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Overseas travel. Notes, reports, and agendas. 1956-1957.

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Wednesday, December 4, 1957

*Trip to Poland
with Murray Seaburn*

Left New York in terrible snowstorm - awful trip - landed Lyons - late - train to Paris - saw Jordan - slept Prince de Galles - 4 hours.

Friday, December 6

very early train to Brussels - Lot to Warsaw - 27 hours late - confusion - Katz went to field three times. Haber went to Wroclaw.

Dinner with K. and Netchen Netzer

Big argument between Verband and Joint on 3 counts:

1. Verband wants Joint to office in their building Novogrodski 5. This is for their credit standing with the Jews and with the government. This would be very bad.
2. Verband wants Joint to spend money on investments in constructive enterprises, i.e. cooperatives, and not on social welfare assistance. This is ridiculous. Compromise may be reached on 10% for coops.
3. Verband wants Joint director to be under them and makes harrassment, even to extent of not letting Habers visa be renewed.

Haber very strong in opposition to them, and says no money will come in if Joint cannot have independence. He must be supported in this power struggle.

Pop. - 30 to 33,000 "old"

Polish Jews; 10,000 repatriates.

Negotiations just completed for foreign currency payments for travel from Polish border to ports.

Aliyah 1958 is expected to be half of "old" Poles, if present situation politcially continues and does not get worse.

Also may be expected 5-7,000 repats, "invalids", some of whom are very bad, amputees, etc. but 3/4 of whom are arbertsfahig.

Repats coming from Russia at rate of 500 per month, but it is expected that 10-15,000 will come during 1958.

Unofficial understanding that repats will be able to leave in 1959. $\frac{1}{2}$ "old" Poles will leave during 1958 - balance will probably remain because they are hard-core communists, psychologically broken and unable to start new life, compromised Jewishly during war (Kapos, etc), mixed marriages, in professions which cannot be suited to Israel, etc.

N. says there may be many more Marranos than suspected - possibly 10,000.

After dinner, drove with K. through Warsaw. Terribly depressing. Much destr~~u~~ction - broad streets where rubble cleaned and no rebuilding - huge areas vacant - no lights, people or vehicles - feeling of dead city. Vast 40-story Palace of Culture (Russian built). Gloomy, gruesome - Ghetto

Nalewki Allee disappears into new building blocks. New street Nowotki cut through parallel to it, 3 meters higher than surrounding territory because built on Ghetto rubble. I remember Ghetto area as vast plain, empty, all bricks - only church steeple rising above plateau of destruction. Today many new 5 & 6 story blocks built in ghetto area.

Monument being surrounded by new buildings, and soon will be swallowed up. They all will be forgotten of what the ghetto meant and was.

Bristol Hotel, ^{city's} ~~cities~~ best, is old, dark, forced attempt at lights and music in dining room. Room was little cell with primitive furniture - table, 2 chairs, bed, one light.

Talked with Haber by phone in Wroclaw - make arrangements to meet in Lodz tomorrow. Will go by early train.

7 December

Train to Lodz - long talk with lady in compartment - She director in Theatre, profession, radio, etc. Aunt and uncle in Tel Aviv for 35 years - Hashomer Hatzair (friends of Ben ^{Tov} ~~Tov~~) - she went to visit them last year. They wanted her to stay, cried when she wouldn't but understand her desire to go "home". Poland is her home. She asked Saltzman why he didn't leave Cleveland for Israel. She was born here, suffered here - "one is bound by bitter as well as sweet". A friend went to Montreal in 1936, tried to persuade her to come - she refused, and is certain that while he is better off materially, she is happier spiritually in Poland. She knows many Polish Jews went to Israel, but she is staying to help build Polish cultural life. She "feels" herself to be Polish. Perfect example of the "other half" who won't go.

Haber - 4 reception centers in Poland where repatriates come direct from Russia. Gov't gives them initial grant of 300 zl. and keep them in centers from one month to 3. Then sends them to places where there are other Jews and where there is room. The transfer is done by the government. When the families get to the town which they are assigned, they begin to scratch around to find living quarters. They go to the Joint Distribution Committee and get up to 5,000 zl per family for beds, table or whatever they need to make liveable whatever space they can find. The help of the Joint is indispensable, because the Jews can be flexible and try to move from town to town searching a dwelling.

As for jobs, the terribly important thing is retaining people who have been wandering for 15-16 years; and training the young. This is ORT, and Joint is prepared to grant a stipend to families whose breadwinner is retraining.

Lodz-- old folk's home - 70 people - horrible, cripples, mongoloids, club foot, dwarfs, bed-ridden - many there as long as five years - no hope- most fantastic collection of different social cases - all crying, begging to be taken to Israel - "don't let me die in Poland". One little lady, Mrs. Finder with Auschwitz number on arm.

Community house - great courtyard, with all religious facilities - Talmud Torah, Mikveh, shul, schochet, etc. Kitchen for 125 people - only hot meal they get is there. Boxes of 4 families piled in courtyard going to Israel. Most of house now inhabited by Gentiles - sad.

^{Attacked}
Was ~~attacked~~ for snapping picture on shabbos.

Children here knew something about Channukah

8 December - Auschwitz

)story of brick-layer - I did not come to Poland to lay bricks, I will go to Israel and lay bricks, and till then I will not work. I will not let them build a country on our backs.)

Fishgrund himself admit that 90% of the repatriates come in with the only avowed purpose of going on to Israel.

Most repatriates want to work while they are waiting. They know they have a year or so, and don't want to live on charity. There is a big discussion about providing them with enough small capital for forming working cooperatives so that they can earn at least something.

Visit to Oswiecim and Birkenau - nothing to write - overcome with horror ----

1. far away corner of Poland
2. back barracks for 40-50,000 at one time
3. over 4 million gassed and cremated there
4. exhibit is thorough:
 - a. symbolic urn
 - b. maps and charts of two camps
 - c. model of crematorium
 - d. displays of human hair, eyeglasses, brushes, false limbs, suitcases
5. one crematorium at Oswiecim had wreaths on ovens; carts on rollers
6. four crematoria at Birkenau destroyed by Germans as Russians advanced
7. barracks at Birkenau were of Dachau type - three shelves on tiers.

(Sam Jaffe got sick and cried and couldn't go on)

Wroclaw -- visit to club (maintained by Verband) Packed full - many children - whole atmosphere reminiscent of DP ^{area} ~~car~~ - crowd of people, anxious, future unknown; huddled together for comfort; nervous; susceptible to rumors; some complaining that they don't receive the help intended for them, the committee keeps it and they should get it directly; pathetically eager to be reassured about Israel; aware of bad letters but ignoring them; aware that it may be a year till they can leave, but not really wanting to admit it to themselves; all want to go to Israel.

At supper, conversation with Fishgrund about future of Polish Jewry.

1. All repatriates will leave
2. Most of old settlers will leave
(They will not be deterred even by bad letters)
3. Some of old settlers will remain
 - a. invalides
 - b. assimilated
 - c. fanatic communists.

This really gives very little future for a Polish Jewish community. He compared it with Bulgaria which has a remnant of 6,000 left.

(Later in discussion with Smolar and Sfar, they thought the Bulgarian yishav was quite healthy)

Wroclaw=== slept in Hitler's room #18 in Hotel Monopol, with balcony
Visited school (kids in 10th class didn't know about Chanukah) 450 kids in Sholom Alechem school - problems with Russian, Polish, Yiddish - no common language. Jewish history will be taught - canteen will open, so kids can stay an extra hour and learn Hebrew. Kids come from all over city by special street car. Teachers working hard, but somehow did not feel Jewish spirit.

Suitcase cooperative - amateurish

Visited Synagogue - big crowd gathered inside. All said they wanted to leave - old shammash with boots and beard, warned against giving money to Verband - all spoke against putting money in cooperatives.

K. on emigration

No one knows the exact number, probably another 20,000 Poles plus 10,000 repatriates from the year 1958. To all intents this will solve the problem.

Factors to continue:

- a. border to port payments settled.
- b. policy statement about full immigration (Polish Ambassador to Israel)

c. German family reunion continues

Voices are heard against continuation.

Counter-current (which may affect 1959) already beginning to set in. But let's not worry about that at moment.

If the movement continues, 1958 might see 20 and 10! *over repatriates* *local Poles*

Repatriates cannot go, and yet actually by groups, of invalides, compassionate cases, etc. 10 repats will go.

Permissible

Jews cannot live in the soil of Poland because they cannot put roots in this soil - memories of Auschwitz and ghetto.

(don't use phrases - such as fleeing from slavery, because this reflects badly on Polish government)

Jews must leave, because they cannot live as Jews - but we dare not put it in such a way as will be dangerous.

1. don't attack Polish government for anti-semitism. This government tries to stop it, but cannot.
2. don't speak of fleeing from slavery.
3. don't make any reference to fleeing from communism
4. don't quote numbers for 1958, but use known figures of 1957 (35,000) and stress children, invalids, etc. Among future immigrants, number of social cases will increase, because stronger and more agile have already left.

NO AD IN PAPER

FILM OK IN CLOSED MEETINGS

Line

In 1957 there were 35,000 *emigrants* from Poland. We hope in 1958 there will be at least as many - nobody knows. But one thing we do know, all transportation must now be paid in hard currency, for everyone Jew and non-Jew, to any country. This will cost us more - and the number of Jews coming out may depend on us.

When people make applications to leave, they are asked to bring in tickets (border to port) paid for in foreign currency.. The people will get these tickets. There must be enough foreign currency available so that tickets can constantly be bought.'

December 9 - evening = dinner back in Warsaw

1. Haber 2. Jaffe 3. HAF 4. Saltman 5 Dr. Libo 6 Mrs. L. 7 Eng. Frankel 8. Dr. Heymann 9. Spanien (UHS) 10. K. came later.

Libo wants to leave for Israel, is having passport trouble, was requested to bring tickets paid in division, is worried. K. later told me nothing to worry about. Libo gave me old Torah shield from Lodz.

10 December - Warsaw

1. Professor Mark, Jewish Historical Institute - saw Ringelblum archives, canisters, original papers. Mark worried about cemetery markers, other physical evidences, going to ruin, wants film made. Mark, himself C.P. (formerly took semicha) privately says Polish Yishuv is finished. Probably going himself to Israel. Historical institute next to vacant lot on which Great Synagogue was destroyed.
2. Kehilla - to see Nozyk synagogue. Building badly bombed, part now being rebuilt for ORT. Old Rabbi Petrocowitz (90) lives there. Frankel has a room. Kitchen feeds 150 daily. Synagogue pretty pathetic - top women's gallery closed off because too cold.

Full on R. H., Y. K. and every Yizkor. Otherwise barely a minyan on Shabbas morning.

3. Central Verband - Smolar and Sfard.

- a. there will remain a yishuv
- b. there will be a Jewish content to the program of the Verband in the schools and clubs. (There are seven Jewish schools in Poland.)
- c. they want contact with world Jewry and do not think they are imposing political conditions when they write to the World Jewish Congress as they did.
- d. they want the Joint to put money in cooperatives and private machines - not to make beggars out of the people.

(They really talked the hard-boiled communist line-and I wouldn't trust them)

4. Ghetto - with Netzer - saw line of wall, entrance point, first fighting, Umschlagplatz, monument, Judenrat. Monument is on site of former Jewish police HQ, in cellar of which was HQ of ZOB.

Ghetto all rebuilt, including area around monument, which will soon be completely observed.

Total Itinerary

1. arrived Friday, 6 December - evening with Katz and Netzer
 2. Saturday am - train to Lodz - to meet Haber, Jaffe, Fishgrund. Visited old folks home, Libo. Slept Katowice.
 3. Sunday am - to Auschwitz, then to Wroclaw, visited club, Sunday evening.
 4. Monday am - Wroclaw school, Kehilla, cooperative, then to Warsaw.
 5. Tuesday - Warsaw
- Auschwitz - grotesque
Ghetto - scar
famous towns - empty
DP atmosphere

not a single Jew will live in Egypt in three months

born Cairo - 3,4 generations born there
Hebron in Palestine many generations ago
juridically counted French
nationally Tunisian
rented house - arrived furniture
crushed stone plant

*I am in Position in Egypt,
described*

30 October - heard about invasion on radio-ran away for ten days to sister in suburbs came back home 11 November police officer came at midnight - "sign here" this acknowledges that you must stay at home. I stayed in ten days - servant went out to buy food.

They heard radio that all Tunisians (and French) are allowed to leave house. Was owner of plant with father and brother-in-law.

Upon being allowed out of house, November 21 went Police - who said that they must leave country in ten days.

Cashed my monthly check and left country in three days. Went to Sabena bought ticket. Banks were blocked - Jews not allowed to cash checks.

Took 4 suitcases of clothes

Arrived Paris December 4

Red Cross gave 15 days at small hotel. I made contacts with friends and was promised job middle January.

I read London Jewish Chronicle that 5,000 Jews have left Egypt this way. This is a typical story.

travellers checks - good only if OK

All Jews believe that the three months limit - because all repeat to each other what they heard from police officers.

Also because the date of renewals of residence is 31 March. They believe there will be no renewals.

I signed paper that I am leaving country of my own free will.

Most Jewish population is in panic.

Trying to get job here - if not, go to Israel and fight if necessary.

We are ready to give it back. Reasonable time here would be 60 days.

Stateless&Egyptian will go to Israel. Even foreign nationality will go to Israel because only one door open without money or jobs.

People cannot stay in France very long.

Jews didn't leave Egypt when they had chance - because they have money and business.

Frantic, excited

One man who had printing plant - cost IL 30,000 and 20 years of effort. They took it over night. Showed me pictures of his plant, printing labels for Coca Cola and Shell oil.

One man who had small novelty shop in Main Street in Cairo received telegram from brother-in-law in Montreal that he was trying to get him visa to Canada.

Next day police came and took business - saying they knew he was leaving and they were taking business as guaranty that he would pay his taxes.

Policeman offered IL 5 for refrigerator. No choice.

More than 15,000 cars were taken from Jews.

One refugee arrived today said that Chief Rabbi had been ordered to leave in 60 days. (Says he heard it on Israel radio) (I think rumor)

Another man (Saul Adler) publicity and theatrical agent - he and father born in Cairo - but stateless. Now has application of Jewish Agency in his pocket.

Doesn't think many Jews will go to Israel

Thus

These reasons why Jews don't go to Israel

1. fear of war
2. fear of discrimination against Sephardim
3. fear of Hebrew language

"We have drifted into talking politics - lets talk about the future".
We were "advised" to leave - not expelled

Mrs. Mizrachi said: They wanted Jews to wear yellow armbands. Chief Rabbi said that if they forced this, he would go to American Consulate and ask for UN planes to come and take them out, as they were (like the Iraqis)

Professor of Arabic language left Il 40,000 property - rented his building as school. Had 24 hours to leave - got paralytic shock. Penniless. Beggar for 500 francs - was refused.

3 January

long talk with Schuster, American Jewish Committee. He was aware of long silence on Egyptain stor. Thinks this is greatest tragedy since Hitler - thinks we are not being fair to this story by failing to give it full treatment. Agrees that there must be developed a fuller PR approach to get more stories (even repetitive) into world press. Will work on this. Shouldn't be allowed to die of neglect.

Also doesn't understand attitude of US State that it needs "more information". What more? Aren't facts enough 5 or 6,000 Egyptain Jews wandering around Europe? Every European government is aware of presence of these people - and is helping them. Italy and Belgium have agreed to admit any number of stateless. France, Greece, England has felt physical impact of pressure of refugees.

Nasser's purpose is to expropriate as much of total Jewish wealth as he can get his hands on, to impoverish, to terrorize and to cause to leave - he is clever in way he does this. Expulsions are individual, not mass.

Hungary -- There will be great trouble in future. When Russians withdraw and weak Kadar government folds or is replaced

3 January -- lunch with Tsur

1. couldn't get any single nation to make protest in the UN about what was happening to Jews in Egypt. So Israel had to do it herself.
2. If Nasser stays, Egypt will be ruined in a year.
3. Jewish population of Egypt approx. 40-45m. - of these 20 are foreigners nationals; and 5 Egyptain; and 15 stateless.

French and French protege (Moroccan and Tunisian) 10

British 2-3

Greek 1-2

Italian 5

Spanish - few hundred

Egyptains coming to France cannot be absorbed in France. The French and Egyptains themselves not only the Jewish French. The Jewish community is pressed by the North African Jews let alone the newer Egyptain arrivals. About 3,000 Egyptain Jews have come to France. Some have found relatives here.

Israel government gave guarantee to French and Italian that anyone who goes to Swiss legation in Cairo and says he wants to go to Israel, should be given transit visas to Italy or France

and Israel will stand behind it

(Most British passport holders among Jews are Yemenites - via Aden)

Italian government says that is is happy to take Jews - but they cannot be absorbed in Italy, which is already a surplus country.

At beginning, some refugees will say they don't want to go to Israel - after few months they will go.

Movement from North Africa is mostly Aliyah Bet. Practically nothing legal. There are no negotiations with Morocco anymore.

In Tunis, they stopped passports - so it was suggested to give laissez-passer which was theoretical deprivation of citizenship, and enables Tunis to rebut Egyptian pressure. This 600-700 monthly continues.

Algeria, very little emigration. The Jews feel themselves French. If French lose or even compromise, Jews will leave, not be able to be absorbed in France (for economic reasons and also because of their presence of $\frac{1}{2}$ million colons anti-semites), and then on to Israel, even if not by first choice. Crises is gradually coming.

3 January - 3:30 JDC Staff Meeting

Hungarian - more than 13,000 registered - may be more who have not yet identified themselves. Departures from Austria have been to disadvantage of Jews. Non-Jews moved into all countries without preparation. Jews who have moved to European countries, do not exceed 1,000 of 80,000 who have moved out of Austria, perhaps not more than 4,000 Jews have left including US. This is much less than ratio. Jews have focused on overseas, particularly US. They have not been interested in Israel.

As of Sunday night, there were 11,000 Jews in Austria. (This means 15,000 must have come in) Another few thousand may get out - overseas. This leaves a caseload of 8,000 without country future intake. This is a big load. We favor a more aggressive policy of Jewish Agency to sell.

150,000 in	80,000 out	= approx. $\frac{1}{2}$
14,000 in	4,000 out	= approx. less than $\frac{1}{3}$

emigration to Israel. We work them toward this objective.

Jews are in small hotels - because we have many experiences of anti-semitic attitudes in mixed camps. Austrian government appreciates this and goes along. Week ago very bad incident caused us to take 60 out of camp - send them to private homes in Salzburg. We can't go on with this terrible expensive private lodging.

Tentative policy: "Jewish corners" in mixed camps. Everybody is against special Jewish camps. At same time, everybody recognizes special Jewish problem.

All future intake will be sent to camps, not hotels. Also single men now in hotels can be selected out and transferred to camps.

Aguda has adopted an aggressive policy toward the Hungarian problem. They have sailed in and given impression they are only agency taking care.

If we try to change-over from hotel to camp, Aguda may make capital and say Joint is being cruel, etc. This is a PR problem for us.

The end has yet to come. Demoralization inside Hungary is so bad, more may yet come. Present slow down is temporary, due to railroad strike, weather, etc. We must all be prepared for many more thousands. Rate today is 500 - 1,000 per night. This is low compared to potential.

Bus Incident

Kaisersteinbruch is staging area for resettlement. 800 people were told to leave it, who had been left behind. They were sore. Hundreds of Jews passed through this camp enroute to US. ICEM buses came in to pick them up. The 800 threatened buses and said that they wouldn't let Jews out/alive. Austrian police had to protect. About 60 Jews were left behind and the 800 threatened them after the buses left. So we moved the 60.

Residence breakdown

9,500 in small private hotels
2,500 in some form of collective living

EGYPT

5,000 Jews from Egypt have arrived in 23 boats - uncounted planes - 5 countries this coming Sat-Sun. a boat arrives with 1,000. Former were mostly national passport holders. The next group are mostly stateless.

Of first 4,000 arrivals, 500 went to Israel, about 1,000 are on assistance in France, several hundred in Italy, few hundred in other countries.

Italy has been wonderful in offering visas, but it is hoped they will move on.

Indications are that on this first boat of stateless, most have said they want to go to Israel. This is good. What will next boat show?

