



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

Featuring collections from the Western Reserve Historical Society and  
The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

### **MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.**

Series I: General Correspondence, 1914-1969, undated.

Sub-series A: Alphabetical, 1914-1965, undated.

---

Reel  
42

Box  
15

Folder  
1032

Jewish Telegraphic Agency, including June 1939 abstract of  
article by AHS originally delivered at CCAR convention: "The  
World Crisis in Jewish Survival", 1939-1940.





VOL. V. NO. 35.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 13, 1939.

3 MAJOR AGENCIES JOIN IN UNITED RELIEF DRIVE FOR REFUGEES; \$20,000,000 IS 1939 GOAL

NEW YORK, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- THE GREATEST RELIEF FUND-RAISING VENTURE IN THE HISTORY OF AMERICAN JEWRY EMERGED TODAY FROM THE UNIFICATION OF THE CAMPAIGNS OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL AND THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FUND INTO THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL FOR REFUGEES AND OVERSEAS NEEDS.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMEN, RABBIS ABBA HILLEL SILVER AND JONAH B. WISE, MENTIONED NO GOAL EXCEPT TO SAY THAT THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENT WAS AT LEAST THREE TO FOUR TIMES THE SUMS RAISED BY ALL THE AGENCIES DURING 1938, BUT IT WAS LEARNED THAT A GOAL OF \$20,000,000 HAS BEEN SET FOR 1939.

THE FIRST \$9,500,000 RAISED WILL BE USED TO MEET PRESENT COMMITMENTS OF THE ORGANIZATIONS AS FOLLOWS: J.D.C., \$5,000,000; U.P.A., \$2,500,000, AND THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE, \$2,000,000. THE REMAINING \$11,500,000, OR WHATEVER PART OF THAT AMOUNT IS RAISED, WILL BE DIVIDED AMONG THE ORGANIZATIONS ON THE BASIS OF NEEDS BY AN ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE.

CREATION OF THE ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE IS EXPECTED TO SOLVE DIFFICULTIES OF ALLOCATIONS WHICH LOCAL COMMUNITIES HAVE STRUGGLED WITH FOR YEARS BY CONCENTRATING THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SHARING OF AMERICAN JEWRY'S RELIEF CHEST. THE COMMITTEE WILL COMPRISE TWO PERSONS NOMINATED BY THE J.D.C., TWO SELECTED BY THE U.P.A. AND A FIFTH MEMBER SELECTED BY THESE FOUR. THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE HAVE NOT YET BEEN NOMINATED.

THE PROGRAM OF AID WHICH THE UNITED FUND WILL SUPPORT WAS OUTLINED IN THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE CHAIRMEN AS FOLLOWS:

"1. THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE WILL PROVIDE IMMEDIATE ASSISTANCE AND EMERGENCY AID TO JEWS WITHIN GERMANY AND AUSTRIA AND TO THE GERMAN REFUGEES IN EUROPEAN AND OTHER LANDS, ENABLING MANY THOUSAND INDIVIDUALS, WHENEVER POSSIBLE, TO FIND NEW HOMES. THE J.D.C. WILL ALSO CONTINUE ITS EXTENSIVE PROGRAM OF RECONSTRUCTIVE AID AND EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE TO THE JEWS OF POLAND, RUMANIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES OF EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL EUROPE.

"2. THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL WILL PROMOTE THE IMMIGRATION AND SETTLEMENT IN PALESTINE OF MANY THOUSANDS WHO MUST LEAVE GERMANY AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN ORDER TO ESCAPE DESTRUCTION. IT ALSO MAINTAINS EXISTING INSTITUTIONS FOR THE BENEFIT OF JEWS IN PALESTINE AND FOR THE THOUSANDS THAT HAVE COME THERE IN RECENT YEARS, ADVANCING THE UPBUILDING OF THE COUNTRY THROUGH THE PROMOTION OF IMMIGRATION, COLONIZATION AND LAND PURCHASE AND OTHER ACTIVITIES TO ENLARGE THE ABSORPTIVE CAPACITY OF THE COUNTRY.



"3. THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FUND, INC., WHICH IS THE AGENCY CONCERNED WITH THE PROBLEM OF GERMAN REFUGEES COMING TO THIS COUNTRY, WILL CONTINUE ITS WORK OF HELPING THESE REFUGEES ADJUST THEMSELVES TO THEIR NEW ENVIRONMENT."

THE THREE-WAY AGREEMENT, WHICH IS FOR ONE YEAR, WAS REACHED AT A SERIES OF CONFERENCES HELD OVER A PERIOD OF SEVERAL MONTHS. THOSE WHO PARTICIPATED WERE: FOR THE J.D.C., PAUL BAERWALD, ISADOR COONS, JOSEPH C. HYMAN, HENRY ITTLESON, ALBERT D. LASKER, SAMUEL D. LEIDESDORF, DR. SOLOMON LOWENSTEIN, JAMES N. ROSENBERG, WILLIAM ROSENWALD, EDWARD M.M. WARBURG AND RABBI WISE; FOR THE U.P.A., RABBI ISRAEL GOLDSTEIN, LOUIS LIPSKY, HENRY MONTOR, JUDGE MORRIS ROTHENBERG, RABBI SILVER AND RABBI STEPHEN S. WISE; FOR THE COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS, H.L. LURIE, CHARLES ROSENBLOOM, WILLIAM J. SHRODER, JOSEPH WILLEN AND IRA YOUNKER.

TODAY'S ANNOUNCEMENT BY RABBIS SILVER AND WISE STRESSED THAT UNPRECEDENTED SACRIFICE ON THE PART OF THE AMERICAN JEWS WAS NECESSARY TO MEET THE INCREASING NEEDS OF MORE THAN 6,000,000 JEWS. THE AMERICAN JEWISH COMMUNITIES, THE STATEMENT SAID, REALIZED THE INCREASED NEEDS AND EXPRESSED A STRONG DESIRE TO MEET THEIR GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES. THE UNIFIED FUND-RAISING ACTIVITIES WILL DISCOURAGE SPORADIC AND INEFFECTUAL ACTIVITIES OF NEWLY-FORMED COMMITTEES WHICH LACK EXPERIENCE AND FACILITIES TO COLLECT AND ADMINISTER THE FUNDS SO URGENTLY NEEDED IN THIS CRITICAL PERIOD, THE ANNOUNCEMENT SAID.

#### REICH JEWS FEAR NEW REPRISALS OVER HOLLAND SHOOTING

BERLIN, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- HUNDREDS OF JEWS TODAY TURNED FRANTICALLY TO THE NETHERLANDS AND OTHER CONSULATES FOR INFORMATION ON THE ALLEGED ATTEMPTS AGAINST REICH DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIVES IN HOLLAND. ALTHOUGH NONE OF THE CONSULATES APPARENTLY KNEW OF THE REPORTED SHOOTING EXCEPT FROM THE REICH PRESS, GERMAN JEWRY WAS SUFFERING FROM ACUTE PANIC, RECALLING THE WAVE OF ANTI-JEWISH EXCESSES AND THE \$400,000,000 "FINE" THAT FOLLOWED THE FATAL WOUNDING OF ERNST VOM RATH, GERMAN EMBASSY OFFICIAL IN PARIS, ON NOV. 7 BY A POLISH JEWISH YOUTH, HERSCHEL GRYNSZPAN.

THE JEWS' FEARS WERE NOT ALLAYED BY THE MEMORY OF A RECENT WARNING IN DAS SCHWARZE KORPS, ORGAN OF THE GESTAPO AND HITLER'S ELITE GUARDS, THAT "THE DAY A JEWISH OR JEWISH-BOUGHT WEAPON IS EMPLOYED AGAINST A GERMAN, THERE WILL BE NO MORE JEWS IN GERMANY."

