

Handwritten notes, possibly a date or reference number, located in the upper left quadrant of the page.

Office of Strategic Services
Vol 1

000257

SEP 12 1945

Dear Mr. Penrose:

With the final termination of the War Refugee Board about to be effected, I wish to express to you our appreciation for the services of two of our representatives who were made available to the Board by the Office of Strategic Services.

Mr. Herbert Katzki's service as a Special Representative of the War Refugee Board, first in Turkey and later in Switzerland, was eminently satisfactory, and his able performance of the tasks assigned to him in that capacity was invaluable to the Board.

We are also very grateful for the privilege of having had Mr. Iver C. Olsen act as our Special Representative in Stockholm, where his brilliant performance was of such great value to us.

We are indebted to your organization for the services of both of these men. It was a tremendous asset to the Board to be able to utilize the services of Mr. Olsen and to have Mr. Katzki assigned to us. Please accept our sincere thanks for your cooperation and generosity in this matter.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Mr. Stephen Penrose,
Room 1254,
Temporary C Building,
Washington, D. C.

EBT:hd 9/12/45

000258

My dear Mr. Secretary:

The Office of Strategic Service has requested the Board to make available to one of its representatives all material "regarding barter deals pertaining to refugees between German authorities and Allied representatives". Since there have been no "barter deals", I assume that the reference is to the discussions initiated by the Germans to that end which have taken place sporadically in Turkey, Switzerland, and Sweden. I would appreciate very much the guidance of the Department of State in this matter.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. ...
J. W. Fehle,
Executive Director.

Honorable Cordell Hull,
Secretary of State,
State Department,
Washington, D. C.

LSHessort:mh 9-26-44

000259

MEMORANDUM

June 28, 1944

To : Mr. Fletcher Warren, Department of State
From: Mr. Albert Abrahamson, War Refugee Board

You will recall that on April 25, 1944, I sent you a memorandum requesting information on a number of matters dealing with refugee problems. Since that time you have been good enough to send us a communication from Major General Clayton Bissel of G-2 and you have also arranged for several people from the Office of Strategic Services to call on us. These evidences of your cooperation are deeply appreciated.

In our earlier conversations, it was agreed that as new questions arose, we should send them to you and that you would do your best to obtain the answers. Such a question has now arisen. We should like to have the latest available figures as to the number of non-Jewish Polish refugees in (1) Iran, (2) Palestine, (3) Switzerland, (4) India, and (5) Mexico.

AAbrahamson:lr 6/28/44

000260

Mr. Abramson

June 28, 1944

L. E. Lesser

I would appreciate it if you would procure for me as promptly as possible, from sources which you have indicated are available to you, the latest available figures as to the number of non-Jewish British refugees in (1) Iran, (2) Palestine, (3) Switzerland, (4) India, and (5) Mexico.

000261

May 30, 1944

TO: Lt. Richard Helms
FROM: L. D. Lesser

I'd appreciate it if you would deliver the attached
to Mr. Taylor, as per our telephone conversation.

LSLesser:als 5/30/44

000262

MAY 30 1944

Dear Iver:

I am taking the occasion of Mr. Taylor's return to Sweden as a means of conveying to you my appreciation for the excellent job you are doing on behalf of the Board. Your recent cables opened up new vistas and I hope that by the time you receive this letter the projects you have outlined are in full swing, and that new ones are under way.

The staff joins me in greetings to you.

Very sincerely yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Iver C. Olsen
Special Representative of the
War Refugee Board
American Legation
Stockholm, Sweden

P.S.
LSEserials 5/27/44

000263

My dear General Donovan:

A few days ago, Mr. Ira Hirschmann, a Special Representative of the War Refugee Board, returned to Washington from his post in Turkey for the purpose of reporting on conditions and programs in that area. After discussing the situation fully with Mr. Hirschmann, I wish to take this opportunity to extend my thanks to you and to the Office of Strategic Services for the cooperation which your representatives in Turkey afforded to Mr. Hirschmann in carrying out the functions of the Board in that area. Mr. Hirschmann stressed both the quality of the assistance rendered to him by the Office of Strategic Services and the willingness with which it was given.

~~As you know, the cooperation of your representatives in Turkey as well as other areas is extremely desirable in carrying on the work of the Board.~~

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle,
Executive Director

Brig. General Wm. J. Donovan
Office of Strategic Services
Washington, D. C.

*Original signed by
Mr. Pehle.*

*Copy to Mr. Louns
4/21*

JB7 2FR:bbk - 4/20/44

000264

April 21, 1944

Dear Arthur:

Enclosed are certain self-explanatory documents which indicate some of the ways in which you can be of great help to us. If they require any further amplification, please call me.

I understand from Fehle that during the course of a very satisfactory discussion which he had yesterday with officials of your office concerning relations between the two organizations, he mentioned that he knew of your forthcoming trip and indicated that you might be helpful to us. I also understand that this idea was approved.

If there are any developments which you think we should know about I assume that you will communicate with us through Carl Devoe.

With best wishes for a very successful trip, I am

Sincerely yours,

Joe Friedman

Major Arthur Goldberg, A.U.S.,
Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

JBF:bbk - 4.21.44

000265

8. The War Refugee Board established by and directly responsible to the President. Members of Board are Secretaries Hull, Stimson and Morgenthau, all of whom are fully supporting the Board's efforts.

9. Under Executive Order it is the duty of State, Treasury and War to execute plans and programs developed by the Board. All three Departments have given clear instructions to their representatives here and abroad to cooperate with the Board. Other agencies and Departments are also required by the Executive Order to lend their assistance to the Board.

10. OSS of its own volition approached the Board and suggested working out cooperative arrangement (Sherman, Sheppardson and McLeod). All agreed that arrangements of mutual benefit could be worked out. Board, for its part, agreed to appoint as its representatives abroad certain people in whom OSS was interested and otherwise to aid OSS efforts. Only request made of OSS up to now was use of OSS communication facilities in a few cases. This arrangement was working out until some individual from State Department, without consulting Board or Secretary Hull, apparently asked OSS to have nothing to do with Board. Now things are at a standstill. This is completely inconsistent with the nature of the Board as the President's representative and with authority conferred on it. It is important to bear in mind that this is not a question of a fight between the Board and the State Department since Hull has been giving the Board full support. Cooperation between the Board and OSS cannot be dependent upon the oral and unauthorized remarks of subordinates in the State Department.

11. OSS can best cooperate with the Board at the minute by (a) instructing its representatives abroad to cooperate with Board representatives; (b) by permitting Board to use communication facilities in certain limited cases. Board will reciprocate in manner suggested by OSS.

12. It is understood that an OSS representative will soon visit Portugal, Italy and Algiers. It would be extremely helpful if he could be instructed, in addition to his other duties, to survey the refugee situation in those places, discussing it with Board representatives, and reporting to the Board upon his return. (Major Goldberg).

1. The Board of Directors of the State Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the Board of Directors of the State Department of Health, Education and Welfare, are hereby notified that the following information is being furnished to you for your information and use.

2. The Board of Directors of the State Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the Board of Directors of the State Department of Health, Education and Welfare, are hereby notified that the following information is being furnished to you for your information and use.

3. The Board of Directors of the State Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and the Board of Directors of the State Department of Health, Education and Welfare, are hereby notified that the following information is being furnished to you for your information and use.

4. OSS can best cooperate with the Board at the minute by (a) instructing its representatives abroad to cooperate with Board representatives; (b) by permitting Board to use communication facilities in certain field offices. Board will reciprocate in manner suggested by OSS.

5. It is understood that OSS representative will soon visit Forquilha, Italy and Algeria. It would be extremely helpful if he could be instructed, in addition to his other duties, to survey the refugee situation in these places, discuss it with Board representatives, and reporting to the Board upon his return. (Major Goldberg).

000267

Dear Major Goldberg:

I am informed that you are leaving the country soon on a tour of duty. In view of the sympathetic interest you have shown in the problem of refugees, I am asking you to be good enough to help us out by looking into the refugee situation in those parts of the world where your travels will take you. It will be very helpful to us if, wherever practicable, you will communicate with our representatives. I am sure that they will extend to you their most cordial cooperation.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle,
Executive Director

Major Arthur Goldberg, A.U.S.,
Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

JWF:bbk - 4/19/44

JBF

000268

Dear Major Goldberg:

I am informed that you are leaving the country soon on a tour of duty. In view of the sympathetic interest you have shown in the problem of refugees, I am asking you to be good enough to help us out by looking into the refugee situation in those parts of the world where your travels will take you. It will be very helpful to us if, wherever practicable, you will communicate with our representatives. I am sure that they will extend to you their most cordial cooperation.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle,
Executive Director

Major Arthur Goldberg, A.U.S.,
Office of Strategic Services,
Washington, D. C.

JBY:bbk - 4/19/44

000269

M E M O R A N D U M

April 18, 1944

1. Call to the attention of the local representatives of U.S.S. the work being undertaken by the War Refugee Board and request them to cooperate with the representatives of the Board in those areas. In particular it has been reported by our representatives in North Africa that they have not been given satisfactory cooperation by the U.S.S. representatives there;
2. Explore the possibility of evacuating people from Hungary via Italy and Yugoslav territory under the control of Marshal Tito.

MFR:JBF:bbk - 4/19/44

000270

May 22, 1944

TO: Lt. Richard Helms
FROM: L. S. Lesser

This will confirm our conversation of this afternoon to the effect that we would appreciate every effort being made to accelerate the transport of refugees from Greece and that the Greek Resistance Organizations (principally EAM) be advised of the American interest in the escape of persons subject to enemy persecution and in imminent danger of death. We would also like to know whether you have the means of making available in Greece the gold coin to aid Jews in hiding there.

LSLesser:als 5/22/44

000271

May 20, 1944

Dear Mr. Hevesi:

This is to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for your letter of May 17, 1944. We hope that the information therein contained, which you and your colleagues so carefully collated, will prove useful.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence b. Lesser
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Eugene Hevesi
386 Fourth Avenue
Room 1006
New York 16, N. Y.

LSLesserials 5/20/44

000272

May 20, 1944

Dear Dr. Sugar:

This is to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for your letter of May 4, 1944. We hope that the information therein contained will prove useful.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence S. Lesser
Assistant Executive Director

Dr. Stephen Sugar, Secretary,
Committee for a New Democratic Hungary,
344 West 88th Street,
New York City.

LSLesser:als 5/20/44

000273

May 20, 1944

YAF reference No. 62.

Dear Mr. Kubowitzki:

This is to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for your letter of May 16, 1944. We hope that the information therein contained will prove useful.

Very truly yours,

Lawrence S. Lesser
Assistant Executive Director

Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki
Head, Rescue Department
World Jewish Congress
1834 Broadway
New York 23, N. Y.