Jewish institutions in Egypt are bankrupt - old folks home, childrens home, hospital etc. We have given IRL money \$25,000 to try to get it to these institutions. We have also given IRL \$10,000 (first 25 in cash) to pay for passage of those who are unable to pay for themselves. This should be confidential, because status of IRL can be damaged.

5.30 Asael

Out of Morocco about 700 in December
Could be larger, but we cannot stimulate because our hands are full in Egypt and Eastern Europe.
from Tunis 300-400 and Algeria 150-200
This rate will apply for January and February.
Beginning March it will be more. We will not be able to resist pressure
In next three months, with overflow from Egypt and Poland, could be 30,000 waiting for movement to Israel. He suggests camp in Italy.
No prediction about what next few weeks will bring in Egypt. Don't know what preparations to make.

4 January - Rome-Harold Trobe (JDC) & Haskell (Agency)

Egyptain refugees - about 2,400 landed in Italy so far - about 400 left - 2,000 others passed to other countries. Of these 400 most are Italian passport holders. Probably 6 to 7000 Egyptain Jews. Italian nationals - most claim Livorno as place of origin. This is because many decades ago, there was fire in Livorno and all records destroyed. Jews in Egypt went to Italian consulate, said that they were originally from Livorno - no way of checking and they bought Italian passports. Most have never been in Italy and speak no Italian (If story of Yemenite Jew who became British passport holders via Adem)

Most of 400 require only financial help. Being kept in small hotels for time being.

Ship due Sunday 6th with 950 mostly stateless. 855 have indicated intention go direct Israel, according to ILRL escort on board. 92 have indicated plans to try for other countries. Probably have ship ready for Israel by next day (Monday) and transfer people immediately. This is important test.

Re Poland: About 70 or 80 daily come from Vienna by train to either Genoa or Naples, depending upon next sailing. At present about in Naples waiting for next ship. No wait longer than one week. About 20% fly direct from Vienna and 80% come to Italy to go by ship.

They come with large quantities of baggage - about $\frac{1}{2}$ ton per family. Poland lets them take anything out - some even said that could take autos, but it was too complicated. They have clothing, household goods, tools, even small machines. All are very concerned about their baggage in the various train shifts from station to station. In the 8 or 10 valises is the entire property of the family for starting a new life.

Out of 1,500 last month, only 10 stayed behind. There is no defection. There is evidence of a sharp increase in the rate of flow. First of all, we must revise our figures. Thought there were 40-50,000 Jews in Poland. Now looks like 50-70,000 = because many Jews who lived as Christians under Nazis and Communists are now coming out of hiding and identifying as Jews to join exodus. Also, under the repatriation from Russia just beginning, there are possible an additional 40,000 Jews.

Secondly the number of exit visas being granted is rising. They used to give about 70 per day. The actual number of departures. Thus they controlled the flow of departure by the number of permits granted. Third week in December they granted 1,055 permits - almost double the previous week - and since then it is continued around 150 per day.

5th January - Rapido train Rome-Naples

Haskell talked with Davidevani in Warsaw who confirms the higher daily rate of permits granted.

Visited Italian Emigrant Center which Ministry of Labor is making available for 335 Egypt. Jews enroute to Israel.

Went small hotel where about 100 Polish Jews asked why they left. They said antisemitism is wide-open, wide-spread and virulent. Gave as examples: a) Jews lose jobs, b) students demonstrate - "out with Jews" c) people insult Jews in trainways, streets, etc. d) kids not allowed to register in school with their Jewish names i.e. must be Felix not Faivel; e) people sore about Jews in UB.

Since XX Party Congress (de-stalinization) it has become easier for Jews to get out.

Process as follows:

- 1- apply for Polish exit permit
2. takes about 2 months (in some cases much shorter) to get Polish passport, which is stamped valid for travel to Israel only; and stamped that the person gives up Polish citizenship.
- 3- Then person applies for Israel visa - takes about a month (sometimes much less)

Baggage - can take everything out, only dependent on cost - average 5 zloty per killo (varies in different provinces) - average baggage per family is 300-1,000 killo. For instance - man, wife and two children - had 470 killo, paid 1570 zloty - saw his list - contained clothes, bedding, dishes, pots, cutlery, tea service, radio - some people bring bicycles, very few bring furniture. Israeli consulate gives help to poor Jews, so they can buy things before they leave.

Even if letters from Israel bad, Polish Jews will continue to come out. Now that the Polish doors are open, Jews are grabbing the opportunity. There is fear that doors will be closed. Saw one man who had been in Russia 6 weeks ago - came with repatriation group.

6th January -- SS Misr	(17 have visas
ship under direction	67 stateless want European countries
of ILRL Robert Porchet	885 want Israel

almost 1,000 Jews - 78 who were interned. Story of interment: family Stein - pretty girl - 3 in prison. They took Jews with money into camp to get the money. Two months. Prison citadel 1 day Prison Alexandria - 1 day Abasich - 2 months. First 15 days very bad. 16-20 per room - guard insulted them - armed guards accompanied to lavatory. First two days didn't eat. After, let them down into courtyard two hours per day. All windows closed. No views from outside. Port Said family - priority press - stationary store - Employed 27 people. Released from prison 1 January and sailed immediately. Very badly treated. We asked for food - they said you are worse than dogs.

Dr. Cohen - 3 generations born Egypt stateless - pathologist in Jewish hospital in Cairo. They took hospital - threw out doctors and patients. 250 beds. Present internees - stateless - 150 Egyptain - 130 all other nationalities.

Perhaps 500 total. I was released from internment on board ship. I decided on 17 November, that I wanted to leave country. My car, money in bank - everything left behind. They let us take IL 100 per person and IL 50 per child. We paid IL 11 tax that per IL 180. No limit on baggage - but no jewelry radio, sewing machines IL 5 pocket cash. Average baggage per family was 100-500 killos.

"We never thought they were going to do such a thing"

My family received a written order to go to the pasport office (brahch of the Ministry of Interior). Ap passport office, they received a verbal order of expulsion. Even written notice to report to passport office was taken back.

Grunspan - publisher - agent of Readers Digest -52-stateless - father from Russia - 2 months in Abasnich - food (bribed guards to bring some in) no member of family could visit -no mail- sent in train from Cairo to Alexandria in hand-cuffs.

I sold my frigidaire, furniture to get money for tickets. My son is trying to sell the rest and will come out. 20 years old daughter "It was horrible there - like the Nazi times".

Showed us the keys to his car - Morris paid 1 930 left car behind - couldn't even give it to his son. I left Ismarlia - left behind everything - am happy to be going to Israel.

I had a jewelry shop - They closed it. We have a building - we left it. They sent me a letter and told me to leave.

I was a dental mechanic - took my wife and three sons and ran
recap: Three categories: 1- internees
2- expelees
3- left on own steam

took picture

Young student - 17 - I was supposed to get visa to continue studies in England. At ministry of education they told me "Get out, you are Jew". What does department of education have to do with religion? At school they told me "Get out, you are Jew". My father had job in bank - lost his job - why should we stay. I am going to Israel to shoot Egyptions.

took picture

One young fellow said his father stayed behind to try to sell their house worth IL 3to4,000. He was offered Il 50. I am going to Israel.

Rabbi on board - conducted services over loudspeaker on Sat.

Porchet flying back to Cairo - prepare for next ship. Received wire. They wanted next ship 20 January.

There are some workers, shoemakers, textile, bulb factory, mechanic.

One woman came off ship screaming, mad, strapped to stretcher

6 January eve - Polish group

one man - Alina Ater from 1940 - 46; Stettin 1946 - 56 - wanted to go to Israel in 49 couldn't Communist Jews prevented others from going. Today they don't prevent others from going. They don't prevent because today they want to leave themselves. Also Polish government wants to get rid of Jews. I was director of a state clothing store. I decided to leave on 11 August. By now about 30% of Stettin Jews (5,000) have left. About 90% have decided or begun preparations to leave. I know hot communists who are leaving because they say there is no future. My wife is not recognizable as Jew and when she comes off the street she cries because of the things she hears. They talk violently against Jews. I want to sleep in Israel in a broken bed but with a whole head. In the schools there are signs * "Jews out - to Palestine".

Monuments in cemeteries are despoiled. We could take out whatever we wanted. I'm taking furniture - 1500 killo to Trieste as cargo - 100 killo carrying with.

Another Jew in Wroclaw - was taken into Russian army - then into Urals - 1946 to Wroclaw. 15,000 Jews - most have begun to leave or thinking of leaving. I was bookkeeper, mostly non-Jews. Relations with non-Jews not bad until 1951, then things got worse. Earned 2,000 zloty shoes cost 400. I made a decision to change my life - it was easy because I wanted out. When I heard in May that it might be possible to go (I heard from a friend in a Polish police) I began the paper work. I'll do any work in Israel - don't have to be bookkeeper.

Young girl - 20 from Glibnitz - third year medical student - father killed by Germans - mother with her. Lived near Lemberg - under Germans in ghetto - then hidden by Christians in village. War ended was 8. Went to regular school in days and Mizrachi school in the evening. Home not religious - impossible in Poland. She wanted go Israel in 1952 but step-father died. Her friends had preceded her and she wanted to join them. She had no trouble in school. When she wanted to go now - no trouble. Hasn't heard of any Jews who are turned down. Wants to continue study in Israel.

Young man - 19 - born Galicia, last years been in Katowitz - no parents - has uncle in Israel. In war was in ghetto - later in forest. He was hidden with Christians in 1947 his uncle took him from Christians. Went to gymnasium. Went to Hebrew school 1 year 1947 - then it was closed, and private classes organized. Private teacher told him about Israel. He is going because he feels Israel is his country-otherwise he would remain in Poland. Studied flying for 1 year gliders, then Piper Cubs. 60 hours flying experience.

Girl wasn't known to be Jewish - so she experienced nothing - but she heard how they talked about Jews especially Jewish professors at school.

Why go to Israel:

- Girl said:
1. big anti-semitism now in Poland
 2. doesn't want to be minority - and be pointed out
 3. We should have our own state like everyone else
- Boy said:
1. He would like to know what he is living for and for whom he should spend his life

She is glad she is going to Israel, even though she is terrible worried about her studies.

7 January Naples - conversation with member of Rabbinate

All foreign national Jews are not considered Jews but are considered undesirable aliens. 7,000 French and 9,000 British. E Govt says 36,000 Egyptian Jews Foreign consuls protested. E. govt said they were undesirable and would be expelled E and stateless cannot work. "Residence" will be withdrawn for slightest misdemeanor. This is false a cover - in order to show that the expulsions do not reach a large figure. They will admit expelling foreign undesirables - but will always claim a large number of E. Jews remaining.

No figures really

In Cairo 4,000 families paid rates	16,000
Estimate that non-taxpayers	20,000
In Alexandria	20,000
Pre-expulsion population	max =60,000
French, British, Greek, Italian	20,000
Egyptians	10,000
Stateless	25-30,000

All big business sequestered.

1. No Jew can work as employee
2. No Jew can get import license - for his store
3. Businesses which have been sequestered from Jews, all Jews were thrown out.
4. Govt said that any Jew with complaint could apply to Ministry of Interior
But this gives no satisfaction
5. Money blocked as follows under regulation - 27 November 56:

3 categories of Jews_

700 sequestrations	- Those who received letters to Israel, who visited Israel
800	Members of Jewish Maccabi club
plus Black list	Can withdraw IL75 per month from bank
500	Internees

As for rest, if you are wealthy and cash check for IL 1,000 and/or IL2,000 next day you will be sequestered. Can draw up to IL 200 monthly, if you are not in above 3 categories without getting into trouble.

Two kinds of employees - big ~~societies~~ societies and private business

In big firms, which were sequestered, all Jews were fired. Then as the businesses were paralyzed - they took back some Jews (with intention to replace with Egyptians in future as possible). In business not sequestered, Jews were suspended. All key government employees were suspended "on holiday" technically not fired. Small employees are still working - but gov't looking to replace them when Egyptians are trained. In small private business, people can continue to work. Big business where previously the Jews didn't want to work on Saturday must work Saturday or quit.

6. Jews cannot sell their property if he is in three categories - but as soon as a "free" Jew starts an economic operation to sell his property, he goes on the black list. Furniture can be sold without danger; car sometimes dangerous; jewelry in small amounts, not dangerous (no market for Jewelry) Jews are under suspicion.

7. The small shopkeeper or small employee has been put in difficulty
 - a) If he worked for big Jewish firm now sequestered he lost job
 - b) Salesman lost income because there is no import or sale of goods
 - c) Small shopkeeper is still holding on; but very few

8. Shares cannot be sold.

French and British Jews gave their money; jewels, whatever they could to the Swiss consulate before leaving.

No future for Jewish population of Egypt. All must go. Everyone realizes it is impossible for Jews to stay. There will be a big rush in March and April, when the winter is over - there will be a thousand on every ship. People now preparing for April. This is mood among Jews.

"The day we got transit visas for Italy was like Purim. We embraced each other"

People in Grand Rabblimat are in danger. All under surveillance.

Story of the declaration of the Grand Rabbi: Nachim, secretary and committee were brought together. Gov't prepared the speech and ordered him to say it in Hebrew, French and Arabic. If you refuse, we are going to state that every Jew in Egypt is dangerous and may be arrested So he agreed.

8 January

enroute all day to Vienna
arrived 11:00 pm
meeting with Ziegelaub, Feder, Jaffe

15,567 Jews served by JDC
3,392 have ~~still~~ left
11,975 still in Austria
1,000 additional have come and gone to Israel.

9,354 in hotels
1,574 in private houses
354 in installations

1- Talmud Torah)
2- Childrens Homes) all run by KG
3- Pension)

639 in camps

giving kosher food and pocket money in addition
total arrivals from Hungary (ICEM figures) end of January 7 -- 160,698
91,788 - departures
remaining---- 68,910

(on general figures - almost 60% have left
on Jewish figures - only 25% have left

ICEM says movement to US is 21,284

Australian Jewish community officials have been in Vienna and decided upon 1,500 to Australia. This mostly involves people with close relatives in Australia

Total pop Hungary - 9 million - Jewish 120,000 -- 160,000 Hungarians have fled
1 1/2% of total population
16,500 Jews have fled
15% of total Jewish pop.

So far, one person (lady) returned to Hungary to get 10 year old daughter
One baby (6months) died frozen rowing accorss a lake all night

Why do Jews leave Hungary?

1. part of general mood of flight - Jews fought with freedom fighters
2. desire to emigrate overseas - family reunion
3. economic dislocation
4. fear of anti-semitism

One Jew came accorss wounded, having fought, wife died in fight and son died coming accross border.

Anti-semitism among Hungarian refugees in Austria - Camp Roeder public announcement over loudspeaker that any person making remarks would be barred from entrance to US intake has slowed down
highest day was 793 on December 12
lowest day was 83 on January 7
average has been 450 daily
for past week average has been 150 daily

9 January

Andau (Nixon went this far) then to Einser Canal, down road accross Marshes - right to border stone, past it into Hungary, to waters edge (bridge out). Talked with Austrian ranger,

armed, saw two soldiers across canal. They failed to respond. But shot once. Heard much shooting - saw tent with heat to dry out wet clothing if corssing. One group on road said they walked three days - another group asked about Caracas (one had sister there) - about 250 crossed last night. Saw German Red Cross, British lady in Save-A-Child. One University professor with son 9 said wife was shot yesterday. (Rumanian Orthodox Christians) by drunk Russian soldiers 10 Km. inside Hungary, who ~~had to leave her and go on~~ were hooping it up, shooting indiscriminately. She was killed by stray bullet. He had to leave her and go on with son. Wept openly. Two unaccompanied boys 11 and 8 were sleeping in corridor - made it alone from Budapest. All reports say now much harder to get accorss. Control extends back 20 Km. from border. Also much shooting on border to terrorize people. We heard it.

EISENSTADT

barracks-life complex of apartments inhabited by Russians, which they tore up badly upon leaving. Saw one apartment, with holes chopped in concrete floor for lavatory use, when toilet ceased functioning. Many agencies operating in this camp to which people are brought from Andar and other border points same day of arrival. Are kept here day or two before being sent on. In early days, trains of many countries came right to this town and took people away by thousands, without even any processing. USEP gives kits here. Saw US army field kitchen equipment. Few if any Jews here. Great majority young people. One lady well-dressed, eating soup, small gov't employee, described how last 20 km. of fields before coming to border had all been plowed up and how hard it was to walk through heavy mud - almost died of fatigue - threw away everything she was carrying - many times tempted to lie down in mud and give up. One man came accrose with three month old baby on his back in rucksack - reached Andar after a day and found baby dead.

Press conference in afternoon-completely attended - gave story as per attached release - many questions

Afterwards had conference with Maurer and Krell of IKG. They are bad. They want Hungarians sent on from Austria because afraid H. will cause anti-semitism.

Went to JDC office in Seitenstettengasse at 9PM packed in every room with interviewers, translators, etc. Personnel increased from 12 normal to 65. Some non-Jews. Police barricades down on street to keep people in line. Incredible strain on human energy and patience to handle 15,000 people one by one. Mere recording of data hard enough job. Quarters very bad, but some sort of assembly line process has been established to keep people from going room to room. Small black market going on in appointment cards to get inside the offices. Feder had to board up one staircase and put in various doors to plug entrance into building when it was discovered that there were leaks and people were sneaking in ahead of others. Everyone working with great dedication 18 hours daily and most of refugees are cooperating. Some problem with non-Jews trying to pass as Jews in order to get "better treatment" which Joint is giving in relation to other agencies.

Talk with Shilo, Jewish Agency man

He said exit from Poland was increasing - 3,500 in January. This is getting really big. Probably reach 4,000 in February. Trains from Warsaw to Vienna evening till following afternoon (3PM) - then on again to Genoa evening 8:30 PM until next evening - thus two full days on train with few hours in Vienna between. Taken from RR station to hotel for meal then back on train. He believes 70,000 Jews in Poland without repatriates. Everyone else thinks this is high. He believes all Jews will leave Poland - everyone else agrees.

Went with him to Sudbahnhof to see departure at 8:30 PM. About 150 Poles, plus about 80 Hungarians. Train is called Balkan express and leaves each evening for Genoa, Trieste, Athens and Istanbul.

Cars for Jews are marked "Sonder Wagon" - Reserviert ber Palastina Amt" In each compartment were many children - and youth. Excellent element. People were crystal clear as reasons for leaving Poland - and absolutely unanimous that all Jews would leave. We went from compartment to compartment, car to car, talked with very many. Stettin, Brealsu, Warsaw, Lodi-in all cities the Jews are leaving--they know they can get exit visas and they want to go to Israel. They are trained and skilled. Ten years under communism have made them, if anything, better for Israel. They have learned trades - among them are doctors, engineers, mechanics, metal workers, one professor of engineering. Have rarely seen such complete unanimity about future.

They know it will be tough in Israel - but they want it.

Met Durdevani at station - he had just come in from Warsaw. His estimate was under 50,000 but was well satisfied with the way things were going. No hitches. Cannot emphasize too strongly what a good element this Polish group is. Also Hungarians who elect Israel and are somewhat less convinced than the Poles were infected by contact with them and will benefit from it. It is good that they travel together.

Went to dinner at Ziegellaub's at 9:30 PM. Not everyone had gathered yet. Feder, his wife and Mrs. Katzki didn't leave office till after 10 and started to eat at 10:30. Exhausted. It has been this way for 2 months day after day. The staff has really been heroic. After dinner, all left quickly - too tired to talk anymore.

Jan 10 early

Went out to Traiskirchen = permanent camp, second step. Andar (border) to Eisenstadt (assembly pointed for day or two) to permanent places like Traiskirchen, of which this is the biggest but there are many others. This is also a RR terminal and many trains came here to take away thousands. Today the out flow had dwindled. This is a former Australian cavalry cadet school occupied by Nazis - later Russians - now in Austrian government hands, and assisted by Norwegian Red Cross. Nixon visited this place. Population about 3,500

About 150 Jews here - met one family. Group of 11 persons - 3 brothers all tailors. They came together as a group - made last 30 Km on foot - crossed border on 10 December 56 - two children 8 and 2 got bad flu and frostbitten from the cold and exposure, are still in hospital and that is why the family is still in camp. Has missed ~~20~~ one chance to move to US. Between them they have 4 uncles in US. They will not leave till the kids can travel and then they worry where can they go. I asked why they had left Hungary.

