

with respect to Relief and
Evacuation to
Turkey

Through Turkey
Vol. 10

22. MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN WRB REPRESENTATIVES IN TURKEY AND VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS
23. CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN JUDAH MAGNES AND WRB REPRESENTATIVE IN TURKEY
24. Correspondence between Frank G. Wisner and Ira Hirschmann

WAR REFUGEE BOARD RECORDS

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN WRB REPRESENTATIVES IN TURKEY
AND VARIOUS INDIVIDUALS

(Material sent in from WRB office in Turkey)

Handwritten:
L. L. ...
...

Istanbul, February 10, 1945

Dear Mr. Becker:

I do not know whether or not you have already seen the report issued by the War Refugee Board in Washington on the German extermination camps in Auschwitz and Birkenau. In the event you have not, I am enclosing it herein for you to glance through.

When you have finished with the report you might wish to keep it in the files of the Embassy, as, with the closing of the Board's office in Istanbul, we no longer will have any need for it.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Handwritten:
L. L. ...

Earl F. Becker, Legation
First Secretary of Embassy
Istanbul

Small copy of report.

Istanbul, November 25, 1944

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

With reference to your secret and confidential letter of November 11, I am enclosing herein for your information a copy of the letter dated November 15 which we wrote to Mr. Pehle on the subject.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Katzki

Honorable Laurence A. Steinhardt
Ambassador to Turkey
American Embassy
Ankara

Encl: Copy of letter of 11/15
addressed to Mr. Pehle

HK:VII

DATE RECORDED
DATE INDEXED
By S. J. P. 11-11-44
SEP 18 1972

Letters

MAX PINKASFELD

CONFIDENTIAL.

Izmir, September 10, 1944.

Report to Mr. Johnson about this case

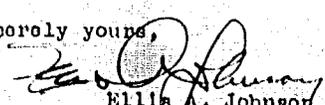
Dear Mr. Katzki:

I should like to bring to your attention for any action you may care to take in the matter that Mr. Max Pinkasfeld, a Polish citizen, has approached me a number of times in the recent past relative to the possibility of obtaining some employment with the War Refugee Board.

Mr. Pinkasfeld is at the present employed by the local Cooperative Fig and Raisin, a Turkish Government establishment, and I understand that such establishments are gradually moving out their foreign personnel. His days with that activity are numbered.

I know you will understand that in bringing his case to your attention I assume no responsibility in sponsoring him nor in recommending him to you. My relations with him have always been strictly official - particularly in connection with the BACC applications of the Cooperative to the F.A. people in Ankara.

Sincerely yours,



Ellis A. Johnson

P.S. If you wish to interview Mr. Pinkasfeld, I can easily arrange for him to call upon you. *JA*

10/21/44
Letters (2)
Act. Turkey

Istanbul, October 21, 1944

The Zionist Record
7th Floor, Permanent Buildings
Commissioner of Immigration Streets
Johannesburg, South Africa

Attention of the Editor

Gentlemen:

I refer to your letter of September 15, 1944, which we have just received, in which you list specific questions to us to which you desire our replies. In accordance with your request, we wish to inform you as follows:

1. The "Zionist Record" is not and never has been an agency of the War Refugee Board in Istanbul or any other place. It is not associated and never has been associated in any way, officially or unofficially, directly or indirectly, with the War Refugee Board.
2. The migration by sea of Jewish people from Rumania to Palestine on routes to Aden was organized by the representatives of the Jewish Agency in Istanbul together with representatives of Palestinian organizations affiliated with it. Such rescue by migration took place only in Rumania but those of other countries were organized in Varna, Bulgaria. It is correct to say that the rescue operation in Rumania while it could be accounted in organizing this movement. However, it could be carried out only because the rescue program from Rumania had been achieved through the coordinated efforts of the Jewish Agency, the United States Agency in Ankara, with the American Consulate in Bucharest, and the American Joint Distribution Committee. Cooperation by Transmittin,

children and adults, were repatriated to Rumania after the breaking up of the Transnistria deportation centers, the result of efforts of the War Refugee Board. Turkish transit visas for the emigrants arriving in Istanbul by sea from Constanza, the route by which they traveled from Rumania, were issued as a result of the interested cooperation of the Turkish Foreign Office, which was secured by the United States Ambassador, Laurence A. Steinhardt, and Dr. Ira Hirschmann, representing the War Refugee Board in Turkey. Without such visas, the entire rescue action would have failed. The American Joint Distribution Committee, collaborating in the rescue program with the Jewish Agency, provided 80 per cent of the total funds necessary to meet the costs of the voyage from Constanza to Istanbul, and 100 per cent of the cost of onward transportation from Istanbul to Palestine.

3. The organization known as the "New Zionist Organization" was not associated in any way, directly or, to our knowledge, indirectly, with the rescue program described above.

Very truly yours,

Robert H. H. H.
Representative
of the War Refugee Board

8/15/44
Letter
T.A.

Istanbul, August 10, 1944

Dear Mr. Abramson:

In connection with the great possibilities which now seem to exist for the migration of Jewish people in Hungary to Palestine, Mr. Betzki has submitted to the Jewish Agency representatives in Istanbul the list of Jewish people in Hungary which you gave him prior to his departure. The Jewish Agency representatives in Istanbul have advised us as follows:

"The list has been checked by our office and unless the persons mentioned therein have already been approved, we will be now granting immigration certificates to Palestine."

Sincerely yours,

J. C. MacGinnis
Chief Liaison

Mr. Robert Abramson
Executive Director
Emergency Board
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.

J/C

7/14/44
LEWIS (A)

Istanbul, Turkey, July 14, 1944

Dear Mr. Ackermann:

Enclosed is a letter which I think you and Mr. Saxon may want to see and perhaps pass to Mr. Joe Martin.

I am eagerly awaiting word from you. With good wishes,

Cordially yours,

I.A. Hirschmann

Enclosure:
as stated.

Mr. Ackermann
War Refugee Board Representative
c/o Consul of the United States
Algiers.

10/25/44
Letter (B)

Istanbul, October 25, 1944

Dear Mr. Baber:

Thank you for your letter of October 21. It was good of you to attempt to find out about the matter of the refund while you were in Cairo. We have written to Mr. Hirschmann, enclosing your two letters of September 26 and October 21, so that if he wishes he can try to reach Ray Ziminski in New York.

I appreciate the trouble you took in making the inquiries, especially as you used some of your vacation time to do it. I do not know just when I shall be in Ankara next, but in the meantime, with warm personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Virginia D. Henderson

Powhatan M. Baber, Esquire
American Embassy
Ankara

C O P Y

EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ankara, October 21, 1944

Dear Mrs. Henderson:

With reference to the attached letter concerning the sum of TL 22.44 which is the amount that Mr. Ray Ziminski apparently owes Mr. Hirschmann on an Ankara-Haydarpasa railway ticket that was cancelled the latter part of last March, I attempted to contact Mr. Ziminski in Cairo last week concerning this matter and was informed by the Legation that Mr. Ziminski had departed from Port Said en route to the United States by boat on October 1st.

I would therefore seem advisable for Mr. Hirschmann to get in touch with Mr. Ziminski regarding this refund, at 202 Bennett Avenue, Hempstead, New York, immediately he arrives in the United States. Will you kindly inform Mr. Hirschmann of the foregoing, enclosing the attached letter, so that he may have full information at hand.

With kindest regards, and hoping to see you in Ankara soon, I am

Sincerely yours,

(s) Powhatan M. Baber

enclosure:
as stated

Mrs. Virginia D. Henderson
American Consulate General
Istanbul

COPY

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY
Ankara, September 26, 1944

Dear Mr. Hirschmann:

With reference to the letter which was addressed to you from the Turkish State Railways requesting you to appear at their office in order to collect the sum of TL 22.44 as reimbursement for one Ankara-Haydarpasa railway ticket which was sold on March 17, 1944, I sent Cemal Bozoglu, one of our Cavasses, on September 25th to collect this refund as per your previous instructions.

Cemal informs me that according to the records of the Turkish State Railways, this money was refunded to Ray Ziminski and signed for by him on April 8, 1944. When Mr. Ziminski turned his affairs over to me he made no mention of this transaction and neither Mr. Pedersen nor I have any knowledge or record of this refund.

Accordingly, I can only advise you to communicate with Mr. Ziminski at 202 Bennett Ave, Hempstead, N.Y., concerning this matter, and I trust that it may be settled to your complete satisfaction.

I am returning herewith your letter from the Turkish State Railways.

Cordially yours,

(s) Powhatan M. Baber

Ira A. Hirschmann, Esquire
American Consulate General
Istanbul

Enclosure:
as stated.

S U R E T

T. C.
Münakalât Vekâleti
Devlet Demiryolları ve İmanları
İşletme Umum Müdürlüğü

Ankara
27/3/1944

3223-2
232

Kullanılmayan bilet ücretinin reddi H.

Bay Hirsehman
Amerika Büyük Elçiliği
Ataşelerinden

en

S E H İ R

20/3/1944 tarihli dilekçenize karşılıktır .

17/3/1944 tarihinde Ankara'dan Haydarpaşa'ya seyahat etmek üzere satın aldığınız 6231 No.lu II sınıf bileti vazife dolayısıyla kullanmadığınız anlaşıldığından bu bilet mukabilinde tediye etmiş olduğunuz (22.44) yirmi iki lira kırk dört kurşun iadesi muvafık görülmüştür .

Ankara Garına müracaatla bu parayı almanızı rica ederim.

Umum Müdür

ad. S. Um

1923-2
232

Devlet Demiryolları İşletme Umum Müdürlüğü

M. C.

167/8

Bay Hirschman

Amerika Büyük Elçiliği Ateşelerinden

S E H İ R



10/30/44
Letter 113
J.D.C.

Istanbul, October 30, 1944

Dear Mr. Peretta:

I understand that Mr. Simond, prior to his departure from Ankara to Switzerland, telegraphed to Mr. Charles Fassenan of the Joint Distribution Committee, now in Jerusalem, concerning a railroad car of food sent from Turkey, which is now being held in Bulgaria. We believe that Mr. Simond sent his telegram to Mr. Fassenan on or about October 21.

In reply to this telegram, Mr. Fassenan has telegraphed to Mr. Simond through the American Embassy, a paraphrase of which is as follows:

The response is made to your telegram of October 21. I agree to your proposal to place at the disposition of the needy free Greek people in Macedonia our railroad wagon which is said to be detained in Bulgaria. The distribution is to be made under the supervision of your delegates. I shall inform you later whether the Joint Distribution Committee will request payment of the Greek authorities, as indicated in your telegram.

You will probably have Mr. Simond's correspondence file on this matter in your possession. Whether or not the contents of this message should be forwarded to Mr. Simond in Switzerland, you or I may wish to decide for yourself.

Sincerely yours,

Robert Kotick
Representative
Joint Distribution Board

J. Peretta, Esquire
Delegate, International Red Cross
17 Avenue de la Paix
Paris

10/20/44
Letter (15)
Report

Istanbul, October 20, 1944

Dear Mr. Borotta:

May I at this time acknowledge receipt of the confidential report dated October 19, 1944, concerning the status of Jewish people in various European countries, which you were kind enough to make available to me. This report is of great interest, and in due course I hope that we shall have an opportunity to discuss various aspects of it.

During the course of our conversation yesterday, we discussed several matters concerning refugees, in the solution of which you thought the International Red Cross might be helpful. Among others, the following situations were discussed:

1. We are advised that there are at the present time in Bulgaria several groups of children, numbering in the aggregate approximately 140, in preparation for emigration to Palestine. These children come under the so-called "children's scheme" for migration to Palestine, which was undertaken some time ago. I believe that you are entirely in line with this matter. Palestine certificates are available for these children, and Turkish transit visas have been arranged. I am informed that the one technical difficulty remaining before these children can depart from Bulgaria is the obtention of the final and formal permission for their departure. The Bulgarian authorities in various public statements have said that, in principle, they are prepared to assist to the extent possible the emigration of Jewish people to Palestine if they desire to emigrate there. In view of the interest of the International Red Cross in this children's project, we are sure it would be helpful if, through whatever means it has at its disposal, it could assist in effecting the issuance of the necessary final documents upon which the emigration of these children from Bulgaria depends.

2. We discussed briefly the information and reports which has been received in Istanbul during the past few days concerning the present position of Jewish people in Hungary. You know that the International Red Cross in Geneva has been addressing itself to these questions, in an effort to extend protection by such methods which are available to it to Jewish people remaining in Budapest and Hungary. The reports recently received indicate that the changing regime in Budapest has been attended by renewed threats and pressures against Hungarian Jewry, in consequence of which the situation is becoming more and more precarious daily. It had been suggested at one time that the International Red Cross increase its delegation in Budapest, for the purposes of safe-guarding the Jewish people there. Whether or not this proposal is practical or feasible I do not know, but perhaps Mr. Simon, upon his return to Geneva, might wish to examine this possibility.

3. We also discussed the matter of the civilian internees in Turkey, who are now held in residence assignees because of their unwillingness to return to their countries of origin, subsequent to the Turkish-German break in diplomatic relations. I understand that the International Red Cross in Turkey has requested permission to visit the centers where these people are now living, in order to be of such assistance to them as the International Red Cross convention permit.

I inform you that, to my knowledge, there had been conversations between the War Refugee Board and the International Red Cross in Geneva on the question of the inclusion, by analogy, of civilian internees in other European countries among the civilians in whom the International Red Cross is authorized to interest itself. As far as I know, these conversations are still going forward. With this as a basis, Mr. Simon might wish to make inquiry in Geneva to determine to what extent the International Red Cross may extend its protection to the civilian internees in Turkey above referred to. I was informed that representatives of local committees for refugees in Turkey have already been in communication with Mr. Simon on this subject.

Again referring to the civilian internees, for your information some concern is felt among refugees

circles regarding the proposed exchange of Turkish nationals in Germany for German nationals in Turkey. There is concern that, in order to meet the technical formalities of the exchange, there might be included in the agreement those German or former German nationals, or nationals and former nationals of other countries, now interned, among those offered for exchange against the Turkish nationals in Germany. The mere fact that these civilian internees were unwilling to return to Germany at the time they were permitted to do so--indeed, many cannot return to Germany without running grave risk--and were willing to accept internment, would indicate that they should not be included in the projected exchange, according to the spokesman of these internees. I bring this to your attention as a matter of information for you.

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Katzki
Representative
War Refugee Board

Mr. J. Boretta
32 Abdulhakim Kadroni
Tulluhane, Taksim
Anouk Palas Apartments
Istanbul

/b

8/30/44
Lett. (B)

Istanbul, September 30, 1944

Dear Mr. Barry:

As you know, I have been requested to return to the United States to report to the War Relocation Authority for consultation on the work and program of the War Relocation Authority. In your absence, the direction of the War Relocation Authority will continue in the absence and in the direction of Mr. Herbert Katzki, who is officially designated to act for the Board. I know that you and your fine organization will give in your full cooperation, as you did with me.

It is a pleasure for me to have the opportunity to thank you, Mr. Katzki, and your staff heartily for your sympathetic and constructive assistance. I found my work here very pleasant and without reservation that this staff will be able to carry out the War Relocation Authority's program, and I hope in some way, some day, to be able to visit you and your staff.

Sincerely yours,

I. A. Friedman
Special Attache

Director, War Relocation Authority
1000 ...
Washington, D. C.

/s/

United States Government
Office Of War Information

8/25/44
Lent's (13)

Istanbul, Turkey
August 25, 1944.

Dear Ira:

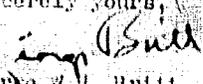
Thank you for sending me the Department of State announcement with reference to the Hungarian Government's offer concerning the emigration and treatment of Jews in that country. We received the same announcement by our own radio news service about five days before getting this copy from you and it has been sent out. It was translated by this office into Turkish and French and sent to all editors through the Anatolia news agency. It appeared in the agency bulletin on August 18th, and was carried by the JOURNAL D'ORIENT on August 19th.

On August 18th, Radio Service of the British Information Office also sent a briefed statement on this subject which was carried the same day by the Turkish dailies, HAKER and SIKI DAKIKA.

I should have been inclined to issue this also as a leaflet, except that our regular printing machine operator is now in America and we are so short-handed that that development was impossible.

Best wishes,

Sincerely yours,


George W. Hill,
General Representative.

GH:VP

C. A. Hirschmann, Esquire,
Special Attache,
American Embassy,
ISTANBUL.

8/22/44
Letter 15
Hungary

Istanbul, August 22, 1944

Dear Mr. Britt:

In accordance with our telephone conversation of this morning I am enclosing herewith, for your information, copy of a communication based on the State Department's Radio Bulletin No. 198 of August 17, 1944, with reference to an offer of the Hungarian Government regarding emigration and treatment of Jews in that country.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

George W. H. Britt, acquire
Office of War Information
134 Istiklal Caddesi
Istanbul

encl.

IAH:VH

10/2/44
Lettos (C)
Rumelia

Ankara, October 3, 1944

Dear Monsieur Grotzianu:

I regret that I have been requested to return to Washington for consultation suddenly and that it has not given me time to say in reply to my numerous friends in Turkey. Again I want to thank you for the opportunity I have had to confer with you and your sympathetic and helpful aid. I only regret that I cannot see you and tell you this in person, but I hope that we shall meet again in peaceful times either in Ankara or elsewhere.

My assistant, Mr. Robert Katski, is now still here working on the work of the War Refugee Board and I trust to one letter on which he will confer with you at your convenience. I know you will offer him all possible assistance.

With thanks and good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

I. A. Macaulay
Special Attaché

Monsieur Alexandru Grotzianu
Membre du Sénateur de Turquie
Commission de la Paix
Ankara

8/16/44
200-3(E)

Istanbul, August 16, 1944

Dear Dr. Erdelyi:

Thank you for your letter of August 10 which I received this morning. I immediately attempted to telephone you in order to ask if it would be convenient for you to call on me at the American Consulate within the next day or two, but I was unable to reach you. If you will kindly telephone my secretary at the Pera Palas at your convenience she will be glad to arrange an early meeting between us.

I shall be very happy to see you and only regret that due to unavoidable circumstances our meeting has been so long delayed.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

Dr. George Erdelyi
Istanbul Palace 24
Ayaspaşa, Istanbul

141118

Istanbul, August 10, 1944.

DR. GEORGES ERDÉLYI
DÉLÉGUÉ DE LA "CHIMIO"
FABRIQUE DE PRODUITS CHIMIQUES ET PHARMACEUTIQUES S. A.
BUDAPEST (BUDAPEST)

Dear Mr. Hirschman,

Prof. Ebert informed me that you wish to reply to my letter of the 30. July, but you are not aware of my address.

My address which I have written on the envelope of my letter is:

Istanbul Palais 24.

Ayazpaşa.

Istanbul.

Sincerely yours

G. Erdélyi

661

15
20
19

Istanbul, July 29, 1944

Dear Dr. Ebert:

We have a letter here from Dr. Georges Erdelyi. Mr. Hirschmann wishes to see him but he has not left his address in Istanbul. If you would have him telephone Mr. Hirschmann or me, or if you prefer to send me his address and telephone number, I should be grateful as Mr. Hirschmann has asked me to follow this up.

With thanks,

Cordially yours,

Virginia D. Henderson
Secretary to Mr. Hirschmann

Professor Carl Ebert
Uult, Sok. 14
Aybolla, Istanbul

Dr. GEORGES ERDÉLYI
DÉLÉGUÉ DE LA "CHINOÏN"
FABRIQUE DE PRODUITS CHIMIQUES ET PHARMACEUTIQUES S. A.
BUDAPEST (BUDAPEST)

Istanbul July 20, 1944.

Dear Mr. Hirschman,

After our last phone-conversation I wish to explain you why, on my part, no further step was taken.

It was Prof. Ebert who suggested that I should get in touch with you in order to see whether I could be of any help to the cause which you are after. Without knowing exactly how to be helpful to you I expressed at once my readiness to be at your disposal.

I thought that - if nothing else - I could introduce you to some of my friends who possibly could do even more for you. I was glad to learn that, in the meantime, you have met some of them.

If I rang you up without awaiting your call it was only because some informations reached me about two persons of special interest who got into trouble in Hungary.

When I said special interest, I meant that American scientific and industrial circles would be interested in these people.

At our phone-conversation, however, I had the impression that you are rather too busy, and perhaps not interested to such an extent anymore to meet me. So I did not insist in troubling you with which - after all, nothing but personal matters of two although valuable men.

Sincerely yours

G. Erdelyi

You may, nevertheless, not consider it incompatible with your interest if you would find opportunity to inform:

1. The Freedson Corporation

100, Montague St.,
Brooklyn, N.Y.

2. The Campbell Products Inc.

70, Madison Ave.,
New York, N.Y.

that Dr. Emil Wolf and Dr. Andrew Varar both remaining Directors of the CHZOT chemical works have been arrested in Budapest on German orders.

GE

10/15/44
L-113 (w)

Istanbul, November 9, 1944

Dear Miss Weiss:

We would appreciate your calling
at the office of the War Refugee Board,
Bisir Apartments, Istiklal Caddesi,
Apartment 8 (second floor) at a time
convenient to you, on a matter in which
you are interested.

Very truly yours,

Herbert Antzki
Representative
War Refugee Board

Ing. Alirabata Kalina
State Institute
Istanbul

H/b

3rd letter

and 117

P.O. Box 1387

Johannesburg
Oct 7-44.

Ms. A. Hirschmann

M. S. Wax Refugee Board. to help European Refugees.

Atlanta

Georgia

Dear Sir,

I am rather disappointed because I have not had a reply from you, to my two letters, which I have written to you, as my niece a Refugee from Vienna, Austria, who fled in 1941-42 from Nazi persecution, because her father was a Jew (and one of the best!).

She was not allowed to earn her own living, nor to marry, and several other restrictions!

In 1937 she tried to come to me, her uncle, but the Nazis only allowed her to go for expenses to Guben, Prussia, so she could not come!

With the assistance of friends she fled!!

The Ministers of the Interior refused to allow her to come to me because I was an old age pensioner (I am over 77) and so not a man of standing, according to the Ex Minister H. G. Langer of the Interior!

In 1902 I bought 10 acres of land in the Country, and have had 10 per cent of the proceeds and this is the Reward I have recd!!

My niece is a Graduate of the World's Best

and

celebrated Trades Art School, Vienna, Austria.

She is a clever Commercial Artist, Cartoonist and designer of Illuminated Addresses. Also proficient in Office Work.

She is only 31-32, and has been & is very unhappy in Turkey (Istanbul)

She belongs to two highly respectable & respected families. There cannot be anything against her. But the Union of S. Africa is the Only Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, who refuse to admit any to Refugees from Nazi Occupied Territories!!!

"Immigrants" have come to this country, but they have no good friends here in Johannesburg!! I have not.

