

ADDRESS BY

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At the outset, I wish to express appreciation to my predecessor, Judge Simon H. Rifkind who left a heritage of respect and sound policies which have made my task much less difficult than it might have been. In some ways, the problems have changed since his departure. In his final report, he stated that there were a hundred thousand Jewish Displaced Persons in Europe. Tonight I report that there are over two hundred thousand. He was dealing largely with the men and women recently liberated from German concentration camps. Today the majority consists of recent infiltrates from Eastern Europe. However, although the basic problems are in some respects different and greater, the basic policies which Judge Rifkind helped to establish should be and are the same.

The solid foundation laid by him has made it easier to build the subsequent superstructure of care.

I take this occasion also to express public appreciation to my own congregation, Temple B'rith Kodesh, Rochester, New York, for its understanding cooperation and generosity. For four years now I have been its absentee Rabbi, most of that time directing the Jewish Religious Program for the armed forces and more recently as Adviser to the United States Commanders in Germany and Austria. And now again at the request of the Secretary of War, they have granted me a further leave of absence to carry on this important undertaking. I cannot find words adequate to express my gratitude for their loyalty and ongoing helpfulness.

I wish to pay public tribute to the high level United States governmental authorities who have had some direct association with my responsibilities in Europe. The President of the United States, the Department of State and the Department of War have steadily maintained a sympathetic, humanitarian attitude toward the Jewish Displaced Persons. Under their direct responsibility, the borders of the United States zone in Germany and the United States zone in Austria have remained open to those of our people fleeing from persecution in Eastern Europe. Their policies have been humanely and effectively implemented by the Commanding Generals of Germany and Austria, General Joseph T. McNarney and General Mark Clark. They have done more than implement policies from Washington. They have helped to fashion such policies as would give the maximum help and impose the minimum hardship. The United States governmental authorities, civilian and military together, have in my opinion, given the world the outstanding example of practical humanitarianism in this sorry postwar period.

And now I offer both an expression of appreciation and a report to the five major Jewish organizations who were originally consulted about my appointment and who are recognized as having the principal responsibility in matters affecting the Jewish Displaced Persons in Europe. I refer to the American Jewish Committee, the American Jewish Conference, the American Joint Distribution Committee, the Jewish Agency for Palestine, and the World Jewish Congress. Before I left for Europe, I called together the heads of these organizations and said, "There will be occasions when I will need the help and guidance of the organized Jewish community. There may be times when I will have to convey information and counsel to the Jewish community. I cannot and will not deal with disparate and perhaps conflicting groups on such delicate and urgent matters. In this at least there must be unity." It is gratifying to report that so far as my responsibilities are concerned, there has been unbroken working unity ever since. I informed the Secretaries of State and War as well as the Theater Commanders in Europe of my working relationship with these organizations. They agreed that full

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consultation and cooperation were necessary to sustain the morale and the physical well-being of the Jewish Displaced Persons. They appreciate the understanding, the assistance and the functioning unity of these Jewish organizations and trust that it will continue at least as long as the need exists. My hope goes beyond that point. I trust that this unified effort is the promise, the symbol and the pattern of a united Jewry in the years to come.

I wish to report also an increasing understanding in the relations between the United States Army and the Jewish community with reference to the Displaced Persons in Europe. For various reasons for which it would serve no good purpose to recapitulate at this time, there was a period of criticism, irritation and tension. The great disappointment of the Jews that the Displaced Persons were still in camps in Europe somehow seemed to channel itself against those who were taking care of them and who also, I must add, were equally disappointed that their charges had not been resettled elsewhere. In any event, that period has passed. Responsible Jewry knows now how indebted Jews are to the United States Army. On the other hand, the promotion of contacts between high military authorities and responsible Jewish leadership has increased the understanding, the appreciation and the dependence of the military in relation to these Jewish groups.

Let us look now at the relations between the military and the Jewish Displaced Persons themselves. I wish to state, in the first place, that the basic policies of U.S.F.E.T. and U.S.F.A. are excellent. Generals McNarney and Clark continue to grant haven to Jewish persecutees. They continue to maintain a differential in food, housing and care favorable to the victims of Nazi persecution. They grant exemption to Jews from the pressure applied to other Displaced Persons to return to their countries of origin, fully recognizing the inhumanity of such a program for our people. They exclude Jews from all "no work, no eat" proposals. They give every possible assistance to the establishment of an adequate religious life among the Displaced Persons. Despite acute food shortages and the special problems of supply caused by the shipping strike they granted extra rations to the Jews for the High Holydays. In a communication which has just come to me from Frankfurt, it is stated that the Army will not permit the Jews to pay for the publication of the talmud in Germany, which has recently been approved. We felt that it would be an appropriate historic gesture and an eternal answer to Nazi book-burning to have the schass published by the Displaced Persons in Germany and were ready to arrange for its financing out of Jewish funds. U.S.F.E.T. headquarters, I now learn, is ready to make the paper and printing available out of its resources, consistent with its program of providing religious materials for Displaced Persons.

The top policies are excellent. The problems arise in the field. The Displaced Persons are not accustomed to American military procedures and disciplines. The young American G.I. finds it difficult to understand the D.P. His way of thinking, his behavior patterns are foreign to him. As time passes, the Displaced Persons become increasingly burdensome to those who are responsible for their care. There is undoubtedly a subtle, unhealthy German influence which is probably growing.

To counteract the effects of these factors and to reduce undesirable tension to a minimum, we have undertaken a program of education and interpretation. I prepared an article on the Jewish Displaced Persons which appeared in three issues of the "Stars and Stripes," the Army publication read by the military in Germany and Austria. It was also published in all of the unit newspapers and magazines and was distributed by the information and Education branch of U.S.F.E.T. In actual effect therefore, this interpretation of the Jewish Displaced Persons was brought directly to the attention of the officers and enlisted men who are likely to have contact with them. There has been a similar effort to interpret American military policies and procedures through the Jewish Chaplains, the Central Committee of Liberated Jews, and the Jewish voluntary agencies. For example, when we found that incidents were developing on trains carrying large numbers of Displaced Persons from Austria to Germany because there was no adequate liaison between American personnel who issued orders in English and the D.P.'s who failed to obey them in Yiddish, we arranged for Jewish Chaplains to accompany these trains. At the point of origin they explained American military policies and procedures. They related the

contribution the Army is making toward the saving of Polish Jewry. They shared the hardships and privations of the people on journeys of two or three days in box cars, and then stayed in new camps for a day or two to help in the process of orientation.

Our staff has made an analysis of the incidents that have occurred since January 1, 1946 and on the basis thereof has prepared a list of "do's and don'ts" for the Army and for the Displaced Persons, pointing out concretely the things to avoid in order to reduce and perhaps eliminate unpleasant incidents.

One cannot generalize about the total relationship of G.I. and D.P. In some places the Jews pay the highest tribute to the understanding and helpfulness of the American military in their area. In other places, there is much criticism. We are doing what we can to obviate the difficulties and are receiving the fullest cooperation from the high level military authorities.

The relationship between the Jews and the Germans is paradoxical. The studies made of German attitudes indicate no basic changes. I have seen nothing to prove that the Germans regret their anti-Semitism. They may regret the effects of it on world opinion. They may think that the Nazis were too crude in their techniques of persecution and extermination, just as most of them seem to regret only that Hitler lost the war, not that he started it. But they remain anti-Semitic.

The Jews likewise regard the Germans who despoiled them and murdered their families with an unforgiving hatred.

One might expect this combination of unforgiving hatred and unregenerate anti-Semitism to lead to grave friction. Actually it does not. In many camps and centers the Jews live peaceably side by side with the Germans. Outbreaks of antagonism between them are rare, marginal rather than general. They may seem more general because it is the sensational isolated incident which is featured by the press whereas the daily, quiet living together never makes the headlines. However, they do live together for the most part in an unbroken though uneasy peace. Some Germans are employed in Jewish camps even as vocational instructors. In a recent incident in a camp near Munich, the Jews actually took under their wing the German employees of the camp, not as hostages as was erroneously reported in the newspapers, but for their protection until the excitement was calmed down.

Such incidents as have occurred were due for the most part to the use of German police in or near Jewish camps. Before his departure, Judge Rifkind asked for discontinuance of such practices in the camps. His recommendation at the time was not approved because of the reduction of American military personnel. However, subsequent incidents and continued interpretation have brought about the elimination of German police from Jewish camps. They have not as yet, however, brought about the exclusion of German police from the neighboring areas of Jewish camps. I must state in explanation of the Army's reluctance to take this step that:

- a) There are not enough American troops in United States Zone in Germany for policing purposes.
- b) Under the circumstances and because of larger policy, the Army finds it desirable to utilize Germans for German police purposes.
- c) If German police are pursuing actual or alleged law-breakers on a German road, their task would be made difficult, if not impossible, by the establishment, let us say, of a three-mile limit around Jewish camps.

Nevertheless, we have recommended that German police be excluded from the contiguous area and this is receiving consideration from the appropriate authorities.

Much could be said about the internal conditions among the Displaced Jews. However, for the purpose of this report, let the following brief summary suffice.

In the first place, we sought to build up a sense of responsibility, dignity and status among the D.P.'s. This took shape in the official recognition by General McNarney of the Central Committee of Liberated Jews. Hitler had outlawed Jewish communities from Europe and announced that he had forever destroyed them. The American Commander gave historic answer by granting legal recognition to a Jewish community within Germany itself. Even though, as we hope, this community will not long endure in Germany, as a gesture and as a symbol it is of profound significance. I wish you could have been present with me at the luncheon that General McNarney tendered in the Yankee Doodle Room of the Casino in Frankfurt to the officers of the Central Committee. These Jews, so recently freed from concentration camps, still bearing upon their arms and upon their souls the marks of their persecutors, still having some excuse because of their experience with Nazis in uniform to question the intentions of anyone in uniform, conducting themselves as equals, with dignity, with propriety and with self-respect.

The Army is now preparing to give them a larger measure of responsibility in the administration of their own affairs. It calls on them to give orientation to the newcomers. It relies on them to help maintain law and order. On the other hand, it is anticipated that the military authorities will not obstruct them but will assist them in keeping constantly before the world the simple fact that their basic problem of resettlement has not been solved.

I am pleased to report that on the occasion of its formal recognition, the Committee brought to General McNarney the organized will of the Jewish Displaced Persons to work. This has been a difficult and complicated problem. The survivors of the concentration camps had neither the strength nor the will to work. Certainly they would not work for the German economy. Through the months this unreadiness to work became almost a fixation, a kind of group psychosis. It exercised a profound demoralizing influence. Steadily there has developed a healthy change. At present a substantial percentage of the employable Jews actually do some work in the administration of their own camps. The time has now come, they reported to General McNarney, when they are ready to go further. They are prepared now to do any work for the needs of Displaced Persons, non-Jewish as well as Jewish, for the Army and for its dependents, and for UNRRA, but not for the German economy. We are engaged now in planning for a realistic work program which is extremely difficult because of problems of materials, machinery, financing, etc. With the approval of the Secretary of War, I am, at this time, engaged in securing experts to come to Germany to set up such a program.

In this connection, I wish to state that the recent infiltrates have contributed something new to the total picture. Unlike the earlier DP's directly liberated from concentration camps, most of the newcomers are from Russia whither they fled before the advancing Nazi armies. They are not the products of the abnormalities of the concentration camps. They are accustomed to hard work. It would be a great pity if their capacity and will to work were to be dissipated. We shall do everything possible to prevent this.

It became clear early in our experience that the problems of Jewish property restitution were too complex for a Rabbi. We recommended to General McNarney and General Clay that a recognized Jewish expert be attached to the military government staff to handle it. The recommendation was accepted, the Jewish organizations were consulted, and a distinguished attorney with long legislative and governmental experience was appointed. Mr. Max Lowenthal is now engaged in this difficult and complex undertaking.

The largest single problem that confronted us was the infiltration from Poland, which in a short time doubled the Jewish Displaced Persons population in Germany and Austria. Even before the Kielce pogrom, the robbing, beating and killing of Jews in Poland had increased the flow of those seeking safety in our zone. On the

fourth of July a maddened mob of Poles gathered outside the Jewish Community House in Kielce and demanded the blood of the Jews. No one protected the Jews. No one helped them. The church authorities refused to lift a finger. The police either turned their backs or participated with the mob. The local government was either helpless or indifferent and it was only after forty-two of these people, many of them the fine, young comrades of the Kibbitz, had been beaten to death and many more, severely, some fatally, wounded that the national government effectively intervened and put a stop to the pogrom.

The Polish Jews who were coming back from Russia hoping to get back some of their families' possessions or property, had immediately learned that even when the law granted them restitution it was nullified by a letter from the Polish Fascist forces threatening their lives if they attempted to claim their rights.

Polish anti-Semitism was as old as Polish history. At regular intervals, it erupted into pogroms. The Easter season left no Jews free from a sense of fear. The old lies of Christ-killing and blood-letting were inculcated in the churches and disseminated therefrom. Then the Poles learned some new things from the Nazis. They were given instructions and authorization to exterminate Jews. The more than ninety percent of Polish Jewry who were murdered during the Nazi regime actually perished, for the most part, at the hands of Poles working under German orders rather than at the hands of the Nazis themselves. The disturbed postwar conditions in Poland produced tensions and frictions of which the Jews were made the scapegoat. The Communist-dominated government is unpopular with the majority of the Polish people and in particular with the articulate, well-organized Polish groups which are also anti-Semitic. The Jews were ground between the upper and lower millstones. The Kielce pogrom was the logical outcome of these conditions.

Not long thereafter, I managed to get into Poland. I wanted to see with my own eyes the conditions which the refugees were reporting to me. I desired to exercise, if possible, some restraining influence on Polish anti-Semitism. And officially I was interested in bringing back to General McNarney a realistic analysis of the problems and needs that were likely to confront him as Commander of the United States Forces in Europe.

I visited the larger centers of Jewish life in that country, including Warsaw and Lodz. I went then to lower Silesia where the government had undertaken an interesting experiment in repatriating Jews, giving them the housing, farmlands, heavy industry jobs and some of the businesses that had been formerly the possession of the Germans who had been expelled. I visited the repatriation centers into which flowed the tens of thousands of Jews coming back out of Russia whither the German armies had driven them. They returned to Poland with high hopes of finding some of their loved ones, of recovering some of their possessions, of re-establishing their lives in their former homeland. But on all counts they found themselves doomed to frustration and despair. Most of them decided to leave Poland, and no one was able to convince a single Jew to wait or remain in Poland who had reached the conclusion that his life was no longer safe there; that neither he nor his family had any future there.

I could understand their feelings. I was drawn to the Polish Ghetto as with a dark fascination. It is the last word in desolation and sorrow. Except for an empty, unused church on the very edge of it, an apt symbol I thought of the ineffectuality of Christianity in preventing or mitigating the most un-Christian barbarism of all time, the Ghetto is a vast sea of rubble. Every house, every building was systematically destroyed. There is a strange, weird deathly silence about the area. Nothing living stirs in it. No traffic passes through it. The only people you see are the human vultures, the poor Poles who dig about in the ruins searching for money and valuables which Jews buried, hoping vainly to return from the camps where they were exterminated. I stood at the quiet, unused railroad siding at which each day Jews were loaded into locked box cars, and carried to the extermination chambers at

Auschwitz and Treblinka.

There is a memorial to the Ghetto resistance. But, much more poignant were the un-meant memorials. The little heaps of bone fragments, the belt buckles, the utensils which the victims wore or used before they were killed. The stench of death was still in the air.

I could easily see why the Jews would want to leave Poland. Every stone cried aloud of the blood of their loved ones. The very people with whom they were now being asked to help rebuild Poland were those who had helped to destroy their families. A Rabbi in the Polish army said to me, "I loathe this uniform. These Poles killed my wife and two children. I will stay here only long enough to help the survivors to escape."

In the hospital in Lodz I called upon those who had lived through the Kielce pogrom. For some it was only a temporary respite from death. One man, Sokolowsky, was dying before my eyes from a crushed spine. Another, dreadfully wounded, kept asking for his wife. Because his own life hung in the balance, they told him she was in another hospital, but they told me she was dead, murdered by the pogromists. One woman, whose body had been pounded out of human shape, told me how miraculously she and her husband had survived the war and the Nazi concentration camps. They had been separated by a thousand miles but managed, as if drawn by a magnet of love, to find each other when the holocaust had passed and now with a new-born child had settled in Kielce when the pogrom struck and her husband was slain.

There was a certain almost objective bewilderment and horror with which these people described what had happened to them. They just could not understand how other human beings could hate them so. There had never been any personal difficulties between these Jews and their attackers. Most of them in fact had but recently come to Kielce and were known to be on their way to other places. They described how their attackers, including women and children, had used bricks and rocks, clubs, pieces of iron and steel, and had concentrated particularly in attacks upon their heads and genital organs, so that most of the dead were beaten into unrecognizability. Only the concentration camp numbers on their arms testified to their identity.

Yes, I could understand why the Kielce pogrom deprived the Jews of Poland of whatever sense of security they had formerly possessed.

And then I saw them on the move. Perhaps in some ways, this was worst of all. Together with the Christian Poles they had been persecuted and despoiled by the Nazis and their families had been murdered. Together with the Poles they had yearned, lived and fought for the liberation of their country and of all Europe, and now they had to run away from Poland. Tragedy compounded, disillusion without end! On the way to the points in lower Silesia from which the movement started which brought them eventually to the United States Zone, Germany, they were again beaten, robbed and some of them were killed. They were gathered in shelters near the border where they lay on the floors, no beds, no pillows to rest their heads on; and in some cases, no food, for everything was taken from them. Like criminals, they had to steal out at night. As one of them said to me, "Apparently we are criminals. Our crime is that we are Jews." I saw them crowded into trucks, fifty-eight by actual count in one truck, men, women, and children, - the old, the infirm and the sick, the pregnant women and little babies, each allowed space only for such possessions as could be carried in a small bag or a briefcase and again on the way to the borders their last possessions were stolen from them. If they couldn't pay the bribes demanded by the petty Polish officials, sometimes they would be thrown into jail. The crowning indignity was their inability to be transported across the border by vehicle. They were dumped unceremoniously some distance east of the border and then had to walk with their possessions and children and ailments over the frontier to Czechoslovakia where they received more humane care but were expeditiously moved on their way out of the country.

Before I left Poland, I was able to do two things for these people. For the survivors of the Kielce pogrom, I was able to secure from the Jewish Agency a commitment for the earliest possible shipment to Palestine of these survivors, when they could move. I met with the Prime Minister of Poland who quite genuinely, in my opinion, proclaimed his Government's good will toward the Jews and its opposition to anti-Semitism. However, particularly since the Kielce pogrom, they felt they had no right to insist that the Jews remain in Poland. I asked him then why, if his Government permitted the Jews to depart, they were also allowing the soldiers and petty officials to rob, beat and extort bribes from them as they were leaving. He promised to try to correct this, and subsequent reports indicated that he kept his promise... that the outward movements thereafter were protected by the government, that they took place in daylight, not at night and that the people, apart from the dangers they were fleeing and the uncertainties to which they were going at least were reasonably safe in the process of moving.

