

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

Folter!

100

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. MacLellan's Files

War Refugee Board
American Legation
Bern, Switzerland

J E W S I N H U N G A R Y

A u g u s t

1 9 4 4

Juris-Mappe Nr. 1000 (32x24 cm)
Kaiser & Co. A.-G., Bern

from its delegates in Hung. as to the needs in food & () camps
& best manner & forwarding it. 2 ✓ recommend : P you
remain - contact & them telling you friends in Tanager meanwhile P
you - were in soviet as address & most camp - known.

1944



200 2/44
Communiqué No 228

Genève, le 1er août 1944

L'ACTION DU COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
EN HONGRIE

Pour compléter les informations fournies précédemment sur son activité en faveur des Juifs de Hongrie, le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge communique les renseignements suivants :

Les délégués du Comité international à Budapest peuvent, avec l'assentiment des Autorités hongroises, visiter les maisons et les hôpitaux désignés pour recevoir des Juifs. Les délégués se sont rendus non seulement dans un certain nombre de ces immeubles, mais aussi dans deux camps de rassemblement. Des actions de secours en faveur de ces camps sont actuellement en voie de réalisation.

Le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge ne voue pas seulement toute son attention au problème de l'assistance aux Juifs en Hongrie; il s'emploie en outre, par l'entremise de ses Délégations à Budapest, à Budapest, à Londres et à Washington, à faciliter leur émigration.

Des informations ultérieures seront données sur ce point.

Le Comité international envisage de renforcer notablement à bref délai, sa Délégation de Budapest; il a décidé également l'envoi en mission d'un Membre du Comité international de la Croix-Rouge dans cette ville.

from its activities in Hungary. as to the needs in food & in camps
& best manner forwarding it. 2 ✓ recommend: P you
remain - contact & them tell you friends in Tangles meanwhile P
your - want or soon as address & new camp - Hungary.

WRE
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McCallum's Files

1944

7110.2/44

RB
CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McCallum's Files



Communiqué No 228 b

Geneva, 1. August 1944

ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE
RED CROSS IN HUNGARY

Following on previous information concerning their activities in behalf of the Jews in Hungary, the International Committee of the Red Cross now give further details.

Acting with the consent of the Hungarian authorities, the Committee's delegates in Budapest have been able to visit houses and hospitals assigned to Jewish inhabitants. Besides a number of such houses, the delegates have inspected two assembling centres, to which relief is now being furnished.

Besides giving their most careful attention to the problems raised by the relief activities for Jews in Hungary, the International Committee are endeavouring, through their delegates in Budapest, Bucarest, London and Washington, to facilitate the emigration of Jews from Hungary. Information concerning these steps will follow.

The International Committee furthermore intend to increase, in the ^{shortest delay} possible, the staff of their delegation in Budapest, and have also decided to send one ^{of} the Committee's members on a special mission to the Hungarian capital.

from its activities in Hungary, as to the needs in food & in camps
& best manner forwarding it. I recommend you
remain in contact with them telling your friends in various countries
you will be soon as address of most camps - known.

1944

7/10. 2/44

Jews in Hungary

Ko.

"Beilage"

Palatine Certificates in Hungary & Slovakia

AUG. 1/44

Die Schweizerische Bundesregierung, als Vertreterin der britischen Interessen in Ungarn erteilte ihrer Gesandtschaft in Budapest den Auftrag, allen Personen, die im Besitze einer Einwanderungsgenehmigung (Einwanderungszertifikat) nach Palästina sind, einen Schutzbrief auszustellen. Mit Rücksicht darauf, dass die Slowakei mit England vor dem Kriege nicht in diplomatischen Beziehungen stand, erfolgte die Zuteilung der Einreisegenehmigungen nach Palästina an Juden, die ihren Wohnsitz in der Slowakei haben, auch im Wege der schweizerischen Gesandtschaft in Budapest. Die schweizerische Gesandtschaft behandelt alle Fälle als ungarische, es ist ihr auch nicht bekannt, welche Personen von Inhabern von Zertifikaten ihr Domizil in der Slowakei haben. Die Vertretung der Interessen der Juden in der Slowakei versah im Auftrag der Judentrale in Bratislava das Palästina-Amt der Jewish Agency in Budapest.

Wir bitten:

- a.) die schweizerische Gesandtschaft in Budapest möge die durch die Palästina-Regierung autorisierten Listen der Zertifikatsinhaber der Zentrale der Juden in Bratislava zur Verfügung stellen, damit festgestellt werde, für welche Juden in der Slowakei Zertifikate vorhanden sind.
- b.) Das schweizerische Generalkonsulat in Bratislava möge beauftragt werden, die in dieser Angelegenheit ausgeübte Tätigkeit der Gesandtschaft in Budapest auch in Bratislava für die Slowakei zu praktizieren.
- c.) sollte unsere Bitte ad. b.) nicht durchführbar sein, ersuchen wir, dass die schweizerische Gesandtschaft in Budapest beauftragt werde, dass sie für die in der Slowakei lebenden Juden dieselben Schutzmassnahmen treffe, wie in Ungarn.

2. Neutrale Staaten erteilen Juden in Ungarn Reisepässe, durch welche diese die Auswanderung aus Ungarn ermöglicht wird. wir bitten

dass die Regierungen dieser neutralen Staaten auch den Juden in der Slowakei diese Vorzüge gewähren sollen.

3. Die ungarische Regierung als auch die kompetenten deutschen Stellen haben den Juden in Ungarn, die Auswanderungsmöglichkeit haben, die Emigration ermöglicht. wir bitten

dass jene Stellen, sowohl die bei der ungarischen Regierung als auch bei den deutschen Stellen die nötigen Interventionen vornehmen, auch die gleichen Interventionen bei den in Frage kommenden Stellen (d.h. die slowakische Regierung und deutsche Stellen) und die gleichen Schritte unternehmen sollen.

840.1 JEWS IN HUNGARY & SLOVAKIA

WRB

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCallum's Files

T. ...

from its delegate in Hung. as to the needs in food & in camp & best manner forwarding it. I recommend you remain in contact with them, telling your friends in Tangier meanwhile & give them an address & mess camp - number.

1944

Aug. 2/44

Reply 8/4 RIM/mjb

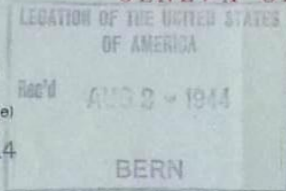
Re emigration Jews
Hungary to Palestine

הנהלת ההסתדרות הציונית והסוכנות היהודית לארץ ישראל

**THE EXECUTIVE OF
THE ZIONIST ORGANISATION / THE JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE**

GENEVA OFFICE

Telephone : 291.74
Telegrams : Zionorg Genève
Letters : Zionist Organisation
37, quai Wilson, Genève (Suisse)



(C.L.)

Genève, August 1st, 1944
37, quai Wilson

MK/T-A/14

Acknowledge.

Re: holders of Palestine immigration
certificates in Hungary

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY
Immigration to Palestine

WRS
FBI/IRAN CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McClelland's Files

Dear Mr. McClelland,

Further to my letter of July 24th, 1944
I beg to send you enclosed the copy of my to-days confiden-
tial letter to Dr. J. Schwarzenberg for your personal infor-
mation.

Very sincerely yours

M. Kahany

Dr. M. Kahany

1 enclosure

Mr. Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to the
American Minister
B e r n .

from its archives in Hungary. as to the needs in food & you
& best manner & forwarding it. 2 ✓ recommend
remain - contact & them telling you friends in Tangier meanwhile
you - sure as soon as address & most camps - known.

1944

7110.2/44

le 1 août 1944

MKT-D/7

Concerne:émigration des Juifs
de Hongrie

~~Confidentielle~~

Cher Monsieur,

J'ai l'honneur de me référer à ma lettre du 24 juillet a.c. concernant l'émigration en Palestine des Juifs de Hongrie et de vous fournir à ce sujet encore les précisions que voici:

Toutes les listes des personnes (ou familles) juives en Hongrie auxquelles un certificat d'immigration en Palestine a été accordé se trouvent déjà en possession de la Légation Suisse à Budapest. Cette Légation est maintenant instruite par la Division des Intérêts Etrangers du Département politique fédérale de délivrer à toutes les personnes figurant sur ces listes (après les avoir identifiées) une attestation spéciale dont la teneur, approuvée par le Gouvernement britannique, est la suivante:

*marked by
S/land
+ France in
country territory*

"The bearer of this certificate (insert name) will be admitted as an immigrant into Palestine at any time which he (she) may reach that country and thereafter will obtain Palestinian citizenship in accordance with the Palestinian Citizenship Order 1925-1941 Consolidated on the completion of two years residence."

Monsieur M. Krausz, directeur de notre Office d'émigration en Hongrie assistera la Légation Suisse de Budapest dans l'accomplissement de cette tâche.

Il résulte d'autre part d'un télégramme de notre représentant en Turquie daté du 26 juillet 1944 que "les conditions de transport et de transit de ces émigrants" sont actuellement examinées par l'Agence Juive en collaboration avec les représentations diplomatiques des Gouvernements

Monsieur le Dr. J. Schwarzenberg,
Directeur de la Division d'Assistance spéciale
Comité international de la Croix-Rouge
Genève.

FORMULA.

*from the... needs in good...
2 r beet manner forwarding it. 2 ✓ recommend. P you
remain - contact & them telling you friends in Tangles meanwhile P
you - were as soon as address & most camp - known.*

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr MacCallum's Files

1944

Aug. 2/44

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

intéressés en Turquie. Notre représentant nous annonce qu'il nous fera bientôt parvenir des nouvelles plus détaillées à ce sujet. Il nous informe en outre qu'il se trouve maintenant en contact direct avec notre représentant à Budapest (M. Krausz) et que ce dernier a déjà pris des mesures pour préparer un premier transport d'environ 2.000 émigrants.

Ainsi, tout le travail concernant l'exécution de ce plan - pour autant que les conditions changeantes, politiques et militaires, la permettront - se trouve actuellement concentré entre Budapest, Istanbul et Ankara. Nous ne doutons pas que notre représentant en Turquie (M. Ch. Barlas) se tient, comme par le passé, en liaison étroite avec votre Délégation à Ankara et qu'il lui a déjà fourni toute information nécessaire à ce sujet. Nous pensons donc que cette Délégation pourra sous peu renseigner le Comité International de toute demande ou suggestion concernant sa collaboration éventuelle.

De notre côté, nous ne manquerons pas de vous tenir au courant de tout ce que nous apprendrons à ce sujet par la suite.

Veillez agréer, cher Monsieur, l'assurance de ma haute considération.

Dr. M. Kahany
Secrétaire Général

best manner forwarding it. 2 ✓ recommend. P you remain - contact & then tell your friends in Tangier meanwhile P you - write as soon as address & mess camp known.

WRE

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland's Files

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

Jews in Hungary! ...

Aug. 2/44

Copy to Mr. McClelland

Re: transmission of Jews in Hungary.
US warning to Hungarian Gov.

A. I. No. 8967

The American Legation presents its compliments to the Division of Foreign Interests of the Federal Political Department, and has the honor to refer to the Division's note No. 32628 - B.24.25 C. E/Jw of July 4, 1944, which kindly informed the Legation that, according to a communication received from the Swiss Legation at Budapest, the latter delivered on June 27 to the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs the text of the message quoted in the Legation's note A.I. No. 8663 of June 13, 1944, with regard to the treatment of Jews in Hungary.

The Legation desires to express its appreciation of the action of the Division and of the Swiss Legation at Budapest in this matter and would be grateful if it might be possible for the Division to request the Swiss Legation at Budapest to press the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for an early reply. At the same time the Swiss representative might well recall to the Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs the text of the fifth paragraph of the enclosure to the Legation's note A.I. No. 8663 above-cited which reads as follows:

"It

To the
Division of Foreign Interests,
Federal Political Department,
BERN.

Let names & forwarding ...
remain - contact & them tell you friends in tangles ...
you - sure as soon as address & most camp - ...

Schweiz. Flüchtlinge im
-HJEF-
Telephon 4 30 34 und
Postfach-Karte Nr. 210
Telegraphen-Adresse: HJEF

"It is therefore fitting that we should
again proclaim our determination that none
who participate in these acts of savagery
shall go unpunished. The United Nations have
made it clear that they will pursue the guilty
and deliver them up in order that justice be
done. That warning applies not only to the
leaders but also to their functionaries and
subordinates in Germany and in the satellite
countries. All who knowingly take part in the
deportation of Jews to their death in Poland
or Norwegians and French to their death in
Germany are equally guilty with the executioner.
All who share the guilt shall share the punish-
ment."

BERN

The Legation avails itself of this opportunity

Sehr geehrter Herr McClelland,
to renew to the Division the assurance of its highest
consideration. wir erhalten soeben von unseren Freunden aus
die Mitteilung, wonach diese bei der
dortigen Regierung eine Einreise-Erlaubnis für
500 Kinder aus Ungarn ^{Bern, August 2, 1944} werden
auch Verhandlungen wegen einer solchen Erlaub-
nis für Erwachsene geführt. Unsere Freunde haben
ferner aus Amerika den Auftrag erhalten, Liebes-
gaben-Pakete nach ungarischen Lagern zu senden und
bitten uns deshalb, mit den betreffenden Behörden
Verbindungen aufzunehmen um 1.) nähere Auskünfte
über die Ausreise-Möglichkeit zu erhalten und
2.) die Adressen solcher Lager, sowie die Anzahl
der Insassen in Erfahrung zu bringen.

Wir haben uns diesbezüglich bereits mit dem Comité
International de la Croix-Rouge sowie mit der
Abtlg. für fremde Interessen des Eidgen. Politischen
Departements in Verbindung gesetzt, wären Ihnen
jedoch dankbar, wenn auch Sie uns mitteilen würden,
ob Sie diesbezüglich etwas erfahren haben oder er-
fahren können.

Da wir recht bald nach Tanager kabela wollen, wären
wir Ihnen für besonders prompte Rückkusserung sehr
dankbar,

Wir begrüßen Sie

mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung

Flüchtlinge
[Signature]

From its delegata in Hung. as to the needs in goods
2. best manner & forwarding it. 2. recommend. P. you
remain - contact & them telling you friends in Tanager meanwhile P
you - will be soon as address & most camp - know.

RB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

Mr McClelland's File

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

I. Sternbuch
Schweiz. Hilfsverein für
üd. Flüchtlinge im Ausland
"HIJEFS"

Re: package from Tanger, ^{Jews in Hungary} ~~the~~ camps in Hungary
Entry visas to 500 H. of children }
Let. to Sternbuch 8/11 RDM/mjb
Montreux, 2. August 1944
Les Colondalles

O.I.

Telephon 6 30 56 und 6 43 99
Postcheck-Konto 11b 2107 Vevey
Telegramm-Adresse: Hijefs Montreux

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
Rec'd AUG 3 - 1944
BERN

Mr.
Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistant to
the American Minister
B e r n e .

Sehr geehrter Herr McClelland,

wir erhalten soeben von unseren Freunden aus
Tanger die Mitteilung, wonach diese bei der
dortigen Regierung eine Einreise-Erlaubnis für
500 Kinder aus Ungarn erhalten haben. Es werden
auch Verhandlungen wegen einer solchen Erlaub-
nis für Erwachsene geführt. Unsere Freunde haben
ferner aus Amerika den Auftrag erhalten, Liebes-
gaben-Pakete nach ungarischen Lagern zu senden und
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Verbindungen aufzunehmen um 1.) nähere Auskünfte
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International de la Croix-Rouge sowie mit der
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Departements in Verbindung gesetzt, wären Ihnen
jedoch dankbar, wenn auch Sie uns mitteilen würden,
ob Sie diesbezüglich etwas erfahren haben oder er-
fahren können.

Da wir recht bald nach Tanger kabela wollen, wären
wir Ihnen für besonders prompte Rückäusserung sehr
dankbar,

Wir begrüßen Sie

mit vorzüglicher Hochachtung

Schweiz. Hilfsverein für Jüd.
Flüchtlinge im Ausland
"HIJEFS"
[Signature]

Dear Sirs:
In answer to your letter of Aug 2
I am afraid that I have no precise or official
information as to number of camps in Hungary or no. persons in them. We know only that
large camps located at: Kutabosa, Sarvas, Miskole,
Gaszlerany and Pecs. The Red Cross is awaiting further information
from its delegates in Hung. as to the needs in food & other camps
& best manner of forwarding it. I recommend that you
remain in contact with them telling your friends in Tanger meanwhile
you want an some address of most camps known.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McClelland's Files
840.1 JEWS IN HUNGARY
Jews in Hungary August 1944

mep

COPY FOR Mr. McCLELLAND

DEPARTMENT POLITIQUE FEDERAL

Official answer of Hungarian
to US embassy - protest

Important

Jews in Hungary

WRB - RDM
GA - [initials]

File
[initials]

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department Date: August 2, 11 p.m., 1944
 No.: 2656
 Code: [redacted] Received: August 3, 3 p.m.

re: negotiations
with Nazis.

PARAPHRASE

Rep. Aug. 11, 44
no. 5197

(C.I.)

840.1 JEW IN HUNGARY

MR. McCLELLAND'S FILES

Mr. McClelland's Files

Jews in Hungary August 1944

WRB No. 106. For McClelland.
 Reference Legation's 4802 July 26.
 We rely entirely on your judgment in this matter.
 Accordingly, we concur in your opinion that it is not
 (repeat not) feasible at the present time to undertake
 the transaction in question, in view of pending
consideration of the reported Hungarian offer to
permit emigration. It is assumed that if further
 data received you will keep Board fully informed, and
 also that you will continue all possible efforts to
 effect the rescue of refugees from Hungary and other
 German-occupied territories. Joint Distribution, with
 which the matter has been discussed, expresses itself
 as being in accord with the above.

STETTINIUS ACTING

In duplicate
re copy in FA

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By: R. H. Parks Date: SEP 25 1972

Jews in Hungary. Aug. 2/44

COPY
mep

COPY FOR Mr. McCLELLAND

DEPARTMENT POLITIQUE FEDERAL
Division des Intérêts étrangers

Official answer of Hungarian Gov. to US message re protect re treatment of Jews.

(C.I.)

B.24.25. c - E/Jw.

37951

July

Comme suite à sa note No. 32628 du 4 juin 1944 relative à la transmission au Gouvernement hongrois d'un message du Gouvernement américain au sujet du traitement réservé aux Israélites en Hongrie, le Département Politique fédéral, Division des Intérêts étrangers, a l'honneur de faire tenir sous ce pli à la Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique la réponse que le Ministère hongrois des Affaires étrangères a remise à la Légation de Suisse à Budapest en date du 18 juillet 1944; cette réponse consiste en une note verbale No. 399/res.Pol.1944 et une annexe indiquant l'état actuel des dispositions prises par le Gouvernement hongrois à l'égard des Juifs.

Le Département Politique saisit cette occasion de renouveler à la Légation des Etats-Unis les assurances de sa haute considération.

Berne, le 2 août 1944.

Annexes mentionnées

A la Légation des Etats-Unis d'Amérique

B e r n e

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr McClelland's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

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mep

A b s c h r i f t

KGL. UNG. AUSSENMINISTERIUM

399/Res.Pol. 1944.

1 Anlage

Unter Bezugnahme auf die geschätzte Verbalnote No. 257 s/b. vom 26. Juni 1944 betreffend eine Mitteilung bzw. Anfrage der amerikanischen Regierung über die Behandlung der Juden in Ungarn, beehrt sich das Königlich Ungarische Ministerium des Aussen der Schweizerischen Gesandtschaft Folgendes zur gefälligen Kenntnis zu bringen:

Wie in den meisten europäischen Staaten so ist auch in Ungarn die Judenfrage besonders in den letzten Jahrzehnten eines der grössten wirtschaftlichen, sozialen und politischen Probleme geworden. Besonders schwer wurde das Judenproblem in Ungarn, wo sich das Judentum - Dank der liberalistischen Einrichtung des Staates - im wirtschaftlichen, politischen und kulturellen Leben eine hervorragende Stellung sichern konnte. Auch in jenen grossen Staaten, wo das Rassenproblem ein viel weniger bedeutendes ist - wie z.B. die Negerfrage in den USA - sah sich die Regierung gezwungen, zum Schutze der eigenen Rasse entsprechende Massnahmen zu treffen. Umsomehr mussten die verschiedenen Regierungen Ungarns die Einschränkung des übergrossen Einflusses dieser artfremden Rasse anstreben, wo doch das ungarlandische Judentum eine weit grössere Gefahr für das Ungarntum bildete, wie z.B. die Neger oder Japaner für die weissrassige Bevölkerung der USA.