I know a host a dozen of them! Even Spanish Jews, had "Germans" who were able to come through influential friends. Even enemy subjects Eric Hermanson & Countess Vernevan, were smuggled out of Istanbul to the Allied lines by Greek Intelligence Officers! Yet when my niece appeared (trying to the Consul General Whit) to help her to get away from her persecutors, she told her "he could not do it"!!!

My father "asked" for 42,000 for a pair of Gen. Manages of 3 large textile mills in the continent and the industrial (E) more practically brought up in a minute elsewhere. So it is no wonder that my sister

Sister
in Vienna married a Jew, I have 2 brother in
Law who are Jews, I regret to say my niece father
died in 1940 more from grief than any definite
complaint. Before the war he had a large
Austrian Merchants business, but the Nazis deprived
him of half of his savings!!

If you have any intention of assisting my
niece, I shall be very grateful. Her address is
Miss Elizabeth Weiss Park Restaurant, Istanbul,
Beyoglu, Turkey.

I have written to her one letter by two letters,
so I don't know what is going on now at Vienna
since several other connections with Germany!!

Formerly Elizabeth in Istanbul more is ques-
tioned by the Gestapo to return to Germany, If my
niece refused all expenses to go, then the Nazis
are wicked enough to make her relations in
Vienna suffer.

It is sad to know the "Union of S. Africa is the
only member of the British Commonwealth of Nations
who refuse to accept & discriminate against those who fled
from the persecution of the Nazis. Had the Government
of S. Africa allowed her to come to me when she
first applied in 1940 she would have been spared
the suffering she must have undergone & it may be
impossible to have her here. I charged have turned her
out of dozen positions. I have written to Vienna
to inform her but they refuse to help!! (This
man even insulted her, see!!!)

I have missed my opportunity to become
a Jew and provide for my old age, but in God's
young age (??) I hope to make good!! in demand
and

Handwritten notes at the top of the page, including "By" and "SENSOR".

BY
SENSOR
CENSOR

SPAIN
PARIS 24-1944

AIR MAIL
3

M. J. A. Nisochian
U.S.A. Representative of American Help
for European Refugees
By airmail
To the U.S.A. Legation
Ankara
Turkey.

10

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
P 255 R

P.O. Box 1387
Johannesburg
S.A.
May 19th 1944

1st Letter:
23/2/44.

M^{rs} Ina Hirschman
U.S.A. Representative of
American Help for European Refugees
40 American & British Legation
Ankara, Tur Key.

My dear Sir,

On the 23rd Feb. 1944 I intended to address a letter to your good self, enquiring if you could help my Refugee niece Mrs Elizabeth H Weiss, who fled from Vienna, Austria, Nazi occupied territory, in order to come to me. She was not allowed to marry, nor to earn her own living, etc. because her father was a Jew! and one of the best of friends preached Istanbul, Turkey.

Since her arrival in Istanbul, she has done her best to come to me & Johannesburg. But the Office of the Minister of Interior, Pretoria, will refuse to listen to her appeals! and although she belongs to a Jewish family, the British Consul General in Istanbul refused to help my poor niece!! That the United Intelligence Officers insisted on my subject, Charlotte von Krosigk and Eric Krosigk to escape to the Allied Countries, This is not Justice!! The news that Eric Krosigk is a secret emissary of Hitler, (All this he told the Joint Intelligence Officer) was that he did not regard as the

Nazi Regime!! My poor niece was a Victim of the Nazi Regime!! and as the Prime Minister (Foreign Affairs) made it known that Turkey was not neutral my niece's position was not favourable to the Govt of Turkey, by which I mean that Turkey was not tied to by International Law!!!

The Turkish Govt demanded £500 (pounds) from the poor girl if she wished to stay in Istanbul!!! She did not have it, and paid all she could spare, viz 100 pounds on a life!! and in spite of that she was deported to Anatolia, Asia Minor with the Steam & Wiff Raff of Turkey!!

She went to the Brit. Consul General crying appealing to the Consul to help her and save her from this indignity, but he remained stupid and did nothing!!! But every Subject were assisted!!!

I wrote to the Consul General, but he did not have the courtesy and good manners to reply!!!

Humanitarian Traits seem hard to day!!! In July or August she was deported & I have not heard from her since!!

Her father was a Jew (and one of the best!!!) and because he married my Sister (a Christian) he committed a Crime according to Orthodox Jews here in Johannesburg, to whom I went seeking help for my niece. She was surrounded by enemies in Istanbul!! Turks, Germans & Jews

Agents who tried to induce my niece to go back to Vienna!!! I wrote & told her, if anyone speaks German to her, she must reply in French, and shake them off!!!

I wrote twice to the President of Turkey and asked him, to return the 100 T. pounds my niece paid there, and I would hand it for her. But they have not the Courtesy to reply to my letter!!

My niece graduated at the World Celebrated School of Art Schools in Vienna, as Commercial Artist & Art Teacher. She is also conversant with Office Routine and has a knowledge of English & French languages.

The Union of S. Africa is the only member of the British Commonwealth of Nations who refuse (Refugee & Sanctuary to Refugees who fled from the Nazi occupied territories in Europe. And because I am not a man of standing today, that is what the ministers of the Interior (H.G. Lawrence) wrote to my niece!!! She would not be allowed to come to the Union of S. Africa (Johannesburg)

I am a man near 77 and need my niece, especially as I am blind on my left eye, and because I am not a man of standing, the Gen Hospital Medical Staff cannot or would not help me!!! In 1935 I broke a rib, and the doctor sent me to the "Convalescence Home" the 2nd day I was in the hospital!!! He had one of the ribs the first flanking rib from the spine, I am not ~~again~~ ~~is not~~

is not in its proper place and I had to give up
Artesian well Drilling, otherwise I would have been
able to help my niece!!!

In 1917, I left S. W. Africa and resigned my Govt.
position, because I answered the "Call" I got to
Boston, Mass, U.S.A. where I took charge of leading C. W. H.
Steel Street at Gloucester, Mass.

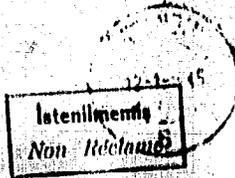
In 1928 my wife wanted to see her people, in
England. I went with her, and in London decided to
return to S. Africa. Arriving in Pretoria the Exploiting
Engineer, Walter Roring Krause, Irrigation Dept reproves to
reinstake me, because I resigned my Govt position in
S. W. Africa in 1917. On receiving this news, my wife returns
to Boston, hoping I would make good, so that she could join
me. But alas! Fate was against me, and she died in
Boston in 1942. She left a terrible blank in my life!

So day in and my 77 yrs (count) I am alone, eking out
an existence on \$4,000.00 (approx \$1250 per m.) S. Africa
pay this to me \$350 per m. I brought \$10,000 to this
country in 1902, had 10 yrs Govt service and was treated
like a "nigger"!!! I feel my position very lonely, and
at times I wish I could remove me from this "living death".
How my thoughts go to my poor wife, (I see you, with you both
my dear Herschmann). I have 2 nephews in U.S.A. and
Canada but have not their addresses. I could make you
hear but need \$200.00. I need a Randia property deed
instrument for my two nephews. I could make much more
if you will. I hope this letter will help and that
to have good news from you. I am very truly
yours
H. H. H.

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Herbert Katzki, Representative
War Refugee Board
American Consulate General
Istanbul



Miss Elizabeth Weiss
Poste Restante
Istanbul





EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Istanbul, November 9, 1944

Dear Miss Weiss:

We would appreciate your calling
at the office of the War Refugee Board,
Misir Apartments, Istiklal Caddesi,
Apartment 2 (second floor) at a time
convenient to you, on a matter in which
you are interested.

Very truly yours,

Harbert Katzki
Representative
War Refugee Board

Miss Elizabeth Weiss
Posta Kestante
Istanbul

11/2/44
1042 (1)

United States of America
Office Of War Information

Istanbul, Turkey
November 2, 1944

Mr. Herbert Katzki,
United States Refugee Board,
United States Embassy,
Istanbul.

Dear Mr. Katzki:

With regard to the statement by Governor Deyez on Nazi Jewish atrocities I would like to report the following action on our part.

The statement in its entirety was reviewed by us in the office attached in French and Turkish. We also by personal telephone call directed it to the attention of editors of the following papers:

Duhuriet, Ruin, Vakit, Yeni Sabah, Journal
'Crikent, M. 'Pulitzer, in Turkish and Istanbul.

We also included the statement in our own daily radio broadcast for Ankara, Izmir, and Bursa.

As you know, the statement was also published in the daily Journal 'Crikent and Turana, both in French and Turkish.

We have distributed our press review section to watch for the appearance of this statement in other publications.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Foley
Paul Foley

11/2/44

10/27/44
Latta (F)

Istanbul, October 27, 1944

Dear Mr. Foley:

In accordance with my conversation of today with Mr. Britt and Mr. Hochstetter, I give you below the text of a statement issued by Governor Thomas E. Dewey, Republican candidate for President, on October 19, 1944:

"Information comes to this country from unquestionably reliable sources that the Nazis, trapped and knowing that they are faced with inevitable defeat, are now resorting to the known gangster terror device of threatening to exterminate their very victims (Poles, Jews and other non-German nationals) now imprisoned by them in their horrible concentration camps in parts of Poland and other countries still occupied by the Nazis.

"The civilized world is now in a position in unmistakable terms to warn the Nazis (military commanders, members of the German Government, their aiders, abettors and supporters) that certain and inevitable justice awaits them for these brutal and wanton murders if their schemes should be carried out.

"I am happy to note that our State Department has issued a warning that 'if these plans are carried out those guilty of such murderous acts will be subject to justice and pay the penalty for their heinous crimes'. American public opinion will fully support the statement issued by our Department of State."

Mr. Britt stated that the above statement would be given the widest publicity through the news channels available to you. He indicated that a special point would be made to have the statement sent to the "Radio Journal" at Ankara.

I would appreciate your letting me know in due course to what extent the statement of Governor Dewey was circulated and to what extent it was used by Turkish newspapers and radio.

With thanks for your cooperation,

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Katski

Mr. Paul Foley
Office of War Information
Istanbul

HR:VH

8/22/44
Letters (H)
Hungary

Istanbul, August 22, 1944

Dear Mr. Hochstetter:

In accordance with my telephone conversation this morning with Mr. George W. H. Britt I am enclosing herewith, for your information, copy of a communication based on the State Department's Radio Bulletin No. 198 of August 17, 1944, with reference to an offer of the Hungarian Government regarding emigration and treatment of Jews in that country.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

Leo D. Hochstetter, Esquire
Office of War Information
134 Istiklal Caddesi
Istanbul

and .

10011

10/4/44
Letters J)

Ankara, October 4, 1944

Mr. W. Jacobs;

Mr. Ira. A. Hirschmann, Special Attaché for the
Immigration Board is now en route to the United States.
Prior to his departure from Ankara he said that he will
be in touch with you while passing through Cairo.

As you undoubtedly will see Mr. Hirschmann during
the next few days I should very much appreciate your
returning the enclosed envelope which he is very anxious
to receive. Mr. Hirschmann, prior to his departure,
suggested that I could reach him through your office.

With thanks for your assistance, I am

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Katze
Representative
Immigration Board

Joseph E. Jacobs, Esquire
Consul General
American Legation
Cairo

encl.

9/26/44
Letter (J)

Istanbul, September 26, 1944

Dear Mr. Jaquinot:

If you will call at the office of the United States Military Attache tomorrow (Wednesday) afternoon at 4:00 p.m. and ask for Major Seager or Mr. Johnson I think that they will give you the list you requested.

With kind personal regards,

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

Louis Jaquinot, Esquire
Kilik Palas, Apt. 3
Abdul Hakhamid Caddesi 32
Istanbul

IAN:VII

3165144
Letters (L)

Istanbul, August 15, 1944

Dear Mr. Levy:

Mr. Hirschmann felt that you might be interested in the enclosed copy of a memorandum dated August 12 of a conversation held by him with Dr. Black on August 11, 1944, and also in the enclosed clipping from the Journal d'Orient of August 8 regarding television.

Sincerely,

Virginia D. Henderson
Secretary to Mr. Hirschmann

Mr. Joseph Levy
33 Vall Konagi Caddesi
Floor 3
Istanbul

August 12, 1944

Memorandum of conversation held with
Dr. Black on August 11, 1944.

Dr. Black believes:

(1) That while the Bagryanov Government is neither pro-Russian nor pro-German, that there is definitely a change in the Government which previously was pro-Nazi;

(2) That the Germans cannot any longer interfere with the Bulgarian Government, politically or militarily; it is not in a position to do so;

(3) That the Bulgarians may overreach themselves at this stage; they may not swing far enough to the left. The Russians are pushing. Among other things the Russians are requesting of them to withdraw their troops from Thrace and Macedonia, and especially Yugoslavia. There are four Bulgarian divisions in those centers. Ironically the Russians are demanding of the Bulgarians that they not only withdraw their troops from Yugoslavia, but leave their material with the Partisans;

(4) The present Bulgarian Government will, in all likelihood, continue in power; it is making a current effort to come to an understanding with the Russians; for example, to establish Russian Consulates in the various Bulgarian provinces; it has succeeded in inducing the Germans to withdraw their troops in Eastern Bulgaria; it is suppressing the export of food to Germany. Visitors arriving from Sofia say that they see fewer and fewer Germans in that city.

Salabanoff's statement to me that only one division of German troops now remained in Bulgaria was an important disclosure. While one division is about 12,000 troops, it is felt by Dr. Black that it does not even constitute a legitimate division, representing as it does more or less straggling ends of German troops.

I. A. Hirschmann

8/14/44
Letter (L)

Istanbul, August 14, 1944

Dear Joe:

As per the above, I have indicated that you
may write to Dr. Magnes on the subject of Dr. B.
I should be grateful if you would do so without delay.
Very thanks.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Joseph Levy
23 Veli Konagi Caddesi
Floor 3
Istanbul

IAH:VH

8/12/44
Letters w)

Istanbul, August 12, 1944

Dear Mr. Levy:

Mr. Hirschmann thought you would like to see the
attached.

Sincerely,

Virginia D. Henderson
Secretary to Mr. Hirschmann

Encs.

Mr. Joseph Levy
23 Vall Konagi General
Floor 3
Istanbul

TELEPHONE (20510) (1112)
TELEGRAMS "LINKS" GLASGOW.

AL/EAM

file
no one
replying
7/28/44
Letter (L)
51, WILSON STREET,
GLASGOW, C. I.

28th July, 1944.

Mr. I. A. Hirschmann,
American Embassy,
Ankara, Turkey.

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

I very much appreciate your letter dated 3rd July, as well as the efforts Ambassador Steinhardt and your goodself are making in the case of the Refugees.

Since writing you I have ascertained from the Jewish Agency that my brother was safe at his last known address, viz: Goetgasse 2, Czernowitz, at the end of March. On the 16th May I sent him a message per the Red Cross, but have not yet had any reply.

I am worried that no direct method of communication is in existence, and trust that this essential human requirement may soon be restored.

I remain,

Yours sincerely,

(Link)
(A. LINKS).

Ankara - July 3rd, 1944.

Dear Mr. Links -

I have just returned to Turkey to continue my efforts
in behalf of the refugees of the Government of the United
States of America.

Your letter will be given prompt attention. I assure
you that Ambassador Steinhardt and I are using all within
our power to determine the whereabouts of your brother
and to be advised of any news in this regard.

Sincerely,
S. A. M. Steinhardt,
Special Attache.

Mr. W. Links,
1110 1/2 Street,
Lawrence, Kans.
U.S.A.

TELEGRAMS - LONDON/CLASCOV.

51, WILSON STREET,
GLASGOW, C. I.

AL/EMK

14th April, 1944.

Mr. Ira A. Hirschmann,
Attache, American Embassy,
A B E A P A. *TU 115157*

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

*Mr. Hirschmann,
Bureau of Customs.*

I am much obliged for your
acknowledgement of my wire dated March 25th. In
the interim I wired you again on April 3rd with a
similar message.

I note your presence and am very
grateful to you and Ambassador Steinhardt for your
kind assistance in this very difficult job. So far
I have heard nothing definite from the Jewish Agency,
although I am in contact with Jerusalem and London.

I am very concerned as to my
brother's whereabouts, and would be glad to have
any information bearing on this matter, and am looking
to the Jewish Agency to do what they can.

With best wishes,
Yours sincerely,

C. C. C. C.
(a. 11111)

8/31/44
Letters (M)
Mefkura

Istanbul, August 31, 1944

Dear Mr. Mares:

Please forgive the belated acknowledgment of
your kindness in sending us a copy of your report
concerning the sinking of the ill-fated S. S. Mefkura.
It is greatly appreciated.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Mirschmann
Special Attache

Lieutenant Commander E. Mares, R.N.R.
British Embassy
Istanbul

1411671

9/13/44
Letters (M)
Rumania

Istanbul, September 13, 1944

Dear Major Maxon:

Confirming my telephone conversation with you today I wish to refer to the agreement that Captain Lanning McFarland and I had prior to his leaving, on the day he introduced you to me.

Ambassador Steinhardt instructed me to visit McFarland without delay to request of him that he make arrangements for me to be placed on the first airplane which can proceed from Turkey to Rumania. He also requested that Mr. Charles Passman of the American Joint Distribution Committee be placed on such a plane if possible. At the same time Ambassador Steinhardt telegraphed to Washington for authorization for us to proceed to Bucharest at the first feasible moment.

McFarland surveyed the possibility of placing me on the plane which was then in Istanbul, and which I understand has since proceeded to Bucharest. I told McFarland that I could not leave so soon, since I was waiting for confirmation from Washington. McFarland promised to request you to place Passman and me on the next available plane. Ambassador Steinhardt and I are working on the assumption that such arrangements will be made when it is possible. When such a plane appears to be available I should appreciate your calling me. It is possible that I may go to Ankara this weekend to attempt to expedite arrangements, and if you have any information in advance of that time I shall be grateful to hear from you.

I shall be happy to come and see you if you wish to discuss the arrangements or any other points connected with them.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

Major John Maxon
Office of Strategic Services
Istanbul

9/27/44
Letters (P)
J.A.

Istanbul, September 27, 1944

Dear Mr. Wincherton:

I am writing to you on behalf of Mr. Scharyn
Scharyn, who is eager to proceed to Turkey from Pal-
estine. I understand that there are some technical
difficulties in the way of his departure. I have
spoken to the assessor Steinhardt about this, and he has
offered his support in assisting him to come to Turkey
provided that the application for a Turkish visa
arrives in Ankara.

I should appreciate it very much if such an
application could be telegraphed by the Turkish
Consulate in Jerusalem, in order to expedite his
arrival.

I am going to stop off in Jerusalem on the way
back to Greece, which should be very soon, and one
of the objectives of my visit is to find the oppor-
tunity of seeing you again.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Birnbaum
Social Attache

Lowell Wincherton, Securo
American Consul General
Jerusalem, Palestine

1/1/b

8/5/44
Letters (P)

nk-ra, August 5, 1944

Dear Mr. Pinkerton:

Before leaving Washington in June, I had a visit from several gentlemen headed by Robert Nathan, former assistant of the War Production Board, who was heading a committee to make a study in Palestine, about which you are undoubtedly familiar. At that time, I was informed that efforts were being made for them to secure the proper documents for entry to Palestine, and that they had been considerably delayed, and according to the last information from Mr. Kaplan when he was in Istanbul several weeks ago, no word had been heard from them.

In one of my visits to the White House, Isidor Lubin asked me most informally to check with you to request your assistance in any way possible to arrange for the entry of Mr. Nathan and his associates. It may be that they have already arrived, and if so the contents of this letter may be dated. If not, it would be appreciated if you could add your efforts in their behalf.

I am hoping to come to Palestine for a less hurried visit than on my previous one, after Ambassador Steinhardt returns from the United States. At that time I look forward with anticipation to meeting you and Mrs. Pinkerton again, for I recall with no small pleasure your courtesy and hospitality.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

Lowell B. Pinkerton, Esquire
American Consul General
Jerusalem
Palestine

I. H. V. I

10/6/44
Letters (R)

Istanbul, October 6, 1944

Dear Mr. Richter:

We have your letter of October 1, in which you request an appointment to discuss some matters with us.

If you will telephone to us sometime early next week, we would be pleased to find a time mutually convenient when you can come to our office.

Very truly yours,

Director, Istanbul
Department of
Internal Affairs

Mr. Richter, 1234
c/o [unclear]

Istanbul, Turkey

W. H. H. H., the first of the ...

1822

... ..

Dear Mr. ...

... ..

... .. *servant*

Miss ...
M. D.

... ..

- first page-

Dear Mr. Harbmann,

referring to our conversation I allow to give You following advises re evacuation of hungarian jews and other persecuted peoples.

A very quick acting is desired, because every day the situation becomes more and more critical and the lifes of all jews are treated.

According my latest informations from my wife, that is the most reliable source the situation in Budapest was bad, dangerous, but no critical. That was the 27. June 1944.

Situation of jews in the villages are critical and according to my informations of the same source deportations everywhere are reported. The latest evacuations of jews was in Szeged, from which town they were deported to the south party of Hungary/Novisad called Ujvidek/.

Every man of our factories jews or halfjews were involved in forced labour battillions and sent to Poland. Not confirmed reports put the number of deported peoples to 400000. The same source gives the number of executed and murdered person untill end of June to 100000. Some thousand of these are christians.

Hungarian officials are trying now to spread rumors, that they are not guilty for the murderings and such reports are circulating in Switzerland and even reached me also in a letter of Mr. Lully who is a hungarian manufacturer and is living since two years in Switzerland. His address is Hotel Richmond Geneve.

A very reliable and hard working person is Mrs. Marie Frankel Geneve 4 rue Thalberg. She is in charge to save my parents and I am happy to assume for her full responsibility.

First step to be done in the arrangements of the exit ison. This is extremely difficult and could only be done by a diplomatic step and the best this with a severe warning directed to the hungarian government officials and also to central Goethy charging them with full responsibility for the murderings and deportations and treating the whole nation, that for every executed jew ten hungarian will be executed and for every deported jew twenty hungarian will be sent to forced labour camps to work. An immediate warning of this nature should have official adoption from

punishment.

This proclamation could be distributed by tracks only, because the greatest majority of Hungarian people do not possess radio sets or are afraid to listen to foreign stations owing to the fact that in every house the Gestapo has his agents and everybody is very closely watched.

Diplomatic representative for the U. S. A. Government is in Hungary the Swiss Embassy, for the Yugoslavians, Palestinians etc is the Department of Swiss Legation for the safeguarding of foreign interests. My friend there is Mr. Hans Steiner, who is a very reliable and 100% proallied man, to whom every confidence can be extended.

With your most valuable and humanitarian help and the most optimistic calculation regarded about 50000 to 100000 peoples could be saved and transported from Hungary to a safe territory. Transportation can be done by train via Turkey to Syria and Palestine and therefore the second step to be done is to assure the Turkish permits to travel in transit.