But these were minor matters compared with the great tasks confronting us. For it was perfectly plain to me that most of the one-hundred-sixty-thousand Jews in Poland were on the move and that their immediate destination was the United States Zone in Germany. Yes, they were on the move. On one night alone, according to a telephone message from Prague, thirty-nine hundred people crossed the border. Can you begin to visualize the problems of reception, housing, feeding, care, medical attention, clothing, as well as the longer range needs of education, work, religious life? Until the middle of September there was no day when fewer than one thousand came our way.

At this point, I say, "Thank God for the United States Army." The United States Army alone has given shelter and care to the great numbers of our people fleeing from Eastern Europe out of fear and desperation.

I flew back from Poland to my headquarters in Frankfort and reported to General McNarney. I told him that sixty thousand Jews would be fleeing Poland between August first and October 31st, and most of them in the first six weeks, and that another forty thousand would probably come out over the winter, leaving perhaps sixty thousand who were planning to remain in Poland. I recommended to him the continuation of traditional American policy of haven for the persecuted. Similar recommendations were conveyed to the President of the United States. Despite pressures to the contrary, despite the critical housing and food shortages of Germany, despite the lack of any clear outlet for these people, the borders were kept open.

However, appreciating the problems of the Army, recognizing the fact that although more than half of the housing in the United States Zone in Germany had been destroyed by bombing, the total population was already three millions above the pre-war level and hundreds of thousands of Germans expelled were yet to be returned to Germany by countries such as Czechoslovakia which were forcing them out. I took it on myself to attempt to arrange for some dispersal of the flow from Poland. This was something which General McNarney as United States Military Commander could not undertake, but which I, with the cooperation of the major Jewish agencies, could properly do. I met first with the leaders of the major Jewish groups who were at that time gathered in Paris for the peace conference. We agreed on a program and swung into action.

First, General Mark Clark, Commander of the United States forces, Austria, whose advisor I had also become, agreed to raise the level of his settled Jewish displaced persons population from five thousand to thirty thousand. In this, as in all other matters on which we have dealt, he was willingly cooperative. He orders his staff to take the "can do" attitude on these matters and gives them the example himself.

Next, we sought to set up camps for twenty-five thousand Jewish displaced persons in Italy. At first, Mr. LaGuardia, the Director General of UNRRA, declined to assume such responsibility because of UNRRA's intention to liquidate its affairs. Subsequently, in the company of some of the Jewish leaders, I called on Mr. LaGuardia and he agreed to UNRRA's assuming responsibility for such camps, providing:

1. The United States State Department would get the consent of the Italian Government.
2. That the War Department would provide the food for the camps.

These were difficult conditions to meet, and even today the program has not been accepted. However, I flew to Italy with General McNarney and with him discussed the project with the American and Allied Military Commanders. I presented it as effectively as I could to the head of the UNRRA mission in Italy and to the Italian Cabinet Member responsible for such matters. Finally, I was granted a forty-minute interview with Pope Pius XII at his summer residence at Castel Gandolfo. It was a satisfying talk. He sat behind a desk and I sat by its side and we proceeded from the realms of generalities to the specific matters which were my responsibility. I requested certain specific action. He agreed to take it. I now await results.

In France, we secured temporary visas for a large number of Jews from Poland. They are to be supported by J.D.C. until they can be moved to their ultimate destination. Similar arrangements are now in process for Belgium, Holland and Sweden.

I met with the Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia and urged on him the establishment of camps for ten thousand in his country. He asked if I could get him some guaranty that these Polish Jews would not remain in Czechoslovakia. Alas, even in Czechoslovakia, Jews were fearful lest this project jeopardize their security. They too did not want Polish Jews to remain in their country. Once again the United States Army came through. General McNarney authorized me to give his personal guaranty to the Czechoslovakian government that on July 1, 1947, if so requested and with thirty days' notice, he would take these Jews from Czechoslovakia to the United States zone in Germany. When I left, we were awaiting a definite answer from the Czechoslovakian Government. Before my departure from Europe, we were setting up a plan to settle two thousand children in a well-equipped former German camp in Norway where a number of groups, the Norwegian Government, the United States Army, UNRRA, J.D.C., were assuming combined responsibility.

My heart is heavy as I report that not a single government in Europe has been prepared to offer more than temporary shelter to these people. In spite of all that these Jews and the others have suffered together at the hands of the Nazis, these Jews are still unwanted, still stigmatized, still excluded from the normalities of life.

It has been my difficult task as well as great opportunity and privilege to arrange at least for the physical safety of these people and for their shelter and care. In spite of all that we are doing for their dispersal, most of them still come to territory controlled by the United States. Coming in such vast numbers before adequate accommodations can be secured or gotten ready, there are many difficult practical problems. The life for the new people is not pleasant. The conditions which confront them at the beginning are cheerless and discouraging. Their basic problems are still unsolved; but they are safe. When my predecessor laid down his responsibilities, he said that there were one hundred thousand displaced Jews in the occupied countries. Today, there are two hundred thousand. In these few months, we have saved more Jews from death and despair than perhaps has ever been accomplished in so short a time in all our tragic history.

Let us look ahead at some of the impending problems and difficulties.

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The steady reduction of United States military personnel carries with it some potential dangers to the Jews. For, with the reduction of American personnel, it follows that more responsibility in Germany must be borne by German personnel, and the Jews do not trust the Germans, for good reason.

The drastic reduction of appropriations to the United States forces in Europe creates some grave problems in the care of the Displaced Persons. For, the D.P. budget comes out of army appropriations. If there is not enough money to go around, the D.P.'s will feel the shortage as the G.I.'s will, but since they live much closer to the edge, they will feel and suffer the results more keenly. It is not enough for the United States Government to establish and maintain a policy of haven and care to persecutees, but must also provide the Army with necessary funds. All men of good will should do everything in their power to induce the Congress of the United States to give the Army of the United States the funds with which to carry out its responsibilities.

If this is not done, there will be increased pressure to lower standards which are already at the minimum. There have been proposals already to eliminate the differential for persecutees. There have been proposals to cut their rations below twenty-two hundred calories, which allows them little more than coffee and bread and margarine for breakfast; a stew for dinner; coffee, cheese and crackers for supper.

There have been some proposals to place Jewish infiltrators under the administration of German welfare agencies. This would be hateful to Jews. It could not be administered smoothly or effectively. It would be offensive to the World Jewish Community. It would be in violation of basic policies established by the President of the United States, the State and War Departments, and the Theater Commanders.

Thus far, these proposals have been rejected by the responsible military authorities, but they continue to hover about the margins of the situation. So long as the Army does not have enough money to fulfill its responsibilities, we will not be free of the threat of it. It is imperative, I repeat, that every effort be made to induce Congress to give the Army the means with which to do its job.

There is another grave danger which is the product of the total situation. It is not only because of reduced personnel and appropriations that more responsibility and autonomy are being granted to the Germans but also because of the desire to reestablish the German economy and to reduce the cost of the occupation to the American tax payer.

For the Jews, the implications are not good. It becomes just that much more difficult to take a German house or German farm for D.P.'s despite the fact that the Germans robbed the Jews of infinitely more than could ever be taken away from them for this purpose, despite the fact that the Germans are still the beneficiaries of the Jewish property that they confiscated; despite the fact that the Jews are still homeless in camps while the Germans are reestablishing their national life in their own homes and on their own soil.

It is not my province to discuss American foreign policy in the current delicate international situation, but it is my duty to indicate the need for the greatest vigilance to protect the elementary rights of the people whom the Germans slew and despoiled.

The final danger of which I wish to speak is the threat of demoralization to the Displaced Persons themselves. It is in the nature almost of a miracle that they maintained their sanity and balance and hope so long and in the face of such obstacles. But how much longer can this go on? And, remember that we are speaking now of the second largest concentration of Jews on the European continent. These displaced persons are now exceeded in numbers only by the Jewish population of Roumania. Let me give you the statistics:

Jewish Displaced Persons in U. S. Zone, Germany	130,300
Jewish Displaced Persons in U. S. Zone, Austria	33,901
Jewish Displaced Persons in British Zone, Germany	23,000 (approx.)
Jewish Displaced Persons in French Zone, Germany	2,000 (approx.)
Jewish Displaced Persons in British, French Zones In Austria	3,000 (approx.)
Jewish Displaced Persons under UNHRA in Italy	9,000 (approx.)
Jewish Displaced Persons in France	7,000 (approx.)
Jewish Displaced Persons temporarily in European Continental Countries	10,000 (approx.)
TOTAL	218,201

What needs yet to be done? In the first place, we must give material help on a scale never before required. There are about a million-and-a-quarter Jewish survivors on the European continent, apart from these in the Soviet Union. Nearly a million of them are in need of help. Hundreds of thousands are completely dependent for food, clothing and shelter on Jewish voluntary relief agencies. The balance get some indispensable, supplementary help from them.

The Nazis systematically and completely despoiled the Jews. With rare exceptions, they are utterly destitute. There are no indigenous Jewish communities to carry these burdens. Even the elementary program of rescuing Jewish children must be financed entirely by American funds. Because so many children were exterminated, each child has a thousand-fold worth. Most of them have to be ransomed; substantial sums are paid to the non-Jews who kept them in their homes during the Nazi regime.

The movement of the refugees up to this point has had to be financed by Jewish funds. There are way stations where shelter is provided, hot meals are served, clothing is distributed, medical care is available. When you remember that in one night alone thirty-nine hundred people crossed the border from Poland to Czechoslovakia, that the average in the past two months has exceeded a thousand a day, you will have some idea of the cost.

Even in Germany and Austria where the United States Army has assumed the principal burden of care, life would be intolerable for these poor people without the supplementary help of the Joint Distribution Committee. In Germany for example, these displaced persons receive twenty-two hundred calories per day. In Austria, the Army is able to provide out of its reduced appropriations only twelve hundred calories a day. The diet is not only inadequate but monotonous and dreary. J.D.C. supplements it in both countries so as to maintain health and morale. Our Jewish agencies provide teachers and materials for the education of the surviving children and practical programs for vocational training. They have reestablished a religious life among these people so that they have something to cling to.

Material help is therefore a prime necessity. The second concerns the United States and has to do with the early resettlement of these people. As I will indicate later, most of them want to go to Palestine. But there are considerable numbers who desire to migrate to the United States. For most of them, the prospects are almost hopeless. Even under the existing quota arrangement, very little has been done to expedite immigration. A maximum of thirty-nine hundred people a month is possible under the reestablished quota laws. In actual fact, I have been informed that fewer than thirty-nine hundred have entered the United States not in the last month, but in the last six months. The whole program is cluttered with red tape. It has never been galvanized into dynamic action. When I was in Poland I learned that despite the Polish quota, not a single visa had yet been issued in Poland. They had not even opened the Consular Office to do this.

However, we should go beyond existing immigration policies. We are the richest country in the world. Our economy has expanded beyond our fondest hopes. There is a grave labor shortage. The acceptance of another fifty or even one hundred thousand D.P.'s

Adviser on Jewish Affairs to General McHarney

AFO 757, c/o Postmaster
New York, New York

June 29, 1946

Mr. I. Kenon
American Jewish Conference
521 Fifth Avenue
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Kenon:

This letter is written to you, not as Executive Director of the American Jewish Conference, but as the person who called together the representatives of the major Jewish organizations concerned with the situation of the Jews in Germany. I will be grateful if, upon receipt of this letter, you will either send copies to the others or summon them to read it in person.

My military function as Special Adviser to General McHarney makes me directly responsible to him in all matters affecting Jews under his command. My reports and recommendations on these matters go directly to him. It would not be wise or proper for me to render similar reports to other persons or groups.

However, it is in the interests of my function here that I should keep the major Jewish groups informed concerning the principal matters with which I am dealing. I will, therefore, from time to time, send you such a communication as this for you to transmit to them. It will not take the form of an exhaustive report nor should it, under any circumstances, be used in the press. It is designed primarily to let you know about the major problems and matters with which I am concerned.

I have been in Germany now for four weeks. Most of this period has been spent in getting the necessary orientation. I have made a careful study of Army and U.N.R.R.A. procedures and policies affecting Jews, have made contacts with practically all of the persons of any consequence who are handling these responsibilities, and I have visited most of the larger centers where Jewish D.P.'s are living. By this time I have a reasonably clear picture of the situation in Germany.

My official duties as Adviser to General McHarney do not embrace Austria, Italy, or the countries of eastern Europe. However, it is my intention to visit these countries and, in an informal way, to make my services available to the responsible persons.

The major matters with which I have been concerned in the American Zone since my arrival are the following:

1. Accommodations for Increasing Numbers of Infiltrees. The rate of infiltration has steadily been increasing in recent weeks. I have

318406

myself talked with hundreds of Polish Jews almost immediately after their arrival in Germany and received harrowing reports of growing and violent anti-Semitism in Poland. I have been informed, also, that the Jewish repatriates from Russia are returning destitute and find living conditions practically hopeless. As a result, there has been a steady increase in the number of infiltrees who, at this point, are coming at the rate of approximately 10,000 per month.

This, of course, creates problems for the military authorities. The population in the American Zone is now two and one-half million more than it was before the war, whereas half the housing of the area has been destroyed by bombs. Furthermore, several millions of Germans have been repatriated and places must be found for them. Also, over 300,000 non-Jewish east European D.P.'s have refused to return to their native lands and are still being housed here. There are many other complexities which add to the difficulties.

I have recommended to the military authorities that they prepare for a total of from forty to fifty thousand Jewish infiltrees over the summer months. Perhaps it will not run up to such numbers, but I have recommended that the Army be prepared for the maximum, and they are acting accordingly.

2. Property Restitution. The problems affecting property restitution are mounting in number, complexity, and urgency. Laws are in the process of preparation and representations are constantly being made on various aspects of the problem. For the past two weeks I have been in constant touch with the authorities in Berlin dealing with such matters and have met with both the Laenderrat Commissions on property restitution and also with responsible heads of Jewish gemeindes and with the representatives of other official Jewish groups working in Germany. It early became clear to me that these problems require the full-time expert attention of a competent legal consultant. I have recommended the assignment of such a person and I am now in the process of requesting official concurrence. In the meantime I hope I will be hearing from you, as per my earlier letter concerning a recommendation. Since this man will be called upon to negotiate with top level military authorities, I would advise the selection of an American Jew of stature. He can, if necessary, bring along a European trained assistant. I repeat, however, that this has not yet received official concurrence.

3. The Central Committee of Liberated Jews in the United States Zone. I found, upon arrival, that the status of this committee was in question. Considerable distrust and hostility toward it have developed. At the request of General McHarney, I made a study of its activities and functions and have recommended its official recognition. This is now in process of consideration.

4. Preparations for Movement to Palestine. While doing everything possible for the status and welfare of the Jews now in Germany, I have, at the same time, been concerned with plans for their movement to Palestine. I am not at liberty to report the details of the plans. However, I do want you to know that the Army is ready. Studies have been made and plans have been formulated by which the movement will be expedited without delay whenever the green light is given. You may be sure that I will keep in close touch with these matters.

Of course, there have been innumerable other matters with which I have been called upon to deal, but the above is a summary of my major concerns in these recent weeks. I wish to add that, in dealing with these matters, I have received the helpful and effective cooperation of the military authorities.

Sincerely yours,

PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN.

cc: Simon Segal

318408.

December 19, 1945

MEMO

TO: Office Committee
FROM: Dr. Kubowitzki

Herewith attached is a copy of a letter, dated December 7, from Judge Simon H. Rifkind, which deserves our serious consideration.

The letter I had forwarded to him had been sent to me by the sister of an American soldier who has visited the camp of Feldafing on November 5.

There are three views of Judge Rifkind which call in particular for our mature deliberation.

1- It appears that much of the criticism which is sent to us, even by people on the spot, is definitely exaggerated and that we must be careful in publishing it. "...irresponsible statements can only do damage and detract from the value of considered criticisms designed to improve the living conditions of the Jews who are today unwilling guests in Germany."

2- Rifkind confirms "that it is the army's view that it has not been commissioned to do a long-term rehabilitation job and that its responsibilities extend only to the short-term rescue operation."

3- In Rifkind's judgment "it is likely that the Jews will remain in Germany for a considerable period" and "it is essential that the displaced persons center for Jews be transformed into civilian communities."

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SEC 1859

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C O P Y

HEADQUARTERS

U.S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATRE
Office of Military Government (U.S. Zone)

7 December 1945

World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
New York 23, New York

Attention: Mr. A. Leon Kubowitzki.

Dear Mr. Kubowitzki:

I am in receipt of your letter of 28 November 1945. I visited Feldafing but a few days before the date of the alleged visit on 5 November 1945 of the American soldier whose letter you enclose. With me was Chaplain Nadich who had made many visits to the camp, had worked with the people in the camp, and was fully familiar with the circumstances. I found no such condition in the camp as described by the soldier. I do not mean to indicate that conditions in the camp at the time I visited it were entirely satisfactory. There was ample room for improvement, not only on the part of Army and UNRRA but on the part of camp residents themselves. You must understand that it is the Army's view that it has not been commissioned to do a long term rehabilitation job and that its responsibilities extend only to the short term rescue operation. It has, nevertheless, cooperated on a number of rehabilitative undertakings. In my judgment, since it is likely that the Jews will remain in Germany for a considerable period, it is essential that the displaced persons centers for Jews be transformed into civilian communities and that the Army (or some other agency) be given the means to undertake a thorough going rehabilitation.

During the past month we have had a sharp inflow of Polish Jews into the United States Zone. The Army has been giving them refuge. This is a policy which I actively support. The influx of population has immeasurably complicated the problem of lifting the standard of living in the camps, and, indeed, conditions have deteriorated. I hope you will agree with me that it is of the utmost importance that those seeking a haven in the U.S. Zone be not returned whence they come even though this result in temporary overcrowding of the camp facilities.

The story reported in the letter you enclose is violently exaggerated, and in many respects untrue. The writer refers to these " creatures..... wandering around listlessly, dejected, hopeless with eyes that make you shudder. "The fact is that at Fedlafing in the last days of October, out of a population of 3,685 (1,685 of them adult males), the Jewish Committee of the

318410

October 12, 1945

THE HON. SIMON H. RIFKIND
Chief Civilian Advisor on Jewish Affairs to General Eisenhower

May we, in connection with your mission as Chief Civilian Advisor on Jewish Affairs to General Eisenhower, present to you a few remarks which may best illustrate the actual situation and the most pressing needs for the future of the Jews in Germany. In this memorandum we will deal with the following 3 problems:

- A. The Jewish Displaced Persons in Germany
- B. German Jews in Germany
- C. Attitude of the Occupation Authorities Towards the Jews of Eastern Europe and Especially Polish Jews Who Are Trying to Escape to the American and British Zones.

A. The Jewish Displaced Persons in Germany

After the occupation of Germany by the Allied Forces, almost 100,000 Jews were found in the various concentration camps. These Jews, nationals of various European countries (Poland, Hungary, Rumania, etc.), the vast majority among them being Polish Jews, were herded together by the Germans as slave laborers and as material for their crematoriums.

The horror and suffering experienced by the European Jews during the war, do not need to be rehearsed here. The facts, or at least some of them, are familiar. Unfortunately for the unhappy Jewish survivors, normal human beings are unable to grasp fully their tragedy, and the democracies cannot often understand what inroads the Nazi anti-Semitism made among the various European peoples, especially in Eastern Europe. As a result of this situation, the Jewish displaced persons, who deserve special consideration and understanding of their needs and the uniqueness of their position among other displaced persons in Germany, were, and in many instances still are, treated with indifference, callousness, and stupidity.