LSLesser:als 5/20/44

000274

May 19, 1944

TO: Lt. Richard Helms
FROM: L. S. Lesser

Herewith the lists (I have had the three run together) that I spoke to you about yesterday. The comments, of course, are those of the persons who submitted the names, none of which mean anything to me. I would appreciate having such information as you can give me as speedily as possible. Thank you.

Lt. Richard Helms, U.S.N.R.
1050 Tempo Que
26th & Constitution Ave., NW.

000275

Otto Peyer, 70 Bahnhofstrasse, Zurich
Baron Martin Apphofen, Lugano

DR. RABNIECH, Ferenc

Member of Parliament, Budapest. Belongs to the anti-semitic Imredy group. Greatest enemy of Jews in Parliament, advocating anti-Jewish measures. Has great influence upon Nazi-minded legislators. Well known for his corruption. Most suitable for purposes envisaged, according to information received.

DR. GEOCZE, Bertalan

Lawyer in Budapest. Has always had good connections with the different members of the government. Very serious, noble, trustworthy. Has the confidence of even those ministers who are extremely cautious in accepting money.

DR. EMBER, Sandor

Member of Parliament, Budapest. Has very good connections with various members of the present Government. According to information received, always ready to intervene if well compensated. Can be trusted.

DR. BOROSH, Imre

Lawyer, Budapest. Can be trusted. President of the Christian-Socialist Party. Excellent connections with the high officials.

KONKOLY-THEGE, Kalman

Member of Parliament, Budapest. Former Officer member of the GOMBOS group. (Gombos, former Prime Minister, brought to power all those who are members of the present government. This group is known as the "Gombos Boys").

Konkoly-Thege's wife, daughter of the former minister Hegyerhalmi, has already served as intermediary for similar purposes under the Gombos Government.

DR. BOLTESZ, Janos

Lawyer of noble character. Lives in Miskolcz (province of Gomor). Has good connections with the various members of the present government.

DR. HUNJADI, Imre

Lawyer in Szolnok (province of Szolnok-Doboka). Has excellent connections with the members of the present government.

BARON SZIGROL, Anton

Aristocrat with substantial means. Said to be anti-Nazi. Married to an American, nee Daly, whose sister a Mrs. Gerard, lives in New York.

000276

BUDAPEST

SZATVÁNYI, MÁRTON

Official in the Budapest Police Organisation, Dept. of Supervision of Foreigners. Office address: IX. FÖVÁRTER 8, (2nd Floor), Bs. is an early member in the Hungarian "Arrowcross" Party. Party membership No. 66. Having a meagre salary he supplemented it by expediting the affairs of those who tipped him. The type was not uncommon in the Budapest police administration, Bs. being a weak character as far as money and women are concerned (especially the latter), he accepted many a Jew's money to help their case with the Dept. Bs. is a Székely (Transylvanian Hungarian tribe) and has the courage and audacity of a ruthless and ambitious gangster. Physical characteristics: Face disfigured by a sabre wound he got in a duel. A boorish, repellently arrogant external attitude towards unknowns which, however, hollows considerably upon proper treatment as indicated. Not known whether still in position. Last contact with him in February 1939.

PÉNTÉK, MARIÁZ

A prostitute in the private bordello (for police officers at the Headquarter). Proprietor's name: Feld, Olga, address V. Ferenc-Jozsef ter 3/6. P. is a young brunette of great beauty, is the cousin of the rabid Arrowcross Party deputy by the same name (Péntek, (first name not known) who was arrested and sentenced to a long prison term in the jail at Szeged (The "Csillagbörtön"). Date of his arrest in Budapest: October 12, 1938. P. visited him often in jail and was very considerate with him all the time. While acting as a rabid pro-Nazi herself she is considered as definitely sympathetic to the Hungarian Jews, and to Leftists. P. is energetic, courageous and is a mercenary character. Of short stature, doll-faced.

2. DEKÁNY, Etel (Mrs. Fábian, Pál)

Employee on the administrative staff of the daily "UJ MAGYARSAĞ". Address: Pesterzsébet Szerdahelyi u. 4. Her husband is Jewish and a leftist. D. is a kindhearted and open-minded person. Of short stature (5 ft. 2 in.) blonde hair, blue eyes.

4. SZELESTÉY, Gyula

Research chemist, former assistant professor at the Veterinary College of Budapest. Now employed at the Chemistry Laboratory of the Hungarian State Railway at: X. Salgotarjani u. Bs. was educated in the Reformed High School (Kollégium) at Pápa. Always behaved with consideration toward the persecuted Jewish colleagues of his. A tall man (6 ft.).

000277

BUDAPEST (Cont.)

5. LUKÁCH, Lajos

Former Municipal official in Upper Hungary (before 1919), Director, Horthy Akadémia Collegium IX, Gllkai u, 51. Knows hundreds of former homeless students, now in power. L. is a fair and honest man. Physical marks: wears a prosthesis, has lost lower jaw in World War.

6. VILMÁNYI, Leó

Former official (captain) in the Police Headquarters in Budapest, in 1937 transferred to the Police Dept. in the Ministry of Interior, in charge of passport matters. Granted many persons a passport upon receiving a proper tip. V. ingratiated himself also with the Arrowcross Party and was counted among their fellow travellers by them; but Jews could always count on his favors if they met his terms - in cash.

7-12: The next six names refer to former high ranking police officers, who persecuted the Hungarian Nazis of the Arrowcross variety upon orders from the Minister of Interior (Keresztes-Fischer, Ferenc), and who are possibly hiding today. Whether they are inconvenienced in any way or not, these persons are in touch with each other and are good organizers. Horthy's personal safety and the internal security of the Horthy regime depended largely on men of this type.

7. KÖRÖSEY (first name not known)

Captain, Passport Dept. Police H.Q., deputy of the head of Dept. (Dpt. head: Capt. Gömbös, brother of the late Prime Minister). Age: about 50.

8. VIDOS, János

Former deputy police commander-in-chief, Chief-inspector of the Budapest Police. Retired in 1940, age about 60. Lived at the Police barracks of Mosonyi utca.

9. GANTHAY (first name not known)

Police chief-councillor. Head of the police force in the VII. district of Budapest. Retired in 1941. Age: less than 60.

10. MIHALYI, Gyula

Police chief-councillor. Head of police force in the V.-th district of Budapest. Actual status not known.

11. BERDICH, János

Police chief-councillor. Has a Jewish wife.

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BUDAPEST (Cont.)

12. DEMETER (first name not known)

P, chief-councillor at the H.Q. at Zrínyi utca 2. (2nd floor, in room opposite room 202.)

13. TIMKO, Zoltán

Chief Prosecutor, Superior Court of Hungary. A 100% Hungarian chauvinist and reactionary. Also a foe of the Hungarian Nazis. Can be depended to help Jews of reactionary and financial - commercial background. Artists, poets - even liberals - are also welcome to him. T. hates intellectuals of the Left.

14. STEFANICH, Istvánné

Friend and close collaborator of the head of the Catholic Missionary Sisterhood ("Grey Sisters") Blachta, Margit. The Grey Sisters (have many Jewish women adherents) and they appealed for a more human treatment in Hungarian concentration camps in 1941 to Horthy. S. lives at IV. Vörösmarty tér 3.

15. GRÓF TISZA, Lajos Kálmán

A young broadminded aristocrat. Lives on his farm a few miles from Budapest. Address: Nagykovdosi. His wife and the wife of Horthy's living son's are sisters. (née Countess Gyulay-Edelheim-s). T. dislikes intensely his stepfather, the former Minister of the Interior: Rakovssky, Ivan.

16. MAKK, Ivan

Captain of the Guards, retired. About 50. An ardent legitimist and Catholic. An outspoken foe of Horthy, he had the courage to voice his opposition to him publicly in 1938 at the Military Academy. Address: V. Hajós utca 6 (or 9).

GYÖR

17. FEJES, László

Executive and representative of the artificial manure manufacturing company of Magyaróvár. Knows many hundred farmers, personally all over Transdanubia but especially down till Veszprem and Sümeg. Has great lists of names of landowners of all categories. A very able, agile man of organising talent. 1940 F. commanded a Labor Camp for Jews of Military Age at

000279

Győr (Cont.)

17. FEJÉR, László (Cont.)

Unassiduously, and was praised by his Jewish charges as a kind and benevolent person. F. can be bribed and might be charged with organizing a Transdanubian refugee hiding system. Address: Hilbert ház (Vilmos udvar at no. 108?) (house No. not exactly known).

18. KAISZÓ, János

Former agent for the Shell Oil Co., lives at the "Vármegyeháza" (County Residential Palace). His father was director (Pbintősb) at the estate of gróf Esterházy, Ferenc at Vép. (Van Mege). One of his uncles is division commander at Szombathely (in 1939), another uncle is the military supervisor of the armament factory of Weiss Manfred & Co. at Csepel. K. knows the military and civilian officials personally at Szombathely and at Győr at first hand. K. is 37 years old, a lazy playboy caring only for women and money.

HÁGYKANYISZA

19. HORVÁTH, Géza

Undertaker. Has two burial establishments there, one on Main Street. H. knows many hundreds of people, is married to a peasant woman, has two children. Women and money are his two weaknesses. Age 40.

MISKOLC

20. ABONYI, József

Was a police chief-councillor in 1932. Has retired since. Wife is Jewish.

21. HOLOBAY, Sándor

Former burgomaster. Retired about 1936 after accusations of embezzlement of funds. About 55 y. old.

22. BARKÓCZY, István

Owns a mine near Miskolc. Was an agent of the Shell Oil Co., in the twenties. A loafer and braggart.

000280

BZOLNOK

33. YITAK, LEON, György

Agent of the Shell Oil Co., in Bzoinok. Knows all military and civilian officials in the district. A great organizer. Age about 55.

Győr

34. SZILÉSI, János

Police division commander. Police chief-councillor. Courageous and energetic organizer. Age: 45.

TELEKI, Andor (Andrew), Count

22 years of age, unmarried, a nephew of Hungary's late prime minister, Count Paul Teleki. The latter in the spring of 1941 committed suicide because of German pressure forcing Hungary into collaboration against Yugoslavia. The younger Teleki has been Chairman of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade since 1940. It is likely that the present puppet government removed him from that position. Nevertheless, his personal influence and standing seem to enable him to undertake and carry out among Hungarians those kind of confidential tasks we have in mind. He is a conservative liberal whose political thinking has been strongly influenced by his long service in France as Hungarian commercial attaché. In the latter capacity, he worked under the supervision of one of the members of the present Hungarian Advisory Group of the American Jewish Committee, at that time in charge of trade policy matters with the Hungarian office. To our knowledge, New York State Senator Frederic F. Coudert of New York City, met Count Teleki in France before the war, and may express an opinion on his character. A chronic heart ailment may prevent Count Teleki from taking part in exacting and risky ventures.