An die

Schweizerische Gesandtschaft

in Budapest.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCallum's Files

Telex in Hungary: August 1944

Die Juden hatten nicht nur die wichtigsten wirtschaftlichen Positionen in Ungarn inne, sondern dadurch übten sie einen sehr starken Einfluss auf das gesamte nationale Leben des Landes aus, was schon den nationalen Charakter des Volkes in seinen Grundlagen zu entarten drohte.

Diese Gefahr erkennend, so wie in anderen europäischen Staaten, nahmen auch die damaligen ungarischen Regierungen die Lösung der Judenfrage in Angriff. Die Gesetzartikel XV. vom Jahre 1938, IV. vom Jahre 1939 und XV. vom Jahre 1941 schufen die gesetzliche Grundlage für jene Massnahmen, die die Lösung der Judenfrage bezwecken.

Die militärischen Ereignisse an der Ostfront, das Herannahern der Sowjetarmee an die Grenzen Ungarns, machten den totalen Einsatz aller militärischen, materiellen und moralischen Kräfte des Landes zur Verteidigung der Existenz der Nation notwendig. Das bedeutete auch die Ausschaltung aller jener Momente, die die Widerstandskraft des Landes zu untergraben oder zu schmälern imstande waren. Da die defaitistische Propaganda und Wählerarbeit der Juden - gleich wie im Jahre 1918 - in dieser entscheidenden Phase des Krieges sich immer mehr bemerkbar machte, um die Wiederholung der tragischen Ereignisse der Jahre 1918-19 zu verhindern, sah sich die Regierung gezwungen, den Einfluss der Juden in gesteigertem Masse auszuschalten. So wurden sie von der übrigen Bevölkerung abgesondert und einer nutzbringenden Arbeit - sei es im In- oder Auslande - zugeführt. Dabei wurden die Gebote der Humanität und Gerechtigkeit seitens der Regierung und seiner Behörden nie ausser Acht gelassen. Wenn dabei Unbilligkeiten vereinzelt vorkamen, so waren

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GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. MacLellan's File

Teus in Hungary: August 1944

N.B.

10

dies stets sporadische Handlungen einiger untergeordneter Organe, die in jedem Falle zur Verantwortung gezogen wurden.

N.B. } Es wurden zahlreiche Juden als Arbeitskräfte der deutschen Regierung zur Verfügung gestellt, wie dies mit zehntausenden von Arbeitern ungarischer Nationalität und christlichen Glaubens seit Jahren der Fall war.

Die Behandlung der im Inland arbeitenden Juden ist dieselbe, wie die der anderen in Arbeitslagern Arbeitenden (:z.B. Studenten usw.:). *2 like this definition!*

Was die Lebensmittelrationierung anbelangt, so erhalten die nichtarbeitenden Juden einige, eher Gemussartikel (:Reis, Geflügel, Butter, Mohn:) nicht, betreffend die lebenswichtigen Artikel sind sie jedoch der übrigen Bevölkerung gleichgestellt.

Ergänzens darf noch bemerkt werden, dass in den letzten Wochen die Lage der Juden weitgehend verbessert wurde. Ueber Einzelheiten dieser Konzessionen gibt die beiliegende Aufzeichnung Aufschluss.

Auf Anregung einiger ausländischen Organisationen (:Internationales Rotes Kreuz, War Refugee Board:) hat die ungarische Regierung ermöglicht, dass den ungarländischen Juden eine materielle Hilfe zugeführt werden und, dass eine sehr beträchtliche Anzahl von Juden nach neutralen Staaten bzw. nach Palästina auswandern können.

Budapest, den 18. Juli 1944.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

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

I.

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

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

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

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

Cette catégorie comprend 400 - 500 personnes
environ.

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

Les personnes susindiquées peuvent émigrer en
Palestine si elles sont en possession du "Certificat d'immi-
gration" délivré par les autorités britanniques.

FRAN CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McDiarmid's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

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

II.

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

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

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

b) Les juifs baptisés jusqu'au 1er août 1941 restent dans le pays, mais leur séparation des personnes nonjuives sera ordonnée.

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

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

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

none left!

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCallum's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

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

5.) Seront exemptés du port de l'étoile juive:

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

b) les porteurs des décorations ecclésiastiques (papales),

c) les membres de l'Ordre du Saint Sépulcre.

III.

1.) a) Le droit discrétionnaire est réservé à S.A.S. le Régent d'exempter un certain nombre de juifs.

Seront exemptés:

b) les juifs vivant en mariage avec une personne d'origine chrétienne.

c) les juifs qui sont porteurs de certaines décorations de guerre (médaille de bravoure militaire d'or etc.)

d) Les juifs qui ont certains mérites spéciaux.

3) Les prêtres des cultes chrétiens.

2.) Le départ des juifs pour le travail à l'étranger se fera dans des conditions respectant les lois de l'humanité et la Croix Rouge Hongroise aura des possibilités de contrôle.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCallum's Files

Teus in Hungary! August 1944

3.) L'expédition des colis de vivres sera autorisée pour les personnes internées dans des camps de concentration par l'entremise de la Crois Rouge.

Budapest, le 18 juillet 1944.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr MacLellan's Files

Teus in Hungary! August 1944

Copy to Mr. McClelland

Jews in Hungary

Mr. McClelland's Files

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: August 2, midnight, 1944

1-116

No.: 2657

Code: ████████

C.I.

Received: August 3, 5 p.m.

PARAPHRASE

Legation's 4604 July 19.

For your information, with reference to Hungarian Government's offer to permit the departure of Jews from Hungary, on July 26 the British Embassy in Washington presented two cables from the British Foreign Office suggesting that the matter of surveying and coordinating possible places of refuge for Jews from Hungary be placed before the Inter-Governmental Committee for action. It was likewise stated in the messages that it would be necessary to review the possibilities of receiving refugees in Palestine and at Casablanca and at Philippeville in Algiers. On July 31 Department and WRB delivered to the British Embassy a memorandum suggesting that the responsibility for dealing with the offer of the Hungarians rests with the Governments of Great Britain and the United States and expressing the judgment that because of the need of consulting other governments the Inter-Governmental Committee cannot act in time to be effective. The memorandum to the British Embassy included the following draft of a proposed cable to you, with a request for the concurrence of the British Government in the transmission of the cable to Bern not later than August 7:

"Department has received from the International Red Cross delegate in Washington the following communication:

" 'I have received today the following communication from the International Red Cross Committee:

" 'Intercross in Geneva has been advised of the willingness of Hungary to make possible the emigration of certain categories of Jews.

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

Mr. McClelland's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

DECLASSIFIED
 State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
 By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

" 'The International Red Cross Committee feels, from the standpoint of maintaining the principle of neutrality which is in effect based on reciprocity, that there should be a substantial increase in the number of emigrant Jews admitted to the United States and that there should be a corresponding number of entry permits accorded.

See this paragraph down to the National!

" 'It would, moreover, be desirable for the United States to make a public statement of the number of entry permits which it is willing to issue. ICRC is of the opinion that such a statement would impress the Government of Hungary as a visible sign of a favorable reaction to its decision to put a stop to the persecution of Jews. Such a public declaration would, furthermore, render difficult the possibility of an eventual withdrawal of the concession granted, and at the same time would also forestall an attempt by the countries of emigration to throw on the countries of immigration the blame for an eventual failure. Information is requested as to whether the United States would be willing to transmit this proposal to the South American governments with its support, of whether this should be done by Intercross directly.

see reference

" 'ICRC reserves the right to issue a communiqué with regard to this proposal, which it is submitting simultaneously to the British Government.'

note

" Please ask Intercross to advise the Government of Hungary in the sense of the following:

" 'The United States has been advised by the International Red Cross Committee of the Hungarian Government's willingness to permit certain categories of refugees to emigrate from Hungary. The United States Government, in spite of the substantial difficulties and responsibilities that are involved, has consistently made clear that it is determined to take all practicable steps for the rescue of the victims of political or religious oppression.

" 'The Government of the United States, taking into account the humanitarian considerations involved as regard the Jews in Hungary, now specifically repeats its assurance that arrangements will be made by it for the care of all Jews who in the present circumstances are allowed to leave Hungary and who reach territory of the United States or neutral countries, and that it will find for such people temporary havens or refuge where they may live in safety. The governments of neutral countries have been advised of these assurances and have been requested to permit the entry into their

territory

Conservation Files

Mr. McCalland's Files

Jews in Hungary

944

territory of Jews from Hungary who may reach their frontiers. The United States is now awaiting information with regard to the concrete steps which the Hungarian Government will take to carry out its proposal.

"Parallel action is being taken by the Government of Great Britain, to which the foregoing proposal has also been addressed. You may, accordingly, desire to join with your colleague in conveying to Intercross this expression of joint action.

"Please advise the International Red Cross Committee that this Government is of the opinion that in view of the above assurances it will not be necessary to consult the South American governments at this time.

"It is considered urgent that the foregoing representations be conveyed without delay by Intercross to the Hungarian Government. Kindly express to ICRC our appreciation for its cooperation, and report promptly the results of the action you take."

Department repeats, in order to avoid any possible misunderstanding, that the above draft is now before the British Government for clearance and concurrence and that it is sent to the Legation at this time only for information and understanding. Legation should not (repeat not) take the action indicated until it is specifically instructed to do so. You are authorized, meanwhile, to advise Intercross informally that the Governments of the United States and Great Britain are in consultation on the matter and that a reply to the note which was presented by the Committee will be forthcoming within a short time.

The above has been repeated to Embassy London, with reference to its 5956 of July 27, as No. 6096 from the Department.

STETTINIUS ACTING

Jews in Hungary

ARM CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCallum's Files

Jews in H

244

CASE FILE

For RDM

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

CL

Date: August 3, 9 a. m., 1944.

No: 4972

Code: Brown

Charged to: 304 WK 13 from McClelland.

Referring to present situation of Jews in Hungary Burckhardt of ICRC communicated to me message received July 31 from Dr. Schirmer (formerly in Berlin) and Born, ICRC representatives in Budapest, substance of which follows.

1. Sufficient quantities of food and clothing are available in Hungary. Funds will be needed however to purchase foodstuffs for relief to recently dispossessed Jews in Budapest and more particularly to those remaining in provinces in camps.

2. Jews in Budapest are now allowed to leave their houses to make purchases between 10 and 17 hours (formerly only between 14 and 17). Those possessing adequate means can purchase sufficient food for their needs. The legitimation cards of Jews in Budapest expire on August 1st. They will however be granted new ones and according to recent decree a certain number of special work permits will be issued to Jews "whose intellectual or physical labor is considered to be of public utility".

3. All internment and concentration camps and consigned Jewish houses in Budapest will be accessible to ICRC delegates. Schirmer and Born have visited 25 such houses, as well as hospitals and baths. In latter satisfactory conditions prevailed. They also visited camps of Kistarcsa and Sarvar on July 25. (According to additional information there are other Jewish camps at Miskolc, Jaszbereny and Pecs.) ICRC Geneva will be notified by telegram if and what relief supplies are needed for these camps. Transportation facilities in Hungary will be granted and goods consigned to Hungarian Red Cross for distribution by ICRC. ICRC may choose Jewish "hommes de confiance" in camps.

4. Any relief action undertaken by ICRC will
receive

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

CORRESPONDENCE

Mr McClelland's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

Letter of World Jewish Congress

RESPONDENCE

Mr. McCalland's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

(4972)

-2-

receive collaboration of Hungarian Red Cross and of official "Judenrat" in Budapest. Final control of all distributions will be in hands of ICRC. Auxiliary relief personnel can be supplied by Jews themselves. Such personnel will be exempted from wearing yellow Jewish star. Adequate space for offices and storerooms will be made available to any ICRC Jewish relief program.

5. About 8,700 Jewish families, amounting to some 40,000 souls, plus 1,000 orphaned children, will be allowed to emigrate from Hungary to Palestine via Rumania and Turkey. An initial transport of about 2,000 persons will leave Budapest within next eight to ten days. ICRC will take charge of departure, transportation and care this convoy en route. Born will accompany first convoy to Rumanian port of Constanza. Boats are reported to be available.

HARRISON

RDM:mjb:nf

Copy to RDM

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: August 3, 11 a. m., 1944.

No: 4974

Code: [REDACTED]

C.L.

Charged to:

Paraphrase

Paragraphs 6 and 7 below are a continuation of the Legation's cable no. 4972 of today's date.

6. In connection with the foregoing it is expected that Samuel Stern will leave shortly for Palestine. Stern is President of the Hungarian "Judenrat".

7. ICRC has received from the Rumanian Government repeated assurances indirectly (through the same channel mentioned in the Legation's 4257, July 5) to the effect that the necessary transit facilities for Jewish refugees from Hungary will be granted and that the Rumanians will further assist in any possible way the securing of suitable steamers. Information has been received also by ICRC from the Swiss Legation in Sofia that the Bulgarian Government is willing to grant the necessary overland transit facilities for the refugees under discussion.

Message from ICRC ends here.

In line with paragraph five in the ICRC message and with the Department's 2605 of July 28, Carl Burckhardt desires to transmit a personal appeal to Ambassador Winant in London expressing his appreciation and that of ICRC for any steps which could be taken with the British Government to expedite the admission into Palestine of at least these 8,700 families. Burckhardt also feels strongly that in order to insure the continued cooperation of the Rumanian Government in the evacuation of Hungarian Jewish refugees it is essential to remove such refugees from Rumanian territory promptly.

From McClelland for WRB, with reference to the Legation's 4896 of July 29 and the Department's 2630 of July 31, last paragraph thereof.

RDM:mjb:nf
In duplicate
Copy to RDM

HARRISON

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

840.1

se
1.

Jewis in Hungary; August 1944

For RDM

TELEGRAM SENT

Jews in Hungary

To: Department

Date: August 3, 7 p. m., 1944.

No: 4981

Code: ██████████

Charged to:

US URGENT

Paraphrase

1. With reference to the first paragraph of the Department's 2595 of July 28, the Legation's 4604 of July 19 was not in reply to our note of June 13, which was delivered on June 27 to the Hungarian Foreign Office. In latter connection please see no. 4260 of July 5 from the Legation.

Paragraphs 2 and 3 are given in the Legation's 4983, which makes up the remainder of the present cable.

HARRISON

DWM:mf
In triplicate

2 copies to AI
1 copy to RDM

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

Mr McCalland's Files

Jews in Hungary - August 1944

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

TELEGRAM SENT

F or RDM

German given as to how many Hgs US would accept!

To: Department

Date: August 3, 8 p. m., 1944.

No: 4983

Code: Brown

Charged to:

2. Division of Foreign Interests of Federal Political Department informs me by note dated August 2 of receipt of telegram from Swiss Legation, Budapest, stating that according to communication from German Legation, Hungary, German Government desires that part of Jewish emigrants from Hungary be accepted by the United States. Note states these emigrants could be evacuated Lisbon via France and that Swiss Legation, Budapest, desires be informed how many these emigrants may be accorded permits enter United States.

German Legation probably hold its tongue in check!

3. Hungarian answer to our note June 13 received today.

HARRISON

DWM:mak:nf
In duplicate to AI
Copy to RDM

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

Mr McClintock's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

se
1.

Jews in Hungary

*Letter of World Jewish Congress
to ICRC*

01

Juifs hongrois et Juifs hongrois en Hongrie.
Après avoir l'espérance de vous demander de si
vous voulez votre attention à cette question, en
qualité du Comité International de la Croix-Rouge
qui a pour mission de veiller à ce que dans la pratique
aucune distinction ne soit faite entre ces différentes catégories.

En vous remerciant d'avance, je vous prie de
l'expression de mes sentiments très distingués.

II/a 42 492

Genève, le 3 août 1944

Comité International de la Croix-Rouge
à l'attention de Monsieur Schwarzenberg
Hôtel Métropole
Genève

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

Mr MacClelland's Files

Monsieur,

Par l'entremise de la Légation des Etats-Unis, je viens de recevoir une communication de notre bureau central à New York, dans laquelle celui-ci me prie d'attirer votre attention sur la situation des Juifs qui ne sont pas de nationalité hongroise et vivant sur territoire hongrois et de vous demander de bien vouloir inclure cette catégorie d'Israélites dans la protection que vous avez bien voulu accorder aux Juifs hongrois menacés de déportation.

Je n'ai pas eu jusqu'ici d'informations au sujet de la question si l'affirmation des autorités hongroises de suspendre les déportations était valable uniquement pour les sujets hongrois d'origine juive. J'ai, au contraire, déduit des communiqués publiés par le Comité International de la Croix-Rouge qu'aucune distinction entre Juifs de nationalité hongroises et Juifs d'autres nationalités vivant sur territoire hongrois n'était faite. Cependant, la communication que je viens de recevoir me demande "to intervene for Jews of non hungarian citizenship whose deportation postponed August 1". Je ne peux pas bien m'expliquer le sens de cette phrase n'ayant moi-même aucunement mentionné dans mes rapports à Washington ni la date du 1er août ni une différenciation dans le traitement entre Juifs hongrois et non-hongrois. M. Mac Clelland auquel j'ai soumis également cette question n'a trouvé, de son côté, non plus une explication. J'en déduis donc qu'une nouvelle de presse éronnée aura probablement induit en erreur notre bureau central.

Je vous serais quand même infiniment reconnaissant, si vous vouliez bien me confirmer qu'en dans les communications que vous avez reçues des autorités hongroises aucune distinction n'est faite en ce qui concerne les promesses obtenues entre

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

Telephone 2 44 24

NEW YORK

1944

LETTER OF THE UNITED STATES

Juifs hongrois et Juifs étrangers en Hongrie. Je saisis en même temps l'occasion pour vous demander de bien vouloir vouer toute votre attention à cette question, en priant les délégués du Comité International de la Croix-Rouge qui sont sur place de veiller à ce que dans la pratique également aucune distinction ne soit faite entre ces différentes catégories.

En vous remerciant d'avance, je vous présente, Monsieur, l'expression de mes sentiments très distingués.

Date: Please enter the date.

CONGRÈS JUIF MONDIAL

gestern erhielt ich von Herrn ...
folgendes Brief-Telegramm:

DEIN BRIEF VOM 27. ERHALTEN ST. VERBÜRGERUNG DER ...
NICHT ABGESCHLOSSEN ST. VERBÜRGERUNG ...
ST. VERBÜRGERUNG ...

... in Verbindung mit ...
... - ... - ...

... mit ...
... - ... - ...

... oben zitiertes Telegramm von ...
... auf ... von ...

... das ...
... die ...

Mit herzlichem Gruß

Dr.
Kornell G. McMillan
Special Assistant to
the American Minister.

[Signature]

ERRA CORRESPONDENCE

Mr McMillan's Files
Central

Jews in Hungary, August 1944

[Handwritten mark]

Antagon of Protestant Churches

Weltzentrale des Hechaluz
Hechaluz Geneva Office

המרכז העולמי של ה"חלוץ"
משרד ז"נבה

Telephon 2 36 28

GENF. 3.8.44 ז"נבה

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
Rec'd AUG 4 - 1944
BERN

OL

Aug 3rd

840.1 JEWS IN HUNGARY

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr McClelland's Files
(Switzerland)

Telex in Hungary! August 1944

Mein lieber Herr Mr Clelland,

gestern erhielt ich von Herrn Kastner, Budapest, folgendes Dring-Telegramm:

re. proposed meeting with Schwarz

DEIN BRIEF VOM 27. ERHALTEN STOP ANGELEGENHEIT GERUSCH (Deportation) NOCH NICHT ABGESCHLOSSEN STOP STEFAN (Roosevelt) SOLLTE NOCH EINMAL NASI (Horthy) SPRECHEN STOP BEVOLLMAECHTIGTER VON SCHROEDER VORHSCHLAG ZUSAMMENTREFFEN MIT EUREM BEVOLLMAECHTIGTEN SPANISCH FRANZOESISCHE GRENZE WEGEN WARENVERHANDLUNG STOP KONTRAKTE ONKEL SCHWARZ (Portugal) UND BADER (Tuerkei) VERANLASSET UNVERZUEGLICHE PRINZIPIELLE ANNAHME VORSCHLAGES BESTIMMEND ORT UND ZEITPUNKT STOP FRAGE DR SCHWARZ OB SCHWEIZERISCHE GRENZE NICHT ENTSPRECHEN WUERDE STOP AKTION KRAUSS (Palästinaauswanderung) AUCH VON DIESEN VERHANDLUNGEN ABHAENGIG STOP DRINGDRAHTET-KASZTNER

Darauf, in Vereinbarung mit Herrn Saly Mayer, antwortete ich dringend- wie folgt:

ERWARTE ANTWORT MEIN TELEGRAMM 25/7 STOP ONKEL MIT ASZKE (Bevollmachtigtem) SPRECHBEREIT GRUESSE=NATHAN

Das oben zitierte Telegramm von Dr. Kastner kam als Antwort auf unser Schreiben vom 27.7., in welchem wir betonten, dass Ware unmoeglich ist, und dass wir nur eine Barzahlung machen koennten, wenn Kastner uns, wie versprochen, einen Namen nennen wird.

