Program with Respect to Relief and Prisoner of War Evacuation to Switzerland

World Jewish Congress Operations
1. WJC OPERATIONS

2. LICENSES ISSUED TO WJC FOR WJC OPERATIONS
   a. Basic License # W-2155 (As amended)
      Remit License # NY 605189
   b. Basic License # W-2113
      Remit License # NY 613129
   c. Basic License # W-2118
      Remit License # NY 679984
FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: March 26, 1944
NUMBER: 1881

Given below is the substance of a message for transmission to World Jewish Congress at Department's discretion from Gerhart Riegner (see my cable no. 1180).

Have transmitted so far 4,000,000 French francs to France against the counter value of 71,600 Swiss francs. In order to include Belgian Jews in evacuation action and place at their disposal through France sums for evacuation from Belgium to France, working arrangements have been established with the National Committee for Defense of Jews in Belgium affiliated to Belgian Front of Independence. Correspondents in Holland authorized to raise local currency up to 12,000 Swiss francs for evacuation of Dutch Jews to France from where evacuation may be financed by French center. Similar measures are being negotiated for evacuation from Northern Italy and 15,000 francs are being reserved for this purpose. Several hundreds of persons have been hiding until now in Nice.
Nice region provided with Aryan identity papers and ration cards. Similar measures have been taken in Paris whence several hundreds have been transferred to less dangerous regions and are awaiting evacuation. Last week's first contingent of fifty persons have been sent to Spain by our evacuation center in Southern France; all arrived. Further groups active Spanish frontier are helping others cross and when relieved are ready to cross themselves. A certain number of children have been placed with non-Jews. Last week approximately 120 children passed the Swiss frontier. A certain number of persons, especially compromised in resistance movement, have been hidden and their arrest prevented. Prospects of further action are encouraging especially since Spring will facilitate the crossing of the Spanish frontier. The transfer of an additional $60,000 is urgently requested for enlarging and continuation of rescue activities.

In no way should the above information be disclosed, especially that concerning Switzerland, which is strictly confidential.

HARRISON
Dear Rabbi Miller:

The following message for you from Gerhart Riegner was received from Bern under date of March 25, 1944:

We have transmitted so far 4,000,000 French francs to France against the counter value of 71,600 Swiss francs. In order to include Belgian Jews in evacuation action and place at their disposal through France sums for evacuation from Belgium to France, working arrangements have been established with the National Committee for Defence of Jews in Belgium affiliated to Belgian Front of Independence. Correspondents in Holland authorized to raise local currency up to 12,000 Swiss francs for evacuation of Dutch Jews to France from where evacuation may be financed by French center. Similar measures are being negotiated for evacuation from Northern Italy and 15,000 francs are being reserved for this purpose. Several hundreds of persons have been hiding until now in Nice region provided with Aryan identity papers and ration cards. Similar measures have been taken in Paris where several hundreds have been transferred to less dangerous regions and are awaiting evacuation. Last week's first contingent of fifty persons have been sent to Spain by our evacuation center in Southern France; all arrived. Further groups active Spanish frontier are helping others cross and when relieved are ready to cross themselves. A certain number of children have been placed with non-Jews. Last week approximately 120 children passed the Swiss frontier. A certain number of persons, especially compromised in
- 2 -

Resistance movement, have been hidden and their arrest prevented. Prospects of further action are encouraging especially since Spring will facilitate the crossing of the Spanish frontier. The transfer of an additional $50,000 is urgently requested for enlarging and continuation of rescue activities. In no way should the above information be disclosed, especially that concerning Switzerland, which is strictly confidential."

I am sure you will appreciate the extremely confidential nature of this message.

Very truly yours,

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

Rabbi Irving Miller,
World Jewish Congress,
330 West 42nd Street,
New York 18, New York

Phila 3/30/44
FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: February 26, 1944
NUMBER: 1120

Reference is made herewith to Department's telegram of January 20, 1944, No. 197.

It is reported by Dr. Riegner that arrangements have been completed for turning over to WFO representative in France one million French francs which were purchased from a wealthy French Jew refugee, who has been in Switzerland since total occupation of France, at 1.75 Swiss francs per one hundred French francs. The documents shown to Dr. Riegner attest that this person was formerly an owner of textile factories in France and it is stated by Riegner that he is favorably known to several Swiss who were believed to be reliable by Riegner. It is stated by Riegner that he was reasonably sure from the documents presented that this money was either acquired in a way not benefiting the enemy or belonged to the seller before the fall of France.

HARRISON

cc: Miss Chauncey, Messrs. Paul, Gaston, H.D. White, Pehle, Luxford, Dubois (2 copies), S.M. Bernstein, Stewart, Lesser, Friedmann, Miss Hotel, Mr. Pollak, Mr. Abrahamson, Miss Laughlin.

DISCLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Pohls Date SEP 9 1972
February 16, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

Re: Jewish Refugees in France (UJC and JSC, Sponsors).

Analysis of the scanty material contained in this file indicates either that very little, if anything, has yet been done by way of accumulating the information necessary for an appreciation of the problems involved or the way they are or should be handled, or, that if done, the results of any such efforts repose elsewhere. It is quite evident that many documents are missing. It is likewise evident that, to date, no efforts have been made to have our representative in either Switzerland or London collate and report the facts.

It seems incredible that the first State Department cognizance of the general problem of the plight of the Jews, and particularly Jewish children, in France and the necessity of aiding them there vis à vis evacuating them elsewhere should have occurred in early August, 1943. However, the first cable in the file bearing on this subject was one dated 2 August 1943. This message, dated June 7, 1943, in France, and evidently intended for a relief society, recites that the plight of the Jews in France is constantly worsening. The Germans were greatly increasing the severity of their treatment, deportations were widespread, little assistance was permitted, hospitals were a mockery, and, generally speaking, the situation was intolerable.

While it would seem to serve no useful purpose further to detail the plight of the Jews in France, these two reports do indicate certain lines of internal operations which are apparently being followed in an effort to improve these conditions:

1) It appears that treatment of the Jews by the Italian Fascists is considerably better than that by the Nazis. Thus a measure of organized assistance was permitted by the Italians to the areas under their jurisdiction. Since the withdrawal of the Italians from some of the zones in France which they occupied, the possibility of transporting Jews to zones of Italian domination has, of course, become more remote. However, it would seem that, to the extent it exists, it should be pressed.

2) Unless otherwise indicated, all material under the above title was obtained from the file "Refugee Groups: Jewish Refugees in France (sponsored by American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee)."

Cable No. 5657, 2 August 1943, 10 a.m. from Bern to the Department.

Cable No. 5657, 11 September 1943, 1 p.m.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Perles Date
(2) Various types of medical and social aid are given by the various groups operating within France, within the limits permitted.

The most pressing need of the groups was for funds for the financing of aid and movement within France as well as the possible evacuation of refugees from France. The situation with respect to children was particularly acute in all of these regards. Some children are presently being assembled at Drancy and registration of all there in the Paris area appears in the offing. These measures were regarded as preliminary to deportation and the only way they could be avoided was by movement. Various estimates indicate that there are about 1300 children in immediate danger in and about Paris; about 3000 children are hidden in the provinces; an estimated 1200 in homes about 1000 are with Jewish families in the provinces; and about 400 in forced residence.

After receipt of the cables indicating the drastic plight of these persons in France, the Treasury Department prepared a cable outlining an arrangement whereby some relief could be accorded to the refugee groups. Generally speaking, and subject to safeguards with respect to the character of the relief organization and the necessity for preventing the enemy from realizing financial advantage, the following were authorized: the borrowing in France, against a blocked account in the United States of up to $100,000 dollars a month for a period of 6 months or, if all or a part of the funds could not be obtained through this channel, by the purchase of French francs from persons in Switzerland. Although this proposed cable had been sent to State on 1 September 1943, it was not transmitted until 17 September 1943, and then only after Secretary Morgenthau had called Secretary Hull's office to expedite its transmission.

The J.D.C. representative in Bern cabled on 30 September 1943 that $100,000 a month would be sufficient for children but not for general purposes and that it would be necessary to resort to both proposed methods to obtain the funds. On about 14 October 1943 the contents of this message were communicated to Mr. Moses A. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Draft cable transmitted to State in a memorandum of 4 September 1943 from Mr. Orvis A. Schmidt to Mr. Bernard Walser.

See memorandum of telephone conversation of 17 September 1943, between Secretary Morgenthau and Mr. John Stone of Secretary Hull's office. The cable went out as Cable No. 2280, 17 September 1943, 4 p.m., from the Department to Bern, Switzerland.

Cable No. 6102, 30 September 1943, 5 p.m., from Bern to the Department.

Letter of 14 October 1943 from Mr. H. R. Travers, Chief, Visa Division, to Mr. Leavitt.
Subsequent to this the J.H.C. advised its Bern representative that, under the Treasury Department license, he was authorized to purchase francs, under the conditions stipulated up to a total of 600,000 and, in this regard, he was not limited to 300,000 a month. It was indicated that, should this credit be exhausted prior to the expiration of six months, the J.H.C. should be so advised. This advice was repeated on 17 November 1943.

Meanwhile, the problem of evacuating the refugees from the Italian occupied zone in France, which was about to be taken over by the Germans, was causing concern on the part of the J.H.C. It cabled its Bern representative to this effect on 15 September 1943, requesting advice as to the procedure which could be worked out. No report on ways and means was in the file. However, Leavitt advised Mr. H.R. Travers of the Visa Division, on 7 October 1943, that he had received a report from Dr. Joseph F. Schwartz, of the J.H.C., Lisbon, that 1200 of the Jewish refugees, of an estimated 20,000 in Southern France, had made their way from Nice to Italy. The manner in which this was done was not revealed.

