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318642-646

MAY 20, 1949

GENERAL LUCIUS D. CLAY  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNDERSIGNED AND THEIR RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS JOIN IN EXTENDING WARMEST WELCOME TO YOU UPON YOUR RETURN THESE SHORES FOLLOWING YOUR MANY MONTHS OF VALIANT SERVICE OVERSEAS STOP SINCERELY TRUST YOUR ENJOYMENT OF THIS WELL-EARNED REST WILL BE OF THE FULLEST STOP TO EXPRESS OUR WELCOME PERSONALLY AND TO PAY TRIBUTE AT SAME TIME TO VAST ASSISTANCE RENDERED BY YOU BEHALF OF JEWISH PERSECUTEES IN EUROPE WE WOULD FEEL ESPECIALLY PRIVILEGED IF YOU WOULD PERMIT US TO HOLD A DINNER YOUR HONOR NEW YOUR CITY SOME TIME NEXT WEEKS OR MONTH AT A DATE TO FIT YOUR CONVENIENCE STOP SINCERELY HOPE YOU WILL FIND IT POSSIBLE TO ACCEPT IN REPLY PLEASE ADDRESS WARBURG

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
AMERICAN JEWISH COMMITTEE

ROBERT S. MARCUS  
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS

NAHUM GOLDMAN  
JEWISH AGENCY FOR PALESTINE

CLINTON LIBRARY PHOTOCOPY

318642

telegram dayletter

May 20, 1949

*General Clay's  
Dinner*

General Lucius Clay

*file*

Undersigned and their respective organizations join in extending warmest welcome to you upon your return these shores following your many months of valient service overseas stop sincerely trust your enjoyment of this well-earned rest will be of the fullest stop to express our welcome personally and to pay tribute at same time to vast assistance rendered by you behalf of Jewish persecutees in Europe we would feel especially privileged if you would permit us to hold a dinner your honor New York City to fit your convenience stop sincerely hope you will find it possible to accept in reply please address Warburg

/s/ Warburg

Blaustein

Robert S. Marcus

Nahum Goldm<sub>o</sub>n

*10:30 - rec'd L.H. from Alton  
10:40 - Eli Ruck's secretary called. I told her that  
also approved. She will call me today*

318643

copy

*Camps Testimonial Dinner - General*

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
APO 403, U. S. Army

May 17, 1949

Dear Moe:

Immediately on receipt of your cable I telephoned General Clay and fortunately reached him just a few hours before he took a plane for the United States. I assume you have already received the following cable which I sent to you yesterday:

"Clay favorably disposed testimonial dinner provided War Department engagements permit. Suggest you contact him Washington Pentagon Building after his arrival. Greenstein."

I know you will be glad to learn that we had a most impressive farewell ceremony for General Clay last Friday in Berlin. The AJDC, the HIAS, the ORT, the Central Committee for Liberated Jews, the Jewish Agency for Palestine, and my own office were represented. We presented him with a scroll expressing our appreciation to him for his sympathetic and understanding handling of the DP problem, also a Talmud dedicated to him, and then as a grand climax we gave him a beautiful silver box with both Hebrew and English inscriptions on behalf of all of the Jewish displaced persons. He was quite overcome and tremendously touched and responded with a great deal of emotion and paid a real tribute to the courage and fine qualities of the displaced persons who he stated he would never forget. After the ceremony he insisted that we all group ourselves around the American flag in his office and he had his photographer take a picture as a memento of the occasion.

In my discussion with him about the testimonial dinner which you want to hold in New York I urged him to accept and told him how very much the Jews of America wanted to express to him their appreciation for everything he had done for our people in Germany and what a fine opportunity for him to express his own philosophy with regard to human rights and human decency. I feel confident he will accept if his engagements permit and hope you will follow through with him immediately in the Pentagon Building in Washington.

With kindest regards and every good wish, I am

Yours sincerely,

/s/ Harry Greenstein  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs

Mr. Moses A. Leavitt  
Executive Vice Chairman  
American Joint Distribution Committee  
270 Madison Avenue  
New York 16, New York

318644

C.D.

Completed. Done - May 16, 1949  
Gen. L. S. Clay

Working Committee of Cooperating Organizations Discusses Demands to be Submitted to Successor of General Clay

11.  
(1-2)  
(8-1)

On May 10, a meeting of the Working Committee of the Four Cooperating Organizations took place which Mr. Grossman attended on behalf of the WJC. A suggestion for a testimonial dinner to General Lucius D. Clay was discussed, and a majority of the participants were in favor of such a dinner.

The Working Committee, furthermore, discussed the demands to be submitted to the successor of General Clay before his departure for Germany. It was decided that the JDC was to prepare a memorandum on problems connected with the remaining DPs, with the German Jewish communities, and with restitution, the last in consultation with Dr. N. Robinson of the WJC. The WJC was to prepare a memorandum on Jewish demands relating to the occupation statute and to the German constitution. The drafts will be discussed at the next meeting of the Working Committee.

5101-5/16/49-422-GB:hf  
SEC 1837 (DDWA-358)

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2) The Working Committee discussed the advisability of submitting its demands before the successor of General Clay, whoever he is, leaves for Germany. The following suggestions were discussed:

- a) Restitution
- b) Problems connected <sup>with</sup> the remaining DP's
- c) " " " German-Jewish Gemeinden
- d) Demands connected with the occupation statute
- e) Demands which will emanate with regard to the German Constitution

The Joint Distribution Committee agreed to prepare a memo on the points "a - e" whereby it was decided that point "a" will be worked out in consultation with Dr. N. Robinson. The World Jewish Congress is asked to prepare a memo on points "d" and "e." These memoranda will then be discussed in a new Working Committee meeting which is scheduled to take place in about two weeks.

3) In view of the fact that Harry Greenstein will only serve six months as Jewish Advisor, it was suggested to inquire from him whether he feels that a new Jewish Advisor is necessary after his term is up, whether the Military Government will continue the Office of Jewish Advisor and if so, whether this Jewish Advisor would have to come from the United States or whether Major Hyman could not wind up the remaining functions of a Jewish Advisor.

# American Jewish Archives

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1949

...of the Jewish people and of their religious and cultural life. The Jewish people have made a unique contribution to the world's civilization. Their religious and cultural life is a rich and varied one. It is a life that has been shaped by the experiences of a long and difficult history. The Jewish people have a deep sense of their own identity and a strong sense of their own responsibility to the world. They have a rich and varied culture that has been passed on from generation to generation. They have a deep sense of their own identity and a strong sense of their own responsibility to the world. They have a rich and varied culture that has been passed on from generation to generation.

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE:

3/30/1949

NAME OR SUBJECT

Memo

FROM:

Grossman

TO:

Robinson & Wederbusch & Jacoby

REGARDING:

Report on Germany by Abraham C. Hyman & Chaplain L. Parish

SEE:

Germany Restitution & KRG Memos

233- 11/5/46-500-EM:fh  
ADM-2046

318648

3

February 25, 1949

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester, New York

Dear Rabbi Bernstein:

Attached is the report of Dr. William Haber  
submitted to the Department of the Army.

Very sincerely yours,

Karl R. Grossmann

KRG:SS  
Enc.

318649

*Dr. Haber*  
*L*

NATIONAL COMMUNITY RELATIONS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
296 Madison Avenue  
New York 17, N. Y.

February 8, 1949

Mr. Boris M. Joffe  
Joint Distribution Committee  
270 Madison Avenue  
New York City

Dear Boris:

Many thanks for the copy of Dr. Haber's final report. We appreciate the thoughtfulness of the Joint Distribution Committee, the American Jewish Conference and the World Jewish Congress and The Jewish Agency for Palestine in bringing pertinent parts of the report to the attention of the NCRAC Committee on Immigration.

At a meeting of the NCRAC Committee on Immigration Matters held last Friday, those sections of Dr. Haber's report dealing with the Displaced Persons Bill and the admission of collaborators under the DP Act, were very helpful in our deliberations. So much so that Mrs. Rita Stein was asked to secure extra copies of the report for distribution to the members of our Committee.

Your cooperation is deeply appreciated.

Sincerely

ISAIAH M. MINKOFF  
Executive Director

FUTURE RELEASE

PLEASE NOTE DATE

NATIONAL MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Washington 25, D. C.

FOR RELEASE AT 7:00 A.M.,  
MONDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 1949

RE 6700, Ext. 2528-71252

ARMY RELEASES FINAL HABER REPORT  
ON JEWISH AFFAIRS IN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

Acting Secretary of the Army William H. Draper, Jr., today released the final report of Dr. William Haber, Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the United States Army Commanders in Germany and Austria.

Dr. Haber served in this capacity from January 1948 to January 1949. He has returned to the University of Michigan, where he is a professor of Economics. His successor is Mr. Harry Greenstein, Executive Director of the Jewish Welfare Fund of Baltimore, Maryland, who will leave for Heidelberg, Germany, on February 13.

Acting Secretary Draper, in releasing Dr. Haber's report, stated:

"I have noted with pleasure that during the period of Dr. Haber's service overseas, substantial progress has been made in reducing the Jewish DP population in the United States Zones of Germany and Austria, and I am gratified that the Jewish DP problem in the U. S. Zones is nearing a solution."

The full text of Dr. Haber's report to the Secretary of the Army follows:

318651

On November 14, 1948, I submitted an Interim Report in which I made brief reference to some of the highlights in the Jewish displaced persons picture in Germany and Austria. In this Final Report I want to elaborate on the developments during the past year as they relate to the Jewish displaced persons problem and make some recommendations with respect to current issues, and with respect to those that are likely to arise in the immediate future. From time to time, as the problems have arisen, I have shared the views expressed in this report with General Clay or General Keyes.

#### 1. RESETTLEMENT IS ONLY SOLUTION - SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS MADE.

It is axiomatic that the only real measure of progress in the displaced persons problem is the extent to which the displaced persons have been repatriated or resettled. All other considerations, such as the improvements of the creature comforts of the displaced persons, their state of morale and even their state of health, are of secondary importance. The life of the displaced person is essentially an existence in limbo, and no program of care and rehabilitation, successful though it may be, is sufficient to offset the eroding effect of camp life with its absence of privacy, of a life of idleness for many, of a life dependent upon charity, and of a life in which the people inevitably come to feel that they are pawns rather than masters of their own destiny. There is only one way that the displaced persons can really be salvaged and that is to transfer them to lands where they can take their place as normal citizens and thus regain the self-respect that they enjoyed before they were uprooted.

It is with a great deal of satisfaction that I report that the past year represents a period that has shown the greatest advance in the solution of the Jewish displaced persons problem since the end of the war. During this period approximately 27,800 Jewish displaced persons have been resettled from the U. S. Zone, Germany, and about 9,000 from the U. S. Zone, Austria. Neither the Army nor the International Refugee Organization has succeeded in developing the techniques for an accurate statistical count of camp population and the measure of the number of Jewish displaced persons living in the German economy is even less satisfactory. However, the best estimate, based on such quantitative data as is available is that as of December 31, 1948, there were 75,000 Jewish displaced persons in the U. S. Zone, Germany, and 9,700 in the U. S. Zone, Austria.

#### 2. ARMY RECORD IN HANDLING DPs EXCELLENT.

The United States military authorities in Germany and Austria have been helpful in many ways. As I indicated in my previous report, within the framework of the occupation policy, Generals Clay, Keyes, Huebner, Balmer, Harrold, Collins and Kendall, and their immediate staffs, have shown a profound understanding of the problems of the Jewish displaced persons and have in general followed a pattern which has raised the dignity of the people and has given them a feeling of security. They have justly earned the undying gratitude of the Jewish displaced persons.

It would be erroneous to give the impression that there have been no tensions between the displaced persons and the Army. During my tour of duty I frequently encountered men on the operational level who openly confessed that they considered the entire displaced persons problem a nuisance and one that interfered with the Army's primary mission in the occupied countries. Toward the end of my tour I found almost no such sentiments expressed. The rapport that now exists between the Army and the Jewish displaced persons, is, in my opinion, the product of a combination of factors. Foremost among the reasons is the realization that we are over the hump of our difficulties. When the picture was static and immigration was at a standstill, the nerves of the Jewish displaced persons and of mili-

### 3. IRO POLICY ON IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL SHOULD BE MODIFIED.

The headway made in the solution of the Jewish displaced persons problem during the past year would not have been possible without the active support of the United States authorities in Germany and Austria. It is to the credit of the American representatives in Germany that when the International Refugee Organization, in May 1948, withdrew its support of immigration to Israel, ostensibly because of "the absence of a regime in Palestine which had general recognition of the United Nations" and because the resettlement of displaced persons in an area of strife was alleged to be repugnant to the spirit of the International Refugee Organization's constitution, the U. S. Army stepped into the breach and gave the logistical support without which the mass movement of the Jewish displaced persons to Israel would have been impossible. To the Jewish displaced persons who had been vegetating in the displaced persons camps for three years the United Nations' decision on partition of November 29, 1947, a decision that the United States not only supported, but spearheaded, would have been a hollow victory had the Army followed the International Refugee Organization's course on this issue.

Whatever merits it may have had at its inception, the official policy of the International Refugee Organization in withholding immigration support and assistance from Israel-bound Jewish displaced persons is without justification today. The survival of Israel is no longer in doubt. It has been given both de facto and de jure recognition by many important nations of the world. It is a "going concern" even in the eyes of the nations which have refused it recognition. Those who migrate there certainly feel that they are as secure in that country as they were in the DP countries. Neither the United Nations nor its Mediators in Israel have uttered a word of objections to the resettlement of Jewish displaced persons in Israel. IRO's failure to support this resettlement program has imposed hardship on the displaced persons, since its facilities and logistic support cannot be used to aid this movement. The recent action of the IRO Executive Committee in modifying IRO policy is a step in the right direction. I recommend that our government continue to make the strongest representations to secure the fullest IRO support for this resettlement program.

### 4. U. S. POLICY ON WITHHOLDING EXIT PERMITS FOR MILITARY AGE MEN SHOULD BE REVISED.

One additional comment on migration to Israel: Our military authorities in the occupied countries are authorized to issue exit permits to men between the ages of 18 to 45 only after a complicated clearance procedure which in practice has been found unworkable. The men in this age group are not prohibited from entering that country by the United Nations Truce. The Mediator has established definite procedures for registering immigrants in that age group and for assuring that they would not be assigned to military training or military service. In view of that, our government's insistence upon retaining the cumbersome clearance requirement which in effect denies exit permits to men 18 to 45, imposes genuine hardship on the families of Jewish displaced persons. Its effect is to make it necessary for the heads of these families who fall in the prohibited age group to seek unofficial or "illegal" channels for emigration. Were they not to do so their families would have to leave without them or the movement would come to a halt altogether. I strongly urge our government to revise that policy in order to make it possible for family groups to leave as a unit through normal emigration channels. In my judgment an appraisal of the current situation in Israel justifies a revision of that policy.

### 5. RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING CAMP CONSOLIDATION.

A program for the future consolidation of the camps is being developed by the military authorities in consultation with the IRO, the heads of the voluntary agencies serving the displaced persons in the occupied countries and the representatives of the displaced persons themselves. While the consolidation program is flexible and is designed to reduce the number of installations as rapidly as the volume of emigration makes possible, difficulties in its implementation are almost inevitable. There is an understandable reluctance on the part of the people to move from one temporary installation to another, particularly when, as they claim, their final resettlement is imminent. Although the people may in individual instances protest their moves, I am confident that a soundly developed program for camp consolidation, humanely administered, can be implemented without difficulty.

It is my recommendation that those installations which offer the least favorable accommodations should be closed first, even if this requires a postponement in the derequisition of rental property. It happens that the best camps from the housing standpoint consist of rental property. In view of the incalculable losses sustained by the displaced persons, it would be preeminently unfair to pursue a policy which would deprive the displaced persons of all the good housing that has been made available to them. The German economy would not be overburdened if the small quantity of rental property now used for housing displaced persons were retained until all substandard displaced persons camps have been evacuated.

#### 6. RECOMMENDATIONS CONCERNING GERMAN CONTROL OVER DPs.

The problem of the extension of German control over the displaced persons camps has appeared from time to time during the past year. At the present time the single differential that the Jewish displaced persons camps enjoy over the camps of other nationality groups is that they are not subject to the jurisdiction of the German police, except for limited identification missions. The Germans have consistently complained of this "extraterritoriality" privilege that is accorded to the Jewish displaced persons and have insisted that their police are frustrated in enforcing the law so long as this situation exists. Not only do I question the conclusions advanced by the German authorities but I believe it would be a crucial error on the part of our authorities to yield to the Germans on this issue. In my opinion, the present policy is in a large measure responsible for the amazingly few clashes between the Jewish displaced persons and the Germans. Although the Jewish displaced persons problem is in its liquidation phase, the time has not yet come when the Jewish displaced persons can be safely transferred to the jurisdiction of the German authorities.

General Clay, who as I indicated in my interim report, shares my views on this issue, has rejected the German proposals. The problem, now governmental, is obviously one of utmost importance in the framing of the Occupation Statute for the proposed western German state. The occupation authorities have a solemn obligation to the displaced persons. It is an obligation which they have voluntarily assumed and which they have thus far discharged in accordance with the broadest humanitarian principles. On the whole, the displaced persons want no part of Germany and as long as there is the need for maintaining camps for them, they should not be subject to the administration of the German authorities. The sovereignty of the German state can, until a more propitious date, afford to yield on the issue of jurisdiction over the allied nationals who were introduced into Germany against their will. I urge therefore that the Occupation Statute provide that the displaced persons remain the special wards of the occupation authorities.

#### 7. EXTENSION OF U. S. ZONE RESTITUTION LAW URGED.

On November 10, 1947, the Military Government for the U. S. Zone, Germany adopted Law 59 which provides for the restitution of all identifiable property

Board of Review insures that it will be properly implemented. At the present time there is no internal restitution law in the British Zone, Germany nor in Berlin, and the law in the French Zone is deemed inadequate, primarily because it fails to provide for the transfer of heirless and unclaimed property to a successor organization. It is unconscionable to permit those who profited by the Nazi regime, at the expense of its victims, to retain their gains. Unless there is assurance that the western German state, when created, will be prepared to pass a uniform restitution law, every effort should be made to have the Occupation Statute ratify the U. S. Military Government Law 59 as applicable to the entire Western State.