DEAK-HORVATH, Dónes (Dennis), Colonel

A retired army colonel, during the last 15 years engaged in large-scale import and export transactions. His business interests control a substantial part of Italian-Hungarian trade, through the Barcs Farmers' Granary Cooperative, of which he is chairman. He is also general manager of Hungary's largest food processing and cold storage company, the Hungarian Food Supply Co., an affiliate of the formerly Jewish-controlled Hungarian Commercial Bank. Col. Horvath is wealthy, independent, politically unaffiliated, and a man of about

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DEAK-HORVATH, János (Janos), Colonel (Cont.)

55 years of age and settled courage. A scion of a Hungarian gentry family, he is married to a Countess Saschenyi, a daughter of one of the leading conservative-liberal aristocratic families. Since early 1940, he has been one of the leaders of the action protecting Polish refugees in Hungary. He also was fined, in 1939, for violation of the anti-Jewish law committed by his refusal to dismiss his Jewish employees. While these facts certainly diminish his freedom of action, there is one asset in his position: his close connections with certain members of the present Hungarian government through which he may render useful services to our cause. Notably with Anthony Kunder, the present minister of commerce, he maintains close and discreet connections, based on common personal business interests. Col. Deak-Horvath was one of the main sources of Mr. Kunder's considerable underhand revenues during an earlier role as chairman of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade. This connection may be important because Kunder is the shrewdest and most calculating member of the cabinet, who, in turn, may out of sheer opportunism favorably influence, in our sense, some of his colleagues.

KÖRZEGHY, Rudolph (Ressó)

49 years of age, a native of Hungary of German-Swabian descent, and a former official of the National Bank of Hungary. At present, he is general manager of a textile and fur concern whose co-owner is a member of the Hungarian Advisory Group of the American Jewish Committee. Mr. Körszeghy enjoys the full confidence of our colleague whose affairs in Hungary he is conducting in a faithful manner. Other members of our group also vouch for his reliability. While not predestined for a central role, his help as an assistant and go-between may be very useful. He has good connections in the ranks of the bureaucracy. Another advantage is that his son is a student in Switzerland, and may be used as a connecting link.

BOZOKY, Jenő (Eugene), Dr.

A Budapest lawyer who for a number of recent years very skillfully played the role of an ardent Nazi and anti-Semite, with the objective of helping distressed or endangered Jews and liberals. A man of good standing in many strata of Hungarian life, he may become a useful member of the confidential group.

SCHLACHTA, Margit (Margaret)

A parliamentary deputy of the Catholic Peoples' Party, and Chairwoman of the Catholic Social Mission. Miss Schlachta may prove useful in the creation of connection with Catholic members of the Hungarian government, Catholic officials, army and police affairs, etc.

000282

HUSZOVSEKY, Louis (Lajos), Dr.

Lawyer, a deputy of the reactionary right wing of the pre-March 19th government party. He is reported to have been appointed state secretary of the prime ministry, in which capacity he may exert certain influence not only upon Quisling premier Hatojay, but also upon certain German Nazi officials in Hungary. We base our choice of him upon the fact that in the past Mr. Huszovseky proved, for cash, an extremely willing and efficient representative of certain endangered Jewish business interests. In the light of the probable vicissitudes of the general political situation, he may be willing to assume a similar role against the promise of certain deposits in Switzerland.

VABARHELYI, Jenő (Eugene)

A man of German-Swabian parentage, and former director of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade, at present president of Kisepest Textile Works Co. He is a full-flledged Nazi collaborationist, with a keen sense, however, for money and security. He has direct connection with most members of the government, and also with German Nazi circles both in Hungary and Germany. For money and for future safety he will probably be willing to go to any length within the limits of personal safety.

FOLOH, Imre, Dr.
Bécsi-utca 1, Budapest (Physician)

BELGRADER, Pál, Dr.
Nürnberg-utca, Budapest (Physician)

PETÉNYI, Géza, Dr.
St. Rochus Hospital (Physician)

HAJNAL, Imre, Dr.
St. Rochus Hospital (Physician)

000283

Atto Meyer, Vo bahnhofstrasse, Zurich
Baron Martin Althofen, Lugano

DR. RAHNLECH, Ferenc

Member of Parliament, Budapest. Belongs to the anti-semitic farley group. Greatest enemy of Jews in Parliament, advocating anti-Jewish measures. Has great influence upon Nazi-minded legislators, well known for his corruption. Most suitable for purposes envisaged, according to information received.

DR. DEGEZE, Bartalan

Lawyer in Budapest. Has always had good connections with the different members of the Government. Very serious, noble, trustworthy. Has the confidence of even those ministers who are extremely cautious in accepting money.

DR. FIMBI, Sandor

Member of Parliament, Budapest. Has very good connections with various members of the present Government. According to information received, always ready to intervene if well compensated. Can be trusted.

DR. HOROSI, Lajos

Lawyer, Budapest. Can be trusted. President of the Christian-Socialist Party. Excellent connections with the high officials.

KONKOLY-THÉGE, Kálmán

Member of Parliament, Budapest. Former official member of the GOMBOS group. (Gombos, former Prime Minister, brought to power all those who are members of the present government. This group is known as the "Gombos Boys").

Konkoly-Thege's wife, daughter of the former minister Hegyerhalmi, has already served as intermediary for similar purposes under the Gombos Government.

DR. SOLTVEZ, Janos

Lawyer of noble character. Lives in Miskolc (province of Gomor). Has good connections with the various members of the present government.

DR. HUNJADI, Imre

Lawyer in Szolnok (province of Szolnok-Doboka). Has excellent connections with the members of the present government.

BARON SZIGROL, Anton

Aristocrat with substantial means. Said to be anti-Nazi. Married to an American, nee Daly, whose sister a Mrs. Gerard, lives in New York.

000284

BUDAPEST

1. SZATVÁNYI, MÁTON

Official in the Budapest Police Organization, Dept. of supervision of foreigners. Office address: IX. FÖVÁRTER 8, (2nd Floor). Sz. is an early member in the Hungarian "Arrowcross" Party. Party membership No. 86. Having a meagre salary he supplemented it by expediting the affairs of those who tipped him. The type was not uncommon in the Budapest police administration, Sz. being a weak character as far as money and women are concerned (especially the latter), he accepted many a Jew's money to help their case with the Dept. Sz. is a Székely (Transylvanian Hungarian tribe) and has the courage and audacity of a ruthless and ambitious gangster. Physical characteristics: Face disfigured by a sabre wound he got in a duel. A boorish, repellently arrogant external attitude towards unknown which, however, mellows considerably upon proper treatment as indicated. Not known whether still in position. Last contact with him in February 1939.

2. PÉTEK, MARIK

A prostitute in the private bordello (for police officers at the Headquarter). Proprietor's name: Földi, Olga, address V. Ferenc-József tér 5/6. P. is a young brunette of great beauty, is the cousin of the rabid Arrowcross Party party by the same name (Péntek, (first name not known) who was arrested and sentenced to a long prison term in the jail at Szeged (The "Csillagbörtön"). Date of his arrest in Budapest: October 12, 1938. P. visited him often in jail and was very considerate with him all the time. While acting as a rabid pro-Nazi herself she is considered as definitely sympathetic to the Hungarian Jews, and to Leftists. P. is energetic, courageous and is a mercenary character. Of short stature, doll-faced.

3. DEKANY, Etel (Mrs. Fábian, Pál)

Employee on the administrative staff of the daily "UJ MAGYARSAÓ". Address: Pesterzsébet Ezerdohelyi u. 4. Her husband is Jewish and a leftist. D. is a kindhearted and open-minded person. Of short stature (5 ft. 2 in.) blonde hair, blue eyes.

4. SZELESTEK, Gyula

Research chemist, former assistant professor at the Veterinary College of Budapest. Now employed at the Chemistry Laboratory of the Hungarian State Railway at X. Salgotarjani u. Sz. was educated in the Reformed High School (Kollegium) at Pépa. Always behaved with consideration toward the persecuted Jewish colleagues of his. A tall man (6 ft.).

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BUDAPEST (Cont.)

5. LUKÁCH, Lajos

Former Municipal official in Upper Hungary (before 1919). Director, Horthy Miklós Collegium IX. Vll84 u. 51. Knows hundreds of former homeless students, now in power. L. is a fair and honest man. Physical marks: wears a prothesis, has lost lower jaw in World War.

6. VILMÁNYI, Lehel

Former official (captain) in the Police Headquarters in Budapest, in 1939 transferred to the Police Dept. in the Ministry of Interior, in charge of passport matters. Granted many persons a passport upon receiving a proper tip. V. ingratiated himself also with the Arrowcross Party and was counted among their fellow travellers by them; but Jews could always count on his favors if they met his terms - in cash.

7-12: The next six names refer to former high ranking police officers, who persecuted the Hungarian Nazis of the Arrowcross variety upon orders from the Minister of Interior (Keresztes-Fischer, Ferenç), and who are possibly hiding today. Whether they are inconvenienced in any way or not, these persons are in touch with each other and are good organizers. Horthy's personal safety and the internal security of the Horthy regime depended largely on men of this type.

7. KÖKÖBESZ (first name not known)

Captain, Passport Dept. Police H.Q., deputy of the head of Dept. (Dpt. head: Capt. Gömbös, brother of the late Prime Minister). Age: about 50.

8. VIDOS, János

Former deputy police commander-in-chief, Chief-inspector of the Budapest Police. Retired in 1940, age about 60. Lived at the Police barracks of Mosonyi utca.

9. GANTHAY (first name not known)

Police chief-councillor. Head of the police force in the VII. district of Budapest. Retired in 1941. Age: less than 60.

10. MIHALYI, Gyula

Police chief-councillor. Head of police force in the V.-th district of Budapest. Actual status not known.

11. BERDICS, János

Police chief-councillor. Has a Jewish wife.

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(Cont.)

TER (first name not known)

Chief-councillor at the H.Q. at Zrínyi utca 2. (2nd floor, in room opposite Room 202.)

.. TIMKO, Zoltán

Chief Prosecutor, Superior Court of Hungary. A 100% Hungarian chauvinist and reactionary. Also a foe of the Hungarian Nazis. Can be depended to help Jews of reactionary and financial - commercial background. Artists, poets - even liberals - are also welcome to him. T. hates intellectuals of the Left.

14. STEFANICH, István

Friend and close collaborator of the head of the Catholic Missionary Sisterhood ("Grey Sisters") Blachta, Margit. The Grey Sisters (have many Jewish women adherents) and they appealed for a more human treatment in Hungarian concentration camps in 1941 to Horthy. S. lives at IV. Vörösmarty ter 3.

15. GRÓF TISZA, Lajos Kálmán

A young broadminded aristocrat. Lives on his farm a few miles from Budapest. Address: Nagykövési. His wife and the wife of Horthy's living son's are sisters. (nee Countess Gyulay-Edelheim-s). T. dislikes intensely his stepfather, the former Minister of the Interior: Rakovszky, Iván.