The last development evidenced by the files examined was the transmission of a cable to London, on 3 January 1944, that the Treasury Department license described above had been revoked and new licenses issued. Both the WJC and the J.H.C. were granted similar licenses, except that the former was authorized to operate in Rumania as well as France. The conditions on the purchase of Yul and French francs were relaxed. It was indicated that the ceiling on WJC purchases was 128,000 Swiss francs, while that of the J.H.C. was 2,500,000 Swiss francs. The Treasury, however, appeared disposed to grant licenses for further sums should the need arise. While the amendment had the effect of bringing the WJC and the J.H.C. together as far as terms of the licenses were concerned, the main object was to facilitate the acquisition of French currency in Switzerland; it having been found that a substantial premium had to be paid when the Swiss francs had to be blocked.

9/ Cable of 1 November 1943 from Department from Leavitt to Bern for S. Mayer, Zurich; see also letter of 25 October 1943 from Leavitt to Travers, Visa Division, and latter's reply of 1 November 1943.
10/ Cable No. 2836, 17 November 1943, from Department from Leavitt to Bern for S. Mayer, Zurich.
11/ Cable No. 2271, 15 September 1943, 5 p.m., from Department from Leavitt to Bern for Mayer.
12/ Letter of 7 October 1943 from Mr. Leavitt to Mr. H.R. Travers, enclosing a copy of a 7 October 1943 cable from Mr. Schwartz.
13/ Airgram No. 139, 11 January 1944, from Department to London.
FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: AMBASSADOR, London
DATED: January 10, 1944, 6 p.m.
NUMBER: 242

The following is for your information:

With respect to the license which was issued to the World Jewish Congress recently to transmit funds to Switzerland for arranging the evacuation of refugees in France and Rumania, referred to in your telegram of December 18, 1943 No. 8717, and with particular reference to the second sentence of our telegram dated December 15, 1943 No. 7969, this situation differs in the following respects from those relating to the prevention of the enemy from obtaining foreign exchange:

1. Rumanian Aspects of the Plan:

Persons in Rumania are to make available the funds actually to be used to finance the evacuation and the funds are to be in local currency. Claims against a blocked account in Switzerland will be received by persons furnishing funds in this way, which claims are

Sincerely,

[Signature]

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, S-1-1-72
By R. H. Parks Date: SEP 19 1972
are not assignable for the duration of the war and are only to be honored upon certification by a World Jewish Congress representative that funds or services have actually been provided in connection with the plan by the claimant.

2. French Aspects of the Plan:

The French francs are to be bought either in France or in Switzerland under substantially identical conditions, except that if the seller of such French francs is in Switzerland and is not an enemy national, his claim against the blocked account may be assigned if the French francs have been held by such seller since before France's fall or, if acquired subsequent to the fall of France, the French francs have accrued to the seller from investments or dividends in France or similar transactions which were not beneficial to the enemy.

The representative of the World Jewish Congress, Dr. Rieger, is further directed to insure the possibility of foreign exchange being made available to persons in enemy occupied territory or to persons who have furnished neither funds nor services in connection with the plan, is reduced to a minimum, and
and furthermore he is required to insure to the best of his ability that the suppliers of the local currency are persons satisfactory to the United States Legation. Also he is required to give to the Legation periodic reports concerning the operations carried on pursuant to the license.

We believe the foregoing safeguards will effectively prevent the enemy from acquiring any foreign exchange as a result of these operations and therefore it is our view that the Germans will not be encouraged by these operations to further persecution for the sole purpose of extracting foreign exchange.

You are informed that a substantially identical operation on the part of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee has been approved by us. The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee operation is confined to France but allows the financing of arrangements designed solely for the purposes of relief in addition to arrangements looking toward the evacuation of persons in imminent danger of their lives. Similar safeguards against the enemy acquiring foreign exchange are provided and in this case the above comments with respect to the program of the World Jewish Congress are also applicable. We have received
received your telegram of January 7, 1944 No. 139
and it is presumed that in the near future discussions
regarding the subject will take place.

HULL
Dated December 15, 1943
Rec'd 7:44 p.m.

Reference your 7206, November 27 for Winant. M
c has addressed following letter to Embassy
dated December 15 respecting plan for evacuation of Jews
from France and Rumania: "We have now received the
views of the Foreign Office on the proposal of the
United States Treasury to license the remittance to
Switzerland of $25,000 as a preliminary installment to
be expended on the rescue of Jews from France and
Rumania. The Foreign Office are concerned with the diffi-
culties of disposing of any considerable number of Jews
should they be rescued from enemy occupied territory.
Certain schemes with a similar object in which both the
Foreign Office and the State Department are interested
are greatly hampered by the difficulties of transporta-
tion, particularly shipping, and of finding accommoda-
tion in the countries of the Near East for any but a very
small number of Jewish refugees. They foresee that it is likely to prove almost if not quite impossible to deal with anything like the number of 70,000 refugees whose rescue is envisaged by the Riegner plan. For this reason they are reluctant to agree to any approval being expressed even of the preliminary financial arrangements. We understand that they are telegraphing to this effect to Washington, asking them to place these considerations before the State Department.

As a result of this expression of views by the Foreign Office we have telegraphed to Washington stating the terms on which we should have been prepared to agree to the license proposed, i.e., (A) for the time being the currency to be procured only by purchase from unobjectionable Swiss owners of French francs or Rumanian lei acquired in an unobjectionable manner, (B) both Legations in Bern to be responsible for checking the Swiss owners and the origin of the currency they proposed to sell, (C) no further transfer to be licensed until a report is received which should include information as to the amounts procurable on these terms and as to the general progress of the scheme. But we have added that the Foreign Office see grave objections in general and are telegraphing separately about these.

PLEASE INFORM TREASURY.

MINANT
My dear Cordell,

In late June the State Department received cables from Bern, Switzerland, relating to a proposal of the World Jewish Congress to evacuate thousands of Jews from Rumania. The necessary funds would be paid to Rumanian officials in local currency by well-to-do Rumanian merchants who would be reimbursed at black market rates either in dollars or Swiss francs either to be blocked or held in trust for them until after the war. The entire operation was to be directed from Switzerland by an agent of the World Jewish Congress who would work through underground channels with prominent members of the Jewish Congress in Rumania. Later information received indicated that the program would also be applicable to the evacuation of Jews from France.

On July 16 your Department was advised that the Treasury was prepared to license subject to your approval the necessary transactions on the following conditions: A blocked account would be established in the United States by the American Jewish Congress for reimbursement of those persons who advanced funds in connection with the evacuation of the Jewish refugees from Rumania and France. No funds would be paid from such account until the end of the war but portions of it would be earmarked from time to time in the name of the individuals who had actually advanced funds under the proposal. Under the plan no foreign exchange would be made available to the enemy.

On August 7, 1943 you advised me that the Treasury itself was entirely free to act on this matter and to grant the necessary licenses if it should so desire. Accordingly, a cable was dispatched to Bern stating that the Treasury was prepared to issue an appropriate license and setting forth the conditions of such license.
Several inquiries were received from Bern relating to the details of the proposed plan. Although these inquiries were promptly answered the exchange of cables consumed seven more weeks. Finally, on September 28 a cable was despatched to Bern in which the Treasury authorized the Minister to issue an appropriate license to the World Jewish Congress and its agents to undertake the transactions necessary for the evacuation program under specified safeguards designed to prevent any benefit to the enemy. In reply a cable dated October 6 was received from Minister Harrison at Bern requesting specific instructions from State before acting on the authority granted by the Treasury, and pointing out that, in accordance with standing instructions concerning trading with the enemy problems, the matter had been discussed with the British who opposed the issuance of the license. Two weeks later this cable was received by the Treasury (October 20) and a proposed reply was sent to State on October 23, instructing Bern to issue the license in question to the World Jewish Congress and its agents, and pointing out that the considerations mentioned by Bern, including those referred to by the British, were all carefully considered in Washington before the cable of September 28 had been sent. Assistant Secretary of State Long, after having discussed with Treasury the British interest in this cable, authorized the despatch of the cable on October 26 without clearance with the British.

Despite the instructions contained in this cable to issue a license to the World Jewish Congress, Minister Harrison again came back three weeks later (November 14) and advised that the British Commercial Secretary had stated that the British Ministry of Economic Warfare objected to the proposed licensing and was taking the matter up with Washington. Minister Harrison again requested specific instructions on this matter.
I find the three and one-half months delay which has ensued since Treasury first indicated its approval, and you concurred, most difficult to understand. I fully appreciate that some delays are inherent in handling these problems by cable. However, it is hard to fathom how the delays that have occurred in this case over the relatively simple matter of getting our Minister in Switzerland to issue a license at my direction and with your concurrence. Since programs of this character can be just as effectively vitiated by delay as they can by denial of the necessary licenses, your assistance is badly needed in order to expedite this matter.

Sincerely,


The Honorable,

The Secretary of State.
Secretary Hull:

It is suggested that a cable to Ambassador Winant along the lines of the attached draft would be helpful. We are also explaining the details of the requisite financial transactions to the British Embassy here.

H.M., Jr.

Attach.

