To: Department  
Date: July 29, 10 a.m., 1944.  
No: 4867  
Charged to:  

Paraphrase

0,500 francs to the account of Hollantsche Bank, Istanbul (on Joseph Schwarzkopf instructions) in the Union de Banque Suisse, Zürich, for the transportation from Rumania to Palestine of 751 refugees;

2. The purchase of penceges here in Switzerland for the relief program for Jewish children in Budapest, probably to be carried out by Intercross;

3. The purchase of foodstuffs in Hungary through the Croixmixture for relief to Jewish population in camps, ghetti and confined in Budapest;

4. The further financing of the flight of endangered Hungarian Jewish refugees to Rumania and Slovakia.

In the case of the Swiss franc equivalent of one million dollars, we have requested Sally Mayer, as recommended in numbered paragraph 2 of the Legation's no. 4258 of July 5, to supply us in advance with detailed information of any expenditure projected. With regard to the Swiss franc equivalent of $500,000 to be expended by Mayer in connection with the evacuation program from the Balkans, we plan to exercise

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 26 1972
Reference is made to the Department's 2417 of July 16 and its 2379 of July 25.

On July 20 we received through the Swiss National Bank the amount of 6,402,525 Swiss francs. The money is being held at Salo Mayer's disposal with his approval, to be withdrawn as required. I instructed the bank on July 27 to make an initial advance of two million francs. This amount will be used for the following purposes:

1. Payment of 580,500 francs to the account of Wolf Zeew Shind, care of Hollantsche Bank, Istanbul (on Joseph Schwartz' instructions) in the Union de Banque Suisse, Zurich, for the transportation from Rumania to Palestine of 761 refugees;

2. The purchase of penguins here in Switzerland for the relief program for Jewish children in Budapest, probably to be carried out by Intercross;

3. The purchase of foodstuffs in Hungary through the Croixmixte for relief to Jewish population in camps, ghettos and confined in Budapest;

4. The further financing of the flight of endangered Hungarian Jewish refugees to Rumania and Slovakia.

In the case of the Swiss franc equivalent of one million dollars, we have requested Salo Mayer, as recommended in numbered paragraph 2 of the Legation's no. 4259 of July 5, to supply us in advance with detailed information of any expenditure projected. With regard to the Swiss franc equivalent of $500,000 to be expended by Mayer in connection with the evacuation program from the Balkans, we plan to exercise
the control normally expected over disbursements for relief and rescue operations in enemy territory under the special license granted the JDC.

Foregoing is from McClelland and is for the War Refugee Board.

HARRISON

RDM: mjb: nf
Copy to RDM
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From:  Department C.L.

Date:  July 29, 6 p.m., 1944

No.:  2814

Received:  July 30, noon

PARAPHRASE

WBB No. 99

Following message is for Sal Mayer.

"Sternbuch has wired Rabbi Nical group here that 1200 Hungarian Rabbis and other leaders now entrained Vienna for deportation. Sternbuch claims that this group may still be rescued by repatriation if immediate action is taken, and that you have refused to assist in saving them. He also claims, in spite of affirmative report to War Refugee Board, that no understanding for coordination of rescue activities has been reached with you. This situation is deeply disturbing to orthodox groups here, which are exerting great pressure on us. While we are convinced that you and McClelland are doing everything possible to rescue all people, we are not in a position to answer these charges of Sternbuch. We realize that Sternbuch is primarily concerned with Rabbi Nical groups. We are equally interested in the rescue of these elements and we hope that you are taking every possible measure in an effort to save them. Earliest possible reply by cable will be appreciated."

Following, with reference to Department’s 2449 July 18, is for McClelland from Fehle.

It is urgently requested that every practicable step be taken to rescue this group.
Dear Mr. Mayer:

I am pleased to quote below a message which has been received for you from N. A. Leavitt of the Joint Distribution Committee:

"You are hereby given authority to arrange local borrowing for the three months' period July 1 - September 30, of $350,000 for relief purposes. The totals by countries are as follows: France $100,000, Hungary $300,000, Romania $300,000, and Northern Italy $30,000. This represents the total authorizations for the countries named, superseding previous authorizations you have received. You are requested to keep separate accounts of the transactions which are undertaken under these authorizations. Total transactions already entered into during the month of July should be included in over-all. It is suggested that through the American Legation you inform us periodically of the countries concerned and the amounts for which transactions have been consummated. Please note that the authorizations have to do exclusively with local borrowing against eventual repayment by us in dollars or sterling. It will be appreciated if you will keep us informed as to the extent of dollar and sterling obligations that are incurred. In addition, we have available the sum of $20,000 for time grant for local borrowing in Hungary. If transaction is made for this special sum, a separate account should be kept of this item. It is assumed that Intercross will continue to cooperate in arranging the details of local borrowing.

Mr. Saly Mayer,
Care of American Consulate,
Geneva.

Sincerely yours,

Via Courier,

Bern, August 1, 1944.

Mr. Mayer,
borrowing. Kindly let us know by September 1 whether, in your opinion, the above rate of authorizations should be continued for the last quarter of this year or should be either increased or decreased. If possible, your recommendation should be accompanied by supporting data. A copy of this telegram is being sent to the Joint Distribution Committee in Lisbon."

Dear Mr. Mayer:
The following message has been received for you from the War Refugee Board under date of July 29, 1944:

"Sternbuch has written, here that 1200 Hungarian Jewish Relief organizations now on hold in Vienna, are being held in the hope that they will be repatriated when conditions improve. He also claims, in spite of affirmative report to War Refugee Board, that no understanding for coordination of rescue activities has been reached. This situation is deeply disturbing to orthodox groups here, which are exerting great pressure on us. While we are convinced that you and McChord are doing everything possible to rescue all people, we are not in a position to answer these charges of Sternbuch. To realize that Sternbuch is primarily concerned with Rabbi Hirsch groups. We are equally interested in the rescue of these elements and hope that you are taking every possible measure in an effort to save them. Earliest possible reply by cable will be appreciated."

Sincerely yours,

Roswell E. McClelland, Special Assistant to the American Minister.

Mr. Saly Mayer, Care of American Consulate, Geneva.

RDM/636
Via Courier

Date: August 1, 5 a.m., 1944

Bern, August 1, 1944.

Dear Mr. Mayer:

The following message has been received for you from the War Refugee Board under date of July 29, 1944:

"Sternbuch has wired Rabbi Nical group here that 1200 Hungarian Rabbis and other leaders now entrained Vienna for deportation. Sternbuch claims that this group may still be rescued by repatriation if immediate action is taken, and that you have refused to assist in saving them. He also claims, in spite of affirmative report to War Refugee Board, that no understanding for coordination of rescue activities has been reached with you. This situation is deeply disturbing to orthodox groups here, which are exerting great pressure on us. While we are convinced that you and McClelland are doing everything possible to rescue all people, we are not in a position to answer these charges of Sternbuch. We realize that Sternbuch is primarily concerned with Rabbi Nical groups. We are equally interested in the rescue of these elements and we hope that you are taking every possible measure in an effort to save them. Earliest possible reply by cable will be appreciated."

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

Mr. Saly Mayer,
Care of American Consulate,
Geneva.
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Ankara
Date: August 1, 5 p.m., 1944

Please deliver following message to Sally Mayer:

"With regard to Embassy's telegram of July 24, 9 p.m. re. previous request of Schwartz, it is important that transfer be made to the account of Wolf Zeef Shynd, Union de Banques Suisses, Zurich. I shall appreciate receiving your acknowledgment by telegram to Istanbul, in care of the American Consulate General. Greetings, Resnik."

KELLEY

305. 360. 545. -

In duplicate

re Copy via F. A

Aug. 3, 1944
With the compliments of the Commercial Counsellor, His Britannic Majesty's Legation, Bern.

Legation of the United States of America
Received 17th August 1944

Prev. ref.: 8/10/44 of 15th August, 1944

Subject: Copies of letter to Zurich and their reply re Swiss Bank Corporation, Basle.

For your information

To: Daniel J. Reagan, Esq., American Legation, Bern.

H.B.M. Consulate-General, Zurich.

14th July, the Legation the 11 Swiss francs in the exchange did that monthly.

Directly Chinese subjects in your report.
Dear Consulate-General,

M.E.W. advise us that on the 14th July, the Swiss Bank Corporation, St. Gall, instructed the Chekiang Industrial Bank, Shanghai, to sell Swiss francs equivalent to 60 million C.R.S. dollars if the exchange rate was advantageous. The local bank added that they would probably require a similar sum monthly.

M.E.W. enquire whether we could discreetly confirm that these large requirements of Chinese money are for relief payments to Allied subjects in occupied China.

We should be glad, therefore, if you would make discreet enquiries and let us have your report in due course.

Yours ever,
COMMERCE SECRETARIAT

M.E.W. Consulate-General, Zurich.
BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL, Zürich.
14th August 1944.

Dear Commercial Secretary,

I am pleased to quote below a message which has been received for you at this Embassy in the American Embassy at Washington:

In reply to our discreet enquries we were told that these C.R.D. dollars were being bought on the instructions of Salo PEREL of St. Gall of the Jewish Relief Fund and that payment for them comes from America, so that it was assumed that the American authorities knew all the particulars and had consented to the transfer. The Swiss authorities, however, do not know how the money is distributed. Enquiries of the local Jewish authorities elicited the fact that Salo Mayer is the official representative of the American Joint Distribution Committee, a charitable organization founded in the last war.

We have now asked Salo Mayer to call in order to enquire discreetly how the money is distributed.

Yours ever,

ZURICH CONSULATE GENERAL,
My dear Mr. Mayer:

I am pleased to quote below a message which has been received for you at this Legation from the American Embassy at Ankara:

"With regard to previous request of Schwartz, it is important that transfer be made in time to account of Wolf Zier Shynd, Union of Jewish Communities in Zurich. I shall appreciate your acknowledgment by telegram or letter in care of American Consul General.

Greetings, Reznik."

Sincerely yours,

Hotel Cornavin,

Sincerely yours,

(.sig.) Bely Mayer

Address:

Bely Mayer,

Postfach 262,

St. Gallen

Ihre Freunde Feldstein haben sub 24. März einen Probaus Verfal unterschrieben, von welchem wir Ihnen beiliegend eine Copie zu Ihren Akten überreichen.


Zu keiner Zeit konnte jemals die Rede davon sein, dass Feldstein an das IRC einen Anspruch zu erheben berechtigt war und muss unter allen Umstsunden und fuer alle Faule festgehalten werden, dass alle beteiligten Parteien dem IRC sehr dankbar zu sein haben, diese Transactions durchführen zu können.

Nachdem durch diese Korrespondenz auch Ihre geschaezte Firma vom Guthaben Feldsteins an den Joint ebenfalls Kenntnis hat, so durfte dessen Anspruch resp. Forderung genügend ausgewiesen sein und wurde es uns freuen, wenn sich Ihre Freunde dieser Ansicht ebenfalls anschliessen würden.

Wir begrüessen Sie in vorzueglicher Hochschatzung
(sig.) Saly Mayer

Adresse:
Saly Mayer,
Postfach 262,
St.Gallen.
Procès-Verbal No. 3

Monsieur Feldstein Isaac, a versé aux institutions de bienfaisance juives à Bucarest la somme de Lei 9.000.000 pour secourir la population nécessitée en Roumanie et en Transnistrie.

Monsieur Feldstein Isaac a exprimé son désir d'être remboursé après la guerre en Dollars et pour la somme versée en Lei 9.000.000 (neuf millions Lei).


Bucarest, le 24 Mars 1944.

(s) illisible

(s) Charles Kolb
Délégué du C-I-C-R.

(s) Feldstein
Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of July 27th contents of which we have duly noted.

In accordance with your instructions, we have transferred on July 29th from the amount of Fr. 6,402,825.- we hold at the disposal of the American Minister and as a preliminary transaction, the sum of Fr. 2,000,000.-- to the Schweiz. Bankverein, St. Gall, for the credit of Mr. Saly Mayer.

We remain, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully

[Signature]
we need a copy of receipt to be given to Dollars claimers, payable after the war.

We enclose a list of all names which have been submitted to us.

At present we have fixed the rate of exchange to 1500 Lei per Dollar and 6000 Lei per Sterling payable in Palestine. 

Fr. 386,500 Frs (as per Cable Joint 17 VII)

see your letter July 26th - cable from Lisbon to Genev this transfer has been effected. Delay has been caused on account of debtor's name having been misspelled Shind-Szynd

Cable Pilpel July 17th re 500 Children with Tangier Visas having obtained Spanish Visas has been transmitted to Budapest.

1,500,000 Dollars as per Cable and corresponding of July 20th up to August 9th Frs 2,000,000 have been transferred to our account with Swiss Bank Corporation.

We have asked you to be good enough to make a 2nd transfer of 1,000,000.

Zagreb, Croatia as we have already ordered and paid a 1st consignment of 1000 parcels at cost of 10, we shall not order another consignment f. c. Lisbon until we have received news that our delivery has been received by our friends in Zagreb. The delegate of the IRC is due to arrive in Geneva these days and therefore no further action will be taken for the time being.

2000 Children, from France: Portugal Hospitality your letter July 28 cablecopy Pilpel Lisbon:

In accordance with your recommendation, which has been communicated by the Union Ose we have not taken any further steps in this matter and have informed Jarblum, Lichtheim and Silberschein accordingly,

Cable 93 from Pilpel Lisbon re Shanghai (July 28th)

We should like to report on this account personally. In the meantime we have already telephoned with Lisbon office.