1. Fear of Hungarian facists (anti-semitism)
2. Under Nazi persecution - 80 members of family were lost - only these 11 left - two brothers had been in Matthausen - one had been deported to Siberia - one wife had been in Auschwitz. They were afraid that the Russians might someday do the same thing. When the chance came to get out, they left.
3. Economic - all three brothers are skilled tailors and have always had business or shops. In past 15 years, they had been ruined 4 times and had enough.
 - a) 1940 - Nazis
 - b) 1945 - after re-assembling from camps and siberia
 - c) 1948 - nationalization
 - d) 1956 - present revolt.

Munich - Durdevain - Shilo, Barr (rutek)

Morocco --- still keep 300 in camp, now same 300 always changing, last few months around 700 - 800 average exodus - main trouble is making contact with people, when you have no organization. Technical possibilities permit up to 1,500.

Tunis -- Jews not receiving laissez-passer, on a monthly basis. Gov't decides how many per month. Agreed on 400 for December. About 4-6,000 are registered.

Algiers = 300 monthly leaving - are organizing to increase to 500
min -800 + 400 + 300 = 1,500

TOTALS

max -1,500 + 500 + 500 + 2,500

Poland - Don't know what tomorrow will bring in satellite countries. Things can change. As of now, the entire Jewish population is leaving. Jewish officers in uniform come to Israel Embassy in Warsaw to register for emigration. Incident yesterday with general and mother. Embassy has given out around 15,000 promises, with 3.5 people on each. More than 30,000 people have registered for emigration: Incident: lady wanted to speak only with ~~xxx~~ ambassador or higher judges. Disappointed with communism wanted to register. A member of the Politburo itself has registered. Forty children in orphans home in Krakow have all received visas.

Estimate that few thousand will remain, thats all - as in Bulgaria. Our plan is that a normal aliyah should be 4,000 monthly. Technical problem is with Polish railroads. They don't have enough cars. They come out with clothing and thats all. At most when they can sell furniture and heavy stuff, they buy a typewriter, radio, washing machine, because they sell at very heavy losses. Workers don't have anything; intelligentsia had good jobs and houses, but leave these behind.

Hungary-- They promised that from 15 January they will give out new passes direct for Israel. Don't know whether they will keep their promise. Nothing really has begun - we will see.

(In Moscow they are showing a pro-Egyptain film about Sinai war. Jew goes. Next day takes wife and kids - let them have pleasure of seeing Jewish soldiers. Back-fire)

Russia-- Big job is to organize the repatriation - see how big it will be. Gomulka wants all Poles, back to 1939 and as far as Siberia. They say this could be 400,000 - and at least 10% Jews. There may be opportunities, with open trains, loose papers, etc. - to get Russian Jews into these convoys as well. We are watching this whole thing.

Rumania-- No movement out - not even the 180 who were imprisoned for Zionism, freed and promised emigration. Gov't broke this promise. Desire among $\frac{1}{4}$ million Jews to emigrate is terribly strong - same as Poland. Added to this is the desire for family reunion, because 1950-51 tens of thousands of Rumanians went to Israel.

Will have to watch this.

Hungary-- Internal work has three phases in addition to packages, clothing and kitchens.

- a) give money when it was needed for flight
- b) help procure living quarters since 30,000 dwellings were destroyed in the fighting.
- c) Concentrate Jews from small villages into Budapest. Jewish Hungary will soon be only because they are afraid to remain in villages.

Note for future - young fled to Austria-families left behind may suffer seriously

6PM UHS Lou Horwitz

Hungarians registration - 12,000 (assume 1,500 -2,000 West. Europe who have not departures - 3,592 registered with us in Vienna registration 7,300 USA; 2,000 Canada; 1,754 Australia; 309 Brizil. departures to Canada 855 USA 2,153 Austria 350. Chose austrailia to be furthest away from Hungary and because of relatives already there. By Feb. 1 another 350 might get to Austrailia.

Canada has slowed down considerably - could run another 300 for Jan. If Cosmos deal works would be additional 500 commercial deal.

Counselling staff is excellent. They all know problem of telling refugees the facts of life. They talk their hearts out. Hungarians are stubborn (says Flora Levine) and after listening, they say USA you can't do anything with them. We have even thought of stopping registration for US. Don't want to come to that. We sell Israel as hard as we can. Until US stops or slows down every Hungarian will stubbornly wait for his chance.

We can't get them to think of S. America, where possibilities exist. They will sit here waiting, no matter how much counselling we do.

Feder says only shock treatment will do the trick. Isn't even sure what he means by shock. Flora Levine says maybe we ought to have courage not to register any more who have relatives below uncle. But UHS can't to this and it wouldn't help.

My conclusion: CAMPS

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

(1)

was in ISRAEL 8 weeks ago
land looks beautiful - never saw it better
- settled look

Giora says:

"We are pretty strong and
almost totally broke."

They have taken in 50,000 first
six months - estimate 35,000 second
six months. (Elsewhere in world we
have resettled 12,000 first six months -
estimate another 3 or 4 next six)

TOTAL	ISRAEL	85	} both figures minimum
	WORLD WIDE	15	

BIG IMMIGRATION AHEAD

- 1) EYES ON EASTERN EUROPE
- 2) NORTH AFRICA CONTINUES
- 3) EGYPT FINISHES ; 4) SYRIA + IRAN

North Africa

recent report from Lacoste's office
 150 Jews killed } in Algeria
 400 wounded }

rabbi of Ordeu killed

" " Ordeu seriously wounded

synagogue at Batna damaged by bomb

" " Orleansville destroyed by fire

Morocco - aliyah continues

Tunisia - continues

Egypt - some relaxation of pressure
 perhaps some ^{immigrant} new to U.S. under
 new law, but still costs us.
 will empty

Syria 6000 Jews there in real trouble +
 danger

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

ANALYZE EAST EUROPEAN
IMMIGRATION

(3)

1. POLES

- a. 25 left ; 25 remain
- b. repatriates - 7 still in Poland
stopped currently, but not forever

2. HUNGARIAN

stopped temporarily, but negotiations
to resume

3. ROMANIAN

threatening to open

4. RUSSIAN

on everyone's tongue.

~~5. NORTH AFRICAN~~ * (see report
on Algeria)

PROBLEMS - HIDDEN CRISIS

- 1. Housing - for Europeans
- 2. Job opportunities more difficult to create
- 3. Ulpianim for professionals

~~Giora~~

~~we are pretty strong and
almost totally broke.~~

~~Land looks beautiful - have
never seen it prettier
Getting settled look~~

Special quality of Poles

- a) disillusioned communist intellectuals, far from people.
- b) Jewish masses, feely Jewish

JDC all over world
- relief in transit

HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN

5

SUMMARY OF RECENT HEADLINES

1. SAPIR says Beersheba will have population of $\frac{1}{2}$ million in ten years. (now has 30,000)
2. MIGR says Syrian arms serious.
3. EGYPTIAN GENERAL AMER says E. airforce double pre-Sinai days.
4. JAPAN planning buy copper from Timna.
5. NAMIR (minister of labor) says housing programme 80% done for year.
6. ONLY 10,000 unemployed in country.

This is it - danger, growth, experimentation, Thrill of success, constant struggle - This is ISRAEL

22N 2011

1. Army to Hegew
 2. Air Force
 - a. bombers
 - b. transport
 - c. ~~assault~~ jet trainers
 - c. paratroopers
 3. Atomic power - 5 years
 4. Guided missiles
 - a. air to sea complete
 5. Submerines - small
 6. Tanks enough - rid of Russian
- 4.

Russia. is The Key

Kalman Leizer - Hager

Jan - 1 July

50,226 immigrants

Poland 22,000

Hungary 7,000

Egypt 11,000

North Africa 7,000

47,000

All other lands ~~3,000~~
32 1,800

Russia 1400

where they went

²³ Development areas - 22,000

Coast - 10,000

Kibbutzim 3000

Moshavim 3000

YOUTH ALIYA 1000

MISC. 2000

Relatives 9000

From the relatives group, a portion
(perhaps $\frac{1}{2}$) have returned for
Agency care.



the man
said

Kiryat Chaim - near Haifa

Difference between masses and intellectuals. Masses feel self as Jews - lived in street as Jews - have an easy inner adjustment in Israel.

Intellectuals were assimilated - feel self as Poles - feel here a little like foreigners + as though this is any foreign land. It will take time.

(This is validation of argument that "academics" need special handling.)

old families visit new families -
with flowers, offers of help, etc.

This observation from man
who worked as economist, & came
from Russia back to Poland in 1946
didn't go to DP camps, left Poland
in 1957. From time of leaving Warsaw
11 May, reached Israel in one month.
Feels wonderful.
His furniture, radio, by furniture left.

We were received here wonderfully.
Frankly didn't believe we would be
treated so well. Didn't think we
would get a dwelling so nice (They
have an asbestos hut).

Will work as aircraft repair man
at Loh.



Prof. Muskatich ~ Intl Law - Warsaw - Korea - Germany

- 1) Ideologische ~~zusammenbruch~~ ^{entwertung} after 20th in party congress.
- 2) Economische schwerkeiten - arbeitslosigkeit
- 3) religion in schulen
- 4) Jewish national problem - felt they could solve their Jewish problem by assimilation but found out they couldn't. People changed names, became baptized, didn't circumcise their children, etc. - but nothing helped.

The Communist leaders in Russia are anti-intellectual - but can't say so. They can say anti-Jewish things, however.

most of balance of Jews in Poland
want out - not all will go -
some are afraid. There have
been some refusals for visas. Then
a guy is in trouble - because he
was asked & refused. He is
afraid.

This refusal is temporary.

The economic condition in P. gets worse.

P. may allow free emigration of her own people
if they can get labor contracts elsewhere,
Jews will be able to get out again.

And in Hungary This will also
apply.

The repatriation from Russia this year will be 130,000 Poles - 12-13,000 Jews. (Already 7000 have come in.)

The repatriates are theoretically free to leave after they regularize their Polish citizenship. The Poles say this takes two years. (Actually the Poles are stalling because the Russians are pressing.)

The two years is a formal period. Can't possibly last more than six months. The repatriates are in bad shape - no jobs, housing, etc. The Poles will have to let them out sooner rather than later.

The Joint could work to help these people. OPT was invited back.

Jews will come from Hungary and
even from Rumania


$$\begin{array}{r} 6000 \\ 600 \\ \hline 36,000,000 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} 2600 \\ 2500 \\ \hline 1000 \end{array}$$
$$\begin{array}{r} 2600 \\ 25 \\ \hline 12000 \\ 5200 \\ \hline 6400000 \end{array}$$

~~2nd person~~ - ^{Rothberg}
Engineer

We were received here wonderfully.
Frankly didn't believe we would be
treated so well. Didn't think we
would get a dwelling so nice (They
have an asbestos hut).

Will work as aircraft repair man
at Loh.



ESK

1. Went to U.S. to open
new way for housing money.
Will get it. Also got
ICA. Possibly 30 million.
2. ~~Interviews~~ Interviews
w/ State Dept. Dulles
said he has nothing vs.
by immigration - he is not
sure Israel is underdeveloped
compared to other countries -
Arabs are afraid of by immig. -
will see what we put in
grant-in-aid.
3. Benson in re agricultural
surplus.

4. Export-Import Bank. More friendly this year. Steady commission coming soon.

From Bank & other sources will probably get 100 million from now till middle 1958 - i.e. for next year.

(we now owe the world 500 million.)

5. Johnson trying to make a second water project to which Acheson would object.

6. Two groups interested in
oil pipeline - second Suez.
Clint Murchison + Edmond
Rothschild. Hopes he can get
them together.

7. France - credited for 30 m. ^{7-8 years} and
another 14 m. for 30 years.

The first 30 is goods.
The second 14 is $\frac{1}{3}$ to pay
debt (probably arms?) and
 $\frac{2}{3}$ is cash.

Holdmann

1. Arabs more inclined to begin to think they must accept Israel and find way to live with her.
2. Nehru said he believes Israel is here to stay, and thinks Arabs are coming to this. He himself would not permit Israel to be destroyed.
3. Feeling in Vatican has become better toward Israel. Catholic states must press on Vatican to recognize Israel.
4. Germany will recognize Israel after the election. (will also recognize Poland - This will neutralize Arab objections).

4. New world organization will have first meeting this fall.
5. Hungarian Jews want to come into Claims Conference, G. agrees.
6. The Gimmot in the South American campaign play the same role as in U.S. - they hurt the campaign.
7. Advisory Council to Jewish Agency. Blaustein for.
(JFWF for.)

Absorption Terribly difficult
we are in believe shape.

Harman

(1)

There is no present absorptive capacity at all.
Objective economists would say no immigrants.
No houses, schools, factories, work.

Bringing people ahead of ab. cap.

We are letting in immigrants ~~also~~ according to ^{their} need, not
our capacity.

Shragai can prove there are room candidates in 1958 -
who are driven out - not propaganda

No economic plan. Only possible to say what you
I) would like - ^{ie about up to} 1. 20% agriculture - cut before house -
by following means. ^{movement may in}

1. Fill up all empty spaces in existing settlements -
very little slack here.
2. There are unfilled places in Kibbutzim - but you
can't force people. The ab. cap. exists in old
established Kibbutzim. These have various grades of
housing. The Kibbutz has said that govt agency
build housing in K. at highest ^{possible} ~~possible~~ equivalent.
This is attractive for people & also for K.
3. Try develop reserve land. Very little left
in Israel. Getting to marginal lands - hills.
Give stim employment clearing land. 5 to 8

points in Adullam & northern Galilee
(Lebanese border).

4. Make more intensive use of land - i.e.
expand irrigation.

II) Employment of Professional Men

Since Oct. 1950 heads of families in this category,
all represent a problem. They cannot go to
development areas.

Call
Ben-Zion
Grun

מלון דוד
117 תל אביב



KING DAVID HOTEL
JERUSALEM

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מלון המלך דוד
ירושלים

(2)

Country divided into 3 parts:

- A. Haifa & Gedera - coastal strip -
most densely populated, Policy is not to
direct new immigration to this area
- B. Acre, Lydda, Ramle - also developed areas,
but still room for some - not many.
- C. Neger, Jerusalem, Lod, Ennet, Galilee
are development areas. We want to
expand these & olim are directed here.

This pattern established in N.A. aliyah & we
want to keep it. New aliyah has 3 elements
that cannot fit this pattern.

- A. Preferential men & certain types skilled workers.
- B. relatives of existing inhabitants
- C. social cases

take examples of each case



(3)

A. Engineers have to go where industry already is. Doctors of high average age don't go to Peger. Skilled specialists can only get work in already developed areas not area C. Key to this problem is number of people now in alphanim - Oct 1950 - today 5000; plan is to increase to 7000.

[As distinct from h.d. aliyah (which could be treated in bulk) this aliyah requires great deal of individual attention + case-work.]

B. Relatives - positive that there are families who will help (hope to dispose of 15% by pressing families to take olim) - but disadvantage is that these relatives mainly live in the developed area.

KING DAVID HOTEL
JERUSALEM



מלון המלך דוד
ירושלים

(4)

C. Social cases beginning to be big problem.
Poland & Hungary is not selected aliyah.
There are no medical exams. Everyone
comes, including TB. From Egypt some boatloads
are coming today with as much as 30% social
cases. (B.B. told me about increase in insane
cases).

Whole problem is not of dimensions of 1949, but
is really serious.

With these (60%) these categories of exceptions,
bulk of olim are sent to development areas.

Kiryat Shemona
Kiryat Gat
Dimna
Ashkelon
Shderot
Be'er Sheva
Afeka
Beerseba Jerusalem

Load is distributed, i.e.
2000 units to Beerseba;
labr ministry is tried to
employ those people. The
basis is 15 day minimum

KING DAVID HOTEL
JERUSALEM



מלון המלך דוד
ירושלים

5

This all sounds screwy, but is better
than what we did in 49, 50 - 1/4 million
people in tents + camps.

Today he is responsible for his own living. We gave
him a roof. **AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES**
Psychologically, today is better.

Present method can work only on two conditions
a) Costly public works system to give 15 days work
b) Real economic development in these areas, so
he can find real work + get off WPA.
(This is British argument).

Housing
Schools (18-20,000 this fall)

Against This background, coming to a new year
with a new aliyah schedule.



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מלון דן

DAN HOTEL

Refatriation - Giron

- a) Total from Rumania to Poland probably 20-150 in
of which ~~7~~ 10 were Jews. 7 still in Poland.
3 already in Israel. Refat. ~~was planned~~ still goes on
Jews refat. must spend time in Poland - no principal
objection of Polish govt to their eventual (6 mos-1 yr.)
exit to Israel.
- b) 1500-2000 ^{monthly} applications to Polish govt for exit permits,
aside from refat. (1650 off. in June). This will
go on for next six months.
- c) There is a change in the atmosphere in Rumania.
People coming out of Israel Legation in R. are still followed,
but not arrested, questioned or threatened.



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מלון דן

DAN HOTEL

2
This is a more expensive absorption

- water
- industry

- Nothing to do any more in the easy things.
Now it is merchant fleet, more orchards, Timna, etc.
North african in Rosh Haayin cost £ 750
One place in Timna costs £ 100,000.

Second, present immigration costs more because it demands more. Egyptian is white-collar & Polish is European.

- This costs more than Atlas Mt. man.

Something must be done for Sephardim (Dragi, etc.) or there is an inner crisis. They will feel discrimination. Europeans must be better housed - but then so must old Israelis. Girona presses for 10,000 houses for Sephardim. This is Israel's duty.



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מלון דן

DAN HOTEL

3

We are pretty strong, and almost
totally broke

About his job:

Always finds himself pretty national
interest above party.

Don't see concrete achievements
will try another six months.

Should be austerity - but don't want to
make police state.

HAF file - Overseas Trip Jan 57
F-4/11

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US APO:

AMERICAN EMBASSY VIENNA
DISCO 1A OP BRANCH
APR 27, 1957

TELEPHONE: A 19545

January 16, 1957

↓
Mr. Herbert A. Friedman
Executive Vice-Chairman
United Jewish Appeal
165 West 46th Street
New York 36, New York
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Friedman:

Immediately following your recent stay in Vienna and, in particular, your visit to the Austria-Hungary frontier, an incident involving the border police occurred in that area. It has been described by the newspaper "Wiener Montag", the clipping and translation of which are enclosed.

Mr. Ziegellaub felt you might be amused in reading this article for, as he put it, "you and Mr. Leavitt got off lucky".

Cordially

Lou Pavloff

Louis Pavloff
Administrative Assistant

encls.:
1 clipping
1 translation

LP/EMS

„Rescue Committee“-Leute gefährden unsere Neutralität

Wasser auf die Mühlen der kommunistischen Kampagne gegen Oesterreich lieferten zwei Mitglieder des auf amerikanische Initiative gegründeten „International Rescue Committee“, die sich bei Andau im Burgenland unerlaubt mehrere hundert Meter auf ungarisches Gebiet begaben, um einigen ungarischen Flüchtlingen behilflich zu sein, die österreichische Grenze zu erreichen. Sie benützten dazu einen Augenblick, in welchem kein österreichisches Grenzorgan anwesend war, das sie hätte hindern können, diese Grenzverletzung zu begehen. Die beiden Ausländer — wurden von einer ungarischen Grenzstreife festgenommen.

Wie der „MONTAG“ hierzu von der Sicherheitsdirektion Eisenstadt erfährt, wurde der Gendarmerieposten Andau Samstag nachmittag von anderen Mitgliedern des erwähnten Hilfskomitees ver-

ständigt, daß der amerikanische Student Dobbs Ferry und der norwegische Student Einar Roos von einer ungarischen Streife verhaftet wurden, als sie sich einige hundert Meter weit auf ungarisches Gebiet begeben hatten, angeblich, um einige erschöpfte Flüchtlinge nach Oesterreich zu bringen. Wie aus einer Meldung der Agentur Associated Press hervorgeht, heißt jedoch der Amerikaner in Wahrheit Richard Rorerbach, der Norweger Einar Raus.