Es scheint, dass das unglueckliche Missverstaendnis nur durch eine persoenliche Zusammenkunft geklaert werden kann, besonders weil das Deportation-Stoppen und Palaestina-Auswanderung davon abhaengen. Es ist daher auch sehr wichtig und dringend nach Amerika mitzuteilen, dass der Praesident sich an Horthy nochmals wenden soll, da in dieser Frage noch immer das Spiel zwischen den Deutschen und Ungarn besteht.

Mit herzlichen Gruessen und besten Wuenschen

Ihr
N. Schwalb
N. Schwalb.-

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

MEMORANDUM

*Minister
WRB ROM*

August 8, 1944.

44

Minister:

From:

Mr. McClelland:

Code:

Received
For Action
Answered
No. 5

The accompanying telegram is one which requires cautious treatment. I have spoken to Mr. Reagan about it, and I am sending him a copy for his consideration. Before taking any action in the matter all of its angles have to be carefully inquired into, and it is possible also that consultation with Mr. Dulles might be of some avail.

J.K.H.

*Seems to me that Schaeffer is already involved with KG of Bellerive & with the Austrian lawyer.
Memo to AWS*

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elies
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that
can in
haeffer
et in
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dence in
iculties,
uch pengos
lan
s enter-
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establish
tirmay to
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rprises.

come to Switzerland
ostensibly with regard to
You should ask Schaeffer to inform Bogdanffy
you when he expects Szentirmay to arrive, so that you
can be sent information concerning further matters
which he should discuss with Szentirmay. Bogdanffy
particularly emphasizes that Schaeffer should not
(repeat not) indicate to Szentirmay that he has heard
from Bogdanffy until he reaches Switzerland.

840.1

CASE FILE

*His father
WRB-RDM*

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: August 3, 7 p.m., 1944

No: 2668

Code: [REDACTED]

Received: August 4, 7 p.m.

Received WRB *Aug 8/44* RDM
For Action
Answered *Provisional Region's*
No. 551A, *Aug 23.*

PARAPHRASE

(10)

WRB No. 108. For McClelland.

Please establish personal contact with Alfred Schaeffer, General Manager of the Union Bank of Switzerland in Zurich, and inform him orally that Eugene Bogdanffy of Los Angeles has communicated with you through WRB, stating that he is greatly disturbed by the news of persecutions in Hungary and feels that he should do everything he can to render aid to the unfortunate victims of oppression, and that he relies heavily on Schaeffer for help. The latter should further be informed that Bogdanffy says he is confident that Schaeffer will give all the assistance that he can in this purely humanitarian cause. He desires Schaeffer to be informed that Saly Mayer will probably get in touch with him with regard to his desire to purchase pengoes available in Hungary against blocked dollars or francs, and that he can have complete confidence in Mayer. Bogdanffy urges that, despite all difficulties, Schaeffer arrange with Felix Szentirmay for such pengos - which will be employed solely for humanitarian purposes - to be made available by Bogdanffy's enterprises to whatever person Saly Mayer designates. He requests that, without waiting for Mayer to establish contact with him, Schaeffer arrange for Szentirmay to come to Switzerland immediately to see Schaeffer, ostensibly with regard to the Bogdanffy enterprises. You should ask Schaeffer to inform Bogdanffy through you when he expects Szentirmay to arrive, so that you can be sent information concerning further matters which he should discuss with Szentirmay. Bogdanffy particularly emphasizes that Schaeffer should not (repeat not) indicate to Szentirmay that he has heard from Bogdanffy until he reaches Switzerland.

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McClelland's Files
Jews in Hungary August 1944

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

Have done this

You are requested to bring the above to Saly Mayer's attention and to ask that he contact Schaeffer after you have spoken to the latter. Even though he may not need pengos at the present time, he should inquire of Schaeffer as to the possibility of acquiring them against dollars or francs. WRB will appreciate receiving from you prompt advice as to the effectuation of each of the above-outlined steps.

For your information, Bogdanffy has substantial interests in several large enterprises in Hungary, and he is himself a Hungarian. Schaeffer or his institution is trustee of Bogdanffy's interests, and Szentirmay is the manager of one or more of his enterprises. Neither Bogdanffy nor Szentirmay is Jewish. You may tell Schaeffer and Saly Mayer that Bogdanffy is cooperating with WRB, but Szentirmay should not (repeat not) be so informed. It is expected that if the latter comes to Switzerland, you will in Bogdanffy's name ask Schaeffer to request (this is for your information only) that he undertake certain action upon his return to Hungary, designed to ameliorate the condition of persecuted peoples. You may, in your discretion, substitute some other suitable person in Saly Mayer's role, if the latter for any reason does not (repeat not) wish to become involved. If the Legation or other American authorities believe that Schaeffer is not a suitable person in any way, you should refrain from contacting him, advising WRB of the reason.

STETTINIUS ACTING

In duplicate
re *copy in F.A.*

CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McClelland's Files
(Switzerland)
News in Hungary: August 1944

*From Minister
to Pölet-Gölay.*

COPY

Jews in Hungary

C.L.

Bern, August, 4th., 1944.

My dear Mr. Federal Councillor:

With reference to the report that the Government of Hungary will permit the departure of Jews from its territory, my Government hopes that the Government of Your Excellency will find it possible to advise the Government of Hungary that it is willing to receive Jews whom the Hungarian Government may release for admission to Switzerland. In the event that the Federal Government should so advise the Hungarian Government, Jews arriving in Switzerland from Hungary will be evacuated as promptly as possible to the territory of the United Nations and in the meanwhile my Government will be prepared to make arrangements for their maintenance in Switzerland.

I shall be most grateful if Y. Excellency will be good enough to inform me as to the decision of the Fed. Gov. in this matter in order that I may duly advise my Gov.

Please accept, etc.

LELAND HARRISON

*A refugee coming to S/land costs Swiss Gov. about
6/fus /day/ person*

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

COMITE PROTECTOR

(Société) des de Commerce Universel sur le
Et de la Constitution et de l'Etat d'Israël
de Constantinople (Projet)

Président de Comité Protector:

L'Amiral de York

Président de Comité Administratif:

Le Président des Nations

Membres honoraires:

Dr. J. Van 't Hoff

Dr. Wilson Pizey

Comité exécutif:

Dr. Henry Smith Leiper

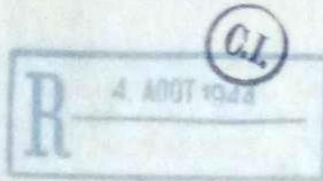
GENEVE.

41, Avenue de Champel

Tel. 2412

Tele. «Chambre» Suisse

Ch. Post. 1.50



Bern, August 4, 1944.

Dear Dr. Kahany:

I wish to acknowledge and thank you for your letter
of the 1st of August, in which you enclosed a communication
of the same date to Dr. Schwarzenberg of the International
Hongrie me prie de vous transmettre ce document qui
Red Cross explaining the latest developments in regard to
montre ce que les Eglises hongroises ont fait pour les
Palestine certificates for Jews in Hungary.

Sincerely yours,

W.A. Visser 't Hooft.

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

Genève, le 4 août 1944.

Dr. M. Kahany,
The Jewish Agency for Palestine,
37 Quai Wilson,
Geneva.

RDM/mjb

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY
Immig. to Palestine

Mr. McClelland's files
Switzerland

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

Letter of Protest from Churches in Hungary in behalf of Jews

CONSEIL OECUMÉNIQUE DES EGLISES

(EN FORMATION)

COMITÉ PROVISOIRE

(Constitué par la Conférence Universelle sur la Foi et la Constitution et le Conseil Oecuménique du Christianisme Pratique.)

Président du Comité Provisoire :
L'Archevêque de York.

Président du Comité Administratif :
Le Président Marc Boegner.

Secrétaires généraux :
Dr W. A. Visser 't Hooft.
Dr William Paton.

Secrétaire adjoint :
Dr Henry Smith Leiper.

R 4. AOUT 1944

GENÈVE,
41, Avenue de Champel
Tél. 5.43.33
Télégr. «Oikumene» Genève
Ch. Post. I. 572

Un représentant des Eglises protestantes de Hongrie me prie de vous transmettre ce document qui montre ce que les Eglises hongroises ont fait pour les Juifs persécutés.

i.e. Protestant W.A. Visser 't Hooft.

Genève, le 4 août 1944.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCallum's Files
(Switzerland)

Jews in Hungary; August 1944

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COMpte-RENDU DE L'ACTIVITE DES EGLISES PROTESTANTES DE HONGRIE
EN FAVEUR DES JUIFS DU PAYS, DU 19 MARS AU 9 JUILLET 1944 -

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Avant que le décret instituant l'obligation de porter l'étoile jaune eût été promulgué, Laszlo RAVASZ, évêque réformé de Budapest et président ecclésiastique de l'Eglise réformée de Hongrie, et le Baron Albert RADVANSZKY, Président laïque de l'Eglise luthérienne de Hongrie firent des démarches énergiques en faveur des personnes ayant caractère sacerdotal et en faveur des convertis (baptisés) en général; malheureusement, l'exemption des mesures restrictives ne fut accordée qu'à la première catégorie.

Faisant suite à ces démarches, l'évêque Ravasz se rendit personnellement auprès du Ministre de l'Intérieur et lui expliqua les raisons de l'attitude intransigeante des Eglises.

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L'évêque Ravasz fut plus ou moins soutenu dans ses efforts par le Sous-Secrétaire d'Etat au Ministère des Cultes et de l'Instruction publique, le député pro-nazi Miklos MESTER, qui essaya de faire exempter autant de personnes que possible. Cette attitude du Sous-Secrétaire d'Etat ne changea pas lors de la promulgation du décret instituant le système des ghettos (fin avril).

L'appui promis par le Sous-Secrétaire d'Etat mentionné plus haut ayant été peu efficace, les présidents des Eglises protestantes, après avoir fait une démarche personnelle, le 9 mai, mirent au point une lettre de protestation revêtue de leurs signatures, lettre attaquant vigoureusement tout le système des ghettos; en même temps, ils exigèrent pour les convertis soit une exemption totale, soit la faculté de vivre séparément des autres Juifs.

Le 19 mai, les Eglises protestantes adressèrent une nouvelle note énergique de protestation contre les atrocités commises en relation avec le système des ghettos.

Les déportations ayant commencé vers la fin du mois de mai, l'évêque Ravasz s'efforça d'organiser une action commune des Eglises catholique et protestantes; les évêques catholiques ne pouvant pas obtenir la permission du Prince-Primat, cette tentative fut vouée à l'échec. Ainsi, le 21 juin, seuls les présidents des Eglises protestantes remirent au Président du Conseil un mémorandum signé par tous les évêques réformés et luthériens. Ce mémorandum exigeait du Gouvernement de faire cesser immédiatement la déportation des Juifs, faute de quoi les Eglises protesteraient publiquement et déclencheraient un conflit ouvert des plus graves; le mémorandum demandait aussi pour les enfants de moins de 18 ans, chrétiens d'origine juive, la faveur de vivre dans des institutions de secours et sous la surveillance de l'Eglise.

A la fin du mois de juin, les Eglises protestantes purent obtenir que les Conseillers de paroisse (membres laïques élus par la communauté ecclésiastique) fussent exemptés de l'obligation de porter l'étoile jaune.

Entre temps, les déportations continuèrent à un rythme accéléré. Les Eglises gardèrent le silence pour la raison suivante: en effet, le porte-parole du Gouvernement leur avait dit, lors de la remise du mémorandum du 21 juin que le Gouvernement était prêt à faire tout son possible auprès des autorités d'occupation en vue d'une solution équitable du problème juif; cependant, une discrétion

absolue était requise de la part du Gouvernement qui alléguait que toute publicité risquerait d'entraîner la désapprobation ouverte de la puissance occupante.

Le délai fixé par les Eglises pour la cessation des déportations expirait le 29 juin et, n'ayant pas obtenu satisfaction, les Eglises eurent l'intention de rendre publique leur protestation, du haut de la chaire, le dimanche 2 juillet. Cependant, les cultes ne purent pas avoir lieu ce jour-là en raison des attaques aériennes massives des Anglo-Saxons; de ce fait, ce n'est que le dimanche suivant que les Eglises étaient même de donner la publicité voulue à leur démarche de protestation. (Nous ne savons pas encore si cette protestation publique eut lieu, vu que les déportations furent arrêtées le 7 juillet).

La campagne de protestation des Eglises, qui se poursuivait sans grand espoir, reçut un soutien vraiment providentiel du télégramme du Roi de Suède et de la lettre de protestation du Nonce apostolique.

Ces démarches vigoureuses et l'action énergique de la Croix-Rouge internationale purent obtenir finalement les résultats suivants : le 5 juillet, les convertis baptisés avant le 1er août 1941 furent officiellement invités par voie d'affiche et par la presse à se faire enregistrer auprès des autorités ecclésiastiques compétentes; cette mesure avait pour but de faire exempter cette catégorie de l'obligation de porter l'étoile jaune et de permettre à ceux qui lui appartiennent de quitter les ghettos ; on attend encore le consentement des autorités allemandes, après avoir obtenu l'accord du Gouvernement hongrois; on espère que la pression exercée de tous côtés aura pour effet d'assurer le succès de toutes ces démarches. Il n'y a guère d'espoir que des facilités ou des exemptions soient accordées aux Juifs non baptisés, étant donné que les Allemands ont déclaré avoir occupé la Hongrie non pour que les Juifs y restent, mais pour que le pays soit vidé de cet élément.

En ce qui concerne les déportations, elles ont cessé le 7 juillet, le télégramme du Roi de Suède et la lettre du Nonce apostolique ayant fait une immense impression sur le Régent et même sur le Gouvernement. (Il est intéressant de noter que le Régent ne fut informé des démarches énergiques des Eglises protestantes qu'après avoir reçu le télégramme du Roi de Suède au début de juillet.)

Il est incontestable que la démarche de la Croix-Rouge internationale ne manqua pas de produire son effet également. La question est de savoir maintenant si ces résultats provisoires pourront être consolidés, malgré l'influence de la Gestapo et du commandement des S.S. qui ont la haute main dans ces affaires.

Il est intéressant de remarquer qu'une association hongroise des étudiants protestants (S.D.G.) reçoit, depuis le 23 avril, ses nouveaux membres, non en leur remettant l'ancien emblème en forme de coeur ardent (au reste difficile à obtenir en raison de la pénurie générale de matières premières), mais en épinglant sur leur poitrine un emblème en forme d'"étoile" blanche.

Nous annexons à ce compte-rendu un rapport original en allemand sur l'activité de la commission du "Bon Pasteur" qui s'occupe de l'aide aux protestants d'origine israélite. Par les temps

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difficiles qui courent, cette commission a besoin d'un fond d'environ 50.000 Pengös par mois. Le grand problème est de trouver les fonds nécessaires à la poursuite de cette excellente oeuvre missionnaire et humanitaire.

Genève, le 20 juillet 1944.

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SUPPLEMENT AU COMPTE-RENDU DU 20 JUILLET 1944.

Le Journal Officiel hongrois du 14 juillet 1944 publia le décret portant institution de l'Association des "Juifs Chrétiens de Hongrie". Ce décret stipule que les Juifs baptisés ne sont pas membres de l'"Association des Juifs de Hongrie", mais de la nouvelle organisation.

D'autre part, on rapporte de source sûre que tous les Juifs baptisés ont pu quitter les ghettos le 7 juillet.

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MISSIONSKOMMISSION "DER GUTE HIRT" DES ALLGEMEINEN KONVENTS DER
REFORMIERTEN KIRCHE

Budapest V, Szabadsag tér 2, Reformiertes Pfarramt

ARBEITSBERICHT

Laut der Bestimmung Nr. 9465/1942 des Präsidiumrates vom Allgemeinen Konvent der Reformierten Kirche ist am 15. Oktober 1942 die Missionskommission "Der gute Hirt" gegründet worden, unter dem Präsidium von Herrn Julius Muraközy, Pfarrer der Calvin-tézer Gemeinde. Die geladenen Mitglieder sind die Vertreter der reformierten und der lutherischen Kirche.

Bischof Dr. Ladislaus Ravasz beauftragte den Hilfspfarrer Joseph Elias mit den Obliegenheiten des Sekretärs und Pfarrers der Kommission, der dieses Amt seit dem 13. Dezember 1942 ausübt. Die weiteren Mitglieder der Kommission befassen sich mit Diakonissenarbeit, Besuch der Familien, Büroarbeit, mit sozialen Arbeiten, mit der Angelegenheit der protestantischen Arbeitsdienstler, mit den Angelegenheiten der Waisenhäuser, mit Post und Drucksachen. Sitz der Kommission ist: Budapest VI, Lazar u. 5, I. Stock. 11.

Die Kommission wählte den Namen "Der gute Hirt", weil sie ihre Aufgabe im Namen des Herrn Jesu ausübt, durch Seine Seele und auf Seinen Befehl. Das Ziel der Kommission ist die seelische und soziale Pflege der in die evangelische und reformierte Kirche übergetretenen Kirchenmitglieder. Der Dienst wird direkt von der reformierten und evangelischen Kirche ausgeübt, weil es unter den Mitgliedern solche Gruppen gibt, deren seelische und materielle Lage eine besondere Missionsmethode und Missionspflege verlangt. Es bedeutet keine Absonderung, denn die Arbeit wird in der Gemeinde ausgeübt, durch die offiziellen Diener der Kirche im Sinne der reformierten und evangelischen Versammlungen, und die seelisch gepflegten nehmen an dem seelischen Leben der Versammlung, unabhängig von der Arbeit der Kommission, genau so teil wie zuvor, ja sogar noch nachdrücklicher.

Die Arbeit der Missionskommission "Der gute Hirt" besteht in folgendem:

1. Sie korrespondiert mit den Arbeitsdienstlern innerhalb und ausserhalb der Landesgrenzen, sorgt für ihre Bekleidung, erkundigt sich nach ihnen.
2. Sie betreut die Familienangehörigen der Arbeitsdienstler und der im Dienste Gefallenen, sorgt für den seelischen Trost aller, die es nötig haben, erteilt gebührenfrei juridischen Rat und gewährt materielle Hilfe.
3. Sie veranstaltet Evangelisationen in den Versammlungen.
4. Sie gründet zum gleichen Zweck Gruppen in der Provinz, damit die Arbeit gründlicher ausgeübt wird.
5. Einmal wöchentlich werden Bibelstunden gehalten, alle 2-3 Wochen Mädchen- und Frauenkreisstunden und einmal im Monat Bibelstunden für die Jugend.

Seit dem 15. Oktober 1942 veranstaltete die Kommission folgende Versammlungen:

1. 30mal wurden grosse Zusammenkünfte der Versammlung abgehalten.
2. Etwa 200 Personen wurden in den Empfangsstunden in sozialen, seelischen und anderen Angelegenheiten empfangen.
3. 6mal wurden Wohltätigkeitsempfänge abgehalten.
4. In juristischen Fragen wurden ca. 300 Personen beraten.
5. Für Hilfe in Bargeld wurden 44.916,95 Pengö ausgezahlt; der Lohn der Angestellten ist inbegriffen, da nur solche Personen angestellt wurden, die den Gesetzen nach anderswo keine Stellung bekommen hätten. Der Lohn der Angestellten (einschl. Miete, Heizung, Beleuchtung usw.) betrug in den 18 Monaten 26.000 Pengö.
6. Hilfe in Form von Kleidung und Schuhen wurde im Werte von 117.082,68 Pengö verteilt.
7. Für Propaganda und Missionsdrucksachen wurden 3.257,29 Pengö ausgegeben.
8. Die Internierungslager wurden durch die Pfarrer der Mission besucht (Szabolcs utca, Pava utca, Magdolna utca in Budapest, ausserdem in Csörgö, Ricsó und Garany) und, für die Nahrungs- und Bargeldhilfe wurden 3.000 Pengö ausgegeben.
9. Es wurde versucht, den Arbeitslosen Arbeit zu verschaffen.
10. Zusammen mit der Schottischen Mission wurden zwei grosse Evangelisationen veranstaltet.
11. Besuche bei den von der Front heimgekehrten und sich in Quarantäne befindlichen Arbeitsdienstler.
12. Verteilung von 2.500 Exemplaren des Neuen Testaments.
13. Waisen wurden in der reformierten Waisenanstalt "Lakatos Etelka" untergebracht; die Ausgaben für sie betragen in den 18 Monaten 43.962 Pengö.
14. Mit dem gelben Stern gekennzeichneten Personen wurde zu neuen Wohnungen verholfen.
15. Aufklärende Vorträge wurden des öfteren abgehalten.
16. Die Armen, Kranken und auf Trost Angewiesenen wurden durch 6 Sozialpfleger besucht.
17. Die Angelegenheiten der neuen Christen wurden den zuständigen Stellen unterbreitet, wobei die Kommission als Fürsprecher fungierte.
18. Sie befasste sich auch mit der Angelegenheit des Frauenhilfsdienstes.