JED: JWP: mud - 11/24/43.
It is urgent that you take prompt action on the following matter which has already been subject to substantial delays. Many months ago Klingner, the representative in Switzerland of the World Jewish Congress, approached this Government with a proposed plan for the evacuation of Jews from Rumania and France. The United States Treasury Department was consulted with regard to the licensing of the financial transactions involved. After carefully considering the matter, our Minister in Berne was authorized and requested to issue a license to the World Jewish Congress covering the requisite financial transactions. The proposed arrangements and the license authorized by the Treasury required that the requisite local currency be acquired either in occupied or enemy areas against blocked accounts established in the United States or Switzerland to be held until the end of the war, or in the alternative local currency might be purchased from persons in Switzerland provided the American Legation in Berne, or some other responsible agency, checked the sellers to insure that the local currency had not been acquired from objectionable sources. In general, the proposed arrangements and the Treasury license would insure that the transactions would not give benefit to the enemy.

Harrison, in his cable No. 7142, November 14, which was repeated to you, refers to the objections of M.E.W. to the proposed arrangements. The British Embassy here has approached the Treasury on the matter and the Treasury is explaining the transactions and safeguards to the British Embassy. To avoid further delay please take appropriate action to obtain from M.E.W. the withdrawal of its objections to the issuance of the license and the transmittal of appropriate advice to its representative in Berne.
Secretary Morgenthau

Mr. O'Connell

There is attached a cable, dated November 14, 1943, from the American Legation in Bern relating to the proposal of the World Jewish Congress and the American Jewish Congress for the relief and evacuation of thousands of Jewish refugees from France and Rumania. There is also attached a letter from the British Embassy here, addressed to Mr. Pehle, relating to this same matter.

We would like to discuss this with you as soon as possible. I suggest that White and Pehle, and the men who are most familiar with this matter in the legal division, Luxford and DuBois, be present at the conference.

(Signed) Joseph J. O'Connell, Jr.
November 13th, 1943.

Dear M. Pehle:

For Personal Attention of M. Pehle

The Ministry of Economic Warfare have received a telegram from M. Pehle at Berne calling attention to his U.S. colleague's telegram No. 034 of October 6th (it is not clear whether this was addressed to Washington and repeated to the U.S. Embassy, London, or vice versa). Enclosing the Treasury Department's proposal to licence certain exchange transactions for the purpose of facilitating the evacuation of a number of Jewish refugees from France and Romania.

The Ministry have not heard of this proposal previously, and are unable to judge its merits until they have received details. Would you let me know whether you have already referred the matter to the U.S. Embassy in London for consultation with the Ministry of Economic Warfare under the Joint Loaning Advisory Committee procedure? If not, I should be grateful to have details of the proposal which I can transmit myself in response to this request for information.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Guy Thorold

G. F. Thorold

Mr. J. H. Pehle,
U.S. Treasury Department,
Foreign Funds Control,
Washington, D. C.

Information given below is for attention of Department, FPC, and Treasury.

The British Commercial Secretary was informed of the contents of the Department's telegram dated October 26, 1943, no. 2626, in accordance with standing instructions concerning issuance of proposed license. He has now informed him that it shared his objections to proposed licensing (see the Legation's telegram of October 5, 1943, no. 6269, which was repeated to London as no. 534) and is taking the matter up with Washington. He has been instructed by his Government to withhold consent for issuance of license in the meantime. Consequently, if I am expected to comply with Treasury Department's desires expressed in your telegram under reference in opposition to present British position or in advance of their subsequent concurrence, specific instructions would be greatly appreciated.

The foregoing message was repeated to London for the information of our Embassy there.

Wardlow

c/c Lessers, Paul, Fox, Schmidt, Landford, Doetsis, G. L. Bernstein and Lisa Hodel
TO:
The Secretary
Mr. D. W. Bell
Mr. Gaston

Mr. Alger
Mr. Bartelt
Mr. Chas. Bell
Mr. E. M. Bernstein
Mr. Broughton
Mr. Coling

Mr. Chatfield
Mr. Walter Day
Mr. Dietrich
Document Room
Mrs. Farrell
Mr. Feider
Mr. F. Friedman
Mr. A. U. Foy
Mr. Hofffelfinger
Mr. Hoffman
Mr. Elmer Irey
Mr. W. R. Johnson
Mrs. Kern
Mr. Klaus
Mr. Kuhn
Law Library
Mr. Manning
Mr. O'Connell
Mr. Pfeile
Mrs. Ross
Mr. Schmidt
Mr. Schurz
Mr. Shea
Mr. Stewart
Mr. Tiekens
Mr. Wachels
Mr. White

FROM: MR. LUXFORD - Room 174
Confidential

Memo to the Secretary
From Mr. Paine

Date: 9/12/43

Subject: Evacuation of Jewish Refugees from Romania

Mrs. Beatty
1/13/44

Type: Ly

A - Form 11 - Aug. 1941
Mr. Paif

Mr. Luxford mentioned to me your request for a memorandum regarding some of the background on the proposal for the evacuation of Jewish refugees from Rumania.

In the latter part of June, the State Department forwarded to us certain cables received from Bern, Switzerland relating to this matter. In substance, the World Jewish Congress in Switzerland is attempting to work out a way to evacuate up to 70,000 Jews from Rumania at a cost of approximately $170,000. These funds would be paid to the Rumanian officials in local currency by well-to-do Rumanian Jewish merchants who would be reimbursed at black market rates either in dollars or Swiss francs to be blocked and held in trust for them until after the war. The entire operation would be directed from Switzerland by an agent of the World Jewish Congress, who, in turn, would work through underground channels with prominent members of the Jewish Congress in Rumania.

Shortly thereafter Dr. Nahum Goldmann and James Wise of the American Jewish Congress called to discuss this matter in a preliminary way with us. On July 16 a conference was held with Reams, Reams, Melzer and Kupfinger of the State Department concerning this proposal. Mr. Reams, Foreign Service Officer, presently assigned to the European Division, and also assigned as State Department's refugee expert, threw cold water on the proposal on the grounds that it would be impossible to work out as a practical matter satisfactory arrangements with the Rumanian authorities and that the transportation of any persons evacuated could only be arranged with German consent which would not be forthcoming. He further pointed out the fact that under the provisions of the British White Paper, only about 30,000 Jews can be admitted to Palestine and he said he did not know of any other areas in which the remaining Jews could be evacuated since the Turkish Government has refused entry to Jewish refugees and so far as the North Africa area is concerned, the military authorities have, for military reasons, been unwilling to permit their entry into Africa. As a matter of fact, it was indicated that the United States Chiefs of Staff had decided that refugees could not be admitted even in Dakar for military reasons, but
that it was believed that the President was about to overrule this decision.

Mr. Meltzer, on the other hand, stressed the point of view that this proposal was not based on a government to government arrangement with Rumania but rather on underground methods and that it was difficult to say at this point that such methods might not be successful in at least getting some Jews out of Rumania. Reams stated that within a very few days they expected to get a complete report from the American Ambassador in Turkey which might throw some light on the problem and it was agreed that as soon as this report was received we would discuss the matter again.

This matter was again discussed here in the Treasury with Mr. White and myself and it was agreed that we would license the transaction on the basis of the facts before us and on July 16 we advised Meltzer of State, informally, that the Treasury was prepared to approve the transaction. Shortly thereafter Meltzer of State sent a draft of a proposed cable to our Mission in Bern over to us for approval. We approved this cable in substance, making a few suggestions as to language. The proposal submitted to Bern in the cable was in effect the following:

A blocked account would be established in the United States by the American Jewish Congress for reimbursement of those persons who advanced funds in connection with the evacuation of the Jewish refugees from Rumania and from France. No funds would be paid from such account until the end of the war but portions of it would be earmarked from time to time in the name of the individuals who had actually advanced funds under the proposal. Under the plan no foreign exchange would be made available to the enemy.

On July 23 we received a letter from Dr. Stephen S. Wise of the American Jewish Congress with which he enclosed a letter which he had sent to the President urging approval of the proposal. On July 31 we advised the American Jewish Congress that we were prepared to take the necessary action to implement the proposal. Shortly thereafter the President transmitted to us the letter which he had received from Dr. Wise for a suggested reply. It was our feeling that the President speaking as the head of this Government should be able to give Wise an authoritative statement on this matter. With this in mind we got in touch with Meltzer of the State Department to obtain State's approval for telling Wise that both State and Treasury were sympathetic to the proposal and that Treasury was prepared to license it and that the details were being worked out
between Bern and Washington at this time. We told Meltzer that we were anxious to get an immediate reply. Meltzer was sympathetic but pointed out that the matter was one which was meeting with considerable opposition within the State Department and that Dr. Feis was carrying the ball on the matter. After several unsuccessful efforts to obtain a definite statement from Dr. Meltzer we called Dr. Feis. Dr. Feis said he was going to raise the question with Secretary Hull and would call us back the next day. Next day Dr. Feis advised us that the matter was still on Secretary Hull's desk and made it clear that he had done his best to get the proposal approved.

We told Dr. Feis that unless we could get an immediate reply from State we would have to advise the President. He suggested that the best way to get the result we wanted would be for you to call Secretary Hull about the matter. You decided to send Hull a letter instead. Before receiving Hull's reply, Meltzer called DuBois and told him that he had been instructed by the State Department to say that State Department had no comments to make on the proposal but that State would raise no objection to the Treasury Department issuing a license in respect to the transaction. Meltzer made it clear that he felt that the State Department's method of handling the matter made no sense and further indicated his bitter resentment of the way the matter was being handled. He told DuBois that he would like to discuss the matter in detail with him after he, Meltzer, "was in the Army".