16. MAKK, Iván

Captain of the Guards, retired. About 50. An ardent legitimist and Catholic. An outspoken foe of Horthy, he had the courage to voice his opposition to him publicly in 1938 at the Military Academy. Address: V. Hajos utca 6 (or 9).

GYŐR

17. FEJES, László

Executive and representative of the artificial manure manufacturing company of Magyaróvár. Knows many hundred farmers personally all over Transdanubia but especially down till Veszprem and Szécsény. Has great lists of names of landowners of all categories. A very able, agile man of organising talent. 1940 F. commanded a Labor Camp for Jews of Military Age at

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NYK (Cont.)

17. FEJES, László (Cont.)

Dunaszerdahely, and was praised by his Jewish charges as a kind and benevolent person. F. can be bribed and might be charged with organizing a Transdanubian refugee hiding system. Address: Hilbert Ház (Vilmos család at no. 108(?) (house No. not exactly known).

18. KAJCSÓK, Jend'

Former agent for the Shell Oil Co., lives at the "Vármegyeháza" (County Residential Palace). His father was director (főintéző) at the estate of gróf Esterházy, Ferenc at Vép. (Vas Megye). One of his uncles is division commander at Szombathely (in 1939), another uncle is the military supervisor of the armament factory of Weiss Manfred & Co. at Csepel. K. knows the military and civilian official personnel at Szombathely and at Győr at first hand. K. is 37 years old, a lazy playboy caring only for women and money.

HAGYKANTÉKA

19. HORVÁTH, Géza

Undertaker. Has two burial establishments there, one on Main Street. H. knows many hundreds of people, is married to a peasant woman, has two children. Women and money are his two weaknesses. Age 40.

MISKOLC

20. ABONYI, József

Was a police chief-councillor in 1932. Has retired since. Wife is Jewish.

21. HOLOBAY, Sándor

Former burgomaster. Retired about 1936 after accusations of embezzlement of funds. About 55 y. old.

22. BARKÓCZY, István

Owns a mine near Miskolc. Was an agent of the Shell Oil Co., in the twenties. A loafer and braggart.

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BZOLNOK

23. VITAZ NEBO, György

Agent of the Shell Oil Co., in Bzalnok. Knows all military and civilian officials in the district. A great organizer. Age about 55.

GSEFEL

24. SZÉLES, János

Police division commander. Police chief-councillor. Courageous and energetic organizer. Age: 45.

TELEKI, Andor (Andrew), Count

42 years of age, unmarried, a nephew of Hungary's late prime minister, Count Paul Teleki. The latter in the spring of 1941 committed suicide because of German pressure forcing Hungary into collaboration against Yugoslavia. The younger Teleki has been Chairman of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade since 1940. It is likely that the present puppet government removed him from that position. Nevertheless, his personal influence and standing seem to enable him to undertake and carry out among Hungarians the kind of confidential tasks we have in mind. He is a conservative liberal whose political thinking has been strongly influenced by his long service in France as Hungarian commercial attaché. In the latter capacity, he worked under the supervision of one of the members of the present Hungarian Advisory Group of the American Jewish Committee, at that time in charge of trade policy matters with the Hungarian office. To our knowledge, New York State Senator Frederic F. Coudert of New York City, met Count Teleki in France before the war, and may express an opinion on his character. A chronic heart ailment may prevent Count Teleki from taking part in exacting and risky ventures.

DEAK-HORVATH, Dónes (Dennis), Colonel

A retired army colonel, during the last 15 years engaged in large-scale import and export transactions. His business interests control a substantial part of Italian-Hungarian trade, through the Barcs Farmers' Granary Cooperative, of which he is chairman. He is also general manager of Hungary's largest food processing and cold storage company, the Hungarian Food Supply Co., an affiliate of the formerly Jewish-controlled Hungarian Commercial Bank. Col. Horvath is wealthy, independent, politically unaffiliated, and a man of about

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DEAK-HORVATH, Hónes (Hanna), Colonel (Gen'l.)

55 years of age and settled courage. A scion of a Hungarian gentry family, he is married to a Countess Szechenyi, a daughter of one of the leading conservative-liberal aristocratic families. Since early 1940, he has been one of the leaders of the action protecting Polish refugees in Hungary. He also was fined, in 1939, for violation of the anti-Jewish law committed by his refusal to dismiss his Jewish employees. While these facts certainly diminish his freedom of action, there is one asset in his position: his close connections with certain members of the present Hungarian government through which he may render useful services to our cause. Notably with Anthony Kunder, the present minister of commerce, he maintains close and discreet connections, based on common personal business interests. Col. Deak-Horvath was one of the main sources of Mr. Kunder's considerable underhand revenues during an earlier role as chairman of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade. This connection may be important because Kunder is the shrewdest and most calculating member of the cabinet, who, in turn, may out of sheer opportunism favorably influence, in our sense, some of his colleagues.

KÖRZSEGHY, Rudolph (Rosa)

49 years of age, a native of Hungary of German-Swabian descent, and a former official of the National Bank of Hungary. At present, he is general manager of a textile and fur concern whose co-owner is a member of the Hungarian Advisory Group of the American Jewish Committee. Mr. Körzseghy enjoys the full confidence of our colleague whose affairs in Hungary he is conducting in a faithful manner. Other members of our group also vouch for his reliability. While not predestined for a central role, his help as an assistant and go-between may be very useful. He has good connections in the ranks of the bureaucracy. Another advantage is that his son is a student in Switzerland, and may be used as a connecting link.

BOZOKY, Jenő (Eugene), Dr.

A Budapest lawyer who for a number of recent years very skillfully played the role of an ardent Nazi and anti-Semite, with the objective of helping distressed or endangered Jews and liberals. A man of good standing in many strata of Hungarian life, he may become a useful member of the confidential group.

SCHLACHTA, Margit (Margaret)

A parliamentary deputy of the Catholic Peoples' Party, and Chairwoman of the Catholic Social Mission. Miss Schlachta may prove useful in the creation of connection with Catholic members of the Hungarian government, Catholic officials, army and police affairs, etc.

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HUSZOVSEKY, Louis (Lajos), Dr.

Lawyer, a deputy of the reactionary right wing of the pre-March 19th government party. He is reported to have been appointed state secretary of the prime ministry, in which capacity he may exert certain influence not only upon Quisling premier Satojay, but also upon certain German Nazi officials in Hungary. We base our choice of him upon the fact that in the past Mr. Huszovscky proved, for cash, an extremely willing and efficient representative of certain endangered Jewish business interests. In the light of the probable vicissitudes of the general political situation, he may be willing to assume a similar role against the promise of certain deposits in Switzerland.

VAGARUELYI, Janos (Eugene)

A man of German-Swabian parentage, and former director of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade, at present president of Kispest Textile Works Co. He is a full-fledged Nazi collaborationist, with a keen sense, however, for money and security. He has direct connection with most members of the government, and also with German Nazi circles both in Hungary and Germany. For money and for future safety he will probably be willing to go to any length within the limits of personal safety.

KOLOR, Imre, Dr.
Bécsi-utca 1, Budapest (Physician)

BELGRADER, Pál, Dr.
Nürnberg-utca, Budapest (Physician)

PETENYI, Géza, Dr.
St. Rochus Hospital (Physician)

HAJNAL, Imre, Dr.
St. Rochus Hospital (Physician)

000291

May 20, 1944

Dear Dr. Sugar:

This is to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for your letter of May 4, 1944. We hope that the information therein contained will prove useful.

Very truly yours,

(S) Lawrence E. Lesser

Lawrence E. Lesser
Assistant Executive Director

Dr. Stephen Sugar, Secretary,
Committee for a New Democratic Hungary,
344 West 88th Street,
New York City.

LSLesser:als 5/20/44

000292

Dr. Stephen A. Mapp, Secretary, Committee for a New Democratic Hungary,
344 West 88th Street, New York City.

COMMITTEE FOR A NEW DEMOCRATIC HUNGARY

SPONSORED BY THE
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC HUNGARIANS

~~100 WEST 44TH STREET~~

NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE
~~UNRECORDED~~

Mr. Lawrence S. Lesser
Room 164
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

May 4, 1944

Dear Mr. Lesser:

In reference to our conversation of today I submit to your consideration the following information about persons who might be useful in the Hungarian refugee problem. All persons on the list are influential people and their sequence on the list is determined by their importance in the present day Hungary as best known to me. All persons listed are of non-Jewish ancestry.

~~in~~ BUDAPEST: 1. Szatvanyi, Marton; official in the Budapest Police Organization, Dept. of Supervision of Foreigners. Office address: IX, ROVAM-TERE 8. (2nd floor). Sz. is an early member in the Hungarian "Arrowcross" Party. Party membership No. 66. Having a meagre salary he supplemented it by expediting the affairs of those who tipped him. The type was not uncommon in the Budapest police administration, Sz. being a weak character as far as money and women are concerned (especially the latter), he accepted many a Jew's money to help their case with the Dept. Sz. is a Szekely (Transylvanian Hungarian tribe) and has the courage and audacity of a ruthless and ambitious gangster. Physical characteristics: Face disfigured by a sabre wound he got in a duel. A boorish, repellently arrogant external attitude towards unknowns which, however, mellows considerably upon proper treatment as indicated. Not known whether still in position. Last contact with him in February 1939.

2. Pentek, Margit; a prostitute in the private bordello (for police officers at the Headquarter) Proprietor's name: Feld, Olga, address: V. Ferenc-Jozsef tér 5/6. P. is a young brunette of great beauty, is the cousin of the rabid Arrowcross Party deputy by the same name (Pentek, first name not known) who was arrested and sentenced to a long prison term in the jail at Szeged (the "Csillagbörtön"). Date of his arrest in Budapest: October 13, 1938. P. visited him often in jail and was very considerate with him all the time. While acting as a rabid pro-Nazi herself she is considered by as definitely sympathetic to the Hungarian Jews, and to Leftists. P. is energetic, courageous and is a mercenary character. Of short stature, doll-faced.

3. Dekány, Etel; (Mrs. Fábian, Pál). Employee on the administrative staff of the daily "UJ MAGYARSAG". Address: Pesterzsébet, Szeváhelyi u. 4. Her husband is Jewish and a leftist. D. is a kindhearted and openminded person. Of short stature (5ft 2in.), blonde hair, blue eyes.

4. Szelestey, Gyula; research chemist, former assistant professor at the Veterinary College of Budapest. Now employed at the Chemistry Laboratory of the Hungarian State Railway at: X. Salgotarjani u. Sz. was educated in the Reformed High School (Kollégium) at Pápa. Always behaved with consideration toward the persecuted Jewish colleagues of his. A tall man (6ft.)

5. Lukách, Lajos; former Municipal official in Upper Hungary, (before 1919). Director, Horthy Miklos Collegium: IX. Ulloi u. 51. Knows hundreds of former penniless students, now in power. *h. is a fair and honest man.*

000293

COMMITTEE FOR A NEW DEMOCRATIC HUNGARY

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1012 WEST 42ND STREET

NEW YORK CITY

E.