#### 8. REVISION OF INDEMNIFICATION LAW NECESSARY.

At the present time there is pending before the U. S. Military Government in Germany, for its approval, a proposed Indemnification Law in which the Laender in the U. S. Zone undertake to indemnify racial, religious and political persecutees for economic losses that are not covered by U. S. Military Government Law 59. In addition to recognizing the claims of Germans who fall within this category, the proposed law provides for the indemnification of all who were detained in concentration camps and ghettos, provided they resided in any of the Laender on January 1, 1947. In its present form the law denies in-camp displaced persons any redress for their detention. The calloused indifference to the moral and legal claims of this group of people renders the proposed law wholly unacceptable. The law has other objectionable features which I have fully discussed with General Clay and other members of his staff. Every effort should be made to persuade the German authorities to pass a law that will adequately indemnify all who are not likely to be reimbursed from such reparations as Germany may eventually be required to pay, and will in other respects conform to American standards of equity. In the event that such efforts do not meet with success, it would be far more prudent to veto the law rather than to permit the Germans to cleanse their conscience with a law that is fundamentally unjust.

#### 9. ANTI-SEMITISM NOT REJECTED BY GERMANY.

So far as I have been able to discern, anti-Semitism still is deeply rooted in Germany. It manifests itself in many ways; in the desecration of cemeteries, in provocative articles in the press, in publicly holding the Jewish displaced persons exclusively responsible for the black market, in occasional blood libel rumors, and in the obvious public antagonism against the Jews with whom the Germans come in contact. Germans are quite frank in admitting that overt acts against the Jews and especially against the Jewish displaced persons might occur if the occupation authorities left. The reaction of the native Jews to their own environment is reflected in the fact that most of the young people of the German Jewish community have definite intentions of quitting their country.

It is disappointing that the Germans have not rejected a doctrine which started Germany on its destructive career that ultimately led to its own ruin. Anti-Semitism cannot thrive in soil where the democratic spirit has taken firm root. The survival of anti-Semitism is one measure of the task which faces those engaged in the effort to democratize Germany. I would not give the impression that all Germans share in the prevailing attitude towards Jews. There are many Germans who reject anti-Semitism as anti-social, anti-Christian and reactionary. However, their views have not taken any articulate form. I have discussed this problem at great length with General Clay and fully concur in his rejection of any plan that proposes to deal specifically with the problem of anti-Semitism. The eradication of anti-Semitism in Germany must represent the spontaneous inner urge of the German people and must flow from the democratization of Germany. It is General Clay's view that inter-faith groups, including Jewish, Christian, and Muslim, should be organized to combat anti-Semitism.

#### 10. LIBERALIZATION OF U. S. IMMIGRATION LAW NECESSARY.

The adoption of the DP Immigration Law brought new hope to many Jewish displaced persons who wanted to join members of their families in the United States. Although this law represents a good beginning, its restrictive provisions have seriously complicated its administration, and it contains certain limitations which have been construed as discriminatory against Jewish and Catholic displaced persons. Obviously, the United States, the foremost protagonist of the democratic ideal, cannot afford to put its official approval on legislation that has unsavory flavor. It is therefore most encouraging to note that at the opening session of the present Congress, bills were introduced to bring the DP law more in line with America's democratic tradition.

#### 11. SECURITY AGAINST UNWARRANTED SEARCH SHOULD BE EXTENDED TO DPs.

During the calendar year 1948, twenty-two check and search operations were conducted among the displaced persons camps in the U. S. Zone, Germany. Of this number sixteen involved Jewish installations. Most of these searches were conducted in the interest of apprehending black market offenders and as a deterrent to such activities. However, on the basis of what these raids actually accomplish I am convinced that there is no police measure that can effectively deal with this problem. The illegal traffic in rationed commodities flourishes in every economy of scarcity and Germany is no exception. No group of people in Germany, civilian as well as military, are free from its temptations. The only dependable remedy for the black market, is that which will be provided by the increase in the flow of consumer goods.

Aside from the fact that the mass searches fall short of their objective, they represent an indictment of the entire camp communities involved in searches, and as such, do violence to the Anglo-American concepts of justice. On March 16, 1948 Military Government promulgated a regulation (SOP 96) according to which all the safeguards against unreasonable search and seizure, basic in the American legal tradition, were extended to everyone in Germany except the displaced persons living in the camps. This disparity has been the subject of a number of staff studies prepared by the military authorities and is now being considered in connection with the framing of the Occupation Statute. It would indeed be incomprehensible if the authorities responsible for drafting this Statute emerged with a standard of justice less favorable for the displaced persons than for the Germans.

#### 12. HAVEN POLICY SHOULD BE CONTINUED.

In a world that is in a state of flux, as ours is today, it is difficult to predict the future with any degree of accuracy. There is a great urge on the part of many Jews, living in the satellite countries, to migrate to Israel. Not only have they been declassed as a result of the nationalization of their businesses, but they have a justifiable fear of the future. Although the satellite countries, notably Roumania, Czechoslovakia and Hungary, which have substantial Jewish population, have in the past permitted legal migration to Israel, there is no certainty that such freedom to emigrate will continue. Today the picture in this respect is confusing. There are some indications that the satellite countries may either suspend legal migration or impose such conditions as will make it impossible. Heretofore, the U. S. Zones of Occupation have served as havens of refuge for those who fled from countries in which they have been insecure. I would strongly urge that the haven policy which we have heretofore followed, be continued.

#### 13. THE PLANS FOR EVENTUAL CLOSING OF JEWISH DP CAMPS CAN NOW BE FORMULATED.

number of Jewish DPs in the U. S. Zones of Occupation will be eligible to leave for the United States. The Israeli government has formulated tentative plans for removing from Germany and Austria all Jewish displaced persons who wish to migrate to Israel, by September of this year. Taking into consideration the present and future rates of immigration to Israel and to other countries, and allowing for the number of Jewish displaced persons who may wish voluntarily to postpone their resettlement by entering into the German economy, I believe that it is safe to set the end of the next fiscal year, that is June 30, 1950, as the target date for the closing of most of the Jewish displaced persons camps. This aim can be achieved, unless unforeseen events, both in Israel and elsewhere, interfere with its realization.

#### 14. MUCH PROGRESS MADE IN REHABILITATION OF DPs.

In 1945, when they were rescued from inevitable death by the victorious allied forces, the Jewish displaced persons were a most pathetic group of people. The soldiers who first saw them wondered whether these skeletons could ever resume their normal appearance and whether, in view of their staggering personal losses, they would have the will to live. I am happy to report that these very people are leaving the U. S. Zones of Occupation with heads erect and confident of their future. Their health is good. Their revival is not the result of any miracle. It is the fruits of much labor, of the unprecedented patience and of the sympathy of the United States Army, UNRRA, the IRO and of the voluntary agencies.

The DP problem in general and the Jewish displaced persons problem in particular have not as yet been completely solved. The hapless people whom we have come to know as DPs have a moral right to the sympathy and interest of the civilized world until they have been given the opportunity to live as free men and women.

END

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2-3-49  
10:00 A.M.

318057

MEMO

Febr. 2, 1949

To : Dr. S.S. Wise  
From : K.R. Grossman

Prof. William Haber did regret it very much that you were unable to attend his welcome dinner. He told me that you have been good enough to write him a letter, the contents of which he highly appreciates. You will be interested in reading his last report which he submitted to the 5 cooperating organizations and which, indeed, is not only a good report but an excellent one and most encouraging. You do not have to worry about returning this report to us since we have enough copies of it.

ia

318658

COPI

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Chief of Staff  
Civil Affairs Division  
APO 403, U. S. Army

4 February 1949

Mr. B. M. Joffe  
American Joint Distribution Committee  
270 Madison Avenue  
New York 16, N. Y.

Dear Boris:

Thank you very kindly for the draft of Dr. Haber's final report to Secretary Royall.

By the time Harry Greenstein comes to Heidelberg, a month will have passed since Dr. Haber left his post. Chaplain Barish and I plan to send you a report of the activities of our office covering this interim period.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours

ABRAHAM S. HYMAN  
Major JAGD  
Assistant to the  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs

318659

3/

February 2, 1949

Mr. Gerhart M. Riegner  
World Jewish Congress  
37 Quai Wilson  
Geneva, Switzerland

Dear Mr. Riegner:

Under separate cover I am sending you the last report of Prof. William Haber, the Advisor on Jewish Affairs to General Clay, which he submitted to the 5 cooperating organizations. I think the report will be most interesting to you and request you to kindly acknowledge the receipt of it.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq ia

318660

C.D.

Haber  
January 31, 1949

Succession of Prof. Haber by Mr. Greenstein as Jewish Adviser Marked by  
Four Cooperating Organizations

<sup>5.</sup>  
(1-2)  
(8-12) A meeting of the four cooperating organizations with Prof. W. Haber, outgoing Jewish Adviser, and Harry Greenstein, the future Jewish adviser, took place on January 27. Prof. Haber gave a final report on the emigration situation and Mr. Greenstein reported on his conferences in Washington. Issues confronting the new adviser were outlined by Dr. N. Robinson and Mr. Grossman of the WJC.

In the evening, a welcome-home reception for Prof. Haber was tendered by the four cooperating organizations. The WJC was represented by Dr. N. Goldmann, Rabbi J. Prinz, Dr. N. Robinson, Dr. Karbach, and Mr. Grossman.

318661

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P  
Y

*file John [unclear] Haber*

JTA News, 1/28/49

ADVISERS ON JEWISH AFFAIRS TO U.S. MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN GERMANY HONORED IN N.Y.

NEW YORK, Jan. 27. (JTA) -- A welcome-home reception for Prof. William Haber, recently-returned adviser on Jewish Affairs to Gen. Lucius D. Clay in Germany, combined with a farewell dinner for his successor, Harry Greenstein, was held tonight in the Hotel Commodore.

The dinner was sponsored by the American Jewish Committee, the Jewish Agency, the Joint Distribution Committee and the World Jewish Congress. Speakers included Jacob Blaustein, recently-elected president of the American Jewish Committee; Mrs. Rose Halpern, a member of the executive of the Jewish Agency; Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman of the Joint Distribution Committee; and Dr. Nahum Goldmann, chairman of the executive committee of the World Jewish Congress. Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, a national chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, chaired the meeting.

, Dr. Haber, a professor of economics at the University of Michigan, served as adviser on Jewish Affairs to Gen. Clay for a year. Greenstein, his successor, has been granted a leave of absence from his position of executive director of the Jewish Welfare Fund of Baltimore.

318662

C.D.

January 21, 1949

Prof. Haber, Departing Jewish Advisor, Analyzes DP Situation in Final Report

10.  
(8-12)  
(6-23)

A report to the cooperating organizations by Professor William Haber, retiring Advisor on Jewish Affairs to General Clay, contains a wealth of interesting material on the changing situation of the Jewish DPs in Germany and Austria. Their numbers have been decidedly reduced in the course of the year 1948. It is estimated that on January 1, 1949, the total number of Jewish DPs in all zones of Germany and Austria was 82,800. This figure does not include the German-Jewish communities in these countries, which are estimated at 25,400 (7,900 of them in Berlin and 10,500 in Vienna). From a table of the destinations of the more than 37,000 Jews who emigrated during 1948, it is evident that by far the greatest number went to Israel.

The report then deals with the health situation among the DPs, and with their morale, which not only varied with the changing fortune of the State of Israel during the year, but also depended on developments on the spot, such as the efforts to extend German control over DP camps (which so far have been successfully resisted), raids on the camps, the attitude of the Army toward the DPs, etc.

tively cooler than most German groups to Hitler's anti-Semitism."

Reviewing problems that lie ahead, Prof. Haber finally deals in some detail with the "hard core" of Jews in Germany which, in all probability, will remain after the bulk of the Jewish DPs will have been resettled. He outlines an interesting program for dealing with this "hard core."

318003

*Letter*

January 21, 1949

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester, N.Y.

*and Sam L. King*

Dear Rabbi Bernstein:

I have taken up the Haber-Greenstein Dinner affair with Dr. N. Goldmann. In view of the fact that the other cooperating organizations will have strong delegations at this dinner, Dr. Goldmann suggests that the World Jewish Congress should be represented by a delegation of 8 - 10 people. Therefore, I would appreciate it to be in a position to report to the Joint Distribution Committee not later than Monday, January 24, that you will be good enough to attend.

The dinner starts at 6:30 P.M. in room A of the Hotel Commodore, Lexington Ave & 42 Street. Please inform me that you will be there.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq 1a

318664

*Haber*

MEMO

Jan. 20, 1949

To : Dr. W. Goldmann  
From : K.R. Grossman

RE: HABER-GREENSTEIN DINNER

I received today the following memo from the JOINT Distr. Committee:

" " In accordance with the recommendation of the Four Organizations, the farewell dinner to Harry Greenstein combined with the welcome dinner to Dr. William Haber, is scheduled for 6:30 P.M. at the Hotel Commodore, Room A, on Thursday, January 27.

The price of the dinner is \$ 6.00 plus 15% gratuition, bringing the price per plate up to approximately \$ 7.00.

The American Jewish Committee already gave me a list of 20 individuals whom they have invited to attend this dinner. In order to make definite arrangements with the management of the Commodore Hotel,

*Haber*

M E M O.

January 20, 1949.

To: Mr. Kurt R. Grossman  
From: Dr. Schwarzbart

Thank you for your kind note about the Haber-Greenstein dinner.

Unfortunately I shall be prevented from attending since it coincides with a lecture I have to give that same evening.

IS:rk

318005  
*[Signature]*

*Reuber*

January 19, 1949

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester, N.Y.

Dear Rabbi Bernstein:

On the occasion of Prof. W. Haber's return from his function as Jewish Adviser to General Clay, there will be a dinner in his honor as well as in honor of the departing new Adviser, Mr. Harry S. Greenstein.

This dinner will be held on January 27, 1949, at 6:30 P.M. at the Hotel Commodore, Lexington Ave & 42 Street. The cost per plate will be \$ 6.--.

Please be good enough to inform me whether you will be able to attend. May I request you to please make every effort to be present.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq 1a

318000

*K. Grossman*

January 19, 1949

Mr. Louis Lipsky  
302 W 56 Street  
New York 24, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Lipsky:

On the occasion of Prof. W. Haber's return from his function as Jewish Advisor to General Clay, there will be a dinner in his honor as well as in honor of the departing new Advisor, Mr. Harry S. Greenstein.

This dinner will be held on January 27, 1949, at 6:30 P.M. at the Hotel Commodore, Lexington Ave & 42 Street. The cost per plate will be \$ 6.00.

Please be good enough to inform us whether you will be able to attend. May I request you to please make every effort to be present.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

erg la

318667

*Camp-Haber*

January 19, 1949

Rabbi Philip S. Bernstein  
117 Gibbs Street  
Rochester, N.Y.

Dear Rabbi Bernstein:

On the occasion of Prof. W. Haber's return from his function as Jewish Advisor to General Clay, there will be a dinner in his honor as well as in honor of the departing new Advisor, Mr. Harry S. Greenstein.

This dinner will be held on January 27, 1949, at 6:30 P.M. at the Hotel Commodore, Lexington Ave & 42 Street. The cost per plate will be \$ 6.--.

Please be good enough to inform me whether you will be able to attend. May I request you to please make every effort to be present.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krj ia

318668

MEMO

January 19, 1949

To : Dr. H. Goldman  
From : K.R. Grossman

RE: Prof. W. Haber Affair

Dr. S.S. Wise has answered as follows (to Dr. R. Marcus) :

" I am terribly sorry, but on the 27th I shall be in Far Rockaway, at Temple Israel. I am to get a great deal of money for the joint fund campaign of the HUC-JIR. So I cannot be present at the meeting, though I would be delighted to send a message. Irving, Dave or you will have to speak on behalf of the World Jewish Congress" .

Will you be good enough to advise me whether you will attend and speak for the WJC. There will be two meetings on January 27, 1949. One at 2:30 P.M. at the offices of the Joint Distribution Committee, 270 Madison Ave, where Prof. Haber will give his report, and Mr. Harry Greenstein will discuss his future tasks.

The other meeting at 6:30 P.M. will be an informal dinner at the Hotel Commodore, Lexington Ave & 42 Street. I wrote you about it, and that each organization should have one speaker.

I hope to hear from you very soon.

3/

*Camps - Haber*

MEMO

January 18, 1949

To : Dr. N. Goldmann  
From : Kurt R. Grossman

You received my material regarding IRO and non-sponsoring of emigration to Israel. Mr. Boukstein informed me that you will be good enough to approach the French Ambassador.

Prof. W. Haber and Mr. H. Greenstein will be in New York on January 27; there will be a reception dinner for Prof. Haber at the Hotel Commodore. Dr. S.S. Wise has been asked to be one of the speakers, but he has not answered as yet. In case that he is unable to do so I could ask you to be good enough to speak a few words for the WJC.

There will be approximately 60 people and each plate will cost \$ 6.00. How many persons shall the WJC delegate, and who will pay for it? Please let me have your reaction as soon as possible.

Haber

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE:

1/13/1969

NAME OR SUBJECT

Memo

FROM:

Dr. Wise

TO:

Dr. Marcus  
and vice-versa

REGARDING:

Decision at the Meeting of the Four Organizations to give a  
Dinner for Prof. Haber on 1/27/1949, and Dr. Wise's in-  
ability to attend

SEE:

Camps, Four Organizations

*Dr. Haber*

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Commander-in-Chief  
Civil Affairs Division  
APO 403, c/o PM NY NY

12 January 1949

Dear Mr. Grossman:

Dr. Haber has asked me to make the following corrections in his final report to the cooperating agencies, dated December 20th:

The figure 82,800 on the fourth line, page four, should be changed to 93,100. The same change should be made in the fifth line of page four.

Sincerely,

*Sylvia Baskin*  
SYLVIA BASKIN

SB/rs

Mr. Kurt Grossman  
World Jewish Congress  
1834 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

318072

MACKAY B/KD VAL408 WIEN 81/79 6 1740  
NLT WORLDGRESS SCHWARZBART NEWYORK

Rec. 1/7/49

*Haber*

Attended farewell dinner for Haber arranged by Interncommittee Teichholz stop  
Expressed Congress thanks for his rendered services while DP problem almost  
solved situation local community very unsatisfactory Haber requested fulfill-  
ment just Jewish demands first time a Jewish advisor officially took firm  
stand for local Jewry stop This changed attitude result of my previous con-  
ferences with Major Hyman stop Deputy High Commissioner General Balmer US Am-  
bassador Erhardt State Secretary Graf Dr Lewin Iskult IRO AJDC many others  
present

WORLDGRESS VIENNA

318673



*Comp. H. H. Lee*

*K 3*  
**JOINT**

**THE AMERICAN JEWISH  
DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, Inc.**

270 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

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PAUL BAERWALD, *Honorary Chairman*  
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*Vice-Chairmen, National Council*  
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BORIS M. JOFFE, *Assistant Secretary*  
ISIDOR COONS, *Director of Fund Raising*  
HARRY M. ROSEN, *Director of  
Community Service and Information*

**MEMORANDUM**

January 4, 1949

**TO: THE FOUR ORGANIZATIONS**  
**FROM: B. M. JOFFE**

Attached is a copy of a letter of December 28 from Dr. William Haber wherein he cites his itinerary.