Dollars credit for payment after war total 920,000 Dollars i.e.

300,000 Dollars each to France, Hungary and Rumania - 30,000 To Italy.

We have taken due note of this new credit and full report will be submitted as soon as we have laid our plans.

Please consider these notes as receipt of your letters and provisory acknowledgement of said correspondence. Undersigned being en route since middle of July on behalf of Hungarian matters he will attend to above mentioned items on his return to St Gall.

Geneva/Be ne August 7th 1944
Approx. 380,500 - Passage (Rumania to Turkey) - evacuation
         190,000 - Each (Hungary) } relief operations
         200,000 - 
         10,000 - 
         34,000 - Pengoes (1000) } purchase pengoes
         400,000 - (Children) } purchase pengoes
         200,000 - (1000) - purchase food stuffs in Hong
         528,000 - 
(53,000 - Commissary (food) - purchase food stuffs in Hong.

Aug. 10th 100,000 - Purchase of dollars - for financing flight operations
                     from Hong to Rumania.
Société Générale de Surveillance SA
GENF

Re: Issac Feldstein, Bucarest.


Wir bitten Sie gef. zu beachten, dass wir nicht berechtigt sind, zu bestaetigen, dass diese 10'000 Dollars weder 5 Monate nach Kriegsende noch in Genf ausbezahl werden.

Hochachtend:

(sig.) Saly Mayer

Adresse:
Saly Mayer
Postfach 262, St.Gallen.
Mr. Rosewell B. Bern, August 12, 1944.
Special Assistant to the American Minister, Bern.

Sirs:

Dear Sirs,

It would be appreciated if you would make a further step to acknowledge receipt of your letter of transfer from the account which you are at present holding at the disposal of the American Minister of the sum of $1,000,000 Swiss francs to the Schweiz. Bankverein, St. Gall for the credit of Mr. Salé Mayer.

Very truly yours,

We remain, Dear Sir,

Very truly yours

Rosewell B. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

[Handwritten note]

RDM/mjb
Berne, August 12th 1944.

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister,

Dear Sir,

We beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 11th contents of which we have duly noted.

In accordance with your instructions, we have transferred to day from the amount of Fr. 6,402,825.- we hold at the disposal of the American Minister, a further sum of Fr. 1,000,000.- to the Schweiz. Bankverein, St. Gall, for the credit of Mr. Saly Mayer.

We remain, Dear Sir,

Very truly yours

Banque Nationale Suisse
Registered

Bern, August 18, 1944.

Dear Mr. Mayer:

I am happy to send you for your accounts a record of the transaction which I carried out on August 10th with funds belonging to the Joint Distribution Committee. The following table will give you the amounts of dollars purchased, the rate, and the cost in Swiss francs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dollars</th>
<th>Rate</th>
<th>Swiss Francs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lot A ($5,500)</td>
<td>2.98</td>
<td>16,390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8,000)</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>24,480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lot B (8,500)</td>
<td>2.98</td>
<td>25,330</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(11,000)</td>
<td>3.06</td>
<td>33,660</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals $33,000</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>99,860</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

On August 10 I remitted to you Lot A of dollars ($13,500) and on August 17th Lot B ($19,500) plus an unused balance of 140 Swiss francs.

Please find enclosed the purchase receipts for the above mentioned transactions from the Schweizerische Volksbank.

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

Enclosure:

Receipts.

Mr. Saly Mayer,
Teufenerstrasse 20,
St. Gall.

RDM/ajb
MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. J~dle
Mr. Vase
From: R. McClelland    Aug. 31st./44

In opening an account in the Swiss National Bank at Bern with the funds sent by the JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, Mr. Deymont recommended that I ask the bank to authorize your signatures in my place in case anything should happen to me. We were under the impression that your signatures were already on file at the bank in connection with Mr. Deymont's accounts, but apparently the bank wishes to have them again. I should appreciate it, therefore, if you would sign the attached signature sheet which I shall return to the National Bank.

Thank you,

R. D. M.

Sent Registered
Bern, August, 31st. 1944.

Mr. Saly Mayer
Schopenhauerstr. 20
St. Gallen

Dear Friend:

Shortly after your telephone call the following news came in by cable directly from the State Department, which I happen to send on to you as it is in the nature of good news. This message came in answer to my telegram of August 26th.

On August 29th, Dr. Schwartz cabled to the JDC through the American Embassy in Lisbon asking for instructions as to whether (1) the JDC in New York was willing to make the payments requested, and (2) whether or not the Department of State and the Treasury Dept. would grant a license under the conditions stated.

The Department, without specifically answering the above questions goes on to state that the U.S. Embassy in Lisbon received on August 29th, from an entirely reliable source the information that the Chargé d'Affaires of Hungary at Lisbon received on August 28th, a telegram from the Hungarian Foreign Office dated August 27th. The policy of the Hungarian Government, based on the new situation arising in Rumania, was outlined. It was stated textually that "hereafter the Hungarian Government will handle the administration of all Jewish Affairs and Jews will not in the future be deported. This decision has been made by the Regent.

I am further informed that the Hungarian representative at Lisbon expressed considerable doubt that the Germans could any longer carry out deportations of Jews in large or even small numbers. He also stated, although he could not be altogether certain, that his understanding was that during the past few weeks there has been growing opposition in Hungary to the Nazis, both in official circles and among the general population. From this opposition there would result an active resistance to any purification by the Germans. The same Hungarian Chargé d'Affaires in Lisbon was of the opinion that it would be physically impossible to carry out any large movement of people at the present time. In his opinion, therefore, any transaction of the
kind suggested in Dr. Schwarts's message was purely an
attempt at blackmail on the part of the Gestapo. The
Hungarian Chargé d'Affaires expects to be in possession
of further information on this subject before long and
such information will without delay be transmitted to the
Department of State and to the Embassy at Lisbon, as well
as to us here in Bern.

Although one cannot believe 100% in the assumptions
of the Hungarian in Lisbon. I feel that the reiterated message
from Horthy to the effect that no more deportations will
take place will be of value to you in your forthcoming
conversations.

Please feel free to call me up after you receive
this message.

Cordially yours,

Roswell McClelland,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.
J. D. C.
September 1944

From: Lisbon
Date: September 7, 1 p.m., 1944
No.: 119
Code: [Redacted]

Received: September 8, 8 a.m.

The following has been requested by the Joint Distribution Committee to representatives of the elder of the German for the alleged rescue of Hungarian Jews. Negotiations are said to be going on in Switzerland, Salo and Gian of St. Gall being the chief negotiator for the Joint Distribution Committee.

Are you aware of these negotiations? The information which we have here would indicate that there is now little danger to Jews in Hungary and that knowledge of such negotiations is definitely disclaimed by the Hungarian Government.

In duplicate

RE

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter No. 11-43
By H. H. Fuchs Date SEP 26 1972
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Lisbon
Date: September 7, 1 p.m., 1944
No.: 119
Received: September 8, 8 a.m.

PARAPHRASE

This Embassy has recently been requested by the Joint Distribution Committee in Lisbon to send telegrams to its headquarters in New York with reference to negotiations for the payment of 25 million dollars by the Joint Distribution Committee to representatives of the Gestapo for the alleged rescue of Hungarian Jews. Negotiations are said to be going on in Switzerland, Saly Mayer of St. Gall being the chief negotiator for the Joint Distribution Committee.

Are you aware of these negotiations? The information which we have here would indicate that there is now little danger to Jews in Hungary and that knowledge of such negotiations is definitely disclaimed by the Hungarian Government.

NONWEB
Reference is made to your 119 of September 7th.

The Department, the WRB and this Legation are informed regarding the proposals for the exchange of Jews from Hungary against reimbursement in goods. These proposals were received recently from German official sources through Saly Mayer and seem to have originated with Jewish circles in Budapest. Mr. Mayer disapproved the proposals, the Legation reported them to the Department with adverse recommendation, and the Department, FEA and WRB rejected them. However, in an effort to exploit any existing possibility of relieving any victims not only in Hungary but elsewhere, within legal and practical limitations, the Department and WRB instructed this Legation in its no. 2990 of August 30th that "every effort must be made to extend the negotiations and to gain time". Mayer was authorized to prolong his private efforts in the matter.

HARRISON
Paraphrase

The Legation is requested to deliver to Saly Mayer a paraphrase of the following message.

"There are in Bucharest several hundred Polish and Hungarian refugees who are understood to be in great need. Is it possible to remit $5,000 to Filderman for this group?"

The above message is from Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Cable No. 162 from the WRB.
Bern, September 9th, 1944.

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to the American Minister,

The Swiss National Bank
Bundesplatz
Bern.

Dear Sir,

It would be appreciated if you would

We are in receipt of your letter of the 8th
transfer the amount of 1,000,000 (ONE MILLION) Fr.

Swiss francs from the account which you are at
present holding at the disposal of the United
States' Minister to the account of the "Schweiz.

further sum of
Jüdisch. Unterstützungsfond" at the Schweizerischer
Bankverein in St. Gall.

We remain, Dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

RDW/mjb
Berne, September 9th 1944.

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister,
Berne.

Dear Sir,

We are in receipt of your letter of the 8th instant, contents of which we have duly noted.

In accordance with your instructions, we have transferred to-day from the amount of Fr.6,402,825.-- we hold at the disposal of the American Minister, a further sum of Fr.1,000,000.-- to the Schweizerischer Bankverein, St.Gall, for the credit of the "Schweiz. Jüdisch-Unterstützungsfonds".

We remain, Dear Sir,

Very truly yours,

BANQUE NATIONALE SUISSE
American Joint Distribution Committee

St. Gallen, 22 September 1944.

Bern, September 13, 1944.

Mr. Saly Mayer
c/o Hotel Schweizerhof
B.S.F.B.

Dear Sir,

Dear Mr. Mayer:

On September 9th, the following message for you was received by the Legation from Mr. Leavitt of the American Joint Distribution Committee:

There are in Bucharest several hundred Polish and Hungarian refugees who are understood to be in great need. Is it possible to remit $5,000 to Filderman for this group?

With kind personal regards, I am

Very sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to the American Minister.
American Joint Distribution Committee

Roswell McClelland Esq.
Special Assistant to the American Minister

Dear Sir,

I beg to acknowledge receipt of

1,000,000.-- (One million) Swiss Francs

in banknotes out of the jointfund No. 425
(originally 1,500,000 dollars).

Yours respectfully,

SALY MAYER

Address:
SALY MAYER
Postfach 282, St. Gallen
Sehr geehrter Mr. McClelland,

Ich erlaube mir Ihnen beiliegend eine Copie meines heutigen Briefes an Herrn Saly Mayer einzusenden.

Falls Sie in dieser Angelegenheit mir irgendwelche Mitteilungen zu machen wünschen, wäre ich Ihnen sehr dankbar, wenn dies baldmöglichst geschehen würde.

Immer gern zu Ihren Diensten, zeichne ich mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung

Ihr ganz ergebener

1 Beilage
Sehr geehrter Herr Präsident.

Ich bitte Sie um Nachsicht, dass ich mich unbekannterweise mit diesen Zeilen an Sie wende. Ein Schweizer, der gestern aus Budapest kam, brachte mir den Brief eines guten Bekannten, in welchem dieser mir im Auftrage des Judentums u.a. das Nachfolgende schreibt:


Informationen über mich können Sie bei Mr. McClelland, dem demis- sionierten Ungarischen Gesandten Baron Bakach-Bassenyey ( Montreux, Hotel Palace) und dem Zürcher Ungarischen Verein einholen.


Mit dem Ausdruck vorzüglicher Hochachtung

[Signatur]

Express

[Datum: 25. Sept 1944]
Messieurs,

Sur la demande d’un ami, je me permets de vous soumettre ce rapport concernant :

I/ le marché illégal des billets de banque en Suisse,

II/ le marché illégal des pengoes en particulier.

Tout d’abord, je tiens à souligner le caractère purement informatif de ce rapport, qui fut préparé en toute hâte, sans aucune documentation sérieuse, sans uniquement sur les faits, tels qu’ils me sont connus. Je me réserve, si vous le permettez, le droit de revenir sur un ou plusieurs des points brièvement évoqués ci-dessous d’une façon plus sériouse, dans que les circonstances le permettront.

Au point de vue historique, on devrait remonter jusqu’en 1851, donc jusqu’au début des premiers moratoires en Europe centrale, pour donner un tableau détaillé du marché illégal des billets en Suisse, mai cela dépasserait le but du présent rapport. Contentons-nous d’évoquer brièvement les faits saillants depuis l’effondrement de la France, parce que pour des raisons géographiques, c’est depuis cette époque que le marché illégal des billets a pris des proportions énormes en Suisse.

Comme partout ailleurs, dans les pays vaincus, les Français cherchèrent à se débarrasser de leurs francs et à acheter de l’or, ou d’autre devises, à n’importe quel prix. Vu les exportations d’or massives, la Confédération s’est vue dans l’obligation de les interdire. C’est l’époque de la montée vertigineuse de l’or, où les trafiquants et les spéculateurs ont payé jusqu’à 50.– francs suisses le Napoléon.