Es wäre wohl überhaupt angebracht, die Tätigkeit der verschiedenen „Hilfskomitees“, die an der ungarischen Grenze operieren, etwas genauer unter die Lupe zu nehmen, um unliebsamen Vorfällen vorzubeugen. Aktionen über die Grenze hinweg gefährden Oesterreichs Neutralität und geben den von den kommunistischen Staaten gegen Oesterreich erhobenen Beschuldigungen neue Nahrung.

WESTERN UNION

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FX-1280

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1956 DEC 26 PM 5 15

JN188 VIA WU CABLES JERUSALEMISRAEL 17 26 1155

LT FRIEDMANN UJAPPEAL NEWYORK= •UJAPPEAL• FRIEDMANN C/O
UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
165 WEST 46TH ST

INFORMATION REQUESTED YOUR CAB 20/12 SENDING WITH
SHERMAN WHO LEAVING ISRAEL TOMORROW=

TANNE.

*Called Moptole
12/28/56*

20/12.

2 WESTERN UNION
INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

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LT= FRIEDMAN UJAPPEAL

NYK=

UJAPPEAL
UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
165 WEST 46TH ST

ASSUMING LEAVITT YOU INTERESTED MEETING BOAT
FIVEHUNDREDEIGHTY EGYPTIAN STATELESS DUE ARRIVE NAPLES
JANUARY THIRD OR FOURTH STOP YOU MAY WANT FLY NEWYORK
ROME DIRECT TWA FLIGHT 824F CONTINUE TRAIN NAPLES
ARRIVING TENTHIRTYTWO PM JANUARY THIRD STOP SUGGEST YOU
THEN PROCEED VIENNA SUNDAY JANUARY SIXTH ARRIVING THERE

= RPT 824F=...

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2/PSX321 LT FRIEDMAN 36=

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

FIVETHIRTYFIVE PM AND MARSEILLE ARRIVING FRIDAY JANUARY
ELEVENTH RETURN PARIS SUNDAY JANUARY THIRTEENTH GO
LONDON JANUARY FIFTEENTH STOP CABLE ADVISE YOUR COMMENTS
SUGGESTIONS MEANWHILE HAVE MADE TENTATIVE RESERVATIONS
AS INDICATED STOP HAVE ADVISED LEAVITT ACCORDINGLY:

JORDAN

1280

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INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

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1956 DEC 24 AM 10 57

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● 0007 94/93 PD INTL FR=N JERUSALEM ISR VIA WU CABLES 24 1225=
FRIEDMAN UJAPPEAL (165 WEST 46 ST)=SH
(FOR FRIEDMAN UNITED JEWISH APPEAL)= NEWYORK

EGYPTIAN JEWS ARRIVING EUROPE AND DESIROUS IMMIGRATION ISRAEL
TRANSPORTED AIRPLANE OR SHIP WITHIN TWO OR THREE DAYS STOP
TRANSITSPORT BEFORE ALIYAH GENOA MARSEILLES STOP DIFFICULT
DETERMINE NOW PLACES CONCENTRATION REFUGEES DURING YOUR TRIP
EUROPE OR NUMBERS EXPECTED JANUARY EACH PLACE STOP ON YOUR
ARRIVAL VIENNA CONTACT DUVDEVANI THERE OR OFFICES
● ME MARSEILLES OR MEMISREAL=

*Replied
12/28*

*12/26
cc sent MAL*

WESTERN UNION

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS

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W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

Received VIA WESTERN UNION CABLES

NBQ007 2/48=

AMERICAN JEWISH

ATHENS STOP CABLED TODAY LEAVITT QUOTE PLEASE VISIT
ISRAEL WHENEVER POSSIBLE TO DISCUSS PROBLEMS RAISED
STOP IF IMPOSSIBLE TANNE WILL MEET YOU EUROPE UNQUOTE
STOP SHALL BE HAPPY SEE YOU ISRAEL PLEASE SEND
IMMEDIATELY YOUR ITINERARY=

NAPHTALI=

ACR36/VA74

WIEN 14 31 1725

FRIEDMAN UJAPPEAL

NY (FRIEDMAN UNITED JEWISH APPEAL 165 WEST 46 ST)

WIRE DECISION RESPEECH KULTUSGEMEINDE TOPIC LANGUAGE STOP TUESDAY
EVENING PREFERRABLE

ZIEGELLAUB

10

FOR PROMPT SERVICE
TELEPHONE REPLY TO
MAIN OFFICE - WH 4-3100

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES

1956 DEC 31 PM 12:08
EASTERN STANDARD TIME

FA

9 East 44th Street, N. Y. — Murray Hill 2-4160

12/31

Cable from Taffe --

Goldstein

Join Booking Rome/Vienna 6 bag.

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WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

(00) 1956 DEC 2 AM 10 04

NBQ006 9 INTL FR PD= ZP EL PARIS VIA WU CABLES 2 311P=

GOLDSTEIN UJAPPEAL (GOLDSTEIN CARE UJAPPEAL

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL=NYK (165 WEST 46TH ST)=

TEN HOURS NONSTOP CALL ELAINE=

FRIEDMAN=

*Sent hrs. Friedman
G. M. M. M.*

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~~AN~~

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FRIEDMAN % UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
165 WEST 46ST/ N

LT FRIEDMAN UJAPPEAL NEWYORK

NAPHTALI REGRETS CANNOT MEET YOU STOP ARRIVING PARIS JANUARY
NINETH EVENING STAYING HOTEL LOUVOIS STOP PLEASE ARRANGE MEETING
THROUGH LAOR

TANNE

CFM LT

JAN 3 1957

FOR PROMPT SERVICE
TELEPHONE REPLY TO
MAIN OFFICE = WH 4-3100

N. Y. • BOWLING GREEN 9-3800 67 BROAD STREET, N. Y. • BOWLING GREEN 9-3800 67 BRO

Cables and Radio Cables an

HC STANDARD
TIME

1957 JAN 3 AM 9 45

10

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TGB774

IV368

JEC 167 X 1016 JERUSALEMISRAEL 21 3 1500

LT FRIEDMAN UJAPPEAL NEWYORK / FRIEDMAN % UNITED JEWISH APPEAL 165
W 46 ST N

WOULD PROPOSE YOUR COMING
ISRAEL FOR FEW DAYS IF
POSSIBLE SINCE SHRAGAI NAFTALI UNABLE
LEAVE REGARDS

SHAZAR

CFM LT



JAN 4 1957
FOR PROMPT SERVICE
TELEPHONE REPLY TO
MAIN OFFICE - WH 4-3100

Radio System American Cable & Radio System
BOWLING GREEN 9-3800 67 BROAD STREET, N. Y. • BOWLING GREEN 9-3800
America

XXXX

Fcl/Plb

HERBERT FRIEDMAN
JOINTFUND
PARIS (FRANCE)

January 3, 1957

TANNE CABLES QUOTE NAPHTALI REGRETS CANNOT MEET YOU STOP ARRIVING PARIS JANUARY
NINTH EVENING STAYING HOTELLOUVOIS STOP PLEASE ARRANGE MEETING THROUGH LAOR
UNQUOTE REGARDS

GOLDSTEIN

/fc

XXX

FRIEDMAN
JOINTFUND
ROME (ITALY)

January 4, 1957

SHAZAR CABLES QUOTE WOULD PROPOSE YOUR COMING ISRAEL FOR FEW DAYS IF POSSIBLE
SINCE SHRAGAI NAFTALI UNABLE LEAVE UNQUOTE REGARDS

GOLDSTEIN

MSG/fc

HERBERT A FRIEDMAN -- Notes made during trip to Europe, January, 1957

AZOULAY -- 2 January, 1957

Not a single Jew will live in Egypt in three months --

Born Cairo -- 3, 4 generations born there.
Hebron in Palestine many generations ago.
Juridically considered French -- Nationality Tunisian

Rented house -- owned furniture
Crushed stone plant

On October 30 heard about invasion on radio. Ran away to sister for ten days in suburbs. Came back home 11 November. Police officer came at midnight -- "sign here" -- this acknowledges that you must stay at home. I stayed in ten days -- servant went out to buy food. Then heard on radio that all Tunisians (and French) are allowed to leave house.

Was owner of plant with father and brother-in-law.
Upon being allowed out of house, 21 November, went police -- who said they must leave country in ten days. ... Cashed my monthly check and left country in three days. Went to Sabena, bought ticket.

Banks were blocked -- Jews not allowed to cash checks.

Took four suitcases of clothes..... Arrived Paris 4 December.

Red Cross gave 15 days at small hotel. I made contacts with friends, and was promised job middle January.

I read in London Jewish Chronicle that 5,000 Jews have left Egypt this way. This story is typical.

Travellers checks good only UK.

All Jews believe that the three months is limit -- because all repeat to each other what they heard from police officers. Also because the date of renewals of residence is 31 March. They believe there will be no renewals.

I signed paper that I am leaving country of my own free will.

^{Jewish}
Most of population is in panic.

Trying to get job here -- if not, go to Israel. And fight if necessary. We are ready to give it back. Reasonable time here would be sixty days.

Stateless and Egyptian will go to Israel. Even foreign nationals will go to Israel because only one door is open. Without money or jobs people cannot stay in France very long.

Jews didn't leave Egypt when they had chance because they had money and business.

Frantic, excited

One man who had printing plant -- cost £30,000 and 20 years of effort -- they took it overnight. Showed me pictures of his plant -- printing labels for Coca Cola and Shell Oil.

One man who had small novelty shop on Main Street in Cairo received telegram from brother-in-law in Montreal that he was trying to get him visa to Canada. Next day police came and took business, saying they knew he was leaving and they were taking business as guaranty that he would pay his taxes.

Police offered £5. for refrigerator. No choice.

More than 15,000 cars were taken from Jews.

One refugee arrived today said that Chief Rabbi had been ordered to leave in 60 days. (Says he heard it on Israel Radio). (I think rumor)

Another man (Saul Adler) - publicity and theatrical agent -- he and father born in Cairo - but stateless. Now has application of Jewish Agency in his pocket. Doesn't think many Jews will go to Israel.

Three reasons why Jews don't go to Israel -- fear of war
fear of discrimination against Sephardim
fear of Hebrew language

"We have drifted into talking politics -- let's talk about our future"

We were "advised" to leave, not expelled.

Mrs. Mizichi said: They wanted Jews to wear yellow armbands. Chief Rabbi said that if they forced this, he would go to American Consulate and ask for UN planes to come and take them out, as they were (like the Iraqis)

Professor of Arabic language. Left £40,000 property -- rented his building as school. Had 24 hours to leave -- got paralytic stroke. Penniless. Begged for 500 francs -- was refused.

3rd January

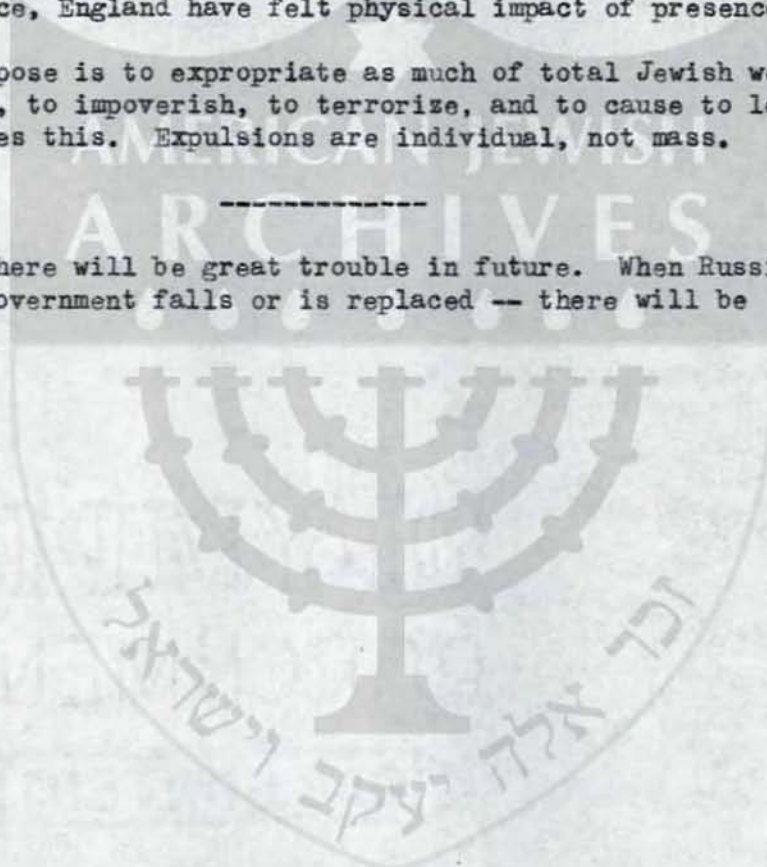
Long talk with Schuster, American Jewish Committee.

He is aware of long silence on Egyptian story. Thinks this is greatest tragedy since Hitler -- thinks we are not being fair to this story by failing to give it full treatment. Agrees that there must be developed a fuller P.R. approach to get more stories (even repetitive) into world press. Will work on this. Shouldn't be allowed to die of neglect.

Also doesn't understand attitude of U.S. State that it needs "more information". What more? Aren't facts enough -- 5 or 6,000 Egyptian Jews wandering around Europe? Every European government is aware of presence of these people -- and is helping them. Italy and Belgium have agreed to admit any number of stateless. France, Greece, England have felt physical impact of presence of refugees.

Nasser's purpose is to expropriate as much of total Jewish wealth as he can get his hands on, to impoverish, to terrorize, and to cause to leave -- he is clever in way he does this. Expulsions are individual, not mass.

Hungary -- there will be great trouble in future. When Russians withdraw and weak Kadar government falls or is replaced -- there will be



3 January -- Lunch- Tsur

1. Couldn't get any single nation to make the protest in the UN about what was happening to Jews in Egypt. So Israel had to do it herself.
2. If Nasser stays, Egypt will be ruined in a year.
3. Jewish population of Egypt approx. 40 - 45,000 -- of these 20,000 are foreign nationals; and 5,000 Egyptian; and 15,000 stateless.
French and French proteges (Moroccan and Tunisian) -- 10,000;
British 2 - 3,000; Greek 1 - 2,000; Italian 5,000; Spanish -- few hundred.

Egyptians coming to France cannot be absorbed in France -- the French Egyptians themselves not only the Jewish French. The Jewish community is pressed by the North African Jews, let alone the newer Egyptian arrivals. About 3,000 Egyptian Jews have come to France. Some have found relatives here.

Israel Government gave guarantee to French and Italian that anyone who goes to Swiss Legation in Cairo and says he wants to go to Israel, should be given transit visas to Italy or France, and Israel stands behind it.

(Most British passport holders among Jews are Yemenites -- via Aden).

Italian government says that it is happy to take Jews -- but they cannot be absorbed in Italy, which is already a surplus population country.

At beginning, some refugees will say they don't want to go to Israel -- after few months they will go.

Movement from North Africa is mostly Aliyah Bet. Practically nothing legal. There are no negotiations with Morocco any more.

In Tunis, they stopped passports -- so it was suggested to give laissez-passer, which was theoretical deprivation of citizenship, and enables Tunis to rebut Egyptian pressure. Thus 600 - 700 monthly continues.

Algeria, very little emigration. The Jews feel themselves French. If French lose, or even compromise, Jews will leave, not be able to be absorbed in France (for economic reasons, and also because of the then presence of $\frac{1}{2}$ million colons anti-semitic), and then on to Israel, even if not by first choice. Crisis is gradually coming.

3 January -- JDC Staff Meeting

HUNGARIAN

More than 13,000 registered -- may be more who have not yet identified selves. Departures from Austria have been to disadvantage of Jews. Non-Jews moved into all countries, without preparation. Jews who have moved to European countries do not exceed 1,000. Of 80,000 who have moved out of Austria, perhaps not more than 4,000 Jews have left, including U.S. This is much less than ratio (150,000 in -- 80,000 out = approx. $\frac{1}{2}$)

(14,000 Jews in -- 4,000 out = approx. less than one-third).

Jews have focussed on overseas, particularly U.S. They have not been interested in Israel.

As of Sunday night, there were 11,000 Jews in Austria (this means 15,000 must have come in.) Another few thousand may yet get out overseas. This leaves a case-load of 8,000, without counting future intake. This is a big load. We favour a more aggressive policy of Jewish Agency, to sell emigration to Israel. We work with them toward this objective.

AMERICAN JEWISH

Jews are in small hotels -- because we have many experiences of anti-semitic attitude in mixed camps. Austrian government appreciates this and goes along. Week ago very bad incident, caused us to take 60 out of camp -- send them to private homes in Salzburg.

Bus incident: Kaisersteinbruch is staging area for resettlement. 800 people were told to leave it, who had been left behind. They were sore. Hundreds of Jews passed through this camp enroute to U.S. ICM buses came in to pick them up. The 800 threatened buses and said they wouldn't let Jews out alive (alone). Austrian police had to protect. About 60 Jews were left behind -- and the 800 threatened them, after the buses left. So we moved the 60.

We can't go on with this terrible expense of private lodging.

Tentative policy: "Jewish corners" in mixed camps. Everybody is against special Jewish camps. At same time, everybody recognizes special Jewish problem.

All future intake will be sent to camps, not hotels. Also single men now in hotels can be selected out and transferred to camps.

Aguda has adopted an aggressive policy toward the Hungarian problem. Tress claimed 1,700 out of 8,500 when that was total figure. Much fuss over food. They have sailed in and given impression they are only agency taking care.

If we try to change-over from hotel to camp, Aguda may make capital and say Joint is being cruel, etc. This is a P.R. problem for us.

The end has not yet come. Demoralization inside Hungary is so bad, more may yet come. Present slowdown is temporary, due to railroad strike, weather, etc. We must all be prepared for many more thousands. Rate today is 500 - 1,000 per night. This is low, compared to potential.

Residence Breakdown

9,500 -- in small private hotels
2,500 -- in some form of collective living.

EGYPT

5,000 Jews from Egypt have arrived in 23 boats -- uncounted planes -- 5 countries. This coming Saturday/Sunday a boat arrives with 1,000. Former were mostly national passport holders. This next group are mostly stateless.

Of first 4,000 arrivals, 500 went to Israel, about 1,000 are on assistance in France, several hundred in Italy, few hundred in other countries.

Italy has been wonderful in offering visas, but it is hoped they will move on.

Indications are that on this first boat of stateless, most have said they want to go to Israel. This is good. What will next boat show?

Jewish institutions in Egypt are bankrupt -- old folks home, children's home, hospital, etc. We have given IRC money, \$25,000, to try to get it to these institutions. We have also given IRC \$100,000 (first 25 in cash) to pay for passage of those who are unable to pay themselves.

This should be confidential, because status of IRC can be damaged.

3 January, 5.30 p.m. Azael

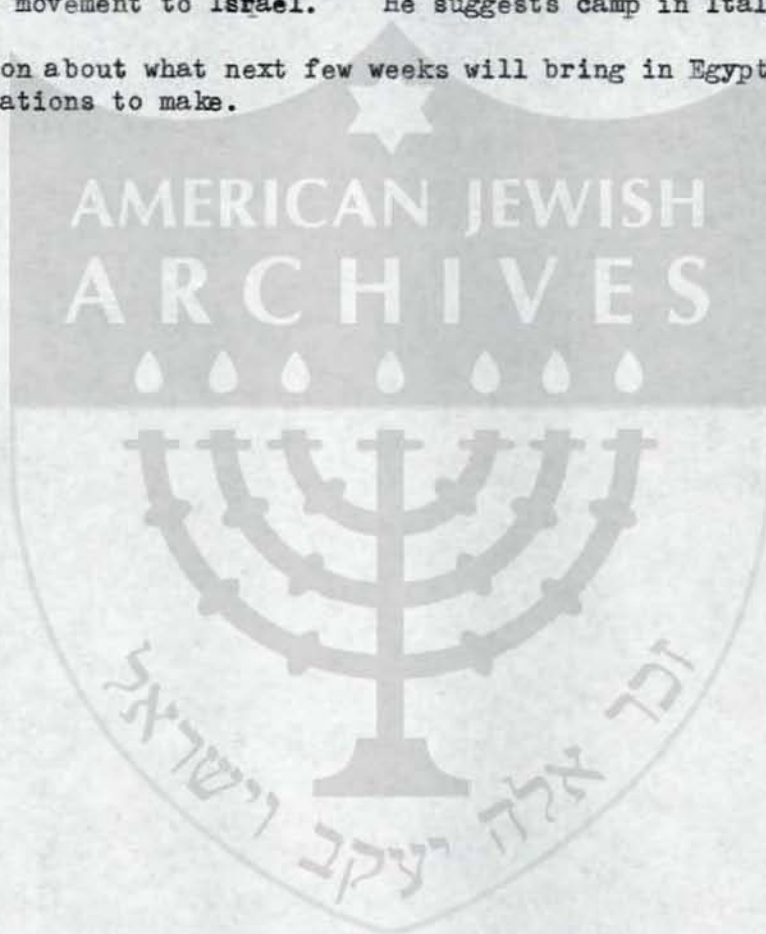
Out of Morocco about 700 in December. Could be larger but we cannot stimulate because our hands are full in Egypt and Eastern Europe.