#### NAZI PRESS WARNS JEWS

BERLIN, JAN. 12. (HAVAS) -- INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE A VIGOROUS PROTEST TO THE NETHERLANDS GOVERNMENT IN CONNECTION WITH SHOTS REPORTEDLY FIRED AT THE GERMAN LEGATION AT THE HAGUE AND AT THE HOME OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE GERMAN CONSULATE-GENERAL AT AMSTERDAM WERE SENT TODAY TO GRAF VON ZECH-BURKERSRODA, GERMAN MINISTER TO THE NETHERLANDS. TODAY'S NAZI NEWSPAPERS WARNED THAT SUCH INCIDENTS MIGHT RESULT IN "MORE SEVERE REPRISALS" AGAINST JEWS IN GERMANY.

#### HOLLAND LEGATIONS GUARDED

THE HAGUE, JAN. 12. (HAVAS) -- POLICE GUARDS WERE REINFORCED TODAY AROUND THE GERMAN LEGATION HERE AND GERMAN CONSULATES THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY WHILE INVESTIGATION CONTINUED INTO THE CHARGE THAT GERMAN OFFICES HAD BEEN FIRED UPON DURING THE LAST FEW DAYS. AT AMSTERDAM A SMALL BULLET WAS FOUND IN THE RESIDENCE OF THE CHANCELLOR OF THE GERMAN CONSULATE GENERAL. AT THE HAGUE THE OFFICE OF THE LEGATION SECRETARY WAS SIMILARLY THE OBJECT OF A SINGLE SMALL SHOT, IT WAS STATED. IN THE FORMER CASE THE SHOOTING, IF ANY, OCCURRED DURING THE NIGHT, AND IN THE LATTER CASE IN THE LUNCH HOUR. IN NEITHER CASE WAS ANYONE PRESENT.



NAZI POLICE LEVY HEAVY ILLEGAL TAXES ON JEWS FOR PASSPORTS

BERLIN, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- IN RECENT MONTHS, IT WAS LEARNED TODAY, JEWS HAVE BEEN MULCTED FOUR TO FIVE MILLION MARKS BY THE BERLIN POLICE AS THE PRICE OF PASSPORTS. THE MONEY, WHICH POLICE SAID WOULD EVENTUALLY BE USED IN BEHALF OF POOR JEWS, LIES IN A SPECIAL ACCOUNT TO THE CREDIT OF THE BERLIN POLICE PRESIDENCY.

MARKED DOWN FOR ILLEGAL LEVIES ARE SAID TO BE BERLIN'S 900 WEALTHIEST JEWS AS LISTED IN THE PUBLISHED RETURNS OF THE REGISTRATION OF JEWISH PROPERTY ORDERED BY FIELD MARSHALL HERMANN GOERING LAST JUNE. THE LISTED PERSONS MUST HAND OVER A "HELLDORF CONTRIBUTION," NAMED FOR WOLF VON HELLDORF, BERLIN POLICE PRESIDENT, BEFORE THEY ARE GRANTED PASSPORTS. NO JEWISH WELFARE OR EMIGRATION ORGANIZATION HAS SO FAR SEEN ANY OF THE MONEY COLLECTED.

MEANWHILE, NEITHER DR. HJALMAR SCHACHT, PRESIDENT OF THE REICHSBANK, NOR ANY OTHER REICH REPRESENTATIVE TODAY CONTACTED GEORGE RUBLEE, DIRECTOR OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL REFUGEE BUREAU, WHO, FOLLOWING YESTERDAY'S 90-MINUTE CONFERENCE WITH DR. SCHACHT, WAS WAITING FOR A SECOND APPOINTMENT TO CONTINUE THE DISCUSSION OF THE JEWISH PROBLEM.

THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT CERTAIN INFLUENTIAL NAZI QUARTERS SEE THE RUBLEE VISIT TO DR. SCHACHT AS SO MUCH WASTED EFFORT. IT MUST BE REMEMBERED THAT THE SCHACHT EMIGRATION PLAN, CONSIDERED ABROAD AS A TYPICAL PIECE OF NAZI EFFRONTERY, IS CONSIDERED HERE AS A COMPROMISE WITH THE NAZI RADICALS, WHOSE HATRED OF THE JEWS BLINDS THEM EVEN TO THE ECONOMIC ADVANTAGES OF THE PLAN.

THE MODERATE NAZIS, WHO BEFORE DR. SCHACHT'S VISIT TO LONDON AND THE REJECTION OF THE PLAN THERE HAD FILLED THE AIR WITH RUMORS THAT SOMETHING WOULD BE DONE FOR THE JEWS, NOW ASSERT THAT MR. RUBLEE CAME TO BERLIN WITH NOTHING MORE THAN ACADEMIC IDEAS AND VAGUE, HUMANITARIAN SYMPATHIES, BOTH OF WHICH ARE ANATHEMA TO THE NAZIS. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES IT IS EASY TO UNDERSTAND THE PESSIMISTIC ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THE DISCUSSIONS ARE BEING HELD.

BERLIN PARLEYS HELD "BLACKMAIL"

LONDON, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- THE FINANCIAL NEWS TODAY DENOUNCED AS "YIELDING TO BLACKMAIL" THE DISCUSSIONS OF MONTAGU NORMAN, GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF ENGLAND, AND GEORGE RUBLEE, DIRECTOR OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL REFUGEE BUREAU, ON EMIGRATION IN BERLIN AND WARNED THAT THEY WOULD ONLY CREATE ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES FOR FURTHER NAZI PRESSURE. "IF THE SUGGESTION WERE, BY IMPLICATION, THAT THE MOMENT THE NEGOTIATIONS BROKE DOWN, FURTHER MEASURES WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST THE UNFORTUNATE HOSTAGES (THE JEWS), THEN IT CAN BE SAID THAT NEVER IN MODERN HISTORY HAS THERE BEEN A MORE HEINOUS PROPOSAL," THE EDITORIAL ASSERTED.

FOREIGN JEWS IN ITALY URGE BRITAIN TO AID MASS SETTLEMENT IN U.S. OR DOMINIONS

ROME, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- THOUSANDS OF FOREIGN JEWS IN ITALY, FACED WITH EXPULSION BY MARCH 12, TONIGHT URGED THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT TO FACILITATE THEIR SETTLEMENT IN ONE GROUP IN THE UNITED STATES, CANADA OR AUSTRALIA, AS PRIME MINISTER NEVILLE CHAMBERLAIN DISCUSSED THE JEWISH QUESTION WITH PREMIER MUSSOLINI.

THE MAJORITY OF THE EIGHT TO TEN THOUSAND FOREIGN JEWS, WHO MUST EMIGRATE BY NEXT MARCH UNDER A FASCIST DECREE, ARE PREPARED TO MOVE EN MASSE AND ESTABLISH A SELF-SUPPORTING COLONY, A JEWISH DELEGATION SAID IN THE SECOND MEMORANDUM IN TWO DAYS ON THE SUBJECT SUBMITTED TO THE BRITISH EMBASSY HERE.

DESCRIBING THE INABILITY OF LOCAL JEWISH COMMITTEES TO COPE WITH THE PROBLEM, THE STATEMENT EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD FIND A SOLUTION OF THE QUESTION, AND CONCLUDED WITH AN URGENT PLEA TO PRIME MINISTER CHAMBERLAIN TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF THEIR DESPERATE NEED.



BRITISH EMBASSY OFFICIALS EXPRESSED SYMPATHY WITH THE JEWS' SITUATION AND PROMISED TO INFORM PRIME MINISTER CHAMBERLAIN OF THE MEMORANDUM. THE FIRST MEMORANDUM, DELIVERED LAST NIGHT, EXPRESSED CONFIDENCE IN ANY ACTION THAT THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER WOULD TAKE REGARDING THE JEWISH PROBLEM. IT URGED INTERVENTION FOR POSTPONEMENT OF THE EMIGRATION DEADLINE UNTIL A LAND OF SETTLEMENT COULD BE FOUND FOR THE JEWS AND TO INDUCE THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT TO PERMIT THOSE EXPELLED TO TAKE SOME OF THEIR POSSESSIONS.