Please note that he expects to be in New York within approximately 10 days after January 15, at which time we can all meet with him.

I am sending a copy of this letter to Mr. Harry Greenstein, *Adviser-Designee*, in the hope that he, too may be able to be here at our forthcoming meeting with Dr. Haber which should take place circa January 25.

*B. M. J.*  
B.M.J.

**B.M.J. MEM**  
**Enc.**

318675

CONF

HEADQUARTERS  
UNITED STATES ARMY EUROPE  
Office of the Commanding General  
Civil Affairs Div.  
APO 408, c/o FM, N. Y.

23 December 1948

Dear Boris:

Thank you for your note of December 10th. You asked me to let you know when I am going to New York, Ann Arbor bound.

My plans are rather uncertain. I leave here on January 15th, but may travel by Army plane, in which case we land in Westover Field, Mass., and go from there by train to Ann Arbor. Should I fly via commercial plane, I may come to New York, but our present plans are to go right on to Ann Arbor, since the family will be with me. I will, however, return to New York within ten days to meet with some of the organizations which are following the work of our office.

With warmest regards.

Sincerely yours

WILLIAM HABER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

WH/rs

Mr. Boris Joffe  
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee  
270 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y.

318676

MEMO

December 23, 1948

To : Mr. Fulvermann  
From : Mr. Grossman

I received today from the American Jewish Conference the following information: *12/23/48*

" In accordance with a suggestion I recently made, Professor Haber was good enough to furnish us with an interim accounting of the revolving fund made available to his office. A copy thereof is attached.

You will note that of the \$3500 deposited to his special account, \$2606.55 was expended up to December 1st, leaving a balance of \$894. Professor Haber, in furnishing this statement, indicated that if more detail is desired, it can be provided and that all the expenditures were incurred "in the line of duty". He plans to turn over the unexpended balance to his successor, or to Major Hyman after his return to Ann Arbor about January 20th."

The statement of Prof. Haber is attached hereto.

ia

318677

*Haber*

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: 12/23/1948

NAME OR SUBJECT Memo

FROM: Grossman  
TO: Dr. Marcus

2) also letter to Joint, from Grossman

REGARDING: information received from Joint re EARLY GREENSTEINS APPOINTMENT AS ADVISER ON JEWISH AFFAIRS, in succession of Prof. HABER

SEE:  
1) MEMOS GROSSMAN  
2) Joint

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

*John*  
DATE: 12/16/48

NAME OR SUBJECT      LETTER

FROM:                  HANBI PHILIP G. BERNSTEIN

TO:                      GROSSMAN

REGARDING:            MEMORANDUM OF THE FIVE CES. ON 12/14/1948 and the attached  
MEMORANDUM CONCERNING THE CONTINUITY OF THE INTER ORGANIZATIO  
NAL COMMITTEE IN LIGHT OF THE DISSOLUTION OF THE AMERICAN  
JEW. CONFERENCE

SEE:                      AM. JEW. CONFERENCE, Five Partite

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: 12/15 /48

NAME OR SUBJECT Memo

FROM: Grossman

TO: Marcus

REGARDING: appointment of new Adviser for Jew. Affairs, discussed at Meeting Am. Jew. Conference on 12/14/48

SEE: Memos Grossman

*Camp Herber*

**PROF. WILLIAM HAEGER'S FINAL REPORT -- December 20, 1948**

**Operation of Jewish Restitution Successor Organization**

.....  
It is still too early to judge the success of the restitution law in Germany. The restitution laws in Austria have been in effect for a much longer period of time; however, I confess that because of our pre-occupation with Germany, it has been difficult to keep our fingers on the situation in Austria to the extent that I should have preferred. During my recent visit to that country I learned from meetings with representatives of the Vienna community that they are greatly dissatisfied with the way restitution is working in Austria. It is my plan to send Major Ryan into Austria for a week, for the purpose of studying the matter. I shall make my recommendations on the basis of his analysis. I am not particularly sanguine about my ability to influence the situation in Austria to any appreciable degree, especially in matters relating to laws passed and implemented by the Austrian government. As a liberated state, headed by her own government and parliament, Austria is free to do pretty much as she pleases and the United States authorities are very reluctant to suggest anything that might either offend the Austrians or that might suggest that Austria's sovereignty is not complete.

As for Germany, I believe that the interested organizations in the States are sufficiently posted on restitution through the reports submitted by Benjamin Ferencz, Director General of the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization. I merely wish to assure you that the interest of the Jewish community in the heirless and unclaimed property is in excellent hands. Mr. Ferencz is a very wise choice for the position he holds. Already he has demonstrated his fine administrative talent in addition to his legal abilities. In a very limited time he assembled a staff and geared the work of his organization to a tempo that will enable the organizations to meet the deadline of December 31, 1948 for the filing of some 100,000 claims.

Mr. Ferencz has reviewed with me his ideas for the rapid liquidation of these claims. He is of the opinion that an endless and costly process of litigation will face the restitution organization if these claims must be adjudicated on an individual basis in German courts. The political atmosphere will become less friendly to the liquidation of these claims with every passing month. There is already an organization of Germans, organized to fight these claims publicly in the courts. As the influence of the occupation wanes, the prospect of generous settlements and favorable decisions is bound to decline. Mr. Ferencz is therefore exploring the possibility of a collective settlement of these claims by the German Landtag. He has asked me to review it in a most tentative form with General Clay which I shall do at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. Ferencz will undoubtedly outline his plan for the consideration of the parent organization in the States at an early moment.

*Free ✓*

..... German Indemnification Law

By this time you have received my memorandum on the proposed German indemnification law. The views expressed there were not only mine but represented the combined judgment of the local German committee, of the Jewish Agency, the AJRO and of the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization. IRO also filed a memorandum interposing major objections but, at least for the time being, is not prepared to ask the authorities to veto the law in the event the German Government is willing to remove the objections. We succeeded in having the Civil Affairs Division of WOOD go along with us in their recommendations to General Clay. At the present time the law is pending before the Legislative Review Board of Military Government. Because the proposed law represents the final word on restitution of non-identifiable property, I consider it as one of great importance. I propose to meet with the Review Board in Berlin, and, if necessary, follow it up with General Clay. I shall be interested in the views of the organizations in New York as to the course that should be followed and I strongly urge all of you to write to us about this at the earliest opportunity. The basic question on which I want to be reinforced by your opinion is whether I as an allied general when I recommended that General Clay veto the proposed law if the major objections are not removed. You may wish to refer to my memorandum addressed to Dr. Edward A. Mitchell, Director of Civilian Administration Division, dated December 10, a copy of which was sent to you, in which the major objections to this proposed law are outlined.

Cultural Jewish Property

*Free ✓*

Very little progress has been made in the disposition of the heinous cultural property in the U.S. Zone, Germany. As you know, most of this consists of the Judaica of the Offenbach Archival Depot. Dr. Joshua Starr of the Cultural Reconstruction Corporation did what is reported to me to have been a splendid job in assisting in the direction of the cataloging and classifying of the books. General Clay was prepared to turn over the entire library to the Cultural Reconstruction Corporation; he was advised the Department of the Army in Washington, which was directed by the Department of State, to advise him to delay taking such action until authorized to do so. This was in September.

It was not until last week that OIGUS received a reply to this request. Washington advised that the cultural property definitely identified as originating in Germany, may be turned over outright to the Cultural Reconstruction Corporation. As to property coming from outside of Germany, the instructions were that this property should be turned over to the Cultural Reconstruction Corporation against a custodian's receipt. Washington has requested OIGUS to submit its recommendations on the terms of the custodianship. I understand that in the absence of Dr. Starr, the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization has taken hold of this problem and has presented its views on the terms of such custodianship. I am also informed that Dr. Foreman has submitted his views on the matter to the American Joint Distribution Committee.

The terms of the custodianship are to be submitted by CIGUS for the approval of the Department of State. It would be most unfortunate if the Department took as much time to pass on this formula as it took to respond to General Clay's September inquiry. I therefore urge that every effort be made in the States to bring this matter to an early conclusion and thus prevent the dissipation of the valuable items in the Offenbach collection. ....

**HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Commander-in-Chief  
Civil Affairs Division  
APO 403, c/o PM, NY**

*file*

December 14, 1948

Dear Boris:

I sent two items to Abram Rothfeld at the American Jewish Conference office today. Copies of both are enclosed.

I am sending these copies to you since I am not sure whether that office will actually remain open until the end of the month. I should not want these copies to go astray and I know that you will see that they are distributed, in case for some reason the conference goes out of business before December 31 and my letters have not yet reached that office.

Please note that I asked Rothfeld to advise me how the communications should be handled after the end of this month. My major communication will be my final report which is now in preparation and should leave here before the 20th of December.

With warmest regards and Chanukah greetings,

Gordially,

**WILLIAM HABER**  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

Mr. Boris Jaffe  
American Jewish **Joint** Distribution Committee  
270 Madison Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

*xref*

enc.

318684

*Kallos*

COPY

December 10, 1948

Mr. Abram Rothfeld  
Acting Executive Secretary  
American Jewish Conference  
521 Fifth Avenue  
New York 17, N. Y.

for Transmission to: American Jewish Committee  
American Jewish Conference  
~~American Joint Distribution Committee~~  
Jewish Agency for Palestine  
World Jewish Congress

*ref*  
*ref*

Dear Mr. Rothfeld:

I am attaching for distribution to the cooperating organizations a statement I filed with the office of Military Government concerning a recently enacted indemnification law, by the German Laender. The organizations will be interested in our analysis and recommendations to General Clay. Five copies are attached and I hope that they can be distributed immediately.

In view of the information which you sent me to the effect that the office of the Conference will close at the end of this month, I shall hereafter transmit such memoranda as I send to the State directly to each of the organizations, unless of course someone else is designated as the liaison person or office. Please advise me whether that has been decided upon. If I do not hear from you concerning this, I shall send my material to the organizations directly.

Incidentally, would you be kind enough to send me the names and addresses of the particular individuals to whom this material has customarily been distributed by you?

Cordially,

WILLIAM HANER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

enc.

318685

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: 12/8/1948

NAME OR SUBJECT Memo

FROM:

Abraham Rothfeld

TO:

Five Cooperating Organizations

REGARDING:

their meeting on 12/14/1948

SEE:

Am. Jew. Conference, 5 parts

December 3, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
Headquarters, European Command  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
APO 403  
c/o Postmaster New York, N.Y.

Dear Bill:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of November 23, which indeed is not only very enlightening but contains a lot of good news.

With best wishes to you, your family, Major A. Hyman and Miss Freedman, as always

Cordially yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq ia

318687

6951 12/3/48

Haber

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

SUBJECT: [Illegible]

DATE: [Illegible]

FROM: [Illegible]

TO: [Illegible]

RE: [Illegible]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

Advisor on Jewish Affairs Reports on Intended Consolidation of DP Camps

5.  
(8-1)

In reply to a cable from the WJC Political Department relating to the closing of the Zeilsheim DP camp, Professor Haber, Advisor on Jewish Affairs, reports in some detail on the liquidation of that camp, which was carried out in a very orderly manner, and analyzes the entire situation with regard to consolidation of DP camps as a consequence of the present rate of emigration.

At a meeting on November 22, which Professor Haber called and which was attended by the IRO, the Central Committee, ORT, Jewish Agency, JDC, and chaired by the Civil Affairs Division, a program for closing some 25 installations during the next twelve months was worked out. A date was established for each camp and the Central Committee of Liberated Jews, which is affiliated with the WJC, declared its willingness to impress upon the camp leadership the importance of going ahead with this program. It is expected that at the present rate of emigration, large-scale camp consolidation will be possible by next spring.

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

[Illegible text]

*Camp Haber*

November 30, 1948

American Jewish Conference  
521 Fifth Ave  
New York 17, N.Y.

Gentlemen:

Enclosed please find our check in the  
amount of \$ 200.00 for the fund of Professor  
William Haber.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq ia  
encl.

318689

318690

*Haber*

copy

COPIES

Mr. Abram Rothfeld  
Acting Executive Secretary  
American Jewish Conference  
521 Fifth Avenue  
New York 17, N.Y.

*ref ✓*  
*" separate ✓"*

27 November 1948

For transmission to: American Jewish Committee  
American Jewish Conference  
American Joint Distribution Committee  
Jewish Agency for Palestine  
World Jewish Congress

Dear Mr. Rothfeld:

The cooperating agencies will be interested in the contents of the table below. It was addressed to General Clay by the Department of the Army and reads as follows:

REPLACEMENT FOR DR WILLIAM HABER IS SUBJECT. DR WILLIAM HABER ADVISER ON JEWISH AFFAIRS WHILE IN WASHINGTON RECENTLY INFORMED SA THAT HE WILL TERMINATE HIS DUTIES IN JANUARY 49 TO RETURN TO UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN IF SUCCESSOR TO DR HABER IS DESIRED IT IS SUGGESTED THAT DR HABER CONSULT WITH MAJOR JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS WITH VIEW OF RECOMMENDING SUCCESSOR FOR HIS POSITION TO GENERAL CLAY AND GENERAL KEYES AND SUBSEQUENT ADVISE THE D A WHICH IS PREPARED TO MAKE OFFER OF APPROPRIATE APPOINTMENT INFORMATION PANDA

I discussed the matter with General Clay and he advised me that he replied and indicated "that a replacement was desirable for a period of at least six months."

I hope that progress is being made in connection with this problem. My plans are to leave between January 10 and 15.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM HABER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

318691

copy

AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE  
MEMORANDUM

*f ref*

To: Five Cooperating Organizations *f ref*

From: Abram Rothfeld

December 8, 1948

This is to confirm the arrangements we have made with reference to a meeting of the representatives of the five organizations dealing with IP problems. Accordingly, the representatives will meet at the Conference office, 521 Fifth Avenue, on Tuesday, December 14, at 4:00 p.m. sharp.

The agenda will include: 1, consideration of nominations for the post of adviser of Jewish affairs; and 2, the appointment of a secretary to take over the duties performed by the Conference representative in the interorganizational working arrangement.

The enclosed copy of Professor Haber's letter is self-explanatory.

AR:ta  
enc.

318692

**AMERICAN JEWISH CONFERENCE  
MEMORANDUM**

TO: Mr. Kurt Grossman

DATE: 11/26/48

FROM: Abfam Rothfeld

SUBJECT:

Enclosed is a copy of Professor Haber's talk before AJDC Annual Conference in Chicago on October 31st. You may wish to have it for your records since it reviews the current situation and calls attention to developing problems. Regards.

## WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

1834 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK 23, N. Y.

Circle 7-2917

דייטשע לאגערן

הילף פאר ישראל און פאר די אידען אין די דייטשע לאגערן

געשיקט פון אידישן וועלט קאנגרעס

גרעסערע טראנספארטן הילף זיינען לעצטענס געשיקט געווארן דורך דעם אידישן וועלט קאנגרעס קיין ישראל און פאר די אידען אין די דייטשע לאגערן. קיין ישראל איז געשיקט געווארן שפיז, באזונדערס פלייש-קאנסערווען.

די הילפס-אָפּטײלונג ביים אידישן וועלט קאנגרעס האָט מיט דער שיף „אריסטירעס“ ארויסגעשיקט קיין ישראל 63 קאסטענס מיט 3,470 פלייש-קאנסערווען, און 233 קאסטענס מיט 91,237 פונט פארשידענע שפיז פראדוקטן.

דער קולטור און דערציונגס דעפארטמענט פון אידישן וועלט קאנגרעס האָט לעצטענס פארזאָרגט גרעסערע ביכער-טראנספארטן פאר די אידען אין דייטשלאנד און עסטרייך. 31 קאסטענס מיט ביכער זיינען געשיקט געווארן צו דער אָפּטײלונג פון אידישן וועלט קאנגרעס אין וויען, 15 קאסטענס - אין דער געגענט פון שטוטגארט, 16 קאסטענס - קיין מינכען, און 14 קאסטענס - אין דער געגענט פון רעגענסבורג, אין דייטשלאנד. די אלע ביכער טראנספארטן זיינען שוין דערהאלטן געווארן אויף די דערמאָנטע ערטער.

*Camps - Haber*

Mackay

Nov. 16, 1948

NLT  
William Haber  
Jewish Adviser  
Headquarters European Command  
APO 403  
Postmaster New York

Associatedpress reports military force will be used  
closing Zeilsheim stop such action would arouse  
deepest indignation suggest intervention

Grossman  
Worldpress X✓

30 wis

krq la

OK:

Charge: World Jewish Congress

318695

New York Post  
November 15, 1948

## Army to Oust DP Squatters In Reich Camps

Frankfurt, Nov. 15 (AP)—U. S. Army officials stood firm today on their announced plan to use military force, if necessary, to evacuate Jewish displaced persons from a camp in Zeilsheim tomorrow.

They said the majority of DPs there had heeded the warning, and that only 300 or 400 remained.

The Army has announced that, because of migration of Jews to Israel and other countries, it is closing some DP camps and offering the remaining DPs a choice of camps still open.

318696

Nach

November 12 1948

To: Mr. Grossman *pref*  
From: Robert S. Marcus

Please note this memo from Dr. Wise and my reply to him.

rsm tw  
encs

November 12 1948

To: Dr. Wise  
From: Robert S. Marcus

The World Jewish Congress was represented at the Haber meeting by Dr. Goldmann, Mr. Grossman and Dr. Robinson. I have asked Mr. Grossman to prepare a report of the meeting for you.

rsm tw

318637

COPY

Nov. 8 1948

To: Dr. Marcus  
From: Dr. Wise

Please let me know what happened at the meeting with Haber. Who was there and just what took place?

318698

FUTURE RELEASE

PLEASE NOTE DATE

NATIONAL MILITARY ESTABLISHMENT  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Washington 25, D. C.

HOLD FOR RELEASE  
TO SUNDAY NEWSPAPERS  
NOVEMBER 14, 1948

RE 6700, Ext. 2528-71252

ARMY RELEASES HABER REPORT REVIEWING  
JEWISH AFFAIRS IN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA

Secretary of the Army Kenneth C. Royall today released an interim report of Dr. William Haber, Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the United States Army Commanders in Germany and Austria.

After receiving the report, Secretary Royall told Dr. Haber:

"Thank you for your interim report and I am looking forward to your final report. It is the Army's intention to continue the present and the planned program for Jewish DPs, which plan I am gratified to know has been found by you to be satisfactory and helpful."