The situation of the Jewish displaced persons, as it is known to us from various confidential reports received from chaplains, American and British soldiers, and officers of the UNRRA, fully justifies the statement made by Earl G. Harrison in his report to the President of the United States that "as matters now stand, we appear to be treating the Jews as the Nazis treated them, except that we do not exterminate them".

We present herewith some suggestions for alleviating the terrible plight of the Jewish displaced persons in Germany.

318411

a. Abolition of Camps

The displaced persons are still being held in closed camps and under guard. The names were changed from "concentration camps" to "assembly centers", but of course a mere change in name is meaningless to the inmates. People who were herded together in camps for years are still treated as prisoners. The German population, responsible for the unimaginable crimes against humanity, moves about freely. Their first and greatest victim, the Jews, are still, after 6 months of liberation, held in concentration camps. At every gate of such camps American and British soldiers stand on guard in order to prevent the inmates from leaving, with explicit orders to shoot anyone who disobeys this order. It was recently reported that in place of soldiers, some of the displaced persons, armed with guns, took over the watch, which, from the standpoint of morale, may be even worse.

It is evident that such a situation cannot be tolerated any longer. If those people are not to perish, they must be freed and their present condition totally changed. Until the final abolition of camps can be achieved, Jews should be separated in special Jewish camps. Their situation in the common camps, as will be explained below, is extremely difficult and therefore their remaining in mixed camps makes their life even more unhappy.

May we, in this connection, draw your attention to the fact that in a paper published by the Central Jewish Committee of Displaced Persons in Germany in Bergen-Belsen, "Our Voice", No. 2, dated August 15, 1945, it was stated officially that in Bergen-Belsen alone 27,000 Jews had died since the liberation. It is the consensus of all our informants that, with a policy based on understanding, good will, and real aid, the majority of those people could have been saved. Thus, one third of the surviving Jews perished after the liberation in one camp alone. We have no doubt that if the present situation does not undergo drastic changes, thousands more will die during the winter from cold and malnutrition and additional thousands will commit suicide in utter despair. There is a limit to human endurance, and we are afraid that this limit, in respect to the Jews in Germany, has been reached.

b. Living Conditions in the Camps

From all information it is evident that, with few exceptions, even the present improved situation prevailing in the camps is extremely bad. As far as we know, "Master Camps" were set up near Frankfurt for 200-300 people, where inmates live in decent conditions, but tens of thousands are still living in inhuman surroundings. At best, the camps are substandard. They consist mostly of wooden barracks, are primitive, completely unsanitary, cold and overcrowded. Even at the better camps, rooms shelter more than is desirable. Many must sleep on the floor, and cellars are used as dormitories.

The housing situation was described as follows by delegates at a conference held July 25, 1945, in St. Ottilien near Landesberg: "I have frequently toured the various camps in Austria, and have encountered everywhere isolated camps. The lot of the Jews is still very bad". Another reported thus on Feldafing (largest Jewish assembly camp in Bavaria): "I must state regretfully that living quarters are bad in our camp". A chaplain sent us a report, dated the end of August, 1945, with the following information: "In Camp Riefenberg about 400 Jews live in 2 barracks. About half have wooden beds with inch-thick straw mattresses. The barracks could hold a maximum of 150-175 people sanitarilly. Beds are piled 4-5 high in some instances. People are infested with bugs."

In another report we read that over 200 Jews are living in a school-house. The rooms are of average size and contain about 60 persons apiece. No beds or mattresses are available. Sanitary conditions are atrocious.

May we submit that people who have been living for years in wooden shacks or tents, under most cruel conditions, have the full right to demand that adequate quarters be given to them. Even if the present housing conditions in Germany are difficult, the inconvenience caused the Germans by making them provide adequate shelter for the displaced persons would be only a small retribution for the criminal acts committed against the latter.

Most of the reports contain complaints about the scarcity of food and cooking facilities. Thus in Camp Mittenwald, on the basis of information dated July, 1945, two meals a day were served. The morning meal consisted of a piece of bread and coffee. The second meal included soup and beans. The caloric content per day, according to a physician on the spot, was around 1000.

The daily menu in Camp Garnish consisted of the following: Breakfast - bread, 300-350 gms daily; butter or margarine, 1 ounce twice a week; coffee. Dinner: bean soup daily; 1/4 ounce of horse meat per person - at times canned meat. Supper: 1 cup of soup.

At the end of July, 1945, the following menu prevailed in Deggendorf, Lower Bavaria, Germany: Breakfast: coffee or tea. Dinner: soup - potatoe or pea. Supper: soup. Thirteen ounces of black bread daily. Three-quarters of an ounce of butter daily. Slightly more than 1/2 ounce of cheese daily. Six ounces of milk. Meat with potatoes and spinach is served once a week instead of soup.

In Camp Riefenburg, as of August, 1945: Inmates are fed once a day. Twenty-five ounces of bread and a pint of watery soup. In addition, they receive Red Cross packages once or twice a month. These packages are the only things that keep them alive.

We know that in many instances the caloric content of the food was increased. But even where 200 or 2500 calories are given daily, the diet still is faulty. People do not receive enough proteins. The increase in calories is achieved by giving people more bread (mostly inferior bread) and more soup. It is obvious that a short time after such a meal, people must be hungry again. The question of adequate food is not only one of calories. It is a question of a varied and balanced diet, cooking facilities, etc. We have reason to fear that all recent information about the better feeding of the people concerns the increase in the number of calories only, in itself an improvement of small value.

A large percentage of the liberated are still wearing striped uniforms forced upon them by the Germans. We read in all reports: "Clothing not available. Internees are wearing same clothing as in concentration camps. Some are wearing stolen German uniforms. No shoes available." What such a clothing situation means for the inmates, in view of the approaching winter, is needless to underline.

The situation is made worse by the fact that for many months the Jews have had to live in enforced idleness. The moral effects of such a state of affairs cannot be overestimated. Schooling facilities should be organized to give vocational training to the survivors which would enable them to build a new productive life in Palestine or in other countries of their final resettlement.

The religious and cultural needs of the Jewish displaced persons are also neglected. These unfortunates need special moral assistance in order to regain their spiritual balance. There is no hope for their physical rehabilitation unless their spiritual needs are provided for. In this particular field of relief the active cooperation of Jewish organizations should be sought and for this purpose representatives of Jewish organizations should be permitted to enter Germany. The World Jewish Congress has vainly tried for many months to get such permission.

c. Communication with the Outside World

One of the incomprehensible cruelties imposed by the Allies upon the displaced persons is to make it impossible for them to communicate with the outside world. Almost every Jew in Germany is separated from his family. They are all frantic in their search for their loved ones, but they are not allowed to leave the camps and have no possibility of communicating by mail. No wonder that in their desperation they are illegally leaving camps, mostly in a vain and tragic search for their dear ones.

Many among the displaced persons have relatives and friends abroad. They need their help and they are trying to contact them, but they still have no legal way to do so. If they cannot find an American or British soldier who is ready to forward messages, no legal

possibility exists for them to communicate with the outside world.

As long as the European war lasted, there could be some justification for this treatment. But there can be no moral defense for the present state of affairs 6 months after the end of the war.

c. The Moral Situation of the Displaced Persons

The tragic position of the Jews is further aggravated by the lack of understanding of their peculiar situation among all other groups of displaced persons.

Whatever the political philosophies behind the controversy whether Jews are a distinct national group or not, it is evident that for specific reasons prevailing in Germany, the recognition of the specific status of Jews as Jews is of paramount importance. What are these reasons? (1) The Jews were singled out by the Germans and treated incomparably worse than any other nationality. All other displaced persons in Germany, however hard their plight was, were still treated as human beings. It was the privilege of the Jews alone to be beaten and starved to death, to be gassed and buried alive, to witness the deaths of their nearest ones. Therefore, to give Jewish displaced persons equal treatment with other persons who suffered incomparably less, is to be guilty of a gross injustice. (2) The vast majority of the non-Jews could be and wish to be repatriated to their previous homes, while the Jews, with few exceptions, cannot and do not wish to go back. (3) Jews who are treated as Poles, or Hungarians, are suffering terribly in the camps due to the anti-Semitism of their co-nationals. From many reports, we know that the situation of Jewish displaced persons is even more tragic in all those camps where a minority of Jews live with a majority of Poles. They are dependent upon their non-Jewish co-nationals for distribution of food, which is handed out in a discriminatory way. They have to suffer moral degradation in these camps, there may be found such inscriptions in Polish as the following: "A Democratic Poland - Without Jews", etc. The liaison officers are Poles and they very often do not transmit the complaints or wishes of the Jewish displaced persons to the American or British authorities. (4) The displaced persons in Germany are unanimous in their demand that they be treated as Jews. In this connection, may we draw your attention to Earl G. Harrison's statement that "The first and plainest need of these people is the recognition of their actual status and by this I mean their status as Jews."

c. The Situation in the British Zone of Occupation

The situation in the British Zone of Occupation seems to be even worse than in the American. Without exception, the housing and food facilities are bad in the British Zone. There are also many complaints about the unfriendly attitude of many British soldiers and officers toward the Jewish displaced persons.

It is, of course, necessary that improvements be made in both zones of occupation simultaneously, and that a change in the living conditions of the displaced persons be effected in both the American and British Zones.

f. The Future of the Displaced Persons

In the preceding paragraphs we have touched upon the most important problems concerning the immediate needs of the displaced persons. Let us summarize them once more.

1. The uniqueness of the situation of the Jews must be recognized and their status as Jews acknowledged.
2. The Jewish displaced persons should be released from the camps. If some assembly centers are still necessary, they should not be patterned after the old concentration camps, and special centers for Jews should be set up.
3. Decent living conditions have to be provided for them (adequate housing facilities and not barracks), an ample, well-balanced diet, and necessary clothing. Provision should also be made for the schooling of the displaced persons in order to prepare them for their future.

Speaking about the immediate needs, measures should be undertaken to keep Jewish displaced persons from being put under the jurisdiction of the local German authorities in view of the plan to hand over the local and county administrations to the Germans. What it would mean for the Jews to be put under the jurisdiction of the Germans is obvious.

Besides the above-mentioned immediate basic needs, there remains the problem of the future of these Jews. It is obvious that the German Jewish displaced persons cannot and do not want to remain in Germany. They wish to leave and their expressed will is to go to Palestine, where they can start a new and dignified life. In this connection, may we cite an article from the same issue of the above-mentioned paper "Our Voice", which reads as follows: "In the great day of Victory over the last enemy of the democratic world, Japan, we want to remind the British and American public that we cannot endure any longer the severe injury done to us by preventing us from returning to an honest and productive life on the soil of Palestine for the common weal of the world and of our nation."

g. GERMAN JEWS IN GERMANY

Besides the problem of Jewish displaced persons, there exists in Germany another problem, namely, the treatment of the native German Jews.

The condition of the surviving Jews of Germany is still a serious one. During the Nazi regime they were despoiled of all their possessions.

The pitifully few who have now returned from concentration camps or hiding, find themselves classified as German citizens and subjected to the same treatment as their persecutors. Military government, pledged to protect property rights under international law, protects the rights of the despoilers by refusing to return to the Jews their homes, furniture and other possessions taken away from them in the years after 1933. For food, clothing and shelter, Jews must apply with all other Germans to the local charities. The Burgermeisters, technically non-Nazis, have lived in Germany for the past 12 years and are generally not over-sympathetic to these Jews and their needs.

It is evident that these conditions must be changed and that the German Jews should be given the status of United Nations nationals and treated accordingly.

C. Attitude of The Occupation Authorities Towards Jewish Refugees From Poland

Another tragic aspect of the situation of the displaced persons in Europe is the refusal of the American authorities to allow the Jews from some countries of Eastern Europe, to come to the American and British Zones of Occupation.

May we call your attention to the fact that on September 21, 1945, 600 Polish Jews, who hoped they had reached security in the American Zone from anti-Semitic terror sweeping over their homeland, were forcibly loaded aboard trucks and returned to their country. It was stated that American troops fired upon the Jews who tried to find refuge in the American Zone of Occupation.

The fact is that the Jews in Poland are living under anti-Semitic terror, large parts of the population are inoculated with German anti-Semitism, and the internal fight between various Polish factions is fought over the bodies of the Jews. Pogroms occur almost daily, in every city and town in Poland. Accordingly, the remnants of the Jewish population in Poland are trying to find refuge outside Poland, where they hope to be given security and the possibility of finding new homes in Palestine. The closing of the frontiers of the American zone to these people at the same time that Germans are admitted without any restriction, is an additional injustice to the European Jews. May we, therefore, in the name of humanity and democracy, urge you to try to prevail upon the American military authorities to change their policy and to spare American soldiers the shame of firing on victims of Nazism.

COPY

Linz, Austria
22 May 1945

J. Schwartz

Chaplain Judah Nadich
Hq Comm Z
APO 887, US Army

Dear Judah,

This is my second day in this city. I don't want to wait until the end of the week when I expect to return to my organization, but I am going to write you immediately of my findings.

Originally I had planned to visit the two main camps and hospitals in the area, Neubaur and Mauthausen, however, I simply could not get out of the city. The Jewish problems began right here. There are approximately 1000 Hungarian and Polish Jews scattered all over town, lacking adequate food and medical supplies. The Army at first tried to make them go back to the so called nationality camps of their respective nationalities. However, this did not work because the treatment received in these camps was unjust and discriminating. The military officials - 65th Inf. Div. belonging to 20 Corps - have finally acknowledged the necessity of organizing a strictly Jewish camp. Once this camp is organized the normal agencies concerned with organized DP camps will begin to function. At present we are still looking for a camp. I have an appointment for tomorrow.

Linz and vicinity has approximately 100 000 DP of all nationalities. All of them have their representatives. The need for a JDC representative is imperative.

There are certain leaders of the Hungarian and Polish group, but they alone are unable to contact the various agencies concerned with the problem.

North of the Danube is the 11th Arm Div area - 12th Corps - which has made already a beginning by cleaning a camp for approximately 200 Polish Jews in their Division area. I had to overcome many psychological difficulties on the part of this group. The idea of living again in a camp with guards and fences around them seems humiliating after the many years of Nazi regime. Most of the Hungarian Jews are in better physical condition than the Poles. They also want to return to Hungary. The Poles loathe the return to Poland. They all want to go to Palestine.

The immediate problem of the city of Linz is to get the Jews organized and into a camp. Also to overcome the Divided Command (see above) and coordinate the relief activities.

The next few days I will spend visiting the Hospitals and other areas. From what I understand the conditions are appalling.

A conservative guess places the number of Jews in the area between 15,000 and 20,000.

318418

THE JEWS OF HEIDELBERG

When the Allies occupied Heidelberg, 39 Jews were liberated, all member of "privileged" marriages with non-Jews. (See attached list). It is possible that there are additional Jews, especially evacuees from Mannheim. On February 15, 1945 a dozen Jews, as well as "Geltungsjuden" (children of mixed marriages educated as Jews), were deported to Theresienstadt in Czechoslovakia, supposedly to work.

Thus today the city of Heidelberg has only a few dozens of elderly Jewish persons, led by a 64 year old lawyer Dr. Arthur Strauss. He kept the list of the Jews and now has been asked by the new Burgmaster of Heidelberg to work in the city Finance Office and try to help in the restoration of confiscated Jewish property. He has been given the apartment of a Nazi-leader, who fled, as he no longer had any furniture or apartment himself. Dr. Strauss feels the Heidelberg Gestapo tried to deport as few people as possible and had good relations with the local officials. He would not consider serious war criminals, as they got all orders from Berlin. He estimates, that of the 1200 Jews in Heidelberg in 1933, 600 left Germany in time. The others, except 39, were deported or died of natural causes.

Dr. Strauss thinks that most of the Heidelberg Jews are too old to migrate. A few who have relatives abroad, want to join them. Those who remain in Germany, will need legal protection and in many cases will have to be supported by the state, who took all they had, even their health, and at times their mental and psychic equilibrium.

FUTURE RELEASE
PLEASE NOTE DATE

Rifkind Report
4/2/1946

WAR DEPARTMENT
Bureau of Public Relations
PRESS BRANCH
Tel. - RE 6700
Brs. 3425 and 4860

FUTURE

RELEASE

FOR RELEASE MONDAY A.M., APRIL 8, 1946

REPORT BY
JUDGE SIMON H. RIFKIND,
SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE EUROPEAN THEATER COMMANDER ON JEWISH AFFAIRS,
TO GENERAL JOSEPH T. McNARNEY, COMMANDING GENERAL, U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

The War Department today releases the text of a final memorandum to General McNarney submitted by Judge Simon H. Rifkind upon completion of his period of service in Germany. Judge Rifkind was appointed in October, 1945, as Special Advisor to the Theater Commander on Jewish Affairs. He served in this capacity for five months, first under General Eisenhower and later under General McNarney, and recently returned to the United States to resume his duties as United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York.

The War Department stated that the memorandum represented only the personal views of Judge Rifkind and was being released as the comment of a qualified person in a matter in which there has been substantial public interest.

318420

FOR RELEASE MONDAY A.M., APRIL 8, 1946

REPORT BY
JUDGE SIMON H. RIFKIND,
SPECIAL ADVISOR TO THE EUROPEAN THEATER COMMANDER ON JEWISH AFFAIRS,
TO GENERAL JOSEPH T. McNARNEY, COMMANDING GENERAL, U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER

On October 3, 1945, on the joint invitation of the Secretary of War and General Eisenhower, I accepted appointment as Advisor to the Theater Commander on Jewish Affairs for a period of ninety days. Upon the expiration of that period, at the request of the Secretary of War and General McNarney, my term of service was extended for an additional period of sixty days. That period, too, is now drawing to a close. This memorandum is the last I shall submit in my official capacity.

The Jews of the world are everlastingly in debt to the armed forces of the United States for the survival of a remnant of Israel in Europe. The rescue phases of the grim task of liberation were miracles of accomplishment. That there is in existence a people which constitutes the Jewish displaced persons "problem" is attributable to the heroic and selfless devotion of many medical and combat officers, and thousands of anonymous American soldiers of all creeds. The historic fact can never be slighted that all that remained after Hitler's war of annihilation against the Jews of Europe was, figuratively, a small dry heap of bones into which, like the prophet Ezekiel, the United States Army and its allies breathed the spirit of life.

Rescue was followed by the Army's great accomplishments in the second phase, that of semi-permanent living. The broad policy directives promulgated by this Headquarters have been instinct with deep and sympathetic understanding of the plight of these survivors of the horrors of the concentration camp. The directive setting up special assembly centers for Jewish displaced persons, whose problems are unique, has been the cornerstone of the improvement that has taken place. The classification of some displaced persons as "ex-persecutees" has permitted specialized treatment based on need, and the establishment of a category of "assimilees" (that is, Germans assimilated to the status of United Nations displaced persons) has been exceedingly fruitful in drawing a line between the Germans and the German Jews against whom the former had waged relentless war.