THE JEWISH QUESTION WAS TOUCHED ON IN PASSING IN A REVIEW OF OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS DURING THIS EVENING'S TALK BETWEEN PRIME MINISTER CHAMBERLAIN AND PREMIER MUSSOLINI, IT WAS LEARNED, BUT INFORMED SOURCES SAID THAT MR. CHAMBERLAIN WOULD NOT SEEK AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THE ITALIAN DICTATOR ON THE QUESTION UNTIL AFTER HIS AUDIENCE WITH POPE PIUS TOMORROW. ALL CIRCLES ATTACHED GREAT IMPORTANCE TO MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S AUDIENCE WITH THE POPE, EXPRESSING THE CONVICTION THAT IT WOULD HAVE AN IMPORTANT BEARING ON THE PRIME MINISTER'S SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSIONS HERE. IT WAS BELIEVED THAT THE PONTIFF WOULD SEEK TO INDUCE MR. CHAMBERLAIN TO USE HIS UTMOST INFLUENCE WITH PREMIER MUSSOLINI AGAINST RACIAL AND RELIGIOUS PERSECUTION IN ITALY.

MEANWHILE, THE BELIEF IS GROWING THAT AN AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SOME FORM OF JEWISH STATE IN EASTERN ETHIOPIA IN EXCHANGE FOR TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS IN ITALY, WITHOUT ANY ACTUAL STUDY OF THE FEASIBILITY OF THE PROJECT AND WITHOUT OBTAINING THE OPINIONS OF THOSE AFFECTED.

#### ITALIAN MUSIC PUBLISHERS BAN JEWS' WORKS

ROME, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- A MEETING OF MUSIC INDUSTRY OFFICIALS AT THE MINISTRY OF POPULAR CULTURE DECIDED TODAY TO BAN PUBLICATION OF ALL OPERETTAS WRITTEN BY JEWS. A COMMISSION OF ITALIAN MUSICIANS WAS APPOINTED TO STUDY THE SITUATION.

#### SENATE BODY APPROVES FRANKFURTER AFTER HEARING HIS TESTIMONY ON CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION

WASHINGTON, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- THE SENATE JUDICIARY SUBCOMMITTEE TODAY FILED WITH THE FULL COMMITTEE A REPORT UNANIMOUSLY FAVORING THE CONFIRMATION OF PROF. FELIX FRANKFURTER AS SUPREME COURT JUSTICE, AFTER CLOSING ITS THREE-DAY HEARINGS WITH TESTIMONY BY PROF. FRANKFURTER. THE FULL COMMITTEE WILL MET NEXT MONDAY.

PROF. FRANKFURTER HAD BEEN QUESTIONED AT LENGTH ABOUT HIS RELATIONSHIP TO THE CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION AND WHETHER HE BELIEVED IN MARXISM. HE SAID THE UNION HAD CONSULTED HIM ON "MAJOR ISSUES." UNDER QUESTIONING BY SENATOR BORAH HE DECLARED THAT SOME TIME AGO HE HAD SUPPORTED THE REQUEST OF THE KU KLUX KLAN TO HOLD A MASS MEETING IN BOSTON BECAUSE "CIVIL LIBERTIES MEAN LIBERTIES FOR THOSE WE LIKE AND THOSE WE DETEST."

QUESTIONED CONCERNING THE DATE AND PLACE OF HIS BIRTH, HE SAID THAT HE WAS BORN IN NOVEMBER, 1882, IN VIENNA IN "WHAT WAS AUSTRIA." HE WAS ALSO QUESTIONED ABOUT THE CITIZENSHIP OF HIS FATHER, WHICH HE ANSWERED TO THE COMMITTEE'S SATISFACTION. THE RACIAL ISSUE DID NOT ARISE AT THIS MORNING'S HEARING, AS IT DID YESTERDAY WHEN ALLEN ZOLL, A SUPPORTER OF FATHER CHARLES E. COUGHLIN, DECLARED THAT THE ADDING OF A JEW TO THE SUPREME COURT WOULD INCREASE ANTI-SEMITISM IN THE UNITED STATES.

#### LEAGUE OFFICIALS CONFER WITH CZECH LEADERS

PRAHA, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- SIR HERBERT EMERSON, LEAGUE OF NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES, AND HIS ASSISTANT, LORD DUNCANNON, CONFERRED WITH THE GOVERNMENT TODAY ON PLANS FOR EMIGRATION OF 1,200 POLITICAL REFUGEES AND 3,000 JEWISH REFUGEES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE LEAGUE OFFICIALS ADVISED THE JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY THAT THEY WERE GREATLY CONCERNED OVER THE FATE OF THESE REFUGEES AND THAT THE CZECH GOVERNMENT WAS ANXIOUS TO SPEED THEIR EMIGRATION.



POLISH PREMIER BANS "VIOLENCE, CHICANERY" IN FIGHT ON JEWS; SEJM HEARS PROTEST ON ANTI-SEMITISM

WARSAW, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- THE POLISH GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED TO SOLVE THE JEWISH PROBLEM "WITHOUT VIOLENCE AND CHICANERY," PREMIER FELICJAN SLAWOJ-SKLADKOWSKI TOLD THE SEJM LAST NIGHT. "THE JEWISH QUESTION MUST BE SETTLED NOT BY FORCE, BUT BY GOVERNMENT COLLABORATION WITH JEWISH EMIGRATION ASSOCIATIONS," HE SAID.

THE PREMIER MADE THE STATEMENT IN REPLYING TO THE JEWISH DEPUTY LEIB MINZBERG, WHO HAD PROTESTED AGAINST SPREADING ANTI-SEMITISM IN POLAND. GENERAL SLAWOJ-SKLADKOWSKI SAID THAT THE DEPUTY'S SPEECH WAS CALCULATED TO SHOW HOW BAD WAS THE JEWISH POSITION IN POLAND. THIS, HE SAID, WAS INCONSISTENT WITH THE DESIRE OF THE JEWS TO MAKE A PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND AS TO A MECCA, WHICH HE DECLARED TO BE INADMISSIBLE. HE WAS APPARENTLY REFERRING TO THE DESIRE OF POLISH JEWS FACING EXPULSION FROM GERMANY AND ITALY TO BE REPATRIATED.

DEPUTY MINZBERG, SPEAKING AT THE FIRST SESSION OF THE SEJM AFTER THE WINTER RECESS, STRESSED THE NECESSITY OF UNITY OF ALL FORCES IN VIEW OF POSSIBLE POLITICAL CONVULSIONS IN THIS PART OF EUROPE DURING THE NEW YEAR. HE DECLARED THAT POLAND, AS A GREAT POWER, WAS ENTITLED TO COLONIAL ASPIRATIONS, BUT ASSERTED THAT THEY SHOULD NOT BE REALIZED BY DEPRIVING 30 PER CENT OF THE CITIZENS OF THEIR RIGHTS.

HE PROTESTED AGAINST THE SPREAD OF THEORIES OF HATRED IMPORTED FROM GERMANY AND AGAINST THE SEGREGATION OF JEWISH STUDENTS IN "GHETTO BENCHES." HE ALSO URGED THE GOVERNMENT TO LIQUIDATE THE BORDER CAMP AT ZBONSZYN WHERE SEVERAL THOUSAND JEWISH DEPORTEES FROM GERMANY ARE INTERNED.

CLOSING OF TRINIDAD TO REFUGEES CREATES SERIOUS SITUATION IN EMIGRANT AID

NEW YORK, JAN. 12. (JTA) -- WHILE SEEKING TO IRON-OUT THE DIFFICULTIES OF 37 REFUGEES STOPPING HERE EN ROUTE TO PERU AND 10 EN ROUTE TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, THE NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR AID TO REFUGEES AND EMIGRANTS COMING FROM GERMANY TODAY FOUND A NEW SERIOUS SITUATION CREATED BY THE ACTION OF TRINIDAD IN CLOSING ITS DOORS TO REFUGEES.

A SPECIAL PROCLAMATION OF THE GOVERNOR AND EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE BRITISH WEST INDIAN ISLAND DECLARES THAT AFTER JAN. 15 ALL ALIENS WHO LEFT CENTRAL EUROPE WITHIN THE PAST TWO YEARS ARE TO BE CONSIDERED "UNDESIRABLE IMMIGRANTS" AND WILL NOT BE ADMITTED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.