It is perfectly apparent to us from our dealings with the State Department on this issue that there is a very bitter fight going on in the State Department regarding the whole refugee question. While it is difficult to pierce the veil of secrecy surrounding the issue in State, there is reason to believe that the Foreign Service Officer group are the ones resisting proposals for assistance to the refugees. In this connection, Drew Pearson had an article in his column in the Washington Post on August 9 discussing the fight going on in the State Department regarding the Jewish refugee problem. In such column he indicated that Major General Pat Hurley had agreed with Ibn Saud, the powerful Arab leader that the Jews should be driven from all Arab lands, including Palestine. The article goes on to state that upon Hurley's return to this country the State Department prepared a new policy for the approval of the White House
and the British Government and that this policy would bar any further discussion of Palestine and the Jews until after the war. He said that the parties pushing this in the State Department were Wallace Murray, Hull's political adviser on the Near East, Adolf Berle and Harold Hoskins, who formerly worked for Berle, although he is now in the Army. Pearson indicated that London had turned down the proposed policy but that following pressure from Washington they had yielded; that meanwhile news of the maneuver had leaked out and some of the President's advisers including Judge Rosenman and Baruch emphatically opposed closing the door to any discussion of the question at this time and that Wise came to see the President regarding the matter. The article goes on to say that Wise persuaded Roosevelt to postpone decision for a while. Meanwhile, the State Department has been trying to get Secretary Stimson to go along with Hull but that Stimson has indicated that he favors a frank discussion of the problem and so far has not yielded. A copy of Pearson's article is attached.

From the opposition with which the instant proposal has been met by some factions within the State Department is it possible to tie Pearson's article into the State Department attitude on the Rumanian refugee proposal.

Of course the line adopted by the Foreign Service Officers in North Africa is certainly consistent with the theory that they are the ones opposing assistance to the Jewish refugees. In this connection you may be interested in the attached memorandum prepared by Mr. DuBois while he was in North Africa, after having discussed with Consul General Wiley the question of releasing Jewish refugees from the concentration camps in North Africa. On January 10, 1943, Wiley stated his strong opposition to the immediate removal of the Jews from the camps. You can get the full flavor of that conference only by reading DuBois' memorandum.

There is also attached a copy of the cable sent by State to Bern which you requested Luxford to obtain for you.

(initialled) H.E.P.

<sep>AFLuxford: M. Fleischouse 3-12-43
(Dictated over the telephone by Mr. Heltzer 8/11/43, 6:15 p.m.)

No. 1889, August 6, 1943, 5 p.m.

Reference: Your telegram 2461, 8/20/43; Department's telegram 1249, May 25; your telegram 3657, June 14.

Treasury is prepared to issue a license required for the following arrangements. These arrangements are in connection with proposals made by representatives of the American Jewish Congress for evacuation and relief of Jewish refugees in France and Rumania:

(a) There would be established in a bank in the United States (not Switzerland) a blocked account by deposit of funds by private groups in the United States for reimbursement of persons in occupied and other areas who would furnish local currency or services necessary in relation to the evacuation of Jewish refugees (a) from France to Spain or North Africa and (b) from Rumania. There would be allocated in favor of the persons furnishing such currency or services certified by an agent of the World Jewish Congress acceptable to this Government the funds in such blocked account. It would be stipulated by Treasury:

(1) Until the end of the war and in no event without the approval of said agent of the World Jewish Congress no funds would be paid from such account for any purpose.

(2) It would be only in connection with the evacuation expenses that this arrangement would be available. The establishment of such account or the employment of funds under such arrangement for relief in contravention to evacuation would not be permitted by Treasury.

(3) A prohibition of assignments of interest or expectancies in such account would be imposed.

(b) Treasury requests your opinion and that of Dr. Riegner as to whether such a program would permit the acquisition of the required francs and lei. According to Treasury the following should be borne in mind:
(1) During the war there must not be made available any foreign exchange in enemy or enemy-occupied territory.

(2) There must be reduced to an absolute minimum the possibility of funds ultimately reaching persons who have neither furnished local currency or services. You should also indicate the amount of funds which it is believed by Dr. Riegner would be necessary for initial operations which should be deposited to the United States account referred to in paragraph (a).

(c) If this program in your opinion and that of Dr. Riegner will not permit acquisition of the required local currency it is requested by Treasury that you submit your suggestions as to alternative means which would make such acquisition possible and which would not conflict with the conditions listed above.
January 13, 1943

Conference with Consul General Wiley
Re Jewish Refugees.

I conferred with Consul General Wiley today with respect to the telegram from the Treasury relating to the remittance of £7,000,000 francs by the J.C.C. for the initial expenses of the release of 1,000 refugees.

He stated that it was not true that the refugees would be released upon the receipt of the "initial expenses" of their release that a Joint Commission had been established to deal with the whole problem of the release of prisoners, including the Jewish refugees referred to, "rest" Spanish refugees, Polish refugees, Belgian refugees, Greek refugees, Russians, etc., that this Commission was composed of the British Consul General, American Consul General, one representative of each, a psychological warfare representative and Mr. Greene (heated by Rockefeller Foundation to head area); that the whole problem was a very difficult one and had to be carefully studied; that in general the prisoners would only be released after it was decided what should be done with the groups involved (as groups); that plans would have to be made for taking care of the refugees after they had been released before their release; that Mr. Scolan referred to in Treasury cable was a Frenchman (Jewish) heading up the organization referred to; that Scolan had misunderstood the arrangements contemplated; that he did not believe that Scolan was fully trustworthy; that Schindler, European head of the J.C.C., had been requested to come to Algiers and was expected soon that it would be better to deal with Europeans rather than with Scolan.

When I asked Wiley how long he thought it would take before the refugees would be released he replied three or four months; that a considerable study of the problems involved would have to be made.

I expressed to Mr. Wiley my failure to understand why it was taking so long to solve a problem which seemed so important to solve as rapidly as possible; that he knew probably better than I the great amount of criticism which had been leveled at our position in this matter; that this type of criticism tended to hurt the war effort; and that it would seem to me that it would pay solely from
the standpoint of the war effort for the allies to spend a certain amount of time, effort and money to solve the problem without delay. They agreed that considerable criticism had been leveled and that the problem should be solved as soon as possible but claimed the solution was difficult and would take time.

I questioned him about the possibility of having the Arabs hire these refugees as they were hiring the Arabs. Riley stated that the possibility of placing them in labor battalions had been discussed but the British had finally turned it down. I explained that I was not speaking of regimentation but of voluntary employ- ment. He indicated that there should not be such concern over regimentation; that Americans were being conscripted every day.

I explained why I thought the democratic method of selective service was different from telling a group of prisoners that their "choice" was to remain in prison or go into the army. Riley then stated that the voluntary employment of the refugees differed from the employment of Arabs in that if the army no longer needed the Arabs they could go back to their former way of life; and that there was also the problem of finding a place for the refugees to live. I voiced the view that it would be worth the effort and expense to hire the refugees even if they did not put in a full day's work "earning their keep" and to supply them with living quarters; that even if they slept in pup tents they would probably enjoy life more and from our selfish point of view we could at least avoid the harmful criticism.

Riley stated that there had been so much criticism of things done that "they" (he and others) were becoming "hard skinned" about it and that "the only judge was whether or not their conscience was clear abut this and similar matters." I expressed the view that the test should not be one's reliance on issues such as this but what was best in the interests of the war effort.

J. L. Buhls, Jr.
11th Reserve Department.
LICENSES ISSUED TO NUC BND NUC OPERATIONS
CROSS REFERENCE ON

FOR:

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

For letter of 4/23/44 from World Jewish Congress requesting this license -

SEE: WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS - LICENSES
NY 626339
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATED: June 3, 1944
NUMBER: 1905

PAYMENT of 16,007 francs to Seiligung by Riegner,
suggested in the Legation's telegram of May 11, 1944 No. 2991
and payments to Worms and Levy, upon their arrival in Switzerland,
of the Swiss franc equivalent of the amounts purchased from them
are authorized by the Treasury Department. The authorization
given above is subject to both Riegner and you being satisfied
that these individuals are bona fide refugees and intend to
remain in Switzerland for other neutral territory or territory
which the Allies control and other than in Switzerland no
such payments should be made.

STETTINIUS
(Acting)

DORIDORL 6/7/44
Reference Legation's 2391, dated May 11, 1944, Treasury

Department authorizes Rieger to pay Swiss francs 16,667 to
André Salignani in Switzerland and to Jerome and Levy, upon
their arrival in Switzerland, the Swiss franc equivalent of
amounts purchased from them, provided the Legation and Rieger
are satisfied that such persons are bona fide refugees and intend
to remain in Switzerland or other neutral territory or territory
under allied control.
In reply please refer to 72302.

To: Chief, V. I. I. Division,
Department of State.

From: Orvis A. Schmidt

Attention: Mr. William J. McAdoo

Reference is made to telegram No. 3939 of May 13, 1944, from the American Legation, Bern, Switzerland, to the Secretary of State, in which inquiry is made on behalf of Mr. Ringner, representative in Switzerland of the World Jewish Congress, whether payment for French francs acquired by him from certain individuals in France under provisions of license No. 14-2113 may be made to such persons in Swiss francs upon their arrival in Switzerland.