From Tunis 300 - 400 and Algeria 150 - 200.

This rate will apply for January and February.

Beginning March it will be more. We will not be able to resist pressure in next three months, with overflow from Egypt and Poland; could be 30,000 waiting for movement to Israel. He suggests camp in Italy.

No prediction about what next few weeks will bring in Egypt. Don't know what preparations to make.



Notes on Trip Europe. January 1957

Page 8

4 January -- Rome -- Harold Trobe (JDC)
Haskell (Agency)

Egyptian refugees -- about 2,400 landed in Italy so far -- about 400 left - 2,000 others passed to other countries. Of these 400, most are Italian passport holders. Probably 6 to 7,000 Egyptian Jews Italian nationals -- most claim Livorno as place of residence origin. This is because many decades ago there was fire in Livorno, all records destroyed. Jews in Egypt went to Italian consulate, said they were originally from Livorno, no way of checking, and they bought Italian passports. Most have never been in Italy and speak no Italian. (... story of Yemenite Jews who became British passport holders via Aden.)

Most of 400 require only financial help. Being kept in small hotels, for time being.

Ship due Sunday 6th with 950, mostly stateless. 855 have indicated intention go direct Israel, according to IRC escort on board. 82 have indicated plans to try for other countries. Probably have ship ready for Israel by next day (Monday) and transfer people immediately. This is important test.

Re: Poland: about 70 or 80 daily come from Vienna by train to either Genoa or Naples, depending upon next sailing. At present about 250 in Naples waiting for next ship. No wait longer than one week. About 20% fly direct from Vienna, and 80% come to Italy to go by ship.

They come with large quantities of baggage -- about half ton per family. Poland lets them take anything out -- some even said they could have taken autos, but it was too complicated. They have clothing, household goods, tools, even small machines. All are very concerned about their baggage in the various train shifts from station to station. In the 8 or 10 valises is the entire property of the family, for starting a new life.

Out of 1500 last month, only 10 stayed behind. There is no defection.

There is evidence of a sharp increase in the rate of flow. First of all, we must revise our figures. Thought there were 40 - 50,000 Jews in Poland. Now looks like 50 - 70,000, because many Jews who lived as Christians under Nazis and Communists are now coming out of hiding and identifying as Jews, to join this exodus. Also, under the repatriation from Russia just beginning, there are possibly an additional 40,000 Jews.

Secondly, the number of exit visas being granted is rising. They used to give about 70 per day - i.e. the actual number of departures. Thus they controlled the flow of departures by the number of permits granted. Third week in December they granted 1,055 permits -- almost double the previous week -- and since then it has continued around 150 per day.

Notes Trip Europe, January 1957

Page 9

5 January -- Rapido Train - Rome - Naples

Haskell talked with Duvdevani in Warsaw who confirms the higher daily rate of permits granted.

Visited Italian Emigrant Center which Ministry of Labor is making available for 335 Egyptian Jews enroute to Israel.

Went small hotel where about 100 Polish Jews.

Asked why they left. They said anti-semitism is rife, open, wide-spread and virulent. Gave as examples: (a) Jews lose jobs; (b) students demonstrate - "out with Jews"; (c) people insult Jews in tramways, street, etc.; (d) kids not allowed to register in school with their Jewish names, i.e. must be Felix, not Faivel; (e) people sore about Jews in U.S.

Since XX Party Congress (de-Stalinization) it has become easier for Jews to get out. Process as follows:

- (1) Apply for Polish exit permit
 - (2) Takes about 2 months (in some cases much shorter) to get Polish passport, which is stamped valid for travel to Israel only; and stamped that the person gives up Polish citizenship
 - (3) Then person applies for Israeli visa -- takes about a month (sometimes much less).
-

Baggage: can take everything out, only dependent on cost -- average 5 zloty per kilo (varies in different provinces) -- average baggage per family is 300 - 1,000 kilo. For instance - man, wife, 2 children - had 470 kilo, paid 1,570 zloty -- saw his list, contained clothes, bedding, dishes, pots, cutlery, tea service, radio -- some people bring bicycles, very few furniture.

Israeli consulate gives help to poor Jews, so they can buy things before they leave.

Even if letters from Israel are bad, Polish Jews will continue to come out. Now that the Polish doors are open, Jews want to grab the opportunity. There is fear that doors will be closed.

Saw one man who had been in Russia six weeks ago -- came with repatriation group.

6th January -- s.s. MISR -- Ship under direction of ICRC - Robert Porchet

17 have visas

67 stateless, want European countries

885 want Israel

Almost thousand Jews -- 78 who were interned. Story of internment -- Family Stein, pretty girl, 3 in prison.

They took Jews with money into camps, to get the money. Two months:

Prison Citadel - 1 day: prison Alexandria - 1 day: Abassich - 2 months.

First 15 days very bad -- 16 - 20 per room -- guards insulted them -- armed guards accompanied to lavatory. First two days didn't eat.

After, let them down into courtyard two hours per day. All windows closed. No news from outside.

Port Said family -- printing press and stationery store. Employed 27 people.

Released from prison 1 January and sailed immediately. Very badly treated. We asked for food; they said, "You are worse than dogs."

Dr. Cohen -- 3 generations born Egypt -- stateless -- pathologist in Jewish hospital in Cairo. They took hospital, threw out doctors and patients. 250 beds.

Present internees -- stateless - 150; Egyptian - 130; all other nationalities - ? Perhaps 500 total.

I was released from internment on board ship. I signed on 17 November that I wanted to leave country. My car, money in bank, everything left behind. They let us take £100 sterling per person and £50 per child. We paid £11 tax per £100. No limit on baggage - but no jewelry, radio, sewing machines -- £5. pocket money. Average baggage per family was 100 - 150 kilos.

"We never thought they were going to do such a thing."

My family received a written order to go to the passport office (branch of Ministry of Interior). At passport office, she received a verbal order of expulsion. Even written notice to report to passport office was taken back.

Grunspan --

Publisher: Agent of Readers Digest -- 52 -- stateless -- father from Russia -- two months in Abassich -- food (bribed guards to bring some in) -- no member of family could visit -- no mail -- sent in train from Cairo to Alexandria in handcuffs.

I sold my frigidaire, furniture to get money for tickets. My son is trying to sell the rest and will come out.

20 year old daughter "It was horrible there -- like the Nazi times."

Showed us the keys to his car - Morris - paid £930 - left car behind - couldn't even give it to his son.

I left Ismailia -- left everything behind -- am happy to be going to Israel.

I had a jewelry shop - they closed it. We have a building - we left it.
They sent me a letter - told me to leave.

I was a dental mechanic -- took my wife and three sons and ran.

Recap: three categories: a) internees
b) expellees
c) left on own steam.

Took picture

Young student -- 17 -- I was supposed to get visa to continue studies in England. At Ministry of Education they told me - "Get out, you are Jew." What does Dept. of Education have to do with religion? At school they told me - "Get out, you are Jew." My father had job in bank - lost his job -- why should we stay? I'm going to Israel -- to shoot Egyptians.

Took picture

One young fellow said his father stayed behind to try to sell their house -- with £ 3 - 4,000. He was offered £50. I am going to Israel.

Rabbi on board -- conducted services over loudspeaker on Saturday.

Porchet flying back to Cairo -- prepare for next ship. Received wire they wanted next ship 20 January.

There are some workers -- shoemaker, textile, bulb factory, mechanic.

One woman came off ship screaming, mad, strapped to stretcher.

6 January - Evening - Polish Group

One man - Alona Ata from 1940 - 46; Stettin 1946 - '56 -- wanted to go to Israel in '49, couldn't. Communist Jews prevented others from going. Today they don't prevent because today they want to leave themselves. Also, Polish government wants to get rid of Jews. I was director of a state clothing store. I decided to leave on 11 August. Before paper work was done, it took about two months. By now about 30% of Stettin Jews (5,000) have left. About 50% have decided or begun preparations to leave. I know not communists who are leaving, because they say there is no future. My wife is not recognizable as Jew and when she comes off the street, she cries because of the things she hears. They talk violently against Jews. I want to sleep in Israel in a broken bed but with a whole head. In the schools there are signs -- "Jews out - to Palestine." Monuments in cemeteries are despoiled. We could take out whatever we wanted. I'm taking furniture -- 1500 kilo to Trieste as cargo -- 100 kilo carrying with me.

Another Jew in Wroclaw -- was taken into Russian army -- then into Urals -- 1946 to Wroclaw. 15,000 Jews -- must have begun to leave or think of leaving. I was bookkeeper, mostly non-Jews. Relations with non-Jews not bad until 1951, then things got worse. Earned 2,000 zloty -- shoes cost 400. I made a decision to change my life -- it was easy because I wanted out. When I heard in May that it might be possible to go (I heard from a friend in Polish police) I began the paper work. I'll do anyth work in Israel -- don't have to be a bookkeeper.

Young girl -- 20 -- from Glibnitz -- third year medical student -- father killed by German -- mother with her. Lived near Lemberg -- under Germans in Ghetto -- then hidden by Christians in village. War ended was 8. Went to regular school in days and Mizrachi school in the evening. Hebrew. Home not religious -- impossible in Poland. She wanted go Israel in 1952, but step-father died. Her friends had preceded her and she wanted to join them. She had no trouble in school. When she wanted to go now - no trouble. Hasn't heard of any Jews who are turned down. Wants to continue to study in Israel.

young man - 19 - born Galicia, last years been in Katowitz. No parents -- has uncle in Israel. In war was in ghetto -- later in forest. He was hidden with Christians -- in 1947 his uncle took him from Christians. Went to gymnasium. Went to Hebrew school one year -- 1947 -- then it was closed, and private classes organized. Private teacher told him about Israel. He is going because he feels Israel is his country -- otherwise he would remain in Poland. Studied flying for one year -- gliders, then Piper Cubs. 60 hours flying experience.

Anti-semitism is felt in every step, even in communist youth organization.

Girl wasn't known to be Jewish, so she experienced nothing, but she heard how they talked about Jews, especially Jewish professors at school.

Why go to Israel: Girl said: 1. Big anti-semitism now in Poland
2. Doesn't want to be minority and be pointed out
3. We should have our own state like everyone else.
Boy said: He would like to know what he is living for, and
for whom he should spend his life.

She is glad going to Israel, even tho' terribly worried about her studies.

7 January -- Naples -- Conversation with member of Rabbinate who came out on ship

All foreign national Jews are not considered Jews but undesirable foreign aliens -- 7,000 French and 9,000 British.

Egyptian government says 36,000 Egyptian Jews. This figure is false -- a cover ϕ in order to show that the expulsions do not reach a large figure. They will admit expelling foreign undesirables, but will always claim a large number of Egyptian Jews remaining.

Foreign consuls protested. Egyptian government said they were undesirable and would be expelled. Egyptian and stateless cannot work. "Residence" will be withdrawn for slightest misdemeanor.

No figures really.

In Cairo 4,000 families paid taxes -- 16,000

Estimate that non-taxpayers -- 20,000

In Alexandria -- 20,000

Pre-expulsion population -- 60,000 maximum

French, British, Greek, Italian -- 20,000)

Egyptians -- 10,000)

Stateless 25 -30,000 }

All big business sequestered.

1. No Jew can work as employee -- Two kinds of employees -- big societies and private business.

In big firms which were sequestered, all Jews were fired -- then as the businesses were paralyzed, they took back some Jews (with intention to replace with Egyptians in future as possible). In business not sequestered, Jews were suspended. All key government employees were suspended "on holiday" -- technically not fired. Small employees are still working -- but government looking to replace them when Egyptians are trained. In small private businesses, people can continue to work. Big business, where previously the Jews didn't want to work on Saturday, now must work Saturday, or quit.

2. No Jew can get import license (for his store).
3. Businesses which have been sequestered from Jews, all Jews were thrown out.
4. Government said that any Jew with complaint could apply to Ministry of Interior. But this gives no satisfaction.

5. Money blocked as follows under regulation 27 November, 1956:

3 categories of Jews

(700) Sequestrations --) can withdraw £75 per month from bank

(800)

plus) Black list --) Those who received letters from Israel, who
visited Israel, members of Jsh. Maccabi Club

(500) Internees --)

As for rest, if you are wealthy and cash check for £1,000 or £2,000, next day you will be sequestered. Can draw up to £200. monthly, if you are not in above three categories, without getting into trouble.

6. Jew cannot sell his property if he is in three categories -- but as soon as a "free" Jew starts an economic operation to sell his property, he goes on the black list. Furniture can be sold without danger; car sometimes dangerous; jewelry in small amounts not dangerous (no market for jewelry). Every Jew is under suspicion.
7. The small shopkeeper or small employee has been put in difficulty
 - (a) If he worked for big Jewish firm now sequestered he lost job.
 - (b) Salesmen lost income because there is no import or sale of goods.
 - (c) Small shopkeeper is still holding on, but very few.
8. Shares cannot be sold.

French and British Jews gave their money, Jewels, whatever they could to the Swiss consulate before leaving.

AMERICAN JEWISH
No future for Jewish population of Egypt. All must go. Everyone realizes it is impossible for Jews to stay. There will be a big rush in March and April, when the winter is over -- there will be a thousand on every ship. People now are preparing for April. This is mood among Jews.

"The day we got transit visas for Italy, was like Purim. We embraced each other."

People in Grand Rabbinate are in danger. All under surveillance.

Story of the declaration of the Grand Rabbi: Nahum, secretary and committee were brought together. Government prepared the speech and ordered him to say it in Hebrew, French and Arabic. If you refuse, we are going to state that every Jew in Egypt is dangerous and may be arrested. So he agreed.

Other version: Either you are Egyptian and make this statement; or, if you follow line of Israel and refuse, all Jews in country will be sequestered. He was given choice half-hour before meeting. Radio and press had already been called to Nahum's house.

8 January -- en route all day to Vienna -- arrived 11.00 p.m.

Meeting with Ziegellaub, Feder, Jaffe

15,567 Jews served by JDC

3,392 have left

11,975 still in Austria

1,000 additional have come and gone to Israel

9,354 in hotels

1,574 in private houses

354 in installations -- 1 Talmud Torah)

2 children's) all run by K.G.

homes)

1 pension)

693 in camps

Giving kosher food and pocket money in addition

Total arrivals from Hungary (ICEM figures) as of Jan. 7 160,698

departures 91,788

remaining 68,910

(On general figures -- almost 50% have left -- On Jewish figures -- only 25% have left)

ICEM says movement to U.S. is 21,284

Australian Jewish community officials have been in Vienna and decided upon 1500 to Australia. This mostly involves people with close relatives in Australia.

Total population Hungary 9 million -- Jewish 120,000

160,000 Hungarians have fled -- 1 1/2% of total population

16,500 Jews have fled -- 15% of total Jewish population

So far, one person (lady) returned to Hungary -- to get ten year old daughter

One baby (six months) died frozen rowing across a lake all night

Why do Jews leave Hungary?

1. part of general mood of flight -- Jews fought with freedom fighters -- one Jew came across wounded, having fought, wife died in fighting and son died coming across border
2. desire to emigrate overseas -- family reunion
3. economic dislocation
4. fear of anti-semitism

Anti-semitism among Hungarian refugees in Austria -- in Camp Roeder public announcement over loudspeaker that any person making anti-semitic remarks would be barred from entrance to U.S.

Intake has slowed down.

Highest day was 793 on 12 December

Lowest day was 83 on 7 January

Average has been 450 daily

for past week average has been 150 daily.



9 January -- early to border

ANDAU (Nixon went this far), then to EINSER CANAL, down rutted road across marshes -- right to border stone, past it into Hungary, to water's edge (bridge out). Talked with Austrian ranger, armed -- saw two soldiers across canal -- they failed to respond. But shot once. Heard much shooting -- saw tent with heater to dry out wet clothing of crossing. One group on road said they walked three days -- another group asked about Caracas (one had sister there) -- about 250 e crossed last night. Saw German Red Cross, British lady in Save-a-Child. One man, university professor, with son 9 said wife was shot yesterday (Russian Orthodox Christmas) by drunk Russian soldiers 10 km. inside Hungary, who were whooping it up, shooting indiscriminately. She was killed by stray bullet. He had to leave her and go on with son. Wept openly. Two unaccompanied boys 11 and 8, were sleeping in corner -- made it alone from Budapest. All reports say now much harder to get across. Control extends back 20 km. from border. Also much shooting on border to terrorize people. We heard it.

EISENSTADT

Barracks-like complex of apartments inhabited by Russians, which they tore up badly ~~be~~ upon leaving. Saw one apartment, with holes chopped in concrete floor for lavatory use, when toilet ceased functioning. Many agencies operating in this camp, to which people are brought from Andau and other border points same day of arrival. Are kept here day or two before being sent on. In early days, trains of many countries came right to this town and took people away by thousands, without even any processing. USEP gives kits here. Saw U.S. Army field kitchen equipment. Few if any Jews here. Great majority young people.

One lady, well dressed, eating soup, sm-all government employee, described how last 20 km. of fields before coming to border had all been plowed up -- and how hard it was to walk through the heavy mud -- almost died of fatigue -- threw away everything she was carrying -- many times tempted to lie down in mud and give up. One man came across with three month old baby on his back in a rucksack -- reached Andau after a day -- found baby dead.

Press conference in afternoon -- completely attended -- gave story as per attached release. Many questions.

Afterwards had conference with Maurer and Krell of I.K.G. They are bad. They want Hungarians sent on from Austria -- because afraid Hungarians will cause anti-semitism.

Went to JDC office at Seitenstettengasse at 7.00 p.m. -- packed in every room with interviewers, translators, etc. Personnel increased from 12 normal to 65. Some non-Jews. Police barricades down on street to keep people in line. Incredible strain on human energy and patience to handle 15,000 people one by one. Mere recording of data hard enough job. Quarters very bad -- but some sort of assembly line process has been established to keep people going from room to room. Small black market going on in appointment cards to get inside the offices. Feder had to board up one staircase and put in various doors to plug entrances into building, when it was discovered that there were leaks and people were sneaking in ahead of others. Everyone working with great dedication 18 hours daily and most of refugees are cooperating. Some problem with non-Jews trying to pass as Jews

in order to get "better treatment" which Joint is giving, in relation to other agencies.

Talk with Shilo, Jewish Agency man. He said exit from Poland was increasing -- 3,500 in January. This is getting really big. Probably reach 4,000 in February. Trains from Warsaw to Vienna, evening till following afternoon (3 p.m.) -- then on again to Genoa evening (8.30 p.m.) until next evening -- thus two full days on train with few hours in Vienna in-between. Taken from R.R. station to hotel for a meal -- then back on train. He believes 70,000 Jews in Poland without repatriates. Everyone else thinks this is high. He believes all Jews will leave Poland -- everyone else agrees.

Went with him to Sudbahnhof to see departure at 8.30 p.m. About 150 Poles, plus about 80 Hungarians. Train is called Balkan Express and leaves each evening for Genoa, Trieste, Athens, Istanbul.

Cars for Jews are marked "Sonder Wagon": Reserviert bei Palastina Amt." In each compartment were many children -- and youth. Excellent element. People were crystal clear as to reasons for leaving Poland -- and absolutely unanimous that all Jews would leave. We went from compartment to compartment, car to car, talked with very many. Stettin, Breslau, Warsaw, Lodz -- in all cities the Jews are leaving -- they know they can get exit visas and they want to go to Israel. They are trained and skilled. Ten years under Communism have made them, if anything, better for Israel. They have learned trades -- among them are doctors, engineers, mechanics, metal-workers, one professor (of engineering). Have rarely seen such complete unanimity about future. They know it will be tough in Israel -- but they want it.