THE PROCLAMATION WILL CREATE DIFFICULTIES FOR MANY REFUGEES WHO HAVE BOOKED PASSAGE TO TRINIDAD AS FAR AHEAD AS JULY, IT WAS SAID BY MISS CECILIA RAZOVSKY, DIRECTOR OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE. A NUMBER OF REFUGEES ARE NOW ON THEIR WAY TO THE ISLAND, SHE SAID, AND EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE TO INSURE THAT THE PROCLAMATION WILL NOT BE MADE RETROACTIVE. THERE ARE AT PRESENT 450 REFUGEES IN TRINIDAD, MISS RAZOVSKY SAID. THEY ARE FACED WITH A SHORTAGE OF HOUSING FACILITIES, BUT THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE HAS AGREED TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THEM.

THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE HAS ALSO APPEALED TO THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC NOT TO APPLY RETROACTIVELY A DECREE REQUIRING A \$500 TAX OF ALL IMMIGRANTS WITH ONE-WAY PASSPORTS -- WHICH MEANS GERMAN JEWS. TEN AUSTRIAN REFUGEES, WHO ARRIVED IN NEW YORK ON THE S.S. GEROLSTEIN ON JAN. 2 EN ROUTE TO THE WEST INDIAN REPUBLIC, ARE REMAINING HERE WHILE THE COMMITTEE TRIES TO ASSIST THEM. THEY HAD ALREADY SENT THEIR PERSONAL BELONGINGS TO SANTO DOMINGO. ALL TEN HAVE FILED CERTIFICATES WITH THE IMMIGRATION AUTHORITIES FOR PERMISSION TO REMAIN IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE DIFFICULTIES OF 37 REFUGEES WHO ARRIVED HERE ON THE CHILEAN LINER IMPERIAL YESTERDAY EN ROUTE TO PERU WERE TEMPORARILY SETTLED TODAY. THEY HAD FEARED THAT THEIR VISAS WOULD PERMIT THEM TO REMAIN IN PERU ONLY 48 HOURS, BUT WHEN THEIR DOCUMENTS WERE EXAMINED THIS MORNING, IT WAS DISCOVERED THEY HAD TOURIST VISAS.



June 23, 1939.

## THE WORLD CRISIS AND JEWISH SURVIVAL

By DR. ABBA HILLEL SILVER

- - -

EDITOR'S NOTE: A note of optimism is sounded in this article by Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, of Cleveland. The article is an abstract of an address delivered by Dr. Silver at the recent Golden Jubilee convention of the Central Conference of American Rabbis.

- - -

Only one fact can we postulate with confidence about the history of our people. As a people, we have survived! There may be a difference of opinion as to how and why, but none as to the actual fact. We have survived -- the one people that has come down intact from antiquity, that can trace an unbroken line of physical and spiritual continuity through thirty-five centuries, the one race that exemplifies in the modern world historical continuity and survival par excellence.

It should be borne in mind, too, that our survival transpired not in some secluded Shangri-La which was sheltered from danger and attack by ramparts of impassable mountains. We did not vegetate in passivity in some quiet, sequestered land away from the world's stern stresses and struggles. We achieved our survival in the very midst of the world's mad and murderous arenas. We were invaded. We were attacked. We were exiled. We were driven over the face of the earth. We were scattered and broken, hounded and harassed, through long and weary centuries. We clashed with great empires. We resisted mighty civilizations. We were surrounded by militant faiths which sought to absorb us or to destroy us. We are today again upon the wrack in the torture-chambers of the earth. Nevertheless, we survived! And, for our size, we are today the most alive and creative people in the world.

The Jewish people today is therefore warranted in drawing deep draughts of confidence from their past history. What we were able to do over and over again in the past, under all conceivable circumstances and in all parts of the world, we may yet do again and again in the future. Nothing has fundamentally changed for us, neither the world's mania for persecution, nor our own unbroken will to live. Our forces are not less today, but more. Our powers of adaptability, which the strong life-sense of our people developed, have not been dulled. We were able in the past to adapt ourselves to all forms of economic life and activity -- the pastoral, agricultural, commercial and industrial, and to all forms of political systems and arrangements. We adjusted ourselves to conditions of utter rightlessness, to restricted rights, and to equality of rights. If in the future Jews will be faced with the necessity of adjusting themselves to new economic and political arrangements, to new forms of capitalism or socialism, or to new political conditions of restrictions and disabilities, or if they will be again confronted, as many of them already are, with the necessity of emigrating to new countries and of establishing a new Diaspora, they will be able to make their adjustments in the same way as their people have done throughout the ages.

\* \* \* \*

The annihilationist policy of the Nazis is not likely to become the norm which will fix the actual relationship between Jews and non-Jews in the days to come. Such policies never assume world-wide dimensions. The Jewish dispersion is too far-flung for one policy to embrace it all. Undoubtedly many a Jewish community will receive hard hammering in the future. Many of them will be liquidated and their members scattered to the four winds. A new era of Jewish wandering and migration has already set in. Everywhere Jewish life will for a long time to come find itself under the discomfort of hostile propaganda and the threat of an over-hanging menace. But unless the entire world plunges back into barbarism, and the pathological obsessions of the Teutonic dervishes seize

1560 Broadway, N. Y. C.



hold of the whole of mankind - a condition conceivable but hardly probable - the exterminationist policies of the Nazis are destined to be localized. Perhaps even in the Reich itself time will neutralize them. In other lands where governments are resolved to circumscribe the participations of Jews in the political, economic and cultural life of the nation, some legal "modus vivendi" will have to be evolved by those governments. Their legal status will have to be defined. In such countries, the Jews will have to learn again how to live worthy and undefeated lives, even under the duress of formidable disabilities. They will have to seek refuge again, and they will find it, in their own culture and faith, in their own communal organizations, and they will wait and work for a better day.

Should the Fascist movement spend itself and should nations return to the primal sanities of civilized life, then constitutional guarantees for individuals and minorities will be re-established in the world and anti-Semitism will cease to be a matter of political policy and program. The pressures upon the Jewish group will then be greatly relaxed.

Surveying the world scene, one is accordingly led to the conclusion that while there are manifold threats today to Jewish security, to Jewish rights and to Jewish peace, there is no imminent threat to Jewish survival - at least none different from those which Jews were able to circumvent in the past. The Jewish people will remain intact.

\* \* \* \*

What should, therefore, concern us today is not whether the Jewish people will survive, but how? Shall it be greatly or meanly, affirmatively and challengingly, as in great periods of our past, holding our banners high in a day of battle and storm; or negatively, creeping into the nooks and crannies of the earth, waiting for the wrath to pass over and grateful for the sheer gift of existence and survival. We can do either. Apart from all else, apart from the mighty energies which the past has stored up in us, mere inertia and social lag can keep us going for an indefinite period. Many Jews, especially the more prosperous ones, out of fear and personal interest, are choosing the latter course. But the Jewish people, as a whole, I believe, will not, because it cannot, consent to such a role of passivity, abdication and escapism. There is too much leaven in its spirit, too powerful a dynamic in its faith and too much of the unquenchably prophetic in its traditions.

The Jewish people, through its thoughtful guides and leaders, has been quick to appraise the issues which are involved in the present day world crisis and to grasp the true significance of the murderous attack which is being made upon it.

The Jewish problem is the world problem epitomized. The present world conflict again finds the Jew the symbol, and his traditions the battleground of contending armies of mankind. The rabbis of old apprehended this recurrent role which Israel plays in the drama of civilization, and they welcomed it.

The Jews of this generation should welcome that role, hard though it be, even as their fathers before them. God has again sent us a great, testing hour. We must again find the strength not only for survival, but for a stiff-necked resistance to the Hairy Man who is again trampling under foot all that is noble and kindly and decent in life. We must arouse and join forces with all men of all faiths and of races, who have remained faithful to the spiritual vision of life, for a major offensive. It is not enough to defend the status quo against reaction. Reaction must be defeated by destroying those evils in our present system which made it possible. A courageous attack all along the line, summoning all our courage and employing all of our resources, upon poverty, upon the economic insecurity of the masses, upon corruption and special privilege, upon the excessive concentration of wealth in the hands of a few, upon monopoly and exploitation, upon the war machine and the merchants of death, upon chauvinism, national exhibitionism and patrioteering, upon race arrogance and race domination - in a word, upon all that our religion and all the great religions of mankind have branded and outlawed.