Dr. Haber has been serving in his present capacity since January 1948 on leave from the University of Michigan where he is a professor of economics.

The full text of Dr. Haber's report to the Secretary of the Army follows:

I entered upon my duties as Adviser on Jewish Affairs on January 20, 1948. At that time the official Jewish displaced persons population was 130,000 for the United States Zone Germany and 22,000 for the United States Zone Austria. During the ten months these figures have shrunk to 103,000 and 17,000 respectively.

The Jewish DP situation has become fairly stable. The Roumanian Jewish infiltration tapered down to a trickle in February 1948, when Roumania formally sealed her border. The developments in Czechoslovakia, that precipitated the mass flight from that country, led to the entry in to the U. S. Zone Germany of approximately 1,100 Jews of whom 800 promptly left for Palestine. Within the past six weeks there has been some acceleration in the entry of refugees from Hungary and Roumania. Altogether about 1,500 have found their way into the American sector of Vienna during this period. Information that reaches me indicates that this does not represent any trend and that there is no mass movement from these countries in the offing.

The event that had the greatest impact on the Jewish DP picture was the emergence of the state of Israel. Even before this state came into being there was a steady flow of people out of the Zone, destined for Palestine. It is estimated that from the cessation of hostilities to the creation of the state of Israel, 40,000 Jewish DPs passed through the U. S. Zone Germany in an effort to reach Palestine. Most of these people were eventually interned in Cyprus. The formation of the state of Israel, its immediate defacto recognition by the United States, and the early phenomenal success of the Israeli forces had a tremendous effect upon the morale of the Jewish DPs.

It is safe to say that the Jewish DPs were probably never in any higher spirits than they are today. They feel that the new state will survive despite all present difficulties, that Israel presents the only real hope for the mass resettlement, and are proud to identify themselves with this state.

There is little doubt that the Jewish DP problem has entered into the liquida-

318699

international developments, the mass aspect of the Jewish DP problem, insofar as Israel is concerned, should come to an end by fall of next year. By then only those who are waiting for migration to the United States and countries other than Israel, and those who, by reason of illness or physical disabilities, are ineligible for immigration to any country, will remain.

For three and a half years the Jewish DPs, Hitler's chief victims, have vegetated in the DP camps. They ask nothing of the world except the opportunity to go somewhere where they can sink their roots and resume normal life. By pursuing a policy that will permit emigration of Jewish DPs to continue, and by the liberalization of our own immigration laws, it should be possible to so reduce the Jewish DP population that there will be no need for any of their camps by 1950. The closing of the Jewish DP camps by that time should be the aim of all who are concerned with this problem.

It is to the everlasting credit of the United States Army, the International Refugee Organization, and the voluntary agencies that have served them, that the Jewish DPs are in a good state of health and that they are emerging from their experience in a healthy state of mind. It was a source of great satisfaction to me to learn in Israel that the DPs who had settled there are adjusting themselves to their new life and are being rapidly integrated into Israel's economy. I am informed by the voluntary organizations in America, working with Jewish immigrants, that the Jewish DPs who have reached our shores have also adjusted themselves well in their new environment.

The Army, in my opinion, has done a magnificent job in the handling of the Jewish DPs. I have nothing but words of praise for Generals Clay, Huebner, Keyes, Harrold and Balmer and their staffs. Within the framework of general occupation policy they have favorably responded to the problems I have put to them, with warmth and profound understanding. The Jewish DPs are aware of this and are genuinely grateful for the Army's sympathetic attitude, which they recognize not only reflects the Army's policy but the will of the American people as well.

It is, of course, an open secret that the German authorities have for some time exerted pressure to bring the DPs exclusively under their jurisdiction. Somehow, they feel that this shift of control will be the panacea for many of Germany's ills. Actually the DPs have little influence on Germany's economic life. My observations lead me to believe that there is nothing the moral climate of Germany to indicate that the German authorities can be entrusted with the supervision and control over the DPs, non-Jewish as well as Jewish. The Army cannot afford to place in jeopardy its excellent record for the handling of the DPs by enlarging German control over DP assembly centers. General Clay shares this view. It is hoped that when the German western state is formed the jurisdiction over the DPs will be retained by the occupation authorities.

Of primary importance during the liquidation phase of the problem will be the problem of camp consolidation. Civil Affairs Division, EUCOM, and the International Refugee Organization are developing a program for camp consolidation. With the help of the representatives of the Jewish voluntary agencies and the DP Committees themselves, such a program can be implemented with the minimum of inconvenience to the DPs.

While it is difficult to determine the number of Jewish DPs who would be eligible to emigrate to the United States under the current DP immigration law, it is estimated that this number would not exceed 20,000 to 25,000, or less that would be eligible if proportional immigration were authorized. For the benefit of these prospective immigrants I am urging both the American Joint Distribution Committee and the Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society, that they develop and put into immediate effect an Americanization program that will acquaint these people

It is axiomatic that the DP problem is only one of the many problems with which the Army has had to deal in the occupied territory and that this problem is subordinate to the Army's primary mission. On the whole, the Army has shown a large understanding and patience in dealing with this problem. If at times the unyielding character of the DP problem has been a source of irritation to the Army, the blame for this should not be placed upon the DPs. Actually, it has been the callousness of the world in coping with this problem that is responsible for the delay in its solution. I am confident that the American people wish to patiently see the problem through to its ultimate solution and that the Army will continue to show the same understanding, patience and sympathy it has manifested in the past three and a half years.

I shall terminate my duties as Adviser in January 1949. At that time I shall submit a more comprehensive report.

WILLIAM HABER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs to the  
American Commanders in Germany and  
Austria

END

- 3 -

DISTRIBUTION: Aa, Af, B, Da, Dd, Dm, N, CAD.  
11-12-48  
3:45 P.M.

318701

Two Meetings of the Five Cooperating Organizations Take Up Important Problems

2.

(6-23) A meeting of the five cooperating organizations took place on November 1 in  
(6-51) which the question of improving the indemnification law in the U.S. Zone of  
(8-12) Germany was taken up and, in particular, the exclusion from its provisions  
of the inmates of DP camps. Furthermore, the problem of a unified restitu-  
tion law in Western Germany, the possible extension of existing restitution  
laws to the Western sectors of Berlin, and the present situation in Austria  
were discussed.

It was decided to approach Professor Haber with the request that he study the  
Austrian situation on the spot with a view of making the necessary representa-  
tions to the American military authorities in Vienna. It was also decided  
to present a paper proving the right of the Western Allies to extend zonal  
laws to their Berlin sectors.

E. Rock and Dr. N. Robinson reported on their recent discussions at the Office  
of Alien Property in Washington concerning the status of foreign Jewish assets  
in the U.S.A. According to the information received, there is no deadline

**WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS HEADQUARTERS: 1834 BROADWAY, NEW YORK 23 • Cables: WORLDGRESS N. Y.**

Reporting on the situation of the Jewish DPs, Professor Haber stated that we  
have now entered the phase of the consolidation and liquidation of the camps  
and that all those DPs desiring to emigrate to Israel will have left Europe  
by September, 1949. Since May 15, 1948, 20,000-22,000 Jewish DPs have left  
the camps. The 54 DP camps now existing could be cut down to 25 by the end  
of the year and this is what the Army and IRO want. However, the DPs them-  
selves are reluctant to leave their present camps before their departure from  
Germany.

IRO still refuses to pay for transportation of Jewish DPs to Israel in accord-  
ance with its earlier Executive decision. Professor Haber advises having  
this ruling cancelled by another IRO Executive decision and not to bring the  
matter before the Plenary Session of the IRO. A statement by General Clay  
that the U.S. Occupation Forces will maintain jurisdiction over the DPs was  
confirmed by a cable sent by the State Department to Ambassador Murphy at  
the suggestion of Professor Haber.

Professor Haber finally declared that he would be unable to stay in his po-  
sition as Advisor on Jewish Affairs longer than January, 1949 and it was de-  
cided that the next meeting of the cooperating organizations would take up  
the problem of choosing a successor to Professor Haber.

318702

# MEMORANDUM

Mr. Boris Joffe

✓ Dr. Kurt Grossman

TO: Dr. Eugene Hevesi

Mr. Gottlieb Hammer

DATE: November 2, 1948

FROM: Abram Rothfeld *ah*

SUBJECT:

The attached memorandum on some aspects of the present immigration to Israel and the part played by the UN Mediator with respect to the admission of men of military age, was submitted by Professor Haber to General Clay, Ambassador Murphy, and James U. McDonald, special representative of the United States in Israel.

In his letter of transmittal, Professor Haber emphasized that this is an official memorandum and should be considered confidential and not distributed to others, nor released for publication.

AR:ta  
enclosure

318703

Interim Committee  
DR. STEPHEN S. WISE  
Honorary Chairman

Cable Address: AMCONFERNC

*Haber*

HENRY MONSKY  
Chairman

October 29, 1948

- JACOB ALSON
- JOSEPH R. APFEL
- SAMUEL E. ARONOWITZ
- RABBI PHILIP S. BERNSTEIN
- MAURICE BISGYER
- MAX BRESSLER
- HARRY M. EHRLICH
- DR. MAURICE N. EISENDRATH
- JANE EVANS
- DR. SIMON FEDERBUSH
- DR. ABRAHAM J. FELDMAN
- PROF. HAYIM FINEMAN
- HAROLD O. N. FRANKEL
- DANIEL FRISCH
- WILLIAM M. GERBER
- ARTHUR GILBERT
- FRANK GOLDMAN
- DR. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
- MRS. ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN
- MRS. LIONEL GOLUB
- DR. ROBERT GORDIS
- LESTER GUTTERMAN
- MRS. SAMUEL W. HALPRIN
- MRS. JOSEPH HAMERMAN
- BRIG. GEN. JULIUS KLEIN
- MRS. BARNETT E. KOPELMAN
- MAX A. KOPSTEIN
- ISRAEL KRAMER
- DR. A. LEON KUBOWITZKI
- SIDNEY G. KUSWORM
- JUDGE LOUIS E. LEVINTHAL
- LOUIS LIPSKY
- RABBI JOSEPH H. LOKENWITZ

Mr. Kurt Grossman  
World Jewish Congress  
1834 Broadway  
New York 23, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Grossman:

This is to confirm the arrangements we made over the phone yesterday. Accordingly, it is advised that Prof. W. Haber, Director of the American Jewish Conference, will meet with the representatives of the organizing organizations on Thursday, November 4th.

*Camps - Haber*

October 29, 1948

MEMO

To : Dr. Wise, Dr. Goldmann, Dr. Marcus  
From : Mr. Grossman  
Re: Sponsorship

The American Jewish Conference informs me that our suggestion to meet Prof. W. Haber on the occasion of his stay in the United States, will be carried and he will meet with us on Thursday, November 4, at 3 P.M., at the office of the American Jewish Conference, 521 Fifth Avenue.

Your presence will be highly appreciated; kindly let me know if you will be able to attend.

Executive Secretary

ia

318704

Paris, le 28 Octobre 1948

Monsieur le Dr. N. Robinson  
World Jewish Congress  
1874 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

Cher Docteur Robinson,

Je vous remets ci-contre, un extrait de l'ordonnance #173 parue en zone occupée française, le 5 courant. Ce texte a pour effet de placer les personnes déplacées sous la compétence des tribunaux allemands. Cependant, cette disposition est atténuée par le fait que les tribunaux français de la zone d'occupation pourront "evoquer" les affaires concernant les D.P. devant eux et soustraire ainsi l'affaire à la compétence de la juridiction allemande. Il m'a été assuré à source autorisée que les tribunaux français feront effectivement usage de ce droit, notamment lorsqu'il s'agit de personnes déplacées qui ont vraiment l'intention de quitter l'Allemagne à plus ou moins longue échéance.

Comme vous le savez, le nombre de D.P. Juifs en zone française est très petit. Le texte en question n'est donc pas particulièrement inquietant pour la zone française. Ce que nous devons craindre beaucoup plus, c'est que l'exemple français n'ait des repercussions dans les deux autres zones. Actuellement, des négociations ont lieu à Francfort en vue de l'unification administrative des trois zones occidentales et il m'a été affirmé que les Français s'efforceront de faire adopter leur système par les deux autres zones.

La branche parisienne de l'Exécutif vient de s'occuper de ce problème et a en principe décidé d'intervenir auprès de l'I.R.O. ainsi qu'à Paris, à Francfort et également si possible à Londres et à Washington.

J'aimerais bien le plus rapidement possible avoir votre avis sur tout cela.

Bien sincèrement votre,

S/  
Sylvain Cahn-Debre

318705

Ordonnance No. 173 du 23 Septembre 1948 (Journal Officiel du 5/8/48)

ARTICLE 1er: Les tribunaux allemands sont competents en toutes matieres, sous reserve des dispositions de la presente ordonnance et des textes particuliers attribuant competence exclusive aux juridictions de l'autorite competente.

ARTICLE 2-eme: Les tribunaux de l'autorite occupante sont competents, a l'exclusion de tous autres, pour connaitre:

- 
- 7) des infractions commises par les ressortissants des puissances occupantes.

DE L'EVOCATION

L'evocation est l'acte par lequel l'autorite judiciaire d'occupation en la personne du Commissaire du Gouvernement soustrait une affaire a la competence de la justice allemande pour la porter devant une juridiction d'occupation.

.....

Cette mesure peut intervenir soit dans les cas ou les buts fondamentaux de l'occupation sont en jeu, soit lorsque l'une des parties en cause est une des Nations Unies ou l'un de ses representants, ou une personne assimilee a ces derniers en vertu des conventions en vigueur.

( Les D.P. sont consideres comme personnes assimillees.)

To Wm

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
Civil Affairs Division

Case

October 28, 1948

SUBJECT: Interim Report of Adviser on Jewish Affairs

TO : Honorable Kenneth C. Royall  
Secretary, Department of the Army

I entered upon my duties as Adviser on Jewish Affairs on 20th January 1948. At that time the official Jewish displaced persons' population was 130,000 for the United States Zone Germany and 22,000 for the United States Zone Austria. During the nine months these figures have shrunk to 103,000 and 17,000 respectively.

152 000  
120 000  

---

32 000

The Jewish DP situation has become fairly stable. The Roumanian Jewish infiltration tapered down to a trickle in February 1948, when Roumania formally sealed her border. The developments in Czechoslovakia, that precipitated the mass flight from that country, led to the entry into the U.S. Zone, Germany of approximately 1,100 Jews of whom 800 promptly left for Palestine. Within the past six weeks there has been some acceleration in the entry of refugees from Hungary and Roumania. Altogether about 1,500 have found their way into the American sector of Vienna during this period. Information that reaches me indicates that this does not represent any trend and there is no mass movement from these countries in the offing.

The event that had the greatest impact on the Jewish DP picture was the emergence of the state of Israel. Even before this state came into being there was a steady flow of people out of the zone, destined for Palestine. It is estimated that from the cessation of hostilities to the creation of the state of Israel, 40,000 Jewish DPs passed through the United States Zone Germany in an effort to reach Palestine. Most of these people were eventually interned in Cyprus. The formation of the state of Israel, its immediate de facto recognition by the United States, and the early phenomenal success of the Israeli forces had a tremendous effect upon the morale of the Jewish DPs. It is safe to say that the Jewish DPs were probably never in any higher spirits than they are today. They feel that the new state will survive despite all present difficulties, that Israel presents the only real hope for mass resettlement, and are proud to identify themselves with this state.

There is little doubt that the Jewish DP problem has entered into the

318707

11/25/48

*Clay*

Prof. Haber Tells Five Cooperating Organizations About  
DP Situation

Representatives of the five cooperating organizations met on November 4 to hear a report by Prof. William Haber, who had come to this country for a few days, on the situation of the Jewish DPs in Germany and Austria. The WJC was represented on this occasion by Dr. Nahum Goldmann, Dr. Heinrich Robinson, and E. R. Grossman.

Prof. Haber declared that the general situation of the Jewish DPs was satisfactory. He said that we had now entered the phase of liquidation and expressed the hope that all DPs desiring to emigrate to Israel will have left Germany and Austria by September, 1949; as officially suggested, at all events not later than December, 1949. While stressing that there were many problems facing us, he gave assurance that General Lucius D. Clay was cooperative and ready to help to solve these problems.

The fact that since May 15, 1948, between 20,000 and 22,000 DPs have left the camps, he said, raises the question of consolidating the camps. The 54 camps could by the end of the year be reduced to 25; however, the DPs themselves do not want to leave the camps until they leave Germany. That is one of the great problems, since the Army and IRO for many reasons (easier supervision, more economical distribution of supplies, an opportunity to close camps which are centers of black market operations) desire this consolidation. According to the speaker, there is a fight between COMUS and EUCOM, with the latter more favorable to the DPs than the former.

Prof. Haber next dwelt on the problem of exporting the property of the Jewish DPs. It is the position of Gen. Clay, he reported, that the Jewish DPs should be permitted to take to Israel essential and personal belongings, including tools; they should take with them "what they own and what they need," without any investigation of how they have acquired their possessions.

Turning to IRO's persistent refusal to pay the cost of transporting Jewish DPs to Israel, Prof. Haber reported that at the last meeting of the IRO General Council this problem was discussed with the American delegation, which was ready to bring it up at the plenary session of the General Council; but inasmuch as the British wanted to couple this question with that of aid to Arab refugees, it was decided in Geneva not to press for a discussion at the plenary meeting. Prof. Haber expressed the view that, since the decision not to assist emigration to Israel was an executive measure, its revocation should also be sought by means of an executive decision. He informed the meeting that he had discussed the matter with Gen. Draper, of the State Dept.

Prof. Haber then took up the problem of the responsibility of the United States toward the DPs. Gen. Clay had declared that the U.S. occupation authorities would retain jurisdiction over the DPs and would not transfer it to the German government in the event that such a government was formed. However, Prof. Haber felt that Gen. Clay's statement was that of one man

and should Gen. Clay leave his post (it seems that he contemplates resigning by next March), his successor might not adhere to it. It was therefore important that, as Prof. Haber reported to the meeting, the State Department had sent a cable to Ambassador Murphy, confirming Gen. Clay's statement, and declaring that it was the policy of the American Government not to support the transfer of jurisdiction over the DP camps to any German government, and if this question ever came up during any negotiations, "Washington should be consulted."