À cette époque, l’Allemagne, maîtresse de tout le continent, a officiellement répudié l’or, et selon des
C'est dire, elle a même vu de l'or volé sur le marché légal et illégal, soit pour payer certaines marchandises de première importance, d'autres marchandises, qu'elle ne pouvait pas obtenir par le clairing, soit pour s'acheter des devises / à échanger en France et en Suisse et ensuite orienter de revêtu de l'or des recueils pour des raisons d'intérêt purement "commercial". Mais qui étaient bien avec les négres officielle allemande, par rapport à l'or.

Par contre, j'ose affirmer que les multiples influence allemande, en tant que particulier d'étage, officier, ont grandement facilité le trafic illégal de l'or vers la France, et figuraient en même temps parmi les acheteurs clients de cette commerce organisée. On pourrait se demander pourquoi cette contrebande ne s'est pas directement faite en Allemagne?

La réponse est simple. D'une part, les risques et la surveillance en Allemagne même étaient plus à craindre. D'autre part, grâce au cours favorable du mark, l'or favorisé par l'échange, pouvait obtenir meilleur marché en France. Il ne serait jamais possible de se faire avec une aide approximative du volume de cet échange, mais selon certaines procédures, il était très important.

Le problème qui saute aux yeux est de savoir comment, vu l'importance des sommes, les exportateurs d'or en France étaient à même de payer les "exportateurs" suisses ? Comment expliquer que les exportateurs suisses ont accepté le franc français pour paiement de l'or ?

Enlevez tout d'abord que la plupart de ces francs français n'ont jamais quitté la France, ou bien, après un séjour transitoire en Suisse, ils ont repris le chemin de la nègre patrie.

Pour comprendre ce phénomène, il faut savoir que les placements français étaient très recherchés en Suisse, et cela pour plusieurs raisons multiples :

- Les débiteurs pouvaient disposer d'une façon ou d'une autre de France suisses ont profité des cours très bas pour renflouer leurs caisses.

- Des actes d'immobilier, ainsi que les constructions et les aménagements des maisons commerciales et industrielles en France, se présentaient à des investissements avantageux du capital se trouvant en Suisse.

- Les besoins d'aide matérielle absorbent une somme énorme dispendieuse pour soutenir les gens de la dépendance, pour faire passer la frontière à des amis, pour faire vivre des parents en France même, etc., mais surtout les "pensions françaises", il y avait d'autres raisons pour accepter des francs.
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Date: September 27, 5 p.m., 1944
No: 3333
Code: 17
Received: September 26, 8 a.m.

WHS No. 184. Please deliver to Sally Mayer a paraphrase of the following message from Leavitt of Joint Distribution.

Have received information with regard to the urgent need of immediate funds for rescue and relief in northern Italy. You have, we know, been making funds available in that area, but we would urge you in view of this new information to make every effort to furnish at once additional amounts for this section. It is suggested that you discuss this matter with McClelland and take all necessary steps. With greetings for the New Year.

HULL

In duplicate
re
COPY IN FM

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date: SEP 26 1972

Address:
SALLY MAYER
P.O. Box 202, St. Gallen
Bern, September 29, 1944.

Dear Mr. Mayer:

I am pleased to quote below a message which has been received for you from Mr. Leavitt of the Joint Distribution Committee:

"Have received information with regard to the urgent need of immediate funds for rescue and relief in northern Italy. You have, we know, been making funds available in that area, but we would urge you in view of this new information to make every effort to furnish at once additional amounts for this section. It is suggested that you discuss this matter with Mr. McClelland and take all necessary steps. With greetings for the New Year."

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland, Special Assistant to the American Minister.
American Joint Distribution Committee

Roswell P. Maclelland Esq
Special Minister to the American Minister

Bern., October 1, 1944

Dear Mr. McClelland,

In reply to your favor of Sept 29, I beg to inform you that I immediately telephoned to Mr. Valobra who informed me, that he as Chief of Delasem has not contacted Joint in New York for funds to be sent to North Italy. According to his information there is no need for moneys to be sent as his friends are still possessing sufficient funds from those sent during August 1.e. 20,000,000 lira. Valobra received last news dated September 20th and he is estimating the numbers still there at about 15,000.

I have asked him to do his best regarding contact with this group and also to let me know as soon as possible when new funds are needed again.

Would it not be helping to clarify the situation by cabling to Mr. Dearitt above mentioned information?

Respectfully yours,

Sally Mayer

For W.R.B. from McClelland
Department's 3333, Sept 27
For Dearitt of JDC from Sally Mayer.

I immediately contacted Valobra of Delasem who reports that according to news from Northern Italy dated September 20, there is no urgent need of funds. Sufficient balance of 20,000,000 lire sent during August is still in hand. Valobra also reports to how soon funds will be needed. Valobra estimated approximately 15,000 Jews remain in German occupied state. The number of Jews (maintan) is estimated at about 15,000.
Dear Commercial Secretariat,

With reference to previous correspondence concerning the remuneration of Jews, we understand that for each of the 318 who arrived in Switzerland on August 22nd the sum of 700 Swiss francs was paid to some German official. The payment is stated to have been made by Sally Mayer of St. Gall who has charge of some of the funds of the Jewish Joint Committee. The payments are stated to have been made with the knowledge and approval of Mr. McClelland, the delegate for refugee questions in Switzerland.

We are further informed that there is another group of Hungarian Jews numbering 1400 at present somewhere in Germany. This group were on their way to Spain but were held up in Germany when things started to happen in France. Negotiations to bring this group into Switzerland are now under way and the sum demanded is said to be 1,000 francs for each individual. Apparently there are two groups working on the scheme, one under Dr. Silberschein of the Jewish World Congress and the other under Sally Mayer of the Joint Committee, and there appears to be considerable disagreement between the two groups. According to our informant the money is paid as a bribe to certain officials and not to the German government as such, and the group connected with Dr. Silberschein think that they can arrange the matter by depositing any payments in a blocked account in Switzerland to be paid out after the war.

We should be grateful for your observations on the whole matter and especially whether it should be left to Mr. McClelland or what action you would like us to take.

Yours ever,

ZURICH CONSULATE GENERAL.

The Commercial Secretariat,
British Legation,
BERNE.

R. B. McC.
DECLASSIFIED
Date: Dec 3, 1972
By R. B. Parks
DECLASSIFIED
Date: July 26, 1972
Memorandum to Mr. Huddle and Mr. Reagan.

October 4, 1944.

Subject: Jews in Hungary.

With reference to Mr. Sullivan's letter of September 28 addressed to Mr. Reagan, I have the following information.

To my knowledge - and I have been in regular contact with Saly Mayer throughout his attempts to assist the Jews in Hungary and elsewhere - he did not pay any ransom for those in 3/Land on August 21.

In accordance with this, some

J. D. C.

October 1944

You could give me a brief letter to serve as a basis for the British Legation.

LVH

October 2, 1944.

RDM/A very brief memorandum - but the deal might be fully explained to the legation there, either by you or Mr. Reagan, Mr. Sullivan attended yesterday.

R. D. McC.

Mr. Trumpy has let it be known in the Bundeshaus, among other places, that he was personally responsible for the arrival of the initial group of 318 Hungarian Jews in 3/Land and is continuing to negotiate through his Nazi contacts for the release of the remaining 1373 people. The Mantello-Trumpy faction, through a certain Nationalrat Duft from St. Gall, has recently severely upbraided Saly Mayer for "sabotaging" their negotiations. At the same time neither Trumpy nor his apdeasman, Duft, would reveal to Mr. Mayer any concrete details of the plan whereby they expected to secure the release of these Jews.

JDC
Memorandum to Mr. Huddle and Mr. Reagan.

October 4, 1944.

Subject: Jews in Hungary.

With reference to Mr. Sullivan's letter of September 26 addressed to Mr. Reagan, I have the following information.

To my knowledge - and I have been in regular contact with Saly Mayer throughout his attempts to assist the Jews in Hungary and elsewhere - Mr. Mayer did not pay any ransom for the 318 Hungarian Jews who arrived in S/land on August 21.

It is true though that the balance of this group, some

To: Mr. McClellan

From: D/JR

I should be grateful if you could give me a brief memorandum concerning this matter to serve as a basis for a reply to the British Legation.

D/JR

October 2, 1944.

R.D.M. A very brief outline only - but the detail might be fully explained by Mr. Reagan, either by you or Mr. Reagan. Mr. Sullivan's letter replies to question.

R.D.M.

Mr. Trumpy has let it be known in the Bundestag, among other places, that he was personally responsible for the arrival of the initial group of 318 Hungarian Jews in S/land and is continuing to negotiate through his Nazi contacts for the release of the remaining 1,373 people. The Mantello-Trumpy faction, through a certain Nationalrat Duft from St. Gall, has recently severely upbraided Saly Mayer for "sabotaging" their negotiations. At the same time neither Trumpy nor his spokesman, Duft, would reveal to Mr. Mayer any concrete details of the plan whereby they expected to secure the release of these Jews.
Memorandum to Mr. Huddale and Mr. Reagan.

October 4, 1944.

Subject: Jews in Hungary.

With reference to Mr. Sullivan’s letter of September 26 addressed to Mr. Reagan, I have the following information.

To my knowledge and I have been in regular contact with Saly Mayer throughout his attempts to assist the Jews in Hungary and elsewhere - Mr. Mayer did not pay any ransom for the 318 Hungarian Jews who arrived in 3/land on August 21.

It is true though that the balance of this group, some 1373 in number, is still in Germany in the camp of Belsen near Hanover and that Mr. Mayer has been negotiating for their release. Here again, however, there has been no question of his paying ransom for them in Swiss francs or any other currency to any German official.

I have no knowledge of activities on the part of Dr. Silberschein in behalf of this group and according to the most reliable information I can secure he has not concerned himself with them since his efforts are almost exclusively devoted to assistance for Polish Jews. Dr. Silberschein does not represent the World Jewish Congress but rather an organization called the RELICO, (I believe this stands for Relief Committee for War-Stricken Jewish Populations) in New York. As far as I am informed, there has been no disagreement between Mr. Mayer and Dr. Silberschein on this score.

On the other hand, I understand that Mr. George Mantello, of the El Salvador Consulate General at Geneva, has independently instigated negotiations (or wishes to create the impression of having done so) for the relief of this group of Hungarian Jews through the intermediary of a certain Mr. Trumpy, whom I believe is the representative in Switzerland of the German aeroplane manufacturing firm of Messerschmitt. Mr. Trumpy is at present in Berlin on the most recent of several trips into Germany and German-occupied territories. Mr. Trumpy has let it be known in the Bundeshaus, among other places, that he was personally responsible for the arrival of the initial group of 318 Hungarian Jews in 3/land and is continuing to negotiate through his Nazi contacts for the release of the remaining 1373 people. The Mantello-Trumpy faction, through a certain Nationalrat Duft from St. Gall, has recently severely upbraided Saly Mayer for "sabotaging" their negotiations. At the same time neither Trumpy nor his spokeman, Duft, would reveal to Mr. Mayer any concrete details of the plan whereby they expected to secure the release of these Jews.

R. D. McC.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 5-11-73
By R. H. Parks Dec. SEP 26 1972

DECLASSIFIED
State 7
5-11-73
Hungary

10 a.m., 1944

G. Mandl 15

Fieldman cannot borrow

Riel against Dollars any-

a) 100,000 Swiss are already deposited

b) 300,000 not yet paid, but at fieldman's disposal

c) 900,000 in addition to

Rate of exchange 1 500

Hun.

40,000 have been set free from labor camps

All political prisoners have

been set free

Children are being cared

Fieldman: Lissin cannot

cooperate
Croatic - Zagreb

$20,000 SFr monthly budget transferred by private clearing at rate of 
$1000 Humas per 100 SFr. Contact is established through Red Cross.
J. Rosenberg & friends now in Switzerland have no contact with Zagreb. 
Special Wristband needed.

10 a.m., 1944

Compte 161 3

BELGIUM

Italy

Ordinary

Lire

Current needs, as possible

$500

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter: 131-74
By R. H. Parker Date: SEP 26 1972
Northern Italy

10.x.44

We are cooperating with Valobra - Delasem.

22,000,000 lire have been transferred since May.

Rate of exchange:

100 lire 0.95 lfr
1.00 lfr
2.00 lfr

200 lire 1.00 lfr aprè.

Negotiations, news, reports etc. are very unsatisfactory.

According to Valobra 15,000 Jews are still there, but no details as to where, cost of living etc.
Edited from Planned. Need help. don’t know. Help needed. Mint of Italy. Lire. takeover. 70%. No. 10. 6pm. off print? sunny. While at office. Mrs. Ward. Mr. Marshall for an appointment. Please have been his personal. If any help needed, please call as soon as possible.
Shanghai

11,500 cases at 100 S. per day

50,000 S. per CRB; 200,000 S. per

have been transferred for

October

Winter grant for clothing

Blankets is demanded,

Father is financial

agent

Swiss Bank corporation

negotiating with

Meihyang Industrial

Bank

1,000,000 Swiss Fren are needed

October - December

Red cross no longer

supply nothing.

Danger of break military

relations

Copy in T.C.
Kron Kron

No contact at base; with us possible
for time being cannot do anything
for some boat.
TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department          Date: October 5, 10 a.m., 1944
No:    6621
Code:               Charged to: RB - Compte 161 3

For WRB from McClelland.
Department's 3333, September 27.
For Leavitt of JDC from Sally Mayer.

