Jews in Hungary.

2.- The Government is not involved in deportations of Jews to Poland, but agreed to the demand of the German authorities to send the Jews to Germany for work, on condition that
   a) the workers may take their families with them,
   b) women should be employed in factories or at construction work according to their ability,
   c) the German authorities should provide for the needs of the families.

3.) The Hungarian Authorities do not participate in the transportation of the Jews deported to Poland.

4.) The rumours regarding wholesale killing of Jews are invented.

5.) Privileged categories (e.g. ex-combatants etc) are not affected by these measures.

6.) In the conversation Baron Thierry remarked that 89 Jews of American and British origin found their death during the bombardment of Budapest.

I thanked Baron Thierry for the message conveyed to me and remarked that while appreciating the attitude of the Hungarian Government with regard to realigning the exit of Jewish immigrants to Palestine, the facts of deportation of Jews from Hungary to Poland cannot be denied. These facts have been confirmed even by the Nazi press. The figures were given extensively in the "AUFBAU" of the 50.6.80., stating that from the 15.5. to the 10.6.80. the following numbers have been deported:

- Subcarpathia 106,000
- Transylvania 94,000
- Upper Hungary 45,000
- Tisza district 79,000
- South Hungary 199,000.
I mentioned also the statement of the Secretary of State Endre on the Radio on the 25.6.a.o., who declared that the Jewish question in Hungary may be solved either by extermination or by sterilization.

Baron Thierry said that Endre does not express the view of the Government on the Jewish question, and that the Government is determined to do their best to relieve the fate of the Jews in Hungary.

I asked to draw the attention of the Hungarian Government to the necessity of intervening with the Rumanian and Bulgarian Government with a view to obtaining a favourable decision regarding transit facilities via Rumania and Bulgaria.

Baron Thierry promised to inform the Hungarian Government accordingly, and said that the Hungarian Legation will be always prepared to help me in our rescue work to save Hungarian Jews.
Copy of telegram dated July 10, 1944, addressed to the
American Legation, Lisbon.

Three days ago a ship, flying a neutral flag, left
Constanza having on board a large number of Jewish refugees.
Three other vessels, with men in the port of Constanza will
follow.

Several months ago the question of obtaining a German
guarantee for the safe passage of a neutral vessel in the Black
Sea was raised, but negotiations were suspended.

A ministerial circular, one which is curious in handling
the question of vessels suspected of being German,
possibility of facilitating the dispatch of the pilgrims by
neutral nations.

Dr. C. F. Hornemann, in a letter to Central Office
Committee on behalf of Jews in countries where
with a good will.

A plan to utilize the Mediterranean fleet,
recommended. Work to begin at the end of this fall
On a joint committee that would study it.
also consider, that a better plan, in the collection
of evidence.

The committee, on the basis of the
at present, on another basis.

Will be made before the end of the
in the form of an administrative order.
Istanbul, July 15, 1944

Mr. Ira Hirschmann
American Consulate
Istanbul

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

I am sending you enclosed hereto copy of my letter to Mr. Squires dated July 14, 1944, together with copy of the cable to Mr. Leon Kubowitzki, World Jewish Congress, New York, regarding the situation of Jews in Bulgaria.

For your information, please.

Yours sincerely,

Ch. Barlas
Mr. Herbert Katzki  
Park Hotel  
Istanbul

Dear Mr. Katzki,

With reference to your request regarding statistical figures concerning immigration to Palestine, I have to inform you:

1) The number of immigrants for Turkey in the last trimester was:
   - April 198
   - May 14
   - June 28
   - Total: 240

2) I am sending you copy of the letter of the British Embassy dated June 16 a.m., with reference to the question of endorsements of visas by the Swiss Consulate for immigrants to Palestine.

I shall be glad to give you any additional information you may ask for.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ch. Barlas

I enclose...
Dear Mr Barlas,

You asked me the other day to confirm in writing that permission had been given by the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the transit of a limited number of Jewish refugees across Turkey by rail.