Prof. Haber dwelt at great length on the question of emigration to Israel and pointed out that the United States was the only one that hampered such emigration. He added confidentially, however, that on the basis of a private arrangement between Gen. Clay and the Jewish Advisor, even men in the ages of 18 to 45 could leave Germany for Israel, along with immigrants of other age groups, receiving their visas aboard ship at the port of embarkation. The whole difficulty arose because HUCOM felt that it needed the advice of the State Department, and a very complicated procedure was suggested, namely, that lists of prospective immigrants to Israel be compiled and submitted by the Israeli Government to the UN Truce Commission and that visas be issued following approval of the lists by the Commission. The Israeli Government, however, refused to follow this suggestion, taking the stand that it was the prerogative of the sovereign State of Israel and not the business of the UN Truce Commission, what immigrant to admit to Israel. Such lists were therefore never submitted. There were also some negotiations between HUCOM and the Israeli Government concerning transit visas for Jews from Poland, which, however, came to naught because the Israeli Government refused to agree not to admit men of military age.

(Prof. Haber has dealt with certain other aspects of this issue in a special memorandum which is attached hereto.)

Prof. Haber estimated the number of DPs eligible to come to the United States under the new DP Act at 25,000 - 30,000. He declared that there was urgent need for an orientation and rehabilitation program in Europe for these prospective immigrants in order to facilitate their adjustment to conditions in this country.

Finally he said that he would be unable to remain in his post later than next January and suggested that a successor be named. The man best fitted for the office of Jewish Advisor would be Major Abram Hyman, but since he was only a junior officer, this idea had to be discarded.

In the ensuing discussion Rabbi Philip Bernstein referred to a JTA report that the Zeilshaim camp would be closed by Nov. 15. Prof. Haber declared that he had received the assurance of the camp committee that the inmates would agree to move to other camps, but that unfortunately, this camp committee was ousted and replaced by an Action Committee. The situation at Zeilshaim, he said, is tense, and a lot of trouble is expected. The Army will not forcibly intervene; but commencing Nov. 15, the camp will receive no rations from IED, and the JDC will have to follow suit. It was the consensus of the representatives of the organizations in attendance that we could not intervene from over here but must leave it to Prof. Haber to handle the situation on the spot.

During the discussion, Mr. Grossman touched upon the question of the consolidation

of the camps, stating that the camps were overcrowded and referring to the Greenstein-Hyman report in which sound suggestions for consolidation were made.

He also brought up the question of safeguards in case of withdrawal of the occupation forces. Prof. Haber declared that such withdrawal was out of the question, and that General Robertson's suggestion to the contrary had been repudiated.

Referring to IRO's refusal to finance emigration to Israel, Mr. Grossman inquired whether intervention in Washington would be desirable in this case. Prof. Haber replied that in his opinion we should intervene. But Mr. Leavit of the JDC declared against it on the ground that the JDC was now negotiating with IRO about the matter, and any intervention by us might hurt these negotiations.

The following decisions were adopted:

(a) The next meeting of the five cooperating organizations will take up the question of choosing a successor to Prof. Haber.

(b) Mr. Leavit is to report on the outcome of the JDC's negotiations with IRO, and our decision will depend on his report.

Among the objectives of my trip to Israel, I sought to learn at first hand: (a) The facts concerning the present immigration into the country, (b) the immigration plans of the Provisional Government, (c) the procedure followed by the United Nations Mediator and his staff in "supervising" immigration of men of military age.

(a) The present immigration into Israel: Information made available to me by the Minister of Immigration and others indicated that 73,000 persons entered Israel between January 1 and October 15, 1948, and that approximately 10,000 persons were entering monthly during the past three months. Between July 18, when the second Truce went into effect and October 17, about 27,800 immigrants entered through the port at Haifa. Approximately 65% of the immigrants in recent months came from so-called EP countries, primarily from the camps in Germany. The others came from North African countries, from Cyprus, and from other areas in Europe. Very few immigrants have come from the Balkans in recent months.

It should be noted that the present rate of immigration presents a phenomenal addition to the population of the country and calls for a tremendous rate of absorption into the Israeli economy. For example, the 73,000 immigrants who entered since January 1 represent approximately 10% of the Jewish population of the country. The war, the tremendous needs for manpower in agricultural and other civilian activities, and the labor shortage resulting from the evacuation of the Arabs, has made it relatively easy to absorb so large an addition to the population in so short a time. It can be expected that this situation will continue for the immediate future.

(b) Immigration plans of the Provisional Government: In various conferences with officials of the government, I learned that it is contemplated that the present rate of immigration of approximately 10,000 persons per month will continue at least for the next year. In fact, I have been advised that this program is being subjected to severe criticism from several quarters because it is too conservative. It is urged that the plans be changed to provide for the admission of about 200,000 persons per year. In any event, information made available to me indicates that even though the war may come to an end and the army largely demobilized, the program for approximately 10,000 persons per month will continue. The Minister of Immigration told me that on this basis it should be possible to remove by August or September 1949, from the EP camps of Germany, Austria and Italy, all persons who intend to emigrate to Israel. If these plans materialize, the EPs remaining in the U.S. Zone of Germany and Austria by next September, will be those who intend to emigrate to other places or who, for the time being, intend to remain in the economies of these countries.

(c) The UN "supervision" of men of military age: In Tel Aviv I conferred with Dr. Mehn, Political Adviser to the United Nations Mediator, and in Haifa with Brigadier General William Riley, Chief of Staff and Mr. Vigier, the Acting Mediator, in the absence of Dr. Bunch. In company with Commander Newton (USN) and Captain Mehner of the Swedish Navy, I visited the docks and examined the procedure for processing immigrants entering Haifa. I learned that of the

27,600 persons who arrived in Haifa between July 18, the beginning of the second Truce, and October 17. 7,430 were men 18 - 45 years of age. That is, approximately 20% of the arrivals were men of military age. Both Mr. Vigier and General Riley, as well as Dr. Mohn stressed the fact that the entrance of men of military age was not illegal, nor in violation of the letter or spirit of the Truce. They advised me that while the Mediator had at one time considered suggesting a monthly limitation on the number of men of military age to be admitted, no such "ceiling" had been decided, nor communicated to the Provisional Government. I was, in fact, told that it would not be in violation of the Truce if, for example, an entire boatload, composed of men of military age were to arrive in Haifa. They did indicate that if such were the case and the number of immigrants of military age was substantially larger than at present, the issue would no doubt be raised with the Israeli Government, with a view of imposing specific restrictions. Thus far, however, I was clearly advised that no such restrictions have been imposed.

The Mediator did establish a specific procedure which provided that men of military age who enter Israel are not to be assigned for military training or inducted into the armed forces. These men are registered in the presence of UN observers and are issued special identity cards which indicate that they are to be excluded from military training and service. They are assigned to agricultural or other civilian activities and the UN is advised of such assignment. Occasionally field inspections are made to determine whether the men are actually at the place to which they have been assigned. In all instances, Captain Mohner and Commander Newton stated that the men were found in the places where they were supposed to be when such inspections were made.

The conclusion I reached after this review of the problem with Mr. Vigier, the Acting Mediator, and with General Riley, Chief of Staff, was that the restrictions imposed on the issuance of visas in the U.S. Zone Germany and Austria were the result of action taken by our own government and not imposed by the Mediator. Dr. Mohn, the Political Adviser to the Mediator, confirmed this impression and said that as a member of the UN we were in this manner supporting the Truce. Actually, however, it should be noted that the Truce did not prohibit the entrance of men of military age. It only provided that the Mediator could impose such limitations. No such limitations have been imposed.

In my judgment, the restrictions which we have imposed should be removed since the Mediator has established a procedure which provides for the exclusion of men of military age from training or from assignment to the fighting forces and since the Mediator and the staff appear to be of the opinion that this procedure is working satisfactorily. It is my conclusion that there is no justification for our imposing restrictions beyond that thought necessary by the Mediator. Except for the British, who are preventing the immigration into Israel of some 12,000 persons interned at Cyprus, the United States is the only western nation which imposed such restrictions against emigration to Israel. Our policy in fact makes it necessary for the women and children and the old people to leave our camps unaccompanied by the heads of these families.

WILLIAM HABER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

October 25, 1948

CONFIDENTIAL

318712

Tells  
Prof. Haber Addresses Five Cooperating Organizations

About  
On DP Situation

¶ Representatives of the five cooperating organizations met on Nov. 4 to hear a report by Prof. William Haber, who had come to this country for a few days, on the situation of the general DPs in Germany and Austria. The MGC was represented on this occasion by Dr. ~~Goldman~~ Nathan Goldmann, Dr. Malcom Robinson, and K. R. Grossmann.

¶ Prof. Haber declared that the general situation of the general DPs was satisfactory. He said that we had now entered the phase of liquidation and expressed the hope that all DPs desiring to emigrate to Israel will have left Germany and Austria by September, 1949, as officially requested, at all events not later than December, 1949. While stressing that there were many problems facing us, he gave assurance that Gen. Lucius D. Clay was cooperative and ready to help to solve these problems.

¶ The fact that since May 15, 1948, between 20,000 and 22,000 DPs have left the camps, he said, raises the question of consolidating the camps. The 54 camps could by the end of the year be reduced to 25; however, the DPs themselves do not want to leave the camps until they leave Germany. That is one of the great problems, since the Army and DRO for many reasons (easier supervision, more economic distribution of supplies, an opportunity to close camps which are centers of black market operations) desire this consolidation. According to the speaker, there is a fight between OMGUS and EUCOM, with the latter more favorable to the DPs than the former.

OMGUS

Prof. Haber next dwelt on the problem of ~~appearing~~ <sup>no</sup> property of the Jewish DP's. It is the position of Gen. Clay, as reported, that the <sup>Jewish</sup> DP's should be permitted to take to Israel ~~their~~ essential and personal ~~possessions~~ <sup>belongings</sup>, including ~~their~~ tools; they should take with them "what they own and what they need," without any <sup>investigation</sup> ~~question~~ ~~as to~~ how they <sup>have</sup> ~~have~~ acquired their possessions.

Turning to <sup>persistent</sup> DRO's refusal to pay the cost of transporting Jewish DP's to Israel, Prof. Haber reported that at the last meeting of the DRO General Council this problem was discussed with the American delegation, which was ready to bring it up at the plenary session of the General Council, but ~~inasmuch~~ as the British wanted to couple this question with that of aid to Arab refugees, it was decided in Geneva not to press for a discussion at the plenary meeting. Prof. Haber expressed the view that, since the decision not to assist emigration to Israel was an executive ~~measure~~ <sup>decision</sup>, its revocation should also be sought by <sup>means of an</sup> executive decision. He informed the meeting that he had discussed the matter with Gen. Dresher, of the State Dept.

Prof. Haber then took up the problem of the responsibility of the United States toward the DP's. Gen. Clay had declared that the U.S. occupation authorities would retain jurisdiction over the DP's and would not transfer <sup>it</sup> ~~this jurisdiction~~ to the German government in the event that <sup>such a</sup> ~~one~~ <sup>government</sup> was formed. However, Prof. Haber felt that Gen. Clay's statement was that of one man and should Gen. Clay leave his post (it seems that he contemplates resigning by next March), his successor might not adhere to it. It was therefore important that, as Prof. Haber <sup>reported to</sup> ~~told~~ the meeting, the State Department had sent a cable to Ambassador Murphy, confirming Gen. Clay's

not to ~~transfer~~ support the transfer of jurisdiction over the DP camps to any German government, and if this question ever came up during any negotiations, "Washington should be consulted."

Prof. Haber dealt at great length on the question of emigration to Israel and pointed out that the United States was the only ~~government~~ one ~~which~~ that ~~should~~ transfer such emigration. He added confidentially, however, that ~~as a result of~~ <sup>on the basis</sup> ~~of~~ <sup>a</sup> ~~private~~ <sup>arrangement</sup> ~~with~~ <sup>between</sup> Gen. Clay and the Jewish Advisor, ~~even~~ <sup>in</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>ages</sup> of 18 to 45, ~~could~~ <sup>could</sup> leave Germany for ~~Poland~~ <sup>Israel</sup> Israel, along with immigrants of other age groups, receiving their visas aboard ships at the port of embarkation. The whole difficulty arose because E.Z.C.O.M. felt that it needed the advice of the State Department, and a very complicated procedure was suggested, namely, that lists of ~~prospective~~ prospective immigrants to Israel be compiled and submitted by the Israeli Government to the U.N. Truce Commission and that visas be issued ~~following~~ following approval of the lists by the Commission. The Israeli Government, however, refused to follow this suggestion, taking the stand that it was the prerogative of the sovereign State of Israel, and not the business of the U.N. Truce Commission, what immigrants to admit to Israel. Such lists were therefore never submitted. There were also some negotiations between E.Z.C.O.M. and the Israeli Government concerning transit visas for Jews from Poland, which, however, came to naught because the Israeli Government refused to agree not to admit men of military age.

(Prof. Haber <sup>has</sup> ~~has~~ dealt with certain <sup>other</sup> aspects of this issue in a special memorandum which is attached hereto.)

Prof. Haber estimated the number of DPs eligible to come to the United States under the new DP Act at

318715

...we were aware urgent need for  
an orientation and rehabilitation program in Europe for these  
prospective immigrants in order to facilitate their adjustment to  
conditions in this country.

Finally, he said that he would be unable to remain  
in his post later than next January and suggested that a successor  
be named. The man best fitted for the office of General Advisor  
would be Major Abram Hymen, but since he was only a junior  
officer, this idea had to be discarded.

In the ensuing discussion, Rabbi Philip Bernstein re-  
ferred to a J. T. A. report that the Beilshain camp would be  
closed by Nov. 15. Prof. Haber declared that he had received  
the assurance of the camp committee that the inmates would  
agree to move to other camps, but that, unfortunately, ~~the~~ <sup>this</sup>  
camp committee was overruled and replaced by an Action Committee.  
The situation at Beilshain, he said, is tense, and a lot of trouble  
is expected. The Army will not necessarily intervene; but  
commencing Nov. 15, the camp will receive no rations from DRO,  
and the J. T. C. will have to follow suit. It was the  
consensus of the representatives of the organizations in attendance  
that we could not intervene from overseas but must leave  
it to Prof. Haber to handle the situation on the spot.

During the discussion, Mr. Grossmann <sup>touching upon</sup> ~~brought up~~  
the question of the consolidation of the camps, stating that the  
camps were overcrowded and referring to the Sreanstein-Hymen  
report in which ~~four~~ sound suggestions for consolidation were  
made.

He also brought up the question of safeguards in case of  
withdrawal of the occupation forces. Prof. Haber declared that  
such withdrawal was out of the question, and that General Robert  
son's suggestion to the contrary had been repudiated.

Referring to DRO's refusal to finance emigration to  
Israel, Mr. Grossmann inquired whether intervention in Washington

318716

his opinion we should intervene. But Mr. Sawitt of the JWC  
declared against it on the ground that the JWC was now  
negotiating with DRO about the matter, and any intervention  
by us might ~~be~~ hurt these negotiations.

The following decisions were adopted:

(a) The next meeting of the five cooperating organizations  
will take up the question of choosing a successor to Prof. Haber.

(b) Mr. Sawitt is to report on the outcome of the  
JWC's negotiations with DRO, and our decision will be  
~~based upon~~ depend on his report.

Among the objectives of my trip to Israel, I sought to learn at first hand: (a) The facts concerning the present immigration into the country, (b) the immigration plans of the Provisional Government, (c) the procedure followed by the United Nations Mediator and his staff in "supervising" immigration of men of military age.

(a) The present immigration into Israel: Information made available to me by the Minister of Immigration and others indicated that 73,000 persons entered Israel between January 1 and October 15, 1948, and that approximately 10,000 persons were entering monthly during the past three months. Between July 18, when the second Truce went into effect and October 17, about 27,800 immigrants entered through the port at Haifa. Approximately 65% of the immigrants in recent months came from so-called DP countries, primarily from the camps in Germany. The others came from North African countries, from Cyprus, and from other areas in Europe. Very few immigrants have come from the Balkans in recent months.

It should be noted that the present rate of immigration presents a phenomenal addition to the population of the country and calls for a tremendous rate of absorption into the Israeli economy. For example, the 73,000 immigrants who entered since January 1 represent approximately 10% of the Jewish population of the country. The war, the tremendous needs for manpower in agricultural and other civilian activities, and the labor shortage resulting from the evacuation of the Arabs, has made it relatively easy to absorb so large an addition to the population in so short a time. It can be expected that this situation will continue for the immediate future.

(b) Immigration plans of the Provisional Government: In various conferences with officials of the government, I learned that it is contemplated that the present rate of immigration of approximately 10,000 persons per month will continue at least for the next year. In fact, I have been advised that this program is being subjected to severe criticism from several quarters because it is too conservative. It is urged that the plans be changed to provide for the admission of about 200,000 persons per year. In any event, information made available to me indicates that even though the war may come to an end and the army largely demobilized, the program for approximately 10,000 persons per month will continue. The Minister of Immigration told me that on this basis it should be possible to remove by August or September 1949, from the DP camps of Germany, Austria and Italy, all persons who intend to emigrate to Israel. If these plans materialize, the DPs remaining in the U.S. Zone of Germany and Austria by next September, will be those who intend to emigrate to other places or who, for the time being, intend to remain in the economies of these countries.

See: Camps - D's & W. Cohen

10) the UN "supervision" of men of military age: In Tel Aviv I conferred with Dr. Mohn, Political Adviser to the United Nations Mediator, and in Haifa with Brigadier General William Riley, Chief of Staff and Mr. Vigier, the Acting Mediator, in the absence of Dr. Bunche. In company with Commander Newton (USN) and Captain Mohner of the Swedish Navy, I visited the docks and examined the procedure for processing immigrants entering Haifa. I learned that of the 27,800 persons who arrived in Haifa between July 18, the beginning of the second Truce, and October 17, 7,430 were men 18 - 45 years of age. That is, approximately 20% of the arrivals were men of military age. Both Mr. Vigier and General Riley, as well as Dr. Mohn stressed the fact that the entrance of men of military age was not illegal, nor in violation of the letter or spirit of the Truce. They advised me that while the Mediator had at one time considered suggesting a monthly limitation on the number of men of military age to be admitted, no such "ceiling" had been decided, nor communicated to the Provisional Government. I was, in fact, told that it would not be in violation of the Truce if, for example, an entire boatload, composed of men of military age were to arrive in Haifa. They did indicate that if such were the case and the number of immigrants of military age was substantially larger than at present, the issue would no doubt be raised with the Israeli Government, with a view of imposing specific restrictions. Thus far, however, I was clearly advised that no such restrictions have been imposed.

The Mediator did establish a specific procedure which provided that men of military age who enter Israel are not to be assigned for military training or inducted into the armed forces. These men are registered in the presence of UN observers and are issued special identity cards which indicate that they are to be excluded from military training and service. They are assigned to agricultural or other civilian activities and the UN is advised of such assignment. Occasionally field inspections are made to determine whether the men are actually at the place to which they have been assigned. In all instances, Captain Mohner and Commander Newton stated that the men were found in the places where they were supposed to be when such inspections were made.