It will be appreciated if the attached cable, in reply to the inquiry made in the telegram under reference, may be dispatched promptly to the American Legation, Bern, Switzerland, through the facilities available to the Department of State.

Please inform Mr. W. S. Parks, the Foreign Funds Control Liaison Officer with the War Refugee Board when such cable is dispatched.

Attachment.

[Signature]

NBParkstfth 5-23-44
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Bern
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: May 11, 1944
NUMBER: 294

Reference is made herewith to Legation's May 8 telegram No. 2794.

Six additional financial transactions are reported by Riegner. Three million French francs were purchased for Swiss francs 49,500 from Stitelman in transaction five. Agents in France negotiated transactions six to nine inclusive with Jews in France as follows: Andre Seeligmann: French francs one million for Swiss francs 16,667; Rene Worms: same total; George Sarna and Levy French francs 1,600,000 for Swiss francs 83,333; Alice Worms: French francs 500,000 for Swiss francs 8,333. Bicket supplied French francs three million for Swiss 54,000 in transaction ten. In accordance with license Y 2116, clause A2, Riegner states proceeding to establish in Union Bank of Switzerland, Swiss francs blocked accounts for beneficiaries transactions six through nine.

According to Riegner, Seeligmann has now escaped to Switzerland and former inquires whether instead of being held in blocked account, Swiss francs can be paid to Seeligmann. It is also expected that Worms and Levy

DECLASSED
State Dept. Letter, 11-11-72
By R. L. Purdy Date, SEP 19, 1972
Levy will arrive in Switzerland and he requests permission to pay them Swiss francs when they arrive in that country.

HARRISON
MAY 10 1944

Dear Dr. Wise:

The following confidential message for you from Dr. Riegner has been received through the American Legation in Bern:

"I submit herewith report of further activities. Having countervalue of 134,834 Swiss francs, have transmitted during last month a further 8,100,000 Swiss francs for evacuation. Including groups from Holland and Belgium, during the last month an average of sixty per month crossed the frontier. During the first half of April 40 young Jews evacuated to Spain, while during the second half, an additional fifty are to cross and have probably reached the frontier already. During the coming weeks this number will be increased as it is the most favorable time since spring. We are constantly receiving news from persons who arrived in Spain safely. In assisting Jewish children to cross the Spanish frontier, the Jewish resistance is equally active. Recently the first group of 25 children were brought to Spain. Jewish resistance is largely responsible for their rescue. Hidden persons, especially those in particular political danger, are also being assisted by Jewish resistance. Having denounced and sold Jews to Germany, several special groups of four to five young Jews are charged with punishment and elimination of traitors. Including reports of American Jewish Congress, the resistance has published an illegal newspaper containing instructions to French Jews and news of Jewish life throughout the world. Arrest of the printer has temporarily suspended publication.

"Request transfer of maximum funds possible in view of very satisfactory reports. In the western countries the coming weeks may be the last chance for rescuing Jews."
This report contains confidential information and should in no way be disclosed.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Peake
Executive Director

Dr. Stephen S. Wise,
World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
PARAPHRASE OF TELEGRAM SENT

FROM: Secretary of State, Washington
TO: American Legation, Bern
DATE: May 11, 1944
RE: License

Department's cables of January 20, No. 197 and of February 6, No. 411,
are referred to herewith.

For Section (B) of license No. W-2116, issued to the World Jewish Congress,
under license amended by Treasury, the following is the substance of Section (B)

Individual licenses authorizing the use of specific quantities
pursuant to this license will be issued by the Treasury, and the total
sums represented by claims against any blocked account pursuant to this
license, plus the sums paid out or otherwise obligated pursuant hereto,
shall not exceed the total amount in dollars (or the foreign currency
equivalent thereof) which the Treasury so specifically authorizes.

A license to the World Jewish Congress to remit to Dr. Rieger the
Swiss francs equivalent of $100,000 has now been issued by Treasury, in
addition to remittances which Treasury has previously licensed for use
pursuant to license No. W-2116, Dr. Rieger is to be advised of the
foregoing.

These operations have been fully approved by the Treasury, War
Refugee Board and Department.

Hull

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date, SEP 19 1972
May 6, 1944

Subject: Cable to Born relative to amendment to license No. 2115 issued to the World Jewish Congress, New York City.

The subject license, it will be recalled, was amended by letter (No. 59118) on May 5, 1944, to provide that the total amount of funds paid out or set up in blocked accounts or otherwise obligated under the terms of this license shall not exceed the amount of dollars (or the foreign currency equivalent thereof) authorized by specific Treasury license to be used under this license and to provide for its expiration on October 31, 1944.

Mr. Negeleman, of the A.T.T. Division of the Department of State, to whom a draft of the subject cable to the American Legation in Bern was directed, called this office this morning and suggested that the reference to the expiration date of the subject license be omitted so that the legation would be relieved of the responsibility of determining whether the license had been renewed or not, pointing out that it would be simpler to merely advise it that the license had expired in the event it were not renewed.

Mr. O'Flaherty, Miss Hoedel, and I were agreed that it would be simpler to advise the legation that the license had expired by its terms and not been renewed, if that were the case, than to advise it of each renewal of such license. This procedure would also place this license, so far as the legation in Bern is concerned, on the same basis as all the other licenses issued in connection with evacuation operations in enemy territory.

Mr. Negeleman was advised, therefore, that the reference to the expiration date of license No. 2115 might be omitted from the text of the cable transmitted to him under cover of our letter dated May 5, 1944 (No. 59206). Mr. Negeleman stated that he would confirm in writing that this change in the cable had been made.

R. S. Parke

cc: Miss Hoedel, Mr. O'Flaherty

RSParkesfhn 5-6-44
MEMORANDUM

For attachment to:

FFC Letter No:

Date:

Project No.:

TO: Liaison Officer, Foreign Funds Control

FROM: War Refugee Board

Subject: Relief and evacuation operations in enemy or enemy-occupied territory.

There is transmitted herewith a copy of a letter dated April 28, 1944 from the World Jewish Congress dealing with remittance of equivalent of $100,000 to representative in Switzerland for evacuation to places of safety of persons in enemy or enemy-occupied territory whose lives are in imminent danger.

The War Refugee Board recommends that appropriate Treasury licenses and other necessary documents be issued permitting the execution of the project contemplated in the letter described above.

Remarks:

Action:

Basic license No. B-5718 issued dated 2-1-44 and 5-5-44
Remittance License No. 1787 issued dated May 4, 1944
Other licenses issued dated May 4, 1944

Date: May 4, 1944

For the War Refugee Board

Signature

Date: May 4, 1944

Liaison Officer
Foreign Funds Control
In reply please refer to 59529

Sirs:

The War Refugee Board has transmitted to this Department a copy of your letter dated April 26, 1944, in which you request it to recommend the issuance of a license permitting you to remit the Swiss franc equivalent of $100,000 to your representative in Geneva, Switzerland, Dr. Wagner, to be used by him in connection with the activities contemplated in license No. 6-2115, as amended February 4, 1944.

Pursuant to the recommendation made to this Department by the War Refugee Board, section 2 and section 6 of license No. 6-2115 are hereby amended to read, respectively, as follows:

Section 2 "The total amount of funds paid out or set up in blocked accounts or otherwise obligated under the terms of this license shall not exceed the amount of dollars (or the foreign currency equivalent thereof) authorized by specific Treasury licenses to be used under this license."

Section 6 "This license shall expire on October 31, 1944; it is subject to the provisions of Executive Order No. 8389 of April 10, 1940, as amended, and the regulations issued thereunder, and may be revoked, modified, or declared void at any time at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury acting directly or through the agency through which the license was issued, or by any other agency designated by the Secretary of the Treasury."

You are informed that in the event the activities contemplated in license No. 6-2115 are to be continued after the date on which such license expires, this Department will be pleased to con-
alder renewing the license for a further period of six months,

The American Legation at Bern, Switzerland, is being notified of the foregoing amendment and requested to inform Dr. Adenauer. The Federal Reserve Bank of New York has been authorized to issue to you a license to effect the transfer of the Swiss franc equivalent at $100,000 to your representative in Switzerland through the facilities available to this Government.

Very truly yours,

Orvis A. Schmidt
Acting Director

World Jewish Congress,
330 East 42nd Street,
New York 17, New York,

Ref: 5-2-44
In reply please refer to 59320

To:        Chief, T. I. Division
            Department of State

From:      Louis A. Schmidt

Attention: Mr. William I. Biegelmann

It will be as expeditious if the attached cable, relative to an additional amendment to license No. 14-2215 issued to the World Jewish Congress, New York, New York, may be dispatched immediately to the American Legation, Bern, Switzerland, through the facilities available to the Department of State.

Please advise Mr. R. B. Parke, the Foreign Funds Control Liaison Officer with the War Refugee Board when such cable is despatched.

Attachment,

RBParkesjib 3-2-44
Please advise Dr. Gerhart Hagnner, representative in Switzerland of the World Jewish Congress, New York City, that the Treasury Department has amended Section 2 of license No. 8-2115, as amended February 4, 1944, to read as follows:

"The total amount of funds paid out or set up in blocked accounts or otherwise obligated under the terms of this license shall not exceed the amount of dollars (or the foreign currency equivalent thereof) authorized by specific Treasury licenses to be used under this license."