The Army has, during the period of my stay, accorded to the Jewish displaced persons a wide measure of personal freedom, has encouraged self-government, permitted the use in the centers of displaced persons as police, and allowed the ex-persecutees broad freedom of movement. Gradually, many of the Jewish displaced persons centers ceased to be camps and became more nearly like communities. The Army has also repealed Germany's oppressive racial statutes and forced the German schools to make room for displaced persons as students. It has given the displaced persons, and especially the ex-persecutee groups, a higher caloric diet than it has permitted the Germans and has given them priority with respect to many items of supply and accommodation. It went to great lengths in providing a plane service to bring into the Theater sorely needed instructors and supplies from Palestine. It has supplied Kosher food to those who require it. To those Jews who have infiltrated from east European countries and to whom it owed no legal obligation, but only human compassion, the Army has extended accommodation and care on a standard equal to that of other ex-persecuted displaced persons. The idea of securing the services of an Advisor on Jewish Affairs is a mark of its concern and desire to deal sympathetically with the problem. Nor is this, by any means, a complete catalogue of the numerous instances which evidence the Army's warm-heartedness in dealing with all displaced persons in general and ex-persecuted displaced persons in particular.

The problem of the displaced Jews of Europe, however, is not yet behind us.

An understanding of the problem must start with the fundamental realization that the United States Army has in its keeping not a group of discrete individuals but a "people" and that it is required to deal with one of the great migrations of history. Destiny has called upon the military forces to preserve that people and to channel its migration, and has thereby challenged the historic role of the United States as protector of the oppressed and persecuted. The manner in which the military forces rise to that challenge will determine not only whether the page of history now being written in this Theater will be bright or dark, but will indicate whether our country, having survived at great cost the travails of war and being

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preoccupied with the complex problems of reconstruction and world peace, has still the capacity and energy to deal justly with a cause that can make but a moral appeal to its conscience. It is an awesome responsibility that has been placed upon the United States Army. I have confidence that it will be so discharged as to reflect only credit upon the people of the United States.

The Jews presently in Germany and Austria are principally of Polish and Baltic origin. Smaller numbers of them are of Hungarian, Rumanian, and Czechoslovakian derivation. The native German and Austrian Jews form only a minor fraction of the problem; very few of them are left in Central Europe. It is with east European Jewry, primarily, that we have to deal.

Many centuries ago the Jews began their movement eastward in search of lands where they could practice their religion free of molestation, raise their families in security, and live their lives in dignity. They never found what they sought, but in the course of their attempt they created institutions which through the long years enriched the civilization of the world.

In the eastern countries, principally in Poland and the Baltic states, the Jews developed a religious civilization far different from the native culture. They developed a way of life which was essentially their own. Despite poverty and oppression, it was rich in ethical significance, colorful in expression, and always intense. Scholarship was always accorded first priority in Jewish life in east Europe and great academies of learning were built from which were graduated men of renown. Seminaries poured forth religious leaders who carried to Jewish communities all over the world spiritual inspiration and guidance. Jewish music was scored, a Jewish literature flowered, Jewish art and drama reached great heights. The foundation of this civilization was religious in character but it extended into secular fields as well. This religious civilization enriched not only the Jews of the world but played an important part in the enhancement of human thought everywhere. Almost unnoted by the rest of mankind, this well-spring of cultural activity fed rivulets that flowed into the stream of life of the western nations.

The Jews of east Europe flourished in this way despite an environment which was essentially unfriendly. They have never really lived at peace. They have always been haunted by fear of the pogrom, of sudden death and the slaughter of the innocent. They have always longed for a place or a time in which they would be free of this mortal fear.

With the coming of Hitler, anti-Semitism became an instrument of national policy. As one means of creating his totalitarian State, Hitler utilized that evil weapon to suppress dissent, to terrorize and eliminate the opposition of other non-conformist elements, to divide the democratic world and create conditions favorable to his aggressive plans.

Hitler's first victims were the German Jews because they were at hand. Starting with non-violent forms of oppression, their persecution soon moved to brutal and sadistic forms of murder, forced labor and mass starvation. But the German plan was never limited to the destruction of German Jewry; it always contemplated the elimination of the Jews in Europe and indeed in the world. It was not until the brute mass of the German Army moved eastward that Teutonic savagery reached its height. Upon the Jews of eastern Europe was loosed a plan of extermination so diabolical that it is impossible for a civilized mind to grasp. Never has the world seen such horror; never have a people undergone such torture. The infamous details have been spread upon the records of the International Military Tribunal at Nurnberg, and need not be repeated here. So ruthless was this campaign, so furious was its execution, that some 6,000,000 Jews fell martyred by the Nazis. Today, no more than 1,250,000 Jews live in Europe east of the English Channel and west of the pre-war borders of Russia, and the east European Jews are but a portion of that number.

The Jews who are today provisionally in Germany and Austria are small in numbers; approximately 100,000 of them are living in all zones of those countries. Family life is practically unknown among them--the members of their families are dead; they are destitute--the Germans stripped them of everything; a child is a rare treasure among them--extermination of the young was a Nazi priority; they suffer from psychological and physical ills as a result of life in the concentration camps and the experience they have endured. Their civilization, so laboriously created over the centuries, has been brought low; its leadership is dead; its institutions--economic, social, religious and scholarly--are demolished.

The one thing that Hitler failed to take from these people was their spirit. That is today burning brightly and steadily in the wastelands of Germany and Austria. Its indestructible quality has kept alive in them the germinating seeds of their civilization. That is why this small group represents a people--the remnant of Polish and Baltic Jewry--the growing tip of its future.

That spirit, and the culture it represents, have drawn together the Jews in Germany and Austria, and have provided them with a program for the present and a plan for the future. Many of the Jews who are today living in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, and Hungary are baffled and perplexed, insecure in the present, fearful of the future. Not so the Jews in Germany and Austria. They know what they want: they want to quit Europe; they want to live together, not dispersed among a population that regards them as aliens; they desire to live in the pattern of their own historic culture; they visualize the realization of their desires in Palestine. It is a strange phenomenon that the Jewish displaced persons in Germany and Austria, because they have a policy and a program, have emerged as the vanguard of east European Jewry.

These considerations may seem irrelevant to the Army's task; but indeed they are crucially germane. They supply the clue to the sense of excitement one experiences in the Jewish displaced persons centers--the high pitch of the publications, the mass meetings, the demonstrations, the petitions, and the general atmosphere of political fervor, in sharp contrast to the relative quietude in the other displaced persons centers. They provide the reason for the Jewish displaced persons' impatience with measures that give an atmosphere of permanency to their enforced residence in Germany, and their reluctance to do anything that appears to integrate them with the German population.

And these considerations help explain why the Jewish population in the U. S. Zone is increasing, whereas that of other displaced persons groups is decreasing. Returning from the concentration camps, from the forests in which they fought as partisans, demobilized from the national armies in which they battled on the side of the Allies, coming from the places in which they hid from the Nazis, the Jews in the east European countries find themselves unwelcome in the lands of their origin. They discover that anti-Semitism did not vanish with the defeat of the Nazis. Indigenous, popular anti-Semitism flourishes and creates a climate of hostility on the part of the native populations against the Jews. In Poland they have been the victims of terroristic activity and there is evidence that the Government, despite its sincere efforts, cannot effectively protect them even against the more extreme forms of anti-Semitism. Moreover, the countries of their origin are to these Jews places of sadness and despair. On their return to their homes, they find no trace of their families; their friends and their old associations are gone. They find it impossible to take up normal living in a graveyard of memories. Consequently, they have taken to the road in search of new places, free of prejudice and bias, in which they can settle and be at peace. Unlike other displaced persons, they do not linger in or come into Germany because they find a particular political regime distasteful or because economic conditions are bad at home. No matter what the political or economic situation in their former homes, life there for them is impossible. They are in fact homeless through no choice of their own and cannot be repatriated.

A study of the flow-lines of east European Jewry shows a constant and unvarying convergence upon the U. S. Zones of Germany and Austria. This movement is primarily an expression of faith in the United States which has always afforded asylum for the unfortunate. That is one of our great national assets, which has in the past paid rich dividends. The Army has thus far viewed with sympathetic understanding the plight of the Jews seeking asylum in the U. S. Zone. A continuation of that policy is strongly urged. Its abandonment or limitation will constitute a denial of the humanitarian impulses which should motivate the military in this connection. The numbers coming in, compared with the population of the Zone, are relatively trivial; they constitute a very small charge upon the economy of the area. To forbid these persecutees entry on the basis of any statistical study of absorptive capacity, which must at best constitute a rough guess, is to elevate form over substance in the face of human tragedy and suffering. It would be deplorable were our reputation of affording refuge for the unfortunate, thus far treasured and preserved by the military statesmen in charge of our affairs in Europe, now to be dissipated.

The Jews coming into Germany seek here a provisional place of refuge that will serve as a staging and rehabilitation area for migration. The fact that they are seeking this haven in Germany is profoundly just. Their present lamentable condition

is the result of German barbarism. In the process of exterminating millions of Jews, the German economy was enriched beyond measure. The fortunes of those who died as well as those who escaped are today being enjoyed by their persecutors. Where 600,000 Jews lived in Germany before Hitler, only a fraction of that number seek to sojourn now. Have these Jews not a claim upon the available habitations which is prior to that of the Germans? Have they not a claim against Germany's resources of food and clothing which takes precedence over that of the Germans? Are not the Jewish displaced persons eternally right when they say, "The Germans are our debtors," albeit they are not in a position to enforce reparations for the wanton destruction of their kin, their property or the free labor they were compelled to perform?

Viewed in this light, the question whether the presence of the Jews constitute too heavy a burden upon the German economy becomes irrelevant. Their claim is second only to that of the occupation forces. If the result is that some must live by the grace of charity and the standards which charity implies, it should be the guilty ones, not the victims. Simple justice dictates that these Jews be received and permitted to remain in Germany for a brief period until the world allows them to go where they can live in dignity and security.

Jewry's surviving remnant in Europe has no material claim against the United States or its people beyond the broad humanitarian claim that all persecuted groups have upon free men. These Jews recognize that they are already immensely in debt to the United States. But as Hitler's victims who lost the war, they look to their brothers-in-arms who won it, to enforce for them some small portion of their claim on Germany. They object to American food given to them as an act of grace. They prefer German food delivered to them as of right. They resent living in barracks while the Germans live in civilian homes. They wonder at our lack of comprehension when they are tendered the cast-off clothing collected in American salvage drives, instead of the new production of German factories. We must recognize that insofar as we fail to require the Germans to satisfy the needs of these Jews and satisfy them ourselves, we are discharging a portion of the debt owed by Germany. It would, it seems to me, be preferable, certainly from the moral point of view, to insist that Germany discharge that obligation in the first instance though this cause some discomfort to the German population.

The policies to be framed and administered with respect to the Jewish displaced persons in Germany and Austria will be sound and effective, and will evoke responsive cooperation from the displaced persons and commendation at home, to the extent that they are corollary to the major conception I have outlined of the nature of the problem. Whether the care afforded is adequate is therefore not to be measured by reference to standards for Germans or for derelict beneficiaries of charity.

The questions to which present and proposed directives should be subjected are: (a) do they contribute to the building of healthy and vigorous people capable of the pioneering effort which confronts them; (b) do they contribute to the enlargement of their skills and capacities for doing useful work; (c) do they accelerate the process of restoration of family life, normal communal activities, moral standards and qualities, good citizenship; (d) do they enlarge capacity for self-government, discharge of responsibility and afford opportunity for the development of new leadership?

Measured against these tests, the need of changes along several lines is indicated.

(a) The present practice with respect to the displaced persons' diet needs revision. While that diet is, in caloric content, above the subsistence level, it is so monotonous as to be unsuitable for more than a very short period of time and constitutes an ever-present provocation to black-market transactions. Some variety is urgently needed.

(b) The introduction of rehabilitation and training projects has been sluggish. Many of these concentration-camp survivors have lost their skills; many of the younger ones never had the opportunity to acquire any skills; others need to learn new trades useful in the lands to which they hope to emigrate. To accomplish these ends requires affirmative action in the way of making tools and equipment available from the German economy, in calling forward more personnel and material from the voluntary agencies, finding more space for training centers and farm projects. Whatever be the expenditure of effort and substance in such an undertaking, it is nominal in comparison to the social costs involved in the failure to take such action

(c) In the provision of civilian rather than barrack type housing for Jewish displaced persons considerable improvement has taken place in recent months. There is room for more. The Jewish displaced persons do not, morally, constitute a burden on the German population. Assuming the highest reported proportion of destruction of housing, the Germans are still the trespassers in the aggregate when they house 100,000 Jewish displaced persons in all zones where 600,000 Jews lived before.

The educational and religious programs need intensification. In their years in the concentration camps these people were subjected to the most brutalizing conditions. Law meant tyranny and the only means of survival was through its evasion. Unlike American prisoners of war, who were exposed to brutal treatment in the prisoner of war camps, these concentration camp survivors did not upon liberation return to a welcoming homeland, to the bosoms of their families and friends. Liberation to them meant freedom from bondage--and the realization that their kin were gone, that they were alone in a largely hostile environment, in the grim atmosphere of a displaced persons center from which there appeared to be no escape. It would be surprising if in these circumstances we found no anti-social tendencies among these survivors. They require reintroduction to a type of society from which they have been divorced for many years and orientation away from the degrading existence into which the Nazis forced them. This requires an educational program demanding the same type of affirmative action as has been indicated with respect to training projects.

Religious instruction is of great importance. These people have not had an opportunity to practice their religion for many years and they are in special need of religious reintegration. There is a great dearth of personnel available for pastoral duties among the Jewish displaced persons. I have discovered only one native German rabbi in all of Germany; and since intellectual training was not a factor which contributed to survival in the concentration camps, it is clear that help must be obtained from outside Germany. A more liberal policy for the admission of rabbis and religious teachers, as well as people in other cultured professions, is very much to be desired. Moreover, such religious personnel as is available in the centers should be afforded adequate opportunity to pursue their calling with dignity and facility.

No first class effort has yet been made in the direction of providing opportunities for employment. Statements have been made that the Jewish displaced persons will not work. This is true of only a small percentage of them, who feel that they slaved so long and so hard for the Germans without compensation that the Germans should now labor for them. The Jews understandably refuse to work for the Germans or aid in any way the German economy. This leaves three fields of possible employment: (1) work for the occupation forces, both in the way of personal and industrial services; (2) work for themselves; (3) manufacture of items for sale. Efforts should be made along these lines to increase present employment opportunities. No such program can be effective, however, unless incentives for work are simultaneously established. All of us work for some reward; it is unrealistic to expect these people to labor without some form of compensation.

(d) Present tendencies in some quarters to regard the Jewish displaced persons as institutionalized "problem children," which they are not, are pointed in the wrong direction. These tendencies have not yet been formulated into policy directives; I hope they will not be. Plans which are designed to restrict movement, to intensify police control, to subject the residents to frequent searches, all in the interest of "law and order," are permissible, for security reasons, in dealing with a conquered enemy people. They are not justified in dealing with friendly allies; and surely no free people would tolerate them. They are peculiarly inappropriate when applied to persecuted groups, Jewish and non-Jewish, in greater measure than to the Germans themselves. The use of German police in persecutee centers is not promotive of order. Careful screening would produce good ex-persecutee material for such policing. A program of education of the newly-arrived troops and military police with respect to the misfortunes of these people and their present unhappy state, designed to evoke sympathetic and understanding treatment, would also be helpful in preventing unfortunate incidents.

There are other aspects of Jewish affairs in Germany and Austria that are receiving consideration by the military authorities, such as the question of restitution of property, especially where the Nazis have compounded robbery with wholesale murder so that no heirs survive; the disposition of Jewish communal, religious, and cultural property; extension of aid to ex-persecutees resident outside of assembly

centers; documentation for migration, etc.; but it does not appear necessary to dwell upon them in this memorandum.

I recognize that no matter how wise the policies formulated and no matter how sympathetic their implementation, they can only ameliorate the present conditions of life of the displaced Jews and prepare them more adequately for the future. They cannot solve the problem of the displaced Jews. Being a human problem, it resists definition by directive. It is not confined to the arbitrary geographical lines of the U. S. Zone, but overflows the newly created zone boundaries as well as the more ancient national frontiers. It embraces not only those who fall within the technical definition of "displaced persons" but all those Jews of Europe, who, by reason of the global war of 1939-45 and the war against the Jews since 1933, have had their home-roots cut, so that they are in fact a mobile, floating population. It will cease to be a problem, not when any specialized agency has discharged its limited responsibility, but when the Jews concerned have been restored to normal life in an abode in which they strike permanent roots.

Rapid, mass resettlement is the only means of solving that problem. Life in the displaced persons centers cannot, at its very best, begin to approach normal life and the inevitable consequence of a prolonged stay therein is demoralization. Disintegration has already begun and may rapidly spread. Frustrated in their attempt to find a place outside of Europe in which to live, unable to make a home in Europe, surrounded by a hostile population which serves to exacerbate old wounds and create new resentments, these people are coming to the end of their emotional tether. Unless the world is prepared immediately to make a place for them, it will drive to despair and disaster this handful of a decimated people. All of them have but one earnest wish, to be quit of Europe; and most of them have one other compelling desire, to emigrate to Palestine. For reasons I have advanced at length before the Anglo-American Committee of Inquiry on Palestine, I believe their problem is actually insoluble without Palestine. Whether or not the United States Army will this spring be faced with the necessity of dealing with people sickened by "hope long deferred" depends upon the action of that Committee and the Governments which must implement its decision. Every day's delay in solution boosts the price to be paid for the failure to act promptly.

Record should be made of the patent fact that of the several governmental agencies charged with responsibility, the Army is the only one that has to date made a substantial and noteworthy contribution. UNRRA has refused to contribute any supplies to the displaced persons. In the U. S. Zone it has likewise failed to bring to its task the necessary initiative, administrative skill, and imagination. Conspicuous has been its lack of drive to implement ideas conceived both within and outside its staff. Its lower ranks have brought zeal, sympathetic understanding, and social welfare experience, and I cannot praise too highly the devotion to their task of the workers in the field. But too often this personnel--and more particularly the supervisory staff--does not possess the requisite "know how" to deal with the routine tasks of housing, clothing, and feeding. While it is true that in some areas UNRRA personnel has been confronted by non-cooperative and resistant military officers at the operating level, that circumstance would not have proved to be a serious obstacle had the UNRRA organization in the U. S. Zone possessed the necessary executive capacity. Had this administrative weakness of UNRRA been foreseeable, it would have been wise to limit its function to welfare and case-work problems. It is too late to retrace the steps taken. But it is not too late for the Army to be aware of this defect in the performance of UNRRA, and to deal with it by instruction, inspection, and the fullest measures of cooperation on all levels.

Although resettlement is the ultimate objective, the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees (IGCR), whose responsibility covers that field, has by its own directives rendered itself impotent to deal with the problem. It has accomplished nothing in the way of resettlement of the Jewish displaced persons, and can accomplish nothing under its present policies. Some few of these people have been resettled in Palestine through the Jewish Agency for Palestine, an organization accredited to UNRRA. The United States is now opening consular offices and taking steps to implement the President's directive with respect to emigration of displaced persons to the United States. But as far as I know, IGCR has to date taken no steps to make possible the settlement of Jewish displaced persons anywhere. By appearing to act in this field it has discouraged others from taking the initiative. Valuable time has been lost. It is plain that for those who desire migration to places other than

Palestine, direct negotiation by the United States with other immigration-receiving nations is necessary.