Trains can be arranged through the Turkish authorities, who would surely lend wagons and locomotives against some payments and deposits. I would like to draw your attention that Hungarian authorities will not even give food to these refugees and therefore the question of food and drinks must be also arranged. After my personal opinion you can get in Turkey sufficient food to send it with the train going out to Hungary with personnel of Red Cross. Hence, I think you should in no way believe in the Hungarian Red Cross operations.

Trains to take 1500 till 2000 people and the further transportation from Turkey I think can be arranged such as by a shuttle service of these trains. The main thing is to get the refugees evacuated from the concentration camps.

Transportation in the winter is now in Hungary, into a big winter. The roads are completely blocked and all traffic is stopped for some days. The only way to get out is by train. The fact that the roads are blocked, to get out of the country and eventually the people of the refugees could be evacuated by this way. I think it is very important to get the refugees out of the country as soon as possible. The authorities in Hungary are very afraid of the refugees and to get them out of the country. I think it is very important to get the refugees out of the country as soon as possible. The authorities in Hungary are very afraid of the refugees and to get them out of the country.

The first step is to get the refugees out of the country as soon as possible. The authorities in Hungary are very afraid of the refugees and to get them out of the country. I think it is very important to get the refugees out of the country as soon as possible. The authorities in Hungary are very afraid of the refugees and to get them out of the country.

The second step is to get the refugees out of the country as soon as possible. The authorities in Hungary are very afraid of the refugees and to get them out of the country. I think it is very important to get the refugees out of the country as soon as possible. The authorities in Hungary are very afraid of the refugees and to get them out of the country.

- third page -

university graduated/ medical doctors engineers, chemists pharmacists/. My intention is that these people should serve to the United States in war and: ~~it~~ after war to could accomplish this very difficult job, which would lead to a better and more comprehensible world.

I am praying most respectfully the President of the United States to secure for the refugees, who are nor university graduated

25000 Palestine certificates,

because according to a letter, which I received from Mrs. Fraenkel some weeks ago/ peoples possessing Palestine certificates with numbers are not to be reported in the occupied countries, but are in camps, which are chiefly hotels. The original of this letter can be shown at any time.

Please inform the President, that as Hungary is an all catholic country a step inspired to the Vatican would be very usefull and as Cardinal Beredi in Hungary is absolutely against these acts, which are passing now in Hungary I think that the Vatican would also extent his moral and diplomatical help in these questions.

I would mention on this place that my family has sent to the Pope nutritng flour and pharmaceuticals in the year 1943 to distribute it among the suffering people and the Holly Father and the State secretary Monsignore Maglione accorded a personal audience to our delegate, who overhanded a magnificent donation manuscript to His Holiness. I sincerely hope, that even in these dark days the name of Richters is known in the Vatican and as we have done so much in the last forty years to save humanity and to help ill people I hope that His Holiness would do something and his cooperation would make more easy our saving work.

I immediately contacted a relative of Regent Filov here and the possibility would exist to send a letter to the Patriarch Peter in Sofia if Cardinal Roncalli would arrange it to be sent by his courier. Good contact could be established with Filov, but I am sorry to report that you are in Hungary Filov cannot arrange without the german-authorization the activities for the Jews. In Bulgaria, even so as in Hungary people, who want to leave the country has to ask for a special permit, which is necessary only in Berlin by Himmler personally. Besides of this they must obtain a special certificate of their own authorities.

In Istanbul they may make some arrangements for the refugees and I am sure, that everybody has a good will and I would cheer to cooperate, but a fair way exists and this journey can be arranged and accomplished by your mission.

at the moment I am highly revolted to the United States and to the insufficient treatment and your help/work is so highly outcomed by yourself that I took the liberty to draw your attention at the above fact.

- fourth page -

I do not want in any way to interfere with organisations still existing and personally do not want to be in any way named or thanked for, but please inform your authorities, that they should dispose fully about my person and about my full working capacity, if it would be in anyway useful for the common effort.

I am only too happy, my dear Mr. Wiersmann to had the pleasure of meeting You and once more I want to reassure You about my loyalty and full will of cooperation.

I remain Your most sincerely

Leslie Dickter
R.D.

Istanbul the 9. July 1944.

July 21, 1944, Istanbul

Dear Dr. Richter:

Thank you for your various communications containing suggestions as to methods in dealing with the critical situation relating to the Jews in Hungary. I have read them with interest and regret that it has not been possible to see you, which I trust I shall be able to do in the very near future.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Leslie Richter
Ankara Palas
Ayaz Pasa
Istanbul, Turkey

Dear Sir!

I tried several times to contact you, but to my greatest sorry, until now I was not able to come in contact with You.

Am informing you devoutly about a communique from Turvcelgyi Albert Dr, who is in charge of rubbed hungarian jewish property, which was picked out from the "Iest" hungarian newspaper 7 July 1944. saying as follows: the government charged me with great and difficult tasks. With all my power I will work to fulfill it.

In the very near future a regulation will issue about the confiscation and employment of jewish property. It is a very big sum. I want to employ this sum for the hungarian wareffort, for the readjusting of bombed hungarian/ nazi/ families and for other social expenses. Nobody should wait to get gifts from this funds, but we intend to benefit warwounded families and families with many children from these funds.

This act is only a further robbery of the so-called hungarian government, who wants to make war against the hungarian jews, with their own money.

I have given a report some days ago, that hungarian officials try to spread rumors about good treatment with hungarian jews. Such a report was placed also in the La Turquie. All these reports coming from hungarian sources are without foundation and untrue.

I hope, that you will be able to find countermeasures for the further blackmailing of hungarian persecuted jews and I would suggest to confiscate all hungarian State property in the Allied countries and if possible the blocking of all hungarian credits in the neutral countries, if international law permits it, to could replace the rubbed properties.

The hungarian State could be or should be liable with all his property to replace this criminal actings. I think, that all these actings should be made known to the Treasury, to could take after the war legal steps against the hungarian State.

Always to your service, I remain, Dear Dr. Hersmann your obedient
servant

Istambul the 19 July 1944,

Leshel Gitter
N. D.

8/19/44
Letters (R)
(Hungary)

Istanbul, August 19, 1944

Excellency:

I have the honor to acknowledge with grateful thanks Your Excellency's letter of response to mine of August 1, 1944, in which you so graciously replied to the questionnaire contained therein. We are grateful for your kindness and your helpfulness, and are transmitting, with your approval, these questions and answers to Washington.

I hope that this letter finds you in good health and that it will be possible to meet with you again under the same pleasant circumstances as before.

With renewed thanks and assurances of my highest esteem, I am,

Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

Ira A. Mircsinn
Special Attache

His Excellency
Monsignor Ange M. Roncalli,
Apostolic Delegate
Blykade

IAN:VR

DELEGATIO APOSTOLICA

Istanbul, August 18, 1944.

N.4627.

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

I hope you will not regard my delay in answering your letter and questionnaire of August 1, as an indication of my lack of interest in your humanitarian work. The many requests for the charitable intervention of the Apostolic Delegation in connection with the recent political events in Turkey have prevented an earlier reply.

I trust you will find the enclosed answers satisfactory and I repeat that I am always ready to help you in your charitable work as far as in my power and as far as circumstances permit.

With sentiments of cordial regard, I am, dear Mr. Hirschmann,

Very sincerely yours,

Augusto J. J. J. J.
Augusto J. J. J. J.
Augusto J. J. J. J.

Mr. Ira A. HIRSCHMANN,
Special Attache,
American Embassy,

ISTANBUL.

(with two enclosures)

REPLY TO THE QUESTIONNAIRE PRESENTED TO THE APOSTOLIC DELEGATION BY

MR. IRVING A. HIRSCHMAN ON AUGUST 1, 1944.

- 1) Because of the purely religious character of its mission and of the lack of official contact with the Diplomatic Corps, the Apostolic Delegation in Istanbul has no information regarding the present situation of the Jewish people in Hungary apart from that received from the Jewish Agency for Palestine and from the daily newspapers. The enclosed copy of the recent legislation of the Hungarian Government on this matter was the only communication received from the Hungarian Legation in Ankara on this subject.
- 2) A): At the request of the Jewish Agency for Palestine and of Chief-Rabbi Herzog, the Apostolic Delegation urged the Papal Secretariat of State to do all in its power to save the Jews in Hungary. The Secretariat of State replied that this was already being done and that the Apostolic Nuncio in Budapest was actively engaged in the same work.
B): The Apostolic Delegation has forwarded by diplomatic courier several thousands of "Immigration Certificates" destined for Jews in Hungary. These were delivered to the persons concerned by the good offices of the Apostolic Nunciature in Budapest and the same Apostolic Nuncio later informed that those certificates had enabled their owners to escape transportation and to obtain the necessary permissions for emigration.
- 3) The telegrams of July 6th were merely further representations to the Papal Secretariat of State to intervene on behalf of the Jews in Hungary and Roumania. The actual text of these telegrams may not be revealed without the special permission of the Vatican authorities.
- 4) & 5) It is not the intention of the Apostolic Delegation to make any further representations on behalf of the Jewish people in Hungary: the only means of doing so is through the Papal Secretariat of State and it seems certain the Vatican has done and is doing its best, both directly and through the Apostolic Nuncio in Budapest, to ameliorate the conditions of the oppressed peoples. The Apostolic Delegation in Istanbul is always willing to transmit by courier to Budapest Immigration Certificates or other non-political documents which may be useful. It is also willing to recommend particular cases to the special care of the Apostolic Nuncio, as has been done, for example, in the case of Rabbi Salomon Halberstam.
- 6) There is no evidence that the Vatican has been instrumental in procuring special treatment for persons who are Jewish by definition but Christians by faith. The dispositions, however, promulgated by the Hungarian Government on July 8th (see copy enclosed) do distinguish between Jews in religion and converted Jews.
- 7) In years past, the Holy See, in agreement with the respective Governments, was able to obtain Immigration visas for some of the South American countries for limited numbers of Italian and German Jews. The Apostolic Delegation is unable to state whether any such projects are now in prospect.
- 8) In the present circumstances it would seem that the only assistance which the Apostolic Delegation can render in facilitating the emigration of Jews is in forwarding by courier the Immigration Certificates.
- 9) The Apostolic Delegation has already made the desired inquiry and shall communicate immediately the reply of the Apostolic Nuncio in the matter.

10) Owing to the political nature of the accusations brought against the persons mentioned in the lists, the Apostolic Delegation feels that it is not in a position to take any action in the matter. Such representations would be better made directly to the Governments concerned through the medium of the American Embassy at the Vatican and the Papal Secretariat of State.

11) The Apostolic Delegation has no information regarding financial aid given by the Vatican to oppressed peoples in Hungary, though it feels sure that such assistance has been rendered.

Owing to certain inconveniences which have arisen in the past out of the forwarding of sums of money on behalf of oppressed peoples, the Apostolic Delegation regrets that it can not be of any assistance in the transmission of such funds to Hungary or to any other country.

Istanbul, August 18, 1944.

L'état actuel des dispositions prises par le Gouvernement Hongrois à l'égard des Juifs est le suivant:

I.

1) L'envoi des juifs pour le travail à l'étranger est provisoirement suspendu.

2) Vu les propositions présentées par la Croix Rouge de Suède, par la Commission d'Immigration de Palestine transmise par la Légation de Suisse, ainsi que par le War Refugee Board, le Gouvernement Hongrois a autorisé l'émigration des juifs vers la Suède, la Suisse, la Palestine et autres pays.

a) En Suède, dans le cadre de l'action y relative de la Croix Rouge Suédoise peuvent émigrer les juifs qui obtiennent de S.M. le Roi de Suède la nationalité suédoise.

Les juifs qui ont des parents en Suède ou qui sont en rapport commercial depuis un certain temps avec ce pays, peuvent émigrer en Suède ou en Palestine.

Cette catégorie comprend 400 - 500 personnes environ.

b) L'émigration en Palestine, à l'aide de la Commission d'Immigration de Palestine par l'entremise de la Légation de Suisse à Budapest est autorisée à plusieurs milliers de juifs.

Les personnes susindiquées peuvent émigrer en Palestine si elles sont en possession du "certificat d'immigration" délivré par les autorités britanniques.

c) En base des propositions susmentionnées du War Refugee Board, le Gouvernement Hongrois a autorisé la Croix Rouge Internationale à faire envoyer des enfants juifs au-dessous de 10 ans en Palestine. Le même Comité /Board/ sera autorisé à aider matériellement les juifs internés en Hongrie.

II.

En dehors des concessions susmentionnées, les atténuations suivantes ont été accordées dans le régime des juifs:

1) L'envoi des juifs baptisés pour le travail à l'étranger a cessé pour l'avenir.

2) a/ l'administration spéciale des juifs baptisés a été confiée au "Conseil des juifs baptisés", constitué le 6 juillet 1944.

b/ Les juifs baptisés jusqu'au 1^{er} août 1941 restent dans le pays, mais leur séparation des personnes non-juives sera ordonnée.

c/ Ils obtiennent toutes les possibilités en vue de l'exercice de leur religion.

3) a/ Les facilités ordonnées à l'égard des juifs domiciliés à Budapest seront étendues sur les juifs baptisés en dehors de la capitale.

b/ Une révision au sujet des juifs baptisés envoyés au service du travail en Allemagne est envisagée.

4) Il sera fixé, le plus tôt possible, qui est à considérer comme juif converti et ceci sera fait non seulement pour les juifs âgés de 16 à 60 ans, mais pour les juifs de tout âge.

5) Les juifs non convertis servant dans les compagnies de travail en Hongrie seront remplacés par des juifs baptisés.

6) Les juifs convertis seront autorisés à quitter leur domicile les dimanches et jours fériés à une heure qui leur permettra de satisfaire aux obligations de leur religion.

7) Sont exemptés du port de l'étoile juive:

a/ les membres de famille des prêtres d'un culte chrétien /parents, frères et soeurs, épouses et enfants des pasteurs protestants/

b/ les porteurs des décorations ecclésiastiques / papales/

c/ les membres de l'Ordre du Saint-Sépulcre.

III

1. a/ Le droit discrétionnaire est réservé à S.A.S. le Régent d'exempter un certain nombre de juifs.
b/ Seront exemptés: les juifs vivant en mariage avec une personne d'origine chrétienne.
c/ Les juifs qui sont porteurs de certaines décorations de guerre /médaille de bravoure militaire d'or/etc.
d/ Les juifs qui ont certains mérites spéciaux.
e/ Les prêtres des cultes chrétiens.
2. Le départ des juifs pour le travail à l'étranger se fera dans des conditions respectant les lois de l'humanité et la Croix Rouge Hongroise aura des possibilités de contrôle.
3. L'expédition des colis de vivres sera autorisée pour les personnes internées dans des camps de concentration par l'entremise de la Croix Rouge.

Budapest, le 18 juillet 1944.

London, August 1, 1944

Excellency:

In pursuance of your Excellency's kind offer, in which you volunteered that you would be pleased to respond in writing to certain questions which would be submitted to you with reference to the rescue and relief activities of the United States War Refugee Control, I have the honor to enclose for your consideration the attached list.

Permit me again, in the name of the Government of the United States of America, to express my gratitude for the influence which your Excellency so kindly granted me, and to reaffirm to you how great a joy it was of great interest and efforts in the broad humanitarian aspects of the problem in which the War Refugee Board is actively operating.

With renewed assurances of my highest esteem,
I am,

your Excellency's most obedient servant,

Ira A. Hirschmann
Special Attaché

Via Excellency
Consignor Onge A. Roncalli
Apostolic Delegate
Beyrout

Enclosures

IAl/b

(1) What information does Your excellency have regarding the present situation of Jewish people in Hungary?

(2) What are the specific steps which Your excellency has been able to take thus far in connection with the rescue or assistance of Jewish people, or others, who are under oppression in Hungary as a result of present policies there?

(3) I am grateful that citizens' representations were made by Your excellency in telegrams of July 5th, both to Rumania and Hungary, regarding the release of Jewish people in those countries. Could you feel free to let us have the contents of these telegrams?

(4) In telegrams Your excellency's intention to take on further telegraphic representations to help effectuate the release of Jewish people, and others similarly oppressed, and to impress upon the Hungarian and the German authorities the attitude of the Church regarding their anti-Judaic policies?

(5) As a Your excellency feel that you can do anything to afford protection to the oppressed people in Hungary now and to protect them against future persecution in the event that this procedure recommended?

(6) Can Your excellency be helpful in protecting people in Hungary who are persecuted by religion, but not are Catholic or of other religions by faith?

(7) As a Your excellency's knowledge, has the Holy See obtained visas for any country for so-called non-Aryan Christians, or are such projects in prospect?

(8) If possible, could Your excellency be helpful in any way in organizing or taking intervening steps in connection with the emigration of Jewish people from Hungary?

(9) Would Your excellency feel free to inquire of the consular officials in Budapest whether, by his presence as an observer of events, he might ascertain that the Hungarian government abides by the representations it has made in its recent announcement through the International League of Cross of its intention to initiate certain ameliorating conditions in its treatment of Jewish people in Hungary?

(10) Would Your excellency feel free to make use of your offices in securing protection, assistance, or release from jails or anti-Semitic or other political leaders in Hungary or Rumania who, because of their past activities or their political status, have been subject to oppression in their respective countries? In this connection, there are attached hereto lists of prominent persons in Rumania and Hungary who have been subjected to oppression, in part at least, for political reasons.

(11) Does your Excellency have any knowledge or information regarding such steps as might have been taken to the present by the Holy See in assisting financially so-called non-Aryan Christians, or others, in Hungary who are subject to oppression. Would it be possible for you to be of assistance in the transmission of funds for such purposes, should they become available?

8/1/44
Letters

Istanbul, August 1, 1944

Dear Joe:

I learned today upon requesting from Resnik your whereabouts that you had arrived in Lisbon on July 29. I would be pleased to hear from you as soon as possible. I am quoting below from a paraphrase of a statement from a high source in Bucharest relating to Fildermann which I thought you would like to have. I will try to keep you informed on any other matters that will be helpful and pertinent to the enterprises in which we are interested, and I should appreciate your doing likewise.

"I beg to refute all false information circulating with respect to Mr. Fildermann's case. The latter enjoys full freedom and is collaborating with the Jewish Central, with a view of organizing, together with Mr. Zissu, the emigration of refugees.

"Mr. Fildermann's son, who has been in France since the outbreak of the war, has apparently been deported to Poland. I have personally intervened on his behalf with the German Government and was promised that he would be set at liberty."

I had expected to hear something of your plans regarding our representation here and wonder what you have decided. Because of my great interest in the J.D.C. I think that you ought to know the following. As long as a week ago, all of us in Istanbul knew that a group of 40 Bulgarian children was due to arrive here from Bulgaria en route to Palestine. Naturally, this was of great interest, since it was the first group of children coming from that country in several months, and we all followed up the matter closely. The children arrived on Sunday morning, July 30, and were met at the station by representatives of the Palestine organizations and by three representatives of the War Refugee Board. All found time and took the occasion to see and question the children at the hotel at which they stopped in Istanbul, for the purpose of assisting and generally to become acquainted with them. The children left Istanbul on Monday morning, July 31. On the afternoon of July 31, when we held a meeting of the small operating committee in Istanbul, Mr. Resnik raised the question as to what the status of the 40 children was and when they were expected to arrive in Istanbul. He did not know that they had already arrived and departed.

-2-

I mention the foregoing to you only because I think that the refugees coming through Istanbul ought to know of the tremendous assistance they received through the J.D.C., which is entitled to great credit for what it has been able to accomplish. I think you will agree that this incident of the children's transport does not help in forwarding the J.D.C.'s position, insofar as the refugee work undertaken from Istanbul is concerned. It may well be that Mr. Resnik, being alone and without staff, is too overburdened with work to cover everything himself. On the other hand, at least the information about the children was available and the convoy did arrive on a Sunday.

All good wishes to you anyway,

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz
American Joint Distribution Committee
c/o American Embassy
Lisbon, Portugal

9/30/44
Letters (3)

Istanbul, September 30, 1944

Dear Monsieur Minors :

As you know, I am planning to leave for the United States in the near future. My departure will in no way affect the work and program of the War Refugee Board in Turkey. Mr. Herbert Hatzki, whom you have met, will remain here as the representative of the War Refugee Board, with full authority to act in my absence, and I presume that you and he will consult on matters with the same degree of frankness and cooperation which animate our work during my incumbency here.

I know you will give him your whole-hearted cooperation, respect and assistance.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Girschmann
Special Attaché

Monsieur Gilbert Minors
42 Mecidiyeköy Caddesi
Yenişehir, Ankara

im/b

9/9/44
Letters (S)
Bulgaria

Istanbul

September 9, 1944

Dear Monsieur Simond:

Thank you for your telegram of September 8 regarding the information you received from the Bulgarian Minister connected with the exchange rate offered by him, which I assume refers to the informal conversation we had connected with the suggested relief program.

The proposal for relief to be conducted by relief agencies in Bulgaria has been telegraphed to Washington and we are awaiting a reply. Pending such a reply I am not permitted to consider details of the proposal. Should the reply from Washington be affirmative, at that time Ambassador Steinhardt and I will consider the manner in which relief can be made available.

With regard to the informal discussion we had to send Jaquinet or some representative of your choice to Bulgaria, this matter, of course, will also have to await a reply from Washington.

I want to thank you for all your help in this matter and others. You have been a tower of strength to me in my work here and I hope you realize how much I have appreciated it.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

Monsieur Gilbert Simond
42 Necati Bey Caddesi
Yenisehir
Ankara

IAH:VH

7/14/44
Letters (5)

Istanbul, Turkey, July 14, 1944

Dear Mr. Simond:

Among my papers I found the enclosed copy of a letter to Mr. Peter from Mr. Pehle, Executive Director of President Roosevelt's War Refugee Board. I thought you would like to have it.

I am eagerly waiting word from you regarding the two gentlemen and will come to Ankara at any time to see either one of them. Please let me know if there is anything I can do for you here.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Enclosure:
As stated.

Mr. Gilbert Simond
International Committee
of the Red Cross

A N K A R A

8/11/44
Letters (5)
Istanbul

Istanbul, August 11, 1944

Dear Mr. Staniszewski:

Please forgive this belated reply to your letter of July 29, as I have been in Ankara most of the time since that date.

We have taken note of the question concerning persons of Polish citizenship who have escaped from Poland to Hungary and Rumania. As I reported to you verbally, the relief organizations operating from Istanbul have been aware of the problem of Polish nationals and have made it a policy to include in their program a fair percentage of them among those who are being rescued. For your information, all of the transports which thus far have arrived have contained a proportion of Polish nationals. You may be assured that this problem will be given every fair consideration in future rescue plans.

If you are free one day next week I should be grateful if you would call me, as I would be happy to discuss with you this and one other problem connected with the matter.

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

Karol Staniszewski, Esquire
Consul of Poland
Polish Consulate General
Istanbul

7/29/44
Letters (5)
Poland

Warsaw, July 2, 1944

Dear Sirs: We have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of July 1, 1944, regarding the matter mentioned therein. The information furnished to us by the Polish authorities is that the numbers reported by you are those of the original documents. The numbers reported by you are those of the original documents. The numbers reported by you are those of the original documents.