The conclusion I reached after this review of the problem with Mr. Vigier, the Acting Mediator and with General Riley, Chief of Staff, was that the restrictions imposed on the issuance of visas in the U.S. Zone Germany and Austria were the result of action taken by our own government and not imposed by the Mediator. Dr. Mohn, the Political Adviser to the Mediator, confirmed this impression and said that as a member of the UN we were in this manner supporting the Truce. Actually, however, it should be noted that the Truce did not prohibit the entrance of men of military age. It only provided that the Mediator could impose such limitations. No such limitations have been imposed.

In my judgment, the restrictions which we have imposed should be removed since the Mediator has established a procedure which provides for the exclusion of men of military age from training or from assignment to the fighting forces and since the Mediator and the staff appear to be of the opinion that this procedure is working satisfactorily. It is my conclusion that there is no justification for our imposing restrictions beyond that thought necessary by the Mediator. Except for the British, who are preventing the immigration into Israel of some 12,000 persons interned at Cyprus, the United States is the only western nation which imposed such restrictions against emigration to Israel. Our policy in fact makes it necessary for the women and children and the old people to leave our camps unaccompanied by the heads of these families.

WILLIAM HABER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

October 25, 1948  
CONFIDENTIAL

318719

3060  
RSM  
KRG

The following cable deals with the threatened closing of the DP Camp  
Stuttgart West:

WU E115 INTL ZP HEIDELBERG 38 OCT 21  
NLT KURT GROSSMAN WORLDGRESS NEWYORK

Rec. 10/22/48

CAMP CONSOLIDATIONS INEVITABLE AS MIGRATION CONTINUES CAMP IN QUESTION  
MAY BE AFFECTED BUT REST ASSURED NOT TO DETRIMENT OF DISPLACED PERSONS  
HABER STILL IN ISRAEL EXPLANATORY LETTER WILL FOLLOW AFTER HABER RETURNS

HYMAN

4528-10/22/48-65-KK:st  
ADM 3116

318720

Dear Kurt:

Sept. 28, 1948

Concerning your letter of September 13 on the subject of the food situation of political, social and religious persecutees, I am enclosing Chaplain Barish's note to me which is self-explanatory. I had reviewed this matter with the top military government officials six weeks ago, when the issue arose, and on the basis of the evidence in their hands, one could not make a strong plea for the continuance of this assistance. I checked it briefly with General Clay and did not press the matter then or since. It is my impression that under existing economic circumstances in Germany, a special ration cannot be advocated.

With warmest greetings,

Cordially,

WILLIAM HABER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

Mr. Kurt R. Grossman  
WJC, New York, NY

P.S. I am leaving for Israel Tuesday night for about 2 weeks-  
B-

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SUBJECT: Food Situation of Persecutees.  
Memorandum to Dr. Haber.

Sept. 27, 1948

1. The facts contained in Mr. GROSSMAN's letter of 13 September 1948 are correct. The extra-ration for persecutees has been cancelled by Bipartite order.
2. Actually, the persecutee ration was not reduced, although the B zonia had several times recommended to the Military ~~Government~~ Governors that special privileges for persecutees should be eliminated. The Bizonia recommendation was not approved until the regular German consumer's level was raised to what the persecutee ration was. Thus, although the special privileges have been eliminated there has been no reduction in the caloric content, of the persecutee ration.
3. I spoke to the Food and Agriculture people in OMGUS. They felt that there was no justification for consideration of this decision. According to their opinion the present ration is adequate, and that as long as it is adequate there is no valid reason for maintaining the special category for persecutees.
4. I checked with some of the Gemeindes to find out if there is any strong feeling on this subject among the persecutees. I am informed that to date no protests have been made. It appears that the ration is probably adequate.
5. In light of the above I recommend that we do not intervene in this matter and that we do not create any unnecessary issue.

LOUIS BARISH  
Captain (Chaplain)

318721

October 14, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
APO 403  
c/o Postmaster New York, NY

Dear Bill:

Although I do not know whether this letter will reach you I am certain that Major Hymen will read it and act if possible. We were taken aback to learn that the U.S. Army is giving serious consideration to taking over one of the Jewish DP camps in Germany in order to provide housing for the civilian employees of international airlines. The camp in question is the Stuttgart-West camp. From the same report we see that IRO as well as your office are occupied with this problem in order to prevent such a move by the Army through an intervention.

We ask you most seriously to take the strongest action and cable us if you should succeed in order to permit us to take up this matter in Washington. It is inconceivable to think that our Jewish DPs should be pushed around from one camp to another. In view of the fact that according to your own report thousands are leaving for Israel, their transfer to other camps at this moment means a hardship to our people which we should not allow to occur. We are anxiously awaiting your report on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq ia

318722

*Haber*

J.D.C. TO HOLD ITS ANNUAL MEETING IN CHICAGO; LILIENTHAL WILL BE PRINCIPAL SPEAKER

NEW YORK, Oct. 11. (JTA) -- David E. Lilienthal, chairman of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission, and Dr. William Haber, advisor on Jewish affairs to the U.S. forces in Europe, will be the principal speakers at the 34th annual meeting of the Joint Distribution Committee in Chicago, which will be held on Oct. 31, it was announced today.

Dr. Haber will fly to Chicago from Frankfurt to present a last-minute report on conditions among the nearly 150,000 Jewish displaced persons still in the U.S. zone of Germany. Edward M.M. Warburg, J.D.C. chairman, will outline the role which the agency will play during the coming year in helping to rebuild the lives of the 1,400,000 Jewish survivors in Europe. More than 2,000 delegates from all sections of the country are expected to participate in the meeting.

THE CONTENTS OF THIS BULLETIN ARE NOT FOR PUBLICATION WITHOUT SPECIAL AUTHORIZATION

DATE:

NAME OR SUBJECT

10/6/1948

R E P O R T

FROM:

TO:

ABRAHAM S. HYMAN & HARRY GREENSTEIN

REGARDING:

"CERTAIN ASPECTS OF JEWISH DE PROBLEMS IN THE US ZONE, GERMANY  
AND AUSTRIA

SEE:

Camps, Reports of Jew. Advisers

ONLY TWO COPIES AVAILABLE GIVEN TO MR. GROSSMAN ON 11/24/1948

233- 11/5/46-500-EM:fh  
ADM-2046

318724

DATE: 9/29/1948.  
10/1/1948

NAME OR SUBJECT Letter

FROM: Haber

TO: Grossman

REGARDING: Restitution problems transferred to DR. BENJAMIN FERENCZ,  
Dir. of Jew. Restit. Comm. in Germany, concerning Property  
Control in MIESBACH

SEE: Germany Restitution (attached to information received from HUBERSON,  
Naheim, re Misappropriation of Jew. Property by Bavarian Govt.)

233- 11/5/46-500-EM: fh  
ADM-2046

Civil Affairs Division  
APO 403, c/o FM, NY NY

September 29, 1948

Mr. Abram Rothfeld  
Acting Executive Secretary  
American Jewish Conference  
521 Fifth Avenue  
New York 17, New York

For transmission to: American Jewish Committee  
American Jewish Conference  
American Joint Distribution Committee  
Jewish Agency for Palestine  
World Jewish Congress

*x ref  
5 parts*

Dear Mr. Rothfeld:

I would appreciate it if you would advise the cooperating organizations that I am leaving for Israel on Wednesday, October 6, for a period of about two weeks. I wish to confer with the representatives of the Mediator concerning the immigration regulations which are now in effect. I also wish to review the immigration prospects with the appropriate officials of the Israeli government and to consult with James McDonald, special United States representative.

General Clay and Ambassador Murphy were of the opinion that a first hand view of the situation in Israel would be of considerable value to them and their colleagues interested in the movement of DPs to Israel. The trip has been approved by the Department of State.

I shall have a brief report for the cooperating organizations after my return.

Sincerely yours,

WILLIAM HABER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

318726

# MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Grossman

DATE: October 12, 1948

FROM: Abram Rothfeld

SUBJECT:

I am sending you the enclosed letter in accordance with  
Professor Haber's request.

318727

Sept2mber 27, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief  
Headquarters, European Command  
Civil Affairs Division  
APO 403, c/o Postmaster New York, NY

Dear Bill:

Thank you very much for your kind letter of September 15, which contents I noted with great interest. I attach hereto for your information the report on my visit with you.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

encl.  
krg ia

318728

To: Members of the Office Committee  
From: Kurt R. Grossman

September 20, 1948

CONFIDENTIAL

With reference to my report on Germany, you will recall that I stated that there exists Memorandum No. 21 dated March 22, 1948, which restricts employment of United States citizens with less than ten years citizenship.

When I was in Germany, I asked Professor William Haber to take up this memorandum with the United States authorities, and I reminded him of my request recently. Today I received a strictly confidential letter from him on his negotiations which I quote as follows:-

"I have your inquiry of September 1 concerning memorandum No.21 of March 22, 1948.

"I reviewed the matter in some detail with General Clay at a conference in Frankfurt some three or four weeks ago. While I raised the issue in relation to the Paul Freedman case, I pointed out that the problem had wider implications. The General discussed it with me quite fairly and fully. He told me that in many instances he found men in very important position in Military Government with a responsibility for interpreting American points of view to the German population who were only recent citizens of the US. He found such men in many cases insufficiently familiar with American ideas. For example: he cited one case of an American editing a propaganda newspaper for Military Government who had only been a citizen for four years. In another case, he referred to a person in intelligence work whose loyalty was above reproach, but when he returned to Germany from which he fled in 1938, he moved in with his relatives, all of whom remained here and many of whom were probably active in nazi affairs.

"As a result of his specific experience, he decided to follow the policy long in use by the State Department. However, he took the position that no person would be dismissed and that, when the contract expired, an effort would be made to transfer the individual to another position in which the duration of citizenship was not of importance.

"While I do not agree with that policy as a matter of principle, I am fully convinced that there is absolutely no basis for any charge of anti-Semitism with regard to its initiation or implementation.

"This is sent to you for your information only and is not for publication."

4455-9/20/48-KRG:ew  
REL 4715

318729

September 17, 1948

Mr. Abraham Rothfeld  
American Jewish Conference  
521 Fifth Ave  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Rothfeld:

Thank you for sending me the report from Prof. William Haber of August 31.

I refer to his suggestion that we should try to break the bottleneck of emigration for 18-45 years old DPs to Israel by consultation with the diplomatic representative of the Government of Israel. I would appreciate it if you would inquire with the other cooperating organizations whether they intend to follow Prof. Haber's suggestion.

Mr. Joffe was charged to look into the currency reform matter and I think we should also be appraised of the situation.

Thank you for giving the matter your kind attention.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq ia

318730

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
Civil Affairs Division  
APO 403, c/o PM, NY NY

*W. H. H.*  
*9.7*  
*9.7*  
September 15, 1948

Dear Kurt:

Thank you for your thoughtfulness in sending me a copy of your "report" on Germany. I have read it over carefully and find myself in substantial agreement with most of your comments.

You will be interested to know that at my request the military government in Bavaria made a rather intensive investigation on the cemetery desecrations to which you refer on the first page of your memorandum. The conclusion reached by the investigator is that a large number of the desecrated cemeteries have been in that condition for several years. In fact, he implies that most of it was caused while the Nazis were still in control and is only now being reported. He further holds that in a large number of instances the damaged cemeteries are the oldest and the least cared for and protected cemeteries in Germany. That is to say, that some of the damage is "natural" due to "weakening of the foundation stones" and similar factors. He emphasized that the newer cemeteries show no desecration even though located in the same area. I cite this investigation merely to indicate that as a result of our representations, the problem has been on the agenda of the military government in Bavaria and the conclusion reached is that while every effort should be made to repair and to protect, the extent of malicious desecration is exaggerated.

You make a reference at the bottom of page four to your report on the visit with me. Needless to say, I would appreciate a copy, if it is not confidential.

With kindest regards,

Confidentially,  
*W. H. H.*

WILLIAM HABER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

Mr. Kurt Grossman  
World Jewish Congress  
1834 Broadway  
New York, N. Y.

318731

4475  
4015

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
Civil Affairs Division

10 September, 1948

Dear Kurt:

I have your inquiry of September 1 concerning memorandum No 21 of March 22, 1948.

I reviewed the matter in some detail with General Clay at a conference in Frankfurt some three or four weeks ago. While I raised the issue in relation to the Paul Freedman case, I pointed out that the problem had wider implications. The General discussed it with me quite fairly and fully. He told me that in many instances he found men in very important position in Military Government with a responsibility for interpreting American points of view to the German population who were only recent citizens of the US. He found such men in many cases insufficiently familiar with American ideas. For example: he cited one case of an American editing a propaganda newspaper for Military Government who had only been a citizen for four years. In another case, he referred to a person in intelligence work whose loyalty was above reproach, but when he returned to Germany from which he fled in 1938, he moved in with his relatives, all of whom remained here and many of whom were probably active in nazi affairs.

As a result of his specific experience, he decided to follow the policy long in use by the State Department. However, he took the position that no person would be dismissed and that, when the contract expired, any effort would be made to transfer the individual to another position in which the duration of citizenship was not of importance.

While I do not agree with that policy as a matter of principle, I am fully convinced that there is absolutely no basis for any charge of anti-Semitism with regard to its initiation or implementation.

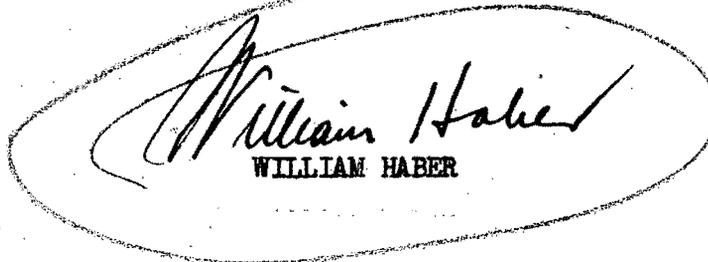
This is sent to you for your information only and is not for publication.

Cordially,

WH/eb

APO 403, c/o Postmaster  
New York, N.Y.

Mr. Kurt R. Grossman  
1834 Broadway  
New York 23, N.Y.



WILLIAM HABER

318732

Sept. 14, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
H.Q. European Command,  
APO 403  
c/o Postmaster, New York, NY

Dear Prof. Haber:

With reference to your report of August 31, which I read with great interest, I would be greatly indebted to receive the camp survey made by Chaplain Louis Barish, as mentioned on page 10.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq ia

318733

September 14, 1948

MEMO IMMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

to : Dr. Goldmann  
from : Mr. Grossman

... reported to ... briefly on the ... of the cooperating  
organizations assembled to discuss ... Kasper's report of May 7, 1948.  
You will be interested in the attached quotation  
from the report Prof. William Haber sent on August 31 to the  
5 cooperating organizations. ... that the Jewish DP problem could have to  
be solved "independently from Palestine interests"; that, since the  
problem cannot be solved overnight and the DP's constitute a burden on the  
Jewish budget, it would be wiser to "gradually absorb the DP's into the  
Israeli economy"; that "the DP's in question do not represent the main re-  
sidual force ..."; and "indefinitely more desirable as-  
sistance is available in Egypt, southern Europe, and in the ...  
countries; and that "we have reached the mental phase where the interests  
of the Jews count alone".

I am aware of the fact that, at this meeting, Dr. Stephen was pointed  
out that Dr. Goldmann was expressing his own personal opinion. I am  
also aware that Dr. Goldmann himself referred, although not explicitly,  
to the fact that the restrictions against DP's will result either from  
the right requirements of the peace or from the requirements imposed  
upon the ... state ... for its ... . Nevertheless, I think  
it important to indicate that the adoption of any policy by the provis-  
ional government which would limit or restrict immigration of DP's could  
be a shocking reversal of stated policy and a definite breach of faith.  
The immigration policy of the provisional government provides definite  
reassurance that such a danger does not exist. I refer to it in this  
report, however, because any change in that policy which would deliber-  
ately discriminate against the DP's would have consequences, the serious-  
ness of which cannot be overrated.

318734

EXCERPT ( W.Haber's report of 8/31/48)

SELECTIVE EMIGRATION TO ISRAEL

I feel impelled to comment briefly on the minutes of the cooperating organizations assembled to discuss Rabbi Klausner's report of May 2, 1948. I was quite chagrined and, frankly, distressed with Dr. Nahum Goldmann's viewpoint, as reported in these minutes. Dr. Goldmann, accepting Rabbi Klausner's analysis, indicated that the Jewish DP problem would have to be solved "independently from Palestine interests"; that, since the problem cannot be solved overnight and the DPs constitute a burden on the Jewish budget, it would be wise to "gradually transfer the DPs into the German economy"; that "the DPs in general do not represent the human material Eretz Yisroel needs today"; that "infinitely more desirable material" is available in Cyprus, eastern Europe, and in the Moslem countries; and that "we have reached the brutal phase where the interests of the State count alone".

I am aware of the fact that, at this meeting, Dr. Stephen Wise pointed out that Dr. Goldmann was expressing his own personal opinion. I am also aware that Dr. Goldmann himself referred, although not explicitly, to the fact that the restrictions against DPs could result either from the rigid requirements of the truce or from the requirements imposed upon the young state fighting for its existence. Nevertheless, I think it important to indicate that the adoption of any policy by the provisional government which would limit or restrict immigration of DPs would be a shocking reversal of stated policy and a definite breach of faith. The immigration policy of the provisional government provides definite reassurance that such a danger does not exist. I refer to it in this report, however, because any change in that policy which would deliberately discriminate against the DPs would have consequences, the seriousness of which cannot be overrated.

318735

*Camp - Bergen*

September 13, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
Headquarters, European Command  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
A.P.O. 409  
c/o Postmaster New York, N.Y.

Dear Prof. Haber:

RE: Food Situation of Political,  
Racial and Religious Persecutees.

You are aware of the fact that up to August 31, 1948, political, racial and religious persecutees, among them Jews not living in DP camps, received additional rations. There have been many endeavors to discontinue with these privileges and we had intervened already once before, in August 1947, with the Department of the Army. At that time we received reassurance from Brigadier General G.I. Eberly; copy of his letter to our Washington representative is attached hereto. We are informed now that all privileges for the group in question were cancelled by a decision of the Governors, General Robertson in the British Zone and General Gray in the U.S. Zone. We would highly appreciate your immediate intervention in this matter because we consider it as most unjust that the persecutees should no longer have the small privileges accorded earlier to them.