Auf die Bitte des evangelischen Bischofs hin wurden alle diese Arbeiten auch unter den evangelischen Mitgliedern der Kirche ausgeübt.

Die Buchhaltung ist folgende:

Die Summe der bis jetzt eingelaufenen Gaben:

P. 238.447,48

Die Summe der Ausgaben:

Hilfe in Bergold	P. 44.916,85
Lohn der Angestellten	26.000,00
Kleider und Schuhe	117.082,68
Drucksachen, Propaganda	3.257,29
Weisenhaus	<u>43.962,12</u>

235.218,94

Bleibt: 3.228,54

In der heutigen schweren Zeit benötigen wir monatlich das Mehrfache der Summe für die oben erwähnten Zwecke (da wenigstens 10mal so viel zugrundegerichtete Existenzen von uns Hilfe verlangen), d.h. 48.000 P. Pongé.

Wir müssen Gott danken, dass die Kirchenmitglieder - meistens reformierte und evangelische jüdischer Abstammung - noch immer die Grössten Opfer bringen und auch unter den schwersten Umständen ihre Gaben schicken. Man aber, da ihre Wertsachen beschlagnahmt wurden, entbehren auch sie die zum alltäglichen Leben nötigen Mittel. So können wir keine Gaben mehr von ihnen erwarten. Wir können sie auch deshalb nicht mehr mit Bittbriefen aufsuchen, weil nach den jüngsten Gesetzen die Wohnungswechsel derart sind, dass niemand mehr unter derselben Adresse zu finden ist, unter welcher er bei uns eingetragener war. Dies alles bedeutet, dass wir Grosse Ausgaben haben, ohne die Mittel zu besitzen. Wir vertrauen aber dem Herrn: Wenn Er uns zu dieser Arbeit berufen hat, wird Er uns auch die nötigen Mittel dazu verschaffen. Neben unserem seelischen Dienst brauchen wir daher auch materielle Hilfe, damit diejenigen, unter denen wir unsere Mission ausüben, sehen, dass das Reich Gottes nicht nur aus Worten besteht.

Baselgest, den 21. Juni 1944

Joseph Blies m.P.
Pfarrer-Sekretär

Notice

le 2 Août 1944

Ce qui donne un aspect tout-à-fait particulier aux interventions faites par les Eglises, c'est qu'en Hongrie, les milieux gouvernementaux étaient prêts à faire une distinction entre les Juifs baptisés et non-baptisés, mais opposaient une fin de non-recevoir catégorique aux démarches en faveur des non-baptisés; ces autorités Quisling invoquèrent que, bien que leur principe fondamental selon lequel le Juif appartenait à une race, sans égard à sa religion, n'eût pas été changé, elles voulaient bien respecter les intérêts spéciaux des Eglises. La conséquence de cette attitude se manifesta lorsque, il y a environ un mois, les Juifs commencèrent à se faire baptiser en masse, excitant la fureur et la désapprobation ouverte des détenteurs du pouvoir. Les articles des journaux hongrois sont très intéressants à ce sujet.

Nous avons noté avec grande satisfaction que l'immense majorité du peuple hongrois n'oublia pas ses devoirs envers ses compatriotes persécutés. Seul à Nagyvarad, 960 chrétiens de pure origine aryenne furent traduits en justice pour avoir aidé les Juifs; en outre, on a cité de nombreux cas d'arrestation en Transdanubie, à Kassa et dans la Grande Plaine hongroise. Nous savons de source sûre, que les paysans ne cessèrent d'apporter des vivres dans les Ghettos et dans les camps juifs malgré les menaces et les coups de matraque des gendarmes. Un des cas les plus intéressants est l'arrestation de Casimir Kallay, neveu de l'ancien président du conseil, Nicolas Kallay, qui fut surpris par les gendarmes à la frontière Slovaque lorsqu'il était en train de faire passer la frontière à 14 Juifs.

On nous rapporte encore qu'à Debrecen dans la grande église réformée, une protestation fut lue dimanche le 9 Juillet 1944 du haut de la chaire. En outre l'Eglise luthérienne fit aussi publier sa protestation dans les journaux et ce que passa la censure naziste est déjà fort intéressant. Nous annexons le compte-rendu luthérien, publié dans le Pester Lloyd du 25 Juillet, compte-rendu, qui, même censuré et mutilé, nous donne une bonne idée de tout ce que les Eglises ont fait.

Pour finir nous nous permettons encore de mentionner un détail intéressant concernant la durée de l'enseignement des non-chrétiens voulant se convertir. Avant l'occupation de la Hongrie, la durée de cet enseignement était fixée à trois mois dans toutes les Eglises chrétiennes de Hongrie. En raison des conversions de masses juives, la durée de l'enseignement vint d'être fixée à six mois. Des détails précis nous manquent à ce sujet, car le compte-rendu de l'évêque luthérien Turoczy n'est pas assez clair non plus. Ce que nous savons et ce qui peut être considéré comme certain, c'est que toutes les Eglises chrétiennes de Hongrie. (l'Eglise catholique incluse) ont pris des mesures analogues à ce sujet.

Jews in Hungary

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McCallum's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

Pester Lloyd, Dienstag, den 25. Juli 1944

DIE JUDENFRAGE IN DER BELEUCHTUNG EINES PROTESTANTISCHEN BISCHOFS

In seinem Bericht, den er über die vorjährige Geschäftsgebarung erstattet hat, beleuchtet der Bischof des evangelischen Kirchendistriktes an der Theiss, Zoltan T u r o c z y die Judenfrage wie folgt:

Wir konnten die Missionsaufgabe unserer Kirche nicht negieren, andererseits konnten wir unsere Kirche nicht erniedrigen und durften es nicht gestatten, dass sie die Dienerin persönlicher Interessen werde. Die Aufnahme der Juden in die christlichen Kirchen ohne Überzeugung und seelische Umgestaltung hat bereits bei den ersten Bekehrungsbewegungen den Kirchen grossen Schaden zugefügt. Wir empfanden die Notwendigkeit, unsere evangelische Kirche von dieser moralischen Schädigung zu verschonen und nicht zu gestatten, dass unter Ausserachtlassung der wahrhaften kirchlichen Interessen und der religiösen und moralischen Forderungen, die bei Bekehrungen notwendig sind, Unberufenen Tür und Tor geöffnet werde. Ich hatte daher angeordnet: es möge jedermann, der sich taufen lassen will und in dessen Familie sich bereits ein Christ befindet, der aber nicht evangelischen Glaubens ist, an jene Kirchengemeinschaft verwiesen werden, in welcher sein Angehöriger bereits lebt. Die übrigen konnten erst nach einer halbjährigen Probezeit in den Unterricht aufgenommen werden. Die Unterweisung musste ein weiteres halbes Jahr dauern, und sie wurde in zumindest wöchentlich zwei Stunden erteilt. Dieser Vorgang sicherte die Möglichkeit der Taufe für jene, die ernsthaft evangelisch werden wollten, behütete aber gleichzeitig unsere Kirche vor jenen, die sie aus Eigennutz überschwemmen wollten. Andererseits bemühte sich die Stellungnahme der Kirche um die Verteidigung der Christen jüdischer Abstammung. Der Erfolg dieser Stellungnahme war, dass die Christen jüdischer Abstammung in gewissen Fällen vom Tragen des Erkennungszeichens des gelben Sterns befreit wurden, dass die Anstellung christlicher Hausangestellter bei solchen Familien gestattet wurde, in denen wenigstens ein Familienglied christlicher Abstammung ist, und dass im Judenrate für die christlichen Juden eine Untergruppe aufgestellt wurde, das Beschwerderecht zugobilligt und die Möglichkeit geboten wurde, dass die Juden christlichen Glaubens neben dem gelben Stern auch ein ihre christliche Religion bezeugendes Zeichen tragen dürfen.

Schliesslich erhob die Kirche ihre Stimme gegen solche Methoden der Lösung der Judenfrage, die die ewigen Gesetze Gottes herausfordern würden. "Ich halte es im Interesse der geschichtlichen Wahrheit für meine Pflicht - so betont Bischof Turoczy -, dies alles mit vollkommener Objektivität festzuhalten." Er fügt hinzu, auf dem Gebiet seines Kirchendistriktes gebe es in keiner einzigen Gemeinde eine bedeutende Anzahl christlicher Juden; unter den kirchlichen Angestellten aber gäbe es nur zwei, deren christliche Abstammung einschliesslich der Grosseltern nicht nachgewiesen werden könne.

M.E.

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 Mr. McCl...
 Jewish ...
 August 1944

7.1944.

Weltzentrale des Hechaluz
Hechaluz Geneva Office

Jews in Hungary
המרכז העולמי של ה"חלוץ"
משרד זינבה

Telephon 2 36 28

GENF, 5. August 1944. זינבה

Lieber Herr MacClelland,

ich bestätige Ihr w. Schreiben vom 3.8. und für Ihr Interesse dankend.-
Inzwischen erhielten wir neue Berichte aus Ungarn. Die wichtigsten sende ich
Ihnen in Abschriften anbei, nämlich

- Ack.*
1. Brief Ing. Otto Komoly 24.7.
 2. Brief Perez (Chaluz) 25.7.
 3. Brief Perez-Cwi (Chaluz) 28.7.
 4. Brief Dr. Kasztner - Ing O. Komoly 28.7.

Zu Ihrer gefl. Kenntnisnahme. -

Ich möchte Sie sehr bitten, diese Briefe zu studieren und alle Fragen, die sich
bei Ihnen ergeben sollten, werden wir miteinander mündlich abklären.

Mit derselben Post wurden die "Liebesgaben" von unseren Freunden (ung., Slov.)
mit Freude bestätigt. Diese mit Ihrer Hilfe, für welche wir Ihnen bestens danken,
da, wie Sie aus den Beilagen ersehen, diese vielen Leidenden die Rettung nach
Rumänien ermöglicht haben.-

Gestern erhielten wir auch Post von unseren Freunden aus Rumänien, über die
wichtigen wichtigsten Dinge werden wir Ihnen noch heute, wenn Sie hierfür Zeit
haben, referieren.-

Wir bitten Sie sehr, unser heutiges Schreiben zu bestätigen und verbleiben
mit den besten Wünschen und

freundlichsten Grüßen

Ihr *N. Schwalb*

N. Schwalb

Beilagen erwähnt.

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

Geneve

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McClelland's Files
Jews in Hungary; August 1944

Jews in Hungary
7.1944. *Quelapert*

MECHALUZ, GENEVA OFFICE

16907

Sehr geehrter Herr Schwalbe!

Infolge einer hoffentlich nur sich auf kurze Zeit beschränkenden Behinderung unseres Freundes Rezzo, schreibe ich heute an Sie, um Ihnen in Kürze das Wichtigste seit den letzten Berichten vom 12. und 15. ds., welche ich zur Sicherheit in Copie dieser Zeilen beilege, mitzuteilen:

1. Der Transport von den 1690 befindet sich zur Zeit in Bergen-Belsen und wird dort festgehalten, bis Aschkenasischerseits nicht festgestellt wird, dass unsere Leistungen das Mass erreicht haben, welches der Weiterleitung bis Gwul Sefarad entspricht. Aus diesem Grunde ist die Erfüllung unseres heutigen Telegramms: "STEHEH HUGO DONNENBAUM ZUR VERFÜGUNG STOP REALISIERET UNVERZUEGLICH ALLE SEINE FINANZIELLEN ANSPRUECHE DA WARENLIEFERUNGEN AEUSSERST DRINGEND STOP AUSFALL UNABSEHBARE FOLGEN AUCH BEZUEGLICH ELEF SCHEWAMEOT BEREITGESTELLT ZUM WEITERTRANSPORT ZU SCHWARZ IN ASCHKENAS" äusserst wichtig, denn nur auf dieser Grundlage wird es möglich sein, den Transport zum Ziele geleiten und weitere Transporte abzusetzen solange, bis ein Uebereinkommen in Lissabon zwischen Schwarz und Vertreter von Aschkenas zuwege kommt.

2. Falls Rezzo in der Kürze nicht verfügbar wird /leiderhaben wir keine Ahnung, wo er sich befindet - trotz aller Recherchen seitens der aschkenasischen Behörden / so werde ich genötigt sein, die Reise nach Lissabon zu unternehmen, um bei dem Zustandekommen der Vereinbarungen behilflich zu sein.

3. Der Sekretär des Palästina-Amtes M. Krausz bemüht sich um das Zustandekommen einer Alijah, Richtung Constanza, unter dem Protektorat der Schweizerischen Gesandtschaft, wobei er jedoch die ausserordentliche Wichtigkeit des Einverständnisses der hiesigen aschkenasischen Behörden leider vernachlässigt. Dieser Umstand führte zu verschiedenen Komplikationen, welche wir nun bemüht sind, befriedigend zu lösen, was natürlich nur auf der Grundlage geschehen kann, welche den Ausgangspunkt unserer bisherigen Verhandlungen bildete. Demzufolge kann nicht die Rede von zwei verschiedenen Aktionen sein, und es gelang uns, M. Krausz beizubringen, dass unsere Tätigkeit in Einklang gebracht werden muss.

Mit herzlichsten Zionsgrüssen ergebenst Ihr:

American friend of the Jewish Org. Ing. O. Komoly

Infolge obenerwähnter Komplikation haben wir zur Zeit auch kaspiische Schwierigkeiten und würden uns demzufolge einige Rewawoth Stefanim (am besten in dieser Form, aber nicht in Kessef schelachem) äusserst nötig. Herzlichst Ihr

Komoly

2 Beilagen

*Keep negotiations open - no commitments
gain time (we're from Schwarz)*

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
Mr. McClelland's Files
Jews in Hungary; August 1944

Lieber Nathan

25.7.44

Kimpert

Ich nutze wieder die Gelegenheit, ein Lebenszeichen zu geben. Hoffentlich habt ihr alle Post von uns der letzten Zeit erhalten. Inzwischen hat sich wiederum sehr Vieles geändert, und davon will ich wenig berichten, obwohl ich voraussetze, dass Otto es ebenfalls tun wird.

Vor allem, das Erfreulichere; Alijah (Pal. Auswanderung und noch erfreulicher, die vorläufige Abstellung der Deportation).

Beides hängt ja causal zusammen, deshalb beginne ich ein wenig über die allgemeine Lage zu sprechen. Alle Versprachen, vor allem des Papstes und Roosevelt (verbunden mit einem furchtbaren Terrorangriff aus der Luft) gaben die Vorbedingungen dazu, dass diejenigen, die gegen die Deportationen arbeiten, so gestärkt wurden, dass zumindest eine Pause eingeschaltet wurde. Die speziellen Organe wurden abberufen und eine spürbare Erleichterung der Kontrolle setzte zweifelslos ein. Und dazu kam noch die sichtliche Schwächung der Deutschen in ihrem Krieg und zuletzt der Vorfall mit Hitler. Alles das hat seine Wirkung gehabt und haben zwei Folgen gehabt; erstens sichtliche Verbesserung der alten Beziehungen zu ung. Stellen, zweitens vorläufig vollkommene negative Einstellung zur Deportation seitens Ungarn. Ungarn hat grosse Befürchtungen wegen seiner Verantwortung für das leider schon Geschehene und trachtet gützumachen, was noch möglich ist. Die Verbindung zu Ungarn hat sich wieder gefestigt, vor allem ist Otto derjenige, der diese Linie bearbeitet.

Die Macht der Deutschen ist durch die Entwicklung zumindest leicht geworden. Aber auch bei ihm gibt es heute eine sehr bedeutungsvolle Strömung in der Richtung, wie es Joel und Israel pressiert haben. Augenblicklich wird die ideolog. Linie in den Hintergrund gesetzt (Willis Chef), welcher bis jetzt das grösste Hindernis war, unterlegt überdies auch mit pathologischen Neigungen und mehr in den Vordergrund kommt der wirtschaftliche und moralpolitische Faktor, der seinen Ausdruck auch schon zu Hause bei den Deutschen fand, als der Chef der Zeitung eine sehr unwahre (leider) aber unso bezeichnendere Erklärung über das Judentum gab, die ganz im Gegensatz zu dem stand, was Hitler in seinen letzten Reden nie zu betonen vergessen hat. Diese Linie wird hier vertreten durch einige Freunde der Deutschen, die allem Anschein nach die Sache ernst nehmen, wenn aus keinem anderen Grund, dann deshalb, weil sie für die Nachkriegszeit unsere Hilfe in Anspruch nehmen möchten. In dieser Linie wird weiter gearbeitet.

(Ich sende unbeeendet ein, als Gedanken-Fragment, Ergänzung und "Beweis" meines guten Willens, Dir auch am 25. Juli zu schreiben)

Perez

garn festigen könnte.

Auch müsste man versuchen, die Möglichkeit, sich
nach Rumänien zu retten, zu
dass eine

Red Cross Hungary

Genève, le 5 août 1944.

Cher Monsieur,

*Request for aid to
individuals in Hungary, addressed
to ICRC.*

J'accuse réception de votre
lettre d'hier, réf. JES/HL, dont le contenu a
eu toute mon attention.

J'apprécie vivement le fait
que vous avez quand même transmis ma demande,
malgré le travail dont vous-même et votre
délégation de Hongrie êtes surchargés.

J'attends donc en temps voulu
les renseignements qui pourraient vous être
communiqués et, en vous en remerciant d'avance,
ce, vous présente, cher Monsieur, mes salutations
empressées.

Monsieur Schwarzenberg
c/o Comité International de la Croix-Rouge
Division d'Assistance Spéciale
Genève

Des encore si
fournir les renseignements individuels
demander.

vous informer du résultat de nos
Monsieur, l'assurance

COPIE

TELEGRAM SENT
COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA
CROIX-ROUGE

JES/HL

Agence Centrale des Prisonniers
de Guerre.

GENEVE, 4 août 1944.
Palais du Conseil-Général

Monsieur Grégoire C. Salmanowitz
1, Place des Alpes,
Geneve

Cher Monsieur,

J'ai l'honneur de me référer à votre lettre du 4 août au sujet de M. Joseph B U N. Le Comité international de la Croix-Rouge est actuellement submergé par des télégrammes arrivant du monde entier et lui demandent de faire des enquêtes individuelles en Hongrie. Notre délégation à Budapest, qui doit s'occuper surtout de l'organisation d'une action de secours, n'est actuellement pas encore en mesure de procéder à des enquêtes.

Etant donné toutefois l'importance que vous attachez à ce cas, je demanderai à notre délégation de voir si elle a la possibilité de retrouver M. et Mme BUN. Je ne puis cependant vous promettre un résultat favorable, ne sachant pas encore si les autorités hongroises sont disposées à fournir les renseignements individuels qu'on pourrait leur demander.

En me réservant de vous informer du résultat de nos démarches, je vous prie d'agréer, cher Monsieur, l'assurance de ma considération distinguées.

Pour le Comité International
de la Croix-Rouge:

sig.

Directeur de la Division
d'Assistance spéciale.

Jews in Hungary

LOK

11-11-44

Auch müsste man versuchen, ...

Jews in Hungary
August 6, 1944

CASE FILE

TELEGRAM SENT

*By Palestine Certificates
for Jews in Hungary &
their subsequent chances
of departing.*

To: Department

Date: August 5, 9 p. m., 1944.

No: 5043

Code: [REDACTED]



Charged to:

Paraphrase

The telegram which follows is from McClelland for the WRB.