"I immediately contacted Valobra of DELASEM
who reports that according to news from Northern Italy
dated September 20 there is no urgent or extraordinary
need of funds. Sufficient balance of 20,000,000 Lire
sent during August is still on hand to meet current needs.
Have asked Valobra obtain further report as soon as possible
to ascertain when additional funds will be needed.

It is estimated that approximately 15,000
Jews remain in German occupied Italy." $22,30

HARRISON

EDM
In 3 pleate, in fil
Copy in FA
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Date: October 11, 6 p.m., 1944
No: 3486
Received: October 12, 9 a.m.

PARAPHRASE

No. 206 from the War Refugee Board.

Please deliver the following message to Sely Mayer.

"We are remitting to you, under special license W-2106, the sum of $17,000 to be used in connection with the situation in Hungary and Slovakia. We have received a report that Rabbi Ungar of Neutra has been deported; also that you and Sternbuch are cooperating with a view to rendering him all assistance possible. We would authorize anything which could possibly save him and any expenditure you would find necessary to bring help to him.

JOSEPH SCHWARTZ AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE."

HULL

/nrm
in duplicate
COPY IN FA
1. Circular letter SM to Organisations re Joint office future in Sland
2. Legationsrat Kohli: SM 9. Oktober 22 points re Hungary
4. letter Kasztner to SM from Budapest 4. Oktober ditto
5. Cable Pilpel Linsbone No 143 re 20,000,000 SFr's ditto

6. France letter Marc Jarblum Oktober 4 and letter Maurice Brenner
   September 29. September
   Dr Weill and Pierre Bigar going to Franca
   Passmann Joint Roma ditto
   SM trying to meet him
   no Joint committee existing in France by French personnel await
   Passmanns arrivé
   50,000,000 French Frs fund at disposal for Joint in France

7. Rumania see special report and add :
   *visas have been granted to Kasztner Billitz and Grünson
   according news received 11. Oktober cost of living
   estimated at 1000 Lef daily (LeClerc I R C)

8. Croatia Zagreb see special report

9. Italie ditto

10. Bulgari ditto

11. Shanghai ditto add October 10th RedCross tel that they have
    received news from their delegate Egle in Shangai, SM to see Murajeff soonest

12. Krakau see report

13. Bratislava see letter Kasztner October 4th since then no
    further news to hand.

14. Joint see tel records to Pilpel October 9 and 10

15. Belgium letter received by Elion that situation in Bruxelles
    good beyond expectations

16. Holland Dr Visser t, Hooft report is being expected

17. Lisence etc 400 000 Credit

18. I must have a supplement to the regular budget of 300,000 Dollars

---end---
Bern, October 13, 1944.

SALY MAYER
Mr. Saly Mayer,
Hotel Cornavin,
Geneva.

Dear Saly:

I am glad to transmit to you the following message which has just been received for you from Joseph Schwartz of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

"We are remitting to you, under special license W-2106, the sum of $17,000 to be used in connection with the situation in Hungary and Slovakia. We have received a report that Rabbi Ungar of Neutra has been deported; also that you and Sternbuch are cooperating with a view to rendering him all assistance possible. We would authorize anything which could possibly save him and any expenditure you would find necessary to bring help to him. He must have received a considerable sum and therefore lack of money has not been a part of rescue work.

Cordially yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

RDM/imp
Mr. Roswell B. McClelland, Special Assistant to the American Minister, Legation of the U.S.A., Bern.

Dear Sir,

Many thanks for transmitting cable license W-2106 Dollar 17,000.

For your own information please take note that we have communicated with Holy Barbereno and told him to let us know what sum he is needing in connection with Rabbi Ungar of Neutra. According to your news he must have received a considerable sum and therefore lack of money has not caused delay of rescue work.

Respectfully yours

Saly Mayer
From: Department

Date: October 16, 9 p.m., 1944

No: 3523

Received: October 17, 2 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 214.

Kindly deliver to Saly Mayer following message from American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Authorization is hereby granted for additional expenditure up to $300,000 in behalf of Hungarian Jews for rescue or relief activities in Hungary, on condition that it is possible to purchase pengoes in Switzerland from sources which you know are reliable, and on condition that Swiss currency will not give aid to either the enemy or enemy collaborationists. You will be sent this sum upon request. We would request that be not included in our regular funds at your disposal, but set up as a separate account upon which separate reports are to be made.

M. A. Leavitt.

HULL

In duplicate

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 11-73
by A. H. Furman Dec 6 1972
Mr. Saly Mayer,
Tenzenerstrasse 20,
St. Gall.

Dear Saly:

I am glad to transmit to you the following message which I have just received for you from M.A. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

"Authorization is hereby granted for additional expenditure up to $300,000 in behalf of Hungarian Jews for rescue or relief activities in Hungary, on condition that it is possible to purchase pengoes in Switzerland from sources which you know are reliable, and on condition that Swiss currency will not give aid to either the enemy or enemy collaborationists. You will be sent this sum upon request. We would request that it be not included in our regular funds at your disposal, but set up as a separate account upon which separate reports are to be made."

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McIelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From:     Department
Date:     October 20, 6 p.m., 1944
No:       3578
Code:     C1
Received: October 21, 2 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 227. For Harrison and McClelland.

A credit of twenty million Swiss francs has recently been requested by Salo Mayer through Pilpel in Lisbon. JDC has advised WRB that this amount has been authorized in substitution for the amount to which reference was made in Department’s telegram No. 2990 of August 30, paragraph 1. Please advise Mayer of the above and tell him that approval must be secured here before any commitment may be entered into to make payment from this amount.

Call 511 on this Oct 26th
11:10 p.m. will see him to-night.
In duplicate

HULL

COPY IN FM

DECHEHEIATIEN
State Dept., Letter 11-11-12
By M. E. Parks Date SEP 26 1972
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

OCT 23 1944

Dear Mr. McClelland:

Dr. Schwartz, European Representative of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, who will deliver this letter to you, has recently been in the United States for discussion with his organization here and has talked at some length with us concerning the possibility of further rescues from Switzerland, which at this stage appears to us to be the principal remaining country in Europe from which such activities can take place. Since communications have been difficult over the past months and since Dr. Schwartz has recently had an opportunity to get our viewpoint on these matters, the Board has asked him to consult with you and the Minister and the representatives of the various private organizations in Switzerland with a view to developing further ways and means of saving some of the refugees remaining in enemy-occupied territory. For the purpose of the trip, he has been designated Special Representative of the Board.

I shall appreciate your frank discussion with Dr. Schwartz of any problems now pending in Switzerland and any assistance that you may be able to render to him on this mission.

As you know from several of my recent cables, we all feel that you have handled a most difficult job very well. With the military situation developing so rapidly, you are undoubtedly aware of the fact that the Board's activities are closing down in many areas and the ones from which we may still hope to rescue the unfortunate people in Hungary, Slovakia and other German-occupied areas is Switzerland. For this reason, we feel that every possible step should be taken and that our efforts should be unremitting to save as many lives as possible. It is hoped that Dr. Schwartz, fresh from discussions with us in Washington, may bring to you in Switzerland some thoughts or viewpoints which all of you together may use toward that end.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mr. Roswell C. McClelland,
Special Representative,
American Legation,
Bern, Switzerland.
From: Department
Date: October 30, 10 p.m., 1944
No: 3710
Received: October 31, 3 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 241. Kindly deliver following message to Sely Mayer from American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

"It is understood that six thousand Jews from 16 to 60 years of age, principally Hungarians, were liberated when the Allied armies occupied Yugoslavia. Of these five thousand had been working in copper mines for fifteen months, and the rest since June of this year. They are now liberated and can travel wherever they wish. However, they cannot remain in Sely and there have been no arrangements made for their reception elsewhere. Kindly explore the situation, extending whatever emergency aid you can, and keep us advised."

STETTINIUS ACTING

In duplicate

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Ltr., 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks 1972
By R. H. Parks 1972
No. 248 from the War Refugee Board.

You are requested to deliver the following message to Saly Mayer:

Teufenstrasse 20, St. Gallen.

"The TIMES correspondent Joseph Levi advises Magne that there are more than 4000 Bulgarian Jews who are without means. They are said to be literally naked and without shelter and clothing; mattresses and bed covers are urgently needed. This information is contrary to the report received from Piipol to the effect that Bulgarian Jews do not require help. You should endeavor to investigate this situation and extend all assistance possible."

M.A. LEAVITT, AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE.

STATTINUS ACTING

/nnn in duplicate

Nov. 2, 1944
From: Department
Date: November 1, 9 p.m., 1944
No: 3737
Received: November 2, 2 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

No. 248 from the War Refugee Board.

You are requested to deliver the following message to Sally Mayer:

"The TIMES correspondent Joseph Levi advises Magne that there are more than 4000 Bulgarian Jews who are without means. They are said to be literally naked and without shelter and clothing, mattresses and bed covers are urgently needed. This information is contrary to the report received from Pilpel to the effect that Bulgarian Jews do not require help. You should endeavor to investigate this situation and extend all assistance possible."

M.A. LEAVITT, AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE.

STETTINIUS ACTING

/nrm in duplicate

Nov. 2, 1944
Bern, November 2, 1944.

Mr. Saly Mayer,
Teufenerstrasse 27, St Gall.

I am glad to transmit to you the following message which has just been received for you from the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

"It is understood that six thousand Jews from 16 to 60 years of age, principally Hungarians, were liberated when the Allied armies occupied Yugoslavia. Of these five thousand had been working in copper mines for fifteen months, and the rest since June of this year. They are now liberated and can travel wherever they wish. However, they cannot remain in Bor and there have been no arrangements made for their reception elsewhere. Kindly explore the situation, extending whatever emergency aid you can, and keep us advised."

Cordially yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

Mr. Saly Mayer,
Teufenerstrasse 27, St Gall.
Dear Mr. Mayer:

I am pleased to quote below a message which has been received for you from Mr. A. Leavitt of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee through the facilities of the War Refugee Board:

"The Times correspondent Joseph Levy advises Nurnberg that there are more than 4000 Bulgarian Jews who are without means. They are said to be literally naked and without shelter and clothing, mattresses and bed covers are urgently needed. This information is contrary to the report received from Pilpel to the effect that Bulgarian Jews do not require help. You should endeavor to investigate this situation and extend all assistance possible."

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

Mr. Saly Mayer,
Teufenerstrasse 20,
St. Gallen.

RHM/mjb
To: Department  Date: November 4, 1944
Code: Clear  No.: 1334
Charged to:

FOR WRB from McClelland.
For Leavitt of Joint Distribution Committee
from Saly Meyer:

"Would you kindly cable me what Joe
Schwartz's plans are."

$ 5.05

HARRISON

—RDMcG.
In triplicate,
COPY IN FA
For W.H. from McClelland,

In line with Department’s 3710, October 30

reliable information has been received from Bucharest

that of 5 to 6,000 Hungarian Jews sent to work copper

mines at Bor in Serbia, some 400 have reached Bucharest

and 700 Timisoara, Transylvania. It is also reported

that 700 Hungarian Jews deported for labor to Ukraine

have succeeded returning as far as Timisoara.

HARRISON

R.U.Mo.G.
My dear and good friend Ross,

Enclosed I am sending a statement of moneys spent out of 1,500,000 Dollars Special grant for Hungary.

Some more food and Medicaments have been ordered of CHF. Therefore consider approx. 5,000,000 Being already spent

reserved for Transportation

1,251,000 (plus 894,000 already spent ) must be

6,251,000 Frs. are already spent, including

550,000 Frs spent in May to July.

I have drawn up this statement myself and I’ll have it checked by accountant and in case of substantial mistakes being found I’ll let you know. To my best knowledge this statement represents actual facts. Please forgive amateurish presentation.

With all happenings in this Arba-Barter job of the past 6 months I have enough courage left to face all the unknown the future holds in store. You have been very good to me and I do thank you most heartily. There is at least one man who knows that I have left nothing undone to produce results even if unorthodox methods had to be applied.

In my own way I am happy that I have been asked to help in this matter, I’ll not say more and I cannot say less.

The day is short and the work is great, the master calls u.s.w.

One is told to commence a work ( or a labour ) but he is not spared to see it to its end ( very freely translated )

I cannot bring myself to a Notgeschrei - on the contrary I see One light in the night.

I should like so much to say something real sweet, may I quote the Keys of Kingdom?

Dear Ross, I admit I am tired but I trust into God, that he may enlighten and help all in the undertaking of helping thousands trusting and hoping to be helped.

Your true friend

[Signature]

Address: SALY MAYER
Postach 202, St. Gallen.
Rescue, re-educating in Budapest, Emigr via Rumania-Palesone

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Help</td>
<td>in Budapest through C I R, 6,000,000 FGS</td>
<td>949,635.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Istanbul</td>
<td>Transportexpenditures</td>
<td>894,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barter</td>
<td>Incl. Barbarion, Remig, Beller, transport</td>
<td>822,250.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food</td>
<td>through C I R</td>
<td>638,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Various</td>
<td>Leslie, Boden, Trumpy</td>
<td>12,175.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>En Suisse</td>
<td>Belleront &amp; Les Avants</td>
<td>12,300.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Rescue:**

Kastner quote: between 1000 to 1200 left Hungary illegally, each person needed 5000 bangs, cash, Fasseur, outfit at present rate of exchange 40 to 50 FGS per 1 Frans, at present rate of exchange, rate of exchange 9 to 11 Frans per 100 FGS.