This license is further amended to provide for its expiration on October 31, 1944. The Treasury Department has informed the licensee, however, that it is prepared to consider the renewal of this license at its expiration in the event the activities licensed therein have not been completed. This amendment is in connection with a Treasury license issued to the World Jewish Congress to remit to Dr. Hagnner the Swiss franc equivalent of $100,000 in addition to the remittances previously licensed. It has the approval of the Department, the War Refugee Board and the Treasury.
Dear Mr. Davis:

For your information and the completion of your files, there is enclosed herewith a copy of a letter addressed under even date, to the World Jewish Congress, 15–west 43rd Street, New York, New York, carrying license No. 1–2115, as amended February 4, 1944.

Sincerely yours,

Orvis A. Schmidt
Acting Director

Mr. Norman P. Davis,
Manager,
Foreign Funds Control Department,
Federal Reserve Bank of New York,
New York, New York.

enclosure.

RBParkesfish 5–3–44
NY 623189

In pursuance to application filed directly with this Department, you are hereby
authorized to issue license to the world journal congress, 530 west 23rd street,
new york city, omitting it notwithstanding General Rule No. 11, to reedit
the line from a distance of an amount up to $100,000 to Dr. vorort Wagner,
forever, without fee, for distribution in accordance with license No. 2-2115,
as amended. The licensee, or its bank of account, is authorized to pay the
licensee amount involved to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for credit to the
same nationwide base, which, for payment to the person designated herein, or
to purchase the whole price involved from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York
as such a part of that nation's license expired October 23, 1944. Please
send at the expiry of license to Mr. Lamore, Federal Reserve Bank of New York,
and advise the主任 is for humanitarian purposes

[Initialed] C.H.B.

WRKsce: 1th 5-2-44

Unit 402
Reference my 2941, dated twenty-second of April.

It is requested by Siegner that there be forwarded to the World Jewish Congress the following message:

I submit herewith report of further activities, which is in sequence to my March 23 report, transmitted by the Legation's no. 1861, of March 26.

Having counter-value of 134,834 Swiss francs, have transmitted during last month a further 8,100,000 Swiss francs for evacuation. Including groups from Holland and Belgium, during the last months an average of sixty per month crossed the frontier. During the first half of April 46 young Jews evacuated to Spain, while during the second half, an additional fifty are to cross and have probably reached the frontier already. During the coming weeks this number will be increased as it is the most favorable time since spring. We are constantly receiving news from persons who arrived in

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State Dept. Letter, 1914-1972
By R. M. Parks Date SEP 19 1972
in Spain safely. In assisting Jewish children to cross the Spanish frontier, the Jewish resistance is equally active. Recently the first group of 26 children were brought to Spain. Jewish resistance is largely responsible for their rescue. Hidden persons, especially those in particular political danger, are also being assisted by Jewish resistance. Having denounced and sold Jews to Germany, several special groups of four to five young Jews are charged with punishment and elimination of traitors. Including reports of American Jewish Congress, the resistance has published an illegal newspaper containing instructions to French Jews and news of Jewish life throughout the world. Arrest of the printer has temporarily suspended publication.

Requests transfer of maximum funds possible in view of very satisfactory reports. In the western countries the coming weeks may be the last chance for rescuing Jews.

This report contains confidential information and should in no way be disclosed.

The name Reigner appears as the signor of the foregoing message.

HARRISON
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Division of World Trade Intelligence

June 1, 1944

WBS - Mr. Parke

Your reference 72202, May 26, (Ref W-245)

Please be advised that the telegram enclosed in the
above reference has been prepared for dispatch to Bern. You
will receive a paraphrase in due course through the normal
channels.

(Signed W.I.R.)

William I. Riegelman
From: American Legation, Bern
To: Secretary of State, Washington
Date: April 22, 1944

Reference is made herewith to my cable of March 25, no. 1752.

It is reported by Slegner that in fourth transaction he
has purchased further million French francs from Stiel-
enau at rate of Swiss francs 1.70 per hundred French francs.

It is stated by Slegner that he is receiving satisfac-
tory reports on continuation of rescue action in France
and evacuation of Jewish groups to Spain from Belgium,
Holland, and France continues without interruption. A de-
tailed report on these operations is promised by him.

HARBOUR

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 3/11-72
By H. H. Perke Date, SEP 19 1972

0000062
To, World Jewish Congress

(Name of licensee)

330 East 42nd Street, New York, N.Y.

(Address of licensee)

Sir:

1. In order to arrange for the evacuation to places of safety or relative safety as shall be selected by your representative of persons in enemy or enemy-occupied territory whose lives are in imminent danger, and, pending possible evacuation, to sustain and safeguard the lives of such persons, your representative in Switzerland (including such agents as he may appoint) is hereby licensed notwithstanding the provisions of General Ruling No. 11 to communicate with persons in enemy or enemy-occupied territory in any manner he deems necessary or expedient and to take all other appropriate action, including the acquisition of necessary funds, goods or services from persons in enemy or enemy-occupied territory for payment in accordance with the terms of this license. The necessary funds to finance such operations may be obtained by any of the following methods:

(a) The first method is the purchase of currency or exchange of the country in which the operations are to be effected from persons in Switzerland who your representative, after consulting with the United States Legation in Bern when feasible, is reasonably certain have held such currency or exchange since prior to the freezing of such country by the United States, or have since acquired such currency or exchange in such manner as has not benefited the enemy. The sellers of such currency or exchange may be reimbursed therefor in Swiss francs at the prevailing unofficial rates of exchange in Switzerland.

(b) The second method is the acquisition of local currencies or exchange from persons in enemy or enemy-occupied territories for which reimbursement will not be made until after the war. In order to insure reimbursement after the war to the persons supplying such currencies or exchange, blocked accounts may be established on your books in the United States, or in a bank in the United States or a bank in Switzerland. No payments may be made from any such blocked account without the specific approval of the Treasury Department and no assignments may be made of any interest in such blocked account without such approval.

(c) The third method should not be used if it is feasible to obtain the local funds by either of the first two methods. The third method is the acquisition of the necessary local funds, goods or services from persons in enemy or enemy-occupied territory against payment in free exchange or free currency notes. Your representative should take reasonable steps to avoid such foreign exchange or free currency notes being paid to persons who will make it available to the enemy.
2. The total amount of dollars or Swiss francs paid out or set up in blocked accounts or otherwise obligated under the terms of this license shall not exceed 428,000 Swiss francs, or the dollar equivalent thereof, during the six months' period beginning January 1, 1944.

3. Your representative should keep the American Legation in Switzerland fully informed with respect to the financial transactions effected under this license. In so far as feasible your representative should make certain that the persons from whom the local currencies or exchange are purchased are acceptable to the Legation. Your representative should satisfy himself that payments to such persons will not benefit the enemy.

4. Periodic reports with regard to any operations engaged in under this license should be filed with the Treasury Department by your representative through the United States Legation in Bern.

5. This license is granted upon the statements and representations filed with the Treasury Department, and is subject to the condition, among others, that you will comply in all respects with Executive Order No. 8399 of April 10, 1940, as amended, and the regulations issued thereunder and the terms of this license.

6. This license is not transferable, is subject to the provisions of Executive or No. 8399, of April 10, 1940, as amended, and the regulations issued thereunder and may be revoked, modified, or declared void at any time at the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury acting directly or through the agency through which the license was issued, or any other agency designated by the Secretary of the Treasury.

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Assistant to the Secretary
Dear Rabbi Miller:

The following confidential message for you from Gerhart Rieger was received from Bern through the American Legation under date of March 30, 1944:

"To answer your message of March 2 concerning rescue action for Bulgarian Jews the following is sent.

Notably in the following small towns the Bulgarian Jews are concentrated according to information obtained mainly by Nissim Conforti who is now in Geneva: Lom, Viden, Rousse, Vratza, Polvdiv, Pazardji, Krastovit, Pleva, Haskovo, Jameti and Daunitsa. These Jews are living in private buildings and have the right to leave only two hours each day. Almost all of them are very miserable. Jewish public kitchens organized by themselves feed about seventy percent. With trustworthy persons in all localities Conforti is in contact. For local help and especially for evacuation to Turkey, all financial assistance is greatly needed. By methods one and two of license Y-2115 we still have possibilities for transfer. We are also enquiring possibilities for the Red Cross despatches Bulgaria awaiting results.

"Evacuation to Turkey which should be promoted by all means possible is a most urgent matter. It is requested that you intervene urgently and firmly with the Turkish government for unconditional issuance of entry visas for Bulgarian Jews and admit on Turkish frontiers even all those who illegally present themselves. Absolutely insufficient are the present rules which admit the entry of small groups of fifty only when the preceding fifty have departed from Turkey for Palestine. The keystone of any real evacuation program is the intervention of the War Refugee Board and the United States Government with the authorities of Turkey to change their attitude."
"Angelo Koujd Jdikle is in Turkey with the United States mission at present, according to our information. His support should be sought for your efforts regarding the entry to Turkey of Bulgarian Jews and for the granting of facilities to leave Bulgaria, please intervene with Balaabanoff in Ankara. Kindly send by cable your intentions for assistance and the results of your demarches. If the Bulgarian Jews are to be spared the fate of the Hungarian Jews immediate action is necessary.

"Concerning the large relief scheme being discussed by the intergovernmental committee for refugees in London, please be advised that Intercross in all probability is unable to buy food, supplies, etc., because of political developments in the Balkans. For despatch to Intercross at Geneva which could distribute from here, I suggest you put fifty to a hundred thousand American prepared food parcels at the disposal of the War Refugees Board. In shipment to Europe Intercross can probably be helpful. Also most urgent is this action.