Your 2486 of July 21.

Referring to the first paragraph of the Department's telegram referred to above, and according to the information we possess here concerning the present situation of Jews in Hungary, as reported in the Legation's 4972 of August 3, any steps designed to secure or facilitate entry permission for Hungarian Jews, either on a temporary or permanent basis, into countries of refuge or of immigration, should be undertaken. It appears to us that the most serious difficulty to be anticipated in carrying out such evacuation is the practical one of transport and of obtaining the necessary transit facilities, particularly through Germany or territory controlled by the latter country. The most practical direction in which to guide evacuation—depending, to be sure, on current developments in the Balkans—would seem to be the following: exit from Hungary via Rumania by sea (or overland through Bulgaria) to Turkey en route to Palestine or other havens in North Africa. One hesitates to rely on the continued acquiescence of Germany to the mitigated policy toward the Jews on the part of the Government of Hungary.

With reference to the last paragraph of the Department's no. 2315 of July 6 and the Legation's 4659 of July 21, the British Government can no doubt most properly and successfully dispose of the issuance of Palestine certificates for this purpose. According to information which the Geneva office of the Jewish Agency for Palestine has furnished to us, about 10,000 nominative family and individual certificates have been granted for Jews in Hungary since September 15, 1943.

Lists

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

840.1
JEWIS IN HUNGARY

-2-

Lists of names of these certificate holders have been transmitted regularly to the British Embassy at Ankara with instructions that as soon as those named reached Turkish territory they be granted entry visas to Palestine. The British Embassy also communicated these lists to the Turkish authorities with the request for issuance of Turkish transit visas as a prerequisite to the granting of the Hungarian exit visas and Rumanian and Bulgarian transit visas.

As a result of the situation created by the occupation of Hungary by the Germans, the British Government, at the request of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, asked the Swiss Government, in its capacity as Protecting Power, to assist in finding means whereby Jews in Hungary could receive the Protecting Power's official confirmation that they were holders of Immigration Certificates for Palestine. It was hoped that this would forestall deportation and possibly enable holders to leave for Palestine. Following several weeks of negotiation between the British, Swiss and Hungarian Governments, it was agreed that lists of all persons or families to whom certificates had been granted would be transmitted to the Swiss Legation at Budapest. This has been done now and the Division of Foreign Interests of the Federal Political Department has instructed the Swiss Legation to issue a declaration to properly identified holders, the text of which follows: "The bearer of this certificate (name) will be admitted as an immigrant into Palestine at any time which he or she may reach that country and thereafter will obtain Palestinian citizenship in accordance with the Palestine Citizenship Order of 1925-1941, consolidated on the completion of two years' residence." The British Government has approved the text.

The director of the Jewish Agency office in Budapest, Krausz, will assist the Swiss Legation in carrying out the above task. At present he is preparing a list of those to depart on an initial transport of 2,000 people. In paragraph 5 of the Legation's 4972 August 3, mention was made of the latter.

HARRISON

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Copy to RDM

CASE FILE

For RDM

Jews in Hungary

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department
 Date: August 5, 10 a. m., 1944.
 No: 5023
 Code: [REDACTED]
 Charged to: *te. Stembach's complaints.*

(C.L.)

Paraphrase

Reference is made to the Department's 2614 of July 30 and to the Legation's 4802 and 4874 of July 26 and July 29, respectively.

Neither Saly Mayer nor myself have ever refused to grant serious consideration to any acceptable and objective proposition for effecting the rescue of endangered Jews in Hungary, regardless of the quarter ~~from~~ which such a proposition issued. "How can this be done," rather than "it cannot be done," has always been our primary concern. We have had to handle Sternbuch's proposals with considerable circumspection in view of the contradictory and often unreliable nature of many of them.

According to recent and reliable reports, this convoy of 1200 Jews has been sent to the camp of Bergen Belsen, near Hannover, in Germany.

From McClelland for WRB.

HARRISON

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840.1 JEWS IN HUNGARY

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 State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
 By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

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TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

O.L.

Date: August 5, 6 p.m., 1944

No: 5040

Code: Brown

Charged to:

With reference to note verbale No. 257 of June 26, 1944, concerning a communication regarding the inquiry of American Government with respect to treatment of Jews in Hungary, Royal Hungarian Foreign Ministry has the honor to inform the Swiss Legation of the following:

As in most European states, Jewish question has, particularly in recent decades, also become one of the greatest economic, social and political problems in Hungary. Jewish problem became especially difficult as Jewry, thanks to liberal organization of the State, had been able secure prominent position in economic, political and cultural life. Also in those large states where race problem was far less important - as for instance negro question in United States - Government was obliged to take corresponding measures for protection its own race. In consequence, various governments of Hungary were obliged to strive against excessive influence of this foreign race, as Hungarian Jewry constitutes far greater danger for Hungary than for instance negroes or Japanese for white population of United States. Jews not only possessed most important economic positions in Hungary, but thereby exerted very strong influence on national life of country as whole, which threatened degenerate foundations of the national character of the people.

Recognizing this danger, as in other European states, the Hungarian Governments of the time also undertook solution of Jewish question. Articles of law XV of 1938, IV of 1939, and XV of 1941 formed legal basis for measures which tended toward solution Jewish question.

Military events on Eastern front and approach of Soviet army to Hungarian frontier made it necessary fully

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August 6, 1944

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to mobilize all military, material and moral forces of country for defense of Nation's existence. This also meant elimination of everything that would undermine or diminish the country's resisting power. As defeatist propaganda and agitation of Jews - as in 1918 - became more and more perceptible in this decisive phase of the war, and in order prevent repetition of tragic events 1918-19, Government was obliged to eliminate on increased scale influence of Jews. They were consequently separated from rest of population and put to more useful work - either in country itself or abroad. In so doing Government and its functionaries did not fail consider laws of humanity and justice. If individual cases of injustice occurred, they were always due to sporadic actions of some subordinate organs, which in each case were made responsible.

Numerous Jews were placed at disposal of German Government as workers, as was case for years for tens of thousands of workers of Hungarian nationality and Christian faith.

Treatment of Jews working in Hungary is similar to that accorded other workers in workcamps (for example students, etc.).

With respect to food rationing, non-working Jews do not receive certain more-or-less luxury articles (such as rice, fowl, butter, poppy); concerning basic necessities however they are on same basis as rest of population.

It may be added in supplement that during recent weeks situation of Jews has been notably improved. Enclosed note gives details regarding these concessions. At the instance of some foreign organizations (International Red Cross, War Refugee Board), Hungarian Government has made it possible for Hungarian Jews to receive material help, and for a considerable number of Jews to emigrate to neutral states, respectively, to Palestine.

2. Translation from French of enclosure to above follows:

Present status of action taken by Hungarian Government regarding Jews is following:

I.

1. Deportation of Jews for work abroad temporarily suspended.

2. View

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August 6, 1944

2. View proposals presented by Swedish Red Cross, by Swiss Legation acting behalf Palestinian Immigration Commission as well as by War Refugee Board, Hungarian Government authorized emigration Jews Sweden, Switzerland, Palestine and other countries.

a) Jews who obtain from Swedish King Swedish nationality can emigrate Sweden in accordance with action of Swedish Red Cross. Jews who have relatives Sweden or who have commercial contact for certain time with that country can emigrate Sweden or Palestine. This category includes about 400 or 500 persons.

b) Several thousand Jews are authorized emigrate Palestine aided by Palestinian Immigration Commission through intermediary Swiss Legation Budapest. Persons indicated above can emigrate Palestine if bearers "certificat d'immigration" delivered by British authorities.

c) On basis proposals mentioned above from War Refugee Board, Hungarian Government authorized Interross to arrange sending Jewish children under ten years age to Palestine. War Refugee Board will be authorized materially assist Jews interned Hungary.

II.

In addition concessions above mentioned, following mitigations accorded in treatment Jews:

1. Deportation baptized Jews for work abroad stopped.

2. a) Administration behalf baptized Jews entrusted "Counsel for Baptized Jews" established July 6, 1944.

b) Jews baptized prior August 1, 1941 remain in country but their segregation from non-Jewish persons will be ordered.

c) They are obtaining all facilities in exercise of their religion.

3. a) Facilities ordered for baptized Jews residing Budapest will be extended to baptized Jews outside capital.

b) Revision of situation of baptized Jews sent to work in Germany foreseen.

4. Soonest possible it will be decided who are to be considered as converted Jews and such action will affect

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not only Jews aged 16 to 60 but Jews all ages.

5. Following exempted bear Jewish star:

- a) Family members of ministers of Christian religion (parents, brothers and sisters, wives and children of Protestant ministers),
- b) bearers of ecclesiastical (papal) decorations,
- c) members of Order of Holy Sepulchre.

III.

1. a) Discretionary right reserved for Regent in exemption certain number Jews.

There will be exempted:

- b) Jews living in marriage with persons of Christian origin.
- c) Jews bearing certain war decorations (golden medal military bravery, etc.)
- d) Jews of certain special merits.
- e) Ministers of Christian religions.

2. Departure Jews for work abroad will take place under conditions accordance Humanitarian laws and Hungarian Red Cross will have possibility exercise control.

3. It will be permitted send via Red Cross food parcels to persons interned concentration camps.

HARRISON

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August 6 1944

Jews in Hungary
August 6, 1944

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TELEGRAM SENT

To Department

Date: August 5, 3 p.m., 1944

Code [REDACTED]

C.L.

No: 5037

Charged to:

PARAPHRASE

U S URGENT

My telegram No. 5040 of today's date gives a translation from German of the note of the Hungarian Foreign Office of July 18 (concerning my 4260 of July 5th to the Swiss Legation at Budapest.

HARRISON

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In quadruplicate

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State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

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Jews in Hungary August 1944

COPY

Jews in Hungary

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: August, 5, 8 p.m., 1944

No: 5042

Code: [REDACTED]

(C.I.)

Charged to:

PARAPHRASE

Reference is made to the Department's no. 2605, July 28, midnight.

The British Minister here being without instructions, I have informed Mr. Pilet-Golaz of the Department's hope that the Government of Switzerland will receive Jews from Hungary. I have also assured him that the Jews will be evacuated as soon as possible and that arrangements will be made for their maintenance in Switzerland in the meantime.

The Foreign Minister, I understand, is to take up this matter with his colleagues on the Federal Council. I shall report developments in the matter to the Department.

HARRISON

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840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parke Date SEP 25 1972

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Jews in Hungary
August 6/1944

BEMERKUNGEN

Nachdem die schweizerischen Behörden und das I.R.K. die Frage der Auswanderung nach Palästina übernommen haben, collective Pässe in Aussicht gestellt sind, Transit-Visen gewährt wurden, scheint uns die Linie von KRAUSZ, eilig mit den ungarischen Behörden zu verhandeln, und das Problem als ein normales Auswanderungsproblem zwischen Regierungen zu behandeln, die einzig richtige. Die Belastung dieses Problems mit Warenlieferungen, die durch Verhandlungen mit Deutschen eingeschaltet wurden, riskieren die Durchführung der ganzen Aktion von Grund auf zu kompromittieren. Es darf darauf nicht eingegangen werden, und wir müssen uns an die behördlichen Stellen halten, die diese Sache übernommen haben. Es wäre also gut, durch das auswärtige Amt einen Taschenbericht über die augenblickliche Lage und Chancen anzufordern. Andererseits erscheint es notwendig, womöglich die 17.000 zu retten. Um dies zu ermöglichen, müssen wir Zeit zu gewinnen suchen. Die militärische Lage erlaubt diese Haltung. Von diesem Gesichtspunkte aus sollten, nach Einverständnis mit dem W.R.B. und den Berner Behörden alle Zusammenkünfte angenommen werden, um eine Verhandlungsbereitschaft vorzutauschen. Auch muss von JOINT mitgeteilt werden, welches in Bezug auf Geld-Prestationen oder Lieferung von ganz bestimmten Waren, z.B. Esswaren oder Kleider, die Mussersten Concessionen sind.

Publizität ist strengstens zu vermeiden.

Die 4 Partner, die durch Telegramm vom 5.8. für die Schweiz angemeldet sind, scheinen dieselben zu sein, die vorher Dr. SCHWARZ besuchen sollten. Es ist zu eruieren, ob Dr. SCH. das Telegramm vom 28.7. erhalten hat und welches seine Antwort war.

Die im gleichen Telegramm angemeldeten 500 scheinen ebenfalls die 500 Erwachsenen zu sein, die nach Spanien befördert werden sollten.

Es wäre notwendig, dass in kürzester Zeit ein Bericht von KRAUSZ und KASTNER unterzeichnet durch die schweizer Legation an S.M. über die derzeitige Lage gesandt werden sollte.

Aus allen Berichten geht hervor, dass die Lage der Juden in Ungarn, wenn auch weniger gefährdet, nicht als gesichert betrachtet werden kann.

Sache der Schweizer Behörden des I.R.K. und des W.R.B. wäre es zu eruieren, mit welchen Mitteln man den Widerstandswillen Un-

*Pal. Office
in Budapest.*

Right!

*deported to
Austria*

Jews in Hungary August 1944

gern festigen könnte.

Auch müsste man versuchen, die Möglichkeit, sich durch Flucht nach Rumänien zu retten, zu erweitern suchen, womöglich dadurch, dass eine Zentrale Vertrauensstelle an die mit dieser Mission beauftragten Gruppen die notwendigen Mittel verteilen würde.

Am 2. August NS 100,000 345.
für wech.

Teils in Hungarn; August 1944
Eckert

A.J.D.C.

*

Re: plan to allow 40,000
Hungarian Jews possessing
Pal. certs. out via
Rumania.

den 6. August 1944.

Jews in Hungary

Good summary of situation
in Hungary re: Jews as of this date.

Aus verschiedenen brieflichen Berichten aus Budapest vom 24. bis 28. Juli, besonders aus einem Brief vom 28. Juli vom Präsidenten der ungarischen zionistischen Organisation lässt sich zusammenfassend das Problem der ungarischen Juden folgendermassen charakterisieren:

Infolge der allgemeinen politischen Lage (Attentat auf Hitler) und militärischen Lage spitzt sich der Gegensatz zwischen den ungarischen verantwortlichen Stellen und den entsprechenden deutschen Behörden immer mehr zu. Die Ungarn versuchen, in Hinsicht auf ihre Nachkriegsprobleme den katastrophalen Eindruck ihres Vorgehens gegen die Juden einigermaßen zu verwischen. Seit dem 10. Juli sind die Deportationen eingestellt und deutsche Polizei bestrebt von ungarischen Extremisten versuchen, mit einigen Erfolg, den besorgten ungarischen Behörden, Juden zu entreissen und zu verschleppen. Auch in dieser Haltung steckt ein gewisses Mass von Spiel, Berechnung und Verstellung. Immerhin haben die ungarischen Stellen eine positive Haltung gegenüber dem Problem der etwa 40.000 Certificat-Inhaber bezogen.

Die schweizerische Gesandtschaft hat ein Büro eröffnet, das in der Zusammensetzung und in der Funktion das Palästina-Amt Ungarns vollständig ersetzt. Der Jüdische Partner der schweiz. Gesandtschaft ist Herr KRAUSZ, der zusammen mit den ungarischen Stellen und der Schweizer Delegation auf regelmässige und natürliche Art die Auswanderung vorbereitet. Die Listen werden aufgestellt, deren Namen von den ungarischen und deutschen Behörden genehmigt sein müssen. Die Leute sollen in Zügen nach CONSTANZA geführt werden, die Transit-Visen stehen bereit, Schiffe werden durch die zionistische Stelle in ISTANBUL vorbereitet, das Kollektiv-Visa in Ungarn sei ebenfalls in Vorbereitung, damit Gruppen von je 2000 Auswanderer in einer Reise befördert werden können. Einige Tage vor der Abreise sollen jedesmal die 2000 Interessenten in Jüdischen Häusern gesammelt werden. Die Transporte sollen von schweizer Beamten begleitet werden.

Dieser Aktion steht in schroffen Gegensatz die Haltung der Deutschen gegenüber. Das "Sondereinsatz-Kommando", das von der "rechten Hand" HITLER's autorisiert ist, hat mit anderen jüdischen, auch zionistischen Gruppen Verhandlungen eingelei-

./.

H vs G

tet, die folgendes Bild ergeben :

- 1.- Man ist über den Misserfolg der Mission JOEL's verstimmt und misstrauisch geworden.
- 2.- Der Bedarf an Traktoren ist jedoch so gross, dass man dennoch verhandlungsbereit ist. Um Zeit zu gewinnen, um die Beziehungen mit der GESTAPO aufrecht zu erhalten, um Menschen zu retten, haben einige Gruppen von Zionisten scheinbar die Nachfolge JOEL's angetreten. Sie haben Folgendes der GESTAPO angeboten : Schafsfelle in der Slowakei ; Gold und Edelsteine in Ungarn ; 300 Traktoren in der Schweiz. Dafür haben sie einen Anfangskredit in Ungarn selbst von 3.000.000 sfrs aufgestellt und einen von 2.000.000 sfrs bei S;M. in Aussicht gestellt. In Ganszen haben sie für 30.000.000 sfrs Waren angeboten, denn durch ihren Raub in Ungarn seien die deutschen Verhandlungspartner einigermaßen verwöhnt.

Handwritten note:
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 in goods sind
 to go on.

Jedoch interessieren sie die Traktoren fast ausschliesslich. Die Tauschquote betrage : 1000 Juden pro 10 Traktoren. Der den Unterhändlern in der Slowakei mitgeteilte Bericht, dass sich in der Schweiz 300 Traktoren als mögliche Tauschobjekte befinden, habe erlaubt, bis jetzt 17.000 Juden vor Auschwitz zu retten, die sich aber noch in deutscher Hand befinden. Ein Teil davon der Zug mit den 1200 Reisenden und ein anderer mit 1660 Reisenden befände sich ausserhalb Ungarns, vielleicht in Bärenbelsen. Ueber den Verbleib der restlichen 14.000 besteht den Briefen nach keine Klarheit. Die "Berichte über B.B. stammen anscheinend von slowakischen Freunden der Briefschreiber. 600 Juden befinden sich in Budapest selbst (Columbiastrasse 46) "unter dem Schutze" der Deutschen.

Handwritten note:
 Belsenbergen
 Strasshof 2.

Um Juden vor Auschwitz zu retten, verlangen die Deutschen Unterhändler jetzt, da ihre Politik darin besteht, ~~jetzt~~ "unter dem ungarischen Judentum die notwendigen Arbeitskräfte auszupumpen und den Rest des für sie wertlosen Menschenmaterials für wertvolle Ware zu verkaufen" mit dem Joint-Vertreter Dr. SCHWARZ in LISBONNE zu verhandeln und die Lieferung von Traktoren ins Werk zu setzen. Das Verhandlungsthema lautet : " Ohne Traktoren keine Juden".

An Dr. SCHWARZ ging am 28.7. ein diesbezügliches Telegramm zwecks Zusammenkunft gegen den 4-5. August zwischen dem GESTAPO-Chef Ungarns, zweier Mitarbeiter aus Berlin, ISRAEL und DR. SCH.

Die ungarischen Zionisten kennen den abschlägigen Bescheid an JOEL von Seiten Amerikas. Sie klammern aber ihre Hoffnung an

Barlas

ein Telegramm von WENJA (ISTAMBUL) vom 30.6. und anderes vom 22.7., dass die Bereitschaft das notwendige Geld zur Verfügung zu stellen, nicht als völlig aussichtslos hinstellt.

Die Verhandlungen mit Dr. SCHWARZ werden die deutschen Partner im Namen der deutschen Regierung (?) oder der "rechten Hand" HIMMLER's führen.

In Erwartung dieser Verhandlungen sollen in der Woche vom 5. bis 12. August 500 Menschen ohne weitere Bedingung nach Spanien befördert werden.

Ueber die Auswanderung nach Palästina befragt, habe der Chef des "Einsatz-Kommandos" folgende Bedingungen mitgeteilt:

- a) - Keine Auswanderung durch Rumänien nach Palästina aus politischen Gründen (die Beziehungen der Deutschen mit dem Gross-MUFTI).
- b) - Dagegen Transit-Erlaubnis nach Spanien, Schweden oder der Schweiz: "Wohin dann diese Züge hinaus, nach der Schweiz, Schweden oder Spanien, ist mir pro Saldo wurscht".
- c) - Keine Juden, auch nicht für diese Länder, ohne Traktoren.