I have received all money you (SM) transmitted, Bookkeeping, accounts could not be kept in orthodox fashion. Local help and Rescue funds helped each other according to ready cash being handy.

Through IRC Borne we actually received 6,000,000 FGS against Swiss Frans being paid to Metropole, only small part was sent in FGS notes (SM 200,000 FGS).
Re: Dr. R. Schirmer, Red-Cross.

Dear Sir,

Following our to-day's telephone conversation I am pleased to hand you enclosed copy of the exposé re conference Dr. R. Schirmer-Saly Mayer of November 15th at St. Gall.

Sincerely yours,

Saly Mayer
Konferenz Dr. M. Schirmer — Selly Mayer

KONKLUSIONEN:

1. SEKTION: Budapest und Ungarn.

Hierfür wird ein Kredit von Fr. 210,000.—
eröffnet, eingeteilt in 7 Tranchen à Fr. 30,000.—.
Dieser Kredit soll verwendet werden für die unter
der Aufsicht, der Kontrolle und dem Schutz des roten
Kreuzes stehenden Spitaler, Kinderheime, Volksküchen,
eben auch für alle Vorkommnisse, die sich zufolge der
möglichen politischen Umgewälzungen ergeben könnten,
die aber heute noch gar nicht zu überblicken sind.

2. SEKTION:

Für 13'000 Juden im Wiener-Abschnitt Ostrmark
wird ein Kredit von Fr. 10,000.— Fr. eröffnet, in 7 Tranchen à 30,000.—
zum Ankauf von Kleidern und Lebens-
mitteln in der Ostrmark selbst und Anschaffung in der Schweiz.

3. SEKTION:

Ebenfalls Wien-Ostrmark, für Lebensmitteleinkauf
für die zu erwartenden jüdischen und nichtjüdischen Flüchtlings
aus Ungarn wird ein Kredit von 150,000.— Fr. in
3 Tranches à 50,000.— Fr. eröffnet.

Diese Kredite von zusammen Fr. 570,000.—
werden unter folgenden vereinbarten Voraussetzungen bewilligt:

Herr Dr. Schirmer oder von ihm bevollmächtigte Personen
übernehmen die Verantwortung dieser Kredite. Die Kontrolle
erbringt sich auf Einkaufspreise, Mengenverhältnisse, Ernteausbeuten
und Verteilung an die in den 3 Sektionen erwähnten.

Besuch der Lager, Heranziehung jüdischer Funktionäre des
Judenrates in Budapest, von Edelweiss in Wien und falls
sich die Aktion auf andere Länder im grossdeutschen Reich
ausdehnen sollte, mit den jüdischen Organen selbst.

Die Besprechung zwischen Herrn Dr. Schirmer und Selly Mayer
von 15. Nov. 44 wurde auf der Basis geführt, dass von SM
durch Obersturmbannführer Kurt Hecher an Reichsführer
Reichs-Bekleidungszeitung vermittelt wurde, dass
alle nicht kriegswichtigen Maßnahmen besonders wegen allen Zivil-
personen im Reich und in den von den Deutschen kontrollierten
Gebieten einzustellen sind. Hierüber sind die kompetenten Instanzen Schweiz und Amerika vollinhaltlich informiert.


St. Gallen, den 15.11.44

[Signature]
From: London
Date: November 18, 8 p.m., 1944
No: 399
Received: November 20, 9 a.m.

For McClelland from Mann.

The following message transmitted from Paul Beerwald of the JDC through the channels of the War Refugee Board has been received here after first having been sent to Paris:

"Schwartz departed for London. Hope to see you in Paris en route to Switzerland. We realize the situation in France requires emergency help during first several difficult months and we remitted dollars 100,000 in response to direct appeal from Maurice Brenner pending Schwartz report to us. Happy to learn from you that difficulties entry of Greenleigh being removed. Agree with importance he taking over in Paris at the earliest date. Thanks yours and Hoehler's cable".

It would be appreciated if you would deliver a paraphrase to Sir Herbert Emerson of the inter-Governmental Committee and tell him that Schwartz is now in London and hopes to leave next week for Paris where he will remain a few days before proceeding to Switzerland. He hopes he will be able to see Sir Herbert there or in Paris.

WINANT

/rnm in duplicate to files.

[Signature]
Bern, November 21, 1944.

Sir Herbert Emerson,
Care Hotel Schweizerhof,
Bern.

Dear Sir Herbert:

I am pleased to transmit to you the following message which originates with Paul Beerman of the Joint Distribution Committee. It appears to have gone first to Paris, then to London, and has finally caught up with you here in Switzerland. The text is as follows:

"Joseph Schwartz has left the United States for London and hopes to see you in Paris en route to Switzerland. We realize the situation in France requires emergency help during first several difficult months and we remitted dollars 100,000 in response direct appeal from Maurice Brenner pending Schwartz report to us. Happy to learn from you that difficulties entry of Greenleigh being removed. Agree with importance he taking over in Paris at the earliest date. Thanks your and Hoshler's cable."

Since you were not able, naturally, to see Dr. Schwartz in Paris on your out trip, he hopes very much that you will be able to meet him on your return to Paris at the end of this week. He himself plans to leave London for Paris in the course of this week so that there is a good chance that you will meet there.

Sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.
To: Department  
Date: December 1, 1944  
No: 1874
Code: CLEAR
Charged to: RB - Compte 161

To Joint Distribution

J. D. C.
December 1944.

I feel greatly honored to celebrate in behalf of all countries thirty years of a service of the community in need of your generous help. I wish you many happy returns of this anniversary. With affectionate greetings. Yours faithfully.

HUMBLE

RDMcC.
Copy in FA.
For WRB from McClelland,

Kindly deliver following message to Joint Distribution Committee from Saly Mayer:

"My very dear friends: I feel greatly honored to be able to thank you warmly on behalf of all countries and organizations for your thirty years of a service of love rendered to the Jewish Community in need of your generous help. I wish you many happy returns of this anniversary. With affectionate greetings. Yours faithfully."

HUDDE

RMCC

Copy in F.A.
WRB No. 314. For McClelland.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to Dr. Joseph Schwartz from N. A. Leavitt of American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

"We cabled Lisbon asking for budgetary requirements first quarter 1945 particularly anxious know appropriations for Switzerland commencing January order file necessary application. As you know, we remitting Switzerland $300,000 monthly, one-half for use Switzerland and remainder under special license W-2106."

STETTINIUS

In duplicate to files
re

FA
The cable below for McClelland is WRB 312.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message
to Dr. Joseph Schwartz from M.A. Leavitt of American
Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

"We await your agreement regarding tentative appropriation
made for Rumanian, Hungarian refugees Rumanian,
France, liberated Poland, etc., cabled you London also
regarding additional dollar 260,000 appropriation for
Greece. Passman cabled we authorize him order twenty
two thousand pair shoes Palestine for use Balkans which
assume will run over dollar 100,000. We would be prepared
authorize Passman proceed his purchase but would like
have your views whether expenditures should be charged
against proposed appropriations for Balkans. We have
not setup these appropriations on our books pending
word from you and with end year approaching we anxious
you advise us soonest whether these appropriations
fixed and the approximate time during which remittances
will be required."

STETTINIUS

rgs
Dear Altaffer,

I attach herewith copy of a letter received from Mr. Consul-General, Cable in Zurich, dated 28th November concerning the question of Jewish Refugees.

I shall be very grateful if you could let me have your comments in due course. In the meantime I am informing Mr. Cable that I am in touch with you on this matter.

Yours ever,

Maurice W. Altaffer, Esq.,
American Legation,
BERNE.
BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL,
ZURICH,

28th November, 1944

Dear Commercial Secretariat,

With further reference to our letter A.1463 of September 26th concerning the Jewish refugees question, we understand that negotiations are well advanced regarding the possibility of saving the some 750,000 Jews still under German control.

According to our informant an agreement was reached in August or September between the Nazis and the representative of the Joint Committee in Switzerland, Sally Mayer of St. Gall, whereby the "liquidation" of the Jews would be stopped and better food and a certain amount of medical supplies would be given to those in concentration camps etc. against a payment in Swiss francs of 30 to 40 cents per day per person.

This worked out at roughly 5 million francs a month and the Germans are now claiming 20 million francs for the first four months. A certain Becher, who is described as "Reichsbeauftragter" for the Jewish question in Hungary, together with his assistant, were recently in Switzerland for the special purpose of collecting the money. No settlement of the payment was reached and Becher returned to Germany but his assistant has remained here. He has now threatened that should the payment not be made in the very near future he, too, will return and the "liquidation" of the Jews will be continued and definitely completed.

The Jewish group here are awaiting the arrival of a certain Scharfz from America who is stated to be coming here specially to deal with the question of the Jews still under German control and possibly with considerable funds at his disposal. Sally Mayer is stated to have only 2 million francs and is apparently not willing to make any payment without the full approval of the Joint Committee in America.

We take it that Mr. MacClelland has been kept informed of the negotiations but we should be grateful to have this confirmed and we should also be grateful for your observations as to what our attitude should be in this matter.

Yours ever,

ZURICH CONSULATE GENERAL.

The Commercial Secretariat,
British Legation,

SCHWARTZ, JOSEPH

FW/LB, BERN.
Memorandum

December 11, 1944.

To: Mr. McClelland

From: MWA

I attach a letter addressed to me by Mr. Sullivan, Commercial Counselor of the British Legation, on the subject of Jewish refugees.

I would appreciate it if you would let me have your comments on this subject in order that I may frame the necessary reply to Sullivan.

Enclosure as stated.

MWA/imp
From: DEPARTMENT
Date: December 11, 1944, 9 p.m.
No: 4177
Code: WRB
Received: December 12, 1944, 3 p.m.

The cable below for McClelland is WRB 318.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to Dr. Joseph Schwartz from M.A. Leavitt of American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

"Following cable sent to Judah Magnes today:

Our reason for requesting that emigration projects receive prior approval was based solely on our desire be assured safe transportation emigrants to Palestine therefore we glad agree that after you assured either through Filderman or other sources that boats seaworthy and minimum risks involved in voyage you can commit JDC for eighty percent costs transportation up to 5,000 emigrants. Should however agency be unable provide remaining twenty percent we prepared take over entire costs since we unwilling prevent emigration to Palestine for any certificate holder because lack of funds. Would ask that you keep us currently informed of actual commitments made within this authorization. With respect to priorities emigrants we believe this must remain primary responsibility of Jewish agency since this represents normal emigration rather than emergency rescue. While we hope Jewish agency will give priority to children and foreign refugee Romania JDC cannot impose this as a condition. We relaying contents this cable to Schwartz.

STEFFINIUS

rgs

[Copy on file]
Dear Sal and Joe:

With reference to my telephone call of this afternoon I am forwarding to you immediately three messages which I received today as well as two letters and a packet which arrived from Lisbon through the pouch. The first message for Sal and Mr. Lewitt of the JDC reads as follows:

"Please ask the Swiss Minister at Budapest, Maximilian Jaeger to trace and give all possible help and protection to Gisela (Frau Dr. Max) Pilzoni, born June 7, 1894, in Arad, Hungary. Her address up until March 1944 was Margitkorut 54, Budapest 2. At present she is probably care of Architect Emil Vidor, Ernsz Ferenc, Budapest 6. She is the mother of Dr. Ernest T. Ferencz who is a close personal friend of Jaeger."

The next two communications are addressed to Dr. Schwartz and are also from Mr. Lewitt of the JDC. The first is:

"We cabled Lisbon asking for budgetary requirements for the first quarter of 1945, and are particularly anxious to know appropriations for Switzerland commencing January in order to file the necessary application. As you know, we are remitting to Switzerland $500,000 monthly, one-half for use in Switzerland and the remainder under special license N-E106."

Number two has the following context:

"We await your agreement regarding tentative appropriations made for Hungarian, Hungarian refugees in Rumania, France, liberated Poland, etc., cabled to you in London also regarding additional dollar - dollar"
260,000 appropriation for Greece. Passman cabled us to authorize him to order twenty thousand pairs of shoes for use in Balkans which we assume will run over dollars 100,000. We would be prepared to authorize Passman proceed this purchase but would like to have your views whether expenditures should be charged against proposed appropriations for the Balkans. We have not set-up these appropriations on our books pending word from you and with the end of the year approaching we are anxious for you to advise us sooner whether these appropriations fixed and the approximate time during which remittances will be required.

Needless to say I should happy to transmit through WRB in Washington any answers which you might care to send this way.

With kind personal regards to you both, I am

Cordially yours,

(Roswell D. McClelland)
Special Assistant to the American Minister

Mr. Saly Meyer and
Dr. Joseph Schwartz
O/C Hotel Cornavin,
GENEVA.