\* \* \* \*



Reaction is attacking the Jew today. Let the Jew defend himself, by an audacious counter-attack. Let the Ark of the Covenant begin to move again! There are no weapons which reaction can forge strong enough to destroy us. And there are no fortresses strong enough to protect reaction against the mighty thunderbolts of the free human spirit once they are unleashed. The Jews have been singled out for destruction. This is their holy and destined hour when "the exaltations of God should be in their throats and double-edged swords in their hands." . . . .

Just as democracy and liberalism will perish unless they resume their offensive, so the Jewish people will be defeated and beaten into servitude unless they fling themselves resolutely into the fight with Amalek, and unless the hands of their leaders remain firm and uplifted all through the long day of battle until the sun sets upon their victory.

The Jewish people faces the critical days ahead not without fears and misgivings, not without dark moments of agony and despair - for great is the wrath and the terror and the menace- but fundamentally unshaken. Jews are carrying on, many of them magnificently. Witness the remarkable out-pouring of loyalty, compassion and help on the part of Jews throughout the world for those of their fellow-Jews who find themselves in the crucible of affliction. All this is evidence of an inner soundness, of an unbroken solidarity. Thoughtful Jews know their history. They know their resources. They have taken the measure of their enemies. They understand the world significance of their great tribulation. They know, too, that hope is a cardinal dogma of their ancient faith which they must not abandon.

- - -





COPY

PALCOR NEWS AGENCY

50 Union Square

New York

July 26, 1939

Mr. Jacob Landau  
JEWISH TELEGRAPHIC AGENCY  
1560 Broadway  
New York City

Dear Mr. Landau:

To keep the records straight, may I emphasize that the final paragraph of the draft memorandum does not represent my views.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ HENRY MONTOR



# MEMORANDUM

I have had a conference with Mr. Jacob Blaustein, chairman of the Board of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, and subsequently I met with Mr. Blaustein and Mr. Jacob Landau, and again Mr. Lipsky and I met Mr. Landau.

Both Mr. Blaustein and Mr. Landau feel strongly that the J.T.A. has been fair in its reports on Palestine and Zionist events, even during the last few years despite the controversy with the Zionist Organization. While certain incidents have occurred during this period, I must admit that there has been no essential difference how the J.T.A. and Palcor have reported Zionist and Palestine news.

I have pointed out to them that we have no intention of asking the J.T.A. to suppress facts, and they are in accord with me that the J.T.A.'s reporting, as the reporting of other news agencies, ought to be factual.

Taking this as the premise I believe an arrangement can be worked out on the following basis:

- First) Recognizing the special position which the Jewish Agency for Palestine occupies, the J.T.A. will give publicity to all statements issued by the Executive in full, provided it does not impose too onerous a financial burden on the J.T.A.
- Second) The J.T.A. will use its best efforts to select as its correspondent in Palestine a newspaper man who should be acceptable to all sections of the Jewish community in Palestine.
- Third) The J.T.A. to include two additional Zionists on its Board.
- Fourth) A committee of three to be established in Palestine -- (one member to be appointed by the Vaad Leumi, the other member by the Board of the J.T.A., and the two gentlemen to elect a third member) -- this committee to act in an advisory capacity to the Board of the J.T.A. with regard to reports on Palestine and Zionist events.

Mr. Blaustein and Mr. Landau feel very strongly that nothing should be done to create the impression that the J.T.A. has accepted Zionist control. They feel that such a development would very definitely harm the J.T.A. and once this impression is created the J.T.A. would even be ~~counted by~~ ~~of less value to the Zionist Organization.~~ Their reports would be discounted by certain sections of the Jewish and non-Jewish public. For this reason they do not feel that they can concede to the Zionist Organization the right to appoint members of the J.T.A. Board -- (this would open the door to similar demands on the part of other organizations) -- but I have no doubt that before the arrangement is put into effect that we can agree who should be the Zionists to be elected by the J.T.A. as members of the Board.

However, I have no doubt that the above mentioned arrangement if put into force will effectively protect our interests.



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

September 6, 1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

With reference to our conversation yesterday, I am enclosing a number of copies of the J.T.A. bulletins which will prove that we have published more than ten lines with regard to your public activities. I am also enclosing a copy of the release in which we sent out in full your address on "The World Crisis and Jewish Survival".

Frankly, you are one of the very few whose views seem to me of particularly constructive value at this so crucial time.

I am looking forward to receiving the statement you were kind enough to promise.

I would appreciate if you would return to me the article "The World Crisis and Jewish Survival", as this is the only file copy we possess.

Sincerely yours,

JL:F

*Jacob Landau*  
JACOB LANDAU,  
Managing Director



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

September 8, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

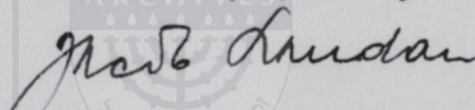
Dear Dr. Silver:

I am enclosing one of the diaries which we have received from Mr. Pat Frank, our new correspondent in Washington.

With kind regards,

JL:F

Sincerely yours,

  
JACOB LANDAU

Encl:



SEPT. 7

DEAR DIARY:

I used to think that Sol Bloom was just another Congressman except that he was hipped on G. Washington, but I 'm beginning to respect him a great deal more. He's really making smart moves, on the neutrality act, and he told me today that the cash and carry bill will go through without a hitch.

He gets red around the neck, when he thinks of the present embargo, and says he never heard about such a damn fool condition. If Italy keeps out of the war, it's going to be a powerful argument for revision of the present act. You see, Italy can buy anything it wants. And of course everyone knows what Italy's promises have been worth. Italy might promise: "No, WE wouldn 't sell this stuff to Germany," just as it promised: "No, WE aren't sending troops to Spain."

I talked to Bloom about the refugee situation, and he says it's a good idea for the Jews to keep as far in the background as possible, and quit berating Great Britain.

Then up to the Dies Committee, and the more I see of the Dies Committee, the more I am inclined to believe it is accomplishing a deal of real good. Right after this morning 's session, Dies turned around to the press table, shook his finger at the reporters, and said: "Well, last year you were calling me a crackpot. Now you've heard the evidence, you'll have to admit that this testimony is going to be a foundation that we can work on for years to come."



diary (2)

The internal situation in Palestine has quieted down, since the war started, according to Murray, the State Department's Near East Division man. Had quite a talk with him, and he seems very well informed, and very congenial.

"It's like this," he said. "The Jews and the Arabs are quitting fighting among themselves to go after a common enemy. At least that's what I think, because I've had a diminishing number of reports of trouble."

The best thing that ever happened to the Jews, said Murray, was the Stalin-Hitler pact. That is, the Jews of America. "It was almost an act of God," he said. Murray reads our JTA bulletins, religiously. Likes our stuff from Palestine. He says we must have very competent men there.

He wonders how many Jews dropped out of the Communist party after the pact was signed. He said he didn't see how it was possible, now, for a Jew to be a Communist.

Had a chat with Hale, the expert on Russian affairs, and made a date with Henderson, the man in charge of Eastern Europe. They all seem very interested in the fact that we've established a Washington Bureau.

I'm afraid that the refugee conference in October won't be so much. The State Department was all set to cancel it, but Myron Taylor persuaded the President to let it go on. In this year of chaos, every refugee project will have to be revised to meet war conditions, I think.

P.F.



September 11, 1939

Mr. Jacob Landau  
Jewish Telegraphic Agency  
1560 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Landau:

Thank you so much for your letters which I read with great interest. I was particularly interested in the diary of your new Washington correspondent. I would be pleased to receive them regularly.

With all good wishes for a happy new year, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

September 13, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

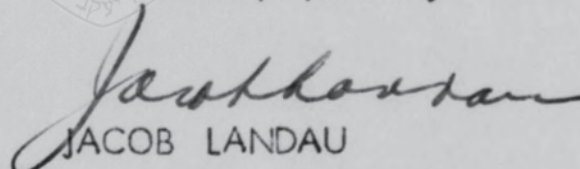
I have your letter of September 11th. I will be glad to send you Mr. Frank's diary, and copy of one is herewith enclosed.