I wish to inform you that in their Note No. 7254/99 of May 1943, addressed to this Embassy, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stated that no objection was seen by the Turkish authorities to the passage through Turkey in transit of 5,000 Jews coming from Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria and proceeding to Palestine, provided the following conditions were observed:

1. the persons for whom the Syrian transit visa is guaranteed in advance by His Majesty's Embassy will arrive at Sirkeci in Bulgarian railway coaches every ten days and in groups of 75.
2. they continue their journey from Haydar Pasha to Aleppo in third class Turkish carriages.
3. the Ministry agrees to instruct Turkish Consuls in Rumania, Hungary and Bulgaria to grant Turkish transit visas to emigrants whose identity or travel documents have been endorsed by the Swiss authorities to the effect that the "liner will be granted a visa to Palestine at the British Passport Control Office in Istanbul."

Yours sincerely,

A.H. Peck

Mr. Barlas, Bsc.
O/o Passport Control Office, ANGORA.
Istanbul, July 14, 1944

Mr. L.A. Squires
American Vice Consul
Istanbul

Dear Mr. Squires,

I shall be glad if you will be so kind as to send the attached confidential message to Mr. Leon Kubowitski, World Jewish Congress, 1834 Broadway, New York 23.

Will you please charge the expenses for this cable to my account.

With many thanks for your kind cooperation, I remain, with best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ch. Sarlas

Ch. Sarlas
Pera Palas
CONFIDENTIAL

Istanbul, July 14, 1944

To: Mr. Leon Edichert
World Jewish Congress
New York

From: Mr. O. Barlas
Istanbul

In reply to your cable of July 11 stop the number of Jews deported from Bulgaria was 14,000 stop deportation took place a year ago stop the number of Jews remained is 35,000 families, i.e. 45,000 persons who are dispersed in various towns and villages, the greatest centers being Plovdiv 8,000 persons, Ruse 7,000 Shoumen 3,500 Eleven 4,000 Klatenndil Dniprski Pazardjik Vidin 3,000 each stop the number of Jews who immigrated to Palestine during January June 1944 was: January 32, February 35 March 131 April 17 May 46 June 127 total 408 stop all received transitvisas on basis Jewish Agency certificates stop the crossing of the land border without visas is practically impossible stop Albert Romano left for Palestine 3 months ago

barlas
Dr. J. Goldin
Istanbul, 13.7.44.

Sr. 354

Mr. Katzky,
American Consulate General,
Istanbul

Dear Mr. Katzky,

Referring to our to-day's conversation by telephone I have the pleasure to inform you that between June 26th and July 11th nine families totalling twenty-four persons arrived from Bulgaria.

All these people received exit visas, delivered by the Bulgarian authorities between the dates mentioned above.

Sincerely yours,

for Dr. J. Goldin

[Signature]

Dr. J. Goldin
Immigration Department
JERUSALEM
Istanbul, July 4, 1944

Mr. Hirschmann,
American Embassy
Ankara

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

1) We hereby hand you over some notes, which we got through Switzerland. They seem to be a fragment - probably it is only a part and the begin or the continuation is on the way.

2) From Polish underground channels we received following message (June 9th):
"thirtenth May: sixty-two railway carriages Jewish children aged two to eight - fifteenth to twenty-seventh May six train adults daily passed Plaszov coming from Hungary."

Sincerely yours,

M. Bader
Taksim, Aydade Cad.
Koray Ap. 7

Excellency,

I refer to our conversation with regard to the necessity of coordinating the work of various Jewish Organizations in America, who are interested in rescue work.

In reply to my cable to the Jewish Agency for Palestine, New York, I have just received a message from Dr. N. Goldmann, dated June 23rd, reading as follows:

"Establishing coordinating committee rescue work to avoid confusion =

Knowing your attitude with regard to disjointed rescue actions, I am confident you will be pleased to have this information.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Excellency,

I refer to our conversation of June 22nd with regard to the proposal to charter the S/S "ANADOLU" for the purpose of transportation of Jewish refugees from Constantia to Istanbul.

In discussing the matter with Mr. K. K. Menemenioglu, who made the offer, the charter fees were reduced to T.L. 120,000 for the first voyage and T.L. 100,000 for any subsequent transport, respectively.