The information furnished to us by the Polish authorities is that the numbers reported by you are those of the original documents. The numbers reported by you are those of the original documents. The numbers reported by you are those of the original documents.

Sincerely,
[Signature]

[Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

W. J. [Signature]
Special Agent in Charge

23

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN JUDAH MAGNES AND WRB REPRESENTATIVE IN TURKEY

(Material sent in from WRB Office in Turkey)

T. C.
MÜNAKALAT VEKÂLETİ
P. T. T. İ. U. M.

237
Transit

1126145
Magnes
[ÖrneK : B. 8]

305 CAIRO 52 26 1750 = MR HERBERT KATZKI WAR REFUGEE
BOARD ANKARA =

WOULD YOU FACILITATE TURKISH VISA FOR JACOB L TROBE REPRESENT-
ING AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE WHO IS PROCEEDING
TO TURKEY AND HAVE IT SENT CARE OF JERUSALEM WHERE HE WILL
ARRIVE IN A FEW DAYS OR TURKISH CONSULATE BEIRUT I ALSO CABLED
AMBASSADOR STEINHARDT = JUDAH MAGNES +

SUZ2 1748 S.



21.35.11

27.1.245

TELEGRAM SENT

Jan. 20, 1945

American Consul, Jerusalem, from Katzki for Judah Magnes

Subject: Jabotinsky has no projects.

TELEGRAM SENT

January 19, 1945

From Barlas to Wagnes

Subject: request for funds for maintenance of refugees, from
Sofia Palestine office.

1944
Angeles
Tulsa

Istanbul, January 19, 1945

Personal and

Dear Dr. Magnes:

By this time, you will have received my telegram with regard to Mr. Jabotinsky's proposed charter, in behalf of the Emergency Committee to Rescue the Jews of Europe, of the S.S. Tari for a voyage to transport emigrants from Constanza to Haifa. The Ministry of Transports, in responding to Jabotinsky, based its refusal on the grounds that "The transport of Jewish emigrants from the Balkan countries to Palestine has been for the time being stopped."

I am sure that you already know the background of this matter. You will recall that, as a result of Ambassador Steinhardt's initiative in behalf of the American Embassy and the War Refugee Board, a General Agreement finally was obtained among the American Embassy, the British Embassy and the Turkish Foreign Office. Under the terms of this Agreement, admission into Turkey, in transit, of refugees from the Balkans proceeding to Palestine was to be facilitated under a simplified procedure. You know that, under this Agreement, there was a relatively substantial flow of Jewish people from Rumania and Bulgaria to Palestine. As, in the opinion of the British, the emergency which called forth the General Agreement for emigration from Rumania and Bulgaria had passed, the British Embassy in Ankara notified the Turkish Foreign Office that the General Agreement was to be regarded as terminated.

As part of the plan of the British, presumably to regularize immigration into Palestine within the 1500 per month limitation and the quota of 5000 visas available for Rumania and Bulgaria, we are informed that Passport Control Officers are being sent to Sofia and Bucharest in order that Palestine entry visas will be issued in the normal manner at the point from which the emigration is to take place. This would be all of a piece with the termination of the General Agreement in Ankara, and naturally would bring to a halt former procedures whereby large numbers of emigrants were brought by ship to Istanbul, where their Palestine entry certificates were to be issued.

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

This change in procedure, and the concomitant plan of the British to exercise quota limitations on Palestine entry, naturally would preclude projects looking toward the transport of large numbers of emigrants to Istanbul to secure visas here. Mr. Jabotinsky made his request at the Ministry of Transports in November 1944 when the General Agreement was still in force. This Ministry gave its response subsequent to the termination of the Agreement. It can be understood that the Turkish authorities would be unwilling to provide a vessel to carry emigrants to Istanbul, en route to Haifa, after they had been informed by the British that visas for such people would not be issued in Istanbul. The termination of the General Agreement automatically causes Jabotinsky's project to fall, since within the framework of present restrictions upon entry into Palestine it would be impossible to carry it out.

The last group to pass through Turkey in transit under the simplified procedure was that of the Stara Zagora detainees. This was the group of 625 from Rumania who arrived in Palestine early in January. These people left Rumania during the period when the General Agreement was still in force, but arrived at the Turkish frontier subsequent to its termination. It was on these grounds that it was possible for Ambassador Steinhardt promptly and energetically to intervene with the British Ambassador in order to have the necessary steps taken for the admission of these emigrants into Turkey, and for the issuance in Istanbul of the necessary Palestine visas. Now that everyone is on notice, I doubt whether it will be possible to make such an arrangement again.

If there is any further information you would like to have regarding any of the matters touched upon herein, I would appreciate your letting me know.

With best wishes to Mr. Kessler and to yourself, I am

Sincerely yours,

Herbert Katzki
Representative
War Refugee Board

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem

HK:VH

TELEGRAM SENT

January 11, 1945

From Katzki to Judah Magnes

Subject: Levy's recommendations as regards JEC relief in Bulgaria.

AIRGRAM

January 10, 1945

To Judah Barnes and Mordecai Kessler from Couvoisier
relative to relief for Bulgaria and 30,000 pairs of shoes for
Rumania and/or Salsaria.

Istanbul, January 9, 1945

Dear Mr. Lagnes:

By this time you will have received my two telegrams concerning the supervision and distribution of such of the shoes, clothing and medicine which the Joint Distribution Committee is attempting to purchase in Bulgaria for assistance to the Jewish people in Bulgaria.

In my conversation with Dr. Levy upon his return from Sofia, I felt very strongly that in handing over to the Consistories the supervision and distribution of your supplies, it is far better to keep them assigned to an independent person who will come in contact with supplies and shipping. This committee consists of Colonel Avram Todor, who has been one of the leaders of the Bulgarian Jewish Consistories since the time of its dissolution and who, I understand, is still fully regarded in Bulgaria; Leon Tsvetichanoff, a little in off, who is reported to you in my first wire; Mancho Chankinoff, who is reported to you as at Constantinople and who, in Dr. Levy's opinion, of the present Constantinople is the most secretly conscious; Jacques Kissinoff, who is independent though a member of one of the political parties; Dr. Todor, who has been a leader of the Jewish, in his own investigations of the situation of the Jews in Bulgaria, has no political affiliations at all; with Lazer Goldmann as Secretary. Goldmann assisted Levy in a number of letters and, according to the latter, is conscientious, energetic, and a man in fact for this committee to take its own investigations and to see that arrangements in various countries and Jewish people are now in Bulgaria, and to make distribution in accordance with its own findings. Levy's lack of such independent control is a preferable procedure to follow, but that in any event the control should be given over to the Consistories.

Dr. Levy's description of the present situation of the Jewish people in Bulgaria is substantially the same as that which we have been receiving during the past several months, and with which you are familiar. He sees little improvement in their position today as compared with what he found last year when he was in Bulgaria. He emphasizes

AIRGRAM SENT J-1

January 4, 1945

From: Matzki to Jewish Agency

Subject: Discussion of selection of committee in Bulgaria to
distribute JA and JDC shipments. IKC not represented in
Bulgaria.

9/25/44
CMAf.60

Istanbul, September 25, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

There is nothing new to report in the way of progress since, as you probably know, our "front" is rather inactive now. Passman is coming to Jerusalem this week-end and will probably anticipate this letter with news and information. Again I say that the more I see of Passman the more highly I regard him. His clarity, sincerity and capability are beyond question and the JDC is fortunate in having this type to represent it as against the other which misrepresented it.

You probably heard the broadcast from Bulgaria. It is regrettable, in my opinion, that Klarman took the lead in this presentation. Information reaching me indicates that efforts are being made in Bulgaria to create situations of possible unrest which would provide a special interest on the part of the Jews for coming to Palestine. Nothing could be more unfortunate, as I know the broad policy of the Palestinians must be rooted in the desire to welcome only those to Palestine who really want to come and to help build it for its sake and its broader possibilities.

Our access into Rumania and Bulgaria will be delayed and I am planning to return to the United States in the very near future. Prior to doing so I intend to keep my promise to come to Palestine for a few days to absorb more deeply of its quality and spirit. I want this to take back with me as a basis for future contribution and participation if it is possible.

With warm personal regards,

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

IAH:VH

האוניברסיטה העברית
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

Jerusalem 14. IX. 44.

ירושלים

Mr. I. A. Hirschmann,
The Refugee Board,
c/o American Embassy,
ANKARA.

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

I thank you very much for your letter of August the 31st. One can feel the sincerity with which you wrote the letter, and I wish to tell you again how glad I am that it was given to you to be of such decisive help to the cause of freedom in Bulgaria.

I am sure that this example has influenced, and will continue to influence other settlements.

I wrote to Mr. Passman a long letter last week, and for that reason I am not writing this week, and inasmuch I am pressed for time. I do hope that you and he will by the time you have received this letter have been able to get to Roumania and Bulgaria and, with Heaven's help, to Hungary as well.

Mr. Chief Rabbi Herzog has asked me to call the attention of the JDC representatives to the question of "Agunot". Mr. Passman will tell you what this complicated subject is. Dr. Herzog would ask that as much exact information as possible be gathered concerning them.

I telegraphed Mr. Passman that I was sorry he had recommended to the JDC that they discontinue the 80,000 dollars monthly contribution for Ezra before he was able to get to the spot, that is Roumania, Bulgaria, and perhaps Hungary.

I telegraphed also to the JDC proposing that Schweitzer be engaged. Thus far, no reply has come.

I telegraphed them also that in the "Davar" of September the 7th there was a lengthy despatch from Moscow concerning the formation of an organizing committee for the Jews of Poland with Dr. Emil Sommerstein at its head. They want particularly to engage in relief activities.

Dr. Eliash did not get into touch with me - it was probably not worth-while.

With best regards, and all good wishes for a happy new year,

I am,

Sincerely yours,

J. L. Magnes
J. L. Magnes

P.S.

Please give my regards and new year greetings to Joe Levy, and ask him to convey regards and new year greetings to Miss Franco.

JIA/tw

Istanbul, September 12, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

I do not know if I have ever told you how interesting and helpful I have found the newspaper clippings that you have been sending me. They give us a picture of how the outside world is interpreting the efforts at rescue, and you know from your experience here how inverted one's thoughts can become through the intensive interchange with a limited group of people in one locality.

Looking at the rapid changes of Government in Bulgaria one learns again what Ambassador Steinhardt has so often told me, that in Government affairs it is necessary to wait and watch and not to move too quickly to decisions. A great deal may happen in Bulgaria before it is reconstituted. We must strive with all our power to see that our Jewish population is cared for in the wake of the changing conditions. Joe Levy left for Bulgaria last evening and perhaps we will hear something of interest and secure some help from him.

Passman is inordinately alive and helpful, and is exactly the right person to be here at this time in view of the fact that the new efforts will all lead towards a gigantic relief program. I am afraid from the reports coming in that it will be of a scope almost beyond our imagination or possibilities. I am waiting eagerly to hear from you regarding the suggestion I made in my letter of September 5. We must pull every constructive lesson out of the war. As soon as I can get approval and transportation I hope to move on to Rumania, and from there back to the States.

Katzki is now in Izmir working on efforts to bring some more people out of the Greek Islands. You perhaps know that about 800 have been so transported to safety through Turkey to Palestine. Our Government is helping in this.

With warm personal regards,

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

LAM:VH

Enclosed in letter from Dr. Magnes

"Justice, Humanity" In Hungary

STOCKHOLM, Saturday (R). — The text of an appeal by King Gustav of Sweden to Admiral Horthy, Regent of Hungary on behalf of the Hungarian Jews, and the Hungarian reply, has been published in Stockholm.

The King asked Admiral Horthy "in the name of humanity and Hungary's good renown" to "save those of this unhappy people who can still be saved." Admiral Horthy replied that he would do all in his power "under the present circumstances" to maintain the "principles of justice and humanity."

According to a statement certain relaxations in the anti-Semitic measures have been introduced. Firstly, following demands by the Swedish Red Cross, the Palestine Immigration Commission, and the War Refugees Board, a limited number of Hungarian Jews will be allowed to emigrate to Sweden, Switzerland and Palestine. Secondly, baptized Jews will not be conscripted for labour abroad. Unbaptized Jews conscripted for this purpose will be sent abroad under more humane conditions, and the Hungarian Red Cross will supervise their departure and journey.

Baptized Jews

Thirdly, baptized Jews will be allowed to leave their homes at fixed hours on Sundays and holidays to attend religious services. Fourthly, Jews who are close relations of Christian priests will be exempted from wearing the Star of David.

The statement adds that the Red Cross will henceforth be allowed to send parcels to persons in concentration camps.

Commenting on the right of certain Jews to emigrate, the Swedish Foreign Office points out that so far it has only been possible to obtain transit visas and transport through Germany for a small number of Jews. Efforts are being made to improve this situation.

THE PALESTINE POST

Friday, August 18, 1944.
A. B. 29, 5704. Shaban 28, 1363.

THE Allied authorities, we were recently told, plan to repatriate within seven months of the armistice

WORDS, some seven million of the PLAIN AND vast number of human beings who under the New Order were transported like cattle to Germany to work for their Nazi slave-masters. Considering the disruption of Europe's economy and transport already brought about by the war, and the further heavy damage and dislocation about to be caused in France and elsewhere by the continuous bombing of towns and railway stations, a plan for shifting a million civilians per month will involve a first charge upon all existing facilities. This is as it should be, for the speedy return to their homes of the prisoners and labour slaves deported by the Germans is the basic step in the rebuilding of something like normal life. Unfortunately such a going back, is not possible for all the millions successively employed upon the construction of the Nazi pyramid. Apart from the vast number buried under it, and still to be destroyed by its fall, there are hundreds of thousands for whom return is morally impossible even were it physically conceivable. The Hungarian Jews who were bundled aboard the death trucks amidst the plaudits of their neighbours cannot, even if by some miracle they should survive, go back to what were once their homes — especially as these homes have in the meantime been taken over by those who saw them off. Nor is it possible seriously to suggest that Lublin can ever again become a Jewish community, or that Jews may choose to live in Strelcher's former capital because they were once citizens of Nuremberg. For them, and for those who have gone through similar experiences, there is no going back but only a radical break with a past which culminated in the horror of

Bulgarian Envoys Arrive in Cairo

CAIRO, Wednesday (R). — The Bulgarian armistice delegation, which arrived here today, was met at the port by Allied experts, both civilian and military. The members of the delegations were accompanied by a British officer who has been doing important work in the Balkans.

The delegation is expected to have full authority to conclude an armistice which may, however, not be completed without reference to the Government in Sofia.

In view of the rapid development of the situation in the Balkans, observers here believe that Lord Moynie's recent three day trip to Rome for urgent talks with Mr. Churchill was made to receive last-minute instructions for handling the armistice, which will be negotiated by him for the British and by Mr. McVeach for the Americans.

It is recalled that the Sofia radio on Saturday night announced that the Bulgarian Government was making approaches to the Allies.

Diplomatic reports in London at the same time indicated that the armistice terms were already on the way from the Allied Powers to Bulgaria and would reach the Bulgarian Government within a day or two.

This followed the Moscow Flor-

ALLIED PEACE TERMS READY

LONDON, Wednesday (R).

The Allied armistice terms to Bulgaria, completed at the end of last week by the European Advisory Commission, have been definitely approved by the British and United States Governments subject to the concurrence of the Greek and Yugoslav Governments which is now being obtained.

The terms were handed to the Bulgarian envoys as soon as they reached the surrender rendez-vous.

Foreign Office announcement that the Bulgarian Government had announced a policy of neutrality in regard to Rumania and that Bulgaria was prepared to disarm the Germans remaining in Bulgaria. Subsequently the Bulgarian radio stated that the Germans were in fact being disarmed.

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scripted for this purpose will
be sent abroad under more
humane conditions, and the
Hungarian Red Cross will sur-
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culminated in the horror of
1942-44.

The Inter-Governmental
Committee on Refugees,
which is now meeting in
London in an atmosphere of
public apathy for which the
duration of the war is not
the sole explanation, is of
course aware of these facts.
If it chooses to ignore them
it is not for lack of factual
information. Its amiable ad-
vice to the "refugees" in
question to build new homes
on the graveyard of their
dead selves and their relat-
ives is not practical and is
not meant to be taken se-
riously. The truth is that
the Committee, like the
whole so-called civilized
world, is weary of the "re-
fugee" question. It has come
to the conclusion that the
problem is both tiresome,
and insoluble within its
frame of reference, which
is strictly non-political and
does not provide for the
kind of radical measures that
would be required to create
real homes for Jews evicted
from Poland, Hungary or
Rumania. It is not, on the
other hand, prepared to say
that these Jews should emig-
rate, for it knows that the
epoch of free emigration is
at an end and that controlled
emigration under national
auspices raises an awkward
problem. "Resolved only to
be irresolute, adamant for
drift, all-powerful to be im-
potent," as Mr. Churchill
said on another occasion of
an even more august body,
it confines itself to pious
plattitudes and in private
hopes that by the time the
war ends there will not be
too many troublesome "re-
fugees" left to be taken care
of. Its members would all be
glad to help if it could be
done without inconvenience,
but pending some as yet un-
discovered nostrum they feel
they are compelled to let
Hitler handle the matter
in his own fashion.

Government within a day or
two. This followed the Moscow For-
tress and ends the
concentration camps
in. The Bulgarian
in Bulgaria. Subsequently
Bulgarian radio stated that
Germans were in fact being
disarmed. effort and the

The Following Pages Are the Best Available

1 1 1 1 1

NEW YORK, Tuesday (P.T.A.)
 The "New York Post" learns that Britain has informally notified the United States of its acceptance in principle of the offer made by the Hungarian Regent, Admiral Horthy, to let some of the Jewish people go.

The paper adds that the conversations between the two governments have reached the stage where actual working plans are now being drafted while a definite announcement is expected, possibly in a few days.

Hungarian Rescue Statement Soon

he laid his bullets on the sand in front of him. His was an ordinary rifle, fitted with telescopic sights and a magazine for ten rounds. But the sniper

order that the big show might have the best coverage of any war front, joint planning between Press, communications, and the services went steadily on.

Invasion Vanguard
 Not only from New York's biggest news agencies and newspapers did the reporters come to join British newsmen for invasion stories. The newspapers of great cities like Washington, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Boston, Los Angeles, St. Louis, Minneapolis, Detroit, sent men across the Atlantic to gather in London's newspaper heart— Fleet Street — and that period of waiting was a time spent preparing and training alongside the armies.

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Letters

you are out of luck. Your only risk is 15 mills."
 "Thereupon I wrote the letter, put a 20 mill stamp on it and posted it. Two days ago I received the letter back, censored and with a remark "No service".
 Today I again read in your paper that the postal service to Rome has been resumed. — May I send the letter or not?
 Yours, etc.
CURIOUS NATIVE

Tel Aviv.
SWANDED P.E.
 The Editor The Palestine Post
 etc. — Yesterday I thought



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 DAILY: Concert 1

SAN
 RESTAURANT

ALLIES TO FIND REFUGE FOR HUNGARIAN JEWS

LONDON, Thursday (R). — A joint Anglo-American declaration regarding an offer by the Hungarian Government to the International Red Cross to release the Jews from Hungary announces the acceptance of the offer. It says:

The International Red Cross has communicated to the Governments of the United States and the United Kingdom an offer by the Hungarian Government with regard to the emigration and treatment of Jews. Because of the desperate plight of the Jews in Hungary and the overwhelming humanitarian considerations involved, the two Governments are informing the Hungarian Government through the Red Cross that, despite the heavy difficulties and responsibilities involved, they have accepted the offer of the Hungarian Government for the release of Jews and will make arrangements for the care of such Jews leaving Hungary who reach neutral or United Nations territory, and also that they will find temporary havens or refuge where such people may live in safety.

Notification of these assurances is being given to the Governments of neutral countries who are being requested to permit the entry of Jews who reach their frontiers from Hungary.

The Governments of the United States and United Kingdom emphasize that in accepting the offer which has been made they do not in any way condone the action of the Hungarian Government in forcing the emigration of Jews as an alternative to the persecution and death of the Jews.

Hitler Wanted Jews Of Hungary Killed

GENEVA, (Palcor). — Hitler's personal insistence on the liquidation of Hungarian Jewry when Admiral Horthy visited his headquarters in March of this year, is reported by "Neue Zuercher Zeitung."

Hitler then ranted at the Regent, declaring that it was impossible that a million Jews could remain in Hungary and enjoy practically unlimited freedom. He added that the German Government regarded them as a grave danger to the Eastern and Balkan fronts.

Refugee Committee

LONDON, Thursday (R). — Sir Herbert Emerson, the Director of the Refugee Committee, was instructed to invite the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Czechoslovakia, France, Poland, the United Kingdom and the United States to appoint experts to examine questions of adoption and the issue of internationally recognized travel documents for stateless persons or those not enjoying the protection of any Government.

Nazis Prepare War Criminal Defence

ZURICH, Thursday (PTA). — Jews were no longer under the control of the Gestapo.

Nazi leaders, shaken by unrest at home and defeat on all fronts, are beginning to lay the groundwork for their defence before war criminal tribunals, it is indicated in a dispatch by the Nazi Transoceanic news service received here.

The dispatch quotes an address by Sundermann, deputy press chief of the Reich, to representatives of the foreign press in Berlin in which he discussed German treatment of the Jews. Alleging that until 1940 Jews were allowed to emigrate freely, he said that in 1941 Jews were "incorporated into the European production system" and placed at the disposal of the Todt Organization which constructs German fortifications, farms, factories and other groups. Once assigned to labour, Sundermann said,

Passing the Buck

This last is apparently an attempt to place the blame for the mistreatment and execution of Jews on the forced labour of the individuals or organizations for whom they were working rather than on the German Government.

Sundermann claimed that the International Red Cross recently investigated conditions at the fortress prison of Theresienstadt, where many thousands of Jews from all over Europe are confined, and found them good. Twenty thousand food parcels reached the Theresienstadt internees from abroad during June, he stated, and negotiations are proceeding for the shipment of such parcels to other camps.

(See Refugee Story — Page 3) 8

Politics Hamper Refugee Aid

By ISRAEL MEREMINSKY
"Davar" Special Cable

WASHINGTON, Thursday. — The outstanding impression of the visitor to Washington interested in Jewish rescue work is that it is suffering because of the tension between the U.S.S.R. and the Polish Government in London, and the complications which have arisen between the Partisans and the Underground.

One also gathers that most non-Jewish friends of the Zionist cause regard it as unnecessary to press for the adoption by Congress of the pending Palestine resolution because a resolution does not obligate the President. It is pointed out that the pro-Zionist sympathies expressed by the Republicans, and the clear stand on a Jewish Commonwealth formulated by the Democratic Party, represents public opinion in the United States, and that no Administration responsible to voters will ignore it.