We have not received the statement or article which you were kind enough to promise me. We would greatly appreciate if you would let us have it at your earliest convenience.

With best wishes for a happy New Year,

Sincerely yours,

JL:F

  
JACOB LANDAU

Encl:

P.S. I am sending you herewith a copy of diary of Mr. Bienstock of our London office.



BUDAPEST, September 30..(JTA)--Soviet Russia rather than Nazi Germany now emerges as the dominant factor in the fate of world Jewry. This is the almost unanimous opinion of Jewish observers expressed to the J.T.A. correspondent on a tour during the last week through Latvia, Lithuania, Germany and Hungary.

Russia's acquisition of extensive areas of Poland, more densely populated with Jews than any others in the world, and also of contiguous frontiers with three nations containing very large Jewish populations -- Latvia, Lithuania and Hungary, is seen as an event as profoundly portentous to the future of the Jews as the advent of Nazism in Germany.

A highly placed non-Jewish observer in Berlin, who has been in close touch with Jewish affairs, commented: "In less than a week since the Russians crossed the Polish frontier, it is already clear that another dramatic page in modern Jewish history is about to be written. One can already foresee the beginning of the end of Hitlerian anti-Semitism. But at the same time one can also see the beginning of the end of 'mediaeval Semitism' of the sort which has survived in Poland since the Middle Ages and which has been the principal focus of infection of western anti-Semitism."

This opinion, in one form or another, is shared by Jewish leaders who agree that Russia's participation in a new partition of Poland will have two separate but parallel consequences: checking of the spread of Nazi-inspired anti-Semitism; and, gradually, elimination of the traditional forms of Jewish social and communal life as they now exist in Poland and in parts of nations bordering on Poland.

The first tangible and dramatically illustrative effect of the Russian move has taken place in Hungary. Within 48 hours of Russia's formal taking-over of nearly the entire Carpathian frontier with Hungary, the Government in Budapest took a step in the direction away from legal anti-Semitism.

Hungary, the only nation -- with the exception of Germany -- which proclaims itself anti-Semitic and whose legal anti-Semitism was until this week being put into effect with unabated severity, was quick to recognize the dramatic shift in the focus of European political power. Tomorrow was to be the deadline for the legal disenfranchisement of about eighty percent of the Jewish traders and artisans in the former Slovak and Ruthenian areas, now within Hungary. By the terms of the second anti-Jewish law, these traders and artisans were to have given up their licenses and shops which would have meant the loss of livelihood of thousands of poor, industrious, law-abiding Jewish families. But, yesterday, the deadline was suddenly extended. A period of two months' grace was inexplicably accorded, and it was indicated that further modifications of a similar nature might be in preparation.

It is quite clear that the Hungarian Government recognizes the danger of driving valuable citizens into desperate poverty at a time when the Russians have appeared on the border: the risk of making the Jews supporters of the Bolsheviks now just across the Carpathian frontier is expected to become an effective brake on further legal anti-Semitism.

Only a month ago officials were talking of a third, and more drastic anti-Jewish law. Now there is no such talk. Indeed, there is a good chance that much of the second law will be half-heartedly -- if at all -- enforced.

There is no present indication of modification of Nazi policy toward the Jews in the area of Poland taken over by Germany, but the Russian influence is expected to make itself felt in the course of time. The territories taken over by Germany and Russia contain about 3,500,000 Jews, about ten percent of the total population, a more dense Jewish proportion than in any other geographical area. Such great Jewish cities as Warsaw and Lodz are on the German side, while on the Russian there are Bialystok, Wilno (since ceded by Russia to Lithuania), Pinsk and the huge Jewish peasantry of Eastern Galicia.

The first few days of the Russian occupation revealed intensely significant differences in the Russian and German attitudes, particularly from the psychological and directly economic viewpoints. In the German area, large numbers of Jews had been killed, many massacred. Even larger numbers had been brought to the verge of starvation. German troops were even more brutal to the Jews than to the Poles -- and that's saying a great deal. Thousands of captured Jews were singled out for working tasks bordering on slave-labor. They were made to understand that they were considered less than human.



The Russians, on the other hand took great pains to avoid bloodshed whenever possible. Their tanks and motorized columns were immediately followed by trucks containing food packages, distributed free to the whole population with no distinction as to race or religion. Proclamations were issued permitting all those who desired to do so to leave within 24 hours, and means of exodus were kept open. Everything was done to take propagandistic advantage of the difference between the horrors of the German sadistic murdering and persecution, and the Russian tolerance and humanity.

It is not quite true, however, to say that the Russians treated all alike: they made a distinction between rich and poor. The rich were permitted to leave with all the possessions they could carry, but those who elected to remain knew they would bear the brunt of Russian Community policy, and they were not mistaken. In German territory, no distinction at all was made between the rich and the poor Jews; all were made to understand that they were considered members of a perniciously destructive and subject race, and that they would share the same fate of dehumanized enslavement as the Jews of Bohemia and Slovakia. In the Russian area, only the rich Jews were made to suffer, whereas the poor, making up perhaps 90 percent of the total, were treated no differently and no worse than the non-Jewish poor. After the expiration of the 24-hours ultimata, the Russians arrested many rich men -- officials, landowners, businessmen, etc., but no distinction was made between Jew and non-Jews. Thousands of poor Jews who had fled toward the Latvian, Lithuanian and Polish frontiers from the oncoming Germans turned about and returned to areas under Russian control.

It is of great importance to stress the fact that all reports agree on one point: Jewish schools and synagogues were NOT closed or molested. Peasant bands which had plundered the Jews were chased, disarmed and arrested.

The absence of any anti-Jewish policy, however, is seen by competent observers as political and economic, but not social and religious. It is expected that the Jews of the new Russian territories will gradually undergo the same far-reaching transformations which have affected the Jews of the rest of Soviet Russia.

Jewish elementary and high schools will be closed, along with all other schools not conducted by the State. Synagogues will be closed along with the churches of other creeds and denominations. Rabbis will be arrested and sent into exile along with priests of the Christian denominations. Jewish social and communal forms will be destroyed, but the Jews will be permitted to take their place in the Soviet system with no discriminations different from the ones affecting other citizens.

In sum, it is generally believed in Central Europe that the Russian advance into Poland means the doom of Polish Jewry as such, and the transformation of the Jewish population into elements of the general Russian population without visibly different or separate existence. The Jews of Poland will disappear as Jews with kaftans, earlocks and the habits, vestments and appurtenances which have kept them separate from the rest of the population for centuries. Jewish religious life will be ruthlessly destroyed, and those who resist will meet tragic fates. The older men and women, and the more Orthodox, will, it is believed, face a situation even more tragic than their brethren in Germany, but the Russians will do everything possible to win over and draw away the youth.

Observers put great emphasis on the fact that the Russians, in dividing Poland, allowed the Germans to take all the specifically Polish soil and kept for themselves only the Russian-speaking portions. This is expected to keep Russia aloof from any "Polish problem" which will be left entirely to the Germans.

Another consequence to world Jewry, it is believed, will be the reversal of the stream of Jewish emigration which for more than a century has flown from east -- from Russia -- to west -- to cities of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, Germany, England and the United States. Every anti-Semitic movement in every nation of Europe and America has made a talking-point of objections to the Polish Jews who have been accused of bringing with them the habits and ways of the ghettos of the old Russian pale. This basis of anti-Semitism, false as it may be, will, it is now believed, be eliminated because the elements which make it up will not only be cut off from "export" to the west, but will be gradually destroyed in the east.

It is expected that the Germans, in their part of the geographical spoils of the partition, will create some form of specifically Polish "Protectorate" in a small area east and south of Warsaw. Into this area, scores -- perhaps hundreds of thousands of Jews will be crammed. Large numbers, it is believed, will emigrate to Russia where they will be welcome, provided that they become assimilated with the rest of the population and abandon their specifically Jewish characteristics.