Infolge des Attentats habe die "rechte Hand" die Zusammenkunft in Lisboena verboten und nach IRUN verlegt.

bei S/land

Said
Eichmann

Lieber Herr McClelland,

in der Beilage überreiche ich Ihnen Auszüge aus Briefen unserer Freunde aus Budapest und Bukarest, die uns letztens zugekommen sind.-

Aus den Briefen ist zu ersehen, dass in den letzten wochen eine gemein-

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Ich gestat

Bukarest v

Alle ander

zu Gunsten

Stunden.

Mit den be

Beilagen:

Mr. Roswell D. Special As the Americ

Geneve

W. from Joseph Schwartz ^{Jews in Hungary} 56 - 2380
Despatched Aug 7^m. **AUG 7/44.**

(96) Ref. our recent conversation important you keep WRB fully advised & undertake no action without their full knowledge & consent. Should proposed meeting actually take place no commitments any kind can be made. It would seem advisable keep negotiations open as long as possible & to listen to proposals which may be presented without making any commitments before discussing them fully with WRB & with us. This entire matter of such tremendous importance that no one organization can assume responsibility without the knowledge & consent of all the high & proper authorities.

Signed Joseph Schwartz.

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Freunde
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100

check visas for children proceeding to Turkey to receive US money. visas.

Weltzentrale des Hechaluz
Hechaluz Geneva Office

Jews in Hungary
המרכז העולמי של ה"חלוץ"
משרד זניבה

Telephon 2 36 28

Re: channels of flight into Rumania.

GENF, 7. August 1944. זניבה

Lieber Herr McClelland,
in der Beilage überreiche ich Ihnen Auszüge aus Briefen unserer Freunde aus Budapest und Bukarest, die uns letztens zugekommen sind.-
Aus den Briefen ist zu ersehen, dass in den letzten wochen eine gemeinsame Linie der Rettungsarbeit und gegenseitige Hilfe von allen 3 Zentren (Slov. Ungarn und Rumänien) vereinbart und praktiziert worden ist. Dieses System hat Tausenden von Juden zur Rettung verholfen. Die Aktion selbst ist leider fast nur von Mangel an Mitteln gestört, und darum appellieren unsere Freunde an uns um sofortige, grössere Hilfe.-
Ich gestatte mir, Sie auf die punkte 1 und 2 , Seite 2, des Briefes aus Bukarest vom 20.7. aufmerksam zu machen.-
Alle anderen Briefe beschreiben die intensive Tätigkeit unserer Freunde zu Gunsten der jüdischen Allgemeinheit in diesen schicksalsvollsten Stunden.
Mit den besten Wünschen und herzlichen Grüssen

Beilagen: 4

Ihr
N. Schwalb
N. Schwalb

Mr.
Roswell D. McClelland
Special Assistent to
the American Minister

Geneve

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland's Files

Jews in Hungary; August 1944

Rec. sent for Rumanian
exit visas for children proceeding to
Turkey to receive US entry visas.

COPY FOR Mr McCLELLAND

aug. 7

A.I. No. 9195

(A.I.)

The American Legation presents its compliments to the Division of Foreign Interests of the Federal Political Department, and has the honor to refer the Legation's note A.I. No. 9097 of July 26, 1944 which requested that the Swiss representatives in Rumania and Bulgaria be asked, in the name of the United States Government, to request the governments to which they are accredited to accord Rumanian exit visas and Bulgarian transit visas to Naomi, Judith, Otto and Alexander Schleifer, who have been authorized to receive American immigration visas, and to their guardians, David and Ida Schleifer, who have immigration certificates for Palestine. The note added that the Department of State did not yet know whether they were in possession of Turkish transit visas.

The Legation has now received a telegram from the Department of State stating that the Turkish Embassy in Washington has informed the Department of State that the Turkish Consulate at Bucharest was instructed early last June to issue transit visas for the Schleifer family.

It would be very much appreciated if the Division would be so kind as to inform the Swiss representatives at Bucharest and Sofia of the foregoing, and to report as early as possible whether the Schleifer family have

To the
Division of Foreign Interests,
Federal Political Department,
BERN. been

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY (Schleifer children)

WRB
GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE
OF R McCLELLAND
MR McClelland's files
(Switzerland)
Jews in Hungary; August 1944

been able to leave Rumania for Turkey.

The Legation avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Division the assurance of its highest consideration.

Bern, August 7, 1944.

ossible to Berne at very short notice (8.40 zu 9.24) and arrived there at 11. 07. He was informed that he was to open S.M.'s despatch case and read the papers which were contained therein, until S.M. would return from an interview (at the Palais Fédéral).

Copy for Mr. McCrossland.

Jews in Hungary

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: August 7, 5 p.m., 1944

1-114

No.: 2715

Code: [REDACTED]

Received: August 8, 9 a.m.



PARAPHRASE

Department's 2657 August 2

hereby

You are/instructed to present to ICRC on August 11, in the absence of other instructions which you may receive in the meantime, the text of the reply contained in Department's telegram under reference, which was sent to you at that time for your information. Please advise Intercross, as soon as the present telegram is received, that you will deliver on August 11 a reply to its communication with reference to the so-called Horthy offer.

The British Government is giving consideration at the present time to the reply it will make to the ICRC. The British having requested a delay of three or four days, our own reply was postponed from August 7 to August 11. We hope that before that date similar instructions will have been received from London by your colleague, but delivery of the United States reply is not (repeat not) in any event to be delayed beyond August 11.

As soon as you have delivered to Intercross the above-mentioned reply, we intend to publish the message from Intercross and our reply. We have (not) notified the British of this intention.

The above has been repeated to Embassy London as No. 6234, for its information only.

STETTINIUS ACTING

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

Aug. 8th. 1941.

S. Mayer. Joint.

- 1 -

Jews in Hungary

Dr. Marcus Wyley's (Sally Mayer's lawyer)
note re. negotiations with Becher

M.W. was requested by S.M. to come if possible to Berne at very short notice (8.40 zu 9.27) and arrived there at 11. 07. He was informed that he was to open S.M.'s despatch case and read the papers which were contained therein, until S.M. would return from an interview (at the Palais Fédéral).

M-W. read the numerous papers, which referred chiefly to Hungary and to proposals which were said to have been made by a person not named, but which in the papers is repeatedly characterized as being Willy, or Willy's right hand man, and he appears to be some person if not immediately below H. Himmler, then immediately below the person in charge in Hungary of Himmler's money or organization interests.

It further appears, and was known previously from former correspondence, that there had been a proposal that the Jews in Hungary should not be killed or deported, but should be "spared" in some national-socialistic sense, if a sum of 2,000,000 US Dollars were paid, of which the Hungarian Jews are said to have gathered 200,000 \$, which have been thrown to Willy or Willy's henchman, in order to quench his first thirst.

No further money coming forth, Willy or his friends seem to have been reluctantly compelled to instigate a very willing Hungarian subservient Government to ghettoing and deporting Jews.

Then came a letter from Mr. Nathan Schwalb's friends, notably Dr. Kastner, who in some not quite visible way seems to have had access to "Willy" or his friend or superior, and which purported to say that the Willies did not require money, they required goods. Dr. Kastner, in his wish to save people, was prepared to do anything and promise anything, quite clearly without any certainty that such promises could be kept or fulfilled. He therefore was ready to offer goods from Switzerland, notably tractors. These tractors were termed to be "agricultural" implements. However, as has been pointed out later on by parties on the Allied side, Tractors are in some way agricultural implements, but they can be put to use in drawing cannon, and every kind of War machines going on wheels; hence it needs a certain amount of confidence into the recipient in order to let tractors be delivered to Germans and their friends.

The letters further declared that certain parcels of detained persons had been segregated by Willy or Willy's superior, with a view to propose a/b a r t e r instead of a downright sale of condemned Jews.

These parcels consisted of three items of different size, viz. 1691 people (Jewish men, women and children) forwarded or sent to Belsenbergen or Felsberger, said to be in Hannover, (and in the letters variously termed Belsen Bergen or Bären Belsen)

nominally 10000. .sometimes also said to be 5000 people, which instead of being forwarded to Auschwitz or to some killing place in the "General Gouvernement" , had been forwarded to Vienna, where they are said to be, without guarantee, and who should be eventually delivered in some way to some place .

500 persons~~x~~, whether children, as Mr.S.M. thinks or hopes.or grown-ups ,is not shown in any way,who are said to be on their way to the Swiss frontier, described in a telegram as "between St Gall and Bregenz", (which would mean St Margrethen,Austro-Swiss frontier station) -.

It is said that Willy or Willy's friend is proving his rightmindedness and good faith by being prepared to deliver this instalment,so to say sample delivery, in advance,if he is shown that " business " is meant by the opposite party.

It is evident that this proposal puts Mr Kastner, and those who may be assisting him in his dealings with "Willy" and his friends into an immense danger.

The tractor business has been furthered by "Joel" (Mr.Joel Brand) who went to Istanbul in order to make it possible ,but who seems to have found out that it would not come off, and did not return.

The Germans,people of high honor in the kind of dealings proposed by them, are raging over this "treason " and defection, and it is quite possible that many poor Hungarian Jews may have already met their fate under the title of " Vergeltung".

Now Mr.Mayer has had to propose to the Federal authorities the Deal,(tractor deal, at the rate of 10 tractors for 1000 Jews, and with the remark by Willy's friend: " I want to single out those who may be put to use for our labor needs, and wherever the balance of "useless material" goes ,i don't care a hang whether to Spain,Switzerland or elsewhere."

("ist mir brutto für netto wurscht").~~Sf~~. was on his way, i.e. he was at the moment when M.W. read the papers, in Dr.Rothmund's Office to discuss the question:
a) of letting the said people in,notably children,b) of permitting eventual further entries,c) of advising the issuance of " free passes" or temporarily admittance for a few hours or days to a group of Gestapo or SS -Agents who would negotiate the Tractor Deal with S .M. and/or some other party.

When Mr.S.M,returned, he reported on the meeting with,Dr.R o t h m u n d,Dr.Düby,of the Emigrants' Office, and Dr.Stucki ,of the Fed.Political Department(Foreign Section),as follows:

Dr.Rothmund(R) said: Children,yes.,from the standpoint of the Aliens'Police(Eidg.Fremdenpolizei).To be cared for by the Swiss Red Cross Children's Relief.Transport must be a c c o m p a n i e d ,quite officially,no concealed(heimlichen) transport will be

admitted. Further admittance can be granted to people who have relatives in Switzerland, even to such who only have connection (Beziehungen) with Switzerland.

Dr. Dúby agreed.

The Swiss Legation and the Delegation of the I.R.C. shall see that the emigration from Hungary with an accompanied transport can be executed, and that the formalities as to entry into Switzerland will be fulfilled. This would mean a great progress against the situation now prevailing.

There shall be a collaboration between the Fed. Police Department, the International Red Cross, and the Fed. Polit. Department. The Horty declaration shall be made use of, and it will be seen whether the Deportations are really stopped and a certain Control will be available.

As far as the persons in Hungary are detentors of San Salvador Passports, the communications will be via American Legation to Fed. Political Department, Sub-Section for Foreign Interests. (Schutz fremder Interessen). The Passports also shall be delivered in this way. (Dr. Stucky).

Money transfer to relatives in Hungary via I.R.C.-Joint.

Unauthorized entry, also entry of "Agents Provocateurs" (Spitzel) not admitted. (Dr. R.).

The Thesis (standpoint, slogan) of a promise made by Hungary in reply to a "démarche" made by the Federal Council must be taken to ~~xxxxxx~~ be working, and therefore any Goods Transaction (Barter) with respect to such matters to be entirely excluded.

The proposition of S.M. to continue negotiations, and thereby deferring a definite break-off, or solution, is approved. This means according to S.M. that there is no veto to his undertaking negotiations with representatives of the Willies.

The question of "Passierscheine" for the negotiators has not been settled or definitely discussed, but it has been mentioned that it would be doubtful whether any such temporary admittances would be granted.

The Interview took place on the basis of the following papers:

Extract Nr. 60

Telegramm Kastner-to SM. 7. Aug. 1944

Telegramm Joint-Lisbon to S.M. 7.VIII. 44. "96"

The latter telegram says that no negotiations as to barter shall be concluded without the express consent of said Corporation.

Dr. Rothmund quite agreed that the Composition of the train advised by Mr. Kastner (500 persons Swiss frontier) ought to be investigated by Swiss Int. R. C. C. Delegation in Hungary, possibly by Swiss Legation. Dr. Walther, representing Mr. Edw. I. Haller, watches the interests of the Delegation of the Fed. Council for Fugitives' Matters.

"Von der Ungeheuerlichkeit der Schande wurde am Schlusse der Besprechung noch Erwähnung getan."

(Finally it was still mentioned what a shame it was one was obliged to discuss in a businesslike way a proposition such as submitted by the Willies".

(MW) Notes extracted from the papers:

Letter 28th. July by Dr. Kastner (Israel).

a) "In order to make an impression (um Eindruck zu erwecken) the total sum of the goods offered was evaluated at 30 Million" (Francs, Pengs?)

MS thinks it risky, and only to be explained by the hopelessness of the situation, that Israel Kastner offers such goods at all, and to the amount of 30 million francs, without so much as considering whether it may be possible to deliver any goods, and to what extent, and whether it might be probable that the situation in Hungary would really be alleviated or bettered by it.

(M.W. mentions that at a certain date in Poland Jewish houses were ransacked by a "Judenrat" in order to offer a ransom, under the supervision of a Gestapoman, who egged them on by wily words, while at the same time the people who ought to have been saved by this ransom were executed on a hill above the little town.)

b) There is a letter dated Theresienstadt, on a letterhead with the picture of a medieval town, signed by a number of Jewish names, part of them very good clear signatures of a markedly intellectual character, Medical men, Scientists and others, who assert that everything is allright in Theresienstadt, that Jewish life is flourishing there, etc. etc.

It is quite incomprehensible what this is to mean, but the fact that similar declarations had to be made by people in Auschwitz and elsewhere, who immediately afterwards were killed off, so that their letters arrived after their death, is an ill proof for the veracity of this report. It will be impossible for the present to verify this report. Perhaps it was a piece of information delivered by the Willies in order to make their Deal more likely.

c) It appears that the Hungarian government would be prepared to let a great number of Jews emigrate to Palestine, and that the Rumanian Government are ready to let them pass to Constanza, and that ships would be made available.

M.W. thinks that the question of letting Jews pass out by Rumania would at any rate be reserved to the Germans, and it has come out later on, (10.VIII), that indeed it is for Willy and his friends to decide whether they will let them emigrate, and that "Willy is not interested in letting those Jews emigrate to Palestine, in view of his good relations (i.e. the Germans' relations) with the Grand Mufti." Nr. 60

- 5 -

d) There is a new proposal to save, allegedly, 6000 Grown-ups, and 2000 children, against a payment down of 42 000 000 000 (42 billion) Lei.
This has not yet been dealt with.

e) There is a letter by M. Matthieu Muller, which mentions "usurpers", which seems to imply the action of Mr. Sternbuch, with respect to the tractors.

No doubt, this action has done rather harm than good, because it simply implied that the proposal of Willy or his friends was a certainty, that it would come off and that it would guarantee the stop of deprivation and the saving of the 17 000 people as specified on pages 1/2 above. *more* *1200 ?*

In fact, the proposal ought to have been investigated, and its possibility studied, before making a lot of endeavors. - It is perfectly comprehensible that the people implied in Hungary, inclusive of Mr. Kastner, should try their best, while a consideration of the basis of the whole business would make it probable that all the so-called proofs of the good faith of the Willies in this matter are strongly contradicted by the behaviour of their brethren in Poland. A point not yet mentioned is e.g. that of the bath towels and soap handed to prisoners in Auschwitz before they were led in to be gassed.

S.M. mentions a different plan worked out by certain people without consulting him, with a certain manufacturer in Switzerland about the delivery of other kinds of goods. This plan has not been seriously discussed by him. *Mo*

S.M. states: There are simply two sets of facts and of dealings:

I. OFFICIAL facts and dealings. There is the declaration of Horthy in reply to an appeal by the International Red Cross. There is the activity of the Swiss Federal Council, its Departments, the I.R.C., the Swiss Red Cross, the Hungarian Administration, the Delegate for Jewish Questions Miklos Krausz, and the Officials of Nazism.

II. There is Group Work by private Groups, partly in their own interest, perhaps also in the interest of ALL, seen from a group stand point.

III. THE JOINT thinks of all and works for all. What are the relations between Hungarians and Nazism, is not exactly known. As far as has been assured, the Hungarians ask for no cash in order to get rid of Hungarian Jews.

As far as official dealings are concerned, the principle is that Hungarian Jews, and in a way the JOINT for them, ask only for legal protection for them and for ALL.

As far as Group work is to be done or subsidized, it must be in a certain proportion with funds. In fact, much more than is really proportionate, has been forwarded for Groups or by the representative of groups,

At any rate, I and II must be clearly distinguished.

Note Nr. 60 I to 60 VI.

Report by the IRC COMMITTEE (HUNGARIAN DELEGATION, or rather Delegate for Hungary). 28.VII.44
This report is rather good, and M.W. asks whether the delegates have seen what they report, and whether this is a report which would hold good for some time or whether it is a report under the heading "Potemkin Villages" (Potemkin'sche Dörfer), i.e. a report which would not hold water if slightly punctured, or which, if the investigation were repeated, would be different.

S.M. asks ; Is it true ? Ist es wahr ?

This is the question.

Nr. 60 I to VI do rather look like Group work, and it ought to be found out to what extent group interests are preferred.

This is also the constant worry of S.M.

Of course, an active group will always stringently impress the course of things, and may to a certain extent, and sometimes even very effectually, work for the interest of all.

On the other hand, an active group may have its own policy, and its own axes to grind, and if there are other considerable groups quite as worthy, but less vocal, they may be receiving less than what they deserve

Therefore, the JOINT representative will always have to look at the interests of the WHOLE.

S.M. requests M.W. to put into writing his "Findings" as to the proposal by "WILLY'S FRIENDS". He states that he has no confidence whatever in those who depend from H-H. - A transport to Spain seems very unlikely under actual circumstances. - If one were to enter into a proposal like "Willy's", it would have to be under goods guarantees, such that Willy would have to show his execution "draw for draw" so that he would only receive his compensation when the people were no longer under his power. - If it has been said that the Germans would under certain conditions destroy Auschwitz, this means little because they will certainly destroy it, if they can, before the Russians have it.

13-VIII.44
MW

to: WRFB

Wachaluz Jews
L. M. 1944

August 9, 1944.

Dear Ross, I gave your indications to L. and ~~me~~ as he asked me some statistical data etc. on Jewish children in H. I promised him to give them by tomorrow. Than he will write something dated from London. He tried to know something more on the Red Cross action, but I did not tell him anything at all.

I received the Hungarian papers up to August 3. There is very little news in them, still few itmes on Jews, but strong attacks on the Church which protects baptized Jews etc.etc.

This is a letter I mentioned you on the telephone. Kalman, a practicing Doctor, is member of the Oprecht group. He is in contact with MN org. and with Swiss cercles through his marriage. He is quite an active man, and could be helpful in technical details. If you are interested to meet him, just write him, or he can get in. to touch with the competent organizations where he could represent the H. democratic side.
Sincerely yours, L.

LH/mk

In a telegram from the Department of State dated August 2, 1944, the Legation was informed that the International Red Cross...

Dr. A. Kálmán
Kalchbühlstr. 52.
Tel.: 50889

Jews in Hungary

Zürich, 8. August 1944

*Suggestions from individual
in Island re Jews in H.*

Lieber Freund,

Bei unserer gestrigen telephonischen Besprechung waren wir beide der Ansicht, man muss die Aktion für die Rettung der ungarischen Kinder mit der grössten Energie und Eile fortführen. Unsere Arbeit muss m.E. drei Gebiete umfassen:

1. Gewinnung der öffentlichen Meinung in der Schweiz für die Aufnahme von Kindern aus Ungarn.
2. Die Behörden und kompetente Organisationen der Schweiz sollen dazu bewogen werden, ihr Einverständnis zu geben.
3. Technische Vorbereitung der Aufnahme und Unterbringung unserer Kinder in der Schweiz.

Ad 1. : Nach dem mutigen Aufruf des Zürcher Vereins ist es nötig die Presse /z.B. in der französ. Schweiz/ mit weiteren Artikeln zu versehen.

Ad 2. : Da müssen wir in erster Linie die Hilfe von Herrn Mac Clelland in Anspruch nehmen.