The rumours which circulated last month about a proposed decisive British or American-British-Soviet declaration concerning Palestine are now regarded as unfounded.

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SLAUGHTER OF THE INN

HUNGARIANS CONDEMN ATROCITIES

LONDON, Monday (R). — The Free Hungarian Council in Britain today drafted a message, to be broadcast to Hungary, threatening swift and severe retribution upon "all criminals condemned in the anti-Jewish atrocities."

Count Michael Karolyi, President of the Council, condemned the crimes of the Horthy regime. "It is our duty," he said, "to raise our voice too against these barbarous crimes, to achieve the complete cessation of prosecution, and to protest against allowing the massacre of about 55,000 Hungarians for political reasons."

in Gibraltar in 1940 is
from today, Tuesday

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SLAUGHTER OF THE INNOCENTS

STOCKHOLM, (Patco. - Dur-
ing 1943, alone, the German
massacred 3,100,000 Jews, ac-
cording to Swedish press re-
ports quoting a statement by
the Swedish-Israel Mission
which emphasizes that the
murder of the remaining Jews
in Europe is continuing system-
atically.

Relying on Swedish Church
sources, the report declares
that about 300,000 of Poland's
3,500,000 Jewish inhabitants
remain alive, and that there
are only a few thousand sur-
vivors of the 600,000 German

Jews. Of the 200,000 Jews in
Belgium and Holland, possibly
10,000 remain alive, while 7,000
have survived of Austria's
150,000 Jewish inhabitants.

It is not thought that any of
Yugoslavia's pre-war Jewish
community of 50,000 have re-
mained in that country, having
either been murdered or left.

About 6,000 Jews have found
refuge in Sweden.

The Swedish Foreign Office
has announced that Sweden
has declared its willingness to
receive an unlimited number
of Jewish children from Ger-
man-occupied Europe.

used in Gibraltar in 1940 is
revoked from today, Tuesday

Refugee Ship Sunk

By German Craft

WASHINGTON, Monday (UP)
— Particulars of the midnight
sinking in the Black Sea of
the Turkish motor-ship, Mef-
kura, carrying Jewish refugees
from Rumania to Turkey, were
revealed here today by the Di-
rector of the U.S. War Refu-
gee Board, Mr. John W. Pehle.

Mr. Pehle said that reports
from survivors indicated that
the Mefkura sank under Ger-
man shell-fire which killed
more than 250 passengers. The
ship was approached by three
surface craft near midnight
on August 5, and they imme-
diately began firing machine-
guns and cannon at the Mef-
kura. One of the first shots
exploded the Mefkura's ma-
chinery and she was subse-
quently set afire by incendiary
bullets.

The Mefkura's five survivors
are now en route to Palestine
by railway.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

were cause...

"Save Them-Don't Give Up!"

By D. BADER
In "Fishman"

ISTANBUL, Monday. — When we saw the group of immigrants from the Moreno at the Haidar Pasha station (writes a correspondent) there rose before us the image of those 253 drowned when the storm that has swept over the world carried them into the depths.

But we kept ourselves in hand, and the sight of the living on their way to the train that would lead them to freedom brought our thoughts back to practical matters. The children's feet, naked or clad in wood, moved heavily towards the platform. They carried their poor belongings in sacks or in tattered suit-cases.

"Don't give up, carry on with the work of salvation, cried out to us Elvka Ravenstein, who was in charge of the children—she, whose tears were still not dry that she had shed for those other children, the 60 who had been drowned.

1300 boys and girls from Transilvania are still on a farm near Bucharest, most of which has been destroyed by bombing. Among them are little ones, 14 years old, whose smiles and youth have been taken away from them by the forced labour in stone quarries for Hitler's Todt Organization. Onto their tender bodies they have, impressed by white-hot irons, the sign "Todt Organization", to prevent their escape.

As the train began to move towards the homeland the 303 broke out into the strains of Halévy's the Song of Hope. The cry still echoes in our ears — Save the children. Save them. Don't be deterred by the dangers. They must be faced, for they are the price of life and freedom.

Trade in Children

MOSCOW, (ONA). — A trainload of Russian children on their way to be killed or enslaved by the Germans was ransomed by the people of Vilna for eggs and butter, according to an eyewitness account published here.

The children, who had been shipped from Smolensk, were waiting on the railroad tracks and were probably bound for the execution grounds at Ponary. A few citizens offered their German escorts a bribe of five eggs for each child released. Then, when the Germans saw that the people were willing to pay, they raised their price to 10 eggs and finally to a kilogram of butter per child. Even so, the whole trainload was ransomed.

This occurrence is one of many told by A. Sirakover, a Jewish poet, in an article published here describing his experiences during his years of captivity following his capture at Vilna early in the war.

(See Leader — Page 4)

2 1/2 Million Jews Exterminated

LONDON, Saturday (PTA). — Joseph Betingor, the late General Sikorski's right-hand man, who has returned from Poland where he was dropped by parachute on a secret mission, told the P.T.A. that only from 100,000 to 200,000 Jews remain in Poland. Leaders of the underground movement and Jewish survivors both believe that 2,500,000 Jews were exterminated.

The Warsaw ghetto battle was waged by 18 Zionist and "Bundist" (Jewish Socialist) battalions, in the ratio of the present strength of these two remaining Jewish political parties.

A few Dutch and Belgian Jews were until recently in the ghetto, he said, adding that the report of M. Leon Blum's death was probably untrue since the underground had searched for him in all concentration camps but had not found him.

U-Boat Sank Refugee Ship

From Our Own Correspondent

BEIRUT, Saturday. — A description of the sinking of the refugee boat "Mafrouka" in the Black Sea was given here by Hilda Wurmbrandt, one of the five survivors, on her arrival here from Turkey.

She said there was no doubt of the identity of the torpedo-boats that opened close-range gunfire on the "Mafrouka" in spite of the prominent Turkish flag. It flew and the Red Cross painted on the side. She heard orders in German and also the mocking shouts, "You Jews will be drowned."

Within 10 minutes the vessel was in flames and sinking fast while the passengers on board were either burnt alive or drowned.

Dogs Set on Survivors

To give the coup de grace to the few survivors struggling in the waves, the Germans threw overboard specially trained dogs who bit and harried any spared by the flames and the water.

The refugee ship "Bulbul" coming up to the rescue was too late to save more than five of the passengers.

Twenty-year old Hilda Wurmbrandt had already suffered for three years in Transilvania, where the Germans killed her parents.

REFUGEE COMMITTEE ENDS SESSION

LONDON, Saturday (PTA). — The closing session of the inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees has adopted a new constitution and passed resolutions defining the future relationship between the Committee and other governmental and non-governmental bodies operating in the same field to alleviate the sufferings of refugees.

The Director, Sir Herbert Emerson, was instructed to maintain close and sympathetic relations with voluntary organizations and to avail himself of their services. At the suggestion of the U.S. Ambassador, Mr. J.G. Winant, Sir Herbert was re-elected Director, and representatives of Brazil, Canada, Czechoslovakia, France, Mexico, the Netherlands, U.S.S.R., the United Kingdom, and the United States of America were elected to the Executive.

Earl Winterton, M.P., informed the meeting that Mr. Myron Taylor, U.S.A., had promised every support to the Committee in future. M. Maurice de Jean expressed confidence that when France was free it would again be a land of freedom and asylum for the homeless.

Examining Travel Documents

A report prepared by the Assistant Director, Mr. G.G. Kullman, concerning travel documents for stateless refugees or persons not protected by Governments, has been submitted to an expert commission which will report to the Executive. The latter has been empowered to submit recommendations on the matter to various Governments.

The Soviet delegate declared that in view of the fact that the U.S.S.R. was not a member of the League of Nations, it would have to reserve its opinion regarding cooperation with bodies connected with the League.

The new constitution adopted by the Committee gives wider powers to the Executive. The session ended earlier than was expected because the sub-commission proposed the adoption of resolutions en bloc.

200,000 Gassed In Nazi Camp

LONDON, August 4 (Delayed). — Jews from Hungary, despite Horvath's assurance that their deportation had been stopped, were still arriving at the German concentration camp at Oswiecim, near Cracow, 10 days ago (writes Mr. W.N. Ewer in the "Daily Herald").

Four or five boatloads were then coming every day. The information comes from Poles interned in the same area.

Their reports, which have just reached London, confirm the worst stories of the mass killings, which began two months ago. The victims — children as well as adults — are gassed and their bodies burned. These latest reports put the number of those slaughtered in Oswiecim at near 200,000.

With cold and efficient cruelty the deportees are told, on leaving Hungary, that they are being taken to Switzerland to be exchanged for German prisoners of war. This is to avoid resistance and trouble at the points of departure.

from the ground defences.

915/44
915/44

Istanbul,

September 5, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

You will be getting some first-hand information about the situation here from Dr. Eliash. I am pleased that these travellers have been coming through Palestine to keep you directly informed, although they cannot tell you all that I wish to say.

I think we should all be grateful for the way the situation is clearing up in the Balkans. In Bulgaria we have managed to bring the Jewish people at least to a technical point of security and possibility of rehabilitation. The next steps, of course, will be concerned with relief, and the Ambassador and I are losing no time in assisting Mr. Passman to get under way in Bulgaria and in Rumania. Yesterday I took Passman to the Ambassador and he talked with us at some length most sympathetically and helpfully. We plan to get into Rumania at the first possible moment and the Ambassador is helping us in this. There we may see the picture at first hand and possibly find a way of bringing some innocents out of Hungary. At the same time we want to determine precisely what is needed in Rumania and if the Poles, Hungarians, etc. who are refugees in Rumania should be emigrated. The relief problem, we understand, will be prodigious.

I am so happy that Passman was sent here at this time for he seems to be precisely the right man to anticipate and set the ground work for that job. It seems to me that Baerwald should be informed of this as there is still some confused misinformation in the air regarding Resnik's "resignation." In spite of Passman's kindly and constructive efforts to indicate Resnik's need for a vacation and being called elsewhere, Resnik has spread the story that he completed the job here and that Passman, a second string man, has come to clear up the details. I am not interested for one moment in this from any personal point of view relating to Resnik or Passman, except that it got Passman off to a poor start, and I am making it my business to introduce Passman to the essential leaders here in the proper manner.

It seems that Resnik has also filled Sherman with stories of the injustices meted out to him here and the fact that he never got a fair chance, which are being retailed to Mr. Baerwald. If you deem it advisable in the interest of truth and fact, you may wish to write to Mr. Baerwald of your own experiences connected with Resnik's work.

Now that the full story of the Rumanians' disorganization is coming out it is more obvious than ever that the JDC has played an unfortunate, expensive and inadequate role in the last year here. The brutal facts are most discouraging. They should not be overlooked in the interest of truth and the establishment of a basis for future activity. The reports coming in regarding Zissu in Rumania are most disagreeable. It seems that he was largely responsible for the delay of the boats, and if he wasn't, his position of leadership established by the Jewish Agency places that responsibility upon him. The story of his arbitrary, dilatory and delaying tactics is confirmed by Fildermann, in whom I have complete confidence. I hope, with Passman, to establish contact with the latter in Bucharest and to help the JDC in setting a better course. Ambassador Steinhardt is exceedingly helpful in this.

Once we have determined what can be done in Rumania and have helped to pry open the door in Hungary (provided it remains in the war), I believe that our rescue job so far as the United States Government is concerned will have been concluded. Thereafter I shall return to the States, but shall keep my promise, if nothing of an emergency nature interferes, to come to Palestine for a few days on my return. I look forward to this eagerly.

Reviewing our efforts, I regret that so pitifully few have been saved, but altogether the efforts seem to have been worth while. The breaking up of the Transnistria camp in March, as confirmed by the children now coming through, was a step that could not have been made without the use of our Government's weight. The few boats that did come in might reasonably have become "Strussas" without the Ambassador's eleventh-hour aid. The reconstitution of the Bulgarian Jewish citizenry may have been left hanging as an incident to be cleared up many months after the wrangling armistice. Each day that not only 45,000, but a single person, enjoys the opportunity for a free and dignified life is that day won. I know that you will agree with this.

Aside from the above, I think an important precedent has been established: A great and a free people has made its liberating force felt, not only in a military way but in a spiritual sense. It has reached out its arms in the midst of a gruelling struggle not only to destroy people but to save them. This counter-stroke is one that cannot be over-emphasized in the historical evaluation of the war's evolution. In itself it may not have resulted in a large measure of rescue, but as a precedent it can have far-reaching implications in measuring the future responsibility of Governments towards innocent victims of the political failures of their leaders.

Something penetrating for the record should be written about this. Perhaps you will do it. It would make good publicity material in America under your name, and I could place such a piece or article and have it distributed in booklet form in the proper way. If you determine to do so, I could send you facts and figures and a copy of my report which is being mailed to the State Department by the Ambassador. I know you will not neglect to refer with the proper emphasis to his gallant part in this chapter.

I hope that the point of view expressed is of interest to you, and I shall look forward to hearing from you.

With warm personal regards,

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

IAH:VH

CABLE VIA AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL, ISTANBUL

TO: AMERICAN CONSULATE GENERAL, JERUSALEM

FOR: JUDAH LAGNES

M. J. C.
J.O.C.

September 2, 1944

Have today cabled Joseph Schwartz, Lisbon, as follows:

"Dan Bratianu, representative Rumanian Red Cross, apparently well connected, came here with letters from Filderman. Hirschmann and I met him yesterday." He substantiated and elaborated previous information received from Filderman which makes clear that Rumanian Government was prepared facilitate emigration of refugees out due neglect and despotic methods of Zissu and those he represents, departure of boats unnecessarily held up one to two months, thus preventing repeated trips boats and saving many more thousands refugees. We were informed that at least four thousand Hungarian, Polish and other refugees are now in Rumania but in the event movement of ships possible, if present procedure prevails, refugees whose evacuation should have priority I believe probably will be left behind. Bratianu and Filderman's letter pointed out urgency relief program. Bratianu thinks our immediate presence Rumania important for various reasons. Hirschmann and I or either prepared to visit Rumania as soon as necessary authorizations, including that of United States Government, are received; object visit study conditions on spot in connection with immediate emergency and temporary relief, also possibility movement refugees, if necessary. I will not commit JDC before obtaining its approval to any proposals I may make on basis my investigation. Please cable immediately your approval my going if State Department consents. Hirschmann agrees contents cable."

Charles Passman

Park Hotel
Istanbul

OK
11-18

Istanbul, August 31, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

I asked Sherman on his way through to Cairo to be certain to spend some time with you in order to bring you up to date on the situation in Istanbul related to rescue work and in order to secure some inspiration from Palestine and from meeting you. I assume that he had done so.

With the radical change in the political situation in the Balkans you can imagine that we must shift our operations almost from day to day. But it is all to the good, and I think that we should be grateful at this point. Bulgarians and Rumanians should have no reason to have to leave their countries now, except those who voluntarily wish to come to Palestine. Our victory in Bulgaria in having the two anti-Jewish laws wiped off the books in advance of the armistice is one that I think we may well be proud of. My plan and proposal was to make the abolition of these laws part and parcel of the new order, concurrent with the peace declaration. To have it announced by decree in advance has a double-edged value: (1) each day that the 46,000 Bulgarian Jewish citizens are free to live normal, self-sustaining and dignified lives is a day won for them and for freedom; (2) the effect of this move by a Balkan country, which had practiced ruthless persecution and discrimination, announcing to the world that it has repented and placed all of its citizens on an equal par even before it managed to extricate itself from the war, should have a salutary effect throughout the world. It is an important precedent. This should be exploited everywhere.

Our next steps for Bulgaria have already been started, namely to bring relief and means of recuperation and rehabilitation to the Bulgarian Jewish population without delay. Passman is at work on this with me. The International Red Cross is prepared to move in. We should not delay for a moment. Saving people inside their country may be sounder

than saving them outside. But we should not stop at the point where rescue does not appear to be essential at the moment. We should only begin.

Rumania is a question mark. We hope to move in there at the first possibility to see the situation on the scene, to help where possible, to make arrangements for future relief, and to help pry open a door for the rescue of Hungarian Jews.

Ambassador Steinhardt has returned, and I feel a lot more secure now that he is here. I know I can bring my problems to him and receive sympathy and constructive aid.

I want to thank you for any part you may have had in arranging to send Passman here. He is just the type of human being that I respect. His deep interest in the objectives as well as the objectivity connected with his work is precisely what is needed. As for Eliash, I understand he is remaining here only several weeks, which bears out exactly what we had indicated. I think it is rather deplorable that this situation has been left in this stage, but far be it from me to criticize or to even suggest what should be done by the moguls in the Jewish Agency. I had a great experience in 1933 in running a campaign for La Guardia and I learned something of the frustrations of Tammany politics. It is regrettable that any such personal conflicts and machinations should have to be part and parcel of such a great and glorious enterprise as is Palestine.

I may be going to Izmir in a few days to help set up a base for the rescue of Greeks. The War Refugee Board is moving in on this, taking the initiative and a responsible part, and we are determined to snatch every last innocent out of the grip of the Nazis in their eleventh-hour convulsion.

I hope that you had a satisfactory and healthful vacation, and I send you and Mrs. Magnes my heartiest regards.

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Judah Magnes
President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

IAH:VH

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY, JERUSALEM

25.VIII.44

Mr. Ira Hirschmann
War Refugee Board
American Embassy
A n k a r a

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

Permit me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 7 which was received by us on the 20th. Dr. Magnes is coming back to Jerusalem at the beginning of next week and will doubtless write to you by the next pouch.

We are anxious to know how the most recent events, Roumania's armistice with Russia, may affect our problems.

Meanwhile you have no doubt seen Messrs. Passmann and Kessler.

Enclosed please find newspaper clippings concerning rescue work and our other problems.

I am

Sincerely yours,

L. Serenakius
Secretary to Dr. Magnes.

lj
enc.

האוניברסיטה העברית בירושלים
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY, JERUSALEM

18.VIII.44

Mr. Ira Hirschmann
War Refugee Board
c/o American Embassy
A n k a r a

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

Dr. Magnes has gone on a two weeks' vacation and has asked me to keep up his weekly correspondence with you.

Enclosed please find a few newspaper cuttings.

Mr. Passman and Mr. Kessler are leaving for Turkey tomorrow, and will be able to give you first-hand information from here even before you get this letter.

Three days ago we had a telegram from Mr. Resnik, sent on the 10th, about the three boats that left Constantza recently for Istanbul: the SS Marina, which arrived safely, the ill-fated SS Mafkura, and the SS Bulbul whose passengers were transported to Istanbul overland.

The telegram contains a passage which is not entirely clear. It seems to indicate that 1300 children may be leaving soon. Is this so, and are these children from Roumania or Hungary? We hope that we shall get more details about this soon.

I am

Sincerely yours,

L. Sussman
Secretary to Dr. Magnes

HOMES MUST BE FOUND FOR REFUGEES

BUT PREVIOUS ONES BEST, SAYS SIR H. EMERSON

LONDON, Wednesday. — The view that the voluntary return of refugees to their old homes was the best solution of their problem was expressed by the executive director, Sir Herbert Emerson, replying to the debate at the first meeting yesterday of the fourth plenary session of the Inter-Governmental Committee on Refugees here.

Lord Winterton, M.P., was in the chair, and representatives of 34 countries were present, including Mr. J.G. Winant for the United States, M. Maurice de Jean for France; and M. Koukin for the U.S.S.R. Observers for the Red Cross, I.L.O., S.H.A.E.F., and U.N.R.R.A. attended, and guests included representatives of Jewish and non-Jewish voluntary relief organizations.

Finding New Homes

Sir Herbert Emerson, reporting on the tasks ahead, said that it was a question of returning displaced people to their homes, as well as of finding new homes for those unable to return. The Inter-Governmental Committee covered a field distinct from that of U.N.R.R.A., since the latter was temporary and did not contemplate finding homes for

refugees, nor did it operate everywhere.

Praising Sweden and Switzerland for their humanitarian action, Sir Herbert pointed out that these countries were unable, however, to absorb into their permanent economic life all refugees who had entered. Help was needed, both before and after the armistice, for persons not necessarily stateless. Politics, he urged, should not interfere with the work.

The Hungarian Jews

It was impossible always to give as much help as was necessary but what had been done during the hostilities encouraged the view that more could be done after the war.

The Committee was in contact with the British and American Governments on the question of Hungarian Jews, he went on. He could not say what was the present situation regarding the Hungarian Government's offer to allow certain classes of Jews to leave their territory but there was every reason to suppose there would be positive results.

The Committee might have to invoke the help of those member-Governments who could give it financial aid and, far more important, a place of permanent or temporary refuge. It was broadly true that it had been possible, since the war began, to find places of

asylum for all those who had been able to escape.

Repatriating M.E. Refugees

Measures for the repatriation of European refugees in the Middle East were discussed at the meeting, and appreciation was expressed of the co-operation shown by the Middle Eastern authorities who had facilitated the housing of refugees.

The Egyptian Ambassador, Hassan Nashat Pasha, declared that the main attention should be focused on the possibility of returning refugees to their homes where their freedom would be guaranteed.

The Italian Government has approved in principle the request by the Inter-Governmental Committee that they should naturalize some of the non-Italian refugees in Italy and allow them to remain there, Sir Herbert Emerson told Reuters today.

Non-Italian refugees in Italy, he said, were being looked after by Sir Clifford Heathcote-Smith, the Committee's representative, who was helping find local employment for them. Between 700 and 800, mostly Austrians, Germans and Poles, and all of them Jews, recently went to Palestine, and within the last few weeks the United States had given 1,000 the majority Jews, temporary asylum.

(P.T.A., Reuter and ANA)

V

SPINNEY'S FOR

now only have patrols occasionally across the river. Forces had attained a number of initial successes.

Russia Wants Turkish Belligerency

Special to The Palestine Post
LONDON, Thursday. — Following Turkey's break with Germany, the question uppermost in official minds is the state of Turkey's Russian relations.

The Russian correspondent of "The Times" writes that official statements made so far in Turkey's public opinion under the impression that the negotiations which led to the rupture of relations with Germany were confined only to Britain and America, and that Russia did not take part in them, which impression was causing some uneasiness.

"It appears that the main reason of this Russian aloofness is the view held in leading circles in Moscow that the breaking off of relations with Germany is only a half-measure by Turkey, which does not satisfy the Russians completely, and they do not conceal their desire that Turkey should become a full belligerent," the correspondent says.

The Turkish politicians point out that Turkey might actively cooperate with the Allies by granting air bases or by sending the Turkish Armies into the field, but this would necessarily entail Turkish belligerency.

The only place where the Turkish Armies might go into action are the Balkans, and that would mean the invasion of Bulgaria.

Apart from the Turkish reluctance to attack Bulgaria, the main difficulty is that Russia favours Bulgaria.

Other factors in recent years have prevented the re-establishment of the former confident relations between Turkey and the U.S.S.R.