Met Duvdevani at station -- he had just come in from Warsaw. His estimate was under 50,000 -- but was well satisfied with the way things were going. No hitches. Cannot emphasize too strongly what a good element this Polish group is.

Also the Hungarians who elect Israel and are somewhat less convinced than the Poles, are infected by contact with them and will benefit from it. It is good that they travel together.

Went to dinner at Ziegellaub's at 9.30 p.m. Not everyone had gathered yet. Feder, his wife and Mrs. Katzki didn't leave office till after 10, and started to eat at 10.30. exhausted. It has been this way for two months, day after day. The staff has really been heroic. After dinner, all left quickly -- too tired to talk any more.

10 January -- early

Went out to Traiskirchen -- permanent camp, second step. Andau (border) to Eisenstadt (assembly point for day or two) to permanent places like Traiskirchen, of which this is the biggest -- but there are many others. This is also a R.R. terminal and many trains came here to take away thousands. Today the outflow has dwindled. This is a former Austrian cavalry cadet school -- occupied by Nazis -- later Russians -- now in Austrian government hands, and assisted by Norwegian Red Cross. Nixon visited this place. Population about 3,500.

About 150 Jews here -- met one family. Group of 11 persons -- three brothers all tailors -- they came together as a group -- made last 30 km. on foot -- crossed border on 10 December, 1956 -- two of the children, aged 8 and 2, got bad flu and frostbite from the cold and exposure, are still in hospital, and that is why the family is still in camp. Missed one chance to move to U.S. Between them they have 4 uncles in U.S. They will not leave till the kids can travel -- and then they worry where can they go.

I asked why they had left Hungary

1. Fear of Hungarian fascists (anti-semites)
2. Under Nazi persecution -- 80 members of family were lost -- only these eleven left -- two brothers had been in Matthaussen -- one had been deported to Siberia -- one wife had been in Auschwitz. They were afraid that the Russians might someday do the same thing. When the chance came to get out, they left.
3. Economic -- all three brothers are skilled tailors and have always had business or shops. In past fifteen years they had been ruined four times and had enough:
 - a) 1940-Nazis
 - b) 1945 - after re-assembling from camps and Siberia
 - c) 1948 -- nationalisation
 - d) 1956 - present revolt

Lunch -- Duvdevani, Shilo, Barr (Lutek)

Morocco -- still keep 300 in camp, not same 300, always changing. Last few months around 700 - 800 average exodus -- main trouble is making contact with people, when you have no organization. Technical possibilities permit up to 1500. We hope that April-May will see us reach this goal.

Tunis -- Jews not receiving laissez-passer, on a monthly basis. Government decides how many per month. They agreed on 400 for December. About 4 - 6,000 are registered.

Algiers -- 300 monthly leaving -- are organizing to increase to 500

	<u>M.</u>	<u>T.</u>	<u>A.</u>	
TOTALS (MIN. -	800	plus	400	plus 300 -- 1500
(Max. -	1500	"	500	" 500 -- 2500

Poland -- Don't know what tomorrow will bring in satellite countries. Things can change. As of now, the entire Jewish population is leaving. Jewish officers in uniform come to Israel Embassy in Warsaw to register for emigration. Incident yesterday with general and his mother. Embassy has given out around 15,000 "promessas", with 3.5 people on each. More than 30,000 people have registered for emigration. Incident: lady wanted to speak only with Ambassador; she was one of 8 highest judges in Poland; disappointed with communism, wanted to register. A member of the Politburo itself has registered. Forty children in orphan's home in Krakow have all received visas. Estimate that few thousand will remain, that's all -- as in Bulgaria. Our plan is that a normal aliyah should be 4,000 monthly. Technical problem is with Polish railroads. They don't have enough cars.

when
They come out with clothing and that's all. At most, they can sell furniture and heavy stuff, they buy a typewriter, radio, washing machine, because they sell at very heavy losses. Workers don't have anything; intelligentsia had good jobs and houses, but leave these behind.

Hungary -- they promised that from 15 January they will give out new passes direct for Israel. Don't know whether they will keep their promise. Nothing really has begun -- we will see.

Lutek

(In Moscow they are showing a pro-Egyptian film about Sinai war. Jew goes. Next day takes wife and kids -- let them have pleasure of seeing Jewish soldiers. Backfire.)

Russia -- big job is to organize the repatriation -- see how big it will be. Gomulka wants all Poles, back to 1939 and as far as Siberia. They say this could be 400,000 -- and at least 10% Jews. There may be opportunities, with open trains, loose papers, etc. to get Russian Jews into these convoys as well. We are watching this whole thing.

Rumania -- no movement out -- not even the 180 who were imprisoned for Zionism, freed and promised emigration. Government broke this promise. Desire among quarter million Jews to emigrate is terribly strong, same as Poland. Added to this is the desire for family reunion, because in 1950-51 tens of thousands Rumanians went to Israel. Will have to watch this.

Hungary -- internal work has three phases, in addition to packages, clothes and kitchens:

- a) give money when it was needed for flight
- b) help procure living quarters, since 30,000 dwellings were destroyed in the fighting
- c) concentrate Jews from small villages into Budapest, because they are afraid to remain in villages. Jewish Hungary will soon be only Budapest.

Note for future -- the young fled to Austria -- the families left behind may suffer seriously.

6 P.M. -- U.H.S. -- LOU HOROWITZ

Hungarians registration -- 12,000 (assume 1500 - 2000 Western Europe who
have not registered with us in Vienna)
departures -- 3592

Registrations: 7,300 - USA; 2,000 Canada; 1754 Australia; 309 Brazil

Departures to Canada -- 855; U.S. 2,153; Australia 350

Chose Australia to be furthest away from Hungary and because of relatives already there. By February 1 another 350 might get to Australia.

Canada has slowed down considerably -- could run another 300 for January. If Cosmos deal works, could be additional 500 -- commercial deal.

Counselling staff is excellent. They all know problem of selling refugees the facts of life. They talk their hearts out. Hungarians are stubborn (says Flora Levine) and after listening, they say U.S.A. You can't do anything with them. We have even thought of stopping registrations for U.S. Don't want to come to that. We sell Israel as hard as we can. Until U.S. stops or slows down, every Hungarian will stubbornly wait for his chance.

We can't get them to think of South America, where possibilities exist. They will sit here waiting, no matter how much counselling we do.

Feder says only shock treatment will do the trick. Isn't even sure what he means by shock.

Flora Levine says maybe we ought to have courage not to register any more who have relatives below uncle. But UHS can't do this and it wouldn't help.

My conclusion: Camps

HAF

Jan. 1957

Fell

...s. They considered the evidence, and
for providing this money, voted to raise
\$100,000 -- over and above the normal \$10

to see the situation for ourselves
ca. We have spoken to hundreds up
rs, welfare workers, and, most of a
e conclusion that the \$100,000,000

that stateme

gyptian situ
papers gave

(more)

were leaving of their own free will -- and then, because they had signed such papers, deprived of their citizenship -- for those few who had managed to attain citizenship. The boat arrived, according to the reports, with 1,000 stateless -- all but a handful of these were native Egyptians, many of the fourth and fifth generations. Mr. Leavitt and I, as you saw in the papers, were there to meet them -- we talked to hundreds of them and we can echo what the correspondents said.

4 -- What the paper did not tell, however, was the fact that this shipload brought the number of those already expelled to well over 6,500 -- by now the figure, added to daily, is at least 7,000. And there is no sign of any change, any softening of attitude on the part of the Egyptian government. We already know of a boatload of another 1,000 coming later this month. And they are arriving every day, by every plane and ship leaving Egypt.

5 -- The Jews of Egypt have been completely terrorized -- their economic props have been removed from them -- their civic rights are being taken away -- there are only two alternatives left to them -- to leave Egypt or starve. The refugees who arrive are convinced that it is the aim of Egypt's rulers to force every Jew out of the country - and that in a matter of months - perhaps, even before the summer sets in fully. By the weight of the evidence -- of everything I have seen, read and heard -- I find myself forced to agree with them.

6 -- a) I am going back to America and tell our people that we must be prepared this year, to take over the care and resettlement of the entire Jewish population of Egypt, approximately 50,000 men, women and children entirely without money or means of any kind.

(more)

b) We must be prepared to provide for the 15,000 Jews who have entered Austria till now, and for the 10 to 15 thousand that it is estimated will still come out this year. Whether they stay in Austria or go elsewhere makes no difference in our needs -- our agencies follow through with people, and helps take care of them and settle them in the countries to which they go, starts them off on the road to freedom and self-support.

c) There are still Jews coming out of the North African countries -- not the mass migration of last year, but still large enough so that there are 3,400 in the transit camp at Marseilles right now, waiting for shipment to Israel. We must figure that the total of these in 1957 will be at least 10,000.

7. There you have it -- 85 to 90 thousand from these three areas alone. And there may be more from Egypt -- our figure of 50,000 is only an estimate -- there are those who tell us that 60,000 is a more realistic figure.

\$100,000,000 seems like a very big figure -- it is a great sum to have to raise over and above our normal needs. It is the very least, however, if we are to meet the challenge ^{which} the events of the last few months have thrust upon us.

January 11, 1957

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a fast message unless its deferred character is indicated by the proper symbol.

WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL=Day Letter

NL=Night Letter

LT=International Letter Telegram

The filing time shown in the date line on domestic telegrams is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

1936 DEC 31 PM 2 01

ENBQ026 30 INTL FR PD=GIVT=ITALCABLE ROMA 31 1843=
FRIEDMANN UJAPPEAL NEWYORK (UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
165 WEST 46 ST)=

STATUS OF SHIP ARRIVAL UNCERTAIN STOP MAY ARRIVE ONE
JANUARY BUT MOST OF ARRIVALS WILL STILL BE NAPLES
FRIDAY STOP WILL WIRE YOU PARIS OFFICE WEDNESDAY=
JAFJE=(

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

J

16

Fe/16/56

NN2108 CCE212 GENEVE 53 29 2146
 LT UJAPPEAL NY UNITED JEWISH APPEAL 165 W 46THST NSH N
 RE FRIEDMAN SCHEDULE LATEST WORD BOAT LEAVES HOME PORT
 JANUARY SECOND ARRIVAL NAPLES JANUARY FOURTH EARLIEST
 PROBABLY FIFTH STOP ALSO WEATHER CONDITIONS HAVE RECENTLY
 FORCED MANY PLANE SCHEDULE CHANGES STOP SUGGEST THAT YOU MUST
 NOT BANK ON DEFINITE ABILITY RETURN STATES JANUARY ELEVENTH
 IF YOU WANT FULL COVERAGE REGARDS

JORDAN

DEC 30 1956

FOR PROMPT SERVICE
 TELEPHONE REPLY TO
 MAIN OFFICE - WH 4-3100

FROM: Raphael Levy
Director of Publicity
UNITED JEWISH APPEAL
165 West 46th Street
New York 36, N.Y.

FOR RELEASE ON RECEIPT

EXECUTIVE HEAD OF UNITED JEWISH APPEAL LEAVES FOR SURVEY OF REFUGEE CRISIS ABROAD
TO STUDY MOUNTING NEEDS OF AID PROGRAMS FOR JEWS FROM EGYPT, HUNGARY AND OTHER LANDS

Report Will Form Basis of Community Campaigns in Support of UJA's \$100,000,000
Emergency Rescue Fund

Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman, Executive Vice-Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal, left on January 1, for an intensive 10-day survey of the mounting requirements of UJA-supported refugee aid operations abroad arising from "the greatest refugee crisis since the Hitler era."

On his departure, Rabbi Friedman said the chief points on his survey mission would be in France, Italy and Austria, "where a constantly growing stream of Jewish refugees from Egypt, Hungary and a number of other countries of oppression are awaiting resettlement in permanent locations."

"The most important purpose of my mission", he said, "is to bring back to the American Jewish community a first-hand, thorough and factual account of the greatest refugee crisis since the Nazi terror and the chaos following World War II. It is hoped that this report will provide local community efforts which support the nationwide UJA with the basis for campaigns of the necessary scope to meet our greatest humanitarian responsibility of this decade."

Rabbi Friedman pointed out that the representatives of the Jewish communities throughout the country recognized the extent of the emergency last month when they instructed the UJA to set up a drive for a \$100,000,000 Emergency Rescue Fund over and above the UJA's regular 1957 campaign. "The Rescue Fund is needed," he said, "in order to save and resettle in the United States, Israel and other countries of the free world a minimum of 100,000 Jewish refugees from

more

The UJA executive head said he would visit Paris to confer with leaders of the Joint Distribution Committee, the UJA-financed agency which cares for refugees in a score of overseas countries.

In Naples he will visit JDC centers which are caring for Jewish refugees "who were driven out of Egypt by the Nazi-like terror unleashed by dictator Nasser."

In Marseilles, he will study the needs of the Jewish Agency operations which are sheltering and rehabilitating thousands of Jewish refugees from the Mediterranean area and transferring them to Israel as rapidly as possible. The Jewish Agency derives most of its funds from the UJA.

In Vienna, he said, he will confer with officials heading one of JDC's "most overwhelming responsibilities, caring for the sudden influx of refugees into Austria from Hungary."

In Austria, Rabbi Friedman said, the UJA is "participating to its utmost in the free world's effort to cope with the massive rescue job." Noting that more than 150,000 Hungarians fled into Austria since the Russian troops crushed the anti-Communist revolt, he said that the UJA was helping to meet the refugee problem "through the UJA-supported Joint Distribution Committee, which is providing extensive care to the 13,000 Jewish men, women and children who are among the escapees."

"The JDC", he added, "has set up a fleet of trucks at the Hungarian border to pick up exhausted refugees crossing into Austria, where they receive temporary care. Those who wish to go to Israel, are being transported and resettled there by the Jewish Agency. The New York Association for New Americans, another UJA-financed organization, is caring for a considerable number of other Jewish refugees who have reached New York, and must be ready to help several thousand more expected in the coming months.

Rabbi Friedman said the dual UJA effort -- the Emergency Rescue Fund drive and the regular nationwide UJA campaign -- must meet the needs of 625,000 refugee, distressed and dependent Jews in a score of countries during 1957.

Wednesday, January 9 7:30 a.m. Drive to border, stop at Andau

10:00 to 11:00 Visit Austrian government reception camp at Eisenstadt and
11:00 to 12:30 visit to Austrian government camp at Traiskirchen.

1:00 to 2:00 ~~2:30 to 3:30~~ Lunch

2:30 Vienna - visit Malzgasse to see shelter and kosher kitchen
in process of being prepared, by AJDC, for use of Hungarian
Jewish refugees.

3:45 Hotel Bristol - press conference called for 4 p.m. in which
Mr. Leavitt, Mr. Friedman, Mr. Feder, Mr. Ziegellaub (preside)
and Mr. Dr. Maurer will participate.

5:20 to 5:45 Conference of Mr. Leavitt and Mr. Friedman with Dr. Maurer
and Mr. Krell - at Hotel Bristol.

5:45 Conference with Mr. Shilo

6:45 Visit Seitenstettengasse to see nightly reception of latest
border crossing refugees in need of shelter, food and special
care.

8:00
to ? Sudbahnhof.

8:45 Dinner at home of Mr and Mrs Ziegellaub (followed by con-
ference) for Mr. Leavitt, Mr Friedman, Mrs Katzki, Mr and
Mrs Feder and Mr and Mrs Jaffe, *Mr. Shargo*

* * *

Thursday, Jan. 10 8:30 - breakfast with Mr. Ben Tsur, Israeli Minister in
Vienna, Mr. Leavitt, Mr. Friedman, Mr. Ziegellaub, Mr. Feder.

11:00 SPLIT
Mr. Ziegellaub and Mr. Leavitt to meeting of Voluntary Agencies.
Mr. Feder and Mr. Friedman to visit - -
Old Age Home and Hospital in Vienna
Kosher Kitchen - Kleine Faehergasse - which is time that
kosher meals are served for Hungarian Jewish refugees.

OMISSION - NOTE.!!!!

10: to 11:00 Visit to AJDC office for Austria, Waehringerstrasse 2-4 (also
headquarters for United HIAS Service)

1:00 to 2:00 Lunch

2:30 to 3:30 Iron Curtain countries - Mr. Bar

3:30 to 6:30 Free time for shopping, etc.

6:30 Dinner

7:20 Opera

* * *

Friday, January 11 Mr. Leavitt and Mr. Friedman leave Vienna - Air France flight
741, 8:30 a.m. arriving Paris 12:05 noon.

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American Joint Distribution Committee
Vienna 9
Wahringerstrasse 2 A19-545

Samuel Jaffe
Director of Public Relations



NOTE TO Editors and correspondents

Following are the basic elements in connection with the press conference called at the Hotel Bristol, Vienna, by the American Joint Distribution Committee, Wednesday, January 9th, 1957.

This material is not to be released before Thursday, January 10.

Principal speaker at the conference was Herbert A. Friedman of New York, executive head of the United Jewish Appeal, which has just launched a special \$100,000,000 emergency drive in the United States to enable the American Joint Distribution Committee and the Jewish Agency to meet the extraordinary needs occasioned by recent events in Egypt and Hungary and to help Israel receive and absorb the thousands of newcomers seeking haven in that country. Mr. Friedman is in Vienna on a study of the world Jewish refugee situation.

Principal points made by Mr. Friedman were:

Almost 14 Percent Of Jewish Population Of Hungary
Has Fled Since November 4.

* * *

16,500 Refugees More Than Double Original Jewish
Population Of Austria.

* * *

Necessary To Set Up Entire Program To Meet Religious
And Other Special Needs of Jewish Escapees.

* * *

U.J.A. Agencies Program Follows Refugees Wherever
They Go And Helps Integrate Them Into Life Of Countries
Admitting Them.

* * *

Pledges Full American Support To Jews Seeking New
Life In Free World.

* * *

more

Also participating in the conference were:

Moses A. Leavitt of New York, executive vice-chairman of AJDC, one of the two primary agencies of UJA. Mr. Leavitt is a member of the President's Committee on Hungarian ^{Relief} Jews, and chairman of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Relief;

Dr. Emil Maurer, president of the Israelitische Kultusgemeinde of Vienna;

Fred Ziegellaub, AJDC director - Office for Austria, presided.

Following is a summary of Mr. Friedman's presentation:

- 1- Jews of America, through UJA, are seeking to raise a special fund of \$100,000,000 to meet the emergency needs occasioned by recent events in various parts of the world - -

- - Egypt, where the entire Jewish population is threatened with expulsich.
- - Hungary, from which Jews in unprecedented numbers are fleeing in search of freedom.
- - North Africa, where, because of unsettled conditions, Jews face loss of economic opportunity, in some places their civic and political status, and must be helped to rebuild their lives.

- 2- As executive head of UJA, I have come to see at first hand the needs of these people and to report back to the Jews of America on their plight and their needs. I am fortunate that accompanying me is Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman of AJDC, one of the two primary agencies of UJA.

We came here yesterday from Naples, where we saw stateless Jewish expulsees, 1000 of them, arriving from Egypt. The great majority of them were born in Egypt, but the Egyptian government labels them "stateless". But I will not dwell on this phase of our problems now. We have called this conference to discuss the plight of Hungarian Jewish & refugees and we will deal with that now.

- 3- We need a lot of money to serve the Jews who fled, ~~and~~ who are still fleeing, from Hungary -- more than any of the other voluntary agencies working on the same problem. Let me ~~enumerate for you the~~ reasons for this:

- a) We have a greater proportion of escapees than any other group. The figures -- Hungary has a population, roughly, of 9,000,000 people; of these a little more than 160,000 have fled to Austria, almost 2% of the entire population.

The Jewish population of Hungary was, roughly, 120,000. Arrivals in Austria to date are 16,567. In other words, almost 14 percent of the Jewish population of Hungary has left that country since November 4th. There may be more -- I speak only of those who have registered with AJDC and the Jewish organizations with which it works. There are more than twice as many refugees as entire original Jewish population of Austria.

- b) We have a smaller proportion of departures --

General figures: 92,000 have left of the 160,000 who came to Austria -- about 60%. Jewish figures: 4,400 have already left of the 16,500 who came -- about 25%. This will ~~fix~~ no doubt straighten itself out as time goes on -- but what it leaves right now is a backlog of approximately 12,000 Jews needing care from the various Kultusgemeinden, with financial help and supplementary services provided by AJDC.