5 enclosures.
MEMORANDUM

To: Mr. Altshaffer
From: R. McClelland

December 13, 1944

Dear Joe:

In reply to your memorandum of December 11 (attached) I am writing to state for your information and in order that you may frame the necessary reply to Mr. Stiller, British Legation that I personally, and through me, the Legation (Mr. Huddie), the Department of State and the War Refugee Board in Washington have been kept constantly informed of the negotiations. I am well aware of the various points which the British Consulate General in Berne (Mr. Schrader) brings up in his letter to his Legation. Although there are certain misstatements which should be cleared up. The messages are coming hot and fast for you. Here is the most recent one which arrived yesterday evening from Mr. Leavitt of the J.D.C. in Berne:

The following cable to Judah Magnes today: 'Our reason for requesting that emigration projects receive prior approval was based solely on our desire to be assured safe transportation of emigrants to Palestine. We are, therefore, glad to agree that after you are assured either through Pildem or other sources that boats are seaworthy and minimum risks are involved in voyage you can commit JDC for eighty percent of the transportation costs of up to 5,000 emigrants. Should agency, however, be unable to provide remaining twenty percent we are prepared to take over the entire costs since we are unwilling to prevent emigration to Palestine for any certificate holder because of lack of funds. Would ask that you keep us currently informed of the actual commitments made within this authorization, with respect to priorities emigrants we believe this must remain primary responsibility of the Jewish Agency since this represents normal emigration rather than emergency rescue. While we hope Jewish Agency will give priority to children and foreign refugees in America JDC cannot impose this as a condition. We are relaying the contents of this cable to Schwartz.'

With kind personal regards,

Cordially yours,

Dr. Joseph Schwartz
a/c Hotel Cornwall, Geneva. A question has been delivered.
To: Mr. Altaffer  
From: R. McClelland  
December 15, 1944.

In reply to your memorandum of December 11 (attached) I am happy to state for your information that you may frame the necessary reply to Mr. Sullivan of the British Legation that I personally, and through me, the Legation (Mr. Huddis), the Department of State and the War Refugee Board in Washington have been kept constantly informed of the progress of these negotiations. I am well aware of the various points which the British Consulate General in Zurich (Mr. Newmark, I imagine) brings up in his letter to his Legation in Bern, although there are certain misstatements which should be corrected.

The most important of these concerns the arrival of Dr. Schwartz (Joseph), European Director of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee of New York, who, according to the informer who gave these details to the British in Zurich “is stated to be coming here specially to deal with this question.” On the contrary I received specific instructions from the WRB to inform Dr. Schwartz that as an American citizen and representative of an American organization he was to involve himself in no way with such negotiations, which have and are being carried on by Mr. Saly Mayer as a private Swiss citizen and not as representative in Switzerland of the Joint Distribution Committee. Dr. Schwartz arrived last Saturday night and I had a long talk with him on Sunday. He has not and has no intention of taking part in such negotiations. As a matter of fact he did not come to Switzerland to handle this matter but to discuss with Mr. Mayer general questions of Jewish relief in Switzerland and other European countries where relief projects are financed by the Joint.

Those negotiations have never reached as definite a stage as described in the British Consulate’s letter. They have been a continual series of proposals and counter-proposals calculated mainly to gain time. Mr. Mayer has paid them no money and was recently specifically instructed by me on instructions from the War Refugee Board that no funds from the United States could be used for such a purpose. On the other hand, Mr. Mayer has continued to negotiate with the full knowledge of the Department of State and the War Refugee Board which charged him to continue as long as possible without making any binding commitments.

Fortunately no such ultimatum as described in the letter in question has been delivered.

Rew.

c/o Hotel Cornavin, Geneva.  Joseph Schwartz
Your ref. 18/25/44  
Our ref. 840.1 MWA/ab

Bern, December 14, 1944

Dear Sullivan:

I have your letter of December 8 transmitting a copy of a communication from the British Consul General at Zurich of November 28, 1944, concerning certain Jewish refugee questions.

Mr. McClelland who, as you know, is charged with the handling of such matters at this Legation states that he is well aware of the various points which Mr. Gable brings up in his letter, although there are certain statements therein which should be corrected.

The most important of these concerns the arrival of Dr. Joseph Schwartz, European Director of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee of New York, who is stated to be coming here especially to deal with Jewish refugee questions. Mr. McClelland informs me that he has received specific instructions from the War Refugee Board to inform Dr. Schwartz that, as an American citizen and representative of an American organization he is not to involve himself in any way in such negotiations which have been and continue to be carried out by Mr. Solly Mayer as a private Swiss citizen and not as a representative in Switzerland of the Joint Distribution Committee. Dr. Schwartz arrived last Saturday night and Mr. McClelland had a long talk with him on Sunday. He has no intention of taking part in any negotiations, as a matter of fact he did not come to Switzerland to handle this matter but to discuss with Mr. Mayer general question of relief in Switzerland and other European countries where relief projects are financed by the Joint Distribution Committee.

These

William J. Sullivan, Esq.
British Commercial Counsellor,
British Legation,
Bern.

c/o Hotel Cornavin, Geneva.  

Joseph Schwartz
These negotiations have never reached as definite a stage as described in Mr. Cable's letter. Mr. Mayer has paid them no money and was recently specifically instructed by the War Refugee Board that no funds from the United States could be used for such purposes. On the other hand, Mr. Mayer has continually negotiated with the full knowledge of the Department of State and the War Refugee Board which charged him to continue as long as possible without making any buying commitments.

Sincerely yours,

Maurice W. Altaffer,
Secretary of Legation

c/o Hotel Cornavin, Geneva.

Joseph Schwartz
From: Department

Date: December 16, 4 p.m., 1944.

No: 4245

WRB's 325 for McClelland.

Kindly deliver a paraphrase of the following message to Joseph Schwartz from M. A. Leavitt, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

"We remitting next days $250,000 for relief needs France for December and dollars 200,000 for loan Kassa. We cabled Passman Cairo not (repeat not) to proceed London since you may not return London for several months and we still expecting daily clearance his entry Rumania. We hope our message reached him Cairo before his departure. Can you send us names 1335 Hungarian Jews just arrived Switzerland? We all pleased with attendance and spirit our annual meeting."

Stattinium

\[nf\]

Copy to RDM

\[copy in FA\]

Declassified
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By: R. H. Parker Date: SEP 26 1972

c/o Hotel Cornavin, Geneva. Joseph Schwartz
Have observed scrupulously instructions not to participate in any way negotiations which Sal Mayer conducting stop wish however associate myself with recommendation placed before War Refugee Board by McClelland since this involves essentially extension activities we already conducting through International Redcross stop
We feel that latest proposal made by Sal Mayer which now has strong possibility being accepted by others is in effect a facesaving device which offers us however strong possibilities for further rescue stop
Must point out that involved in these negotiations are not only the approximately 70,000 Jews still left in Budapest but also the 17,000 now in the Vienna district as well as the many other thousands who recently left on foot towards Austrian border and those in various labor camps in enemy territory stop Also involved is the possibility of perhaps rescuing additional persons now Bergen Belsen stop
Highest tribute must be paid to skill with which Sal Mayer has conducted these difficult negotiations which have resulted in gaining time and were directly responsible for the rescue of the Hungarian group in Bergen Belsen stop
His situation however will become untenable unless favourable reply is forthcoming to latest proposal regarding twenty million Swiss francs which will be used exclusively for benefit victims and will in no way accrue to benefit of enemy stop If proposal accepted negotiations can then continue and you may rest assured that Sal Mayer will continue every effort safeguard interests and funds JDC and American Authorities.

O/C Hotel Cornavin, Geneva. Joseph Schwartz
Geneva, 16th December 1944

For

Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York.

------------------

Fully agree onetime emergency grants as outlined your cable to London stop
Have already asked you transmit to Saly Mayer
fourhundredthousand dollars on account this grant stop
We agree also passman be authorized purchase twenty thousand pairs of shoes for use in Balkans but believe expenditure should not be charged against appropriations already made stop
For your information Saly Mayer has established a credit of four million swiss francs through international redcross for the use of Felderan in Romania stop
Since October 2,200,000 of this credit have already been utilized yielding approximately 1,400,000,000 Lei stop
Budgetary request of Felderman amounts 850,000 dollars monthly stop
Have just received word from Felderman stating that all refugee relief work as well as relief local population being financed exclusively with our funds and that not one dollar has been received from world congress or other private organisations stop
Also the organisation of emergency assistance to Transylvania and for Hungarian refugee was undertaken with our funds stop Also children homes stop Regret exceedingly that passman did not proceed immediately to Bucharest but went to London instead stop Under circumstances will have to get back to London order confer with him stop At present time my plans are return to Paris and Brusselles hoping to reach London about January tenth stop will keep you advised endstop Joseph Schwartz
c/o Hotel Cornavin, Geneva.
For

Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue
New York

---

We have made available to Jewish communities in Bulgaria credit of 50,000 dollars which has now been almost fully utilized, yielding approximately twenty million levas.

At present time the community is urgently requesting additional credit since many in need and typhus, diphtheria and malaria are prevalent.

They also asking for shipment of medical supplies and clothing which we have referred to the international Red Cross who studying the situation but outlook for transport from here most unfavorable. Stop

will enquire through Magnes whether medical supplies can be sent from Palestine.

Regarding northern Italy we have made available twenty million lire during past five months. Stop

must advise however present reports indicate all Jews in camps have been deported except 70 in camp and in prison.

All other Jews of northern Italy are in hiding numbers unknown. We have made additional credit available for help when and as possible.

In Croatia, where, 1200 Jews are in camps and 800 at large we have been supplying relief at the rate of 20,000 Swiss francs monthly yielding now 20,000,000 Kunas. In addition we have been sending through intercross food and clothing for the internes.

In Slovakia new delegate redcross have authorized with credits to look after Jews still there either safe in camps or hiding. Numbers unknown.

Joseph Schwartz

c/o Hotel Cornavin, Geneva
Geneva, 16th December 1944

For Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York.

For the month of January Salo Mayer will require a minimum one million dollar for budget Switzerland and surrounding territories and Red Cross work stop. Have just received urgent call for additional help for Budapest via Red Cross for approximately 75000 people still there mostly children old and sick stop. Also receiving urgent request from Slovakia where only 700 Jews left in camp balance in hiding unknown numbers stop. Relief program other territories also require immediate action therefore please make every effort transmit full amount early days January.

Joseph Schwartz

c/o Hotel Cornavin, Geneva.
For

Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York.

We have discussed with international redcross and commission mixte purchase and transport commodities here for france, belgium and eventually holland stop committee advises possible buy some quantities milk and cheese for immediate delivery and clothing and blankets for delivery end January early February stop We authorising expenditures here of 50,000 dollars out of appropriation you made for supplies france and suggest you appropriate additional 50,000 dollars to be spent here for purchases belgium stop International redcross also sending for us 12,000 packages monthly to Theresienstadt and 5,000 Bergenbelsen stop We trying increase these quantities and also extend service to other camps stop In addition redcross sending bulk shipments to Poland yugoslavia birkenau as well as Theresienstadt stop For all these purposes and for medical supplies especially to Poland we have spent thus far this year 1,200,000 Swiss francs through Interredcross stop this does not include amounts spent in Lisbon, Istanbul and other places.

Joseph Schwartz

c/o Hotel Cornevin, Geneva.
Geneva, 18th December 1944

For

Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York

--

Have received from Valobra following account of dollar claims for period March 1941 to
February 1942: stop
Rikard Ghyron 10,000 Fritz Bieler 5,000
\(\text{ina} \) Hechter 17,500 Albert Levy 2,500
Manuel Romanin Jachur 2,500 Georges Gutwillig 11,000
Clemente Hazen 5,630 Emile Offenbacher 600
Manuel Goldsträj 4,500 Moritz Mayer 8,750
Hella Strickler 1,020 Hermann Troccoli 14,000
Total $3,000 dollars stop
All of these people with exception of Moritz Mayer are said to be in USA stop
In addition funds were borrowed by delasam on our credit during subsequent period but Valobra does
not have names and amounts here although he assures us records are intact and will be available stop

Joseph Schwartz

Hotel Gornavin, Geneva.
Geneva, 18th December 1944

For

Dr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York.

We sent to Shanghai in October sixty-six in November eighty million and in December ninety-one million Chinese dollars stop Committee is asking for additional seventy millions for December which we had to refuse because budget already exceeded stop We did however grant 100,000 Swiss francs as a special one time grant for clothing in December and a similar amount same purpose for January stop Committee reports 12,000 people now on full relief many of them sick and aged stop Also numerous cases freezing due to hard winter stop With present uncontrolled inflation and tremendously increasing prices we can look forward to ever increasing demand for additional help stop Many of refugees have been Shanghai 6 years now without any new clothing and one time grant this purpose absolutely necessary stop Also with rising prices committee wishes lay in stocks now at least for winter months stop Believe you should figure budget beginning January at minimum one hundred thousand dollars.

Joseph Schwartz

c/o Hotel Cornavin, Geneva.
From: London
Date: December 19, 6 p.m., 1944.
No: 435
Code: M
Received: December 20, 9 a.m.

Paraphrase

From Mann for McClelland.

"3. Teheran information states that a cable from Moscow inquires who will be the delegate of the Joint Distribution Committee to Lublin as the permit for entrance depends on this. I presume that this inquiry is a result of my negotiations early in November at Teheran. Kindly advise whether I should advise Moscow through Teheran that you are ready to proceed to Lublin, or are your direct negotiations sufficiently advanced not requiring Teheran action. Contents relayed to New York and Lisbon."

The message quoted above is from Charles Passman for Joseph Schwartz, of the American Joint Distribution Committee.