In closing, I wish to express my unstinted thanks for the kindness and courtesy with which I have been treated during the period of my service in the European Theater. I have always received the fullest measure of cooperation in the performance of my duties, and the Army has exerted itself at all times to lighten my task. Never did it fail to give patient consideration to my suggestions. For all this I am most grateful.

It is my earnest hope that the events of the succeeding weeks with reference to Palestine will relieve the United States Army of its grave responsibilities towards the Jewish displaced persons. And I pray that, with the fullest measure of its capacities, the Army will so devote itself to those unfortunate victims of the war that they will be able, as dignified and integrated individuals, to meet whatever future awaits them.

END

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HEADQUARTERS, U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of Military Government (U. S. Zone)
Displaced Persons Branch

Language Reports
10.1.1945

GE-DP 383.7 (O.641)

22 October 1945

SUBJECT: Report on Conditions in Assembly Centers for Jewish Displaced Persons

TO : Chief of Staff, Headquarters, United States Forces, European Theater,
APO 757, U. S. Army

1. Reference is made to report, same heading, to Chief of Staff, Headquarters, United States Forces, European Theater, dated 16 September 1945.

2. This present report is based on field trips made between 1 - 17 October 1945 to various assembly centers and towns in Bavaria and Czechoslovakia, U. S. Zone. Appendix 'A' deals with conditions in German communities.

3. Generally speaking, much improvement in conditions has occurred within the past several weeks. Steps have been taken to relieve the overcrowded conditions. Some improvement in food is noticeable. The supply problem is beginning to be solved, particularly as regards clothing, blankets, fuel. Frequent inspections are being made and a general tendency can be observed among officers of all ranks concerned with this problem to deal with it in the spirit desired by the Theater Commander. The alleviation of the situation is under way but it should be stressed that continuing and constant attention is called for and that several aspects of the situation still need further consideration.

4. As regards housing considerable improvement in the previously overcrowded situation has been secured by making Fahrenwald (Wolfratshausen) and Deggendorf all-Jewish camps, by adding a number of private houses to the camps in Feldafing and Landsberg and by opening a Jewish DP hospital in the village of Feldafing to which the Feldafing camp hospital has now been moved. However, while considerable improvement has thus been obtained, more remains to be done along such lines. At Feldafing, where the total census averages about 4,400, some 400 have been transferred to Fahrenwald, 27 houses in the village are occupied by between 500 - 600 people and 10 additional houses have been requisitioned, but not yet occupied. However, the number of people in the camp proper should be cut still further. Some rooms still contain as many as 25 and the wooden barracks, whose conditions have been referred to in the previous report, have been only partly evacuated. Additional houses in the village should be requisitioned, perhaps another 25. At Landsberg, with some 5,000 residents, some people have been transferred to Fahrenwald, a group of houses in the town are now occupied by 450 and 3 additional houses have been requisitioned. The third floors in the casernes are still occupied, but it is planned to install new water pipes so as to do away with objections to the use of these floors, since the space is required. However, some wooden barracks are still being used and in some casernes crowded conditions still obtain, with 12 - 14 in a room, in some cases two to a bed because of lack of space for additional beds. On the whole the camp itself should have its number of residents decreased by a further 500 by the requisitioning of additional houses in the town. Some 800 non-Jewish Hungarians, formerly resident in the camp have been transferred and 200 Hungarian Jews have been returned to Hungary, but on 1 October some 120 non-Jewish Poles remained. It would be advisable to transfer these also, if such action has not already taken place. It should be stated that the shelter situation at Landsberg has definitely been improved. At the all-Jewish hospital at St. Ottilien and at the tubercular hospital at Gauthing the housing situation is satisfactory. The same can be said for the new all-Jewish camp at Fahrenwald where there now are 1,894 residents, the number gradually being increased by transfers from other camps and by admission of DPs from German communities. The maximum capacity here is 3,200 and the physical layout is excellent, affording possibilities for family units. The housing situation at Deggendorf, with 1,000 residents, is also satisfactory. With the removal of some 300 Yugoslavs, it will now be possible to cut down the numbers of occupants in some slightly overcrowded rooms and to evacuate those wooden barracks

which increases the caloric content to 2300 for all DPs, will, in the long run prove to be a serious obstacle to efforts being expended to improve the food situation. It might be well to reconsider the question and, in any event, the effects of this new policy should be most carefully watched and regular periodic surveys made, for here lies a potential danger to the entire program. Already at Landsberg a deterioration has been evidenced in most recent days, particularly as regards butter, barley, flour, lack of white bread for hospital patients, together with an increase in potatoes and black bread.

7. As regards clothing, the supply problem seems to be on its way to solution. Supplies have either already arrived in camps in sufficient quantity or are in the process of arriving or requisitions have been approved and arrangements are being made to pick up the clothes. At Feldafing the winter clothing supply has just arrived. At Landsberg clothing and shoes are coming in daily. At St. Ottilien the requisitions had been approved and the order was to have been picked up at the depot within a week. (A sewing machine could be used to advantage at St. Ottilien for the repair of clothing) At Fahrenwald the latter was true also, with some clothing having already arrived. At Deggendorf a great need existed for trousers, shirts, winter underwear and sweaters, shoes for all and especially women and children and overcoats for women and children. These items had been requisitioned several times, the last requisition having been submitted 2 weeks prior to the visit by this officer. At Gauthing a need exists for overcoats, suits, shoes and warm underwear. Children's and infants' clothing are critical items in these camps where children are to be found and the supply does not seem to be readily available.

8. As regards furniture and bedding, general improvement can also be seen. Blankets are arriving, with Feldafing already having an adequate supply of blankets and bedding. At Landsberg, Deggendorf, Fahrenwald and St. Ottilien, some additional blankets have arrived, but more are needed to average the required 3 per capita. These have been requisitioned. More beds and other items of furniture are needed and have been requisitioned for the newly requisitioned houses at Feldafing and Landsberg, with the latter needing also more mattresses or sacks for straw. At Deggendorf 150 metal hospital beds are needed, as well as additional mattresses, for the sick and old.

9. Fuel is arriving within the camps. Wood cutting programs by DPs have been instituted, with 200 DPs thus engaged at Feldafing, some 75 at Landsberg, 81 at Fahrenwald. Power saws will be available at all camps. In addition 150 tons of coal have arrived at Landsberg, some coal and wood at St. Ottilien, 60 tons at Feldafing camp with 100 more to come, 500 tons at Fahrenwald plus 30 tons of coke, enough coal at Deggendorf for the hospital and wood will be available. The coal is intended for the various hospitals within the camps and for cooking purposes. For general heating wood will be used. Additional stoves are needed in some camps - 1,500 stoves have been requisitioned for Landsberg, 20 are needed at St. Ottilien. Tin is needed for stove pipes at Landsberg where the pipes can be made by the DPs in their metal shop. Glass is also needed here for the repair of windows. At Gauthing 8 tons of coal arrive weekly for cooking purposes and laundry. The wood being chopped by 25 residents is insufficient for general heating purposes. Since this is a tubercular hospital where few of the patients can engage in a wood-cutting program, consideration should be given to the fuel requirements here.

10. Medical attention continues to be excellent. Medical personnel, largely DPs and in some cases Germans, are first-rate and medical supplies are adequate. (Feminine hormones are needed at Feldafing for some 30 castrated men and are unobtainable in the Third Army area) Gynecological instruments are needed at Feldafing hospital. Additional supplies for prosthesis are required at St. Ottilien - artificial limbs. At least one ambulance is needed badly by the St. Ottilien hospital. Additional penicillin and sulfa drugs are asked for at Deggendorf and Feldafing. There continues to be a lack of dental supplies at Landsberg, Feldafing, Gauthing, but the Office of the Theater Surgeon is now investigating this matter. Some method should be devised also whereby eyeglasses may be obtained. Some camps have already started programs of immunization and examination for T. B. Instructors should be issued and supplies of serum made available for an immediate compulsory immunization program for all camps and hospitals. In addition every DP should be examined for T. B. since it is likely that concentration camp life has made of many, incipient T. B. cases which could be checked if discovered now. Such cases could be moved to Gauthing. It is understood from the Jewish Agency for Palestine that

at these 4 camps. The mass cemeteries are being put in order. A central registration for marriages is being organized. In this latter connection questions are asked as to proper procedure for marriage among DPs and clarifying instructions are needed. At present the couple to be married appears before a rabbi for the religious ceremony. Information is asked for also concerning registration of births.

15. Morale and discipline are always factors to be considered among people living in camps which at its best constitutes abnormal living, particularly when such people are former inmates of German concentration camps where law and order meant Nazi law and order. Added is the factor of much idle time. In view of all this the number of undesirable incidents among Jewish DPs is amazingly low and is a source of gratification. Morale has been considerably lifted by the personal appearances made in DP camps by the Theater Commander and by the publicized expressions of his generous spirit, as well as by the personal interest evinced recently by the Third Army Commander, Commanding Generals of the Corps and Divisions concerned and by the local Commanding Officers. Even more improvement in morale and discipline can be obtained by placing more responsibility upon local DP camp committees, by drawing them more into the problems of camp management and granting them more autonomy -- a practice suggested by our American philosophy of democracy -- by further encouragement to the Central Committee of the Liberated Jews of Bavaria in its various useful functions, and by expansion of the work and leisure time programs as suggested in paragraphs 12 and 13 above. The removal of armed guards, except for night security the lifting of the pass system, the removal of "off-limits" restrictions on German towns and villages have all contributed toward raising morale, as have, of course, the improvement in the clothing supply. Morale could be given a further boost by the early instituting of an easy workable method whereby these people could communicate by mail with relatives in other camps and in foreign lands. New situations have been recently created by the discovery by some residents of camps that children or/and wives are still alive in Poland or the Baltic countries. A great humanitarian work could be wrought by the establishment of a procedure whereby these remnants of families could be re-united within our DP camps. Recent and continuing events in Poland preclude a desire for re-union there. The Jewish DPs, the remnants of millions of Jews exterminated by the Nazis, would like to be permitted to send an official observer or representative to the forthcoming War Crimes Trial at Nurnberg. It would be a dramatic symbol that justice is being done to those who suffered longest and worst from the criminals and would raise the morale of every Jewish DP. Such a representative should be an ex-inmate of a concentration camp and might possibly be selected by the Central Committee of Liberated Jews of Bavaria.

16. As regards personnel in camp administration, UNRRA officials should be commended for their efforts in placing Jewish personnel in teams administering Jewish DP camps, thus helping to overcome the language barrier which often separates team from residents. The personnel of the American Joint Distribution Committee have been most helpful to both Army and UNRRA and more should be called forward. The personnel of the Jewish Agency for Palestine have not yet arrived and their help would be of great use in problems of preparation for immigration, work and educational programs and in the organization and management of camp-farm projects, referred to in the two previous reports by this officer. It is understood that the two teams of the Jewish Agency are still in Palestine because of impossibility in securing transportation. It might be suggested that U. S. Army air travel facilities be made available for these teams, the advice of which could be transmitted through the Paris office of the Agency at 83 ave. de la Grande Armee. An officer who has been of the utmost value in helping to solve many of the Jewish DP problems in Bavaria has been Chaplain (1st Lt) Abraham Klausner, heretofore stationed in Munich, recently assigned to Special Troops, 100th Inf. Division. Since the bulk of the Jewish DPs in the American Zone are in Bavaria and because of the excellent work done in this regard by Chaplain Klausner, it might be considered most advantageous to have him assigned to Headquarters, Third Army on TD for 90 days with the Office of Military Government for Bavaria in order to help the army in this area in the solution of the problems which still remain.

17. Czechoslovakia offers little or no problems. On 1 October 1945 some 22 DP camps in the U. S. Zone were turned over to the Czechs with the XXII Corps

Jewish DPs in German Communities, Bavaria1. Approximate numbers (list incomplete)

a. Munich	2,000
b. XV Corps Area	
Bamberg	600
Bayreuth	200
Hof	200
Rohau	70
Nurnberg	200
Furth	200
Wurtzberg	100
Ansbach	50
Erlangen	70
Bad Kissingen	30
Coburg	50
Miscellaneous	200
c. XII Corps Area	
Regensburg	550
Tirschenruth	125
Weiden	350
Schwandorf	400
Neunberg	125
Rotz	50
Cham	250
Amberg	100
Straubing	250
Pocking	100
d. IX Corps Area	
Garmisch-Partenkirchen	300
Wuilheim	140
Oberammergau	50
Schongau	50
Augsberg	?

2. Conditions

a. Conditions vary - some receive some aspects of DP preferential treatment, others do not. In general no clear understanding is to be found among MG and UNRRA officials on local levels as to the status of these people. Most are under the impression that only in camps will DPs receive preferential treatment.

b. Munich - Some 2,000 DPs including native Jews returned to the city and Polish Jews need shelter, furniture, bedding, clothing, food supplementation. Furniture, taken from SS and Party members distributed to ex-concentration camp inmates, but only those incarcerated for political reasons (except for the Jewish Old Folks Home). Most recently efforts have begun to give adequate shelter but it was indicated that the Munich area would be termed an "Assembly area" with an UNRRA team to be assigned. Former Jewish residents of Munich, now returned, are anxious that their homes, businesses and other possessions, still in the hands of Germans to whom they were given after confiscation, be restored. Documents concerning property owned by Jews in 1938 are deposited with the several "Bayerische Regierungsbezirke", which registered all Jewish property in July 1938. In addition confiscatory taxes required by the Nazis of Jews were paid to the "Oberfinanzprasidien" and a considerable amount of this money is still at these offices. An overall directive is required to deal with the restitution of properties, possessions and confiscatory taxes seized by the Nazis from Jews and other victims of the Nazi regime so that the small remnant of German Jews left alive may be returned to their rightful holdings and so that the possessions

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER

AG 430 GEC-AGO

(Main) APO 757
15 October 1945

SUBJECT: Special Ration in the U.S. Zone of Germany for Persons Persecuted
by the Nazi Regime

TO : Commanding Generals:
Eastern Military District
Western Military District
Theater Service Forces, European Theater (Rear)
Berlin District
Headquarters Command, U.S. Forces, European Theater

1. Letter, this headquarters, file as above, subject "Feeding United Nations Displaced Persons in Approved Camps and Centers in the U.S. Zone of Germany", 18 September 1945, is hereby supplemented to provide special ration for those persons persecuted by the Nazi regime by reason of resistance to that regime, and for racial, political, or religious reasons.

2. The basis for determining those persons entitled to the ration scales hereinafter set forth will be whether or not they have been confined to a Nazi concentration camp because of their resistance to the Nazi regime, or can satisfy the military government authorities that they were persecuted by the Nazi regime for racial, religious, or political reasons or resistance to the Nazi regime.

3. Persons of the persecuted category, if they so desire, will be accommodated separately in approved centers and other installations set aside and separated from other displaced persons centers.

4. Persons living within approved centers, especially set up for persecuted persons as set out in paragraph 3, above, shall receive a food ration of 2500 calories per person per day. This increase will be accomplished by adding two ounces of flour and two ounces of potatoes per person per day to the authorized ration in column 1 of Inclosure 1 of letter referred to in paragraph 1, above.

5. All United Nations displaced persons living within approved centers other than those especially set up for persecuted persons will receive the ration of 2300 calories per day heretofore set out in letter referred to in paragraph 1, above.

6. Persons of the persecuted category residing outside of the approved centers or other installations and who are dependent upon a ration card, will receive a ration card one category higher than the German ration which would otherwise be authorized for their category. Military government detachments will determine the persons in their area of responsibility who are eligible to receive

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318432

R E S T R I C T E D

such increased ration allowances and will give the necessary instructions to the German civil authorities for the issuance of the increased allowances.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL EISENHOWER:



H. H. NEWMAN

Colonel, AGD

Assistant Adjutant General

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- 2 - ARC, Paris (Mr. Dunning)
- 2 - ARC, Paris (Mr. Gibling)
- 40 - O Mil Gov for Germany (U.S.)
- 500 - UNRRA Central Hq for Germany
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- 2 - G-4
- 10 - O Mil Gov (U.S. Zone)
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R E S T R I C T E D

RESTRICTED

IM/prc

HQ UK BASE
INCOMING MESSAGE

Edited Literal Text

DATED: AUG 100930B:45
FROM : USFEP MAIN from CDPX
 ~~sgl Eisenhower~~ cite ETGSG
ACTION TO: UK BASE FOR US Embassy

REC'D: AUG 101830A'45
REF.NO.: S-16667
PRECEDENCE: ROUTINE

The reference is your 198 dated 7 August 1945.

This Headquarters does not agree that the assignment here of a Liaison Officer for Jewish displaced persons would materially assist such persons and regrets that it cannot accept the proposal. Liaison Officers attached to this Headquarters are selected on nationality basis and it is considered undesirable on many grounds to have one specially designated for Jews.

The interests of those displaced persons of Jewish faith who have United Nations nationality are looked after by the appropriate Allied Liaison Officer.

Stateless persons and victims of persecution of the Jewish faith are being gathered into special assembly centers staffed by specially selected UNRRA teams composed of experienced personnel furnished by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee which is actively assisting in all Jewish questions in the field. Special programs and case work will be carried out at these centers. Attached to this Headquarters is a representative of the Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees which is responsible for supervising resettlement plans, as well as a skilled UNRRA staff which in cooperation with military authorities is rapidly improving situation of these persons.

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ACTION : MA
INFO : G-5 (CALA REAR)

THE MAKING OF AN EXACT COPY OF THIS MESSAGE UKB IN NO: 86404

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318434

RETURN TO
W. J. C.
FILING DEPT.

GENERAL DWIGHT EISENHOWER
BERLIN

THERE IS URGENT NECESSITY TO ASSIGN LIAISON OFFICER TO HEAD-
QUARTERS G5 FOR PURPOSE OF COORDINATING ACTIVITY OF JEWISH
DISPLACED PERSONS STOP SUCH OFFICER WOULD AID IN ESTABLISHMENT
OF ALL JEWISH CAMPS INCLUDING RELIGIOUS PROGRAM FOR SAME, PREPARE
PERTINENT DATA AND HELP FRAME POLICY COVERING THESE PEOPLE STOP
IMMEDIATE ACTION ADVISABLE IN ORDER TO AVOID SUFFERING NEXT
WINTER AND REMEDY DEPLORABLE CONDITIONS IN SOME CAMPS AS REPORTED
BY DAILY PRESS STOP RESPECTFULLY SUBMIT THAT CHAPLAIN ROBERT S.
MARCUS HQ IX TAC APO 595 BE ASSIGNED SAID POST STOP HE HAS BEEN

VERY ACTIVE IN DISPLACED PERSONS CAMPS HAS PROPER EDUCATIONAL
AND EXPERIENCE BACKGROUND AND HAS CONFIDENCE OF ALL JEWISH
AGENCIES INTERESTED STOP CHAPLAIN MARCUS WILL SOON LEAVE FOR
ZONE OF INTERIOR STOP HOWEVER IS WILLING TO ACCEPT THIS
SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT

RABBI STEPHEN S WISE
PRESIDENT AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
GROSVENOR HOUSE LONDON

3rd August, 1945.

318435

RECEIVED
FILING DEPT.

16th August, 1945

AT/RS

His Excellency John S. Winant,
Ambassador of the United States Government,
1, Grosvenor Square,
W. 1.