TELEPHONE
UNRECORDED

- Wears a prothesis, ^{had}
Physical mark: Lost lower jaw in World War;
6. Vilmányi, Deasó; former official (captain) in the Police Headquarters in Budapest, in 1939 transferred to the Police Dept. in the Ministry of Interior, in charge of passport matters. Granted many persons a passport upon receiving a proper tip. V. ingratiated himself also with the Arrowcross Party and was counted among their fellow travellers by them; but Jews could always count on his favors if they met his terms - in cash.
- 7.-12.; The next six names refer to former high ranking police officers, who persecuted the Hungarian Nazis of the Arrowcross variety upon orders from the Minister of Interior (Keresztes-Fischer, Ferenc), and who are possibly hiding today. Whether they are inconvenienced in any way or not, these persons are in touch with each other and are good organizers. Horthy's personal safety and the internal security of the Horthy regime depended largely on men of this type.
7. Kókóssy, (first name not known); Captain, Passport Dept, Police H.Q., deputy of the head of Dept. (Dpt. head: Capt. Gúmbös, brother of the late Prime Minister). Age: about 50.
8. Vidos, János; former deputy Police commander-in-chief, Chief-inspector of the Budapest Police. Retired in 1940, age about 60. Lived at the Police barracks of Mosonyi utca.
9. Gánthay, (first name not known). Police chief-councillor. Head of the police force in the VII. district of Budapest. Retired in 1941. Age; less than 60.
10. Mihályi, Gyula; Police chief-councillor. Head of police force in the V.-th district of Budapest. Actual status not known.
11. Berdics, János. Police chief-councillor. Has a Jewish wife
12. Demeter, (first name not known) P. chief-councillor at the H.Q. at Zrínyi utca 2. (2nd floor, in room opposite Room 202.)
13. Timkó, Zoltán; Chief Prosecutor, Superior Court of Hungary. A 100% Hungarian chauvinist and reactionary. Also a foe of the Hungarian Nazis. Can be depended to help Jews of reactionary and financial -commercial background. Artists, poets-even liberals-are also welcome to him. T. hates intellectuals of the Left.
14. Stefanics, Istvánné. Friend and close collaborator of the head of the Catholic Missionary Sisterhood ("Grey Sisters") DeSlachta, Margit. The Grey Sisters (have many Jewish women adherents,) and they appealed for a more human treatment in Hungarian concentration camps in 1941 at Horthy. S. lives at IV. Vörösmarty tér 3.
15. gróf Tisza, Lajos Kálmán; A young broadminded aristocrat. Lives on his farm a few miles from Budapest. Address: Nagykovácsi. His wife and the wife of Horthy's living son's are sisters. (née Countess Gyulay-Edelsheim-s). T. dislikes intensely his stepfather, the former Minister of the Interior: Rakovszky, Iván.
16. Makk, Iván; captain of the Guards, retired. About 50. An ardent legitimist and Catholic. An outspoken foe of Horthy, he had the courage to voice his opposition to him publicly in 1938 at the Military Academy Address: V. Hajós utca 6 (or 9).

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COMMITTEE FOR A NEW DEMOCRATIC HUNGARY

SPONSORED BY THE
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC HUNGARIANS

AMERICAN FEDERATION OF DEMOCRATIC HUNGARIANS

NEW YORK CITY

MEMBERSHIP
ADDRESS: 5-2339

outside of BUDAPEST:

A) in Győr: 17. Fejes, László; Executive and representative of the artificial manure manufacturing company of Magyaróvár. Knows many hundreds of farmers personally all over Transdanubia but especially down till Veszprém and Sümeg. Has great lists of names of landowners of all categories. A very able, agile man of organizing talent. 1940 P. commanded a Labor Camp for Jews of Military Age at Dunaszerepente, and was praised by his Jewish charges as a kind and benevolent person. F. can be bribed and might be charged with organizing a Transdanubian refugee hiding system. Address: Hilbert ház (Vilmos osaszár út no. 108) (house no. not exactly known).

18. Kajászó, Jenő; former agent for the Shell Oil Co., lives at the 'Vármegyeháza' (County Residential Palace). His father was director (igazgató) at the estate of gróf Esterházy, Ferenc at Vép, (Vas megye). One of his uncles is division commander at Szombathely (in 1939), another uncle is the military supervisor of the armament factory of Weiss Manfred & Co. at Csepel. K. knows the military and civilian official personnel at Szombathely and at Győr at first hand. K. is 37 years old, a lazy playboy caring only for women and money.

B) in Nagykanizsa: 19. Horváth, Géza; undertaker. Has two burial establishments there, one on Main Street. H. knows many hundreds of people, is married to a peasant woman, has two children. Women and money are his two weaknesses. Age 40.

C) Miskolc: 20. Abonyi, József; was a police chief-councillor in 1932. Has retired since. Wife is Jewish.

21. Hodobay, Sándor former burgomaster. Retired about 1936 after accusations of embezzlement of funds. About 55 y. old.
22. Barkóczy, István; owns a mine near Miskolc. Was an agent of the Shell Oil Co., in the twenties. A loafer and braggart.

D) in Szolnok: 23. vitéz Sebő, György; Agent of the Shell Oil Co., in Szolnok. Knows all military and civilian officials in the district. A great organizer. Age about 55.

E) in Csepel: 24. Széles, János; Police division commander. Police chief-councillor. Courageous and energetic organizer. Age: 45.

The men and women on this list were last spoken to by the collectors of this list about 4 to 5 years ago in most instances. The ages given refer to 1944. The last known addresses have also been listed. Should any more information be needed about the persons listed, or other problems arising concerning the process of rescuing the threatened ~~people in Hungary, I shall be glad to supply all possible information.~~ people in Hungary, I shall be glad to supply all possible information.

Sincerely yours,

Stephen Sugar

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

000295

May 10, 1944

Your reference No. 62.

Dear Mr. Kubowitzki:

This is to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for your letter of May 10, 1944. We hope that the information therein contained will prove useful.

Very truly yours,

(Signature)

Lawrence S. Lesser
Assistant Executive Director

Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki
Head, Rescue Department
World Jewish Congress
1834 Broadway
New York 23, N. Y.

LS:Lesserials 5/20/44

000296

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

CONGRES JUIF MONDIAL . . CONGRESO JUDIO MUNDIAL

330 WEST 42nd STREET
NEW YORK 18, N. Y.

General Congress, New York
Telephone L.ONGWELL 8-2600

LONDON
55 New Cavendish St. W 1

GENEVA
37 Quai Wilson

BUENOS AIRES
Corrientes 2074-90

JERUSALEM
Vaad Leumi, P. O. B. 471

MONTREAL
1121 St. Catherine St. W

MEXICO CITY
Sonora 174-4

May 16, 1944

In reply refer
to No. 62

Mr. Lawrence J. Lessor
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lessor:

I am attaching a first list of seven eventual
contact people in Hungary.

The first five are living in Budapest; the last
two are in the province. They are classified in the
order of their importance.

All are non-Jews, and all belong to the rightist
and even anti-semitic parties.

I might have several additional names in a few
days.

Sincerely yours,

Leon Kibowitzki
Dr. A. Leon Kibowitzki
Head, Rescue Department

ALK:bg

000297

DR. GASHLICH, Ferenc

Member of Parliament, Budapest. Belongs to the anti-semitic hardy group. Greatest enemy of Jews in Parliament, advocating anti-Jewish measures. Has great influence upon Nazi-minded legislators. Well known for his corruption. Most suitable for purposes envisaged, according to information received.

DR. GARDNER, Herwald

Lawyer in Budapest. Has always had good connections with the different members of the Government. Very serious, noble, trustworthy. Has the confidence of even those ministers who are extremely cautious in accepting money.

DR. HÄBER, Haudor

Member of Parliament, Budapest. Has very good connections with various members of the present Government. According to information received, always ready to intervene if well compensated. Can be trusted.

DR. BOROS, Imre

Lawyer, Budapest. Can be trusted. President of the Christian-Socialist Party. Excellent connections with the high officials.

KONKOLY-THÖGE, Kalman

Member of Parliament, Budapest. Former Officer, member of the GOMBOS group. (Gombos, former Prime Minister, brought to power all those who are members of the present government. This group is known as the "Gombos Boys").

Konkoly-Thöge's wife, daughter of the former minister Hegyerhalmi, has already served as intermediary for similar purposes under the Gombos Government.

DR. SOLTESZ, Janos

Lawyer of noble character. Lives in Miskolc (province of Gonor). Has good connections with the various members of the present government.

DR. HUNJADI, Imre

Lawyer in Szolnok (province of Szolnok-Doboka). Has excellent connections with the members of the present government.

000298

May 20, 1944

Dear Mr. Hevesi:

This is to acknowledge receipt of and thank you for your letter of May 17, 1944. We hope that the information therein contained, which you and your colleagues so carefully collated, will prove useful.

Very truly yours,



Lawrence S. Lesser
Assistant Executive Director

Mr. Eugene Hevesi
386 Fourth Avenue
Room 1006
New York 16, N. Y.

LSLesser:als 5/20/44

000299

Mailing address:

Eugene Hevesi
386 Fourth Avenue
Room 1006
New York 16, New York
Tel.: Murray Hill 5-0181

May 17, 1944

Dear Mr. Lehnert:

We are deeply indebted to you for granting us the opportunity of discussing with you the needs and possibilities of help to Hungary's endangered Jewish population.

In the course of these discussions, you invited us to submit to you a list of persons in Hungary whom we consider eligible for the task of carrying out certain confidential policies. We think that the persons mentioned and described in the attached list A, if willing to serve, would measure up to the requirements of assignments of this nature. They have been selected in accordance with the following criteria: All of them are influential with members of the present Hungarian puppet government, and may have some influence also with the German invader. They are either reliable from our point of view, or judged intelligent enough to appreciate the value for themselves, and for Hungary's future, of discreet services promising American appreciation after the war. As far as at least the Hungarian government itself is concerned, these persons enjoy the highest possible security, freedom of movement, and direct and discreet personal access to those in power.

There can, of course, be no complete certainty whether any of the persons designated would care or dare to act upon your suggestions. In general, it does not seem possible to map, here in the United States, a complete course of action on the basis of our own ideas and plans. We feel that many important decisions will have to be taken on the spot, determined by actual conditions and possibilities, as well as by consultation with those affected or menaced. For all the steps to be taken, including the final choice of key agents, it therefore seems advisable to take counsel with well informed local Jewish and liberal people. Having this object in view, we venture to submit, under B, a list of Jewish and non-Jewish physicians with reputation and connections, who may be in a position to serve in the double capacity of advisors and liaison officers. We have selected physicians for the reason that Jewish doctors are, to our knowledge, the only category permitted to go about their business and to contact people. People like these could also be easily consulted by neutral diplomats or representatives of the Holy See.