"Intercross dispatches including medicaments, food, linen and clothing to Cracow are again officially authorized according to official news from the Jewish Relief Center at Cracow and the German Red Cross dated March 12. This information should be sent to the War Refugees Board. Number 11520."

I am sure you will appreciate the extremely confidential nature of this message.

Very truly yours,

(Engrs.) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Rabbi Irving Miller,
World Jewish Congress,
330 West 42nd Street,
New York 18, New York.

[Signature]

[Signature]

CSI Cleared
Advisory 4/3/44

File No. 46/67
There follows in substance a message from Riegen for the World Jewish Congress - refers to Legation's cable dated March 28, number 1892.

To answer your message of March 2 concerning rescue action for Bulgarian Jews the following is sent.

Notably in the following small towns the Bulgarian Jews are concentrated according to information obtained mainly by Sienz Conforti who is now in Geneva: Los, Vizin, Rozena, Vrbovo, Belvel, Bangrade, Austrul, Pleva, Haskovo, Jambol and Doupatica. These Jews are living in private buildings and have the right to leave only two hours each day. Almost all of them are very miserable. Jewish public kitchens organized by themselves feed about seventy percent. With trustworthy persons in all localities Conforti is in contact. For local help and especially for evacuation to Turkey, all financial assistance is greatly needed. By methods one and two of license X-2118 we still have possibilities for transfer. We are also enquiring possibilities Red Cross despatches Bulgaria awaiting results.

Evacuation to Turkey which should be promoted by all means, possible is a most urgent matter. It is requested that you

UNCLASSIFIED

Endicott, 1-11-72

By R. H. Fuller Date, SEP 19 1972
intervene urgently and firmly with the Turkish Government for unconditional issuance of entry visas for Bulgarian Jews and admit on Turkish frontiers even all those who illegally present themselves. Absolutely inefficient are the present rules which admit the entry of small groups of fifty only when the preceding fifty have departed from Turkey for Palestine. The keystone of any real evacuation program is the intervention of the War Refugee Board and the United States Government with the authorities of Turkey to change their attitude.

HANDLER

4/1/44
FROM: The American Minister, Paris
TO: The Secretary of State, Washington
DATE: March 30, 1944
NUMBER: 14-46 (SECTION TWO)

Angelo Acquavola Mejia is in Turkey with the United States Mission at present, according to our information. His support should be set aside for your efforts regarding the entry to Turkey of Bulgarian Jews and for the granting of facilities to leave Bulgaria. Please intervene with Balkanoff in Ankara. Kindly send by cable your intentions for assistance and the results of your discussions. If the Bulgarian Jews are to be spared the fate of the Hungarian Jews immediate action is necessary.

Concerning the large relief scheme being discussed by the Intergovernmental Committee for Refugees in London, please be advised that Interonas in all probability is unable to buy food, supplies, etc., because of political developments in the Balkans. For despatch to Interonas at Geneva which could distribute from here, I suggest you put fifty to a hundred thousand American prepared food parcels at the disposal of the War Refugee Board. In shipment to Europe Interonas can probably be helpful. Also most urgent is this action.

Interonas dispatches including medications, food, linen and clothing to Greece are again officially authorized according to official news.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date 1-19-72
to official news from the Jewish Relief Center at Cracow and
the German Red Cross dated March 12. This information should
be sent to the War Refugee Board. The foregoing is signed by
Bernard Miehler, Number 11600.

[Signature]

4/2/44
MEMORANDUM

For attachment to:
FFC Letter No:
Date: MAR 31 1944
Project No:

TO: Liaison Officer, Foreign Funds Control
FROM: War Refugee Board

Subject: Evacuation of refugees.

There is transmitted herewith a copy of a letter dated March 27, 1944 from the World Jewish Congress dealing with Remittance to Dr. Kegner in Geneva the sum of $30,000 on basis of License U-2115, as amended, for the evacuation to places of safety of persons whose lives are in imminent danger.

The War Refugee Board recommends that appropriate Treasury licenses and other necessary documents be issued permitting the execution of the project contemplated in the letter described above.

Remarks: Increase remittance to $35,000 (as per World Jewish Congress letter)
Special facilities to Swiss francs

Action:
Basic license No. W- issued
Remittance License No. issued 4-3-44
Other: Letter No. 59312 dated 4-3-44

Liaison Officer
Foreign Funds Control

Date: APR 8 1944
In reply please refer to 5012

Sirs:

The War Refugee Board has transmitted to this Department a copy of your letter dated March 27, 1944, in which you request the Board's assistance in securing licenses to remit to Dr. Meggner in Geneva, Switzerland, the sum of $20,000 for disbursement in accordance with the provisions of license No. N-2115 as amended on February 4, 1944, and the sum of $8,010 received from the Italian Community in Rio de Janeiro for relief to Italian refugees in Switzerland.

Pursuant to the recommendation made to this Department by the War Refugee Board, the Federal Reserve Bank of New York has been authorized to issue to you licenses permitting you to effect the remittances described above through the facilities of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

With respect to the license permitting you to transfer funds to Dr. Meggner for disbursement in accordance with the provisions of license No. N-2115, cited above, you will note that such license provides for the remittance of $275,000. This figure represents the difference between the amount authorized under license No. N-2115 and the sum of $25,000 which you remitted in connection therewith under a previous license. As such license is valid through June 30, 1944, it will enable you to remit the balance of the amount authorized under license No. N-2115 without the necessity for securing a specific license each time you are prepared to transfer funds for the purposes contemplated therein.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Acting Director

World Jewish Congress,
330 West 42nd Street,
New York, New York.
Subsequent to the time filed directly with this department, you are hereby authorized to issue license to the World Jewish Congress, 330 West 42nd Street, New York City, containing it, subjecting it to the Federal Rule No. 11 to remit during the period ending June 30, 1944, to the Swiss franc equivalent of $75,000 to Herbert Singer, Geneva, Switzerland, for disbursement in accordance with the provisions of license No. 2115 as amended. The licensees, or their bank of account, is authorized to pay the dollar account involved to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for credit to the Banque Nationale Suisse, which, for agnment of the Swiss franc equivalent to the above designations herein, or to purchase the Swiss francs involved from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York as fiscal agent of the United States. License expires June 30, 1944. Please send signed copy of license to Mr. Bushmore, Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

(Initialled) O.A.S.
March 27th, 1944

My dear Mr. Pehle:

I have been advised by Miss Hodell with whom I spoke on the telephone to refer the following matters to your attention:

The World Jewish Congress wishes to remit immediately to Dr. Riegner in Geneva the sum of $80,000.00 on the basis of license #F 2115 as amended on February 4th, 1944. In addition, the World Jewish Congress has received from the Italian Community in Rio de Janeiro the sum of $80,100.00 which this community wishes to transmit to Geneva for the specific purpose of relief to Italian refugees in Switzerland.

Will you be good enough to advise us both as to the procedure to secure the necessary license for these two remittances as well as the rate of exchange which may be available for us in the light of the specific purposes for which the money is to be used.

Very sincerely yours,

Irving Miller
Rabbi Irving Miller

IM:ML
Reference is made herewith to my cable of March 25, no. 1861.

The summary report from Riegner regarding the third financial transaction undertaken in accordance with license Y-2115 as amended.

Arrangements have been made by Riegner to purchase 4,000,000 French francs from Rene Bickert, stated by him to be a Swiss citizen and a prominent member of the Geneva Jewish community. The rate is 1.78 Swiss francs per 100 French francs. Until presentation of receipt signed by R's representative in France, the Swiss francs counter value deposited with Armand Brunachv, former President Geneva Jewish community. It is stated by R that Bickert has produced convincing evidence of ownership of several millions French francs in investments in France dating from before the war. In view of the necessity to take advantage of the possibility of communications with France, he states that he is unable to consult Legation before arranging the transaction. R states that the above names are not to be divulged under any circumstances.

DECLAS: State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By: 2-31 Turks Date: SEP 19 1972
DEPARTMENT OF
STATE

OUTGOING
TELEGRAM

DIVISION OF
CENTRAL SERVICES

1945 APR 6 AM 10 46

DC/L
LIAISON

CONTROL COPY

ANNOUNCEMENT

BEGN
1361, Fifth

Please request McClelland deliver the following
message (MAN 483) to Berhard Ahlgrnm, 37 Juri
Milsen, Geneva, from Kurt Grossman of Wold JewisM Congress:

"After trying to rescue Annette Oswald Hochberg,
her relatives for which we remitted $1,000; Blume Gross-
Lagowman and daughter Ruth and Lothar Jane Skop both
Bergenbelsen for which $500 remitted for each. Instructions for
distribution of balance of $800 from the
$800 we recently transmitted will follow later. UNJURED

ACHESON
ACTING
(GSW)

4/6/45
CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, RENS, FOR McCOOL, FROM THE WAR ROOMS: BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Gerhard Wagner, 37 Quai Wilson,

Geneva, from Kurt Grosman of World Jewish Congress:

QUOTE TRY RESCUE ANNE STAUS ORALDO HAIRBIERD, THOSE LIVING FOR WHICH 836 REMITTED 81,000; KUNI GROSS-LEIBERMAN AND DAUGHTERS BOTH AND

LOTHAR JAMES SELL BOH BEIBERLEBEN FOR WHICH $800 REMITTED FOR EACH.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF BALANCE OF $800 FROM THE $8400 WE

RECENTLY TRANSMITTED WILL FOLLOW LATER. UNQUOTE

THIS IS THE RENS CABLE NO. 483

11:30 a.m.
March 30, 1945

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

RENS 3/29/45
March 26, 1945

In reply refer to: March 26, 1945

No. 377

Dear General O'Dwyer:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 21st which refers to my letter of March 16th requesting the assistance of the War Refugee Board in transmitting a message to Gerhard Riegner in Geneva.