Ad 3. : In erster Reihe sind die Zürcher und Genfer ungar. Vereine, unsere Gruppe, sowie die M.N.F.F. dazu berufen, für Familien, welche die Kinder aufnehmen, zu sorgen, Aerzte, Lagerleiter und Kinderpflegerinnen in der ungarischen Kolonie zu suchen.

Ich bitte Dich, diese Probleme mit Herrn Mac Clelland zu beraten und mich über die nächsten Aufgaben zu informieren.

Mit herzlichem Gruss

Kálmán

Dear Ross, I got this latter last night.

COPY
hs

Jews in Hungary
Negotiations with ICRC

Bern, August 8, 1945.

My dear Mr. President:

In a telegram from the Department of State dated August 2, 1944, the Legation was informed that the International Red Cross delegate at Washington presented to the Department of State a communication from the International Red Cross Committee which stated that the Committee feels that there should be an increase in the number of emigrant Jews from Hungary admitted to the United States, and that a public statement would be desirable concerning the number of entry permits which the United States Government is willing to issue.

The Legation was instructed to advise the Committee that the Governments of the United States and Great Britain are in consultation on the matter and that a reply to the note which was presented by the Committee will be forthcoming within a short time.

Please believe me, my dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

LELAND HARRISON

The Honorable
Max Huber,
President, International Red
Cross Committee,
Geneva.

NWM/mak
LH/mk

Hechalutz Jews in Hungary
המרכז העולמי של "החלוץ"

to WRB contribution

~~WRB Form~~

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department Date: August 9, 5 p.m., 1944
No: 2736
Code: [REDACTED] Received: August 10, noon



PARAPHRASE

WRB No. 113. For McClelland.
Legation's 4972 August 3.

Department and WRB are interested in Intercross message. You will, we assume, report further developments. It is suggested that meanwhile items 1 through 4 be discussed by McClelland with Saly Mayer and that his views and comments be procured. For his information and guidance, WRB's Ankara representative, Hirschmann, is being sent the report which is contained in item 5 of your 4972.

already done!

re. preparations for emigration to Palestine

STETTINIUS ACTING

In duplicate
re

Received WRB *Aug 11 1944*
For Action
Answered
No.

Copy in 7a

840.1 JMS IN HUNGARY

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

COPY
hs

Re: Jews in Hungary
Re: Seminars with the ICRC

Bern, August 9, 1944.

Paul C. Squire, Esquire,
American Consul,
Geneva.

Sir:

The Legation has been instructed to present to the International Committee of the Red Cross on August 11, the text of the Department's reply to a communication which the Committee addressed to the Department through the International Red Cross delegate at Washington.

The communication dealt with the Hungarian Government's statement of willingness to make possible the emigration of certain categories of Jews from Hungary, and expressed the belief that the United States Government should make a public declaration concerning the number of permits it would be willing to issue to such Jews for entry into the United States. The Department's reply is quoted in the attached letter which you are requested to deliver on August 11, to President Huber or, in his absence, to an appropriate responsible officer of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

It would be very much appreciated if you would inform the Legation as soon as you have delivered the letter on August 11, in order that the Department may be notified.

Very truly yours,

Leland Harrison
American Minister.

Enclosure;

Letter to President
Huber of August 11, 1944.

copy

Jews in Hungary

840.1
Jews in Hungary

File Copy

TELEGRAM RECEIVED

From: Department

Date: August 10, midnight, 1944

No: 2764

Code: ~~Secret~~

C.I.

Received: August 11, 11 a.m.

PARAPHRASE

This telegram has been repeated to the Embassy at London as the Department's No. 6331, of August 10.

Reference is made to the Department's telegram No. 2715, of August 7, which was repeated to London as No. 6224, of August 7.

The British Embassy in Washington has informed the Department and the Board that the British Government agree that the Hungarian offer should be accepted and are ready to make a joint press declaration to that effect with the Government of the United States.

*Reuters
now relay's
such a
declaration
which was
issued on
Aug 17th*

The hope is confidently expressed that instructions of the British Foreign Office to the British Minister in Bern with regard to the reply to ICRC will reach Bern August 11 and that the reply of the British Government will be in terms identical to the reply of the Government of the United States. You should in any event deliver the reply of the Government of the United States, the text of which is contained in the Department's 2657, of August 2, to Intercross as instructed in the Department's telegram No. 2715, of August 7.

Reference final paragraph of the Department's No. 2715. An agreement has been reached between the two governments to issue a joint press declaration which, pending clearance as to text and time of issue with London, will be delayed a few days. Accordingly no press statement should be released. Please report.

STETTINIUS ACTING

/nrm
in triplicate

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

Received WTB Aug 11 1944
For Action
Answered
No.

840.1
JEWIS IN HUNGARY

151
142

Jews in Hungary COPY TO Mr. McCLELLAND

copy

Jews in Hungary

Aug 11th / 1944

DJR/LDR/mlld
441.2

61

File Copy

Extract from Memorandum concerning the Minister's call on Mr. Pilet-Golas at 10:30 August 11, 1944
Bern, August 10, 1944.

[Redacted]

(3) Palestinian certificates. Mr. Pilet informed me that he was sending instructions to his legation in Budapest to the effect that Switzerland would be prepared to give temporary refuge to 8,000 holders of Palestinian certificates in the event that they were not able to make their way eastward. Mr. Pilet stated that this was in addition to the proposed permission for the entry of children from Hungary and expectant mothers.

BY COURIER

Dear Mr. Woods:

Another service of the Legation would like to know if Alfred SCHAEFFER, General Manager of the Union Bank of Switzerland, in Zurich, is a suitable person to be contacted for the purpose of conducting certain matters of a very confidential nature. We have had some contact with Mr. Schaeffer on different subjects, but I have not sufficient information on file concerning the man himself to answer the question.

As I recall Mr. Altaffer knows Mr. Schaeffer and may, therefore, be able to assist us in determining whether Mr. Schaeffer is suitable to give temporary refuge to 8,000 individuals. Sincerely yours,
For the Minister:

Daniel J. Reagan
Commercial Attaché

Sam E. Woods, Esquire,
American Consul General,
Zurich.

L.P.H. R

A true copy of the signed original:

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-79
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

121
113

COPY

Jews in Hungary

COPY TO Mr. McCLELLAND

copy

Jews in Hungary

Aug 11th/1944.

(O.L.)

Extract from Memorandum concerning the Minister's call on Mr. Pilet-Golaz at 10:30 August 11, 1944.

(3) Palestinian certificates. Mr. Pilet informed me that he was sending instructions to his legation in Budapest to the effect that Switzerland would be prepared to give temporary refuge to 8,000 holders of Palestinian certificates in the event that they were not able to make their way eastward. Mr. Pilet stated that this was in addition to the proposed permission for the entry of children from Hungary and expectant mothers.

N.B. When I gave this information to Mr. McClelland he queried whether the statement "8,000 holders of Palestinian certificates" might not involve a far greater number, since Palestinian certificates, he understood, in many cases did not cover a single individual but covered whole families. There might be as many as 40,000 covered by 8,000 Palestinian certificates.

I then tried to confirm with Mr. Pilet-Golaz my understanding of his statement and subsequently, on August 12, I reached him by telephone. Mr. Pilet informed me that it was his understanding from the reports from Minister Jaeger that reference had been made to 8,000 individuals. In any case, his instructions to Minister Jaeger would make that clear, that is to say, that Switzerland would be prepared to give temporary refuge to 8,000 individuals. I passed on this information to Mr. Norton.

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

11/12/44

840.1 JEWS IN HUNGARY x 848 JEWS IN SLOVAKIA x 840.1 JEWS IN EUROPE

TELEGRAM SENT

is the text of a telegram regarding the 163 persons removed from Vittel which you have received from your organization in America. The fact that the United States, and particularly the War Refugee Board, has promoted the exchange of these people against German nationals in Bern, August 11, 1944.

CI

Dear Mr. Sternbuch:

I have a number of your letters before me which I shall endeavor to answer chronologically.

In regard to your letter of the second of August, I am afraid that I have no precise or official information as to the number of camps for Jews in Hungary or as to the number of persons in them. According to unconfirmed information there are large camps located at Kistarcsa, Sarvar, Miskole, Jaszbereny and Pecs. The International Red Cross is awaiting further information from its delegates in Hungary as to the needs in foodstuffs in these camps and the best manner of forwarding it. I should recommend, therefore, that you remain in contact with Intercross, telling your friends in Tangier meanwhile that you will wire them as soon as the Red Cross can supply you with detailed instructions.

With respect to your letter of the 6th of August, since it is still most doubtful that Jews in Hungary possessing Palestine certificates can be successfully emigrated, it would seem advisable to me to concentrate on obtaining a satisfactory solution to this problem before complicating matters by introducing the question of the emigration of Jews in Slovakia possessing certificates, who fortunately are not in as critical a situation as those in Hungary.

Your letter of the 7th of August mentions once more the group of 48 persons removed from Vittel on the 16th of May. On the 28th of July we received an official communication from the Federal Political Department, Division of Foreign Interests, enclosing a list of 51 persons transferred from the camp of Vittel to the camp of Bergen-Belsen on the 15th of May. This list was compiled on the 6th of July by a delegate of the Swiss Legation in Berlin on the occasion of his visit to Vittel.

In your letter of the 8th of August, you transmit to

* see 848 JEWS IN SLOVAKIA
*** see 840.1 JEWS IN EUROPE

me

Mr. I. Sternbuch,
Schweiz. Hilfsverein für jüd.
Flüchtlinge im Ausland,
Les Colondalles,
Montreux.

51

me the text of a telegram regarding the 163 persons removed from Vittel which you have received from your organization in America. The fact that the United States, and particularly the War Refugee Board, have promoted the exchange of these people against German nationals in South America is quite correct. As you know, steps in this direction were begun several months ago and have continued almost uninterruptedly since that time. We have never received confirmation from the Swiss Government that these persons were transferred to Bergen-Belsen. The only reason given by the Germans to the Swiss for the removal of these persons from Vittel was that they were not able to furnish adequate proof of their Latin American nationality. I believe I have previously communicated this unsatisfactory explanation to you.

The telegram which you sent me on the 7th of August has been forwarded to the Union of Orthodox Rabbis in the United States.

Sincerely yours,

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

RDM/mjb

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: August 11, 11 a. m., 1944.

No: 5197

Code: [REDACTED]

Charged to:

Paraphrase

Reference is made to the Department's 2656 of August 2 and the Legation's 4972 and 4974 of August 3, and 5043 of August 5.

Several reports which shed additional light on the present situation of Jews in Hungary with respect in particular to the ransom and emigration aspects of the problem have just reached Switzerland. The reports are dated the end of July and are from reliable Jewish sources in Budapest (Perez, Kasztner, and Komoly). In spite of preliminary reassuring news of an agreement between the Hungarian Government and ICRC to permit Jewish emigration to Palestine and elsewhere, as well as of relief to Jews remaining in Hungary, it now appears that ranking Gestapo agents of the so-called "Sondereinsatzkommando," sent to Budapest especially to direct the deportation of Jews, have no intention of permitting them to emigrate freely, particularly to Palestine, if they can prevent it. After the attack on Hitler and the rapid worsening of the German military situation, the Gestapo in Budapest shifted their interest from the ideological aspect of the extermination of the Jews to the purely material benefits in labor, goods and money to be derived therefrom. The essence of their present attitude is contained in a declaration made by the head of the Gestapo to Kasztner to the effect that "it was his desire to pump out the necessary labor from the Jewry of Hungary and sell the balance of valueless human material against goods with value".

On the other hand, the Hungarian Government led by Regent Horthy apparently has been frightened not only into stopping deportation (July 9) but also into attempting to make up for the unsavory rôle it has played already in the persecution and deportation of

the

840-1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

the Jews by favoring their emigration and relief to them under the supervision of Intercross. Krausz, of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, has accordingly been allowed to set up an office in the Swiss Legation, where the emigration to Palestine of the 8,700 families mentioned previously is being actively prepared. For the first convoy of 2,000 people, Hungarian exit permits and Rumanian transit permits have already been obtained and it is reported that boats are available at the port of Constanza. The German exit permits from Hungary have not (repeat not) been granted and, according to the statements of the Gestapo chief to Kasztner, the permits will not be granted unless certain ransom terms are fulfilled.

When the mission to Istanbul of Joel Brandt (please see no. 4258 of July 5 from the Legation) failed to produce concrete results and he did not return to Hungary but instead proceeded to Jerusalem, Jewish circles in Budapest, in the face of obvious German displeasure, made desperate efforts to keep the negotiations with the Gestapo going by raising goods and valuables from local sources to the value of three million Swiss francs and by stating that a credit of two million Swiss francs would be opened in Switzerland to cover the purchase of goods (sheepskins) in Slovakia and tractors in Switzerland. The affair of the 40 tractors which Sternbuch brought to our attention (see no. 4802, July 26 from Bern) was part of this deal. The deal was negotiated by Link and Freudiger of the Orthodox group in Budapest and relayed to Sternbuch. The Gestapo in Budapest, on the basis of the above offers, refrained from sending to Auschwitz during the initial period of deportations the following groups, totaling 17,290 persons:

1) 1,690 persons; the 1,200 Rabbis and prominent Orthodox Jews mentioned previously appear to have been a part of this number. This group was sent via Bratislava to Strasshof in Austria and later to the Bergen-Belsen camp in Germany, where they are at the present time;

2) Circa 15,000 persons sent to an unknown destination in Austria, to be kept, as the Gestapo stated, "on ice";

3. 600 persons confined in Budapest still.'

The various offers described were made as a stop-gap in the desperate hope that Brandt's negotiations would, in the meantime, be successful and thus render superfluous these makeshift deals. Kasztner writes as follows in this connection: "We were forced to enter upon such negotiations to gain time or do nothing". Apparently, he was further encouraged by a telegram of June 30 from Barlas of the Jewish Agency in Istanbul which stated that funds would be available for the prevention of deportation and for emigration.

Representatives of the Gestapo in Budapest expressed the desire to meet Joseph Schwartz, of the Joint Distribution Committee in Lisbon, to discuss the terms of payment and the release of 17,290 Jews who were to be allowed to go to Spain according to the original agreement. Following the attempt on Hitler's life, the meeting place was changed, on orders from Berlin, to run on the Franco-Spanish frontier, and, following Schwartz' unwillingness to meet them at all, the Germans agreed to meet Saly Mayer instead, as a neutral citizen, at the Swiss-Austrian frontier on August 13 or thereabouts. The Germans also agreed, as proof of their "good faith" and upon Kasztner's insistence, unconditionally to release a convoy of 500 persons from Bergen-Belsen which would be permitted to come to Switzerland. The Germans finally gave assurances that no deportations of the 17,290 Jews would take place until the question had been discussed with a representative of the Joint.

An agent of the Gestapo visited Jewish groups in Bratislava on July 21 and was assured by them that 300 tractors were available in Switzerland. The news created a very favorable impression with the head of the Gestapo in Budapest since, as Kasztner reports, "tractors are what are most desired and used here". Before the departure of Brandt, the Gestapo in Budapest had declared that they were willing to trade 1,000 Jews for every ten tractors and even went so far as to give assurance that "they would destroy the [plant] at Auschwitz" if delivery of the tractors was seriously begun.

My personal opinion, in the light of the foregoing information, is that Saly Mayer should be allowed to

meet

-4-

meet agents of the Gestapo (provided that his own Government, with whom the matter has been discussed, approves and grants the necessary border permits for the German agents) in an attempt to draw out negotiations and gain as much time as possible, without making any commitments, if possible. I recommended to Saly Mayer, and he agreed, that a preliminary telegram be sent to Budapest to postpone the scheduled meeting a few days, pending the arrival of a letter to be dispatched August 10 by courier to Budapest. The letter is to state, in turn, that no meeting can take place prior to the arrival in Switzerland of the convoy of 500 Jews. In view of the rapidly changing military situation, any time gained is in favor of the endangered Jews. Before Mayer goes to such a meeting, we must have, on the other hand, some very definite expression of your opinion as to whether any commitments whatever, on the basis of tractors, money or both, can be entered upon in the event that it is impossible to stall. The fact should also be borne in mind that the chief of the Gestapo in Budapest has already declared that not one of the 40,000 Jews whose emigration to Palestine is being planned at present, will be allowed to leave Hungary unless tractors are obtained in trade for them. As regards the first sentence of your 2656 of August 2, I cannot assume personal responsibility for a final decision in a serious matter of this kind. However, it is my personal opinion that apart from the maneuver to gain time, it is impossible at this juncture to embark upon a program of buying Jews out of the hands of the Nazis, particularly in exchange for goods that might enable the enemy to prolong the war. Furthermore, there is no assurance that the Swiss Government would be willing to permit the entry into Switzerland of Jewish refugees from Hungary for whose release a ransom had been paid.

Above from McClelland for WRB

HARRISON

RDM:nf
Copy to RDM

In duplicate to CA

Re: WR/15
contribution
המרכז העולמי של "החלוץ"

COPY
mep

Jews in Hungary COPY TO Mr. E. McCLELLAND

(C.I.)

Bern, August 11, 1944.

My dear Mr. President:

In my letter of August 8, 1944, I informed you of the receipt by the Department of State of a communication from the International Red Cross Committee concerning the departure of Jews from Hungary and the desirability of making a public statement regarding the number of entry permits which the United States Government would be willing to issue to emigrant Jews from Hungary.

I have now been instructed by the Department of State to express to the International Red Cross Committee the United States Government's great appreciation for the Committee's kind cooperation, and to request that the Committee be good enough to convey to the Hungarian Government, as soon as possible, the following message referring to that Government's offer to permit the departure of Jews from Hungary:

"The United States Government has been advised by the International Red Cross Committee of the Hungarian Government's willingness to permit certain categories of refugees to emigrate from Hungary. The United States Government, in spite of the substantial difficulties and responsibilities that are involved, has consistently made clear that it is determined to take all practicable steps for the rescue of the victims of political or religious oppression.

"The

The Honorable
Max Huber,
President, International Red
Cross Committee,
Geneva.

840.1
JEWIS IN HUNGARY

1944

"The Government of the United States, taking into account the humanitarian considerations involved as regards the Jews in Hungary, now specifically repeats its assurance that arrangements will be made by it for the care of all Jews who in the present circumstances are allowed to leave Hungary and who reach territory of the United Nations or neutral countries, and that it will find for such people temporary havens of refuge where they may live in safety. The governments of neutral countries have been advised of these assurances and have been requested to permit the entry into their territory of Jews from Hungary who may reach their frontiers. The United States Government is now awaiting information with regard to the concrete steps which the Hungarian Government will take to carry out its proposal."

I have also been instructed to advise the International Red Cross Committee that the United States Government is of the opinion that in view of the assurances given in the message quoted above, it will not be necessary to consult the South American Governments at this time.

Please believe me, my dear Mr. President,

Very sincerely yours,

LELAND HARRISON

H. 96 arriving in Switzerland & evacuated as promptly possible to the territory of UNs. Aug 4 to P. Bolay.

DWM/mak

Reply 8/18 RDM/mjb

COMITÉ INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE
AGENCE CENTRALE DES PRISONNIERS DE GUERRE



Chèques postaux L. 5527
Téléphone 4 23 05
Téleg. "INTERCROIXROUGE"

Rappeler dans la réponse:

EM/MP

G. 85
G. 59/5/65

GENÈVE, 11 août 1944.
Palais du Conseil-Général

*Check Chamey file.
See Aug 11 letter & minutes memo of our last talk with Palet.*

*Talk to minutes about US assurance to S/land to evacuate refugees
Min. 2 cc copy of Square letter of Aug 11th.*

Monsieur Mc Clelland
Légation des Etats-Unis
B e r n e
Alpenstrasse, 29

JKH says to refer them to our letter

Monsieur,

so have we, officially. Check dates, rec'd Aug 2

We have already received this transmitted it to State Dept.

Nous avons appris de Budapest que le Gouvernement allemand désirerait qu'une partie des émigrants juifs de Hongrie fût accueillie par les Etats-Unis. Ces émigrants pourraient être évacués sur Lisbonne par la France. Le Gouvernement hongrois aurait, de son côté, exprimé le désir de savoir à combien d'Israélites le Gouvernement américain serait disposé d'accorder le permis d'immigration aux Etats-Unis.

Answered in letter to ICRC Aug 11 m. get copy

Nous pensons que vous êtes au courant de cette question et nous vous serions très reconnaissants de nous faire connaître le point de vue des Autorités américaines à ce sujet.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur, l'expression de notre considération très distinguée.