WINANT

/tn
Copy to RDM

Copy in FA
Dear Joe:

With reference to my phone call of this afternoon I am pleased to forward to you the following message which arrived for you from Mr. Leavitt of the JDC yesterday:

"We are remitting next days $250,000 for relief needs France for December and $200,000 for loan."

We cabled Passman at Cairo not (repeat not) to proceed to London since you may not return to London yourself for several months and we still expecting daily his clearance for entry into Romania. We hope our message reach him at Cairo before his departure.

Can you send us the names of the 1350 odd Hungarian Jews who have recently arrived in Switzerland?

We have all been pleased with the attendance and spirit of our annual meeting."

With kind personal regards and best wishes once more for your safe and successful travel during the coming months, I am

Most cordially yours,

Dr. Joseph Schwartz
a/c Hotel Cornavin

Geneva.
Dear Joe:

The following message from Charles Passman has just come in for you. It reads:

For WRB from McLellan,

"Teheran information states that a cable from Moscow inquires who will be the delegate of the Joint Distribution Committee to Lublin as the permit for entrance depends on this. I presume that this inquiry is a result of my negotiations early in November at Teheran. Kindly advise whether I should advise Moscow through Teheran that you are ready to proceed to Lublin, or are your direct negotiations sufficiently advanced so that action via Teheran is not required. I have relayed the contents of this cable to New York and Lisbon."

Intercessors also sending for us some 12,000 parcels monthly to Teheran and trying to secure a similar quantity for other places.

Dr. Joseph Schwartz
C/o Hotel Cornavin
Geneva.
To: Department  
Date: December 20, 1944, noon  
No: 8233  
Charged to: WRB

For WRB from McClelland.

Kindly deliver following message from Schwartz to Leavitt of JDC:

"We have discussed with Intercross and Commission
Mixke purchase and transport commodities here for France, Belgium and eventually Holland. Committee advises possible buy some quantities milk and cheese for immediate delivery and clothing and blankets for delivery end January, early February. We authorizing expenditures here of $50,000 out of appropriation you made for supplies France and suggest you appropriate additional $50,000 to be spent here for purchases for Belgium.

Intercross also sending for us some 12,000 parcels monthly to Theresienstadt and 5,000 to Bergen-Belsen. We trying increase these quantities and also extend service to other camps.

In addition Intercross sending bulk shipments to Poland, Yugoslavia and Camp of Birkenau as well as Theresienstadt. For all these purposes and for medical supplies, especially to Poland, we have spent thus far this year 1,200,000 Swiss francs through Intercross. This does not include amounts spent in Lisbon, Istanbul and other places."  
$ 58.40

HUMBLE

RHMcO.
To: Department  
Date: December 20, 1944, 2 p.m.  
Code: WRB  
No: 8237  
Charged to:  

For WRB from McClelland,  
Kindly deliver following message from Schwartz, Geneva to Leavitt of JDC:  
"Have observed scrupulously instructions not to  
 participate in any negotiations which Saly Mayer conducting.  
 Wish, however, associate myself with recommendation placed  
 before WRB by McClelland since this involves essentially  
 extension activities we already conducting through Intercross.  
 We feel that latest proposal made by Saly Mayer which now has  
 strong possibility being accepted by others is in effect a  
 face-saving device which offers us however valuable possibilities  
 for further rescue. Must point out that involved in these negotiations are not only the approximately  
 80,000 Jews still left in Budapest but also the 17,000  
 reported in Vienna area as well as the many thousands who  
 recently left on foot towards Austrian border and those in  
 various labor camps in enemy territory. Also involved is the  
 possibility of perhaps rescuing additional persons now at  
 Bergen-Belsen. Highest tribute must be paid to skill with  
 which Saly Mayer has conducted these difficult negotiations  
 which have resulted in gaining time and were directly  
 responsible for rescue of Hungarian group in Bergen-Belsen.  
 His situation however will become untenable unless favorable  
 reply is forthcoming to latest proposal regarding twenty  
 million Swiss francs which will be used exclusively for  
 benefit victims and will in no way accrue to benefit of  
 enemy. If proposal accepted negotiations can then continue  
 and you may rest assured that Saly Mayer will continue every  
 effort safeguard interests and funds JDC and American authorities."
To: Department
Date: December 20, 1944, 3 p.m.
No: 8238
Charged to:

For WRB from MacIntosh.
For Leavitt of JDC from Schwarts:
"Fully agree onetime emergency grants as outlined your cable to London. Have already asked you transmit to Saly Mayer $400,000 on account this grant. We agree also Passman be authorized purchase 20,000 pairs of shoes for use in Balkans but believe expenditure should not be charged against appropriations already made.

For your information Saly Mayer has established a credit of four million Swiss francs through Intergross for use of Filderman in Rumania. Since October 2,200,000 of this credit have already been utilized yielding approximately 1,400,000,000 Lei. Budgetary request of Filderman amounts 850,000 dollars monthly. Have just received word from him stating that all refugee relief work as well as relief local population being financed exclusively with our funds and that not one dollar has been received from World Congress or other private organization. Also the organization of emergency assistance to Transylvania and for Hungarian refugees was undertaken with our funds; children's homes also.

Regret exceedingly that Passman did not proceed immediately to Bucharest but went to London instead. Under circumstances I will have to get back to London order confer with him. At present time my plans are return to Paris and Brussels hoping reach London about January tenth. Will keep you advised."

Huddle

RDMcC.

Copy on file

RDMcC. Copy on file

Huddle
TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department  Date: December 20, 1944, 3 p.m.
Code: WRB  No: 6840
Charged to: 

For WRB from McClelland,
Please deliver to Leavitt of JDC following message from Schwartz:

"We have made available to Jewish Community Bulgaria credit of $80,000 which has now been almost fully utilized yielding approximately twenty million Levias. At present time Community urgently requesting additional credit since many in need and typhus, diphtheria and malaria prevalent. They also asking for shipment medical supplies and clothing which we have referred to Intercessor who studying situation. Outlook for transport from here most unfavorable. Will inquire through Magnes whether medical supplies can be sent from Palestine.

Regarding Northern Italy we have made available twenty million Lire during past five months. Must advise however present reports indicate all Jews in camps have been largely deported except about 70 in one camp and prison. All other Jews of Northern Italy are in hiding numbers unknown. We have made additional credit available for help when and as possible.

In Croatia where 1,200 Jews are in camps and 800 at large we have been supplying relief at rate of 20,000 Swiss francs monthly yielding now 80,000,000 kmans. In addition we have been sending through Intercessor food and clothing for internees.

In Slovakia new Intercessor delegate authorized credits sufficient look after Jews still there, either in camps or hiding, exact numbers being unknown."

[Signature]
To: Department

Date: December 20, 1944, 6 p.m.

No: 8241

Code: WRB

Charged to:

For WRB from McClelland.

For Leavitt of JDC from Schwartz:

"For the month of January Saly Mayer will require minimum one million dollars for budget Switzerland and surrounding territories and Intercross work. Have just received urgent call for additional help from Budapest via Intercross for approximately 75,000 people still there mostly children, old and sick people. Also received urgent request from Slovakia where only about 700 Jews left in camps, balance in hiding unknown numbers.

Relief programs other territories also require immediate action therefore please make every effort transmit full amount early days January."

From McClelland for WRB: I have renewed offer to Mayer and Schwartz of 200,000 Swiss francs from WRB funds here if quick cash is needed, particularly for Slovakia and Vienna.

The

Hume

For Code Room: Subject: Relief to Jews in Occupied Europe.
Mr.
Roswell D. McClelland,
American Legation,
Bern.

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Dear Ross,

I am enclosing herewith a list of names of the Bergen-Belsen group which recently arrived in Switzerland and I would appreciate it very much if you would send it along with the covering letter to our New-York office by pouch.

My plans have changed somewhat and I am leaving to-day for St.Gall expecting to be back in Geneva Saturday or Sunday and to leave for Paris Monday morning.

Maybe I'll still have another opportunity of seeing you.

Kindest regards

Joe

Enclosure: 1 letter
1 list
To: Department  
Date: December 21, 1944, 4 p.m.  
No: 8233  
Charged to:  

For WRB from McClelland.
Please deliver following message to Leavitt of JDC from Schwartz:
"Have received from Valobra following account of dollar claims for period March 1941 to February 1942: Richard Chyron 10,000, Fritz Bieler 5,000, Mina Nechter 17,500, Albert Levy 2,500, Manuel Romani Jacur 2,500, Georges Gutwillig 11,000, Clemente Hazen 5,550, Emile Ofenbacher 600, Emanuel Goldstraj 4,500, Moritz Mayer 8,750, Hella Strickler 1,020, Hermann Troccoli 14,000, total $83,000."

All of these people with exception of Moritz Mayer are said to be in USA.

In addition funds were borrowed by DELASEM on our credit during subsequent period but Valobra does not have names and amounts here although he assures us that records are intact and will eventually be available."

HUBBLE

RDMcC.

Copy in A.
To: Department
Date: December 21, 1944
Code: Brown

For WRB from McClelland.

Kindly deliver following message from Schwartz to Leavitt of JDG:

"We sent to Shanghai in October 66, in November 80 and in December 91 million Chinese dollars. The Committee is asking for an additional 70 million for December which we had to refuse because our budget has already been exceeded. We did, however, grant 100,000 Swiss francs as a special one time grant for clothing in December and a similar amount for the same purpose for January. Committee reports that 12,000 people are now on full relief, many of them sick and aged. There are also numerous cases of frostbite due to hard winter weather.

With present uncontrolled inflation and tremendously increasing prices we can look forward to ever increasing demand for additional help. Many refugees have been in Shanghai 6 years now without any new clothes, a one time grant, therefore, for this purpose was absolutely necessary. Also with rising prices Committee wishes lay in some stocks now for coming winter months.

Believe you should figure budget beginning January at minimum 100,000 dollars."

HULLME
For

Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270. Madison Avenue,
New York.
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In connection with project to admit 14,000 Hungarian Jews to Switzerland we have been officially informed that 1,000 are now ready to leave Budapest and may arrive here shortly.

Joseph Schwartz
Geneva, 22nd December 1944

For Mr. Charles Fassman

O/o American Embassy London.

Glad receive your message stop Please advise Moscow via Teheran that I am ready proceed to Lublin and that authorization should be sent to London if possible stop Leaving for Paris will advise date arrival London soon as possible Regards.

Joseph Schwartz
Geneva December 22nd 1944

Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York.

Have sent you via pouch names Hungarian Jews recently arrived Switzerland and also sending full list all Jewish refugees who arrived Switzerland since August 1942 stop Fassman is already in London therefore will have to cut short my stay in France stop Will proceed Belgium if at all possible stop Glad hear success annual meeting.

Joseph Schwartz
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Date: December 28, 9 p.m., 1944
No: 4315
Received:

The cable below for McClelland is WBB 331.

Please deliver paraphrase of following message to
Joseph Schwartz in care of Saly Mayer, St. Gall, from
M. A. Leavitt of American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee:

"Received following from Magness, Simon Jerusalem:

'Despite rejections our proposal we advising
Charles Passman Jerusalem fly London now for
thorough final endeavor clarify needs of situation.
We urge you and Joseph Schwartz London make every
meet our views for sake increasing joint
effectiveness. Without more substantial authority
we cannot carry moral responsibilities which
grave emergencies are placing increasingly upon
us as joint representatives whatever committee's
official title may be. We awaiting results
Charles Passman's Jerusalem meeting Joseph
Schwartz London with anxiety.'

We have not yet replied Magness."

STATIMINSTS

Jb

Copy to C

DECLASSIFIED

Sta D, Washington, D.C., 1-11-72

By: R. E. Parks Date: SEP 26 1972
The following message is from Emerson of IOC London to McClelland of WRB Bern.

Will you kindly give the following message to Schwartz of the Joint if he is now in Switzerland? If not, will you kindly transmit to American Embassy in Paris for favor of communication to Schwartz? When I was in Brussels I authorized chain Perelman of the Comité de Defense to spend on behalf of the Inter-Governmental Committee the sum of three and a half million Belgian francs. Money was to be expended on maintenance of German and Austrian refugees. Committee is to refund the money on being satisfied that it has been expended for said purpose. When you visit Brussels will you be good enough to satisfy yourself that the money has been spent for this purpose. Detailed examination of accounts is not required but you will doubtless take adequate measures to satisfy yourself. Will you also kindly inform me of source from which credit was raised and obtain from Perelman personally his proposals regarding first method of payment and second of person or institution to which payment should be made. On receiving this information from you necessary measures will be taken for payment of actual expenditure up to maximum as confirmed by you.

WINANT

in duplicate to files

Copy in FA

Rev. Joseph Schwartz

FA

Rev. Joe
For  Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,  
270 Madison Avenue,  
New York  

Please make no more transmissions to France until you hear from us stop We have shipped to France from here during December 150,000 cans of condensed milk part sugared and part unsugared at cost 180,000 Swiss francs stop We are now purchasing through Intercross commodities for France for 60,000 of which one half for food balance children's clothing and for Belgium 35,000.

Joseph Schwartz
Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee
270 Madison Avenue,
New York.

Spoke to Laura Margolis and authorized her pay for ten thousand food packages for December even though she still having complications with Congress group which hopeful will be satisfactorily settled soon stop Please expedite validation her passport France and Belgium

Joseph Schwartz
Geneva, 22nd December 1944

For
Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York.