Looking forward to hearing from you in this matter  
I am

Sincerely yours,

Kurt B. Grossman

*See previous corr. 1947 - Bergen Bldg.*

krq ia

318736

*Haber*

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: 9/13/1948

NAME OR SUBJECT letter

FROM: Grossman

TO: Haber

REGARDING: the attached letter from Centr. Comm. Bergen Belsen, re Food Sit. of Political, Racial and Religious Persecutees, dated 8/30/48

SEE: Centr. Comm. Bergen Belsen (also previous Corr. under 8/27/47)

*Haber*

September 10, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
H.Q. European Command  
Office of Chief Staff  
APO 403 c/o Postmaster  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Bill:

Attached is the copy of a letter I sent today to Dr. L. Auerbach, and enclose the material referred to in this letter. I should be grateful if you would let us have your opinion on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq ia  
encls.

318738

2

Camps - Italy

COPY

Unione delle Comunita  
Israelitiche Italiane,

Roma, 9 September 1948  
Lungotevere Sanzio N.9

Prot. N. 3937/938.8 FB:FB

Mr. Kurt E. Grossman  
WJC  
1834 B'way, NYC 23

Dear Mr. Grossman:

Back in town from a short holiday, I have before me your letter of August 25 dealing with the JTA report about the postponement of the transfer of DP camps to the South.

The situation has since (the JTA report you refer to is of July 21) completely changed. The evacuation of the DP's is now in full swing, a good proportion of the camps is already closed for "lack of inmates", and it is hoped that by October 1st, only a small fraction of the original number of DP's will remain in this country.

Furthermore, the transfer of the camps from North to South is not any more a matter of concern to the Central Committee, as the position in regard to infiltrations has completely changed, and has thus made obsolete the necessity of intake centers in the North.

In general, the DP's are most appreciative of a new, friendlier attitude of the IRO.

Hoping that above information will be of advantage to you, I remain with best regards,

Yours very sincerely,

Fritz Becker

318739

*Laker*

CROSS \* REFERENCE - SHEET

DATE: 7/3/48

NAME OF SUBJECT: Memo

FROM: Mr. Grossman

TO: Dr. Kubowitzki

REGARDING: the attached letter from ZELMANOWITS dated 8/5/1948  
" " Memo from Dr. MARCUS TO DR. ALK, 9/1/1948  
referring to Zelmanovits interview with Trina and his discussion  
with him on the position of the WJC in the US Zone in Germany  
and its status as OPERATING AGENCY

SEE: IRO

233 - 11/5/46  
ADM - 2046

318740

September 1, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
Headquarters, European Command  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
A.P.O. 757  
c/o Postmaster New York, N.Y.

Dear Bill:

When I saw you at Heidelberg I asked you to be good enough to look into the problems connected with memorandum # 21 of March 22, 1948, signed by General Huebner. The matter concerns the employment of American citizens who are citizens of the United States for less than 10 years. There have been a lot of discussions on this matter in the newspapers here and I would like to know whether you have taken up the question with General Clay or somebody else.

Thank you for your courtesy.

Cordially yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq ia

318741

CONFIDENTIAL

September 1, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
Headquarters, European Command  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
A.P.O. 757  
c/o Postmaster New York, N.Y.

Dear Bill:

I attach hereto copy of a letter which I wrote today to Mr. David Treger, as well as copy of the complaint the World Federation of Sephardic Communities sent us. Will you be good enough to let me have your reaction. Have you been informed of the incident in question? Please consider this letter strictly confidential.

Thank you for your cooperation. As always,

Cordially yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

*Report stated  
~~under~~ 9/19/48*

Encls.  
krg ia

318742

*Laher*

TRANSLATION

FEDERATION SEPARADISCHER JUDEN  
aus Griechenland und lateinischen  
Abstammungen in der Amerikanischen  
Besatzungszone Deutschlands.  
FELDAFING BEIN MUNCHEN, D.F. CAMP VILLA 1.

*Card*

Ref. Nr. 160/48

Feldafing, 19 Julio 1948.

Overseas Relief Committee of the  
Sephardic Jewish Brotherhood of America, Inc.  
1380 Jerome Avenue,  
Bronx 52, N.Y.

*Card*

Dear Brothers:

We trust you have already received copy of the protest we have sent to all the Sephardic Communities and Institutions of the World regarding the plight of the Sephardim in this Camp. In this letter we would like to bring to your attention and clarify the conditions under which the "Program" conducted by the Ashkenasim against the Sephardim of Feldafing took place.

We should like to remind you, at the outset, that the Ashkenasim never had any sympathy for the Sephardim and we have noticed this fact from the very first day we landed in the concentration camps. Because of the stupid reason that we did not know Yiddish, we were not considered as Jews. This dislike, and hatred, toward us did not diminish even after the liberation. All the efforts on the part of our Cultural Committee to bring about better relationships were in vain. We had been able to gain the sympathy only of those in higher positions but it was only temporary. The mass of the people, on the other hand, kept always the same feelings (of antagonism) against us. And taking advantage of a quarrel that took place on June 10, 1948, between an Ashkenasi and a Sephardi, for business reasons, the mass, composed mainly of Polish Jews wished to show that they, too, were able to institute programs against the Sephardim of Feldafing. Accordingly, they did to us what the anti-semites had done in Riechew and other cities in Poland. This gang, composed of the lowest type of men, without instincts, without dignity, without "amour propre", ignorants, imitating the manner of the accomplices of Pethioura, put fire to the home of Rabbi Noice and ransacked and looted the homes of other Sephardim. They also entered the room of our President Arriel Mosche, beat him (mortally) with iron bars and other heavy tools, and after taking a large amount of his personal effects, went to the homes of other Sephardim (to do the same thing). It is thus that Salvator Vivante and Sedaka Peppe who fell into their hands were also wounded critically. These bandits did not spare the women or children. They even went so far as to hurt one year old infants. The rest of the Sephardim, frightened, ran away from the camp. Men, women, and children kept on wandering around other camps for many days being afraid to return to Feldafing. All were terrorized. No one could conceive how an even the Jews are capable of instituting such programs against other Jews. The three (3) wounded persons, mentioned above, were taken to "Elizabeth" Hospital, in Feldafing, in a critical condition. When they reached the Hospital, Peppe Sedaka was given only 1% of a chance to live. Arriel Mosche and Vivante Salvator actually are feeling much better, but unfortunately, Peppe Sedaka seems to have lost his mind.

*see camps  
M I done  
Fed 14  
Jews*

FEDERATION SEPHARADISCHEN JUDEN  
Feldafing, Germany.

Immediately after the Program, some Jewish newspapers announced that "Acts of Hurliganism were committed in Feldafing Displaced Persons' Camp by the Jews of Greece." Not one newspaper reporter had the intelligence to come to Feldafing to make a real on the spot investigation in order to get at the truth. Only the "UNSERE WEG" and the "BERGANG", about a week later, attacked those responsible for the program and qualified the attackers as bandits. No newspaper had the courage, however, to publish the decision which had been taken by the Administrative Council of Feldafing - the decision which was intended to punish us collectively (Nazi method) by expelling all the Sephardim from the Camp. When we insisted on having explanations given us, the Directors of the Camp intimated that this decision was taken by Col. Becker, an aide to General Clay, in the Office of Displaced Persons' Camps, in Germany. After many protests and meetings we were able to get a concession whereby only ten (10) Sephardim would be transferred to another Camp. As for those who remained here, their condition is very discouraging. A good number of these Sephardim worked, within the Camp, in a Commando made up almost entirely of Sephardim. The Directors of the Camp have decided, at this time, to dissolve this Commando. And now, after their homes were destroyed and burned by the Ashkenasim, these Sephardim who were earning their daily bread honestly, in this Commando, are now deprived of this opportunity and compelled to "die of hunger."

We have demanded that an investigation be conducted and that the culprits be punished (even those of the Sephardim who may be guilty, for we are not trying to protect them), but the Administrators of the Camp have replied that "we cannot find the guilty ones among the 2000 or 3000 Polish Jews."

What is characteristic about this incident is the fact that, outside of the Polish Jews, no one else of the other Jews represented in the Camp, participated in this Program.

Dear Brothers. We are unable to describe to you the misery that has befallen us. We could never imagine that our brethren, the Ashkenasim, would be able to launch such an attack against us. We, who in our great city of Salonica had made special prayers in behalf of the Ashkenasim when they were being persecuted in Poland, we who helped any and all Ashkenasim passing through our city on their way to Palestine, we who have done so much good for them are now being mistreated instead of receiving a kind treatment from them.

Unfortunately, because of the small population of Sephardim in the American Zone of Germany, no one is represented in the Komite Central de Munchen, or we might have been able to defend ourselves and insist on our rights.

We trust that you will not fail to send your protest to the Central Komite de Munchen, Sieberstr. 3, and also to the Administrative Council of the D. P. Camp of Feldafing, asking that an open and impartial investigation be conducted, that the guilty parties are punished, and that an indemnification be allowed to the victims of this program.

The open letter we addressed to all the Jewish newspapers in Germany was not published. We suppose that they are not anxious to have the truth known, for by so doing it is possible that the directors of the Camp may also be incriminated. By not publishing this letter, however, we remain always the victims. Nevertheless, we trust that your efforts in our behalf will meet with more success in order that the prestige of the small community of Sephardic Jews of Feldafing is not undermined.

Signed: Moshe Mortis, General Secretary and Asriel Moshe, President. 318744

August 30, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
Headquarters, European Command  
Office of the Commander in Chief  
A.P.O. 757  
c/o Postmaster New York, N.Y.

Dear Prof. Haber:

I assume that you are interested in my letter  
"Position of DP's", which the New York Times  
published today. Enclosed please find copy of  
this letter for your perusal.

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

krq ia  
encl.

318745

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Commander  
in Chief

June 21, 1948

COPY

My dear Mr. Grossman:

Your May 25th letter should, I know, have been acknowledged long before this. However, I am sure, you sense that these have been very busy days and in addition to our regular problems, I have spent some time in Austria and thus neglected a good deal of mail, yours included.

In Austria I reviewed the problem raised in your letter with Stiasny. We had a full discussion of the situation, my own difficulties with respect to the World Jewish Congress recognition and how the Congress might operate in Germany on some basis other than formal recognition. Since I am planning to attend the Congress meeting in Montreux for at least a few days, there will, no doubt be a chance to discuss these matters with several of the American representatives and come to some conclusion. On the assumption that you will be there, I am sending a copy of this letter addressed to you c/o your Geneva office.

With warmest greetings,

Cordially yours,

(sgd) William Haber  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs

WH/eh

APO 403, c/o P.M., N.Y., N.Y.

Mr. Kurt R. Grossman  
World Jewish Congress  
1834 Broadway  
New York 23, N. Y.

318746

*Clare*

August 25, 1948

Prof. William Haber  
APO 403 c/o Postmaster  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Prof. Haber:

I acknowledge receipt of your kind letter of August 12 and am very glad to be informed that you will stay as the Jewish Adviser at least until next February.

I have conveyed your suggestion concerning the work of the WJC to the members of the Office Committee and as soon as I shall receive their reaction, I will not fail to communicate with you again.

Concerning the personal matter which we discussed, I noted with interest your remark and if you have some practical suggestions, please let me have the same and I will then let you know my reaction.

In the meantime, you received my report on Germany.

Hoping to hear from you soon, and with greetings to your family, Major Hyman and Miss Freedman, I am

Sincerely yours,

Kurt R. Grossman

KRG:lk

318747

*Camp*

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Commander-in-Chief  
Civil Affairs Division

August 12, 1948

Dear Mr. Grossman:

Your letter of August 5 is here and I should be happy, indeed, if you will send me a copy of your report on Germany. Your observations will be of interest and, I am sure, will help me in my work.

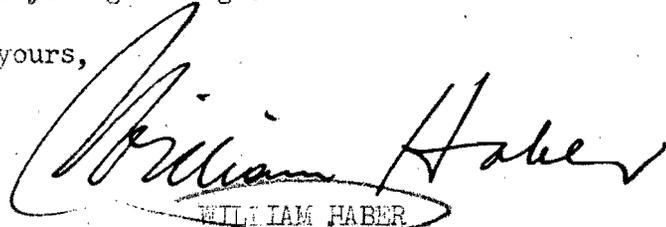
I am pleased to be able to tell you that I have extended my period here until February of next year. As I told you when you were here personal as well as professional reasons dictated the wisdom of my going home. But your words and those from Dr. Schwartz and others, including a strongly plea from General Clay, led me to raise the issue with the University and with the result indicated above.

I shall await any practical suggestions concerning the work of the World's Jewish Congress in Germany. As I indicated during the last conference, it is not possible to attach that work to the office of the Adviser on Jewish Affairs. I am sure, however, that appropriate arrangements can be worked out with the Jewish Agency for Palestine.

About the personal matter which we discussed, the only possible outlet I see is within the Jewish Agency. Their work will be expanding while that of the other agencies will be contracting. I have no other suggestion of a practicable character.

My boy asked me to thank you for the stamps and Major Hyman and Miss Freedman appreciate your greetings.

Cordially yours,



WILLIAM HABER  
Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
to the Commander in Chief

WH/eb  
APO 403 c/o Postmaster  
New York, N.Y.

Dr. Kurt R. Grossman  
World Jewish Congress  
1834 Broadway  
New York 23, N.Y.

318748

*Leber*

*August 12, 1948*

C.D.

Working Committee on DPs Agrees on Steps with regard to Current Problems.

5. (8-12) On August 10 a meeting of the working committee on DPs of the cooperating organizations took place, which heard a report by Kurt R. Grossman of the WJC on several problems which he had taken up with Professor William Haber on July 17 during his visit to Germany. Among them were the difficulties raised by the recent currency reform with regard to relief for DPs. Mr. Grossman suggested that the five cooperating organizations make representations in Washington together with non-Jewish organizations with a view to obtaining a special rate for relief money.

Another problem facing the cooperating organizations was an increase in discrimination against Jews in U.S. Government service. A memorandum on civilian personnel was quoted, which provides that personnel occupying "sensitive positions" would be required to have had a minimum of ten years of U.S. citizenship.

The possibility of a prolongation of Professor William Haber's stay in Germany was also taken up.

After hearing Mr. Grossman's report, the meeting of the cooperating organizations decided to approach the U.S. Government together with non-Jewish relief agencies and to ask for a special exchange rate for relief money, so as to ensure the continuation of the operations of the voluntary relief organizations in Germany.

With regard to the problem of discrimination against Jews in Government service, it was agreed to decide upon steps to be taken only after further study of the matter.

Finally, the meeting learnt with satisfaction that Professor Haber's leave of absence had been extended, so that he would be able to stay on in his position of Jewish Adviser until January 1949.

*Kalser*

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: 8/10/1948

NAME OR SUBJECT Memo

FROM: A. R. Grossman

TO: Mrs. Deigol

REGARDING: Grossman's REPORT given at the Meeting of the WORKING COMM.  
OF THE FIVE COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS, on AUGUST 10, 1948  
re 1) Currency Problems  
2) Budget of Vol. Agencies  
3) Prof. Habers Services  
4) Var. Problems of DP's

SEE: Memo Grossman

*Haber*

NOTE

August 5, 1948

Discussion with Prof. Haber and Joseph Schwartz  
On the Following Problems

1. The financial situation of the Central Committee in view of the currency reform.
2. The continuing services of Prof. Haber as Jewish Adviser.
3. Press Relations Man.

318751

*Heber*

C O P Y

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS  
Congress House  
55, New Cavendish Street  
London, W. 1

LZ/MAK

To the Members of the  
Office Committee,  
World Jewish Congress  
1834 Broadway,  
New York 23,  
N. Y.

5th August, 1948

Dear Friends,

318752

We had here an opportunity of meeting Dr. Joachim Prinz on his return from Germany. We discussed with him, amongst other things, the position of the W.J.C. in the U.S. Zone in great detail and agreed on the urgent necessity of sending a W.J.C. representative there. Dr. Prinz will

99%

C O P Y

WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS  
Congress House  
55, New Cavendish Street  
London, W. 1

LZ/MAK

To the Members of the  
Office Committee,  
World Jewish Congress  
1834 Broadway,  
New York 23,  
N. Y.

5th August, 1948

Dear Friends,

318753

We had here an opportunity of meeting Dr. Joachim Prinz on his return from Germany. We discussed with him, amongst other things, the position of the W.J.C. in the U.S. Zone in great detail and agreed on the urgent necessity of sending a W.J.C. representative there. Dr. Prinz will

*Campbell*

8/3 - 8/4/48

REPORT ON MY VISIT TO PROF. WILLIAM HABER  
On July 15 and July 17, 1948, in Heidelberg

by Kurt R. Grossman

I discussed the following problems with Prof. Haber:

1. The financial situation of the Central Committee in view of the currency reform in Germany.
2. Order of General Hubner of March 22, 1948, not to reappoint Americans for Military Government service in Germany who have been citizens for less than ten years.
3. Prof. Haber's continuing service as Jewish Adviser.
4. Recognition of the World Jewish Congress as an operating agency.

1. The Central Committee of Liberated Jews, with a budget of 500,000 D-Marks, is now in a very precarious situation because of the currency reform in Germany. The only source of income now consists of funds received from the Bavarian State Commissar (Dr. Phillip Auerbach). According to him, he has given to the Central Committee 280,000 D-Marks, (200,000 D-Marks in cash and 80,000 D-Marks in commodities). Prof. Haber had just returned from Paris where this situation had been discussed with the Joint Distribution Committee. He informed me that he had taken up the matter with General Clay, who, however, had refused to make any exception for the Joint Distribution Committee or for the Central Committee. General Clay said to Prof. Haber, "Bill, you speak to the rock of Gibraltar". I told Prof. Haber that Dr. Auerbach told me in Munich that he was ready to advance 1,000,000 D-Marks to the Joint Distribution Committee for each \$100,000 paid into an account of the Bavarian State to be opened shortly in New York. This suggestion had been discussed in Paris and for the time being rejected. I suggested that the five cooperating organizations should make representations in Washington together with non-Jewish organizations, such as the Quakers, and others. They should try to persuade the United States Government that a special rate for relief money ought to be established in Germany because of the fact that it is impossible to increase the funds allotted for Germany, since all fund-raising campaigns have long been under way. Inasmuch as the currency reform might cause a breakdown of the apparatus of the Central Committee and, to a certain extent, of the Joint Distribution Committee, as well as of other organizations, the United States Government might yield and allow a special relief rate - at least, as a temporary measure.

Dr. Schwartz, whom I met in Paris on July 21, concurred and recommended that the five cooperating organizations should at least make an attempt to secure a special relief rate.