Arrival of 600 - compensation?

See Dept's 2657 Aug 2nd.

W. Schweydt

COPY

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: August 12, 8 p.m. 1944

No: 5248

Code: [REDACTED]

(C.L.)

Charged to:

Was this based on note from FPD or merely verbal statement made to minister?

PARAPHRASE

Please refer to my telegram No. 5042, of August, 5, 1944.

On August 11 I was told by Federal Councillor Pilet-Golaz that he was advising the Swiss Minister in Budapest that, in the event that it would not be possible for them to proceed eastward, Switzerland would be prepared to give temporary refuge to 8,000 individuals holding Palestinian Certificates.

Mr. Pilet-Golaz, however, entertained considerable doubt as to whether the individuals in question would be able to obtain permission to proceed westward, since, according to the latest information he has received from Budapest, it did not lie with the Hungarians or with the Wehrmacht, but with the Gestapo, as to whether the necessary permission would be accorded. The willingness thus expressed by Mr. Pilet-Golaz to receive holders of Palestinian Certificates was in addition to the proposed asylum for expectant mothers and children.

HARRISON

LH/nrm

in duplicate.

DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

840.1
JEWIS IN HUNGARY

Hechalutz Jews in Hungary
המרכז העולמי של "החלוץ"

to WRIS contribution

74-1111-44

151
143-7

Weltz

des Hechaluz

WRIS contribution

Hechaluz Jews in Hungary
המרכז העולמי של "החלוץ"

CASE FILE

Salvador documents in Hungary - disadvantages of sending in too many.

TELEGRAM SENT

To: Department

Date: August 12, noon, 1944.

No: 5233

Code: [REDACTED]

Charged to:

Paraphrase

(C.L.)

From McClelland for WRB.

With reference to numbered paragraph 6 of the Department's 2407 of July 13, certain qualified relief organizations are being contacted with a view to obtaining lists of persons in territory controlled by the enemy in whose names Latin American documents have been issued but who are not in possession of these documents.

However, too extensive an inquiry of this kind is not recommended since it is quite liable to result in the compilation of unlimited lists of persons for whom it will be claimed such documents, those of El Salvador in particular, were issued in the past but could not be sent to those persons. In this connection please see no. 4109 of June 28 from this Legation. The Consulate General of El Salvador in Geneva has in the past issued so-called "nationality" documents by the hundreds, usually pre-dated, and it appears that, if encouraged, will continue to do so on a larger scale.

With reference to the Legation's 3867 of June 17, we feel that the forwarding of false Salvador documents into Hungary should be discontinued since deportation has ceased, and such papers are apparently valueless for entry into El Salvador and neither the Hungarians nor the Germans are deceived by them or accord any preferential recognition to their bearers. Some weeks ago several cases were reported to us from Hungary in which the possession of Salvador documents had exactly the opposite effect from that desired and occasioned the immediate arrest by the Hungarian authorities of the bearers for being in possession of false nationality papers.

In

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By R. H. Parks Date SEP 25 1972

+ 840.1 Jews in Europe

840.1 JEWIS IN HUNGARY

original transport from

3, ru

5233

-2-

In view of the position taken by the Salvadoran Government towards these fraudulent documents (your 2484 of July 21), it would appear inadvisable to sanction them officially by presenting them to the Swiss Federal Political Department, particularly when it is felt that any large increase in the number of false Latin American documents, if called to the attention of the German Government, may readily jeopardize the already precarious status of the thousands of bearers of all such documentation now in German hands and who may have hitherto been saved from deportation primarily because the Government of Germany chose to recognize their documentation and place them in regular civilian internment camps for American nationals, feeling perhaps that they constituted a reservoir for exchange against nationals of Germany held in the Western Hemisphere.

As emphasized in numbered paragraph 2 of our 4659 of July 21, the Germans will probably only continue to honor any fraudulent Latin American documents so long as they feel there exists the practical possibility of exchange.

HARRISON

RDM:mjb:nf

Copy to RDM ✓
In duplicate to AI

copy in FA

+ 848 World Jewish Congress

Telephon 2 36 28

Bundesamt via Straalhof
Bergen-Belsen.

GENEVE 14. August 1944
53, rue des Paquis

ame

SALY MAYER

St. Gallen, den August 14th 1944
Postfach
Telephon 2.38.71

*Jewe in unheim
Hengary*

My dear Mr McClelland,

Copies of

Cable Kazstner Aug 13th
Cable Reznic to Lisbon
and
draft No 1 of Dr Wyler with
reference to meeting delegation.

please find encl.

Yours very respectfully

Saly Mayer

Roswell D Mc Clelland Esq
Geneve.

und bestät
e von Sfr.
fenden Freu
ien Gelegen
den unsere
ele vor bru
Briefes vo
-Bergen zu
Bratislava
e hiesigen
hierher an
n nochmals
und verblei
Freundlichem
N. Schwalb

alles aufgeben muss, im Interesse des Volkes, der All
auch zu allem Guten helfen.

Weltzentrale des Hechaluz
Hechaluz Geneva Office

Re: WRFS
contribution

Hechaluz Jews in Hungary
המרכז העולמי של "החלוץ"
משרד זינבה

Telephon 23626

Re: original transport from
Budapest via Strasshof
Bergen-Belsen.

GENEVE, 14. August 1944. זינבה.
53, rue des Paquis

Lieber Herr McClelland,

ich komme zurück auf unsere letztgeführte Aussprache und bestätige mit herzlichem Dank die uns zur Verfügung gestellte Summe von Sfr. 100.000.-

(hunderttausend), die wir unseren leidenden und kämpfenden Freunden in ^{Budapest} ^{Bucarest} Bdp., Bratisl. und Buk. mit der letzten sich gebotenen Gelegenheit gesandt haben. Mit dieser Ihrer verständnisvollen Hilfe werden unsere Freunde ihre weitere Rettungs- und Hilfsarbeit fortführen und Viele vor brutaler Deportation und Tod retten.-

In der Beilage sende ich Ihnen eine Abschrift eines Briefes von einem Teilnehmer des Bdp. Transportes nach Strasshof - Belsen-Bergen zu Ihrer gefl. Kenntnissnahme. Das Schreiben auf dem Wege noch vor Bratislava nach Bratisl. geschrieben.-

Wäre es nicht möglich, dass das Rote Kreuz oder die hiesigen Stellen, wenigstens die genannten 170 Kinder dieses Transportes hierher anfordern sollen? Indem ich Ihnen für alle Ihre bisherigen Bemühungen nochmals bestens danke, wünsche ich Ihnen Erfolg in Ihrer weiteren Arbeit und verbleibe mit

freundlichem Grüss

Ihr

N. Schwalb
N. Schwalb

Beilage erwähnt.

Mr.

Roswäll D. Mac Clelland
Special Assistant to the
American Minister

B e r n

Liebe Freunde,

MECHALUZ, GENEVA OFFICE

Freitag abend reisten wir von Budapest ab, trafen Samstag abend in Magyarovar ein, wo wir bis Dienstag abend verweilten. Dort wurde unsere Reiseroute geändert und wir wurden über ~~Komarom~~ Komarom nach Szenc gebracht. Es wurde uns mitgeteilt, dass wir nicht, wie ursprünglich geplant, nach Strasshof fahren, sondern Ausspitz bei Brinn.

Im Namen von 1700 Seelen bitten wir Euch, unverzüglich Onkel Wily zu besuchen und seine dringende Hilfe in Anspruch zu nehmen. Er möge das Nötige zu unseren Gunsten veranlassen, insbesondere:

1. Die Durchreise durch Euch zu sichern
2. Die Bewilligung zu erlangen, dass wir von Euch Brotz und sonstige Lebensmittel mitnehmen können.
3. Dass die Reise, wie ursprünglich geplant, durch Spanien schleunigst vorbereitet und durchgeführt werde.

Onkel Willi wird auch von unseren Freunden Rezsö und Filip gebeten, (trotzdem er derzeit nicht im Amte ist), sein Möglichstes anzubieten, dass die Einwanderung nach Palästina den Vereinbarungen entsprechend abgewickelt werde.

Gleichzeitig bitte ich Euch, meinem Freund Löwenherz zur Kenntnis zu bringen, dass wir demnächst dort oder in Ausspitz eintreffen werden, dass er also einen Kontakt mit uns suchen soll.

Auch Mikus möge sofort alles unternehmen, damit die Reise ohne Reibung vor sich gehen können soll.

Unbedingt besucht uns, sobald wir eintreffen.

Mit besten Grüßen

Josef B.

Während des Schreibens der Zeilen trifft die Mitteilung ein, dass die Bewilligung angekommen ist. Wir fahren soeben weiter. In Wejnori sandte ich ein Telegramm und bat in demselben, uns Lebensmittel zur Verfügung zu stellen. Der Lokomotivführer sagte uns jedoch, dass wir nicht in Bratislava stehen bleiben und die Fahrt nach Kutu fortsetzen. Der Polizeichef behauptet dagegen, dass wir nach Wien Ostbahnhof fahren. Möglicherweise können beide Mitteilungen stimmen, d.h. wir fahren über Lundenburg nach Wien. Unsere Bitte an Euch ist daher: Verst ändigt hiervon unsere Freunde Filip und Rezsö, weiters sorget vielleicht auch dafür, dass wir irgendwelchen Kontakt auch von dort haben sollen. Ueberdies sprecht mit Wily und sorget dafür, dass Ihr dauernd Mitteilungen über unser Schicksal erhaltet, Falls es nicht gelingen sollte, bei Euch Lebensmittel aufzunehmen, so bietet alles Mögliche auf, scheut keine Kosten, und schicket uns diese Lebensmittel mit einem Boten nach Wien nach. Unsere genaue Zahl ist: 1690, darunter etwas ~~200~~ 170 Kinder unter 6 Jahren. Eine grosse Anzahl ist unter diesen, die aus den Lagern, von denen aus die Deportationen gemacht wurden, hierhergebracht, um sich diesem Transport anzuschliessen. Unter uns befinden sich u. A. Rav Stasser, Debrecen, Rav Glasner, Kolosvar, Rav Teitelbaum, Szatmar, Rav Deutsch, Szanto und andere jüdische Führerpersönlichkeiten wir Dr. Fischer, Kolosvar, Dr. Adolf Deutsch Budapest, Leopold Blau, Schreibers, Dr. Polgar, Karl Freudiger etc. In diesem Moment (wir stehen seit einer Stunde in Vajnori) wird von der Transportleitung gemeldet, dass wir in Wien ca. 7 Tage bleiben. Angeblich soll der Ort Strasshof heissen, wo wir bleiben. Von dort sollen wir über den Brenner, entlang Italien, Frankreich nach Spanien kommen. Nach Verlauf vom 10. Tage, gerechnet vom Tage der Abfahrt aus Wien, soll der zweite Transport auf derselben Strecke die Reise aus Budapest antreten. Das Haus von Filip wurde leider zerstört, auch ein Opfer ist zu beklagen, in der Person von Denes. Verständigt auf kürzestem Wege vom Inhalt dieser Zeilen unsere Freunde Filip und Rezsö. Ich brauche es nicht separat zu betonen, dass auch Ihr alles aufbieten müsset, im Interesse des Gelingens, der Allmächtige wird Euch auch zu allem Guten helfen.

x Belp.

Überwachen
die
same
transport
as 1300
Kilber

American Joint Distribution
Committee

Case in Hungary
Rec'd Aug 14th/44.
th
St. Gallen, den 12 August 19 44

My dear Mr Mc Clelland,

I am leaving by nighttrain for home after having been en route since July 25th.
Beginning of End: at 2300 I received a tel call from Dr Schwarzenberg & to all appereance there is a great likelyhood that during next week a transport of 500 or 600 will arrive at Basel. Metropole have received a cable from Budapest in reply to her cable enquiry earlier in the week about this 500 or 600 Transport. I also informed Dr Rothmund about it & the very last message from Dr Schwarzenberg is~~t~~ that he will inform MM Dr Rothmund and Bachmann (Metropole) of this cable August 11th (?)

I have already received an enquiry by a very anxious father of a little girl, Eva Klein 13 years, that he heard by cable from a friend in Budapest that his girl will arrive in Basle and that he should make enquiries of SM.

End of Beginning

during the last 3 weeks I have experienced so many " tit bits of life" that my expectations of having things lively have been amply reached top mark and I do hope that all of us have done some good work on behalf of our unfortunate friends.

I am, my dear friend

yours sincerely

Saly Mayer

Adresse:
SALY MAYER
Postfach 262, St. Gallen

1 draft
14.04.44

Re: negotiations with Nazis (Fischer, et al.) for release of Hungarian Jews in B-Belsen. Aug. 14/44.

Re: German Delegation for Barter Business and Mr. Saly Mayer. (Joint's delegate)

THEORETICAL STANDPOINT: There can be no discussion of the strict immorality of the whole business, as proposed by "Willy"'s Friends.

Neither can there be any belief that Willy's friends will execute any bargain with a guarantee that people will arrive in Spain.

It already looks clear that they prefer dumping people into Switzerland and let the A.J.D.C. (SM), and secondly (or first) the Federal Authorities and the I.R.C. do the rest.

The present political situation seems to be such that the moment for Willy's friends to make still money out of people who have already been divested of all financial value is the last in which this can still be done. If one were to follow strict common sense, or the principles of pre-nat.-soc. Europe and USA, it would be out of the question to discuss the proposition for five minutes.

No diplomatic language could be used to characterize the whole proceeding.

Realistic or Practical Standpoint.

1. From the JOINT'S point of view (Joint= Am. Jew. Joint Distr. Comm.) salvage operation always ought to profit A L L, i.e. the General Interest, (KLAL).

This is a Group move, i.e. it has been brought about by a group and certain group interests may have influenced the choice of those who will now or even afterwards come to Europe i.e. western Europe or Switzerland (in transit - it)

. On the other hand, we are in no position to adopt the nat.-soc. standpoint that certain people might be preferable to certain other people. For all we know, the people who now come may be even valuable from a mere worldly point of view. From our own point of view, they are men (and probably women, perhaps children), and are worth to be salvaged from that point of view. alone.

/well known the/

2. It would be preferable to fight shy of a meeting with Willy's friends, but this is probably inevitable, notably since latest Kaszner cable says that a refusal would be detrimental (although this sinister word reminds too much of Nazi practice; but since it is not a world over that this practice means simply killing is practice,) there is no refusal, if we want to help Hungarian Jews, whether of a group or otherwise).

3. From S.M.'s standpoint there was no other way but to acquaint the Palais Fédéral of the whole matter, and likewise the IntRed Cross, and the Delegation of the W.R.B.

Any secrecy as against these persons or authorities would have lead S.M. and the Joint into a maze, and next to criminal proceedings.

THIS IS THE SUMMARY OF THE DISCUSSION OF THE JOINT'S POSITION IN THE MATTER OF THE PROPOSITION OF THE GERMAN DELEGATION

14.VIII.44

In the matter of the DELEGATION of the German Powers
that be in Hungary, and M. Saly Mayer.

[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

It is perfectly clear that, whatever Willy's friends
will propose, they never will be able to send either to
Switzerland or elsewhere, all the remaining Hungarian Jews.
The question, all the remaining therefore, what is to
be done with these, is /it remains therefore, what is to
this question at all? possible to discuss with the Willies
We do not think so.

Financial I as to the N & N W W, it must be said to
the Willies that, if the 500 and/or 1700 and/or more
will be accepted in Switzerland, it is not only
of ransom, but a question of
also a subject with

Financial : According to Eastners' requirements * one million Swiss francs would be the conditio sine qua non.

This cannot mean that Willy's friends would now receive 1 000 000 frs. or anything else.

They have promised to deliver the 500 Persons, of whom it is never said whether they are men, women or children or in what proportion, so to say xffree of charge. just to show their good faith and their decent ways.

It is to be discussed in what way they shall receive the 1000 000 frs.- and w h a t for.

Ransom. It is understood that the money would be a R A N S O M , just as such used to be paid to Pirates, even by respectable governments, still 100 years ago.

But it is n o t r a n s o n for the 500 people.

While there is no need to shout the word "Schweinehund" , as a certain so-called high Judge in Germany has done lately in front of a prisoner, there is neither any need to let the Delegation believe that they can simply get away with it.

The Million has to be paid for further delivery or deliveries, and there is no other need but to deposit it somewhere.

This is a main point of discussion, and it seems quite cosol and busineslike discussion.

The gentlemen of the Delegation may propose where and against what number of people (say the 1700 of Bergen Belsen od. Bergfelsen (Hannover) , the million is to be paid, and it ought to be possible to arrange that it only be handed out like any payment against a bill of lading, when the " goods" are ready to be "delivered" in Switzerland.

Somebody accompanying the consignment shall state that and what number, of persons, have been brought alive to Switzerland, and against that statement the payment might be made with a Swiss Bank or Trust Corporation or in whatever way it may be arranged "discretely".

BARTER The question of goods is to be struck from the schedule at once, since none of the authorities ix appealed to has accepted it, all the more since the goods asked for by the Germans are to all intents War counterband.

Hungary . It is perfectly clear that, whatever Willy's friends will propose, they never will be able to send either to Switzerland or elsewhere , all the remaining Hungarian Jews.

The question remains therefore, what is to be done with these. Is /it possible to discuss with the Willies this question at all?

Wé do not think so.

Financial I As to the R A N S O M , it must be said to the Willies that, if the 500 and/or 1700 and/or more will be accepted in Switzerland, it is not only a question of ransom, but a question of sustenance. This of course is also a subject with respect to the Palais Fédéral.

Handwritten notes:
 The question of goods is to be struck from the schedule at once, since none of the authorities ix appealed to has accepted it, all the more since the goods asked for by the Germans are to all intents War counterband.

OK

Continuation of the (Despatches) transports

In case that the 500 will come and will be welcome in Switzerland, what is going to be done for the further consignments which had been taken into consideration?

In What way, when shall they be sent, when would they probably arrive. Will lists be forwarded? *should be*

Will it be properly arranged that these people are being introduced in some way to the "wiss diplo atic or consular authorities in Germany, and what is being arranged for their entry into Switzerland?

Emigration & D^a the Willies control the Hungarian Jewish emigration. ?

Will they not hamper it- Is this to be a part of the bargain, which then might just lose a trifle of its utter meanness?

Question v numbers, sex, age of convey must be known in advance to proper authorities. Good stall.

MEMORANDUM

Jews in Hungary

To: A. W. D.

From: R. McClelland

August, 14th. 1944.

In a recent wire from the WRB they ask me to contact a Mr. Alfred SCHAEFFER, General Manager of the Union Bank of Switzerland in Zürich. I am to get in touch with this gentleman regarding the supplying of Pengoes in Hungary (for purposes of assistance to endangered Jews) against blocked dollars or blocked Swiss francs. The contact is also to involve asking Schaeffer to try and arrange for the coming to Switzerland of a certain Mr. Felix Ssentirmay from Hungary.

It seems to me that in the course of conversations which Gero and I had with Kurt Grimm and an Austrian lawyer named Spitzg (who was en route to Budapest to attempt to negotiate the "evacuation" of wealthy Jews), Grimm mentioned that his means of communication with Spitzg went through the Union Bank of Switzerland. I also gathered, although I may be wrong, that Spitzg was transacting business for the "Union de Banque Suisse."

Since I myself am somewhat leery of these Swiss gentlemen of "haute finance" in Zürich, I should very much appreciate it if you could get me some sort of a line on Mr. Alfred SCHAEFFER, of the Union Bank of Switzerland, through your connections in Zürich. I have sent a note to Maurice Altaffer of our Consulate there and Charley Husted, who has certain contacts in these circles, is finding out what he can. I thought perhaps that your friend F. L. might have some information on Schaeffer. WRB also stated at the end of their cable that if "the Legation or other American authorities believed Schaeffer unsuitable" I should refrain from contacting

With my regards and thanks,

RDMcC.

RESPONDENCE

Mr. McClelland's Files

Jews in Hungary: August 1944

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA

Rec'd AUG 15 1944

BERN



MEMORANDUM

August 14, 1944.

For: Mr. McClelland

From: A. W. D.

Re your memorandum of August 14th, if you want to meet Alfred Schaeffer, of the Union Bank of Switzerland, I can arrange it any time you wish. I think, for the purposes suggested in your memorandum, he might be useful.

In these matters I strongly advise against starting inquiries along several lines simultaneously.

AWB objected to asking; Husted & Woods who both have reputations - talkers too much.

Check with Charley Husted on his information & talk to AWB. Letter went to Schaeffer