The Russians complain that Turkey concentrated troops on the Caucasian frontier when the Germans advanced towards Stalingrad, and they suspect that if the Germans had succeeded, Turkey would have sided with them, in order to share the Russian spoils.

The Turks indignantly deny these charges, saying that the Turkish troops were concentrated along the Caucasian border for the defence of Turkish neutrality against encroachments, while the Pan-Turanian movement was never encouraged, and later, as soon as it entered the political field, was stopped by the Turkish Government.

No Credit for Moscow

The impressions of "The Times" Ankara correspondent are confirmed by the paper's Moscow correspondent, who says that though Turkey's break with Germany is welcome as an addition to the enemy's embarrassment, little credit is given here to the Turkish Government for it.

The correspondent draws attention to a comment by the official Tass Agency which stresses that the belatedness of the Turkish action was largely due to quite unfounded doubts in Ankara about the inter-Allied concord achieved at the Moscow and Teheran conferences.

BULGARIAN DENIAL

ANKARA, Thursday (R). — The Bulgarian Government today denied reports that it was negotiating for peace with the Allies.

ASK FOR

Steps to Aid Jews Asked

NEW YORK, Monday (UP). — The suggestion that Britain and the United States establish a protectorate over all Jews surviving in occupied Europe is among a set of proposals cabled to the Inter-Governmental Committee on refugees by the World Jewish Congress here, according to Dr. Nahum Goldman.

It is further proposed that the Red Cross issue a declaration to the effect that it considers Jews as being deprived of their freedom as civilian internees; that Britain and the United States, as well as neutral countries, open their frontiers to all Jews who can be rescued; and that Hungary be summoned to repatriate deported Jews.

7,300 Immigrants During Half Year

The number of Jewish immigrants arriving in Palestine during the first half of 1944 was 7,291, according to the July Bulletin of the Office of Statistics.

Among the newcomers were 1,516 from Rumania, 1,257 from Turkey, 912 from Yeman and 821 from Bulgaria. Persons coming on "capitalist certificates" (with a capital of at least £1,000) aggregated 894, while those on labour certificates numbered, with their dependents, 6,156. There were 518 students and 211 dependents of residents.

Temporary visitors arriving during the first six months of 1944 totalled 48,638, including 38,022 Arabs, 2,028 Jews and 10,589 "others." Transit travelers numbered 10,542.

Due to the discontinuance of the Bulletin for several months last year, figures for 1943 are only now available. It is reported that the total number of immigrants, including Jews, Arabs and "others" during the past year was 9,754, as against 2,990, 4,188 and 5,481 in the three preceding years, respectively.

Istanbul, August 22, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

I am seizing the opportunity of Mr. Schind's trip to Palestine to have a letter delivered to you by him. He will tell you in detail of our meetings and the progress connected with the work with which he is responsible and familiar. The information reaching him to the effect that refugees from Rumania and Bulgaria are eager and willing to take the risks on the boats is significant. I am hopeful, as you know, that the fundamental legal situation in Bulgaria will be so clarified that the Jewish people will be completely reinstated. You can be assured that I am pressing in all available directions for this with every resource, including assistance from Washington.

I cannot tell you how pleased I am to have Mr. Passman with us. I have only spent a few hours with him to date but he impresses me as precisely the type of man needed here at this moment. His stability, reliability, experience and intelligent understanding of the problems in this area connected with rescue work should stand us in good stead. I only regret that he, or someone of his quality, was not here before. Very soon you should have reports of constructive efforts being developed between us. I intend to take him completely into my confidence and to coordinate our efforts.

As soon as the lid on the door in Hungary is pried loose we should be able to move large numbers out of that area. Believe me, heaven and earth are being moved now to release them.

In my report to Washington, which has been sent to the War Refugee Board and to the Secretary of State, I took the liberty of referring to the quality of leadership and aid given by you at the crucial time of your visit to Istanbul. It was little acknowledgment enough for all that you have meant to us.

-2-

I do hope that after the Ambassador has returned that I shall be able to spend some time with you in Palestine.

You will hear from me with more detailed news as it arrives. We pray that it will be the kind that will mean salvation to more of our people.

With kind personal regards,

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Judah Magnes
President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

148:VH

Istanbul, August 16, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

By the time you have received this I assume that Messrs. Passman and Kessler will have arrived in Turkey. You may be assured that I will welcome them and to all in my power to work closely with them. Their efforts will be sorely needed.

By now you know of our decision to go forward with the rescue by sea program, provided, of course, that the people on the other side want to take the risk. We are pressing hard on the Hungarian situation.

The enclosed copy of a letter to Mr. Morowitz is self-explanatory. I spoke with Mr. Kaplan about this before he left here. If the Jewish Agency can see it in their wisdom to finance such an enterprise, I believe a wonderful amount of good will can be built up with such an appearance here in the Fall. I shall be happy to see that the diplomatic end is taken care of.

The news regarding Miss Szold's illness is depressing. She has lived a great and useful life and I trust that she will continue to be with us to throw the light of her vigor and inspiration on a sadly darkened world.

With warm personal regards,

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
U.S. Jewish Committee

Encl.

IAH:VH

Istanbul, August 15, 1944

Dear Mr. Magnes:

Following my letter of August 14, Joe Levy has asked me to permit the attached message to you in order to expedite it:

"In my opinion, conditions here with the Jabotinskys and the Benbergs are chaotic enough, and it would hardly improve matters if Dr. Eliash would be added to the group. I have seen a great deal of Dr. Eliash during his stay in Ankara when he accompanied Chief Rabbi Hertzog the early part of this year. I have arrived at the conclusion that Dr. Eliash is a fine and shrewd lawyer, but useless where rescue work is concerned. He always strives to expose his opinions and views on others, regardless of whether or not such views and opinions are in the interest of the work. I implore you, for the sake of the work, to keep Dr. Eliash where he is. It goes without saying that the foregoing is strictly for your own private information."

You will hear from me further on other matters connected with our work within the next few days.

Joe sends hearty personal regards along with mine.

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

Istanbul, August 14, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

Thank you for your letter of August 3 with the clippings and enclosures. We are waiting momentarily for the arrival of the survivors of the Mefkura and the passengers from the Bulbul. We will, of course, have the full story from them and you will receive it from the Jewish Agency. Right now I am bending all efforts to start the movement of refugees on the two Bulgarian boats, the S. S. Vita and the S. S. Perin, and we have everything staged for that debarkation. I trust that there are no Zissus there.

Principally, I hope to succeed in my exertions to coerce the Bulgarian Government at this pivotal time in having it agree to abrogate the scandalous anti-Jewish laws. I am rather hopeful that we will see the entire Jewish population of Bulgaria reinstated without too much delay, and I already see symptoms of the inclusion of this principle in their proposed new program. You may be assured that I am pressing this from a number of angles on high levels.

By now you have my telegram regarding Eliash. As I indicated to Kaplan, when he requested my opinion, I believe that any temporary arrangement will be unsound and I am not convinced that Eliash will remain here on the basis which will be necessary for him to continue to function without regard to a deadline schedule. There are other reasons at this time which may argue against this selection. Joe Levy is eloquent on the subject and I am asking him to write you about it. In the long run the decision belongs to you and your associates. I am always hopeful that men will be chosen who do not see these jobs

* The report reaching me today by telephone from Katzki, after talking with the survivors, indicates that the Mefkura was definitely sunk by shell-fire, and the victims even machine-gunned. It is too horrible to contemplate. But we must go on, and I have confirmation from Washington today of my recommendations to proceed with all feasible operations.

(or opportunities) in terms of part-time patchwork in a difficult situation. This was my position when I was here the first time in the Spring, and it was a definite disadvantage. As you know, I intend to remain here until this phase of the assignment appears to be finished and an organization is set up that can carry through. Obviously I need not tell you that it would serve no useful purpose for Elisha to be aware of these comments. I respect him highly for his capabilities, especially in analytical and legal fields.

We are pressing hard on the Hungarian situation. Washington is at work day and night and we are in daily touch with them. The Catholic Church has been inordinately helpful in this situation. I hope to help broaden the basis of those Hungarian citizens who are being exempted from the strictures placed upon the Jewish citizenry.

You will hear from Spornic. In the meanwhile I trust this finds you and Mrs. Nagas well.

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Bruchmann

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

5149
10/14/44

August 14, 1944

MEMORANDUM

Transmits to Kelley

Subject: Francis Miss Fox Mass. an.

האוניברסיטה העברית
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

Jerusalem

10.VIII.44

ירושלים

Mr. Ira Hirschmann
War Refugee Board
c/o American Embassy
A n k a r a

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

telegram

Let me acknowledge the receipt of your ~~letter~~ of August 8 which came yesterday. We have informed Mr. Kaplan that in view of the changed circumstances in Turkey you think it advisable that Dr. Eliash wait before setting out on his trip.

What causes us great concern is your remark that rescue operations may have to be reduced drastically. The only interpretation I can place on this is that there is going to be war in the Black Sea or at any rate that the Germans are going to use their submarines as though there were.

No one here has received as yet any confirmation of the terrible report that one of the boats from Constanza carrying over 250 refugees was sunk. One of the reports has it that it was torpedoed by a submarine of unknown nationality. Unknown! Another report has it that two ships arrived safely.

Your letter of August 1 arrived yesterday and I thank you for letting me have a copy of your letter to Dr. Black. It seems to me you have taken exactly the right line. In the first place, the only real sign of good faith is that these anti-Jewish laws be abrogated and in the second place that the Bulgarian Government give Jews the opportunity of passing through Bulgaria or leaving, should they so desire. Moreover, I am in complete accord with the general proposition that ~~the~~ every effort must be made to make life tolerable for Jews in the countries they live in. It simply is not possible for Palestine to absorb all of the Jews that we should like to have or who would want to come here.

We hear different reports as to the number to be permitted by the Hungarian Government to depart for Palestine upon the basis of immigration certificates or other papers. The number ranges from 30-40,000. Moreover, we were exceedingly glad to know that the War Refugee Board is in touch with the problem of evacuating children from Hungary, and that the United States Government may be giving assistance in this. We interpret this as meaning that there will be shipping available, and also funds, if necessary.

On August 8 I sent a telegram through the Consulate to Mr. Kelley advising him that the JDC was very anxious to have Mr. Charles Passmann of Jerusalem, an American citizen, proceed to Turkey and represent the JDC there. Mr. Kelley was given the date and number of Mr. Passmann's application for a Turkish visa and we were hoping, almost against hope, that the visa will come to enable Mr. Passmann to leave on Saturday, 12.VIII.44. I commend Mr. Passmann to you most heartily. He is the man to whom the great success of the parcel service to Soviet Russia is due. Within the past half year he has raised the number of parcels sent from a few hundred a month to over 10,000. You were interested in this service when you were here, and I am sure that you will be glad to hear some of the interesting details from Mr. Passmann. He is an energetic worker and a clear-headed and devoted man. The JDC is
p.t.o.

also sending as an assistant to Mr. Passman Mr. Mordecai Kessler, an American citizen, who is now representing the JDC in Algiers. I do not know him. He is supposed to stop off in Jerusalem on his way, so that he may meet with our Committee. I wired to Mr. Kelley about his, too.

I am sorry to say that our Committee is being depleted rapidly. Unfortunately Miss Zold is gravely sick, although yesterday the doctors said that there is a chance that she may pull through. Mr. Viteles is leaving for America to be gone for about ten months in connection with the establishment of a corporation which is to encourage trade between Palestine and America. Mr. Passmann will, if the situation permits, be in Turkey for some time and it will be necessary for him also to return to Jerusalem from time to time to attend to his regular affairs, and also to be in Teheran to inspect the work there occasionally. Mr. Simon is still in America. That leaves Professor Kligler and myself.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. L. Magnes
J. L. Magnes

JLM/lj

Enclosed in letter from Dr. Magnes

~~9-11-44~~
**Refugee Ship was
Torpedoed**

ANKARA, Tuesday (R). — It is now reported that the 150-ton Turkish motor schooner Melkure, which as stated yesterday was sunk in the Black Sea while carrying Jewish refugees from Constanza to Turkey, was torpedoed by an unidentified submarine. The ship, on its way to Istanbul, carried 280 Jewish refugees, including many children from Poland and Hungary. There were 13 survivors.

~~9-11-44~~
Refugee Ship Sinks

LONDON, Monday (U.P.) — A German News Agency message from Sofia, quoting an Ankara report, states that a Turkish ship sailing from Constanza to Turkey with 250 Jewish refugees on board sank early this morning. All but four of the passengers perished.

TELEGRAM SENT

August 8, 1944

From Hirschmann to Kagnes

Subject: Continuation of efforts to evacuate from Constanza,
Bulgaria and Hungary.

44-10000
100-10000
100-10000

TELGRAM RECEIVED

August 8, 1944

From Marnas to Selley

Subject: Arrival of Charles Pasman and Mordecai Hessler in
Istanbul for S.C.

Ankara, August 7, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

This is a sad day for us all. The news is just dribbling in regarding the torpedoing! Those poor souls who managed to find an hour's safety on the water were not permitted even that moment to remain to live. From the steel hand to the steel explosive, that is the cycle. I am only praying that the true facts, when disclosed, may be more comforting. I suppose we must pull ourselves together and continue our efforts, but I feel that the entire program will suffer lamentably. Now the Governments will have what they will consider a legitimate example of the dangers involved in emancipation through sea. All the more important, perhaps, will be my efforts connected with the Bulgarian situation.

I had most satisfactory conferences Saturday connected with the Rumanian and Bulgarian situations. The Rumanians have agreed in principle to permit the Jews from Hungary to pass through Rumania and probably to remain there temporarily. I have managed to get the same promise from the Bulgarians.

I doubt whether my efforts to reconstitute the Jewish population in Bulgaria, to give them back their honor and full rights as citizens instead of having them transplanted into Palestine, will meet with too much enthusiasm in some quarters. But this seems to me to be the soundest move at this time, and if I can manage to have the two nefarious anti-Jewish laws revoked in Bulgaria I believe my efforts here will not have been in vain.

I trust this finds you well, and hope to be able to send you some favorable news very shortly. Thank you again for the copies of the communications to Mr. Baerwald.

With good wishes,

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine
L.H:VH

TELETYPE - CIVIL

August 4, 1944

From Bern to Hirschmann

Subject: Mrs. Constanza, Istanbul, Bulgaria, Hungary. Dr.

Mrs.'s proposed visit to Turkey.

האוניברסיטה העברית
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

Jerusalem

3.VIII.44

ירושלים

Mr. I. Hirschmann
War Refugee Board
c/o American Embassy
A n k a r a

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

Let me thank you for your letter of July 18 which arrived here on July 30 and is the only letter I have had from you thus far. The pouch does not always seem to be as quick as we sometimes think.

I wish I were with you now to know what the effect of the rupture of relations between Turkey and Germany is to have on the exit of Jews from Hungary, Roumania and Bulgaria. As you can well understand everyone here is very much concerned, and in view of the uncertainty of it all I may be sending you a telegram asking you to let us know now in your opinion the whole matter may develop. If there is war between Germany and Turkey, the question is, will not Roumania and Bulgaria be involved? Is it thinkable that there should be war between Germany and Turkey without that? If they are involved, then alas for the hopes of establishing that ferry service for refugees between Constantza and Istanbul. One more to the long succession of tragedies which the Jewish people has had to suffer.

If, however, only Germany and Turkey go to war, will the situation be much different as far as the exit of refugees is concerned? Would not German submarines and airplanes destroy these tiny boats with their precious cargoes.

If war between Turkey and Germany does not break out, what is to stop the refugees from coming? One of the most discouraging of things is that no word has been received of the departure of any of those four boats that were supposed to be coming after the Kasbec.

With the Russian advance, and with the prospect, to use Mr. Churchill's words, that Roumania will soon await Russia's mercy, what will the situation then be? If you only knew how eager we are here to have some word you would perhaps let us be hearing from you by wire occasionally, if not twice weekly as I proposed to you in my first letter.

You doubtless know that a negative answer was sent to Schwartz concerning the meeting with the representative of Schroeder. Schwartz' telegram adds, however, that negotiations are on foot for permitting the 1700 Hungarian Jews to pass through Germany on their way to Spain or Portugal, and that 500 are expected within the next two weeks. He also said that negotiations were under way for children up to ten years of age to leave Hungary for Spain and Portugal.

What route will refugees take should they be permitted to go from Hungary to Spain and Portugal?

Dr. Schwartz also telegraphed that the JDC had placed at the disposal of their Committee in Switzerland one million dollars for immediate relief in Hungary, to be spent approximately as follows: 25% for childcare through the International Red Cross; 25% for food and medicines through the International Red Cross; 50% for general relief and emigration. In addition to this they have also transferred to/p.t.o

Switzerland in Swiss Francs the equivalent of \$500,000. for emigration from Rumania.

Since giving a report to the Rescue Committee of the Jewish Agency I have met with the Executive Committee of the Labour Federation, with those who are doing magnificent work in collecting more money from the people of Palestine than has ever been collected before, and yesterday with a group invited to the house of the Chief Rabbi Dr. Herzog. I think that this should end the number of reports I shall give.

At the meeting yesterday Dr. Eliash told me that he was expecting his visa from Turkey any day now and that he was prepared to go to Turkey and to stay as long as might be necessary. He is a very capable man and one of his great assets is that he knows Turkish. I am sure that he can be of the greatest help.

Mr. Kaplan and I are meeting tomorrow on the second of our regular weekly meetings

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. L. Magnes
J. L. Magnes

PS: enclosed please find a letter for Mr. Schweitzer which was enclosed in your letter to me. Doubtless a mistake was made in thinking that this letter was for Mr. Schwartz instead of for Mr. Schweitzer who, as you know, is in Turkey.

JLM/lj

9/1/44
Istanbul
cc

Istanbul, August 1, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter that I sent today to Dr. Floyd H. Black who has been serving as a trusted friend and intermediary. He has been enormously helpful and is a fine American. The letter is self-explanatory. I hope you will agree with its philosophy, and I trust especially that I shall be able to report affirmative results from it.

We are taking other strong measures here which should be productive and about which you will be hearing.

With warm personal regards,

Faithfully,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attache

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem, Palestine

Istanbul, August 1, 1944

Dear Dr. Black:

Pursuant to our conversations I am confirming several of the points which were concurred in by you and me in our discussions relating to efforts to rescue victims of persecution and oppression in Bulgaria.

The conversation with and reports from Balabanoff for his government were encouraging as first possible steps. His letter written to Simond for our government, which has been transmitted to Washington, is confirmatory of the above. But I believe that you will agree with me that the Bulgarian Government is not going far enough at this crucial hour on these matters. I am thoroughly convinced that the government will take whatever possible steps are available to expedite the release, within technical possibilities, of their citizens who happen to be Jews. From information at hand, confirmed by you and Balabanoff, these steps at this time can result in only a pitifully small emancipation.

I am bothered by two aspects of this problem: a) that few refugees will be able to leave Bulgaria in the next important weeks and months; b) that the United States Government, watching daily for specific acts of large refugee movements out of Bulgaria, will have no choice but to interpret these negative results as a breach of faith by the Bulgarian Government in the face of its verbal and written representations by Balabanoff.

Considering the acute political situation today, the desire expressed by Balabanoff for his government to make such moves which would win the good will of the United States Government and its people, we stand today in a position where the fortuitous first steps in a program which could be productive of good on all sides could be unwittingly misconstrued. I therefore made to you today the proposal which I believe is the only solid and satisfactory move that should be offered by the Bulgarian Government without delay; namely, concrete steps to revoke and abolish forthwith the two notorious anti-Jewish laws on its books. In asserting the above I am not unaware of certain technical and political obstacles which the government in Bulgaria today may find it necessary to overcome. But these are days when I presume to suggest that governments will persist only by bold and forthright steps, especially with relation to the onward sweep of Allied victory, and if they wish to find themselves in some measure of good grace at the Peace Table.

As you know, I have no authority to speak in connection with the latter, but I am charged with a special responsibility and can offer now a specific opening for the good will that

will result from broad strokes in the direction of humanitarianism, especially as related to refugees, which will not promise but fulfill a policy which will negate that of a former government in ruthlessly corrupting a helpless minority of its own people, and which will be designed concretely to rehabilitate these victimized members of its own citizenry.

The Bulgarian Government stands today in the position where it can create a priceless measure of good will without, as I see it, giving up anything fundamental, by taking the essential steps without delay to abrogate the scandalous anti-Jewish laws and to permit us to announce it forthrightly to the world. Whatever sacrifice on its own part is necessary at this time for it to do so, I am confident that the scales will weigh heavily in its own favor after the decision is announced.

I have promised Balabanoff and you that such a step would be heralded with the widest publicity throughout the United States (and Britain), which I shall take it as my especial task to discharge. The evidence in the instance of the abolition of the camp in Transnistria by the Rumanians is with you. The step I am suggesting would elicit publicity and good will of a manifold nature and scope.

There is another aspect of the subject which we discussed and which should be re-inforced with the Bulgarians. It is my sense that this may well be no time for planning large-scale emigration movements out of a country like Bulgaria if the present government of Bulgaria is as sound and forward-looking in its determination to reconstruct its country as is indicated. The Jews who have been reduced by those two laws to complete deprivation and inability to carry on any legitimate work must be put on their feet, not for themselves alone as Bulgarian citizens, but for the enormous contribution that they will make in helping build the new Bulgaria. It is a strange paradox which history relates that the depressed and depleted Jewish populations have without exception rebounded in the countries where they found themselves and become valuable citizens in building the wealth and culture of their communities. Considering the history of Bulgaria, the Jews as an indigenous part of that nation, received relatively fair treatment which they enjoyed until recently when this latter record was smudged by one of the blackest pages in Bulgarian history. With any fair chance at economic assistance, rehabilitation and sustenance, the Jewish people should quickly become essential and useful participants in building the new nation.

Why send them in lost groups to strange lands if, as the Minister of their country asserts, they will "gradually" find themselves back in the position of respect and responsibility where they were before the war. It may even be that the Bulgarian Government some months hence may find itself in the position of beckoning for the return of these self-same citizens

whom they helped to deport to Palestine at great expense and inconvenience. I trust that you are not burdened by my over-emphasis of the point, but I insist that the step we are suggesting will be of even greater advantage to Bulgaria than to those who will be saved.

One more point: I think the leaders of the Bulgarian Government should know that I shall expect to hold them responsible for that which Balabanoff signed. While he wrote somewhat less than he reported to me verbally, his letter is categorical in asserting that (a) the government will ameliorate the situation of the Jews and cease all forms of persecution without delay; (b) transport will be facilitated within all possible technical means. The letter goes further in its implications, but speaking for the Government of the United States of America I repeat that we shall never be satisfied with these conversations and representations until these two laws are revoked. In the meanwhile the government can be completely lax in its enforcement of them.