The S/S "ANADOLU" is a 770 dwt. vessel which will be supplied with sufficient life boats etc. for 600 passengers. The boat was used already before the war for the similar purpose, transporting Turkish immigrants to Istanbul.

In accordance with our conversation, I shall be glad if you will be so kind as to approach the Foreign Ministry with the request to allow the transportation of the immigrants by the S/S "ANADOLU", thus enabling us to carry out the plan of evacuation, in the first instance of the Transylvanian children dwelling in the country since months.

Taking into consideration the recent decision of the Turkish Government to facilitate Jewish evacuation, it will be possible to need the boat under the protection of the Hungarian Red Cross.

May I add, Excellency, that I am in negotiations with ng. A. K. Menemenioglu, the Turkish Steamship Co., with regard to the chartering of another boat for the transportation of Jewish refugees, either from Hungary, or from a Turkish port. I shall call the particulars to your attention, as soon as the proposal will be even more calculated.

I am confident that you will accord, as always, to obtain the necessary agreement of the Turkish Government.
to enable us to carry out the plan of rescue of Jewish 
refugees by this way.

I shall be grateful to you for your reply on 
the matter.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours.

[Signature]
I am happy to know that you agree with my point of view regarding the desirability of centralizing the rescue work in Turkey by forming a coordination committee under your general supervision.

I have asked Dr. Nahum Goldman, New York, urging that the Jewish Agency should appeal to all organizations interested in rescue work to refrain from sending more delegations to Turkey, as the increase of the number of such delegations would seriously detract the work that is being done here with at least some progress, achieved to a great extent thanks to your personal influence on the Turkish Government.

I am confident that Dr. Goldman will find a way to arrange the matter in the most desirable manner.

I shall remain here for a few days, and shall be glad if you will give me the opportunity of seeing you in order to report on some matters of urgency.

Enclosed herewith please find the monthly return regarding immigration via Turkey during May 1944.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]

[Date: June 9, 1944]
IMMIGRANTS WHO LEFT FOR PALESTINE FROM MAY 1 TO MAY 31, 1944.

Local Immigrants:

Immigrants from Bulgaria: 46
Immigrants from Hungary: 74
Immigrants from Romania: 340
Immigrants from Greece: 7

Total number of immigrants: 460

x) This figure includes:

Passengers m/s MARTIZA (second trip): 318 persons
Arrived: May 18, 1944; left: May 19, 1944
Mr. Ira Hirschmann
American Consulate General
Istanbul

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 28th July a.c., containing recommendations for a number of refugees in Hungary.

The list will be checked by our office and unless the persons mentioned therein have already been approved, they will be not granted immigration certificates to Palestine.

With best regards,

Sincerely yours,

Ch. Barlas
Paul Regensteif
his wife
Terese Regensteif
and child
Hannal Regensteif
Budapest
M|438/43-
+167
Ing. Dr. Abel Călăscutur
and wife
Greicea Călăscutur
Bucuresti
Ap. Paule 33
List 3 - No 357
signed in
Perpălăuți
12 th, in 1943
Here are the names of the people about whom I am most worried:

Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Fejer, Csabta utca 13
Mr. & Mrs. Andreas Lukacs, Blaha utca 10 A. II. Floor
Mrs. Ferencz Lukacs II, Langh. hout 48 II. Apt. 1
Mr. & Mrs. Andre Adler, Jaszke utca 14
Peter and Matild Besz, Grandchildren of Adler, living with parents, James and Johanna Besz, 2nd Ave 2nd St.
Mrs. Max Goldinger, Alika utca 77-79

(all of Budapest, Hungary)

The following names are not members of the family, but I would appreciate if something could be done about them also:

Mrs. Rose Enge Fejer (age 50), 5 dena utca
Mr. George Fejer, son (age 39), 5 dena utca
George and Paula Goldinger, Concord utca 27

The following are all of 14, Albert-ler 1.
Mrs. Jullio Szekely
Mrs. Horvath Heiner
Mrs. Julia Fejer
Mr. Lero Koch
Szofian Koch (age 7)
Michael Frederich Koch (age )