It cannot be assumed that even influential key agents would achieve all that is necessary to avert the complete moral, economic and physical destruction of Hungarian Jewry. For this reason, other policies than that of the choice of some exponents of moderation should be considered.

The first consideration in this connection should be the fact that the Jewish community in Hungary has been practically deprived of all means of

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May 17, 1944

liquidation of all financial reserves. As a result, Hungarian Jews are confronted with the imminent danger of starvation. The possibility of material help from the outside must be examined.

It is suggested, therefore, that international agencies of recognized standing, such as Christian religious organizations, be approached with a view to organizing the forwarding and distribution of help. The consent of the Hungarian and German authorities should be obtained. It is, of course, probable that neither these quarters will be inclined to consider such proposals, although on the part of the Hungarian regime, if permitted to act independently, some willingness may be presumed. In view of certain precedents, the issue does not seem entirely hopeless, and as at least an attempt at its realization should be made.

Second, it is possible that the Hungarian, or even the German authorities would show some degree of willingness to allow a certain number, or certain categories, of Jews, like children or the aged, to leave Hungary, provided that someone could be found for them elsewhere. Moreover, experience has shown that in many cases Jews have been saved from extermination because they possessed foreign passports and visas. We think that the latter expedient has definite chances to work in Hungary. It seems advisable, therefore, to provide as many such documents as possible.

It would also be useful if we could name a specific number of people whose emigration to certain specified countries would be assured. This is also indispensable in order to counter the well-known argument that it is impossible to let the Jews go because no other country would admit them.

An authoritative public statement to the effect that temporary refuge for a large specified number of Jews is to be made available, would at least clarify the issue, and would pin Hitler down to the responsibility for the consequences of his more than likely refusal. The psychological effect created by such a statement and by Hitler's rejection of it would, in itself, contribute to the alleviation of the victims' lot. The havens in question need not necessarily be in Allied territory; neutral or Allied-occupied territory would serve as well.

In the preceding points, we have examined policies which presuppose certain degrees of agreement and cooperation on the part of Hungarian Quisling and even German Nazi authorities. The possibility must be admitted, however, that such agreements may not be forthcoming, and that mass extermination may be the set goal towards which German and Hungarian collaborationist policies are aiming.

In such a situation, which unfortunately seems likely, nothing except sporadic help to individuals through underground channels seems to remain practicable.

In view of the extreme danger, the possibilities and instrumentalities of such help should be prepared now, without delay. The primary need is the preparation of an "underground railroad" for the hiding and eventual smuggling out of persecuted individuals to neutral or Allied-controlled territory. Its terminals should be organized in such territory, and served also by people familiar with conditions in Hungary.

000301

Mr. Lawrence L.

May 17, 1944

In accordance with your request, we enclose, under C, a list of the members of the present Hungarian government. We have tried to characterize them as accurately as possible.

In closing, we take the liberty of stating in all earnestness that concrete measures of active help in the present tragically dangerous situation are essential.

Those immediately affected, numbering about one million, constitute the largest group of Jewish population still existing in any European country today. The Hungarian Jews for many generations have been integrated in the cultural, social and economic life of the country, but also in granting refuge to a large number of Jews fleeing from Nazi terror in surrounding countries. In this the government has supported by the overwhelming majority of Hungarians.

We may recall, furthermore, that the former Hungarian government, a government allied with and subservient to Nazi Germany, did show a considerable measure of active and effective good-will not only in securing the physical safety of the large Hungarian Jewish population, but also in granting refuge to a large number of Jews fleeing from Nazi terror in surrounding countries. In this the government was supported by the overwhelming majority of Hungarians.

The Allies, whose set policy is to combat Nazi barbarism and to uphold its victims, can certainly not lag behind the former Hungarian regime in the measure of practical help they provide to the victims of Nazism.

We sincerely hope that the information we were able to give you will be of some help to you in your noble enterprise, and we shall heartily welcome any opportunity to give you such assistance as is in our power.

With the expression of our gratitude and high esteem, we are,

Dr. Henry Lex

Dr. Henry Lex
former chief physician of the Budapest Jewish Hospital, at present physician in New York.

Dr. Paul Kecskemeti
former Berlin correspondent of WP, at present OWI intelligence officer.

George Rev
George Rev
former industrial executive in Budapest, at present research expert, Columbia University.

Mr. Lawrence Loeber, Deputy Director,
War Refugee Board, Room 288½,
Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Very truly yours,

Bertalan Magyar
Bertalan Magyar
former member of the Board of the Budapest Jewish Community, at present textile manufacturer in New York.

Dr. Stephen Rosenek
Dr. Stephen Rosenek
former chief surgeon of the Budapest Jewish Hospital, physician in New York.

Eugene Hoveel
Eugene Hoveel
former Hungarian trade delegate to the U.S., at present editor, Hungarian desk, O.W.I., and Eastern European consultant of the American Jewish Committee.

encl. 3

000302

LIST A

Hungarian personalities deemed fit for the role of key agents in the service of certain confidential policies.

A. Politically Reliable Persons.

1. Count Andor (Andrew) Teleki, 42 years of age, unmarried, a nephew of Hungary's late prime minister, Count Paul Teleki. The latter in the spring of 1941 committed suicide because of German pressure forcing Hungary into collaboration against Yugoslavia. The younger Teleki has been Chairman of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade since 1940. It is likely that the present puppet government removed him from that position. Nevertheless, his personal influence and standing seem to enable him to undertake and carry out among Hungarians the kind of confidential tasks we have in mind. He is a conservative liberal whose political thinking has been strongly influenced by his long service in France as Hungarian commercial attaché. In the latter capacity, he worked under the supervision of one of the members of the present Hungarian Advisory Group of the American Jewish Committee, at that time in charge of trade policy matters with the Hungarian office. To our knowledge, New York State Senator Frederic F. Coussart of New York City, met Count Teleki in France before the war, and may express an opinion on his character. A chronic heart ailment may prevent Count Teleki from taking part in exacting and risky ventures.
2. Colonel Dénes (Dennis) Deak-Horvath, a retired army colonel, during the last 15 years engaged in large-scale import and export transactions. His business interests control a substantial part of Italian-Hungarian trade, through the Barcs Farmers' Granary Cooperative, of which he is chairman. He is also general manager of Hungary's largest food processing and cold storage company, the Hungarian Food Supply Co., an affiliate of the formerly Jewish-controlled Hungarian Commercial Bank. Col. Horvath is wealthy, independent, politically unaffiliated, and a man of about 55 years of age and settled courage. A scion of a Hungarian gentry family, he is married to a Countess Szechenyi, a daughter of one of the leading conservative-liberal aristocratic families. Since early 1940, he has been one of the leaders of the action protecting Polish refugees in Hungary. He also was fined, in 1939, for violation of the anti-Jewish law committed by his refusal to dismiss his Jewish employees. While these facts certainly diminish his freedom of action, there is one asset in his position: his close connections with certain members of the present Hungarian government through which he may render useful services to our cause. Notably with Anthony Kunder, the present minister of commerce, he maintains close and discreet connections, based on common personal business interests. Col. Deak-Horvath was one of the main sources of Mr. Kunder's considerable underhand revenues during an earlier role as chairman of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade. This connection may be important because Kunder is the shrewdest and most calculating member of the cabinet, who, in turn, may act of sheer opportunism favorably influence, in our sense, some of his colleagues.
3. Rudolph (Rezső) Köszeghy, 49 years of age, a native of Hungary of German-Swabian descent, and a former official of the National Bank of Hungary. At present, he is general manager of a textile and fur concern whose co-owner is a member of the Hungarian Advisory Group of the American Jewish Committee.

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Mr. Kőszegi enjoys the full confidence of our colleague whose affairs in Hungary he is conducting in a faithful manner. Other members of our group also vouch for his reliability. While not predestined for a central role, his help as an assistant and go-between may be very useful. He has good connections in the ranks of the bureaucracy. Another advantage is that his son is a student in Switzerland, and may be used as a connecting link.

4. Dr. Jenő (Eugene) Borogy, a Budapest lawyer who for a number of recent years very skillfully played the role of an ardent Nazi and anti-Semite, with the objective of helping distressed or endangered Jews and liberals. A man of good standing in many strata of Hungarian life, he may become a useful member of the confidential group.

5. Margit (Margaret) Schlachta, a parliamentary deputy of the Catholic Peoples' Party, and Chairwoman of the Catholic Social Mission. Miss Schlachta may prove useful in the creation of connection with Catholic members of the Hungarian government, Catholic officials, army and police affairs, etc.

We are certain that these people would not betray the trust placed in them.

B. People Whose Opportunistic Propensities May Be Exploited.

1. Dr. Louis (Lajos) Huszovszky, lawyer, a deputy of the reactionary right wing of the pre-March 19th government party. He is reported to have been appointed state secretary of the prime ministry, in which capacity he may exert certain influence not only upon Quisling premier Satojay, but also upon certain German Nazi officials in Hungary. We base our choice of him upon the fact that in the past Mr. Huszovszky proved, for cash, an extremely willing and efficient representative of certain endangered Jewish business interests. In the light of the probable vicissitudes of the general political situation, he may be willing to assume a similar role against the promise of certain deposits in Switzerland.

2. Jenő (Eugene) Vasarhelyi, a man of German-Swabian parentage, and former director of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade, at present president of Kispsect Textile Works Co. He is a full-fledged Nazi collaborationist, with a keen sense, however, for money and security. He has direct connection with most members of the government, and also with German Nazi circles both in Hungary and Germany. For money and for future safety he will probably be willing to go to any length within the limits of personal safety.

000304

LIST B

Jewish physicians who have served in the Hungarian Habsburg.

Dr. Imre Podor, Bécsi-utca 1, Budapest

Dr. Pál Felgrader, Műrberg-utca, Budapest

(Both of them are outstanding men with good connections, both of them energetic and circumspect.)

They may be assisted by the following non-Jewish liberal physicians:

Dr. Géza Petényi, St. Rochus Hospital

Dr. Imre Hajnal, St. Rochus Hospital

000305

LIST C

Members of the puppet government of Hungary.

There is little doubt about the fact that all members of this "government" were handpicked by Hitler and Ribbentrop. Former Prime Minister Bela Imredy, head of the pro-Nazi Party of National Renaissance, seems to have been their chief Hungarian collaborator in forming this cabinet.