Nor will this be sufficient: Reports coming currently from Bulgaria indicate a state of economic depravity on the part of its Jewish citizens resulting from these laws. What is the good of permitting people freely to leave their homes if they have nowhere to go, nor means of securing funds except by immoral and illegal means; if there are no possible available methods of reconstructing their lot or their dignity as human beings? Measures must be found at once to supply them with food, the necessary means of living as decent citizens, and economic assistance to rehabilitate their businesses, their families and their homes.

I propose to offer through the assistance of existing relief agencies, now represented in Turkey, along with that of our government, such means to rehabilitate this population as possibilities permit. Obviously it is not too much to ask that the Bulgarian Government permit this and assist it in every possible reasonable way. They have decimated the population. We do not ask them to revive it but only to permit others to do so without let or hindrance so that they may contribute towards the wellbeing of their own country.

I hope to hear that the forthright and sincere steps suggested herein have been taken by the Bulgarian Government in order to fortify its position among the humane nations of the world and to win back the respect and good will of our people which they had so scrupulously built in the last half-century and which they have so sorely lost in the last black war-years.

With thanks for your kindness and friendship,

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attaché

P. S. If the Bulgarian Government is seeking methods to demonstrate its sincerity in being helpful in this situation connected with refugee movements, we are informed that a number of refugees, possibly up to 2,000, will be leaving Hungary in the next few days. We have requested of the Rumanian Government that they permit these refugees to enter Rumania in transit and we have been informed that the Rumanians have agreed in principle to this procedure. Obviously the Bulgarians would not at this time wish to set up a blockade against these refugees in the face of their representations. It will therefore be necessary for them to agree to permit these refugees to come through Bulgaria and to provide for them the necessary transit facilities out of Bulgaria to Turkey without delay. The above will apply similarly to refugees who will be leaving Rumania (who do not arrive from Hungary), and for whom transit facilities through Bulgaria will be required.

I. A. H.

Mr. Lloyd M. Black
President
Robert College
Istanbul

2. VIII. 44
The Turkish Government has ordered all Turkish ships in Bulgarian and Rumanian ports to return to Turkish waters without delay.

Jewish Refugees Due Turkey Expected In U.S. Next Week

WASHINGTON, Wednesday (UP). — The Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Harold Ickes, announced that the War Relocation Authority had completed plans to house 1,000 European refugees in historic Fort Ontario at Oswego, New York State. The refugees are expected to arrive about August 1 and have been brought to the United States in accordance with the plan announced last month. Most of them are Jewish, with small contingents of Roman Catholics, Greek Orthodox, and Protestants of all nationalities, including Austrian, Yugoslav, Polish, German, Russian and Czech. They will be housed in two-story barracks which have been remodelled into family apartments. Brought in outside the regular immigration quotas they will be given sanctuary for the duration.

of Soviet... Sea and the Mediterranean.

Allies Ready to Aid Turkey

Special to The Palestine Post

LONDON, Tuesday. — If Turkey decides to break off relations with Germany, she will do it not under Allied pressure but of her own free will, writes the correspondent of "The Times" in a despatch from Ankara.

Break May Come Tomorrow

Diplomatic circles, states the correspondent, take it for granted that if Turkey severs her relation with Germany the Allies will immediately resume the delivery of war materials to Turkey, and will remedy as far as possible the economic dislocation that the severance would cause in Turkey.

ANKARA, Tuesday. — Diplomatic circles in Ankara expressed the belief today that German-Turkish relations would be severed within the next 48 hours.

If, as a consequence of her decision, Turkey were exposed to an attack by Germany, Allied support to Turkey would naturally be given in the fullest measure.

Every member of the German colony at Ankara has been ordered to pack two suitcases and send a full inventory of property to the Embassy. They have been advised to hand over silver plate and other valuables for safe keeping.

How Germans Will React

Referring to a possible German reaction to such a move, the correspondent observes that people in Ankara seem to be of two minds about it.

German businessmen representing export firms have cabled to Germany to suspend all shipments to Turkey.

Some believe Germany will feel compelled for reasons of prestige to act, and that she may even force her Balkan satellites to break off relations with Turkey; it is even said, the correspondent adds, that Germany has already hinted to Turkey that the severance of diplomatic relations might mean war.

The Ankara correspondent of the New York "P.M." learns that once von Papen will receive his passports after tomorrow's meeting of the National Assembly, Nazi espionage in Turkey will be struck in such a way as to be paralyzed.

On the other hand, many people are of the opinion that Germany, already hard-pressed on so many fronts, has no wish to push the matter to the extreme and thus to bring Turkey into the war and open another front in the Balkans.

It is stated that von Papen has arranged with the Japanese Ambassador to take charge of all German interests after his departure from Turkey.

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The political atmosphere of Ankara today has reached a fever pitch. Great importance is attributed to the talks at present in progress between the German Ambassador von Papen and the Turkish Prime Minister. Though there is as yet no indication of the nature of the expected developments, the announcement that the Turkish Fleet is about to hold manoeuvres is regarded as highly significant.

A threat that the rupture of diplomatic and economic relations between Turkey and Germany may lead to war is to be published tomorrow in the newspaper "Berliner Montagpost," it is learned in London.

GERMANS IN TURKEY READY TO LEAVE

Von Papen Still Feverishly Active

ANKARA, Sunday. — Members of the German colony in Ankara have been instructed by their Embassy to prepare themselves to leave the country at a moment's notice.

Axis sources confirm the report that the evacuation of German women, children and employees of companies has already begun.

Diplomatic officials from various parts of Turkey have arrived at the German Embassy where von Papen is making a last attempt to prevent the rupture of diplomatic relations between the two countries, though convinced that there is no hope of keeping economic relations intact.

Editors of all Turkish newspapers have been summoned to a conference to be held in Ankara tomorrow.

Deputies are returning on Tuesday for a secret meeting, and there will be an open meeting of Parliament on Wednesday. All Turkish subjects in Germany have been recalled.

There is a strange rumour to the effect that the Germans are quite prepared to evacuate the islands in the Aegean Sea and the Dodecanese in order

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האוניברסיטה העברית
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

JERUSALEM

26. VII. 44

ירושלים

Dear Mr. Hurdemann.

Mr Kaplan & I reported you
today to Le Histolant. It was a very
good session.

The thing that everyone feels
is the lack of day-to-day information -
in these days when things are changing
so rapidly.

Is it not possible to send me
two cables a week so that we may
be in touch with developments?

This would help to prevent over-
lapping, vain proposals and some
of the natural hysteria.

the book about? ... the ...

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We are very worried ...
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enclosed in letter from Dr. Lagnes

~~28 NOV 44~~ Fresh Massacres In Hungary

LONDON, Thursday (R). — About 20,000 Greek Orthodox Christians are reported to have been killed in a new wave of persecution in Hungarian-occupied Czechoslovakia.

Reports received from independent neutral sources stated that the victims formed part of a batch of 170,000 people who were deported to Poland and the protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia after having been accused of facilitating the escape of many Jews and of sympathizing with Soviet Russia.

Practical proposals were submitted to the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Anthony Eden when he received yesterday a deputation organized by the National Committee for Rescue from Nazi Terror (as reported in *After Midnight*).

The delegation, headed by the Archbishop of Canterbury, included representatives of other religious denominations, peers and M.P.s.

The possibilities of rescuing Jews in German-controlled territory, particularly Hungary, were discussed and the deputation received Mr. Eden's assurance that all practical steps would be taken.

The "Evening Standard" says that the "butchering of British airmen is a small affair compared with the cold-blooded, persistent campaign which Hitler was still conducting against his first enemies—the Jews."

"He seems resolved, whatever else will fail, to leave a mark upon the human race by the final execution, the most bestial of all his decrees."

The editorial concludes: "All Europe should be told that we will not forget, and that Nazi acts of desperation, whether they fall on us or others, shall be avenged."

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"Units" also rep...
 Fascist officers...
 Verno and joined the partisans...
 German General Staff will be...
 with the rest...

EDEN DENOUNCES HUNGARIAN MASSACRES

LONDON, Thursday. — Declaring that the attitude of the Hungarian Government towards the Jews of that country filled Britain with loathing, Mr. Eden made a statement on the "barbarous deportations" in the House of Commons yesterday.

The Foreign Secretary had been asked by Mr. Silberman (Labour) whether he could say how many Jews in Hungary had been deported, how many slaughtered in these mass deportations, and whether there were any steps which the United Nations could take to prevent, in the moment of victory, the total annihilation of European Jewry.

Mr. Eden replied that while he had no definite information, "I greatly regret that there are strong indications that the German and Hungarian authorities have begun barbarous deportations, in the course of which many persons have been killed."

100,000 Reported Dead

"Unfortunately there are no signs that the repeated declarations made by His Majesty's Government, in association with other United Nations, of their intention to punish the instigators and perpetrators of these frightful crimes have moved the German Government and their Hungarian accomplices either to allow the departure of a small proportion of their victims or to abate the fury of their persecution. The principal hope remains a speedy victory."

Mr. Silberman asked whether Mr. Eden could in any way confirm the report that the number deported amounted to

U.S. RESCUE EFFORTS

ANKARA, Thursday (R) — The U.S. Ambassador, Mr. Laurence Steinhardt, who is leaving Ankara for Washington on Monday, will discuss with the State Department the possibilities of saving surviving Jews by means of emigration through Turkey, it is learned here.

400,000, while those killed already totalled 100,000.

Mr. Eden: "I would rather not give figures unless absolutely sure. It is bad enough God knows, without doing that."

"I am bound to say that the action and attitude of the Hungarian Government is one that fills this country with loathing."

Declaring that the Jews in Hungary were now the last remaining organized Jewish community in Europe, Mr. Silberman urged a further appeal "not to the butcher gang now running affairs but to the Hungarian Government which has not in the past resorted to this sort of activity except under German pressure."

Representations Made

Mr. Eden: "I will consider that I agree that the previous record of the Hungarian Government makes this a still more terrible story. The last representation we did make was so late as last March endorsing the initiative of President Roosevelt. I don't think we can add anything additional to that but we shall of course use the B.B.C. to bring home to the Hungarian Government the opinion of this house and this nation on the matter."

Mr. Gnlacher (Communist) asked whether the B.B.C. and

other sources could be used for a direct appeal to the Hungarian people to help the Jews. Mr. Eden: "That has been and is being done. It was as the result of a declaration made in Moscow that the original appeal was made but I will consider that point further."

Mr. Hopkinson (Independent): "Is it not the first step in these matters to ascertain the real facts?"

Mr. Eden: "I agree. That is why I was reluctant to give figures but I am afraid there is very little doubt in the main as to what is going on."

Mr. Graham Little (Liberal): "Might it not serve a useful purpose if the Government were formally to associate themselves with the representations of the United States and the King of Sweden?"

Mr. Eden: "We have with the United States, but the King of Sweden's position is of course different. His is a neutral Government."

Mr. Eden also referred to the appeal made by the Pope.

Press Comment

Today's press expresses disgust at the support given by the Hungarian Government to Germany's policy of exterminating Hungarian Jews.

"The Times" notes that without the active participation of the Hungarian Government in these crimes, "the Gestapo would have lacked both the information required for planning and for the execution of these mass murders."

"Neither the representations of the Pope nor the recent appeal addressed by the King of Sweden to the Hungarian Regent have moved these obedient instruments of German savagery."

(R & PTA)

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 EXPERIENCED CORRESPONDENT
 TO LET NICELY FURNISHED
 BEDROOM WITH PART FULL
 BATHROOM, APPLY
 P.O. BOX 21
 WASHINGTON, D.C.
 WANTED: Exchange room with
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MAXIM GARDEN
 60 HAYMARKET ST. TEL AVON
 M. WATKINS, Manager
 TEL 2839

Nazis Tried Use Jews As Bait

**LONDON, Thursday (De-
 layed)** — Facts regarding
 the recent German attempt
 to barter the Jews of Hun-
 gary, as a bait for a ne-
 gotiated peace, involving a
 split in the ranks of the
 United Nations, were disclosed
 in the press today (as already
 reported by Reuter in our
 Friday's issue).

Early in May a special Ger-
 man plane arrived at Istanbul
 with a high Gestapo official
 and a member of the Jewish
 community of Budapest, it is
 stated. The latter had been
 compelled to seek contact with
 leading Jews to urge Britain
 to supply 10,000 lorries, food,
 and medical and other supplies,
 in exchange for which Ger-
 many would hand over the
 remaining Jews in Hungary to
 the Allies. It was added that
 the supplies would not be used
 on the Western or Southern
 fronts.

Five to ten thousand Jews
 were to be transferred to Spain
 before the conclusion of the
 bargain, "as an earnest of Ges-
 tapo's good will".

A leading member of the
 Jewish Agency went to a place
 in the Middle East to conduct
 complete enquiries and later
 reported personally to the
 authorities in Britain, adds the
 "Manchester Guardian". He re-
 ceived the impression that the

Hungarian Jewish emissary
 truthfully stated the position
 of the Hungarian Jews.

Satanic Ingenuity

In an editorial article, the
 "Manchester Guardian" com-
 menting on Germany's attempt
 to blackmail the United Na-
 tions through the use of Hun-
 garian Jews, points out that
 this is one of the deadliest in-
 cidents of the war, indicating
 the satanic wickedness of Ger-
 many's ingenuity. The editorial
 concludes by urging the United
 Nations to exert a concerted
 effort in pressing Hungary to
 save the remnant of the Jews.
 The Pope had intervened with
 the Budapest authorities and pos-
 sibly also with Berlin, but it
 was most doubtful whether the
 protests would avail. There was
 no confirmation in London of Ad-
 miral Horthy's promise to the
 Red Cross, although this might

have been made; and it was
 doubtful also whether Horthy
 would be able to carry out his
 promise.

Mr. Shertok's Journey

It is understood that the Jew-
 ish Agency had been dealing
 with the matter since the ar-
 rival of the "emissaries" in Tur-
 key, and that it was in this con-
 nection Mr. M. Shertok, head
 of the Agency's Political De-
 partment, was last month sum-
 moned to London where he is at
 present.

(Palcor & PTA)

KALLAY REPORTED ARRESTED

STOCKHOLM, July 9 (PTA) —
 Nikolaus V. Kallay, the former
 Hungarian Premier, was arrested
 near the Slovakian border, to-
 gether with 14 Jews whom he
 tried to help to escape to Slo-
 vakia. They were brought back to
 Budapest and imprisoned there.

AFTER-MIDNIGHT

At 2 o'clock this (Sunday)
 morning it was learned in
 Stockholm that the rebel Gen-
 erals, though still in control of
 some areas, were running short
 of ammunition and their
 chances were getting worse.

Kholm (Chelm) in the Lublin
 area has been captured, Mos-
 cow announces.

The Allies have occupied the
 town of Emieville, just over
 two miles south-west of
 Troarn.

Following U-boat attacks on

Turkish shipping in the Bos-
 phorus, all traffic in the Black
 Sea has been suspended. The
 nationality of the U-boats is
 described in Ankara as un-
 known.

German flying bombs were
 again over Britain yesterday
 after a lull.

A Special Order by Marshal
 Stalin announces that Pono-
 vzh, 65 miles from Kovno has
 been captured. Some 5,000 Ger-
 man prisoners have now been
 taken at Brody.

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SPINNEY'S FOR

2, 1944

G REFUGEES MAY BE RELEASED TOMORROW

BE EXCHANGED INTERNEES GIVEN PROPER CARE

From Our Own Correspondent
 The HAIFA, Tuesday. — Suffering from starvation and exposure, most of the 281 by exchange internees who came from Germany yesterday are now slowly recovering at the Athlit Clearance Camp where they received their first decent meal in many years and were given proper care by the Camp and Health Department authorities. The first 20 cases were taken to hospital suffering from exhaustion, dysentery and other illnesses.

The older people, in particular, showed signs of the ordeal they have been through; both physically and psychologically. Most of them had been transferred from the Westerbek Camp in Holland to the Bergenbelse Austauschlager (Exchange Camp) near Celle in Hanover Province last year. This camp was well-known for the absence of the traditional Nazi brutalities; women were never touched by the SS guards though on some occasions men were beaten by their captors.

Forced Labour
 Living conditions, however, were most exacting as all had to do 12 hours' forced labour daily and were given only poor food. During the past few months they had been living on daily rations of kohlraut, a kind of ersatz bread, and tea. Six weeks ago, the happy few who were to be exchanged were separated from the others and received better treatment, no longer having to do forced labour.

On their 11-day journey from the camp via Frankfurt am Main, the travellers were accompanied by one woman doctor and four nursing sisters, all exchange internees who performed miracles of self-sacrifice attending to all cases by day and night.

No News of War
 Throughout the period of their internment, the detainees were kept utterly ignorant about the progress of the war, and the only knowledge they had came from occasional glimpses into old German papers.

According to the newcomers, another group of some 300 exchange internees is to leave the Bergenbelse Camp for Palestine within the next four weeks. It is expected that yesterday's arrivals will be released from the Athlit Clearance Camp on Thursday.

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EXPERIENCED PHARMACEUTICAL MANAGER, for sale to P.O. Box 1191, Jerusalem. Many languages, knowledge of English, French, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, etc. Tel Aviv 231.

EXPERIENCED PHARMACEUTICAL MANAGER, for sale to P.O. Box 1191, Jerusalem. Many languages, knowledge of English, French, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, etc. Tel Aviv 231.

WANTED: experienced pharmacist, for sale to P.O. Box 1191, Jerusalem. Many languages, knowledge of English, French, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, etc. Tel Aviv 231.

WANTED: experienced pharmacist, for sale to P.O. Box 1191, Jerusalem. Many languages, knowledge of English, French, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, etc. Tel Aviv 231.

WANTED: experienced pharmacist, for sale to P.O. Box 1191, Jerusalem. Many languages, knowledge of English, French, Italian, Spanish, Arabic, etc. Tel Aviv 231.

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organizational achievements, was flood-lit last night.

REFUGEES ARRIVE FROM GERMANY

HAIFA, Monday. — The fourth and largest war-time exchange of internees between Germany and Palestine, comprising 281 Jewish women, children and old men, arrived here by special train this evening from Turkey, where the exchange against a similar number of German nationals took place on Saturday. The three previous transfers took place in December, 1941, November, 1942 and February 1943, when a total of 174 persons arrived. Today's arrivals included a number of Palestinian nationals but the majority hail from Germany, Holland, Belgium, France, Austria and other European countries. They had hitherto had no possibility of making use of the Palestine immigration certificates which they hold.

They had been transferred by the Germans from various towns in Germany and Nazi-occupied Europe to internment camps near Hanover in Northern Germany, and Vitell in France, where they spent a year or more. Though the time and place of their arrival was kept secret, relatives and friends flocked to the Eastern Railway Station here this afternoon where a strong detachment of police cordoned off all entrances to the station and platforms. The newcomers, who were escorted on a military train by a police guard, were kept strictly isolated from the public after alighting. A large transport fleet had been assembled on the platform including buses, Government trucks, Red Shield Society and Government Health Department ambulances.

No Singing

When the train finally arrived at 8.30 p.m. there was complete silence. The refugees were transferred to various hotels.

They recommend their "ORANGE SQUASH" — delightful drink obtainable. Try our gerated Kabri Water. May be obtained if you bring an empty bottle for each full one 160 mils per dozen.

400,000 Hungarian Jews Sent to Death Camps

LONDON, Saturday (R). — The Polish Government has received from its delegate in Poland details of the fate of more than 400,000 Hungarian Jews who were sent to Poland, mainly to the concentration camp in Oswiecim.

On May 15 the Germans sent from Hungary 62 railway carriages loaded with Jewish children aged between 2 and 8 years. Every day since, for a considerable period, six railway transports with Jewish adults passed through the stations of Plaszow and Krakow. They were sent to Oswiecim, where most of them have been put to death in gas chambers. Before deportation they were told that they would be exchanged in Poland for prisoners of war.

Surete Transfer in Lebanon

BEIRUT, Saturday. — The transfer of the Surete from the French to the Lebanese and Syrian authorities was the subject of a protocol signed yesterday at Sofar by representatives of the three parties. The Acting Delegate-General M. Yves Chataigneau and the French delegate to the Syrian Government, represented the French authorities; the Syrian Premier, Saadallah Bey Al-Jabiri, and the Foreign Minister, Jamil Bey Maradani, represented the Syrians; while their Lebanese "Opposite Numbers," Bladhi Bey es-Solh and Saleem Bey Tackla, signed for the Lebanese Republic.

The Abattoirs of Oswiecim and Birkenau

LONDON, Sunday (R). — From April, 1942 to April, 1944 between one and a half millions and 1,750,000 Jews were killed by gas and other methods in the German concentration camps of Oswiecim and Birkenau in Poland, states a report received by an Allied Government in London from what is described as authoritative non-Jewish sources in a neutral country.

The report, based on statements by eye-witnesses who escaped from the camps in April last, was referred to by Mr. Eden in the House of Commons last week.

At Oswiecim camp, prisoners of all types are housed in rows of huts surrounded by electrified fencing nine feet high, with machine-gun and searchlight towers at intervals of 500 yards.

Four crematories, each with a daily capacity of 1,500, were built in Birkenau in February, 1943. The report states that from 15,000 to 20,000 persons have been killed by phenol injections near the heart. Jews are chiefly used at the "hygiene institute" near the camp for tests, blood transfusions and sterilization.

Ninety per cent of all prisoners arriving at the camps were put to death immediately on arrival. Twice a week the camp doctor selected a number of prisoners for death by gassing.

Living conditions at Birkenau camp are appalling, says the report. Deaths in each block averaged 2,000 weekly, of which 1,200 were "natural" death and 800 by "selection."

Q. IN ALL CHILDREN'S POI BOOKS (yellow; blue, green). Each tin is 560 grms. and the retail price 360 Mills a Kilo.

Refugees Arrive From Germany

(Continued from Page 1) Complete silence, with none of the singing and cries of "Shalom" that has characterized previous arrivals. It was pathetic to see the old people, crowding the train-windows straining their tired eyes in vain to catch a glimpse of their relatives. Slowly the six-coach trains were emptied carriage by carriage, excitement showing on most faces, except those of the very old, many of whom could not walk without support and were helped by the police and medical personnel to the waiting buses.

Orphaned Babies One man collapsed as he alighted from the train and another dozen or so sick people were taken into ambulances. Three small babies, orphans, were carried by nursing sisters to the private car of the Government doctor who gave them his personal care. One sick person had to be left behind in Turkey.

Piles of luggage were stowed into the trucks and on the roofs of the buses which were slowly filled by the weary travellers. Amongst the personal belongings one traveller had managed to bring a scroll of the Law which he carefully guarded.

Sandwiches of white bread and milk were given to the newcomers, whose first question to the police guards was whether their names and arrival were known to their relatives here. Headed by the ambulances, the long procession of vehicles then left the station shortly before sunset on the last lap of the journey to the Athlit Clearance Camp. As they left the station, some were able to recognize their relatives among the waiting crowd and waved them a hasty Au Revoir.

The refugees are expected to be released within the next few days, following the completion of passport and quarantine formalities.