May I assure you that we had no intention of violating the authorization granted to us under license No. 679984, especially since the disbursement of funds under this license is subject to the approval of the American Embassy in Bern.

However, we want to draw your attention to the case of the Hungarian Jews and the Comite International des Intellectuels Refugies, for which latter case an amount of $2,000 was allocated. In both these cases we cannot ascertain whether the beneficiaries are endeavoring to proceed to Switzerland or whether they have already found haven in that country, thereby making the case a relief matter. As you know, under present conditions in Europe rescue and relief activities are so closely related that we here can only give general instructions to our representative in Geneva, merely adding that the money has to be disbursed with the approval of the American Embassy in Bern.

Since the total amount of $8,400 has already been transmitted to our representative — although you authorized the disposal of only $2,600 — we would greatly appreciate your dispatching the following cable about this matter:

"To: Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva

From: Kurt Grossman

Try rescue Annetta Oswald Hochberg, Theresienstadt for which we remitted $1,000; Blume Groe-Liebermann and daughter Ruth and sister James Shop both Bergenbelsen for which $800 remitted for each.

Please be good enough to add to this cable that the balance of $6,600 is to be distributed by our Geneva office as soon as they will be permitted to use these funds under another license for which we are making application as per attached copy."
I am sorry that because of our endeavors to help the persecuted Jews, this inconvenience has arisen. I am sure, however, that we can count upon your cooperation and that no damage will be done to the cause we have to serve.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

[Title]
[Department]
March 26, 1946

United States Treasury Dept.
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Parke

Gentlemen:

We herewith apply for a license permitting us to remit
U.S. $5,800
at the countervalue in Swiss francs
if possible at the official rate of 23.32

to our Geneva office,

La Comite Pour l'Assistance a la Population
Juive Frappee Par la Guerre (Committee for the
Relief of the War Stricken Jewish Population)
37 Quai Wilson, Geneva, Switzerland,

to be used in favor of the following persons:

ea) Hungarian Jews, refugees from Hungary having arrived
   in Switzerland $3,000.00
b) Italian Jews, refugees from Italy having arrived in
   Switzerland 450.00

c) Mr. Nissen Kahan, a Hungarian Jewish refugee, now
   working in the above-mentioned office in Geneva 100.00

d) Miss Lisa Levy, a German refugee, having arrived in
   Switzerland four years ago and related to Mr. Gerhard
   Riegner the director of our Geneva office 250.00

e) Comite International des Intellectuals Refugees, for
   refugee scholars 2,000.00

The sources of these funds are the following:

ad a) Hia. Hungarian Jewish Organizations in Chicago, Detroit, New York.
ad b) Italian Jewish Representative Committee affiliated with the New
   York office of the World Jewish Congress.
ad c) Mr. Nicolas M. Munk, 3 Poplar Plains Crescent, Toronto, Canada
ad d) Mr. Frederick Freund, 101 W. 78th St., New York City.

a) Contribution from various individuals in the United States for
   transmission to the Comite International des Intellectuals Refugees.

Enclosed you will find copy of a letter we wrote to General O'Dwyer of
the War Refugees Board about this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Rabbi Irving Miller
Secretary General
CABLE TO AMERICAN LEGATION, BEIJING, FROM NATIONAL JEWISH COUNCIL OF AMERICA, FROM THE WAR REFUGEES BOARD

Please deliver the following message to Gerhard Riegner, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva from Kurt Gansman of World Jewish Congress:

Quote: TRANSMITTED YOU UNDER LICENSE [W197784] 80,500 TO BE USED AS FOLLOWS: $2,000 FOR COMITE INTERNATIONAL POUR LES INTELECTUELS RÉFUGIÉS, GENEVA; $100 MR. MISSION KAHN ON BEHALF OF UNICEF; $250 LISA LAVI, GENEVA ON BEHALF OF REUTERS; $3,000 RELIEF OF MONGOLIAN JEWS; $400 FOR ITALIAN JEWS ON BEHALF ITALIAN JRH; FOR RESCUE PURPOSES: $1,000 ANNEITA OSWALD HOOVER; THERESIENSTADT; $100 BLAUE GROSS-LEWEMANN AND DAUGHTER WITH BESSERER; $100 LOTAR JAMES WERF BESSERER. UNINT.
MAR 21 1945

Dear Mr. Grossman:

Reference is made to your letter of March 16, 1945, requesting the assistance of the War Refugee Board in transmitting a message to Gerhard Rieger in Geneva.

Inasmuch as license No. NY 679984 only authorizes remittances for operations permitted by license No. V-2116, your proposed use of some part of the $8,000 under NY 679984 is in violation of this license. Specifically, the following items are not permitted by the aforementioned license: $8,000 for 600 International pour les Intellectuels Refuges, Geneva; $100 Mr. Niissan Khan on behalf of Hank; $250 Lisa Levy, Geneza on behalf Fred. Freud; $3,000 relief of Hungarian Jews; $450 for Italian Jews on behalf Italian JRG.

In view of the foregoing, it is suggested that you obtain a special license from the Treasury Department for the remittances which are not permitted under license No. NY 679984. The War Refugee Board will be pleased to transmit the following message for you which will be in accordance with the terms of the license:

"Transmitted you $8,000 for disbursement under license No. V-2116. Try to rescue Annieta Oswald Hochberg, Kereniainstadt, Bluma Gross-Liebergmann and daughter Ruth, Bergenbelesen and Lothar James Skop, Bergenbelesen." 

Please advise the Board whether you desire to have the above-quoted message transmitted for you.

Very truly yours,

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Mr. Kurt R. Grossman,
Rescue Department,
World Jewish Congress,
1334 Broadway,
New York 23, N. Y.

Ph:ph 3/21/45
March 16, 1945

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

In reply refer to:
No. 359

Transmitted you under license No. 672284 $6,500 to be used as follows: $2,000 for Comite International pour les Internes, 37 Quai Wilson, Geneva on behalf of Annetta Oswald Hochberg, Theresienstadt; $800 Blume Gross-Liebermann and daughter Ruth Bergenbelsen; $800 Lothar James Shap Bergenbelsen.

Thank you for giving this matter your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt Grossman
Rescue Department
MEMORANDUM

For attachment to:

FRC Letter No:

Date: March 9, 1945

TO: Liaison Officer, Foreign Funds Control

FROM: War Refugee Board

Subject: World Jewish Congress - W-2115

There is transmitted herewith a copy of a letter dated from the World Jewish Congress to Mr. Gerhart Riegler, Geneva, Switzerland, dealing with the remittance of $25,000 to finance operations contemplated in License No. W-2115, as amended.

The War Refugee Board recommends that appropriate Treasury licenses and other necessary documents be issued permitting the execution of the project contemplated in the letter described above.

Remarks:
Special facilities with respect to Swiss francs.

Action:

Basic license No. W-2115 amended on March 12, 1945, to expire Sept. 30/45
Remittance license No. NY 679984 issued March 12, 1945

Date: March 13, 1945
In reply please refer to: 82013

Dear Sirs:

Reference is made to application No. NY 0779914 filed by the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company of New York on your behalf for a license to remit $25,000 to Mr. Gerhart Kiehn, Geneva, Switzerland, for disbursement in accordance with the provisions of license No. N-0115 as amended.

Since license No. N-0115, as amended, has expired, such license hereby reinstated and amended to expire September 30, 1945, in order to permit your representative in Switzerland to continue the operations contemplated therein.

The application under reference has been approved by the Department and the Federal Reserve Bank of New York has been authorized to issue license No. NY 0779914 to the Sterling National Bank and Trust Company of New York permitting it to remit on your behalf the sum of $25,000 to Mr. Gerhart Kiehn, Geneva, Switzerland, through the facilities available to this Government with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

Sincerely yours,

L. G. Aaron
Acting Director

World Jewish Congress,
250 West 42nd Street,

Sincerely yours,

L. G. Aaron
Acting Director

World Jewish Congress,
250 West 42nd Street,

Sincerely yours,

L. G. Aaron
Acting Director

World Jewish Congress,
250 West 42nd Street,

Sincerely yours,

L. G. Aaron
Acting Director

World Jewish Congress,
250 West 42nd Street,
FEDERAL RESERVE BANK OF NEW YORK
FOREIGN FUNDS CONTROL DEPARTMENT

NY 679884 Approved, notwithstanding General Ruling No. 11, provided funds are disbursed in accordance with license No. W-2115, as amended. The licensee is authorized (a) to pay the dollar amount involved to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York for credit to the Banque Nationale Suisse, Zurich, for payment of the Swiss franc equivalent to the payee designated herein or (b) to purchase the Swiss francs involved from the Federal Reserve Bank of New York as Fiscal Agent of the United States, as shall be prescribed by the Federal Reserve Bank of New York. License to expire September 30, 1945. Please send signed copy of license to Mr. Rushmore, Federal Reserve Bank of New York, and advise him this remittance is for humanitarian purposes.

L.C.A.

L. C. AARONS

401

3/8/45