Russian policy will not be philo-Semitic, but it will insist on absolute equality of races and nationalities. There will be no religious freedom for the Jews, but otherwise the Jews will be accepted fully as Russians...Observers in Budapest, Riga and Kaunas believe that no state bordering on Russia has had an open anti-Semitic policy, or legal discrimination against the Jews. Premier Goga in Rumania tried it and was stopped. Now, it is expected that the Hungarian Government also will be forced to slow down in its anti-Jewish legislation.

The dread both of Russian Communism and of Russian nationalism is expected to bring about important improvements in the status of the Jews in Hungary. It may check -- for a time at least -- the gradual proletarianization of the Hungarian Jewish middle classes. Indications of some sort of agreement between Germany and Russia are seen in the fact that the Germans have permitted and are permitting large numbers of Jews to emigrate from their area of Poland to the Russian area. On the other hand, a relatively small number of wealthier Jews have been allowed to enter the German area from the Russian.

In recent weeks, the situation of the Jews in Bohemia, Moravia and Slovakia has materially deteriorated. Before the war began, the Germans planned to force the emigration of some 50,000 Jews annually, thus getting rid of nearly all the Jews in about two years. The policy was plainly based on fear of possible cooperation between the Jews and the Czechs against the Germans.

Emigration is now entirely stopped. Jews are treated with open cruelty. All Jewish factories and large shops are closed. Small ones are allowed to operate but under economically impossible conditions. Small shop-owners are allowed to sell their holdings but only to Germans and not to Czechs. Since the war started, the Germans have arrested thousands of Jews. The fate of many is unknown. Others have ~~kk~~ taken the places in concentration camps vacated by the 12,000 Communists who were released as part of the first Russo-German bargain.

Slovakia, now a military vassal state of the Germans, has the worse record of all. The Jews are being shamelessly persecuted, for the most part by the young Germans of Bratislava who organized the pogroms of last summer. All over Slovakia leading Jews along with Hungarians have been arrested and imprisoned in the dread medieval jail at Illava. The laws of last summer ousting Jewish professional men, and putting Jewish business under Government control are being put fully into effect. And by a new law, just adopted, Jewish landowners will, within the next few weeks, lose all their property by a new expropriation setup.



BUDAPEST, October 2..(JTA)--Far-reaching modifications in Nazi Germany's anti-Jewish policy are assured in secret clauses of the German-Russian agreement, according to reliable German sources in Budapest. Social and economic criteria are expected gradually to replace strictly racial standards in Germany's treatment of the Jewish question. Not only the Jews of Germany but those of Eastern and Central European nations within the German orbit of influence will be affected.

A sharp differentiation is expected soon to appear in the official German attitude toward upper and middle class Jewish elements and Jewish peasantry and proletarian elements. It is not believed that there will be any open announcement of any change in the German attitude toward the Jews, but a steadily improved and less harsh mode of treatment will become noticeable toward the large numbers of formerly middle class German Jews who, since the start of the war, have been assigned to compulsory manual labor.

Bit by bit, Jews engaged in militarily essential manual labor will be accorded minor advantages of treatment which will eventually eliminate altogether the social and economic distinctions between them and their "Aryan" co-workers. Parallely, small numbers of Jews in the professions will be given opportunities to demonstrate their unimpeachable "loyalty" to the Nazi regime; and, on the basis of meritorious service to the war machine, they will be allowed to escape from racial disabilities. To avoid the impression of abandoning what has been dinned into the minds of the Germans as a cardinal policy, the basis of the change will be explained as recompense for patriotic German Jewish service against "democratic capitalism."

German sources in Hungary have private information that the policy aspects of the pact between Hitler and Stalin are; 1st, political, 2nd, economic, 3rd, social and, perhaps eventually, 4th, military. The Germans and Russians count on a long military stale-mate in the event that peace moves, soon to be made, fail. During this period, Berlin and Moscow expect to develop a gigantic economic bloc, covering most of Continental Europe and a large part of Asia. The productive techniques will be essentially German; the social organization essentially Russian. The Jews of Central and Eastern Europe will be assigned tasks in agriculture and productive industry no different from those given to non-Jews. Part of the price of this change will be the ruthless elimination of all specifically Jewish social and communal forms, including religious ones. Another part of the price will be the equally ruthless sacrifice by middle-class Jews of their previous roles..Stalin appears to have convinced Hitler that it is better to use the Jews than to destroy them, so long as any "Jewishness" on the part of the Jews which might constitute a danger to the new system is destroyed.

The resources of Soviet Russia, so necessary to Germany, will be made available only in so far as the Germans fully demonstrate their willingness to "play ball" on the Jewish question as well as the general socio-economic orientation. The fact that Russia now holds both the granary of the Ukraine and the keys to Rumania's oil fields gives her the whip hand.

But perhaps the most sensational aspect of the change will be in countries such as Hungary which, in common with now-defunct Poland, resisted the crying need for land reform. From the Baltic to the Black Sea, Nazi-Communism will soon irresistibly wipe out the vestiges of feudal land-tenure, and replace it with a system straddling the Russian collectives and the German peasant tenure. It is considered significant here that Mussolini has during the last few days been devoting himself to such matters as the latifundia (great estates) in Sicily and elsewhere in Italy.

Some observers assert that Stalin has also convinced Hitler that an improvement in the Nazi attitude toward the Jews would have tremendous value as an accompaniment of an improvement in the status of the desperately poor Jews in former Poland. These latter Jews, according to this version, have been "saved" from their Polish oppressors. Now, they can be transformed into "friends" of the new regime. And, conceivably, their relatives in England and America can be gradually won over to sympathy for the Nazi-Communist system, and perhaps also transformed into foci of anti-democratic and anti-Capitalist infection in the two great capitalist enemies of Nazi Germany. It is hoped that in England and America the Jews will also split along economic lines, and that the poor Jews will sympathize with their "emancipated" brethren in Poland. The force of anti-Nazism, developed by wealthier and middle class German Jews in America and England, is believed to have been exhausted. Now, the propagandistic effort will be to mobilize and harness the pro-Russian sentiment of the poor Jews in America and England.



October 10, 1939

Circulation Department  
Jewish Telegraphic Agency  
1560 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

Dear Sir:

Rabbi Silver has not been receiving his Bulletins from the Jewish Telegraphic Agency for some time now. Will you kindly check into this matter? As far as I know, the subscription is paid up for some time ahead.

Very sincerely yours,

BJK

Secretary to Rabbi Silver.



LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW  
WASHINGTON

# Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

October 12, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

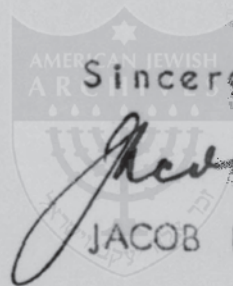
Dear Dr. Silver:

I am sending you herewith diary from our Washington correspondent, as well as diary just received from Victor Bienstock in London.

With kind regards,

JL:F

WRHS



Sincerely yours,

*Jacob Landau*  
JACOB LANDAU

Encl:



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

October 13, 1939

Miss Bessie Kline, Secretary to  
Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
East 105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

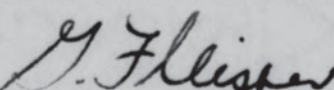
Dear Miss Kline:

I have your letter of October 10th. You are absolutely right on one point in your letter, i.e., Dr. Silver has not been receiving the bulletins for some weeks. Through an oversight he was not replaced on the mailing list on his return from Europe, nor were we notified to this effect either by you or Dr. Silver. We have, however, now reinstated the mailing of the bulletin to Dr. Silver.

Regarding point two, Dr. Silver's subscription expires on the 24th of this month. A statement for renewal is herewith enclosed. We will extend the subscription for the few weeks Dr. Silver did not receive the bulletins.

Sincerely yours,

GF:F



G. Fleisher,  
Secretary to Managing Director

Encl:



CONFIDENTIAL

WASHINGTON--Oct. 18. A couple of things occurred to me today that are not of importance at the moment, but may be of vast importance in the very near future. The first is the UP story out of Rome in which one Frank Gildemeester, President of the international organization for the assistance of Jewish Refugees, announced that Italy is interested in a plan to establish a colony of five million Jews in Ethiopia. This guy would back this plan by floating five million dollars worth at ten dollars per shares in North and South America.

Off the record, at the State Department today, I was told that this Gildemeester is a pal of the Gestapo in Vienna, and I guess that's all we need to know.