1. "Prime Minister" General Douma (Demetrius) Sztojaj, is a person almost completely unknown in Hungary, a man without any direct ties with Hungarian life. He is one of those many army officers of foreign parentage with whom the Hungarian army was teeming. In the early thirties, Prime Minister Julius Goemboes, a man of German-Swabian descent, added to the officers' corps new swarms of officers hailing from the German-Swabian minority group in Hungary. Sztojaj is an exception. He is not a German, he is a Serb. In 1935, his name was still Stojakovitch. One of his brothers is said to be an officer with Gen. Neditch's Quisling army in Serbia. From 1925 to 1935, Sztojaj served as military attaché with the Hungarian legation in Berlin, where he soon excelled as a thoroughly reliable Nazi collaborationist. He won Hitler's confidence to such a degree that in 1935, when the Hungarian minister to Berlin fell into disgrace with the Nazis, the German government insisted with the Hungarian foreign office that Sztojaj be appointed his successor. Since then, his role consisted chiefly in making Nazi pressure on Hungary effective. In the early thirties, Sztojaj was instrumental in preparing Premier Goemboes' frequent conspiratory visits to Hitler and other German leaders. Early in 1937, von Mackensen, German minister to Budapest, prepared a military putsch against the Hungarian regime, with a view to forcing Hungary, even then, into full military subservience to Germany. The attempt failed, and von Mackensen had to go -- as ambassador to Rome. In Hungarian diplomatic circles, it was known that Sztojaj had a direct hand in these Nazi machinations.

Sztojaj is a full-fledged Nazi Quisling, entirely lacking the restraints of conscience which are bound to emerge with people having the slightest emotional ties with a nation. As a perfect stranger, he has no such moral scruples. But scruples of a more opportunistic nature he most certainly has. We are convinced that for him and for all members of his government there was simply no escape from accepting a share in Hitler's destiny. The only approach to Sztojaj is through his fear of retribution. It is likely to work.

As we shall see, non-Hungarian descent is a common feature with all ranking members of this cabinet.

2. Vice-Premier General Jenő (Eugene) Rácz is a Roumanian by origin. His real name is Ratiu. As one of the most rabid Jew-baiters, he truly represents the spirit of the Roumanian Iron Guard. A political creature of Julius Goemboes, and later a follower of collaborationist Premier Bela Imredy, he became, in 1937, minister of war under Daranyi, and in 1938 under Imredy. His and his family's maniacal Nazi and anti-Semitic passion is sufficiently indicated by the fact that when in 1938, the main synagogue of Budapest was bombed, and a number of Jews were killed by local Nazis, the black sedan carrying the murderers to and from the premises was driven by the war minister's own daughter. As minister of war, Rácz worked so feverishly for the Nazification of the Hungarian army that

000306

Finally he had to be dropped from the cabinet. Since then, he devoted himself entirely to pro-Nazi agitation. As Vice Chairman of the collaborationist Imre party, he proved to be one of the most vicious fifth columnists in Hungary. In the autumn of 1938, Raecz was key man in a military conspiracy aiming at the elimination of Regent Horthy from power.

3. Minister of War General Lajos (Louis) Gyatay, is also a pro-Nazi product of the late Goemboes' entourage. He is of German parentage, his original name being Tutzenthaler. As a politician, Gyatay has no significance.

4. Minister of Justice, Cults and Public Education is Dr. Istvan (Stephen) Antal, formerly Altmann, of German-Swabian descent. An anti-Semitic student leader already in the early 1920's, his earliest achievement was the organization of armed attacks on printing shops of liberal papers in Budapest, resulting in the destruction of large numbers of printing presses. As a young lawyer, he became a member of Goemboes' pressure group, and, in 1932, Premier Goemboes' commissioner for the press. Gradually he developed into one of Goemboes' chief advisers, and became the ghost writer of all of his public utterances. Later Goemboes appointed him state secretary (vice-minister) for justice. Already then, he had close personal connections with official Berlin. An incurable opportunist, he insisted, with Berlin's help, upon being included in all Hungarian governments since 1937. Under the last Kallay government, he served as the "Hungarian Goebbels," at the head of the propaganda ministry. Today this petty schemer, hardly over 45, is the "guardian" of justice and education in Hungary. As a typical opportunist, he may be well inclined to flirt with certain alibi-creating possibilities, but his weakness of character and lack of courage should militate against his selection as a key exponent of our intentions.

5. Andor (Andrew) Jaross, the minister of the interior, as supervisor of the police and gendarmerie, and executor of most anti-Jewish measures, would be, theoretically, the logical man to approach in the pursuit of our policies. Unfortunately, he is too new in the Hungarian political field to be sized up adequately. A man of about 50, and of Slovakian descent, he lived in Czechoslovakia, and was relatively unknown in Hungary. As a member of the parliamentary group of the Hungarian minority in Czechoslovakia, he made no news. Only after the reannexation of Southern Slovakia to Hungary in 1938 and 1939 did he become conspicuous as an outright Nazi collaborator, government-party member of parliament, and chief editorial writer of Magyarország, the notorious Nazi-financed anti-Semitic propaganda organ. Jaross is said to have been one of the highest paid Nazi agents in Hungary. His corruptibility is no secret, but it is doubtful whether he would actually deliver the goods.

6. Lajos (Louis) Remdnyi-Schneller, minister of finance, is an easy-going, soft-speaking careerist, ready to serve any cause if it pays. About 55 years of age, the son of a German bank manager in Budapest, and a former exponent of Jewish, and later, of anti-Semitic banking interests, he started out on his political career as Goemboes' purveyor of sufficient private funds for the pursuit of his political combinations, which ultimately led to the tying up of Hungary with Hitler. Schneller became minister of finance under Imre in 1938, and has kept this post until today. Although no diehard Nazi, he had to remain at his post, because he is chiefly responsible for the huge German financial indebtedness for Hungarian commodity supplies. Schneller is a more civilized type of man.

000307

than most of his colleagues, and may be more suitable for our purposes than any of the other ministers mentioned here.

7. Bela Jurcaek, minister of agriculture, is a Magyarified Slovak, a bankrupt landowner, and a former member of the White Terror groups of the early 1920's. A reactionary and anti-Semitic of old vintage, he is, nevertheless, not considered a full-fledged Nazi. A provincial type without education and standing, he does not merit consideration from our point of view.

8. Lajos (Louis) Szász, minister of industry, a non-political administrative cabinet minister. Formerly in charge of a division of the Ministry of Finance, he seems to have been attached to the cabinet as an economic expert.

9. Antal (Anthony) Kunder, minister of commerce, is another German-Swabian disciple of Goemboes, secretly designated in the early 1930's by this original founder of Hungary's pro-German policy as the prospective coordinator of Hungarian economic life with that of Germany. In 1935, at the age of 35, Kunder, a former army captain, was already chairman of the Hungarian Office for Foreign Trade. A year later, he became minister of commerce. In the domestic field, one of his tasks was to force upon Jewish business large numbers of needless non-Jewish employees. Subsequently, he embarked upon a systematic campaign of eliminating Jews from Hungary's foreign trade, through the manipulation of import and export licenses. Later on, he became the economic executor of Hungary's anti-Jewish legislation. During the gradual development of these actions, he maintained confidential and remunerative business connections with certain Jewish business interests. In 1940, his pro-German zeal carried him too far, and he served Hitler economically so exceedingly well, that Premier Count Teleki felt compelled to drop him from his cabinet. He landed in a well-paid managerial job with a Jewish-controlled coal mining enterprise. It is characteristic that as a member of the Darányi cabinet, he proved the most zealous defender of the rights of Jews, (formerly Hungarian subjects) in Roumania. Kunder is scheming, calculating, clever, active and energetic. He has wits, courage and versatility. He is certainly aware that he has made an error of political calculation. Nobody could be more willing to make amends than Kunder. Cleverness and bold, unprincipled selfishness make him the best choice for our purpose within the fold of Hungary's Quislings. Also the fact that most of the possible key agents recommended in List A have the best and easiest access to him makes him the best choice as our secret exponent within the cabinet. As a clever young soldier and economist, he may put over some of our ideas on his rather simple-minded chief Sztojaj and the rest of his uneasy colleagues.

Circumstances compel us to compromise. They force us to seek aid for defenseless victims among elements whom, in the light of their record, under normal conditions we would avoid touching with a pole. As things stand now, however, we have selected among them those who, while morally akin with the rest, possess at least the quality of shrewd adaptability, quick thinking and resolve. Experience indicates that Kunder measures up most closely to these requirements. We may be mistaken, but we have tried to do our best.

In closing, permit us to mention that there may be a way of influencing, to some extent, even the domestic patron saint of the present Quisling set-up in Hungary, Bela Imredy himself. We are giving careful thought to this possibility and may return to the matter shortly.

000308

PARAPHRASE OF WIREGRAM RECEIVED

FROM: American Legation, Cairo
TO: Secretary of State, Washington
DATED: May 17, 1944
NUMBER: Greek 158

The following has been repeated to Ankara and to Algiers for Murphy.
Please see my despatch of May 8, No. 107, and previous.

It has been recommended by Resnik of the Joint Distribution Committee in conversations with the Treasury representative and the Embassy here during the past week, concerning the rescue of refugees from Greece, that (one) you request the British War Office and the War Department to instruct their respective secret organizations which are concerned with the transportation of persons between Greece and Turkey to accelerate the transport of refugees over those routes; (two) that you inform the Greek resistance organizations (principally EAM) of American interests in such operations; (three) that you despatch funds in the form of gold sovereigns to Greece to help Jews in hiding there; and (four) that with a view to their more energetic protection of their own Jewish nationals in Europe, representations be made to neutral governments especially Spain, Portugal, and Turkey.

MACVRAH

DCR:VAG:EL 5/19/44

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Packer, Date SEP 21 1972

cc: Sec'y, Abrahamson, Akkin, Bernstein, Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, Mannen, Marks, McCormack, Rains, Sargoy, Smith, Standish, Sten
Walia, Wilas.

000309

cc: Miss Chauncey (For the Soc'y), Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein,
Cohn, DuBois, Friedman, Gaston, Hodel, Laughlin, Lutzford, Mann,
Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Paul, Pehle, Pollak, Raina, Sargoy,
Smith, Standish, Weinstein, H.D. White, Flos.

000310

COMM. FILE 6177

April 24, 1944

034
This subject matter is
submitted before being
retransmitted to recipient
other than a governmental
agency. (RM)

ARRIVAL

LONDON

034

THE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE HAS RECEIVED FROM

The War Refugee Board requests that you deliver
the following message to Nathan Baron, 85 New Cavendish
Square, London:

NOTE: Please telephone Colonel Michael J. Forgan
Mayfair eight four four four to make appointment
to consider plans as discussed in London with Phillip
Boyfan, Sigmond Goldmann, World Jewish Congress, New York.
UNQUOTE

HULL

(GLN)

WAB:GZM:KG DO BWP A-31 FO

Sent to State
April 24, 1944
11:50 a.m.

cc: Miss Chauncy (for the Sec'y.), Abrahamson, Akins, Bernstein,
John, Doherty, Friedman, Ganton, Hodel, Laughlin, Lerner,
Laxford, Mann, Mannon, Neke, McCormack, Peltz, Pollak, Raine, Sargoy,
Smith, Stendish, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Files.