A provisional list of the new arrivals may be seen on application to the offices of The Palestine Post.

Newspaper Name

Hungarian Jews Trying to Escape

BUCURESTI (Paltor). — Jews attempting to evade deportation from Hungary are fleeing to Rumania and are there contacting the "Jewish underground" in the hope of being able to escape via Constantza. The Bucharest Board says the "Bucurester Zeitung," German language organ in the Rumanian capital.

The paper calls upon the Rumanian authorities to put an end to these escapes from Hungary.

The Bucharest police are carrying out man-hunts for these victims of the Nazis, and have so far arrested 333 persons in Bessarabia, Bukovina and Moldavia.

PRISON SENTENCES FOR GERMAN

האוניברסיטה העברית
THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY

Jerusalem

25.VII.44

ירושלים

Mr. Ira Hirschmann
War Refugee Board
American Embassy
A n k a r a

Dear Mr. Hirschmann,

Dr. Schwartz is leaving this morning for Cairo and we are hoping that he gets his plane for North Africa and Lisbon so that he may be there by the end of this week. He has told us of the long telegram which you sent and he hopes that there may be instructions awaiting him from America.

He gave me your letter of July 20 together with a copy of your letter to Mr. Zyssu. I am wondering what effect it has had. It is a very polite letter and I am wondering how far one gets with him through politeness.

Enclosed please find a copy of a letter which I am sending to Mr. Baerwald. There is a part in it concerning JDC representation which I shall not comment upon further. We talked the situation over very thoroughly. This is strictly for you for the present.

I am not sending you the further enclosures mentioned in my letter to Mr. Baerwald.

It has been agreed that the Agency and our Committee here shall be in constant contact. This will probably mean for the most part that Kaplan and I shall have to meet probably once a week.

Mr. Vitales is going to America for ten months, and if Passmann takes on the additional job I do not know how I shall get along here in Jerusalem, because it was to these two men that I could turn over ever so many problems.

It will be of great help to me if I could hear from you regularly and get from you as much documentary material as possible.

With kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,


J.L. Magnes

JIM/lj

25.VII.44

Dr. Paul Baerwald,
Chairman, Joint Distribution Committee
270 Madison Avenue
New York, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Baerwald,

Dr. Schwartz is leaving for Egypt this morning and we hope that he will get an immediate connection for North Africa and Lisbon so that he may be there by the end of this week.

You doubtless are aware of the telegram which caused him to cut short his stay in Istanbul. Both in Istanbul and in Lisbon telegrams have been received concerning the possibility of transferring 1700 Hungarian Jews from Germany to Spain and then further. This is connected with a conversation which has been proposed for the end of this week between Dr. Schwartz and one other person on the one hand and a non-Jewish representative on the other.

Mr. Hirschmann with Dr. Schwartz' help prepared a long telegram which was sent to the War Refugee Board a few days ago giving the whole history of the proposals for the exchange of Hungarian Jews. This further proposition for the rescue of 1700 Jews seems to be something different. Doubtless by the time Dr. Schwartz reaches Lisbon he will have received an answer as to the attitude of the War Refugee Board.

The situation is changing so rapidly in Europe that it is difficult to make plans. It is a question of what the next day will bring. Even since I was in Istanbul two weeks ago the situation has undergone a radical change, and that for the better as far as Hungary is concerned. There would really seem to be the opportunity of getting considerable numbers of Jews out of Hungary. The question is in what direction. The Roumanian and Bulgarian Governments have now for several weeks been disposed to give Jews facilities for leaving, particularly the Roumanian Government. The first of five boats reached Istanbul while we were there. Any others have not followed as yet is a question that gives everyone concern. It may be because the Turkish Government has closed the Black Sea to traffic of Turkish ships, and at least two of those now waiting at Constantza are Turkish. Moreover, there are rumours of important events impending in Turkey in about a week's time. Will all of this shut the door to the exit of Hungarian, Roumanian, Bulgarian Jews to Istanbul?

The change in Bulgaria in reference to the Jews there seems to have been so marked that it is not known how many of the Jews there will be wanting to leave at all. Although the desire of the Jews in Roumania to leave is much deeper, still, if Roumania is not included actively in the war zone the Jews there might also find the possibility of starting a new life there.

This would not be true of the Hungarian Jews, and the question is in how far they might be brought out of Hungary westwards. It is for this reason that the conversation which has been proposed to Dr. Schwartz is of even greater importance than the rescue of 1700 Hungarian Jews, however deeply important that may be.

25.VII.44

Mr. Baerwald, JDC, New York.

p.2

Dr. Schwartz has taken with him a copy of the stenographic report of my statement to the Vaad Hahatzalah here, that is the Rescue Committee of the Jewish Agency. It is in Hebrew, and if you are interested in it you will doubtless be able to find someone in New York without any difficulty to translate it. Although my report at the time was the most up to date statement which the Palestine Rescue Committee had as yet received, the changes in the past two weeks have made it more of an historical document than one containing actual proposals. You may nevertheless be interested in it.

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a letter sent to Dr. Schwartz from Budapest on 13.VI.44 by the man there who has been active in JDC work. Doubtless Dr. Schwartz will get it to you, but I am sending it herewith in order that you may be perfectly sure to get a copy as soon as possible.

I am enclosing herewith also a statement, which Dr. Schwartz will be transmitting to you as well, concerning the methods of putting Jews to death in the gas chambers. It is a dry and as it would appear factual statement and is all the more terrible on that account. It seems to me that a statement of this sort ought to be given the widest publicity in USA.

I also brought back with me a few photographs. If possible I shall try to include them in this letter. They are terrible beyond words. The one particularly, picturing the German soldier, is symbolic of the Germany of today. It should, I think, be reproduced throughout all the world. The publication of such a picture is, I know, a matter that must be considered from every point of view, and I do not pretend that all sides of the question are clear to me. It would, however, be possible for the JDC to take the matter up with competent authorities and decide.

Dr. Schwartz has asked Mr. Passmann to go to Istanbul as the JDC representative. Mr. Passmann has agreed to do this provided a) the organizations with which he is connected agree, and b) that his presence there be regarded as of an emergency character and that some other American go there as soon as possible. Last evening, before Dr. Schwartz left, we were talking about the possibility of having Mr. Filpel go there. Mr. Passmann would be just the man to break him in. One of the chief advantages of having Mr. Filpel go would be that he could get there quickly, and this is a question of days and weeks, or of a very few months, so it would appear.

Mr. Passmann has just returned from his long absence in connection with the parcel service. He was also in Bombay. The parcel service gives promise of developing into an even larger enterprise than we had contemplated. There are now more than 10,000 parcels a month being sent to the refugees in Russia, and if the arrangements with the Polish Red Cross which Mr. Passmann will inform you about can be carried through the service ought to be sending 20,000 a month. The JDC office gets at least a hundred letters and telegrams a day from refugees in Soviet Russia acknowledging the receipt of parcels, or asking that parcels be sent to relatives and friends. The difficulty at the present time is connected with the Soviet-Polish problem. Mr. Passmann has been exceedingly careful and skillful thus far in keeping the JDC out of this bitter quarrel.

25.VII.44

Mr. Backwald, JDC, New York

P.3

More than half of the JDC camp at Aden has been evacuated. The 650 refugees remaining are there because no immigration certificates for Palestine can be secured for them as yet. We applied to the Palestine Government for these, informing them that our contract with the nurses and the physician in charge of the camp would expire on September 1. Nevertheless the answer which we got was negative. We also proposed to the Aden Government to permit those in the camp to seek work in the Aden labour market. This was refused because the labour market there is already overcrowded, so it is said. We have decided to inform the Aden Government that our obligation is to cease on October 1, and we are informing the Jewish Agency of this also, thus giving the Jewish Agency time to make such arrangements with the Aden Government as may be possible.

The plan for the kitchens of the Yeshivot has begun to operate. We shall be sending a report in due course.

Enclosed please find also two copies of two letters I wrote to Dr. Schwartz concerning the position of our Committee generally. We had a discussion on this question with Dr. Schwartz at two meetings of the Committee. We hope that we may be able to work the problem out, but there would be no use in concealing from you the fact that the members of the Committee are not entirely comfortable under the present arrangements.

I hope that you are well and with kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. B. McQUEEN

PS: We are enclosing herewith a copy of this letter for Dr. Schwartz. Would you kindly forward it to him? Mail from here to Lisbon direct takes a very long time.

JIM/lj

Ankara, July 25, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

Thank you for your communications of July 18th and 20th which have reached me here in Ankara. Regarding the letter of the 18th I wish to thank you for the clippings. They are indeed helpful in giving me a picture of the reactions in Palestine, and if it is not too much trouble I should appreciate your continuing them. You unquestionably had made a statement of absorbing interest to the Vaad Mahatzalah. I shall see Bader as per your suggestion as soon as I return to Istanbul at the end of this week.

The Brand incident seems now to be closed and I am sure that you can interpret the circumstances which terminated it so dramatically and publicly. I am still at a loss to understand how this man was ever permitted and urged by the Jewish Agency representatives to travel in your direction. This might be put down as one of the blunders of strategy.

I am not unfamiliar with the situation connected with the efforts of some political figures in Rumania to desert the "sinking ship." Some of these are said to be attempting to arrive in Turkey on the so-called refugee ships and the matter has been discussed by me with the high official.

At this writing I am at a loss to know what is detaining the Rumanian ships and am pressing from all directions for information and for their departure. You can be assured that nothing will be left undone within the scope of our imagination and possibility to that end.

I have very good news from my activities connected with the Bulgarian situation. You may inform your colleagues that the oppressions, persecutions and abuses there will cease forthwith, if they have not already done so. I am pushing also to have the two scandalous anti-Jewish Bulgarian laws withdrawn. This may take some time yet but I shall not relent in that effort and I confidently expect results.

You will also be interested to know that the Tari is not by any means a dead issue and I hope I am not over-optimistic in indicating to you that that boat will move.

I am transmitting the letter for the Wali to Joe Levy. I know nothing of an agreement in Bucharest regarding Zissu and the people in Istanbul knew nothing of it when I left there Monday.

I hope I did not detect a note of apprehension in your letter of the 20th regarding the possibility of my taking over-aggressive steps connected with some of the efforts of the Jewish organizations. Please have no fear of this. To date I think with your great help and that of others that we have managed to bring these individuals together in a fairly harmonious relationship. But I do not forget your statement regarding the "fibre" of individuals.

With warm personal regards,

Cordially yours,

I. A. Hirschmann

IAH:VH

Special
Project
Reference
C

Istanbul, July 20, 1944

Dear Dr. Magnes:

I thought you would like to see a copy of a letter which I have despatched to the enigmatic Mr. Zissu. I am sending this with Joe Schwartz, who has kindly agreed to hand it to you. He will give you a broad and detailed picture of the situation here. While we are working in better harmony and there are symptoms of progress, I will not be satisfied until we see the boats coming in with our sorely oppressed people.

Mr. Schwartz will tell you of our conversations with regard to the JIC representation in Turkey. I am afraid we pressed Joe rather hard on this, but I know that you, of all people, will understand why I have been impatient to see a change, and why I am now alarmed at the prospect of another one of those "compromise arrangements." Joe is thoroughly conversant with the situation. I only hope between all of you it will be possible to send a strong, incisive representative here without delay.

Joe has also promised to return to Istanbul as soon as his mission in Lisbon is completed. This will mean a great deal to us here, and I think will be highly evaluated in terms of people rescued.

I trust this finds you well. Please give my warm regards to Mrs. Magnes.

As always, cordially yours,

I. A. Kirschmann

Dr. Judah Magnes, President
Hebrew University
Jerusalem

1144

July 21, 1944

Dear Mr. Zissu:

I am taking the liberty ~~to~~ writing to you on behalf of the victims of the war who are desperately seeking refuge from Rumania. I understand that you are giving your devoted efforts to assisting them, and in this respect we have a common interest.

May I identify myself as the special representative of the War Refugee Board of the United States of America. This Board was created in January 1944 by a special Order of President Roosevelt and consists of the Secretaries of State, War and Treasury of the United States. Our orders are to initiate and assist in the rescue of people who are seeking havens of refuge, whoever and wherever they may be. As of this date and by virtue of the powers vested in me by my Government, and with the cooperation of existing relief agencies such as the United States Joint Distribution Committee, the Palestine Jewish Agency and others, we have had some partial success.

I am informed that the Rumanian government is not opposed but in fact is helping to facilitate, through its Ministerial Committee, the transportation of refugees from Rumania via sea, and that following the successful voyage of the S.S. Kazbek there are four additional vessels now prepared to embark. Our Government is watching with great interest the plans for the quick movement of these vessels, and may I urge that nothing be done to obstruct the immediate embarkation of these four ships,

as well as the movement of other ships whether they carry a Rumanian flag or any other flag, provided passages are arranged without delay. The ideal situation that could be created would be a so-called "bridge of ships" at this time, which would contemplate not alone the Rumanian ships, which, we understand, you can be instrumental in organizing without delay, but other ships, so that a constant flow of refugee traffic may continue without interruption during these months, when every day is critical for those whose salvation we have at heart.

I am also informed that there have arisen a number of questions regarding those who should be chosen to make these voyages to safe havens. In this connection, may I say that it is not the province of my Government to make or influence such determinations. The bases for these choices are not our special concern. We are deeply interested, however, in not permitting this question in any of its aspects to interfere with the prompt embarkation of these and additional ships by even so much as a single hour. You undoubtedly are more conscious of the acuteness and danger of the situation for these innocent citizens than we can be from here, and you will forgive me for emphasizing again the essential importance of not permitting anything, especially of jurisdictional or technical nature, to stand in the way of the immediate release of these vessels.

I am confident that, in your broad humanitarian efforts (which will be remembered long after those difficult days have passed) you will manage to bring into your councils, on a productive and a cooperative level, the services which Mr. Fildermann can render with skill and effectiveness. Mr. Fildermann is also regarded with deep respect by the great agencies operating in the rescue field, as well as by the representatives of the Government of the United States. Certainly, it would be unfortunate not to utilize fully his experience, sincerity and representative power.

Again may I offer my assurance of our high regard for your efforts in the field of human welfare at this crucial time in the history of all peoples, but especially for the minorities and the Jews, who are suffering so sorely.

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann
Special Attaché
United States of America

P.S. I have just read a copy of the letter from Mr. E. Kaplan of July 17 addressed to you and wish to assert that I subscribe completely with the views expressed by him.

Istanbul, July 18, 1944.

Dr. Juda L. Magnes,
President,
Hebrew University,
Jerusalem.

Dear Dr. Magnes:

Mr. Kaplan who has left Istanbul today will undoubtedly inform you of the steps that have been taken here in behalf of coordination of efforts of the various organizations and the progress to date in our program. The so-called Zissu enigma still seems to haunt us. In connection with this I am enclosing a copy of a communication forwarded to me by the representative of the International Red Cross which was handed to him by the Minister of Rumania to Turkey. What surprises me in this official document is the absence of reference to Zissu.

In my conversation with the Minister I specially requested information regarding Mr. Zissu and his alleged position. The more discussion I hear regarding the latter and his interpositions in the rescue effort the more I am inclined to the opinion that it is essential for us to find some way of determining the real moving spirits among the Jewish leaders with whom we can deal in a practical way in Rumania.

I hope to learn more of this when I meet the Minister again which I expect will be soon. Progress is slow but I think definite and I shall write to you more fully at an early moment with a broader picture of the situation.

Needless to say we miss you and your wise counsel but you have left behind you some light which we believe will endure.

Faithfully yours,

I. A. Hirschmann.

CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN MR. FRANK G. WISNER AND
IRA HIRSCHMANN

(Material sent in from WEB Office in Turkey)

24

August 10, 1944

Memorandum of conversation between
Mr. Hirschmann and Mr. Frank G. Wisner
held on August 10, 1944.

Wisner read from a memorandum allegedly from Giurescu in response to my query connected with the cooperation of Cretzianu and stated that he had a reply to the effect that: "Antonescu wanted to indicate to Mr. Hirschmann in the clearest way possible that he desired to give Mr. H. complete satisfaction in his rescue operations and that he was happy to hear that Cretzianu had been so helpful." Wisner reported that Giurescu was accepted as being an unofficial representative of Antonescu.

I. A. Hirschmann

7 August 44

To: Mr. Ira Hirschman
From: Frank G. Wisner
Subject: Refugees from Rumania

1. Referring further to my previous conversations with you and my memorandum to you of recent date, I wish to pass on the following information which we have just received from a Rumanian government official who stated that he was enroute to Bucharest. We submitted to this man your various inquiries on the same basis that we transmitted these items to Prof. Giurescu.

2. The Rumanian official stated that immediately upon arriving in Bucharest he would insist upon Michael Antonescu giving the American Refugee Board complete satisfaction with regard to the transportation of refugees to Palestine or elsewhere. He declared that the Rumanians were anxious to send as many ships as possible to Turkey for safekeeping, and that they would load these vessels with as many refugees as they could carry.

3. We shall continue to transmit to you any further information which we receive in this connection. Please let us know if you desire any further specific action on our part.

REGRADED
UNCLASSIFIED
FBI/DOJ
SEP 18 1972

Frank G. Wisner
Frank G. Wisner

P.S. Reference is made to your letter of Aug 6 which I am returning to you by Mr. Katz in the manner stated to him. In answer to your request we are conveying to Prof. Sussman in the request that he run it on to the Rumanian government, your statement to the effect that you have been pleased with the cooperation given to you by Mr. Sussman.



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AMERICAN EMBASSY

Ankara, August 6, 1944

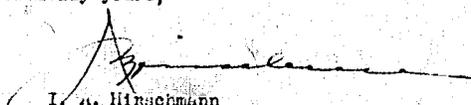
Dear Mr. Wisner:

Relative to yours of August 3, '44, for which I thank you, I presume by now that Mr. Katzki has discussed with you the aspect of the letter which has disturbed me. Contrary to the view expressed therein, Cretzianu has been inordinately helpful to me and to the United States Government in the refugee situation. Without him the important steps of progress which have been made could not have been executed. Any implied criticism of him through any representative of our government will serve the cause negatively and may even break the fortunate relationship established between Cretzianu and me for the sole purpose of refugee rescue.

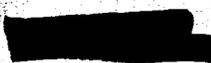
It is therefore essential that word reach Mihai Antonescu expressing our satisfaction with Cretzianu's efforts in behalf of the refugees. I question whether Giurescu is the right one to do this. Perhaps a letter addressed to the International Red Cross, to be delivered through your channels to Antonescu, would be the best way. I should be grateful for your judgment on this. I hope to be back in Istanbul by Wednesday, August 9.

With thanks for your cooperation,

Cordially yours,


I. Hirschmann
Special Attache

file



AUG 44

Mr. Ira Hirschman
U. S. War Relocation Authority
42 American Consulate Street,
Istanbul, Turkey

Dear Mr. Hirschman:

The letter of the 20 July of which was forwarded to you with my letter of 1 Aug 44, has recently been discussed with Prof. Giurescu. According to our representative, Giurescu stated that he is wiring Mihai Antonescu at once about the "formal" which you outline. Giurescu added that Mihai is very angry with Bretzianu for his failure to handle the refugee question to the satisfaction of the Allied representatives. With respect to the status of the Jews in Rumania, he said that full rights of citizenship could be granted to them at the first opportunity.

We are expecting a further report on Giurescu's reactions to other questions raised in the memorandum, and shall forward all such information to you promptly.

Frank G. Wisner
Frank G. Wisner

** Particularly with reference to the refugee matter*

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SEP 18 1972

1 August 44

Mr. Ira Hirschman
U.S. War Refugee Board
c/o American Consulate General
Istanbul, Turkey

Dear Mr. Hirschman:

I enclose a copy of a hastily prepared directive which I issued to one of our representatives immediately upon my return to the office following my conversation with you this morning. Our man will talk to Giurescu this afternoon and needless to say, we will forward to you promptly any information which we may receive pursuant to your inquiries.

You will observe that I have been at pains to make it clear that you are dealing with the Rumanian Minister, and that it is ourselves and not you who are making the inquiries of Giurescu.

Very truly yours,

Frank G. Wisner
Frank G. Wisner

FGW:dda

Attachment: 1

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SEP 18 1972

(File)
~~Confidential~~

1 August 44

From: Frank G. Wisner
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Proposed Conversations with Ciurescu.

1. Reference is made to my memorandum of this morning in which I requested you to take up certain matters with your friend, Ciurescu.

2. I have just had a conversation with Mr. Berry and with Mr. Hirschman, who is the local representative of the United States War Refugee Board, and in addition to obtaining any further particulars which you can along the lines indicated in my first memorandum, will you please communicate the following message to Ciurescu on our behalf.

3. If the Rumanians are anxious to demonstrate their good faith they can offer some concrete evidence by taking the following steps:

(a) Eliminate any and all types of discrimination against Jews and restore them to an equal footing with all members of the Rumanian population.

(b) Permit the entry of Hungarian Jews into Rumania without delay or any technicalities whatever. Mr. Hirschman addressed a request to this effect to Antonescu some ten days ago via the Rumanian Minister in Ankara, but he has had no reply whatever. As a part of his request Mr. Hirschman indicated that the War Refugee Board would assume the responsibility for evacuating the Hungarian Jews from Rumania via Bulgaria at the earliest possible moment.

(c) Provide to us for Mr. Hirschman immediately information as to the status of the four refugee vessels which have been lying in the port of Constanza for months. Three of these are Turkish vessels, named respectively "Bilbil", "Makura" and "Marina".

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SEP 18 1972

The fourth is a Greek vessel named "Smyrna". Mr. Hirschman has advised that these ships have been ordered by the Turks to return to Turkey forthwith and he is most anxious to ascertain whether they will bring full loads of refugees with them. Specifically Mr. Hirschman desires to know whether refugees will be permitted to board these vessels and if not what are the reasons for their being denied this opportunity and what are the chances for full loads of refugees getting aboard. In other words, what are the full particulars causing the hold up. If it is a question of funds, and expenses involved, the War Refugee Board is prepared to pay any reasonable costs.

(d) Mr. Hirschman desires to have it emphasized that these various communications should be forwarded immediately to responsible parties in Roumania through our channels, as he is dealing with the minister on ~~his~~ level. Mr. Hirschman authorized us to state that he is a representative of the American government and in a position to guarantee that in case of cooperation on the part of the Roumanian government it will receive official notice in Washington.

4. Needless to say, your replies on all of these questions are most urgently needed and you should be full in giving your replies. Moreover the reaction of Ciurescu to our questions and to those of Mr. Hirschman should be included.

F. S. Warner

to make correct
they know they
have received great
work to give you
to any people around
As to how they
decided they are
now Prime Minister
and decided to give the
publicity by decision
of the Ministers

There remained all

The T. Minister in London

has, in a public declaration

stated that the Government

will have 90 days

for Turkish troops to

leave country.

Although it is declared

that the Turkish Government

has not read any intention

of this statement

Mr. H. is asked to cease