UNRRA Yugoslav mission offered Resnik five members British Jewish Unit temporary basis stop On Resnik's recommendation have authorized him accept their services stop For your information One expects send medical mission to Yugoslavia soon through Yugoslav Red Cross and we trying arrange have one of our representatives possibly from France accompany Unit up Please advise status Israel Jacobson and Arthur Fiszchohn.

Joseph Schwartz
American Joint Distribution Committee

Dear Mr. McClelland,

with reference to your offer of 200,000 Swiss Francs out of Funds from the AJDC resting with you. I am asked by Dr. Schwartz to inform you that it would be a great help if you would please transmit this amount to the Président of the Comité International de la Croix-Rouge account Saly Mayer.

Dr. Schwartz having talked over with Dr. Boehringer and Mr. Umfeld we have been advised that it would be best to open a Globalcredit for supplies, food and clothing, to countries which can still be reached. We ourselves are also transmitting moneys to the CIROC and in this way we do hope that some good results will be produced. According to news received we have been warned to act quickly as goods are scarce and would-be-buyers plenty, we should not like to be left out altogether.

Very respectfully yours,

[Handwritten note: Happy Xmas & new year]

Saly Mayer

St. Gallen
Geneva, December 23rd 1944

For

Mr. Moses Leavitt, Joint Distribution Committee,
270 Madison Avenue,
New York.

-------------------

Please transmit to Saly Mayer 300,000 $ account transportation from Balkans to Istanbul

Joseph Schwartz
Bern, December 26, 1944.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I take the liberty of forwarding to the Board for transmission to the American Joint Distribution Committee, 270 Madison Avenue, New York, three series of documents which Dr. Schwartz is anxious to get to them. They include a list of the names of 1366 Hungarians who recently arrived in Switzerland from Bergen-Belsen, material supplied by the International Red Cross concerning the present status of relief work for Jews in various occupied and formerly occupied areas and the first part of a general list of Jewish refugees who have arrived in Switzerland since August 1944.

Very sincerely yours,

Roswell D. McClelland,
Special Assistant to the American Minister.

Enclosures: 3 series of documents for the AJD.C.

John W. Pehle, Esquire
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D.C.
From: Department
Date: December 26, 3 p.m., 1944.
No: 4345
Code: No code.
Received: December 27, 4 p.m.

The cable below is for McClelland.

WRB 331.

Please deliver the following message to Joseph Schwartz from M. A. Leavitt, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

"Please cable your views validity Sternbuch proposal rescue large numbers monthly. We applying license remit to Salo Mayer 70,000 balance returned by Bimonte Intercross delegate Turkey for relief purposes Jewish deportees internes through Intercess."

STETTIMUS

/nt
Copy to REM
Cont in TNA
TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department
Date: December 26, 9 p.m., 1944.
No: 4346
Received: December 27, 4 p.m.

WRB - No. 333. For McClelland.

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

"Plaut reporting for duty December 26 and after three to four weeks will be ready leave. Please advise country his assignment in order request necessary validation his passport. Linder planning depart mid-January also expect Fish Zohde depart for Turkey same time. We requesting French visa for Margolis. If Passman left Cairo for London we all feel most important he come here for short visit for consultation and clarification basis our work Near East provided Magnes agrees since we assume you may wish spend longer time Switzerland and France and useless Passman waiting London for your return. What are your views? We asked Sommerstein have your Russian visa sent to Soviet Embassy London but we have no confirmation that this done. Passman advises he purchased $450,000 supplies Teheran to be used for parcel service also bulk shipment to Poland. He expects participation Poles Teheran and from South African Jewish appeal."

STETTINUS

Copy to HIM

Copy to FA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 11-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 26 1972
The American Legation in Bern presents its compliments to the American Embassy at Paris and

has the honor to enclose a letter from the representative of the War Refugee Board at Bern for delivery,

if it meets with the Embassy's approval, to Dr. Joseph

Schwartz of the American Joint Distribution Committee, who just left Switzerland and is at present in Paris.

Bern, December 27, 1944.

When I was in Brussels I authorized Chief Perelman of the Comité de Défense to spend on behalf of the Later-Governmental Committee the sum of three and a half million francs. Money was to be expended on maintenance of German and Austrian refugees. Committee is to refund the money on being satisfied that it has been expended for said purpose. When you visit Brussels will you be good enough to satisfy yourself that the money has been spent for this purpose. Detailed examination of accounts is not required but you will doubtless take adequate measures to satisfy yourself. Will you also kindly inform me of source from which credit was raised and obtain from Perelman personally his proposals regarding further method of payment and second of person or institution to which payment should be made. On receiving this information from you necessary measures will be taken for payment of actual expenditure up to maximum so confined by you.

A second message also arrived for you from Mr. Leavitt of AJDC as follows:

Received
Received following from Wenceslaus Hines.

Jerusalem:

December 27, 1944.

Despite rejections of our proposal we advising Charles Faasen and Walter Laul who now for thorough final endeavor clarify needs of situation. We urge you and Joseph Schwarts to exert every effort meet our views for sake of activities. Without more authority we cannot carry moral responsibilities which grave emergency are placing on us as joint representatives and in view of committee's official title may be. We have not yet replied Wenceslaus.

Dear Joe:

The following message for you from Emerson of IGO in London recently arrived, and I am glad to forward it to you at Paris:

When I was in Brussels I authorized Chief Perelman of the Comité de Défense to spend on behalf of the Inter-Governmental Committee the sum of three and a half million Belgian francs. Money was to be expended on maintenance of German and Austrian refugees. Committee is to refund the money on being satisfied that it has been expended for said purpose. When you visit Brussels will you be good enough to satisfy yourself that the money has been spent for this purpose. Detailed examination of accounts is not required but you will doubtless take adequate measures to satisfy yourself. Will you also kindly inform me of source from which credit was raised and obtain from Perelman personally his proposals regarding first method of payment and second of person or institution to which payment should be made. On receiving this information from you necessary measures will be taken for payment of actual expenditure up to maximum as confirmed by you.

A second message also arrived for you from N. A. Leavitt of AJDC as follows:

Received
Received following from Magnes, Simon Jerusalem:

"Despite rejections our proposal we advising Charles Passman Jerusalem fly London now for thorough final endeavor clarify needs of situation. We urge you and Joseph Schwartz London make every effort meet our views for sake increasing joint effectiveness. Without more substantial authority we cannot carry moral responsibilities which grave emergencies are placing increasingly upon us as joint representatives whatever committee's official title may be. We awaiting results Charles Passman's Jerusalem meeting Joseph Schwartz London with anxiety."

We have not yet replied Magnes."

Cordially yours,

Roswell D. McClelland, Special Assistant to the American Minister.

RHM/imp

This afternoon your letter and memoranda of December 28th, also reached me. I am happy to tell you that I asked at some length this morning regarding the 28th or make and in keeping with the letter you read good fortune with Joe. I pointed out to him that there must already have been obtained and the agency of the undertaking. It is evident, once were able to be able to shift the negotiations, to carry on without any very embarrassing and hostile intrusions. It is tentatively committed to the Allies as soon as possible regarding the transitional arrangements to do, of course let you know when.
Dear Saly:

Thank you for your letter of December 23rd, concerning the offer of 200,000 Swiss Francs from WBG funds which I recently had the pleasure of making to you and Joe Schwartz. According to your wishes I have given instructions that this amount should be transferred to the Commission Mixte (Société de Banque Suisse) at Geneva for your account. I shall also writing a short note to the Commission Mixte notifying them of the arrival and source of these funds.

It is naturally, in accordance with the aims of the WBG, my intention that this money should serve you for relief to endangered refugees still in enemy occupied regions (I had particularly in mind Vienna - Austria - and Slovakia and perhaps Northern Italy), rather than for JDC relief operations in so-called liberated areas. I am sure that you will have several good uses for it in keeping with this slight limitation.

This afternoon your letter and memorandum of December 26th, also reached me. I am happy to tell you that I cabled at some length this morning regarding the sending of the 20 units and in keeping with the tenor of our last discussion with Joe. I pointed out to them the results that had already been obtained and the necessity of supplying you with something tangible to talk with. I also underlined, once more, the fact that you planned and hoped to be able to shift the negotiations over to this purely humanitarian and ethically defensible basis which could be freely submitted to the Allies as well as to neutral governments. I naturally asked the WBG for an answer as soon as possible regarding the transferal of the 20 units, and will of course let you know when a reply comes in.

I am still holding 1 unit, cash for you any time you want it. Meanwhile I send you my sincere and filial wishes that the New Year will bring better days to you and your people and the expression of my admiration for your truly magnificent efforts which I cannot but appreciate if some others don't.
TELEGRAM SENT

To: An Embassy, Paris
Date: December 28, 1944, 4 p.m.
No: 73
Charged to:

From McClelland of WEE.
Kindly deliver following message from Leavitt of Joint Distribution Committee to Joseph Schwartz:

"Please cable your views validity Sternbuch proposal rescue large numbers monthly.
We applying license remit to Salo Mayer 78,000 balance returned by Simonds, Interross delegate Turkey for relief purposes Jewish deportees internees through Interross."

HOUND

EDMoC,
In triplicate.

Copy in file.
TELEGRAM SENT

To: AmEmbassy, London
Date: December 28, 1944
No: 2500

For Mann of WHB from McClelland,
Embassy's 443, December 22.
Kindly inform Emerson of ICGR that his recent
message for Joseph Schwartz was forwarded to latter
in Paris by pouch December 27.

HUBBLE

RDMcC,
In triplicate.
To: AmEmbassy, London

Date: December 27, 1944

No: 2495

Charged to: C.

For Mann of WKB from McClelland.

Kindly deliver following message from Joseph Schwartz of JDC to Charles Passman:

"Glad receive your message. Please advise Moscow via Teheran that I am ready proceed to Dublin and that authorization should be sent to London if possible. Leaving for Paris and will advise date of arrival London soon as possible. Regards."

Above is with reference to Embassy's 438, December 19.

HUBBLE

KDMccO.

Copy T 2
To: Department
Date: December 28, 1944.
No: 8400
Charged to:

Code: Clear

For WRB from McClelland.
Joseph Schwartz left Geneva for Paris December 25. Advisable, therefore, send
future messages from JDC for him to Amembassy,
Paris.

HUDDLE

RDMcC:mf
In duplicate to Files

Cyjipta
To: Department
Date: December 26, 1944
No: 8387
Charged to:

For WBB from McClelland,
Kindly deliver to Leavitt of JDC following message
from Schwartz:
"UNRRA Yugoalw mission offered Resnik five members
British Jewish Unit on temporary basis. On Resnik's
recommendation have authorized him accept their services.
For your information OSE expects send medical mission
to Yugoslavia soon through Yugoslav Red Cross and we
trying arrange have one of our representatives possibly
from accompany unit.
Please advise status Isreal Jacobson and Arthur
Fitzwell.
Spoke to Laura Margolis and authorized her pay for
10,000 food parcels for December even though relations
with Congress group still complicated which hopeful will
be satisfactorily settled shortly. Please expedite
validation her passport for France and Belgium.
Please make no further remittances to France until
you hear from us. We have shipped to France from here
during December 150,000 cans of condensed milk, part
sugared, part unsugared at cost 180,000 Swiss francs. We
are now purchasing through Intercross commodities for
France for $60,000 of which one half for food, balance
for children's clothing; and for Belgium $35,000."

HUMBLE

RDMcC,
In triplicate.
To: Department  
Date: December 21, 1944, 9 a.m.
Code: WRB
No: 8373
Charged to:  

For WRB from McClelland,

Kindly deliver following message from Schwartz to Leavitt of JDC:

"Have sent you via pouch names Hungarian Jews recently arrived Switzerland and also forwarding full list all Jewish refugees who arrived Switzerland since August 1942.

Passman is already in London, therefore will have to cut short my stay in France. Will however proceed Belgium if at all possible.

In connection with project to admit 14,000 Hungarian Jews to Switzerland we have been officially informed that 1,000 are now ready to leave Budapest and may arrive here shortly.

Please transmit to Saly Mayer $300,000 account transportation from Balkans to Istanbul.

Glad hear success annual meeting."

HUBBLE

RDMcC

Copied by C.
TELEGRAM SENT

To: AmEmbassy, Paris  Date: December 29, 1944, 9am
No: 75
Charged to:

From McClelland of WKS

Would appreciate delivery following message from
Lewitt of Joint Distribution Committee to Joseph Schwartz:

"Please report for duty December 26 and after three
to four weeks will be ready to leave. Please advise country
his assignment in order request necessary validation his
passport. Lindner planning depart mid-January; also expect
Fish Zohnde depart for Turkey same time. We requesting
French visa for Margolis. If Pasman left Cairo for London
we all feel most important he come here for short visit for
consultation and clarification basis our work Near East
provided Magness agrees since we assume you may wish spend
longer time Switzerland and France and useless Pasman waiting
London for your return. What are your views? We asked
Sommerstein have your Russian visa sent to Soviet Embassy
London but we have no confirmation that this done. Pasman
advises he purchased $460,000 supplies Teheran to be used
for parcel service, also bulk shipments to Poland. He
expects participation Poles Teheran and from South African
Jewish appeal."

HUBBLE

RDMcC,
In triplicate, duplicate 1

[Handwritten note: 70]