318754

2. I informed Prof. Haber of Memorandum No. 21, dated March 22, 1948, concerning the citizenship requirements for certain positions, signed by General Hubner. This Memorandum is attached to my report. I reported to him that a certain Mr. W., now employed by the Office of War Crimes in Nuremburg, had applied for a new position in Vienna. A Colonel had interviewed him and told him that he would be suitable for the job in question. Then the Colonel had asked him: "If you got the order to blow up a bridge in Tel Aviv, would you do it?" Mr. W. retorted, "Would you ask a Catholic to blow up the Vatican?" The Colonel said he was very sorry not to be able to recommend Mr. W. for the position in question seeing that the latter found himself "in a mental conflict." In other words, the tendency is to exclude all people with so-called "sensitive spots". Jews are always to be found among them. Cases in Munich (Paul W. Freedman) prove this trend. Prof. Haber promised to make the necessary intervention and report to us.

3. The question of whether Prof. Haber will continue to function as Jewish Adviser was discussed at length. I received the definite impression that he would like to do it but he did not want to jeopardize his position at the University of Ann Arbor. He had promised the University that he would return in October of this year and, therefore, felt that he could not ask for a further leave of absence. If a way could be found for some influential people to approach the University, it would be possible to retain Prof. Haber for another six or even nine months. Major Hyman, (Prof. Haber's first assistant), with whom I also spoke about this matter, said to me that we should, under any circumstances, choose a Jewish Adviser who would not have to return to the United States so soon. Major Hyman, who has been in the Jewish Advisory Office since its inception, thinks that a definite disadvantage lies in the fact that none of the Advisers have served for more than one year. This point has to be taken up with the five cooperating organizations.

4. I told Prof. Haber that we appreciated his two suggestions to solve the problem of our operating with a small staff in Germany. The two suggestions he had made to me in Montreux were:

- (a) To attach two or three WJC people to one of the operating organizations.
- (b) To try to attach our people to the Office of the Jewish Adviser.

Although he had made the second suggestion in Montreux in a very positive manner, he tried to convince me that we should adopt the first suggestion which would give us freedom of movement throughout the whole United States zone. When I spoke the second time to Prof. Haber, who was most cordial and hospitable, he told me that he had already taken up this matter with General Hubner, and he thought that it would be far easier if we followed his first suggestion. He told me that he had also spoken with Dr. Prinz. I told him that my definite impression was that suga

gestion (b) was the only one that we would be able to accept but, of course, the decision would be made by the Executive. I therefore asked him to try to work out a solution which would allow us to come in, attached to his office. He promised to do what he could. Nevertheless, my impression is that the military authorities, as well as Dr. Haber himself, would appreciate a settlement under which we would come in attached to one of the operating organizations.

5. In addition to the above problems, Prof. Haber discussed Dr. Goldmann's statement concerning the alarming situation resulting from the growing anti-Semitism in Germany, and imminent danger of violence. He showed me his statement about it, which I criticized because I was informed in Munich by his brother (Zone Director of the Joint Distribution Committee) that the students of Munich had planned a demonstration in the Moehlstrasse which was subsequently forbidden owing to the alertness of the Jewish Organization in Munich. Prof. Haber agreed that the formulation of his statement could have been more carefully worded, but he insisted there was no danger for the Jewish DP's as long as American forces remained in Germany.

Prof. Haber informed me of a statement of General Clay according to which the United States D.P. policy would be continued also in case that Germany should have its own central government.

4375-8/4/48-KRG:FS-50  
REL 4712

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL )  
MEMORANDUM NO. 21 )

APO 7 57  
22 March 1948

CITIZENSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN POSITIONS

1. Policy a. It is essential that personnel who occupy intelligence, investigative and certain other sensitive positions, be impartial and objective in their service, and above criticism as to their loyalty to the government of the United States.

b. In the future, to help insure that occupants of such positions meet these standards, civilian personnel recruited for duty with intelligence agencies, for positions as criminal investigators, and for positions which, after careful deliberation by responsible commanders, have been determined to be sensitive, will be required to have had a minimum of 10 years' US citizenship.

c. Commanders will exercise extreme care in designating sensitive positions. Normally, such designation will be limited to positions of great authority, those which have access to highly classified material, or which provide an opportunity to influence major plans and policies.

d. The Commanding General, US Forces in Austria, will determine the applicability of this policy to that command. Non-appropriated fund agencies will be guided by the principles of this directive.

2. Procedure a. Upon receipt of this memorandum, commanders will designate those positions for which a minimum of 10 years' US citizenship is a qualification requirement as authorized herein. Future position descriptions (which will be unclassified) for such jobs will specify "incumbent must have been a US citizen for a minimum of 10 years."

b. Requisitions (which will be unclassified) for intelligence, investigative and those positions designated as sensitive, will contain the remark "Applicant must have been a US citizen for a minimum of 10 years".

c. Present incumbents who do not meet the qualifications requirements for positions as specified herein, will not be separated as a result of this policy. Upon completion of their present employment agreements, their agreements will not be renewed, except as noted in subparagraph d., below.

d. Exceptions to the policy contained in this memorandum will be made in unusual circumstances only, and then only over the personal signature of the responsible commander. A copy of the exception will be placed in the employee's 201 file.

BY COMMAND OF GENERAL CLAY:

OFFICIAL:

OETER CALZA  
Lt. Col. AGD Assistant Adjutant General  
DISTRIBUTION: E plus  
15 - Dir. P

C. R. HUESNER  
Lieutenant General GSC  
Chief of Staff

R E S T R I C T E D  
COPY

4371-8/3/48-50-KRG:fs  
REL. 4711

318157

July 20, 1948

MEMO

TO: Mrs. Greta Beigel

FROM: Dr. Gerhard Jacoby

I am returning to you Professor Haber's letter of July 9, 1948 to  
Dr. Kubowitzki and copy of my letter which I wrote to Professor  
Haber today.

lb

318758

Haber

HEADQUARTERS  
U. S. FORCES, EUROPEAN THEATER  
Office of AC of S, G5

7/18/48

Grossman  
Please transmit this, if  
you think it would be  
of any help. I  
wrote to Keibowitzky  
last week saying that I  
will send it over  
M Haber

318759

Haber

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: 7/16/48

NAME OR SUBJECT Memorandum

FROM: Major Abraham Hyman

TO: Prof. Haber

REGARDING: Jacoby's "Story of Jewish DP's".

SEE: Camps, spec. folder

318760

Camps - Hubner

DRAFT

REPORT ON MY VISIT TO PROF. WILLIAM HABER  
On July 15 and July 17, 1948  
In Heidelberg

I discussed the following problems with Prof. Haber:

1. The financial situation in view of the currency reform.
2. Order of General Hubner of March 27, 1946, not to reappoint Americans for Military Government service in Germany, who are citizens for less than ten years.
3. Prof. Haber's continuing service as Jewish Adviser for the recognition of the World Jewish Congress as an operating agency.

- - - - -

1. The Financial Situation in View of The Currency Reform.

The Central Committee of Liberated Jews, with a budget of 500,000 D-Marks is now in a very precarious situation in view of the currency reform executed in Germany. The only source of its income now consists of funds received from the Bavarian State Commissar (Dr. Phillip Auerbach). According to the latest information, he has given to the Central Committee 280,000 D-Marks, 200,000 D-Marks in cash and 80,000 D-Marks in commodities. Prof. Haber had just returned from Paris where this situation had been discussed with the Joint. He informed me that he had taken up the matter with General Clay who, however, had refused to make any exemption for the Joint or for the Central Committee. General Clay said to Prof. Haber, "Bill, you speak to the Rock of Gibraltar". I told Prof. Haber that Dr. Auerbach is ready to advance 1,000,000 D-Marks to the Joint for each \$100,000 paid into an account of the Bavarian State to be opened in New York. This suggestion had already been discussed in Paris but was rejected. I suggested a second way

out of this situation - that the five cooperating organizations should make representations in Washington <sup>with</sup> that non-Jewish organizations such as the Quakers, and others. They should try to convince the United States Government that a special rate for relief money should be established in view of the fact that it is impossible to increase the money destined for Germany, since the campaign has already been started and is not too successful. Since the currency reform could mean a breakdown of the apparatus of the Central Committee and, to a certain extent, of the Joint, as well as of other organizations, the United States Government might yield and allow a special relief rate - at least as a temporary measure.

Dr. Schwartz, whom I met in Paris on July 21st, concurred and recommended that the five cooperating organizations should at least ~~try~~ make an attempt to get a special relief rate granted.

2. I informed Prof. Haber of the Memorandum No. 21, dated March 22, concerning the citizenship requirements for certain positions. This Memorandum is attached to my report. I could report to him that a certain Mr. W., now employed with the Office of War Crimes in Nuremberg, had applied for a new position in Vienna. The Colonel had interviewed him and told him that he would be suitable for the job in question. Then the Colonel asked him the following question, "If you get the order to blow up a bridge in Tel Aviv, would you do it?" Mr. W. retorted, "Would you ask a Catholic to blow up the Vatican?" The Colonel said he was very sorry not to be able to recommend Mr. W. for the position in question since he sees that he finds himself "in a mental conflict." In other words, the ~~the~~ visible trend is to exclude all people with so-called "sensitive spots". Jews are always among them. Cases in Munich (Paul W. Friedma

prove it. Prof. Haber promised to make the necessary intervention and will report.

3. The problem of whether Prof. Haber will continue his function as Jewish Adviser was discussed at length. I received the definite impression that he would like to do it but he does not want to risk his position at the University of Ann Arbour. He had promised the University that he would return in October of this year and, therefore, feels that he cannot ask for a further leave of absence. If a way can be found to have influential people approach the University, it would be possible to return Prof. Haber for another six or even nine months. Major Heyman, with whom I also spoke about this matter, ~~suggested~~ said to me that we should, under any circumstances, choose a Jewish Adviser who would not have to return to the United States so soon. Major Heyman, who has been in the Jewish Advisory Office since its inception, thinks that a definite disadvantage lies in the fact that none of the Advisers have held out for more than one year at the most. This point will be taken up with the five cooperating organizations.

I told Prof. Haber that we appreciate his two suggestions to solve this problem of our operation with a small staff in Germany. These two suggestions, as follows, he had made to me in Montreux:

- a) To attach two or three WJC people to one of the organizations.
- b) To try to attach our people to the Office of the Jewish Adviser.

Although he had made the second suggestion in Montreux very positive, he tried to convince me that we should adopt the first suggestion which would give us freedom of movement throughout the whole United States zone. When I spoke <sup>the second time</sup> to Prof. Haber, ~~thaxaxaxax~~ <sup>the second time</sup> who was most cordial and hospitable, he told me that he had taken up this matter with General Hubner already, and he thinks that it would be far easier if we would follow his <sup>first</sup> second suggestion. He told me that he had also spoken with Dr. Prins. I told him that my definite impression is that suggestion (a) would be the only one that we would be able to accept but, of course, that decision will be made <sup>by</sup> with the Executive. I also asked him to try to work out a solution which would allow us to come in, attached to his office. He promised me that he would do <sup>what</sup> would he can. Nevertheless, my impression is that the military authorities, as well as Dr. Haber himself, would appreciate a settlement under which we would come in attached to one of the operating organizations.

In addition to the above problems, Prof. Haber discussed Dr. Goldmann's statement concerning the alarming situation in view of growing anti-Semitism in Germany, and the danger of violence breaking out. He showed me his statement about it, which I criticized because I was informed in Munich by his brother, Zone Director of the Joint, that the ~~situation~~ students of Munich planned a demonstration in the Moehlstrasse which was subsequently forbidden ~~only~~ due to the alertness of the Jewish Organization in Munich. Prof. Haber agreed that the formulation of his statement could have been more carefully worded, but he insisted that there is no danger for the Jewish DPs as long as American forces

are in Germany.

I will give my impressions on these problems in a separate report.

Kurt R. Grosman

KRG:FS

7/9/1948

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE:

NAME OR SUBJECT      Letter

FROM:

Dr. Jacoby

TO:

Prof. Haber

REGARDING:

Jacoby's "Story of the Jew. DP"

SEE:

Camps spec. folder, Story etc.

July 1, 1948

✓  
To: Dr. Kubowitzki, Dr. Marcus  
From: N. Robinson

Re: Discussion with Prof. Haber

I discussed with Prof Haber first of all the problem of the powers of attorney to be issued by Polish DP's in order to regain their property in Poland. I wrote him a formal letter requesting his assistance in this matter, and he promised to take it up upon his return to Germany.

We also reviewed the problem of the so-called Sonderfonds for the benefit of racial and political persecutees, in connection with the currency reform, i.e. the extent of their reevaluation. He could not promise anything in this respect, in view of the uncertainty about the future policies of the Western Powers in Germany.

Finally we discussed several matters relating to restitution, and especially the problem of using funds, belonging to Jews, available in Germany for paying the expenses of claims and other expenses. Prof. Haber promised to do his best in this question.

318767

French Power

11/12.52

What is the French position

in between: -

based on emotion - to soon to force and force

No policy based largely on emotion - cannot have success

but revenge - weakness of our policy

keeping the Germans down will become

of the most powerful nation on the continent

area of food - Land of Excess

Shipping of emphasis -

new - realities -

1) Joint Community 20-25 000

system will be a sort of counterforce in future

2) France will flank Germany

3) Strategic power of the Continent of Europe



Movement West Coast - 4000 -

1) Business among etc (1.000) - 300

2) Business II. number 7000

Movement of bank for France - insignificant, but in number

Coordinating Committee

rotating chairmanship

897813

unreasonable

John family

with

Access to be  
congratulated

final address: yes!

Relief area ~~shall~~ should come

to our end  
used almost completely  
eliminated

removal of head core -

Central & elegant ~~operation~~

AT - Bill

4 to 5 nearly automatic

final occurrence in a survey will

Public	6000	97.97
Public	6000	97.97
US Gov	6000	50.97
Public	1000	
Public	1.000	

691813

*Camps Barish*

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: 3/15/1950

NAME OR SUBJECT

**Esno**

FROM:

**Grogman**

TO:

**Dr. Marcus**

REGARDING:

**Meeting of 4 Organizations with Chaplain Barish wh presented his report on Germany**

SEE:

**Camps, 4 Organizations**

CONFIDENTIAL

*Chaplain Barish*

Minutes of meeting #50-1 of the four organizations  
with Chaplain Barish, March 13th, 1950 at the JDC offices

Present: Mr. Kurt Grossman World Jewish Congress  
Dr. Eugene Hevesi American Jewish Committee  
Mr. David Weingard Joint Distribution Committee  
Mr. Eli Rock  
Dr. Boris Sapir  
Chaplain Barish

The meeting was called for the purpose of meeting with Chaplain Barish, who had only recently returned to the U.S. after serving several years as an assistant to the Adviser on Jewish Affairs, U.S. Zone of Germany. The talk by Chaplain Barish and the discussion afterwards contained the following highlights.

1) According to Chaplain Barish, Germany should be regarded as of continued importance by the outside Jewish world for the following reasons:

a) There will be a Jewish community for the predictable future of some 20-25,000 people.

b) Germany will serve as a transit center for Jewish emigration from Eastern Europe.

c) It will probably continue to be the object of bounty of the Western powers for a considerable time and will be increasingly important in world politics. It could, for example, become a jumping off point for a world-wide anti-Semitic drive.

2) Because of the latter factors, Chaplain Barish feels that a more realistic policy towards Germany is required on the part of the Jews of the world. He feels that the attitude hitherto of blind refusal to have anything to do with Germany, even to the point of refusing any of the small gifts which the Germans have proffered for Jewish assistance, etc., would appear to be a mistaken one. According to Chaplain Barish, a more proper attitude would involve a continuing realistic appraisal and evaluation of what the Germans have done to the Jews in the past, but at the same time accepting any signs of recompense which the Germans offer, while demanding still more from them. If the Germans make a proper gesture, Chaplain Barish feels that they should be congratulated, and when they take a step in the wrong direction, they should be exposed and attacked. This latter type of approach, in his opinion, would be realistic in view of Germany's position in the world today, but the hitherto "refusal-to-deal" policy would seem to be not only unjustified but even dangerous.

318771

3) Insofar as the relief problem for the Jews of Germany is concerned, Chaplain Barish feels that the welfare program should be completely ended very soon, leaving only the problems of removal of the hard core and the preservation of religious and cultural life of the remaining Jewish community of Germany. Chaplain Barish breaks down the present Jewish community population distribution as follows:

- a) Berlin - 6,000 - 80% of whom are German Jews
- b) British Zone - 6,000 - over 90% of whom are German Jews
- c) U.S. Zone - 6,000 - majority German Jews
- d) Russian Zone - 1,000
- e) Miscellaneous - 1,000

Total - 20,000

The above total, plus those individuals (in camps and in the communities) who could be described as DPs awaiting emigration, would bring the total Jewish population of Germany to somewhat more than 35,000. All in all, there are about 10,000 DPs still in the camps.

4) With reference to the DP Bill, Chaplain Barish expressed strong concern as to the wisdom of the Jewish organizations in America having backed such legislation. He points out that for every Jew who will come in under the new bill, there will be four or five viciously anti-Semitic non-Jews who will come into the U.S. These latter have been infected by the current emphasis in Central Europe on some of the Jewish names who are leaders in the Eastern European communist governments and there is wide-spread talk among these groups about the "Jews who have taken our countries away from us."

5) With reference to the transitaires coming into Germany from the Eastern European countries, Chaplain Barish pointed out that these are not as much in need as they previously were. Apparently these people are now often rehabilitated before they leave their home countries.

6) Chaplain Barish spoke also about the very solid standing of the Deutsche Mark today, emphasizing that the illegal rate of exchange is only 4.08 as opposed to the legal rate of 4.

7) Chaplain Barish was asked about the recent official ruling in Germany to the effect that DPs migrating to Israel would be permitted to take prefabricated houses from Germany, as household goods. According to Chaplain Barish, very few of such houses have actually been taken to Israel by the DPs because of such factors as freight costs, the cost of erecting the house in Israel, the fact that the prefabricated German type of house may not be "right" for Israel, and the fact that these houses do not make as good "business items" for resale in Israel as other types of items which can be purchased in Germany.

CROSS-REFERENCE SHEET

DATE: December 31, 1949

NAME OR SUBJECT Report

FROM: Barisch

TO:

REGARDING: Israel

SEE: Israel Publications, spec. folder

*Camp Barish*

HEADQUARTERS  
EUROPEAN COMMAND  
Office of the Adviser on Jewish Affairs  
APO 403, U. S. Army

*file*

23 December 1949

Dear Mr. Grossman:

I had the privilege to visit Israel and to observe how a consecrated people is forging a new nation.

It is a pleasure to share some of my observations and experiences with you. I hope that you will find the report worth reading.

Sincerely yours,

*Louis Barish*

LOUIS BARISH  
Captain (Chaplain)  
Assistant Adviser  
on Jewish Affairs

LB/rs

Mr. Kurt Grossman  
c/o World Jewish Congress  
1834 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

318774