Dear Ambassador Winant,

May I appeal for your kind co-operation in transmitting the enclosed cable through the facilities of the United States Embassy to the headquarters of General Eisenhower. The important character of the message is evident from its contents.

We shall, of course, be glad to cover the expenses involved in this transmission.

Thanking you for your kindness,

I am,

Respectfully yours,

Arieh Tartakower
Member of the Executive Committee
World Jewish Congress.

318436

CABLE

Reference yours 8/18867 from August 10th World Jewish Congress respectfully stresses that the necessity of appointing liaison officers for Jewish displaced persons arises of the specific situation and of the urgent needs of these persons whose situation cannot be compared with that of other displaced elements step. The majority of Jewish displaced persons is in consequence of years of most cruel persecution not only physically sick but at the same time morally and spiritually broken step. The only way to restore their health and making them again normal persons is by establishing immediate contact between them and the Jewish community throughout the world by informing them possibly about the fate of their relatives and friends as also about the situation of the Jewish people in general and by discussing with them their problems not only from the personal point of view but at the same time from the point of view of the needs of the Jewish people as such step. There exists no difference in this respect between Jewish displaced persons of allied nationality and between stateless persons or persons of former enemy nationality step. All of them must be taken care of in the same way step. This is the reason why the department of war in Washington after several conferences held by us with them came to the conclusion that the request submitted by the American Jewish Conference which body acts in close co-operation with World Jewish Congress is to be considered favourably step. We sincerely hope that you will agree with us as to the importance and urgent character of this affair and that you will kindly agree to grant the necessary facilities to Jewish representatives who will probably go to Germany in the near future step.

Executive Committee

World Jewish Congress

318437

FILING DEPT.
W. J. C.
RETURN TO

August 3rd, 1945.

To Dr. S. Wise and Dr. N. Goldmann from
Dr. A. Leon Kubowitzki.

Here is the draft suggested by Chaplain Marcus of the cable to be sent to McCloy. May I suggest that action should be taken on this matter as soon as possible:

There is urgent necessity to assign liaison officer to headquarters G5 for purpose of coordinating activity of Jewish Displaced persons. Such officer would aid in establishment of all Jewish camps including religious program for same, prepare pertinent data and help frame policy covering these people. Immediate action advisable in order to avoid suffering next winter and remedy deplorable conditions in some camps as reported by daily press. Respectfully submit that Chaplain Robert S. Marcus, HQ IX TAC, APO 595 be assigned said post. He has been very active in displaced persons camps, has proper educational and experience background and has confidence of all Jewish agencies interested. Chaplain Marcus will soon leave for zone of interior. However is willing to accept this special assignment.

318438

HEADQUARTERS
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

20 September 1945

Memorandum for all Subordinate Commanders:

(This memorandum may be distributed within the command as desired by any Commander).

Subject: United Nations Displaced Persons and Those Assimilated to Them in Status.

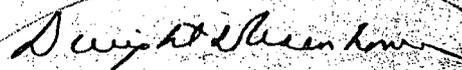
1. Policies with respect to the housing, security, health and feeding of displaced persons have been previously announced. In execution of these policies there have been instances of hesitation due to the many administrative difficulties encountered, as well as to the confusing nature of some of the problems presented in the various sub-districts. The following is published for the guidance of all individuals whose duties involve responsibilities in caring for displaced persons: -

- a. The details of the organization for caring for displaced persons must be fully understood, so that every individual is clearly aware of his own responsibilities and is certain of the channels to follow in securing assistance.
- b. Cooperation among Civil Government officials and military commanders in each sub-district must be complete.
- c. The burden of providing the means for caring properly for these people must be to the greatest possible extent thrown upon the German population. There will be no hesitancy in requisitioning houses, grounds, or other facilities useful to displaced persons except as limited by essential considerations of practical administration. While the need for general concentration of displaced groups is recognized, this necessity must be met in such a way that excessive overcrowding in displaced person installations is avoided.
- d. In seeking individuals for employment by occupational forces priority over Germans will be given always to displaced persons.
- e. Sanitation and wholesomeness and sufficiency of food will occupy the attention of all responsible officials, civil and military. Surplus vegetables should be secured to supplement issue rations. Where possible these should be stored for the winter.
- f. Medical services must be adequate, with personnel supplied,

so far as practicable, from among the displaced persons themselves.

- g. The psychological as well as the physical requirements of these people are important. Wherever possible facilities will be provided in camps for giving the maximum possible employment in such things as shoe repair, tailoring, carpenter work, and so on. Athletic fields and equipment should be secured from the German population. School rooms for children should be provided.
- h. Necessary guarding should be done by displaced persons themselves, on the volunteer system and without arms. Military supervisors may be employed but will not be used as sentries except in emergency. Everything should be done to encourage displaced persons to understand that they have been freed from tyranny and that the supervision exercised over them is merely that necessary for their own protection and well-being and to facilitate essential maintenance. In anticipation of winter months they should be encouraged to provide for themselves the greatest possible amounts of fuel.

Frequent inspections by commanders of all grades are mandatory. Incompetent personnel, either in the civil or military organizations should be instantly relieved by the Army Commander.



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
General of the Army
U. S. Army

31840

RESTRICTED

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. FORCES, EUROPEAL THEATER

4/303/ant

(Main) APO 757
22 August 1945

AG 354.1 GFC-AC0

SUBJECT: Special Camps for Stateless and Non-repatriables

TO: Commanding Generals:
Eastern Military District
Western Military District

1. It is the established policy of this headquarters that stateless and non-repatriable persons shall be granted the same assistance as United Nations displaced persons. This includes ex-enemy nationals persecuted because of their race, religion or activities in favor of the United Nations. Persons discharged from concentration camps, if their loyalty to the Allied cause has been determined will receive all of the benefits granted United Nations displaced persons even if they were originally of enemy origin, such as German and Hungarian Jews, labor leaders or others put into concentration camps because of political activities or racial or religious persecution.

2. While persons of Jewish faith who desire to be repatriated to the country of which they are nationals will be treated as citizens of that nationality and placed in the same centers as other displaced persons of that nationality, those Jews who are without nationality or those not Soviet citizens who do not desire to return to their country of origin will be treated as stateless and non-repatriable.

3. In accordance with the policy of this headquarters, such persons will be segregated as rapidly as possible into special assembly centers. Those who are Jews will be cared for in special Jewish centers.

4. In establishing these special centers, particular attention will be paid to a high standard of accommodation. Wherever necessary, suitable accommodation will be requisitioned from the German population. Military commanders' powers of requisitioning will be fully utilized in order to insure that these persons are accorded priority of treatment over the German population.

5. In accordance with the policy of this headquarters, special UNRRA teams will be requested for these special centers without delay and these teams will be given maximum operating responsibility and all necessary assistance by military commanders.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL EISENHOWER:

H. H. Newman
H. H. NEWMAN
Colonel, AGD
Acting Adjutant General

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-1-

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313442

R E S T R I C T E D

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER

AG 383.7 GEC-AGO

(Main) APO 757
17 October 1945

SUBJECT: Care of United Nations Displaced Persons

TO : Commanding Generals:
Eastern Military District
Western Military District
Berlin District

1. Reference is made to inclosures which are copies of communications previously dispatched by this headquarters.

2. Distribution has been made to all military government detachments in the U.S. zone in order to assure that all military personnel concerned with the care of United Nations displaced persons will be in possession of these basic instructions.

3. Particular attention is invited to paragraph 3 of inclosure 3, giving the authorized sources of Class 2 and Class 4 supply items which can be requisitioned for the needs and care of United Nations displaced persons. Considerable stocks are available from these sources.

4. Attention is also invited to paragraph 4 of inclosure 4, giving the clothing and miscellaneous items available in Theater Service Forces depots for United Nations displaced persons.

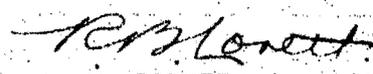
5. Provision will also be made to supply British and U.S. citizens (when not employed and fully cared for by the military), and non-repatriable United Nations displaced persons and those persecuted Germans entitled to privileges of displaced persons who choose to live outside approved assembly centers with clothing and other equipment as specified in the inclosures, when in the judgement of the responsible military government detachment officer they are entitled to this assistance. Such persons who can be repatriated within one month will not be granted such assistance but will be directed to the nearest approved assembly center for their accommodation and care.

6. Addressees will carry out these policies according to the procedures outlined without further delay.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL EISENHOWER:

4 Incls:

- 1 - Memorandum from the Theater Commander, dtd 20 Sept 45.
- 2 - Ltr, this hq, AG 383.7 GEC-AGO dtd 31 Aug 45.
- 3 - Message SC-3492, dtd 24 Sept 45.
- 4 - Message S-25478, dtd 27 Sept 45.


R. B. LOVETT
Brigadier General, USA
Adjutant General

318443

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER
Office of the Commanding General

20 September 1945

Memorandum for all Subordinate Commanders:

(This memorandum may be distributed within the command as desired by any Commander).

Subject: United Nations Displaced Persons and Those Assimilated to Them in Status.

1. Policies with respect to the housing, security, health and feeding of displaced persons have been previously announced. In execution of these policies there have been instances of hesitation due to the many administrative difficulties encountered, as well as to the confusing nature of some of the problems presented in the various sub-districts. The following is published for the guidance of all individuals whose duties involve responsibilities in caring for displaced persons: -

- a. The details of the organization for caring for displaced persons must be fully understood, so that every individual is clearly aware of his own responsibilities and is certain of the channels to follow in securing assistance.
- b. Cooperation among Civil Government officials and military commanders in each sub-district must be complete.
- c. The burden of providing the means for caring properly for these people must be to the greatest possible extent thrown upon the German population. There will be no hesitancy in requisitioning houses, grounds, or other facilities useful to displaced persons except as limited by essential considerations of practical administration. While the need for general concentration of displaced groups is recognized, this necessity must be met in such a way that excessive overcrowding in displaced person installations is avoided.
- d. In seeking individuals for employment by occupational forces priority over Germans will be given always to displaced persons.
- e. Sanitation and wholesomeness and sufficiency of food will occupy the attention of all responsible officials, civil and military. Surplus vegetables should be secured to supplement issue rations. Where possible these should be stored for the winter.
- f. Medical services must be adequate, with personnel supplied, so far as practicable, from among the displaced persons themselves.

Inclosure 1

- 1 -

318444

(Inclosure 1 cont'd).

- g. The psychological as well as the physical requirements of these people are important. Wherever possible facilities will be provided in camps for giving the maximum possible employment in such things as shoe repair, tailoring, carpenter work, and so on. Athletic fields and equipment should be secured from the German population. School rooms for children should be provided.
- h. Necessary guarding should be done by displaced persons themselves, on the volunteer system and without arms. Military supervisors may be employed but will not be used as sentries except in emergency. Everything should be done to encourage displaced persons to understand that they have been freed from tyranny and that the supervision exercised over them is merely that necessary for their own protection and well-being and to facilitate essential maintenance. In anticipation of winter months they should be encouraged to provide for themselves the greatest possible amounts of fuel.

Frequent inspections by commanders of all grades are mandatory. Incompetent personnel, either in the civil or military organizations should be instantly relieved by the Army Commander.

/s/ Dwight D. Eisenhower
/t/ DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER
General of the Army
U.S. Army

HEADQUARTERS
U.S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER

(Main) APO 757
31 August 1945

AG 383.7 GEC-AGO

SUBJECT: Procedure for Care of United Nations Displaced Persons

TO : Commanding Generals:
Theater Service Forces, European Theater
Eastern Military District
Western Military District
Headquarters Command, U.S. Forces, European Theater

1. With the cessation of hostilities, it must not be forgotten that the care of United Nations displaced persons and assimiles remains a major military objective and that the problem of housing, feeding and clothing these people in the coming winter will be a most difficult one, to which your fullest attention will be directed.
2. As a result of a comprehensive survey of field reports, it is clear that in many instances the condition of Germans in areas in which displaced persons camps are situated is immeasurably better than that of the displaced persons in your care. While this is so, military government is not doing its job.
3. It has become necessary, therefore, to reiterate the policy that displaced persons' requirements will be found to the maximum extent possible from German sources. Attention is invited to directive, this headquarters, file AG 014.11 (Germany) GE, subject: "Administration of Military Government in the U.S. Zone in Germany", dated 7 July 1945, with particular reference to Section I, Part 2, paragraphs 1, 2 and 3, Part 4, paragraph 3; Section XI, Part 1, paragraphs 4, 5 and 6; and Section XX, Part 2, paragraph 2.
4. The policy whereby welfare supplies and toilet necessities will also be so provided, set out in message No 19076, Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force, dated 13 April 1945, copy inclosed as inclosure 3, is also reiterated since it is clear that sufficiently wide interpretation of this policy has not been made by military government authorities.
5. The following paragraphs relate to measures which will be taken without delay fully to implement the above policies and will be promulgated to all military government detachment commanders and displaced persons camp commanders without delay.
6. Requisition and Levy, other than Food. Military government authorities will insure that all reasonable displaced persons' requirements are met to the maximum extent possible from German sources. If these requirements are not obtainable through normal civilian channels, they may be obtained by levy, i.e. the German authorities will be ordered to collect them from the local population. When deficiencies still exist which cannot be met in this way, imported CA/MG supplies may be requisitioned. Only if these are not obtainable may other military stocks be used.

Inclosure 2.

- 1 -

310446

(Inclosure 2 cont'd).

7. Procedure for Requisitioning Imported Supplies. Every effort will be made to insure that the established procedure for the requisitioning of imported CA/MG supplies for displaced persons is understood at all echelons of military government in order that these supplies may be more readily available to military government detachments in the field.

8. Accommodation. Measures will be taken at once to insure that displaced persons are housed in weatherproof buildings by 15 September 1945. No displaced persons will be accommodated in tents after that date. If necessary, arrangement for their movement to other areas will be made. Where necessary, German civilians will be moved from existing accommodation. Minimum space allotment will be 36 square feet per person.

9. Bedding and Blankets. Bedding and mattresses will be provided for all displaced persons. Blankets will be issued on the scale of three per person. On transfer or repatriation, only one blanket will accompany each displaced person unless for some reason an overcoat is not provided, when two blankets may be taken.

10. Heating. It will not be possible to provide coal for heating purposes this winter. All possible steps will be taken now on an organized basis to collect wood or other fuel and arrange for the provision of wood burning stoves or other suitable apparatus.

11. Clothing and Footwear. Some displaced persons are still walking about in camps in cotton trousers and carpet slippers. Where requisitions for winter clothing and footwear are not met in time from stocks under military control, arrangements for local levy will be made. Minimum scales are outlined in Inclosure 1.

12. Food. Separate instructions will be issued at a later date concerning food supply.

13. Red Cross Food Parcels. Letter, this headquarters, file AG 430 GEC-AGO, subject: "Use of Red Cross Standard Food Parcels for Displaced Persons", dated 14 August 1945, as amended, has been issued to provide for the scale and method of issue of Red Cross standard food parcels. These will materially reduce the monotony of the present diet. A letter setting out standard menus, incorporating the use of these parcels with the presently available indigenous foods, is in course of preparation.

14. Welfare Amenity Supplies and Toilet Necessaries. These supplies will shortly be the subject of supplemental issue by UNRRA, and will continue to be requisitioned where available from German sources as at present. In this connection, it is necessary to emphasize that the broadest interpretation should be placed upon the necessity of these items, e.g., although such items as sanitary towels were not specifically mentioned in the message referred to in paragraph 4, above, it will be interpreted to include them.

15. Dissemination of Radio Propaganda. Some displaced person centers are still without radio receiving apparatus, with the result that the information and propaganda broadcasts for United Nations displaced persons, which are now being made under Allied national arrangements, are not being

MINIMUM DISPLACED PERSONS CLOTHING SCALE

<u>Item</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Allowance</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Shoes	pair	1	
Shirt	each	2	
Trousers or Knickers	pair	1	
or			
Dresses	each	1	
or			
Battle Dress type garment	each	1	
Overcoat	each	1	
Socks or Hosiery	pair	2	
Underwear	each	2	
Winceyettes	each	1	For infants only.
Diapers	each	10	For infants only.
Headgear	each	1	

Inclosure 1 to Inclosure 2.

310448

(Inclosure 2 cont'd)

disseminated to displaced persons with consequent loss of morale and discipline. Arrangements will be made to insure that adequate radio receiving apparatus and loud speakers are requisitioned from local authorities and installed immediately.

16. Organizational Equipment and Expendable Supplies. The bulk of these items will be obtained from German sources. A table setting out a scale per thousand displaced persons is inclosed as inclosure 2 and may be used as a guide for requisition on local authorities. It will also constitute an authority for requisition of imported supplies, if available, in cases of emergency.

17. Transportation. Assembly centers are not responsible for collection and delivery of supplies. It is essential that transportation for delivery of supplies to assembly centers be assured by military government agencies and that assembly centers will not be called upon to use their own administrative transport for this purpose.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL EISENHOWER:

/s/ R. B. Lovett
/t/ R. B. LOVETT
Brigadier General, USA
Adjutant General

- 3 Incls:
Incl 1 - Minimum Clothing Scale,
Incl 2 - Organizational Equipment and
Expendable Supplies.
Incl 3 - Message S-19076, 13 April 1945.

Inclosure 2.

- 3 -

318449

ORGANIZATIONAL EQUIPMENT AND EXPENDABLE SUPPLIES FOR 1,000 INDIVIDUAL DISPLACED PERSONS

<u>Item</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Initial Issue</u>
Bowl, Mix	Ea	4
Cup, Coffee	Ea	250
Cleaver, Butcher	Ea	4
Colander, Seamless	Ea	3
Fork, Table	Ea	250
Fork, Flesh	Ea	2
Knife, Paring	Ea	12
Knife, Table	Ea	250
Ladle, 15"	Ea	36
Measure, Lipped, 1 Pt	Ea	12
Pan, Bake, Roast, 2-7/8 x 3/8 x 19-1/4	Ea	12
Pan, Bake, Roast, 2-7/8 x 8-1/2 x 19-1/4	Ea	6
Pot, Stock, 15 Gal	Ea	16
Pot, Stock, 10 Gal	Ea	8
Pitcher, 5 Qt (Jug-10 Qt)	Ea	60
Plate, Soup	Ea	250
Spoon, Basting	Ea	6
Steel, Butcher, 10"	Ea	2
Saw	Ea	2
Axe, Chopping, Hand	Ea	1
Dipper, 1 or 2 qt	Ea	10
Knife, Carving	Ea	2
Lantern, Kerosene	Ea	6
Sledge, 10 lb.	Ea	5
Opener, Can Hand	Ea	12
Spoon, Table	Ea	250
Spoon, Serving	Ea	36
Kit, Cobbler's	Ea	1
Shovels	Ea	10
Spade	Ea	2
Puller, Nail	Ea	1
Tool Kit (Carpenter)	Ea	1
Hammer, clas, 1 lb; Pliers, S/L, 6"		
Spanner, Adj; Screwdriver		
Cloth, Sponge	Doz	1
Cloth, Tea and Glass	Doz	6
Can, Corrugated, Nesting: 10 Gal, 16 Gal, 24 Gal, 32 Gal	Ea	3
Container, Water, 5 Gal	Ea	20
Rake, 14 Tooth	Ea	5
Blankets or Comforters	Ea	3000
Bucket, 14 Qt	Ea	10
Duster, Hand	Ea	2
Bag, Canvas, Water, Steril.	Ea	5
Covers, Mattress	Ea	1000
Knife, Cooks, 12"	Ea	3

Inclosure 2 to Inclosure 2.