- c) We must spend more to meet religious and other special Jewish needs:

Set up kosher kitchens --

Send kosher food into camps --

Provide prayer books and religious supplies -

Set up religious schools for children - (Christian community of 7,000,000 Austrians can provide religious facilities for 160,000; a Jewish population of less than 8,000 cannot provide these facilities for 16,500 - - they have to be built up).

- d) Our agencies' job is not over when the people leave Austria - - if they go to European countries, or Australia or South America, AJDC takes care of their needs, finances them and helps integrate them in their new surroundings; if they go to the United States the same job is done by the New York Association for New Americans and by the United Hias Service - - which, though not a part of UJA, has been voted funds from the special campaign; if they go to Israel the Jewish Agency moves them, re-settles them. Our UJA agencies' job is not over until every one of them is well started on a new life in the country in which he will find himself.

4- We have come here to see what is going on and to report back on needs, as I said originally. But we have come for another reason - - to meet the people and to assure them that the Jews of America are behind them in their heroic effort to cast off the yoke of communist dictatorship and build a new life for themselves in the free world.

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NOTES FOR PRESS CONFERENCE (HAF)

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 - - Egypt, where the entire Jewish population is threatened with expulsion.
 - - Hungary, from which Jews in unprecedented numbers are fleeing in search of freedom.
 - - North Africa, where, because of unsettled conditions, Jews face loss of economic opportunity, in some places their civic and political status, and must be helped to rebuild their lives.

- 2- As executive head of United Jewish Appeal, I have come to see at first hand the needs of these people and to report back to the Jews of America on their plight and their needs. I am fortunate that accompanying me is Moses A. Leavitt, executive vice-chairman ~~member~~ of American Joint Distribution Committee, one of the two primary agencies of UJA. Mr. Leavitt is a member of the President's Committee on Hungarian ^{Relief} ~~Jews~~ and chairman of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Relief, in which capacities he will make reports of his own when he gets back to America.

We came here yesterday from Naples, where we saw Jewish expulsees, 1000 of them, arriving from Egypt. (a few words on this). But I will not dwell on this phase of our problems now. We have called this conference to discuss the plight of Hungarian Jewish refugees and we will ^{deal with} ~~dwell on~~ that now.

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The figure - - Hungary has a population of roughly, of 9,000,000 people; of these a little more than 160,000 have fled to Austria, almost 2% of the entire population.

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92,000 have left of the 160,000 who came to Austria - about 60%.

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about 25 percent. This will no doubt straighten itself out as

time goes on - - but what it leaves right now is a *backlog* of approximately 12,000 Jews needing *from* our care - the various

Kultusgemeinden, with financial help and supplementary services provided by AJDC.

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Set up kosher kitchens -

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Set up religious schools for children

(point up Christian community of 7,000,000 can provide religious facilities for 160,000; a Jewish population of less than 2,000 cannot provide these facilities for 16,500 - - it has to be built up)

Special shock for people who have suffered twice in same generation.

- d) Our agencies' job is not over when people leave Austria - -

if they go to European countries, or Australia or South

America, AJDC takes care of their needs, finances them and

and helps integrate them in their new surroundings; if they go to the United States the same job is done by ^{NYANA} ~~NYANA~~ and United HIAS Service - - which, ~~through~~ though not a part of UJA, has been voted funds ~~from~~ ^{the} special campaigns; if they go to Israel the Jewish Agency moves them, re-settles them. Our UJA agencies job is not over until every one of them is well started on a new life in the country in which he will find himself.

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Feder and Ziegellaub working very well together and within a week Feder had the thing under control. There are no longer lines of people on the stairways.

POLISH STORY: It is going very smoothly. Any Jew who wants to apply for an exit permit, gets it. They are allowed to take out 500 kilos of personal luggage on an average and this means that there are many people carrying more than that. But this is not all the luggage. The heavy luggage is shipped to Trieste. They take all their clothing, sleeping equipment, eating equipment, plus miscellaneous belongings such as tools, bicycles, etc. There are all types of people, lots of children, all trades represented -- not white collar -- they are artisans, etc., good element. And the movement goes without a hitch. The Legation in Warsaw has issued 12,000 permessos which they show at the Polish Ministry of Interior. The exit visa takes about six weeks, then back to the legation for Passport -- takes indeterminate time, depending on the boat situation. They go by ^{train out of} ~~drawn down to~~ Warsaw -- 80 people a day; one wagon a day, now laying on two. That means 1,000 a week. Get passport, go home, wait for a telegram to ~~report~~ report. Takes about ten days. They leave at about 8 o'clock in evening, arrive Vienna next afternoon. (They pay for their transport.) The Balkan Express leaves at 8.30 evening. And at this point it becomes Agency. There are two car loads out. At 8 o'clock following evening they are in Genoa. Genoa in hotels, length of time dependent upon next ship.

This movement will continue rolling. Will be augmented by the repatriation from Russia. Gomulka insisting upon return to Poland of all Poles sent there dating back to '39 -- estimate 400,000 of which estimate 10% Jews. They are already filtering back. The repatriated are not going through six weeks of processing. They should not have an opportunity to re-adjust to living in Poland so that they are processed immediately. Supposing there are 40,000 Jews who will eventually be repatriated and 10,000 from Russia. The figure inside Poland -- estimates 40 to 70,000. High side people say this is a mistake because the number of people emerging, who had assumed different names, is unknown. So we say about 70,000. Can't know how this will wind up.

Tanne has a problem on housing -- how to re-organize housing program because what you had on the drawing boards for North Africans is no good for Poles and Egyptian -- not good in

type or location. Mr. Eshkol has an idea that the old established kibbutzim might agree to take in many of these Polish people -- with a subsidy.

NORTH AFRICAN IMMIGRATION

Outflow about 700 a month from Morocco; 400 Tunis; 200 Algeria. Cut it down --- a thousand a month. The Agency trying to put the lid on this. Gibraltar is open. Marseille camp stands at about 3000 to 3,500. About 4 to 500 leave at a time. This depends on number of Poles waiting in Genoa.

2,000 Jews from Yemen showed up at Aden and asked for transport.

EGYPTIAN JEWS

British Passport holders are mainly of Yemen origin. 6 or 7,000 Egyptian Jews hold Italian passport.

Majority of Egyptian Jews are in France. But they cannot be absorbed there. Red Cross gives them 15 days in hotels. Then they are on their own and it doesn't take long before they don't know what next. Carte de travail for French citizens -- questionable.

No housing in France and production falling off.

Every plane coming out of Cairo drops people in Vienna. Every Jew in Egypt can get out; no visas necessary. He leaves everything behind and he can go out. Italy has said she will give a transit visa to any stateless Jew; Belgium has announced the same; France even will take stateless although they have not announced this. But in Italy and Belgium no end visas needed. No problem. This plane travel is for the man with money.

Young boy of 18 who was on his way to his uncle and just as soon as he will have ascertained from uncle that mother and younger children could be given a haven by uncle, they would get onto plane and follow young man. Otherwise the family will proceed to Israel.

The man without money goes to the Rabbinate; gets certificate which he takes to the Red Cross and he will be taken out on a ship.

No violence in Egypt, except in the case of internees who were brutally handled by police. Those in France will become a charge on us. Already the COJASOR has huge case load of over thousand Egyptian Jews. There might be between 4 and 5,000 Egyptian Jews in France. In Italy about 500 and these are passport holders -- a few hundred elsewhere, Switzerland and Greece, and then those who have gone to Israel. About 7,000.

In connection with mention of Agency concerning Egyptians -- Red Cross says that's bad.

TANNE wanted to know how much we are going to raise. They had put into budget for first nine months of 1957 income of \$10 million from the Special Fund of 1957, cash. I told him that was a safe figure. Moe told me it was very safe. Now he wants to know how many more millions he can count on. Told him can't tell him until after Feb. 2nd and then till after March 3rd. If he can get a few more millions on that and taking everything else into account, he would then be \$20 million short. He thinks in terms of borrowing. I told him no. One, the New York loan consummated for 1957 has stopped any kind of borrowing around the country. As to who was responsible for N.Y. loan, I told him Bernstein said that Hammer wrote to Naftali about that. (Naftali is OUT -- he's sick) Candidates for new treasurer of Jewish Agency -- Dov Joseph? There are no candidates. Thinking of trying to get Sharett. Sharett more likely to be considered next Prime Minister. Figure mentioned in connection with JDC -- the only figure I heard Moe mention was \$5 million.

I do think that Israel is faced with something so enormous that we here, thinking in terms of raising money, tend to forget their problem. 17,500 units of housing they have on their plans. First week of January they had 2,000 people. They have a feeling of panic in connection with housing. At last meeting of Agency Shragai and Kol asked if it would help if they come to America. Tanne said he was just transmitting their request. I told him it won't help for them to come.

Proposal made to reopen camp in Haifa again. Thinking of it very seriously.

These are the huts built six or seven years ago and are now in bad condition.

Second suggestion was camp at Atlith, also in Haifa, where the housing is in better condition but there are about 5,000 Egyptian prisoners there -- and Egypt in no hurry to take them back.

Charlie said Finance Ministry in France put up 100 million francs for French nationals coming into France. By their calculation they have spent 25 million on stateless.

Charlie thinking of going to UN High Commissioner to discuss taking over care and maintenance for 60 days being settled between French, UN and JDC. Doesn't know whether the UN man will listen to him. It is difficult to tell how many people this will

involve. About 7,000 Egyptian Jews have come out of Egypt, of whom 855 went to Israel recently and about 500 went there previously. Rest are mostly French nationals or Italian nationals but enough stateless accumulated so that they are already beginning to present a problem. No one has a figure on it. Charlie doesn't know what he can persuade the UN to take on. He does say that it looks as though the JDC will spend in France in the first six months of 1957 on straight relief for Egyptian Jews probably a quarter million dollars -- just France.

Add that to Vienna spending, straight relief care and maintenance and the bill is big. A guess on total cost of handling refugees -- \$10,000 a day, of which one-third reimbursible. Soon there will be 10,000 places open in camps. You have a ~~xxxx~~ ^{corps} of people whom you must think of in terms of a year. And then some of them may decide to go on to Israel. Those who remain after that -- you can then point out to them that Austria has no unemployment and pressure can then be put on them to go on to work. I think they must first be pushed out of hotel into camps and then from camps to work. At the point at which all doors are closed, it is finished.

Numbers USA will take -- Rice said that at the President's Committee meeting which he attended in Moe's absence, they spoke of 5,000 a month. Lou Horowitz said yesterday that it would be 6,500 for next month. There is no total figure so we don't know what the figure of Jews will be. Nobody knows for how many months it will go on, but it won't go on for long.

There are 70,000 non Jews in Austria. Movement to Austria from Hungary is becoming much more difficult, therefore slower. They are checking papers in Budapest when ^{last} people want to leave -- the 20 kilometers of the way have been ploughed up so that there is marsh and it's heavy going. ...One lady told that she had set out with a haversack and soon threw that away, and then followed her handbag and she finally felt that she should lie down in the mud and die -- but she continued and crossed the border..... And then shooting on the border has increased very considerably in order to terrorize the refugees. One refugee who arrived with his nine year old son told how Russian soldiers had spilt fire at random, a shot had hit his wife, she had fallen and he had to leave her by the way and continue with the young child. We were at the border and as we turned to leave the ~~soldiers starting~~ border guards started shooting.

As to evacuation of Jews --

Egypt -- total evacuation

Poland -- total evacuation if it continues as anticipated

Hungary -- 15% already out -- as permanent DP charge in Vienna

North Africa -- running around 1,000 to 1,200 a month (with the lid on it)

Israel completely behind in Housing with a first rate political crisis coming up in the UN.

Tanne said that they can hold out January, February. March we visualise running into complete breakdown.

In Hungary, nobody wants to go to Israel; Egypt, they are unsure although they probably want to go to Israel; Poland, everybody wants to go and they rank from the top down.

made
In Italy -- 350 beds ~~made~~ available, at the request of the Director-General of the Ministry of Labor, for Jews.

"RESCUE COMMITTEE" PEOPLE ENDANGER OUR NEUTRALITY

A great service to the communist propaganda against Austria was rendered by two members of the "Internation Rescue Committee" (founded under American auspices) who, without permission, traveled to Andau (Burgenland), several 100 meters within hungarian territory, in order to help some hungarian refugees to reach the Austrian border. They used the very moment in which no Austrian border guards were present. The two foreigners were captured by Hungarian border sentries.

As the "Montag" has learned from the Sicherheitsdirektion Eisenstadt, the police at Andau, was informed on Saturday afternoon, by other members of the previously mentioned committee that the American student Dobbs Ferry and the norwegian student Einar Roes were arrested by the Hungarian sentries as they had gone several 100 meters into Hungarian territory, under the pretext of bringing several exhausted refugees to Austria. A bulletin of the Associated Press states that the American's real name is Richard Rorerbach, the norwegian's Einar Raus.

Anyway, it would be advisable to investigate more carefully the activities of the various "Rescue Committees", which operate at the Hungarian border, in order to prevent these unfortunate incidents. Activities beyond the border endanger Austria's neutrality and add nourishment to the accusations of the communist states against Austria.

CONFIDENTIAL

Paris
January 23, 1957

NOTES ON EGYPTIAN SITUATION
BY RABBI HERBERT FRIEDMAN

I'm not going to put these in any order at all. One fellow I met said that there wouldn't be a single Jew living in Egypt in three months. The man who said this had been born in Cairo. Four generations, as far as he knew, of his family had been born there. Originally his ancestors came from Hebron, in Palestine, many, many generations ago. He was Tunisian by nationality. He had rented a house, he owned the whole houseful of furniture, and he owned a crushed stone plant. This was all gone. On the 30th of October he heard about the invasion on the radio and he left his house in Cairo and went to his sister in the suburbs for ten days. He came back home on the 11th of November and a police officer came to him that night, at around midnight, and told him that he had to sign this paper. He asked what the paper was and the officer said that the paper simply acknowledged that he had been told by the police officer that he had to stay at home. He stayed in the house, the servant went out to buy food, and then, after ten days, he heard on the radio that all Tunisians and French were allowed to leave their homes. So that he went out of the house on the 21st of November and he went to the police station. The police told him that he had to leave the country in ten days. On the 28th of November he cashed his monthly check and went down and bought a ticket on Sabena Airlines and left the country. His bank account was blocked, he wasn't allowed to cash anything, he got out with four ~~six~~ suitcases of clothes, he arrived in Paris on the 4th of December, the Red Cross gave him fifteen days at a small hotel, and he has been waiting ever since to see what ~~was~~ would happen to him.

Another Jew told me that he believed three months was the limit for all the Jews in the country. I asked him, "Why three months?" And he said that they had all been repeating to each other what they heard from police officers. The police officers told them that when the time of the date of the renewal of the residence came up on the 31st of March there would be no renewals.

Another Jew said that he had to sign a paper saying that he was leaving the country of his own free will, and he said that most of the Jewish population in the country was in a panic. I asked him what he was going to try to do and he said he was going to try to get a job here in Paris, that if he couldn't he would go to Israel. A reasonable time would be about sixty days. If he does go to Israel he wants to fight because he wants to give back to them what they gave to him.

Another one said to me that the stateless and the Egyptian Jews would go to Israel, that even foreign nationals would eventually go to Israel because they would realize that only one door was open to them. Without money or jobs, he said, people cannot stay in France very long.

One man, who was very x frantic and very excited, came up and said that he had a printing plant which had cost him L30,000 and twenty years of effort; he showed me pictures of his personnel amounting to about fifty people. He said that he had been printing labels for Coca Cola and for Shell Oil and that he had a very good clientele and that they took the plant away from him overnight, and what could he do to get it back?

Another man said that he had had a small novelty shop on the main street in Cairo, that he had received a telegram from his brother-in-law in Montreal and he was trying to get him a visa to Canada. The next day, after he got the telegram, the police came and took away this very small business from him, saying that they knew he was leaving and that they were taking the business as a guarantee that he would pay his taxes. He said that this was just plain expropriation and wanted to know what he could do about it.

Another man said that a policeman had offered him L5 for a refrigerator and when he didn't want to sell the refrigerator for L5 the policeman said that he would take it for nothing if the man didn't accept the L5 and he'd better take it.

One man, a publicity and theatrical agent, didn't think that very many Jews would go to Israel and he offered three reasons for it. First of all,

he said, the fear of war; secondly, the fear of discrimination against Sephardim in Israel; and thirdly, the fear of trying to learn the Hebrew language.

Another man made it very clear that he had not been expelled but that he had been advised to leave -- and he suggested that I put the word "advised" in quotation marks -- but that such advice to leave was the same as an expulsion, because what choice did he have?

A woman said she had heard a rumor -- she didn't know whether it was true -- that they wanted Jews to wear yellow arm bands and that the Chief Rabbi had said that if they were forced to do this he would go to the American Consulate and he would ask for UN planes to come and take them out just as they were.

One man came over -- he was a professor of Arabic language -- who had had a building, worth ~~£4,000~~ £40,000, which he rented out as a school and had the income as his living expense. They took the property away from him, they gave him 24 hours to leave, and he had sort of a paralytic shock as a result of it. When I saw him he was limping heavily on one foot and he was dragging the other one behind him, walking with the aid of a cane. He begged for more time than the 24 hours; they wouldn't give him any more time. They wouldn't let him get any money and threw him out.

I had lunch with Ambassador Tsur and asked him why it was that Israel had brought up the fact in the United Nations about what it was happening to the Jews. Wouldn't it have been better if some other country had brought up this whole complaint? And he said that they had tried, desperately, to get some other country to make the protest in the UN about what was happening to the Jews in Egypt and they couldn't get a single other country to do it and so Israel had to do it themselves.

He gave some figures on the Jewish population in Egypt which I think are not accurate, because I have some later on which I think are more accurate. But take his down and then compare them to the ones I have later on. He thought that the population was approximately 40,000 to 45,000, of whom 20,000 are foreign nationals, 5,000 Egyptian, 15,000 stateless. You have dif-

ferent figures? I have some different ones too and we'll see how they check out. He said that Egyptians coming to France cannot be absorbed in France, that the French Egyptians themselves cannot be absorbed, let alone the Jewish French Egyptians. The Jewish community is pressed by the North African Jews, let alone the Egyptian newer Egyptian arrivals. The Israel government gave a guarantee to the French and the Italian governments that anyone who goes to the Swiss Legation in Cairo and says that he wants to go to Israel should be given transit visas to Italy ^{or} ~~and~~ France and that Israel would stand behind those transit visas and also would see to it that the ~~Jews/are~~ ^{people were} transported further. By the way, he indicated that most of the British passport holders among the Jews were Yemenites; that they had gotten their British citizenship through the crown colony in Aden; and that if you looked into the origin of most of the Egyptian Jews who are British, that they are British via Yemenite derivation.

He had the feeling that while at the beginning many refugees say they don't want to go to Israel that after a few months most of them will reach the conclusion that that's their only solution. Then he went on to talk about Morocco and Tunis and Algeria but ~~that's~~ that's not relevant to this discussion.

Now here's a conversation in Rome with Haskel on the 4th of January. About 2,400 Egyptian refugees had landed in ^{Italy} ~~Israel~~ as of that date, of whom about 400 were left in Italy and 2,000 others had passed on to other countries, and that must mean a great bunch of them right on here in France. Of the 400 who stayed in Italy as of that date most were Italian passport holders. His estimate was that probably 6,000 to 7,000 Egyptian Jews were Italian nationals, and again when I asked him what their origin was he said that in applying for Italian citizenship in Italy in the past most of them had given Livorno as their place of origin. And the reason was that many decades ago, just somewhere before 1900, there had been a tremendous fire in Livorno and all the records were destroyed. So that the Jews in Egypt went to the Italian Consulate, said that they were originally from Livorno -- there was no way of checking on them -- and they bought Italian passports at that time. Most of them had never been in Italy,

speak no Italian, and that's similar to the British Jews, Yemenite in origin. The Italian Jews are Livorno in origin. Now most of the 400 who were in Italy as of the 4th of January, he said, required only financial help. There was nothing else that had to be done for them at the moment because as Italian nationals they could either move out of the small hotels in which they were being kept and go out into the economy and try to find a job, or, if they wanted to go on to Israel as Italian nationals, it certainly was an easy thing for them to do.