000311

April 22, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

J.P. and H. H. discussed the proposed message to
appear from column re "Kochonberg's contacts with Hersmann"
with Assistant Secretary of State Berle on April 21, 1944.
He did not press the point strongly and it was agreed, for
reasons that appeared to be satisfactory, not to transmit the
proposed message.

LSLesnorte 4/22/44

000312

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

TO Mr. Peile
FROM I. B. Lesser

DATE
April 18, 1944

As I told you last night, I asked Dr. MacLoud at the OSS on Monday whether it would be possible to cable their people in Algiers to cooperate with Ackermann and Saxon and that he replied that he would see that such a message was sent immediately. I also called Dr. MacLoud yesterday about trying to get Dr. Dexter the part-time use of the OSS cars and typewriters in Lisbon. Dr. MacLoud again said that he would get such a message sent promptly. Late yesterday afternoon, Dr. MacLoud called me and said that it would seem that the War Refugee Board had smallpox. When I asked him for an explanation, he said that neither the message to Lisbon nor the one to Algiers had been permitted to go out. It was indicated to Dr. MacLoud that instructions had been given from what he termed the "highest quarters" to lend no assistance to the War Refugee Board. Dr. MacLoud tells me that the acting director in General Donovan's absence is Colonel Edward Buxton.

V.V.V.

000313

Abrahamson, Akira, Arzate Jr., Cahn, Dubeta, Edwards, Gatten, Jones, Langille,
Lomas, Luxford, Mann, Deane, Hays, McCormack, Paul, Pollak, Potos, Tracy, Salih,
Shedden, Thomas, Weinstein, W. O. White, Ristic, Allen

000314

TELETYPE UNIT

GIB

FLETH

April 12, 1944

AMIFICATION

FACEBOOK
C/S, FACILE
FOR OTHER FROM WAR REFUGEE BOARD.

Name of sender of message referred to in Legation 1164,
April 7, is Elolz (repeat Elolz) and not (repeat not) Elolty.
This may explain why receiver did not know identity of sender.
Please advise which messages have been delivered. This is WRB
Cable No. 3.

In order to avoid confusion in connection with its cables
to representatives in the field, the Board, commencing with this
cable, intends to number its cables to each representative con-
secutively. In replying to Board cables kindly refer to the
WRB designation. You should also consecutively number all cables
to the Board.

HULL
(BLW)

WRB:OJW:KG
4/12/44

Miss Chauncy (for the Sec'y) Abrahamson, Akzin, Bernstein, Cohn,
DuBois, Friedman, Ganton, Hodol, Laughlin, Lesson, Luxford, Mann,
Mannon, Marks, McCormack, Murphy, Paul, Pehle, Pollak, Rains, Sargoy,
Smith, Stansh, Stewart, Weinstein, H. D. White, Files

000315

10-10-41

Mr. J. P. ...
Mr. G. ...

April 1941

Re: ...

and German ...

There are several important names ...

Werner

1) **Werner Hunsch**, This man is a ...
the Social Democratic Party, and a very good man. He has been drafted several
times and is in the Army at this moment but he can always be reached via
of Arbeiter-Zeitung, Basel. This cable should be of not Emil Kirschner. It
is possible that he will refer those who contact him to other people but he is
absolutely trustworthy.

2) **Mr. Anton Keller**. This man is connected with the International
Metal Workers Union in Bern. He may had all kinds of illegal contacts with
the German underground. His nickname is "^{Toni} ~~Toni~~". He can be reached in case of
Mr. Hg of the International Metal Workers Union in Bern. The cable should be
signed with the name of his sister, **Lilli Keller**.

3) **Gero Gaevernitz**, Casa Wrangel, Ascona, Canton Tessin, Switzerland.
Mr. Gaevernitz is an American citizen, well known to the Ukrainian Service Committee,
now active in serving the United States war effort and with wide acquaintances in
Germany. His sister is the wife of Professor Edmund Stinner who is the son of
the former steel magnate in Germany. Professor Stinner is now teaching at
Haverford College in Pennsylvania where his wife resides with him and he and his

000311

The Board of War Relocation Authority, established by Executive Order of the President of the United States, has the honor to inform you that the Board has been organized and is now in operation. The Board is composed of representatives of the War Relocation Authority, the War Relocation Administration, and the War Relocation Commission. The Board is authorized to receive and process applications for admission to the United States of persons who are citizens of enemy countries and who are unable to return to their own countries. The Board is also authorized to receive and process applications for admission to the United States of persons who are citizens of enemy countries and who are unable to return to their own countries. The Board is also authorized to receive and process applications for admission to the United States of persons who are citizens of enemy countries and who are unable to return to their own countries.

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FOR THE BOARD OF WAR RELOCATION AUTHORITY
various people around. For the first time it should read as follows:
A WAR REFUGEE BOARD CONSISTING SECRETARY STATE WAR TREASURY HAS
BEEN APPOINTED BY PRESIDENT UNITED STATES TO HAVE ENDANGERED
REFUGES ALL PARTS WOULD STOP JOHN PAUL DIRECTOR STOP THIS CON-
STITUTES ENTIRELY NEW POLICY AND OFFERS FACILITIES SAVING THOUSANDS
LIVES STOP LABOR MOVEMENT THE FREE WORLD THE HUMANITARIAN SERVICE
COMMITTEE OTHER HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATIONS COOPERATING TO FULL STOP
WE NEED YOUR ASSISTANCE IN SECURING INFORMATION ABOUT CONDITIONS
AND IN ORGANIZING RESCUE MACHINERY IN NEUTRAL AND OCCUPIED COUNTRIES
STOP ALL NECESSARY FUNDS WILL BE PROVIDED PLEASE GIVE WARMEST RE-
CEPTION TO THOSE WHO WILL APPROACH YOU STOP THEY WILL GIVE FURTHER
INFORMATION ^{STOP} ESTABLISH CONTACTS OTHER LANDS SECURE COOPERATION OF
FRIENDS EVERYWHERE SEND IMMEDIATELY COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS THROUGH
AMERICAN CONSULATE OR EMBASSY ADDRESS: WE CARE WAR REFUGEE BOARD
TREASURY DEPARTMENT WASHINGTON WE ARE COUNTING ON YOU IN THIS FINAL

000310

Committee on Special Refugee
Settlements
of the United States
Department of State

000319

April 1, 1944

To: Dr. Robert B. MacLoud
Office of Strategic Services
Q Building, Room 1050

From: Lawrence B. Lesser
War Refugee Board

Herewith the gist of what I have been talking to you
about on the telephone. I would appreciate any ideas you may
have.

LSLesser:als 4/1/44

11:30 p.m.

000320

During my discussions with French Jewish underground workers, active both in France and in London, a scheme was developed for organizing a small clandestine group in France, to organize the escape of those in danger. I discussed this plan with the French ~~Minister~~ of the Interior, M. D'Astier, who is also in charge of the underground work in France, and was in London on his way from Algiers. He, in turn, discussed the matter with the French official in London in charge of underground activities in France-- a French Jew, M. Boris. Both were in favor of the scheme and gave instructions to the French underground movement to assist such an organization when it is established. The French underground movement cannot, itself, undertake to do this, because it has not the necessary manpower.

The World Jewish Congress has a number of young men at its disposal, who are experienced underground workers, both in London and Switzerland, ready and able to go to France to organize this work. Their efficiency would be greatly increased if one of the governments which has been doing underground work in France would be ready to lend technical assistance (transportation facilities, radio equipment, etc.). In my opinion this would be the most effective, if not the only way, to save hundreds of thousands of Jews escape from France. It would be enormously helpful if the War Refugee Board were ready to support such a scheme by giving American authorities in charge of similar activities, instructions to lend such technical assistance as is necessary.

This activity of the World Jewish Congress will be directed from London and Lisbon. The representative in charge in Lisbon is Isaac

000321

Weisman, Avenida Libertada 179, who is known to the American legation in Lisbon, M. Baron, who is in charge in London and is the head of the Committee of French Jews, is experienced in this work. It is my suggestion that the War Refugee Board, if prepared to support such a scheme, instruct someone in London and Lisbon to contact Mr. Weisman and M. Baron-- the latter can be reached at 55 New Cavendish Street, London, and discuss details with them.

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Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Hendon
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

Dear Mr. Pennington:

I am very glad of the opportunity to have a talk with you in your capacity as Director of the War Refugee Board. Your appointment was a source of great encouragement to all of us who know you and are impressed with your deep interest in the problem and your determination to achieve results. I was especially gratified to note your sympathetic reaction and understanding of all the projects I discussed with you and your colleagues yesterday.

I am enclosing the three memoranda for which you asked. The report of the Jewish National Committee from Poland to which one of them refers, will be sent to you from our New York office, as I have no copy of it here.

I will appreciate it if you will let me know as soon as possible the decisions on the Polish situation and the Jews in France.

With best wishes and kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Nahum Goldmann
Nahum Goldmann

cc: Sec'y, Cohn, Hodel, Laughlin, Pehle, Abrahamson, Aksin, Bernstein, DuBois, Friedman, Gastoff, Lesser, Luxford, Mann, McCormack, Paul, Pollak, Rains, Standish, Stewart, H. D. White, Filer.

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cc: Miss Chauncey (See'y), Cona, Hodel, Laughlin, Penic, Abrahamson, Akzin, Koverstein,
DuBois, Friedman, Garton, Langer, Luxford, Mann, McCorack, Paul, Pollak, Rains,
Stanish, Stewart, H. D. White, Jiles.

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The second of these is the fact that the...
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The third of these is the fact that the...
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of the... of the... of the...
of the... of the... of the...

It is now necessary to consider...

Very truly yours,

J. F. Johnson
John F. Johnson

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OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D. C.

COUNTRY: Palestine
SUBJECT: Mr. Shmorak on his visit to Turkey
DISSEMINATION No. A 15033
Report No. 8666
Distributed October 20, 1943
SOURCE:
SUB SOURCE:
DATE OF ORIGIN: October 7, 1943
PLACE OF ORIGIN: Jerusalem

A well informed source states that on September 28, after his return from the Tiber Trip, Mr. Shmorak submitted a report to the Committee of the General Zionists "B" in Tel Aviv, of which the following is a summary:

The Turkish Government is prepared to grant transit visas to European Jews, provided that the British authorities guarantee them admittance to British territory. No such guarantee, however, has so far been given.

American diplomatic representatives in Turkey are said not to be interested in the question of the escape of Jewish refugees from Europe.

In a private conversation with the First Secretary of the Soviet Embassy, it was learned that Russia was not prepared--according to this Secretary--to grant any aid to Jews in matters connected with Palestine. She would be pleased to see the Jews remain in Europe, for there they could constitute an element favorable to Soviet interests. European Jews had always proved useful, he said, in the spreading of Communist doctrines.

This same official also stated that information in the possession of his Government showed that the working classes (masses was the word he used) in Great Britain and in America were not interested in Palestine, and that consequently the Jews could expect no support of any value from countries in which their claims did not hold the public interest, especially the interest of the working classes.

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