313450

ORGANIZATIONAL EQUIPMENT AND EXPENDABLE SUPPLIES FOR 1,000 INDIVIDUAL DISPLACED PERSONS (continued)

<u>Item</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Initial Issue</u>
Range, Field (AFR#1)	Ea	4
Saucepans, (8 pt)	Ea	4
Containers, Rect, Insul	Ea	20
Containers, 5 Gal Circ, Insul	Ea	30
Boilers, 6 Gal Pots	Ea	18
Heater, Water, M-1937, w/24 Gal Can	Ea	9
Pick, hald, BR-6-7	Ea	5
Containers, 3 Gal Circ, Insul	Ea	15

Expendable Supplies (Monthly Allowance)

Brooms	Ea	24
Compound, Rinse, Germicide	Box	120
Calcium Hypochlorite:		
Can, 3-3/4 Lb	Can	5
Ampules	Tube	500
Disinfectant (Cresole)	Gal	8
Handle, Mop, Spring	Ea	12
Lime, Chlorinated	Lb	100
Lye, Caustic, Soda	Lb	50
Matches,	Box	100
Mops, Cotton	Ea	30
Powder		
Insecticide	Lb	10
Scouring	Lb	28
Orthotolodine	Tablet	500
Soap		
Grit	Lb	120
Laundry	Lb	375
Paper, Toilet	Roll	600
Steel, Wool	Lb	15
Candles	Lb	40
Wick, Lantern, Kerosene	Yd	6
Brushes, Scrub, Hand	Ea	8
Powder, DDT	Lb	5

318451

Inclosure 2 to Inclosure 2.

1. Provision of welfare items for displaced persons is subject.
2. Policy of SCAEF that German authorities will make all necessary provision for displaced persons as directed by military commanders will be interpreted to include basic welfare items such as cigarettes, tobacco, razor blades, toilet soap, shaving soap and other toilet necessities.
3. Items will be requisitioned from German authorities and issued free of charge to United Nations displaced persons on a scale not exceeding current PX or EFL Allied PW ration scales.
4. These items will be purchased by them through canteen facilities which will be made available in established centers when pocket money becomes available for displaced persons.

Paraphrased text of SHAEF FWD, cable 19076 of 13 April 1945 to CGs 12, 6, 15 Army Groups, Com Zone and 21 Army Group.

Subject is supply of class 2 and 4 items (and type items) to persons under military control in occupied areas who are not members of the US Armed Forces or attached thereto.

1. The purpose of this cable is to clarify the responsibilities of the several supply echelons of the Theater in the supply of class 2 and 4 items (and type items) to subject personnel.

2. Those persons under United States military control other than "United States Armed Forces or others attached thereto" are:

- A. United Nations Displaced persons under any type of United States Army control.
- B. Disarmed enemy forces not demobilized and under United States Army control.
- C. Civilian internees interned under orders of United States Army.
- D. Civilian laborers working for United States Army or military Government.

3. In the supply of class 2 and 4 items (and type items) for the above categories of personnel, the following supply sources will be used:

- A. Captured enemy war materials
- B. Indigenous resources.
 1. Civilian stocks
 2. New production
 3. Supplies obtained from levies on the civilian population
- C. Red Cross clothing and parcels (see paragraph 4)
- D. Imported Civil Affairs/Military Government supplies (see paragraph 4).

4. District Commanders will obtain supplies for the categories listed in paragraph 3, in the order named and within existing directives which have been published by this Headquarters for the utilization of such resources, (Red Cross clothing and parcels). Paragraph 3(c) will be used only for the supply of United Nations displaced persons. Imported civil affairs/military Government supplies, paragraph 3(d) will be used only for the supply of United Nations displaced persons, except when specific authority is given by this Headquarters for issue to other categories).

5. Requirements not filled by the procedure outlined above will be forwarded to this Headquarters by District Commanders with the certification that items are not available in the District from any of the resources outlined in paragraph 3, or that such resources are not authorized for use.

6. Unfilled requirements submitted and certified by District Commanders will be reviewed by G-5, this Headquarters, to determine availability from above listed resources in other Districts in occupied territory. Such requirements which cannot be filled by G-5 will be forwarded to G-4, this Headquarters, with the certification that such items are not available from the above listed resources within the European Theater. Such requirements received from G-5 this Headquarters, will be met through the issue of class X and B military stocks, and/or class A military stocks where necessary in the order named.

Inclusion 3.

27 SEPTEMBER 1945

1. It has been reported to this Headquarters that United Nations displaced persons and those persecuted Germans who are entitled to displaced persons privileges are not obtaining necessary Class III and IV type supplies in accordance with letter from this Headquarters, file AG 383.7 GEC-AGO, dated 31 August 1945, subject "Procedure for Care of United Nations Displaced Persons".

2. Reference is also made to message SC 3492, dated 25 September from this Headquarters, concerning Class III and IV type supplies for displaced persons. You will advise all concerned with the supply of displaced persons of this procedure and immediate action will be taken to correct any deficiencies in the provision of adequate supplies to displaced persons camps.

3. Arrangements will be made for regular inspections of camps in order to determine whether or not displaced persons are adequately equipped and to make sure that prescribed stocks of clothing and supplies are on hand, and that supply machinery permits prompt issue of requisitioned articles. Deficiencies, which cannot be met in accordance with paragraph 3 of SC 3492 will be reported to this Headquarters by 15 October.

4. New subject: Clothing and Equipment Availabilities. Certain stocks of imported Civil Affairs/Military Government clothing and other miscellaneous supplies for displaced persons, which are in Theater Service Forces European Theater depots must be distributed promptly to action addressees. These stocks include:

A. Clothing

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>MEN</u>	<u>BOYS</u>	<u>WOMEN</u>	<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>INFANTS</u>
Trousers	x	x			
Shirts	x	x		x	x
Jackets or Sweaters	x			x	x
Dresses			x	x	
Blouses			x		
Underwear, assorted	x	x	x	x	x
Diapers					x
Rompers					x
Hosiery, assorted	x	x	x	x	x
Shoes, assorted	x	x	x	x	x
Caps, assorted	x	x	x	x	

x Indicates the item is available.

B. Miscellaneous Supplies

Cloth, cotton, sheeting, bleached
 Cloth, cotton, twill, black
 Tents, circular, camp, with pins & poles
 Soap, hand and laundry

Inclure 4.

313454

(Inclosure 3 cont'd)

7. District Commanders will act through Military Government channels to direct regional German officials to provide necessary supplies from the appropriate sources stated in paragraph 3.

318.155

Inclosure 3.

(Inclosure 4 cont'd)

B. Miscellaneous Supplies (cont'd)

Soap, hand and laundry
Blankets, cotton and wool
Comforters
Brassard, Arm, AEF and RF
Carpenters tool kits, cloth
Aprons
Emergency Feeding sets

In order to enable this Headquarters to make proper apportionment, you will advise this Headquarters for G-5, Supply Control, by TWX prior to 5 October of your net requirements for the second and third quarters (1 October to 31 March), after deducting your availabilities in accordance with message SC 3492, dated 5 September, this Headquarters.

Inclosure 4.

318456

NEWS from

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
1834 BROADWAY
NEW YORK 23, N. Y.

U.S. [unclear]
7/12/45

For Immediate Release

Circle 8-1800

EISENHOWER DEPLORES JEWISH SUFFERING IN EUROPE

General Eisenhower expressed "great sympathy for the tragic suffering of very many Jewish people under German tyranny" in a message to the World Jewish Congress received by cable in New York from the British Section in London today (July 12).

The message was inspired by Yehudi Menuhin's packed-house concert for the benefit of the congress' relief and rehabilitation fund for Jews in Europe on Wednesday evening, July 11, in Albert Hall, London, under the patronage of John G. Winant, American Ambassador to Britain.

Coming from the headquarters of the United Kingdom Base for the American Army and received by Alex Easterman, political secretary of the British Section of the congress, the statement reads:

"War Department directs that I express on their behalf their appreciation of and General Eisenhower's great sympathy for the tragic suffering of very many Jewish people under German tyranny. May your meeting in tribute of homage at Albert Hall be one of great moment and success."

Menuhin said he dedicated the concert "in memoriam of those people martyred at the hands of Fascism" and expressed the hope that "the music we play ring out forevermore untrammelled by prejudice and hatred."

...30...

313457

7/12/45

#55-400-ES:fb
INF 7003 DS AJ

*U.S. Constitution
Eisenhower*

COPY

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE
Washington 25, D. C.

May 29, 1945

Honorable Emanuel Celler
House of Representatives

Dear Mr. Celler:

I am pleased to quote the following telegram which was addressed to you and Congressmen Dickstein, Kopplemann, Weiss, Rayfiel and Rabin by General Eisenhower:

"Condition of Jewish survivors which is subject of your cable has received attention to this headquarters and steps being taken to give best possible care. UNRRA and Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees both concerned with problem. UNRRA now making arrangements with voluntary welfare agencies to handle specific welfare problems and such organizations as can do a specific job of aiding in care, repatriation or resettlement of displaced persons should arrange with UNRRA for use of their personnel in Germany. It is policy of this headquarters that all voluntary organizations working in Germany shall be co-ordinated by UNRRA. I appreciate the sentiments you have expressed regarding me and my staff."

Sincerely yours,

(signed) J.A. ULIO

Major General
The Adjutant General

318458

April 20, 1945

Mr. George L. Warren, Special Assistant
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Warren:

I understand that there are facilities to contact General Eisenhower's headquarters through the Department of State.

In view of the appalling reports published in the newspapers about the liberated camps, you will readily understand our desire to obtain information in order that we may convey it to the numerous inquirers calling at our office each day. The relatives here are most anxious to learn about the welfare of their kinfolks who have been interned for so long in German concentration camps. May I therefore ask you to have the following cable transmitted to General Eisenhower's SHAEP:

"To: General Eisenhower's SHAEP
From: Dr. Arish Tartakower

World Jewish Congress, ^{1834 Bway} President Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Chairman Executive Committee Nahum Goldmann are greatly interested learn all details about Jews freed various German concentration camps such as Buchenwald Bergen-Belsen others. Would be grateful have information to convey to hundreds inquiries who swamp our office daily anxious learn about their people. According newspaper reports train with 2,500 refugees freed in Garsleben by Tank Destroyer Battalion 823; newspapers also report 15,000 have been killed before liberation. Would ask you give us enlightenment these reports."

Thanking you for your kindness in this matter, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

KURT R. GROSSMAN
Rescue Department

KRG:bm

318459

FEBRUARY 16, 1945

NLT

GENERAL DWIGHT EISENHOWER
SUPREME HEADQUARTERS ALLIED ARMIES
PARIS (FRANCE)

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS RECEIVED MESSAGE THROUGH WAR REFUGEE BOARD THAT LARGE
NUMBER DEPORTED GREEK JEWS FREED HOLLAND BY ALLIED ARMIES STOP WOULD BE
EXTREMELY GRATEFUL IF YOUR SERVICES COULD SEND US NAMES DATES PLACES OR
BIRTH THOSE VICTIMS OF NAZIS THANKS

ARIEH PARTAKOWER
WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS
1834 BROADWAY NEW YORK CITY

at/ld
56 words

Charge World Jewish

via Mackay

Explanation to Censor:

The content of this cable is self-explanatory.

318460

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: 12/17/48

NAME OR SUBJECT

Cable

FROM: Goldman

TO: Levinthal

REGARDING: "ACCEPT ADDRESS PALESTINE SOCIETY JANUARY TWENTH. N.Holdman"

SEE: Goldman, Brit. Sect.

3

Levinthal

August 5, 1948

Mr. Ervin Kober
Geibelstr. 12
Munich, Germany

Dear Mr. Kober:

I wrote today as per the enclosed copy, to Judge Levinthal - so you see that I fulfilled my promise. Now I have two requests to make of you. The first one is to please send me, immediately, the Neue Welt of July 15th, in which my article was published. The second one is to please call Mr. Josephs of the Neue Zeitung and remind him to send me some more material on the anti-Semitic trends. He promised to send this material, but has not done so.

Thanks a lot.

Very sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

KRG:FS
Encl.

see Camp NY done

318462

Levinthal

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

1834 Broadway

New York 23, N.Y.

August 5, 1948.

Judge Louis Levinthal,
606 City Hall,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Judge Levinthal:

I just returned from Europe where I visited Germany and met many of your friends who recalled, with deep appreciation, your activity there. Among them was a young man in the Central Committee by the name of Ervin Kober, Geibelstr. 12, Munich.

He told me that there would be a Jewish Cultural Congress held in the United States in September, and that you had promised to extend an invitation to him. This invitation would make it possible for him to come to the United States. I am sure that you will recall this incident.

I would be very grateful to you if you would do whatever you can to help Mr. Kober to come here for at least a short time. I understand that he has close relatives in this country whom he would like to meet.

Thanking you for your cooperation in this matter,

Very sincerely yours,

KURT R. GROSSMAN

318463

Levinthal

CROSS * REFERENCE - SHEET

DATE: 7/20/48

NAME OF SUBJECT: letter

FROM: Erwin Kobor, Centrl. Comm.

TO: Levinthal

REGARDING: re his assistance to the Cultural Congress in USA

SEE: Immigration Ind.Cases KOBOR

233 - 11/5/46
ADM - 2046

318464

2/

Camps - Louis Levinthal

1/16/48

MEMO

TO: Mrs. Beigel for Daily Digest

FROM: Mr. Grossman

On January 14th a luncheon of the big five organizations took place at which Judge Louis E. Levinthal reported about his mission to Germany. He made the following points:

1. On his advice General Clay supported the liquidation of the DP camps in Austria as suggested by General Hayes.
2. New identity cards will be issued to DP's to uncover infiltrators since General Clay feels very strongly about his order against any new infiltration dated April 21, 1947.
3. The vocational training program in making more opportunities to Jewish DP's should be offered.
4. There is an urgent need for an efficient legal service for Jewish DP's. Jewish observers are now admitted to the court rooms.
5. There is an extreme scarcity of text books although the remainder of the Offenbach Archives will be put at the disposal of the JDC.
6. Upon intervention of Dr. Kubowitzki, Judge Levinthal described the number of Jewish DP's as pitiful. German Jews are neglected although General Clay encourages re-building of Jewish communities in Germany.
7. Anti-Semitism in Germany is fought through various means among them round table conferences between Christians and Jews.

318465

Jan. 13, 1948

TO: DR. KUBOWITZKI ✓
DR. MARCUS
MR. K. R. GROSSMANN

FROM: B. GINSBURG

The American Jewish Conference called to remind you of the luncheon
to be held tomorrow for Judge Levinthal.

Time: 12:30

Place: Hotel Biltmore, Room 114.

318466

Camps - Louis Levasseur

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE:

Jan 12, 48

NAME OF SUBJECT

Memo

FROM:

Kurt R. Grossman

TO:

Dr. Kucavitzki

REGARDING:

the problem of recognition
of the W/C as an Operating Agency

SEE:

Recognition

313468

Camps Levinthal

January 6, 1948

Memo to: Dr. Schwarzbart
From: A. Leon Kubowitzki

I have your memo of January 5th.

It has been customary that the Jewish Advisors report first at a meeting of the Five Organizations. I am sure that if we took the initiative of inviting Louis Levinthal, this would be his reply; the more so as I understand he has accepted a tentative date of January 18th for such a report.

You will answer that he spoke on Sunday before the JDC. This is one of those injustices which unfortunately we are too weak to prevent.

bg

818469

M E M O.

January 5, 1948.

To: Dr. Kubowitzki

From: Dr. Schwarzbart.

I think it would advisable to invite Judge Louis Levinthal to report at a meeting of some of our leading people at an early date. Yesterday I listened to his speech at the Convention of the Joint Distribution Committee and it was an excellent speech.

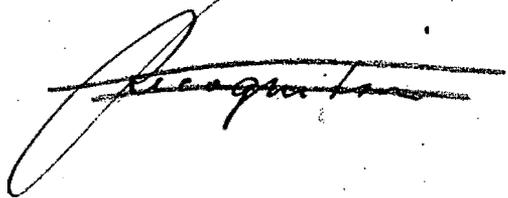
I feel we should be one of the first organizations to which Judge Levinthal reports.

IS:nk

318470

2
Camps - Jewish

January 6, 1948



Judge Louis E. Levinthal
606 City Hall
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Judge Levinthal:

In the name of the World Jewish Congress, and in my own I welcome you back in the United States. We all are very much indebted to you for the great services you have done on the other side in the interest of our fellow-Jews. I am looking forward to listen to your report which you undoubtedly will give to the five organizations.

I have been informed by our representative in Germany, Mr. Ernest Stiasny, that he had taken up with you before you left the matter of the World Jewish Congress, about which you had also spoken to Dr. H. Goldmann. I would like to discuss this matter with you and should be grateful if you would let me know the day and time at which I could see you in Philadelphia. It is important to us that I should speak to you about this matter before January 12.

Thank you for giving my letter your immediate attention. Please be advised that you can reach me also by phone Circle 7-2917.

Looking forward to hearing from you, I am,

sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman
Acting Head,
Relief and Rehabilitation Department

krq:lw

318471

CONFIDENTIAL

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
BUREAU OF ECONOMIC RESEARCH
WASHINGTON, D.C.

SECRET

RECEIVED
NOV 29 1947

CONFIDENTIAL
WORLD CONGRESS VIENNA
MUNICH

Camp-Levinthal

WJC Headquarters Cable Sheet

Restricted

These Cable Sheets must not be communicated to anyone not expressly authorized by the Executive to receive them

2823 MACKAY BB/TH VAL537 WIEN 40 28 1430
RSM NLT WORLDGRESS NEWYORK
(KRG)

Rec. 12/29/47

BEFORE LEAVING MUNICH SAW LEVINthal CONFIRMED DISCUSSION BRADFORD SPOKE
MILITARY OUR FAVOR DECISION NOW WASHINGTON STOP LEVINthal CONTACT CONGRESS
AFTER ARRIVAL NEWYORK THIS WEEK SUGGEST SEE HIM AND HIS SUCCESSOR HABER
BROTHER JOINT DIRECTOR MUNICH

WORLDGRESS VIENNA

318472

Camps - Levinthal

Memorandum from AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

1834 Broadway, New York 23, N. Y. • Circle 6-1900

December 18, 1947

To: Dr. Kubowitzki
From: David Petegorsky

Re Judge Levinthal, the day I left London there was a suggestion made that I speak to him directly in Frankfurt concerning the problem of our recommendation as a cooperating agency. When we put through the call we learned that he would not be available for several days, and accordingly Barou and the others declared that they would speak to him later in the week.

(Handwritten initials)

318473

270

V.C. Merrick

12/18/44

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY MATTER
DEFENSE DEPARTMENT
1944

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY MATTER

CONFIDENTIAL - SECURITY MATTER

Camps - Levinthal

(f) Successor to Judge Levinthal - It appears that Dr. Haber who was recently chosen by the five organizations as successor to Judge Levinthal will not be able to go to Frankfurt until some time after Judge Levinthal's departure. Efforts are being made to retain Major Hyman at the post until Mr. Haber arrives.