Now on the arrival of the ship. The figures I have here are that there were 976 on board. The ship was under the ICRC charter; the escorting agent was Robert Porchet. Of the 1,000, 78 were interned. Now there was one family -- Stein, for instance -- of whom three people were imprisoned. Their story was, when I asked how did they select those who were going to be interned, their version was they took Jews with money into the internment camps in order to get the money. And the story was universal. In the Citadel Prison in Cairo for one day; in the Abassia School for a two months; in the Alexandria Prison for one day on the way out. The first fifteen days in the prison in Abassia were very bad. There were sixteen to twenty people in each room; the guards insulted them; armed guards accompanied them to the lavatories even. For the first two days they weren't given anything to eat. After the first fifteen days, which were so very bad, then they let them down into the courtyard for two hours every day. All the windows were closed in their rooms. They were allowed no news from the outside, no mail, no visitors, no nothing. They were taken from the Abassia in Cairo, on the train, up to Alexandria, the men in handcuffs, one day in the prison in Alexandria, and escorted onto the ship by the Egyptian police. One of the Stein people was on the ship's committee. Another person on the ship's committee, which consisted of four people, was a Doctor Cohen. He had been three generations born in Egypt. He was stateless. He was the pathologist in the Jewish Hospital in Cairo, which the Egyptians took over. They threw out all the doctors and all the patients. It's a 250-bed ~~hospital~~ hospital. They wouldn't let the doctors take their instruments with them. He wanted to take -- even his

stethoscope they wouldn't let him have. Their version of internees were: stateless, 150; Egyptian, 130; all other nationalities, about 220. They ~~figures~~ figured there was a total of 500 people who had been interned.

A typical story, for instance, was as follows: A man ~~x~~ said, "I was released from internement on board the ship. I signed on the 17th of November that I wanted to leave the country. My car, the money in the bank, everything was left behind. They let us take out £100 sterling per person, £50 sterling per child. We paid £11 tax to buy that £100 traveler's check. They didn't limit us on the baggage but they said no jewelry, no radios, no sewing machines, no new watches; if it was ~~x~~ used we could take it. We were allowed £5 of pocket money in cash in addition to the ^{£100} ~~£~~ of the traveler's check. The £100 traveler's check was marked "Payable only in the United Kingdom." He thought that the average baggage per family, measuring by himself and a lot of friends of his whom he knew, for the one, or in most cases two, suitcases which each one took out, it averaged around 100 or 150 kilos per person. And when we saw the suitcases they brought down from the ship they were tremendous; they were really not just suitcases as we know them -- small trunks -- most of them new, obviously just bought for this purpose, and you could easily see that one ~~fraction~~ of them could carry 50 kilos worth of stuff in each one of those two pieces of baggage. The man said, quote, "we never thought they were going to do such a thing to us," unquote.

Another fellow said, "My family received a written order to go to the passport office, which is a branch of the Ministry of the Interior. At the passport office I received a verbal order of expulsion. I tried to keep the written order which sent me to the passport office, but they took that written note back from me and tore it up because they said I didn't need it any more, I had already reported to the passport office, they were now expelling me verbally, and I didn't need any written note."

I talked to one man who asked that his name not be used. He was ~~the~~ an agent's publisher of the Readers Digest. Apparently he had the distribu-

tion for the Readers Digest in Egypt. He was 52, stateless, his father had come from Russia. He had two months in the Abassia Prison, the same story. He had to bribe the guards to bring him some food, no member of the family could visit him. He went on the train from Cairo to Alexandria in handcuffs. He sold his frigidaire and his furniture to get his money for tickets. His son is trying to sell whatever of the rest he can and will come out. He had a twenty-year-old daughter with him and she said, "It was horrible there; just like the Nazi times that I heard about." He took out of his pocket the keys to his car -- it was an English Morris. He said he had paid L930 for the car. He left the car behind. He wanted to give it to his son, who was staying behind. They wouldn't let him, so he said, "I at least took the keys away from them."

Another man said, "I had a jewelry shop. They closed it."

Another man said, "We had a building. We left it."

Another man said, "They sent me a letter. They told me to leave."

Another man said, "I was a dental mechanic. I took my wife and three sons and I ran."

A young boy, a student, aged 17, said, "I was supposed to get a visa to continue studies in England. At the Ministry of Education they told me, 'Get out, you are a Jew, we won't give you any visa to England.' He asked, 'What does the Department of Education have to do with religion?' At school they told me, 'Get out, you're a Jew.' Why should we stay when they tell me things like this. I'm going to Israel to shoot Egyptians."

Another young fellow, also about 18, said that his father had stayed behind to try to sell the house. He figured that the house was worth about L4,000. His father had been offered L50 for it, hadn't wanted to sell it, and so was staying behind in order to try to get a better offer.

One woman came off the ship screaming. She had gone mad. I asked Porchet whether she had been that way when she went on board and he said no, that she had been alright when she came on. She snapped on the voyage and she was just in sort of a catatonic state. And she refused to disembark. They had an ambulance

waiting down on the dockside and three, four doctors -- and you know the Italians are very excitable -- and she just wouldn't get off. And the tried to start to pull her off and she started to ~~murder~~ scream. You could hear her over the whole dock. Finally they strapped her onto a stretcher and they took her off. And Haskel comes over and he scratches his head and he says, "What will we x do with her now?"

Now on the 7th of January, the next day after that ship came in, we sat down with what we felt were the most responsible people we could get our hands on. There were two or three members of the ship's committee; there was a guy from the Rabbinate in Alexandria who knew the whole story inside; and this was the composite story that we get from the responsible people. The approach of the Egyptian government -- this is part of the whole concept of the diabolical cleverness of the whole thing -- is foreign national Jews are not being persecuted as Jews. They have been persecuted as -- if they would admit to that -- as undesirable foreign aliens. Out of the 7,000 French and 9,000 British, these attacked us. So we have nothing ~~again~~ against them as Jews. We don't want them in our country; they're undesirable foreign aliens. We have severed ~~relations~~ with their countries; we don't want them in our country. The foreign consuls protested against this. The Egyptian government said they were simply undesirable and would be expelled. Now the Egyptian government also announced, internally in Egypt, that there are 36,000 Egyptian Jews and these people, especially the fellow from the Rabbinate, wanted us to know that this was a false figure, completely. This was a cover in order to show that whatever anybody would claim to be a large number of expulsions of Egyptian Jews would never appear to be very large, because the Egyptians would say they did expell 16,000 French and British, that they had a right to do as undesirable aliens, but they will always claim that they weren't ~~are~~ doing anything to the very large number of Egyptian Jews who were remaining behind. So they set up kind of a windmill of 36,000, so that if a few thousand did get out it would still not look quite as bad. Now they made a tremendous point of our knowing this because they said there are nothing like 36,000 Egyptian

Jews and they have inflated the figure in order to make their terror look less severe.

Now here is what their figures are -- these guys who ~~wax~~ say they think they know pretty accurately. In Cairo there are 4,000 families who pay taxes to the Rabbinate, and they estimate that that means 16,000 people. Their estimate of non-taxpayers is 20,000 people; and in Alexandria 20,000 people. Then in several other small communities there are a few hundred here and a few hundred there. The pre-expulsion population, maximum, runs to 60,000.

SEIDENMAN: That agrees with the figures we have.

FRIEDMAN: That agrees, alright. Now they break it down into these three categories: All foreign nationals -- 7,000 French, 9,000 British, Greek, Italian -- there's a total of 20,000. All foreign nationals, passport holders, 20,000 -- a few Spanish; second category: Egyptians, 10,000; third category: stateless, 25,000 to 30,000.

SEIDENMAN: That's higher than our figures.

FRIEDMAN: So if you take 20,000 for nationals, 10,000 for Egyptians, and take your maximum, 30,000 for ~~2~~ stateless, that gives you your 60,000. Now scale it down from there. If they're high on the 30,000 for the stateless, drop it to 25,000, drop it to 20,000. You come down to a minimum of 50,000. If you wanted to drop the stateless to 20,000 it gives you 50,000. If you want to drop foreign nationals from 20,000 to 15,000 it brings you down to 45,000.

SEIDENMAN: What's interesting about this is that we've got figures of an official 1947 census, from which Jerry has done a calculation about emigration since ~~1947~~ 1947 and what would be considered a normal demographic increase in population, and gets down to about 60,000.

FRIEDMAN: Now what I've got here is a summary of economic measures that were taken, the economic pressures, and this is a condensation of all the opinions and I've tried to put it into some kind of neat and systematic form, and I've got it here in the form of ten points:

1. All big business owned by Jews were sequestered. Let me make a footnote on

what we mean by big businesses. Apparently in Egypt there were two kinds of businesses: things that were called big societies, big firms: insurance companies, banks, stores, export-import companies, which were really big, involved a lot of capital, a large number of employees, a large volume of sales per year; and the other all kinds of small private businesses, the petits commercants. So point number one is that all the big ~~i~~ businesses were sequestered.

2. Some of the small shopkeepers are still managing to hold on: little ~~hole~~ hole-in-the-wall stores, little concessions, where there are very few employees, very small amount of business, these are still, some of them, in Jewish hands and you could say that some small shopkeepers are still holding on.

3. No Jew can get an import license or an export license, so that all Jews who are involved in that business are to all intents and purposes put out of that business.

4. Apparently a fairly large number of Jews were salesmen, or agents for firms abroad. Therefore they were all put out of work due to the ~~ban~~ ban on the export-import licenses. Anybody connected, even in an indirect capacity, as a salesman is affected by the ban on the export-import licenses. So that a fairly substantial number of salesman are also now with no employment.

5. All Jewish employees of sequestered big businesses were discharged. Then what happened, some of these businesses were paralyzed by the discharge of the Jewish employees and so what happened was that they took back some few Jews with the clear intention, that was stated to these people, that they would ~~be~~ be replaced with Egyptians in the future as quickly as possible as soon as their replacements could be trained. Therefore it's fair to say that all Jewish employees were discharged. The exceptions are so few and they also will be discharged just as soon as their replacements are trained, that that point could almost be made as a generalization.

6. Almost all Jewish government employees were suspended, put "on holiday" without salary. It was made clear to them, technically, that they were not being fired but that they were just being put on vacation. I said before almost all government

employees; those few government employees who were in special technical positions, whom the government couldn't suspend without crippling itself, find Egyptians at their side whom they are told they must train to take over, and they ^{had been} ~~are~~ told that when they have trained their replacements they too will be suspended.

8. All bank accounts are blocked according to the following three categories of Jews, categories made up for economic reasons: The first category are those whose businesses are sequestered, and there is a pretty general consensus that the total number of people involved in this is 700, mostly large businesses but many small ones as well. The second group is called the blacklist, on whom there were 800 names, but it was constantly being added to. Now you got on the blacklist for any one of a number of reasons. If you received a letter from Israel; if you had ever visited Israel; if you were a member of the Jewish Maccabee Club; anything that they could find which would make you, in their minds, an active Jew, or a nationalist Jew, or a Zionist-oriented Jew, for any reason, or, if you were simply denounced by somebody. And the whole business of denunciation comes in here.

That's how they accumulated the blacklist which everybody refers to, which is a fluid ~~fixed~~ thing. They think there are 800 names on it now but it's constantly being added to. And the third category are those who had been interned, and they agree that that constitutes about 500 people according to the breakdown I gave before. Now those three categories, those who have been sequestered, those on the blacklist, and those who are interned, there might be some overlapping because all three things might have happened to one guy. So it doesn't make any sense to add up 700, plus 800, plus 500; that doesn't get you anywhere. But anybody in those three categories is allowed to withdraw up to £75 a month from his bank account for living expenses. Now the rest of the Jews are so-called free Jews and while there has been no law regulating what they may or may not draw out of these blocked accounts their experience shows that withdrawals might be made up to £200 monthly, that beyond that it got dangerous, because if you drew more than that then they came around and they sequestered you, or they put you on the blacklist, or they might even intern you and then you were automatically shoved back into one of

previous
~~the~~/three categories and you got L75. So they found out that anybody who tried to draw more than L200 was getting himself into a dangerous situation. That's as far as the blocked accounts are concerned and what can be drawn from the blocked /
 9
~~accounts~~ All shares and any other kind of holdings which they considered negotiable and which they tried to sell when they found that the bank accounts were blocked couldn't be sold. No exception on this for anybody, no difference in the ~~the~~ three categories or in the free Jews. No holdings can be sold. All holdings are blocked.

10. Property -- personal, private property -- cannot be sold at all if a Jew is in any one of the three categories. He can't sell anything. Now for the free Jews, again experience has shown them, that furniture and jewelry in small amounts can be sold without danger. It doesn't bring ~~them~~ very much. You get a typical story, as you know, the L200 refrigerator is sold for L20 or L15, the L500 worth of furniture might bring L100. But small amounts of furniture and small amounts of jewelry can be sold for personal living expenses. Any larger economic transactions, anything that's called substantial, like an automobile, a piece of real estate, anything of that sort cannot be done at all because the owner winds up on the blacklist, or he winds up being sequestered. So the squeeze is complete.

Now those ten points sum up what I was able to find out about the economic businesses and employment and bank accounts and holdings and personal property.

SEIDENMAN: For the benefit of your notes don't you think it would be useful to report who the committee consisted of? You don't have to give their names if you don't want to put it in, but do you want to say who they were. You say it's a responsible committee on the ship, but who were they?

FRIEDMAN: Well, one person was from that Stein family, which was apparently quite a wealthy family. One person was a man by the name of Rosario, who was apparently an active leader in the Cairo Jewish community. The third person was the guy from the Rabbinate, one of the staff members, one of the personnel of the Rabbinate in Alexandria. And the fourth person was a doctor from the Jewish Hospital in Cairo.

Alright, now I've given you these ten categories of things. One other point. Many French and British Jews gave their money and jewels and whatever they could into the Swiss Consulate before leaving, because Switzerland was representing these people, and they said that literally much was left on deposit in the Swiss Consulate.

JACOBSON: Did they say also about stateless ~~men~~ and others who did the same thing?

FRIEDMAN: No.

JACOBSON: Some did. There was no responsibility taken.

FRIEDMAN: Now after describing the economic picture they wound up by saying that they felt there was absolutely no future for the Jewish population of Egypt, that everyone must go and that everyone realizes that it's impossible for Jews to stay. And they think that this applies totally. They say it's foolish to make any calculations that only some Jews will leave. They think there's going to be a tremendous rush on at the end of March and the beginning of April for two reasons: one because ~~of~~ the residence has got to be ~~a~~ renewed on the 31st of March, and the second reason is the winter, that once the winter begins to come to an end they will be less hesitant about traveling to Europe.

SEIDENMAN: But that sounds as if they can pick their time a little bit which, in view of the telegram, "How can you get somebody out?" they're saying that people can't just pick up and go. But if they're waiting for the winter to end it would seem as if they could exercise a voluntary choice and decide when they are going to go, if it does not involve expulsion, of course.

^{still}
FRIEDMAN: Well there's ^{still} been no general mass expulsion order promulgated.

JACOBSON: There's an element of choice involved.

FRIEDMAN: Now the fellow we saw on the airplane today, for instance, ten people came out of an SAS plane that left Cairo yesterday and landed in Vienna this morning. There were ten Jews on it. One of them was this young boy. We talked to him and he said, "My father is dead. My mother stayed behind with the two younger children. She's selling what she can. She plans to come out in about a month."

SEIDENMAN: Well then why are we saying that we can't help somebody get out?

FRIEDMAN: Well how can you help somebody move out?

SEIDENMAN: Now you just say that they can exercise a certain amount of choice.

So what's preventing -- the person for whom the relatives in America are intervening -- what, theoretically, is preventing that person from coming out?

FRIEDMAN: What's preventing the relative from helping him come out?

SEIDENMAN: No, let's forget about that for a minute.

FRIEDMAN: No one is preventing him from coming out.

JACOBSON: The United States government, number one.

SEIDENMAN: No, he's not asking to be brought to America. The relative in America is not saying, "How can I get him to America?" That's a separate...

JACOBSON: He has no place to go.

FRIEDMAN: There are two kinds of questions that come from America, from relatives: How can I help him get out of Egypt? is one question. The answer is actually you don't have to help him, he can come out himself.

JACOBSON: He can come out if he wants to go to Israel. He can't come out if he wants to go elsewhere unless he's got an end destination visa.

FRIEDMAN: Well, you can't get him an end destination visa.

JACOBSON: But you see if you talk to the Swiss in Egypt and you say to them you want to go to Israel they will arrange for getting x out because they have arrangements with several governments. If you simply talk to them and say you want to leave then they're not prepared to help you. For example if a ~~guy~~ guy wants to go to France he's got to meet certain conditions. He's got to have a relative in France whom he's going to ...

FRIEDMAN: Well look, excuse me, I don't want to interrupt but I'm short of time. So the answer to what answer to give the Jews in America who want to help their relatives in Egypt is not relevant to these notes. I just want to give you what's here. What they say is that there will be a big rush in March and April, after March ~~12~~ 31st, when the winter is over. There may be 1,000 on every ship going out. Now that's a rhetorical statement, but it indicates the mood. People now

are preparing for April, they say; that's the mood among the Jews. One fellow ~~said, the~~ "The day we got transit visas for Italy was like Purim. We embraced each other."

Now the fellow from the Rabbinate in Alexandria said that the personnel of the Grand Rabbinate are in danger. They are all under surveillance and that we should know that there's an actual element of physical danger and we shouldn't be surprised if the people from the Grand Rabbinate are arrested inside Egypt and we ought to try to think in terms of being very astute about that and if we hear about it we ought to realize that these are people who have given their lives to help other people and we ought to do the best we can through the Swiss and anybody else to get them out of internement, should they be arrested and interned. In other words they wanted us to be very much on the ball as far as that point was concerned.

Then they told the story of the declaration of the Grand Rabbi. There were two versions of it. One version was that the Grand Rabbi, Nachum, and his secretary and a committee were brought together; that the government prepared the speech and ordered him to say it in Hebrew, French and Arabic; and they told him that if he refused, they, the Egyptian government, were going to say publicly that every Jew in Egypt was dangerous and might be arrested. So that under that threat he agreed. The other version of the story was that they went to the Rabbi and said, "Either you are an Egyptian and you make this statement, or, if you follow the line of Israel, and refuse to make this statement, all Jews in the country will be sequestered." And he was given this choice a half an hour before the meeting, the radio and the press people had already been called to his house -- that's where the interview was given -- they set up the microphones and the paraphernalia and a half an hour beforehand he was told, "You make this statement" -- which they prepared for him; both versions agree that it was a prepared statement which was handed to him -- "either you do this or we'll sequester the businesses." Now the two versions therefore are: either you do this or we arrest everybody, or, either you do this or we will sequester all the ~~businesses~~ businesses;

those are the two versions. Both versions agree that he was put up to the choice a half an hour before and that all preparations had been made inside his own home. They came in and they set up everything. They called the press together. And he knuckled under and did it.

I just wrote down for myself for this press conference. When you put it together like this it shows you. One fellow said, "Not a single Jew will live in Egypt in three months." Another fellow said, "I think all the Jews will be expelled, a very few may remain." Another man said, "Most of the Jews are in a panic." Another man said, "No future for the Jewish population of Egypt. All must leave." Now you add up; it's like hammer blows. Everybody is saying the same thing in different words.

AMERICAN JEWISH
ARCHIVES



C O P Y

Aug 25, 1957

Ms 9

Koni. For Herbert Friedman.

Immigration January through June fifty thousand. July five thousand
ninety four estimate August five thousand five hundred estimate
September through December twenty four thousand making maximum estimate
July through December thirty five thousand and years total eighty five
thousand. Immigration plan for six months October through March 1958
reserve
thirty seven thousand plus/eight thousand in event opening up
Rumania other possible increases Eastern Europe. Since possibility
Rumanian unfreeze not unlikely quite conceivable some increase estimate
plans 1957 though this indefinite. Suggest following publicity line quote
immigration first six months 1957 fifty thousand and figure remaining
second six months not far short with immigration 1958 continuing
approximately same level unquote.
My letter will substantiate this estimate as feasible if funds
available.

Harman

*Orig in
Sodnick briefing
file -*

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