318474

OC Min 166

11/14/47

4. Successor to Judge Levinthal - Dr. N. Robinson reports on the last meeting of the five cooperating organizations which discussed again the candidate to be suggested as successor to Judge Levinthal. The American Jewish Committee and the AJDC were hesitant to recommend their candidates previously suggested. The decision was postponed until Tuesday, November 18.

Dr. Marcus calls the attention of the meeting to the fact that the man who goes now must remain for at least a whole year.

Dr. Kubowitzki requests our representatives on the Committee of the five cooperating organizations for Germany to have the Committee devote a number of meetings to the tragic DP situation, the increase of anti-Semitism in Germany and Austria because of the state of distress in which the DP's find themselves, the slowing down of the work program, etc.

3
Judge Levinthal

October 1, 1947

Mr. Louis E. Spiegler
Attorney at Law
Southern Building
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Mr. Spiegler:

I refer once again to the problem of our recognition as an operating agency in Germany.

Unfortunately, we have been unable, so far, to get recognition. Dr. Goldman communicated with Judge Levinthal during the Zionist Action Committee meeting in Zurich, and it was Judge Levinthal's advice that we take the matter up at the highest level -- General Clay and the War Department. Judge Levinthal informed Dr. Goldman confidentially that Rabbi Bornstein advised General Clay against our recognition and that General Clay signed an order refusing our recognition in the American Zone, but he promised that if the case is reopened, he will advise favorably.

At one of the last meetings of the Office Committee, Dr. Wise, after reading the report of Dr. Goldman, declared his readiness to take up the matter with General Clay, and if necessary, with Secretary of the Army Royall.

As you probably know, General Clay and Ambassador Murphy will be in this country on October 6. We would like to take advantage of this opportunity to have Dr. Wise take the matter up with them personally. It would be advisable, of course, to have the same prepared, as far as concerns the Army and the State Department.

May I ask that you make the preliminary contacts with the Army and State Departments, and also inquire as to the itinerary of General Clay and Ambassador Murphy in this country, so that an appointment may be arranged for Dr. Wise. (Of course, it would be best if Dr. Wise could see them in New York.)

Awaiting your early reply, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

DR. KALMAN STERN

KS:je

318476

H. Kubowitzki
MS
Camps -

September 25, 1947

Judge Louis E. Levinthal
Advisor on Jewish Affairs to the Commander in Chief,
European Command
AOP 757 c/o Postmaster New York, N.Y.

Dear Judge Levinthal :

May we call your attention to the following information which we have just received.

A newly formed German theater group calling itself "Die Hinterbliebenen" has given its first performance at Bad Reichenhall, Bavaria. The program is full of criticism of democracy and of praise for Nazi ideology. A song presented ends with the words: "We have been, we are, and we shall always remain Nazis". This song finds the enthusiastic appraisal of the German audience. One scene shows Jews living in luxury and ends with the comment that the extermination of 6 million Jews was not enough. This remark evoked a storm of applause from the audience.

Do you think it possible that such a performance could take place under the eyes of the occupying powers? We should be grateful to you if you would kindly inform us whether you see a possibility of doing anything against such performances which certainly are against the wishes of the occupying powers to fight anti-Semitism in Germany and re-educate the population.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Gerhard Jacoby
Executive Secretary
German Jewish Representative Committee

310477

Camps - Deronsha

WU R4C SS 5 EXTRA N GENEVE 5 VIA NY 6
WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS NYK

9/8/47

HAVE SEEN LEVINTHAL WILL REPORT NEWYORK SITUATION DIFFICULT CHANGE DECISION
POSSIBLE ONLY THROUGH WASHINGTON DONT TAKE ACTION BEFORE MY RETURE STOP HAVE
SEEN SCHWARZ WHO INSTRUCTED JDC OFFICES REFAY LOCALLY EXPENDITURE MADE SINCE
JANUARY

GOLDMANN

318478

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: September 5, 1947

NAME OR SUBJECT Letter

FROM: Kurt R. Grossmann

TO: Judge Louis E. Levinthal

REGARDING: WJC. Recognition as an operating agency

SEE: UNRRA- Recognition

September 5, 1947

Memo to: Dr. Stein
From: A. Leon Kubowitzki

I have your memo of September 5.

ad Ib. I suggest you send to Stiasny and to Cahn-Debre copy of the letter from Mr. Wolfsohn, so that they may eventually have a convincing document in their talks with Judge Levinthal.

ad IIb. This is a matter which I would suggest you discuss with Dr. Jacoby.

Regarding IIc and IId, it is my opinion that you should have a meeting of the five organizations consider your suggestions. Only if you fail to obtain satisfaction should you come to a decision as to whether we should act by ourselves.

bg

318480

memo

September 3, 1947

to: Dr. Kubowitzki and Dr. S. ^{ein} ✓
from: Kurt R. Grossmann †

file

I herewith attach my draft of a letter to Judge Levinthal regarding
recognition of the World Jewish Congress as an operating agency.

es
KRG.

318481

Dear Judge Levinthal:

May I take the liberty of reporting to you about a discussion I had last week with the Civil Affairs Division of the War Department in the pending matter of the implementation of our recognition as an operating agency.

I refer in this respect to letters you received repeatedly from Dr. Stein and the reference to the discussion you probably had with Dr. Goldmann in this matter. I want to report to you on this question only in respect to sending relief supplies to displaced persons in Germany:

1. As you can see from the attached table of our shipments, we have shipped up to May 31, 1947 ^{a total of} \$4,417,590.70 worth of supplies consisting of food, clothing, and medicaments. To Germany we shipped more than \$517,000. worth of supplies and in the eyes of the competent organizations which received these supplies, for instance the Central Committee of Liberated Jews in the US Zone, our supplies were valuable. I quote from a conversation our representative in Geneva had with three representatives of the aforementioned organization that our supplies which the Central Committee of Liberated Jews alone had received constitutes 31% of the dispatches of the Joint^{and} and that the clothing received from the WJC are of much better quality than those from the Joint%.

Many letters of appreciation which we receive daily bear out this statement.

2. In Washington I was charged with investigating the reason for the delay in the implementation of our recognition as an operating agency and the gentleman with whom I had a most pleasant talk understood our position but he could not suppress his astonishment that we as a Jewish Organisation ~~had~~ did not have the support of the Jewish Advisor attached to the European Command at Frankfurt a Main. He repeatedly posed the question, "Why not ^{have} Judge Levinthal advise Lieut. General Haebner or Col. Michelson to ratify the granted re-
ad

cognition?" You will understand how embarrassing this question was for me. I had told the gentleman that we had lined up, especially in South America, substantial amounts of supplies but that we were unable to ship these supplies unless this matter of recognition was settled once and for all. Here again he said "Judge Levinthal will help you."

I feel that I had to report this situation to you and ask you for your kind assistance.

Here are the arguments which I as a relief worker have to present:

1. There ^{are} recognized as an operating agency in the Occupied Zone of Germany about sixty voluntary agencies. Of them many have sent less supplies than the World Jewish Congress and many do not have a relief program such as we have submitted to the proper authorities.

2. From reports which we have received from Rabbis Klausner and Dexter, from Mr. Sgiassny and from the Central Committee of Liberated Jews itself, there is no doubt that substantial supplies are needed as well as an expansion of cultural activities. Representatives of the Central Committee have declared that it is intolerable to rely on the Germany economy.

3. The Relief Supply Department operating as a Committee for Overseas Relief Supplies has been accredited by the President's War Relief Control Board and now again has been recognized by the Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid.

4. The Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid as well as the Department of State had approved our application before the UNRRA granted us recognition.

5. The IRO has advised us to channel ^{all supplies} c/o of their address. I quote the letter which we have received from the Advisory Committee dated July 22, 1947:

"The Advisory Committee on Voluntary Foreign Aid has just been advised by cable from the Preparatory Commission for the International Refugee Organization at Geneva, Switzerland, that export of relief supplies for the benefit of displaced persons in Germany should be consigned to the IRO or to a consignee in care of the IRO in Germany.

"Accordingly we have today recommended to the Department of Commerce that Customs officials be advised that future shipments by your organization to Germany for displaced persons there should be consigned to the IRO or to a consignee in care of the IRO."

6. As stated above, we have lined up important supplies, such as baby layettes and clothing and other essentials in South American countries which we will ship as soon as this matter of recognition has been settled.

7. The Civil Affairs Division suggested itself that it would be the more natural thing for the Jewish Adviser to counsel the headquarters in Frankfurt a Main to grant us the recognition. The gentleman in Washington is of the opinion that we will do a very good job in the field of relief and that our program is an important one.

In submitting to you, Dear Judge Levinthal, these arguments, I hope that you will agree with me that any further delay would do harm to our people whom you as well as we wish to serve. Therefore, I would ask that you be good enough to consider this whole affair from the only point that it should be considered; namely, that we, the World Jewish Congress, are eager to do our share in the field of relief and in the field of cultural rehabilitation. Therefore, we should not be prevented from doing our duty.

Very sincerely yours,

318484

2605
K. S.

CL139 AXW312 DPC2336 MUENCHEN 53 21 1500
NLT WORLDGROSS NYK

Camps - 2 for Lehal
Received 8/21/47

YOURS FOURTEENTH GROSSMANS RATHER LATE SUGGESTION ACCEPTABLE MISSING
RESULTS CONFERENCE BERNSTEIN FIVE ORGANIZATIONS BASIS FURTHER INTERVENTION
LEVINTHAL ASKED JEWAGENCY CENTCOMMITTEE STRONGEST REPRESENTATIONS STOP
ADVISED USING LEVINTHALS AGENCYS AND CENTCOMMITTEES PRESENCE ACTIONCOMMITTEE
NEXT WEEK ZEURICH FOR NEGOTIATIONS GOLDMANN STOP CABLE STRIGHT YOUR
INSTRUCTIONS AND WETHER MY PRESENCE THERE ADVISABLE

STIASNY

318485

Levinthal

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: 8/19/1947

NAME OR SUBJECT Report

FROM: Judge Levinthal
TO: Am. Jew. Conference

REGARDING: Camps, attached:
Letter Am. Jew. Committee to Levinthal 8/11/47
Levinthals Memorandum to Commander in Chief 8/5/47
Memorandum Stein to Dr. Kubowitzki 9/5/47

SEE: Camps, Reports from Jewish Advisers under 9/5/47

Camp Judge Levthal

WJC Headquarters Cable Sheet

Restricted

These Cable Sheets must not be
communicated to anyone not
expressly authorized by the
Executive to receive them.

2591 MK104/NM 691 MUENCHEN 86 8 1715 1/50
KS NLT WORLDGRESS NEWYORK

Received August 11, 1947

SAV LEVINTHAL UNDERSTANDS OUR SITUATION RECOGNIZED AGENCY BUT ADMITS
BERNSTEIN CONVINCED HIM ALSO SEES OUR ZONECOMING WITHOUT CONSENT FIVE
HIGHEST INTERNAL POLITICAL ISSUE AMERICAN JEWRY BECAUSE OUR CONFIRMATION
WOULD ALSO BRING AMERJEWISH COMMITTEE ZONE BERNSTEIN ARRIVES NEWYORK MONDAY
READY DISCUSSING MATTERS WISE FIVE LEVINTHAL BELIEVES FAVORABLE ZIONIST
MAJORITYVOTE REACHABLE CONTACT BERNSTEIN IMMEDIATELY ALL DEPENDS BERNSTEIN
REPORT LEVINTHAL NOW FINAL DECISION YOUR HANDS STOP IF CONSENT FIVE
IMPOSSIBLE STRONGEST PRESSURE HIGHEST LEVEL JUDGE NECESSARY BUT AS REPEATED_
LY POINTED OUT DIRECT WASHINGTON ORDER ONLY CHANGE

STIASSNY

Camps

July 29, 1947.

Judge Louis H. Levinthal
Germany.

Dear Judge Levinthal:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your kindness and friendliness at the time when we discussed, in New York, the various problems concerning the World Jewish Congress. I understand that Dr. Wise wrote to you in the meantime and he also wrote to Rabbi Bernstein. I do hope that we can count upon your help in getting our recognition as an operating agency in Germany.

The immediate purpose of this letter is to discuss with you the Austrian situation. I know that Rabbi Bernstein was in Austria last month and is well aware of the two most important problems facing the D.P.'s there.

The first is the situation of the Rumanian infiltrees. People are leaving Rumania and coming to Austria at the rate of over 1,000 persons a week. From the last reports received from Vienna, dated July 20, 1947, it is evident that there are already nearly 7,000 Rumanian infiltrees in Vienna. It seems to us that in view of the situation in Rumania and in Hungary, you have to count upon a steady influx of new infiltrees and, in the next weeks or months, we may be faced with a repetition of the situation when tens of thousands of Polish Jews infiltrated into Germany last year. We are faced with an emergency situation and every effort must be made in order to help these people. The IRO has, in principle, stated that the Rumanian infiltrees are eligible for help from them, but unfortunately IRO is not yet a fully working organization and the difficulty lies with the Order of April 21, 1947, issued by the American authorities closing the Camps to new infiltrees. The whole matter was discussed by the Five Organizations. Everybody agrees that this situation demands for action to be taken, but the majority was pessimistic about the results of any interventions that are to be undertaken. I shall be very grateful to you for informing us what steps should be taken and whether there is any possibility to have the American authorities in Germany change the Order of April 21.

The second problem facing the DP's and Refugees in Austria is the danger of the evacuation of various camps, especially in Gastein, Bad Ischl and Braunau. In the reports from Vienna people are complaining about the present housing policy of the American authorities, which favors the Austrians. It is needless to stress that everything should be done to change the attitude of the American authorities also in this

318488

Judge Louis H. Levinthal.

July 29, 1947.

respect. May I ask you for your comments.

With best personal regards and wishing you once more every success in your present very grave and difficult task,

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. Kalman Stein.

KS:nk

99264

7/18/44

MEMORANDUM FOR

TO: THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FROM: THE NEW YORK ASSOCIATION OF RABBIS

MEMORANDUM FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Comings

1.
(1-2)

Judge Herbert Levinthal who will leave for Europe on July 17 to assume his duties as successor to Rabbi Bernstein was tendered a luncheon on July 14 by the five cooperating organizations, the WJC being represented by Dr. Marcus, Dr. N. Robinson, Dr. Schwarzbart, and Dr. Stein. Besides, WJC representatives had a conference with Judge Levinthal on the same day.

2 u7

July 14, 1947

nlc

Stiasny
Jewcongress
UNRRA SUB-Unit
APO 407 U.S. Army

discussed matter recognition Judge Levinthal who is openminded our demand
Please
stop ~~kindly~~ go July 20 Congress Bergenbelsen where Barou will be present

Stein

ks/ldl
~~29~~ words

29

Charge World Jewish

Via Mackay

318491

MEMO

July 14, 1947

To: Members of Office Committee
From: Mrs. Knopfmacher

Judge Louis E. Levinthal, who has been appointed to replace Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein as Special Adviser on Jewish Affairs, has been invited to meet with a few members of the Office Committee before he leaves for Germany.

This conference will take place today at 3 P. M. in room 226. If you are interested, you are cordially invited to attend.

Our next regular Office Committee meeting will take place

Tuesday, July 15, 1947 at 1 P. M. (after lunch) in room 226.

318492

Copy - Levinthal

Reply prepaid: 20 words

July 10, 1947

**Judge Louis E. Levinthal
606 City Hall
Philadelphia 7, Pa.**

(VIA WESTERN UNION)

**Office Committee World Jewish Congress would be gratified if could meet with
you before or after Monday luncheon to consider several questions relating
to Germany regards**

Kubowitzki

ALK:bg

26 words

Charge to: World Jewish Congress

318493

July 8, 1947

Judge Louis B. Levinthal
606 City Hall
Philadelphia 7, Pa.

Dear Judge Levinthal:

I understand that you will be in New York on July 15 and that a meeting of the five organizations will take place at which the most urgent problems confronting the Jewish D.P.'s will be discussed with you.

There are some questions which the World Jewish Congress would like to take up with you in a private talk between you and its representative.

I would appreciate it if you would inform me what time would be most convenient for you for such a conversation.

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. Stald

A.L. Kubowitzki
Secretary General

318494

JUDGE LOUIS LEVINthal NAMED ARMY'S ADVISER ON JEWISH AFFAIRS IN GERMANY

WASHINGTON, June 19. (JTA)--The War Department today announced the appointment of Judge Louis E. Levinthal of Philadelphia as Special Advisor on Jewish Affairs to Gen. Lucius D. Clay, military governor in the U.S. zone in Germany. He will succeed Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein, who will return to his home in Rochester, New York, after 14 months in the post. Judge Levinthal will proceed to Berlin on July 18.

Rabbi Bernstein will return to Berlin in a few days and has agreed to continue his services until sometime in August to give Levinthal the benefit of his experience. On the Common Pleas Court of Philadelphia since 1937, Levinthal is also co-chairman of the United Jewish Appeal and the United Palestine Appeal.

Copy - [unclear]
[unclear]

Clay Picks Adviser

WASHINGTON, June 19 (AP). — Gen. Lucius D. Clay, head of U. S. occupation forces in Germany, has selected Judge Louis E. Levinthal of Philadelphia as adviser of Jewish affairs in the American Zone, the War Department announced today.

318496

LOUIS E. LEVINthal
606 CITY HALL
PHILADELPHIA

*Conroy - Judge
Levinthal*

May 16, 1947.

Dr. A. Leon Kubowitski,
Secretary General, World Jewish Congress,
1834 Broadway,
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Dr. Kubowitski:

Many thanks for your very gracious
letter of May 15th.

I have not yet heard officially from
Washington, and, as you are probably aware, I
could not leave until after the middle of July
and then only for a shorter period than originally
expected.

I realize, of course, the urgency, as
well as the gravity, of the situation confronting
our DP's. As you say, their tragic plight is
indeed a disgrace to our civilization.

I pray that I may have an opportunity
to alleviate some of the anguish and insecurity
of our DP's. It is heartening to know that I
can count on the cooperation of your organization.

Faithfully yours,

L. E. Levinthal

318497

May 15, 1947

Judge Louis E. Levinthal
606 City Hall
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Judge Levinthal:

Having learned with rare satisfaction of your appointment as Jewish Advisor to General Glay, I hasten to extend to you, on behalf of the World Jewish Congress, heartiest congratulations and best wishes.

The office of Jewish Advisor, whose creation the World Jewish Congress was the first to advocate, has been singularly fortunate in the caliber of men who have held it. Judge Simon Rifkind, Rabbi Philip Bernstein, and now you, — it would be hard to find many other American Jews so eminently fitted by nature, training, and experience to fill this post as you and your predecessors.

It is a post calling for wisdom, understanding and sympathy, and he who bears its burden deserves the support of all men of good will. The World Jewish Congress cooperated wholeheartedly with your distinguished predecessors, and will be glad to give the same cooperation to you. During your tenure of office, and under your wise counsel, may we be brought nearer to a solution of the problem of our DP's, whose tragic plight, two years after the cessation of hostilities, is a disgrace and an indictment of our civilization.

Sincerely yours,

A. Leon Kubowitzki
Secretary General

ALK:bg

318498