Now that the Dominican Republic is in the news spot light from two sides, the first that they will accept refugees, and the second, that the Island is being used as a base for German submarines.

I think I better recall what facts I remember about my old friend and city editor Ray Helgesen. Ray is, or was, one of my oldest friends. He had a rather hectic career as a newspaper man. We met first when he was night editor of the New York Journal. Ray is the son of former Representative Helgesen, who with the late Representative Lindbergh, father of Charles A. Lindbergh, attempted to block the entry of the United States into World War I. Two years ago Ray left the Washington Times-Herald, where he was city editor, and engaged upon a career which has been most mysterious. He had a big estate in Virginia, Hollin Hall, with a swimming pool, and stables, and all the accoutrements, and yet he had no money coming in so far as anyone knew.

A constant visitor at the Estate was Senator Lundeen, who had been a friend of the older Helgesen.

About a year ago they flew down to the Dominican Republic together and spent sometime on yacht cruising around the Caribbean out of the Dominican Republic. With them, off and on, was Robert Rodenberg, the son of the late Representative Rodenberg, and also a friend of mine.



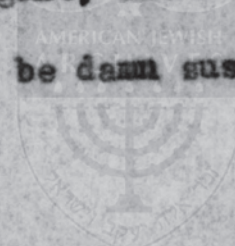
(2)

When they returned, Ray was stopped one night by a policeman for speeding on Connecticut Avenue, and he was a little tight, and he told the cop, whose name was Lane of #10 precinct, "You can't stop me, I have diplomatic immunity, I work for the German Embassy."

I checked up on the story at the time, although I don't remember exactly why I did it.

Since then, Ray has made several trips to the Dominican Republic and is now down there. One of his best friends down there is the owner of their most powerful newspaper.

I can't say that Helgesen is a Nazi agent, but I think I ought to keep all this in mind, because the tie up seems to me to be damn suspicious.





WASHINGTON--September 26. The cascade of organized anti-embargo repeal letters and telegrams on Capitol Hill has definitely slackened, and the last appeal of Father Coughlin didn't have anywhere near the pull of the one a week ago, Congressmen tell me.

The fellows from the North Carolina paper say that they think Senator Reynolds will vote to repeal the embargo because of the pressure brought for repeal in his own state. In addition, our friend, Thorkeleon, came out yesterday with a long letter to the Washington Evening Star in which he urged abolition of all neutrality laws and a return to international law.

I have been counting noses up the Senate and I think, in spite of all the somber prophecies, that as things stand now, the Senate is ready to go forward with the President's program--and in the House, there will be a landslide for repeal.

I think that the more responsible pro-embargo people had a hand in preventing McWilliams, one of the current little Hitlers, from speaking in Franklin Park last night. They must have known that it could only have had an adverse effect, since there were only about a hundred people out there, and of these, half came to heckle.



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

November 2, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Angell Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Just a line to remind you of your kind promise to  
let me have a copy of the statement you recently wrote.

JL:F



Sincerely yours,

  
*Jacob Landau*  
JACOB LANDAU

The signature is written in cursive over a circular stamp that reads "AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES". Below the signature, the name "JACOB LANDAU" is printed in a sans-serif font.



November 8, 1939

Mr. Jacob Landau  
Jewish Telegraphic Agency  
1560 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Landau:

I had a talk the other day with Mr. Montor who was in Cleveland in connection with the United Palestine Appeal work with reference to JTA and Palcor relationships. From our conversation, I got the impression that the two issues which are in the way of a settlement are (1) that the Jewish Agency in Jerusalem should have the authority to approve the JTA correspondent who will be assigned to Jerusalem, and (2) that there be added a certain number of members to the Board of Directors of the JTA which would increase confidence all around. I do not know how serious these issues are. They do not appear so to me. If they are not, can you not agree to such an arrangement and thereby solve this bothersome problem once and for all?

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



WASHINGTON, Nov. 10—Finally, I got to see Van Zeeland. I had a long talk with the youngish, slim, nervously dynamic ex-premier of Belgium, now President of the Coordinating Foundation for Refugees. When he'd finished talking he said, "now all this is off the record," and all my reportorial senses went boom.

We talked of two things, the war and the refugees.

"Internal dissension is growing worse in Germany," he said, "and Hitler must strike--but soon--now before winter freezes him in!"

"His armies are poised on the Netherlands frontier, and my own. I feel sure that he will take the low countries. He will invade not because he has anything to gain by invasion--it will only blacken him further--but because the pressure within Germany is so great that he must act, and the road to the sea is the only one left open to him."

I said: "Do you think he plans an invasion of England when he reaches the sea?" And Van Zeeland said: "Impossible."

He thinks the Germans will traverse the Netherlands and Belgium within a few days. Then he added: "But remember, it will gain him nothing but land. It will not win the war for him. It will place another million troops against him--troops who can retreat to the French border and then hold--and it will lose him whatever good will remained for him in the outside world."

"It is a terrible thing for my country and Holland that Hitler now proposes to do--but it may win the war for the allies!"

I had heard rumors that Van Zeeland once was inclined towards Fascism. It seemed hard to believe, as I talked to him today. I don't think I've ever met a man more intensely anti-Hitler, ~~and I have known him for years.~~ ~~Could he have been so~~  
~~strong in his political career, Hitler doubtless knew him?~~



(2)

Anyway, he had this to say about the Munich bomb: "It most certainly was plotted with the connivance of some persons inside the Nazi organization. You must remember that this is the third attempt on Hitler's life since the outbreak of the war--there were the shots fired at the Air Ministry, and then the attempt to kill him at the Propaganda Ministry.. I sense that something is wrong within his private police force. He is not nearly so well guarded as I had been led to believe."

"Tsk-tsk," Van Zeeland added. "It's a shame!"

He meant it was a shame they didn't get Hitler. Personally, I don't see it that way. I'd rather have a live, dangerous scoundrel as an enemy than a dead martyr.

Now as to the refugee matters.

Van Zeeland told me he's not yet ready to make public his very ambitious plans for further colonization. "I want to wait until I have something concrete," he said. "In two or three weeks I'll have more to tell you."

He said he has recommended that the first "pioneers for the Dominican Republic" be sent from the neutral countries immediately. Well versed in the art of publicity, he knows that if this colonization project is a success, it will be easier to get funds for the ones to follow.

In addition to the Philippines colonization plan, he now has FOUR MORE under survey, he said. He didn't tell me what they were, and I figured it would be impolite to ask. But I know he's trying for Ecuador, the Island of Madagascar, Brazil, and the Dutch, French, and British Guianas.

I asked about Alaska. He said he didn't think it would be wise to ask the Congress to open up Alaska until the success of the Dominican, and some of the other projects, was assured, "and we can have something to show the Congressmen."

When the Dominican Refugee project is under way, he plans to send some American newspapermen down there to take a look at the refugees "building a new civilization." I think that's smart.



(3)

He has had difficulties, Van Zeeland said. There's a plethora of words, committees, and speeches, and not enough action. He feels, however, that he's accomplishing something. He's completely a man of action. I sensed that he has placed all his driving energy into the refugee fight. He isn't the type of man who will give up.

I like him.

Pat Frank

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES





WASHINGTON--Nov. 27. The State Department found out something today that has increased its jitters on the outcome of the Dominican Refugee project. Trujillo, when he was in Paris, made a secret deal with Spanish refugee agencies to accept their refugees, too. He was paid for it, cash on the line.

So it was no accident that three thousand Spanish refugees are being dumped into the Dominican Republic before a single Jewish refugee reached there. In addition, Spanish refugee agencies in New York have sent \$15,000 to the Dominican Republic since the first Spanish refugee ship landed there.

What troubles the State Department is not that the arrival of the Spanish refugees will interfere with the work sponsored by Rosenthal and Rosenberg, but that Trujillo apparently is turning the refugee problem into a racket.

When the Jewish refugees arrive, what will be their fate? Will their sponsors find it necessary to constantly pay "blackmail" to insure their safety and well being? The Department fears so, and Rosenberg arrives in Washington tomorrow for a conference at the Department. I'm to see him, too, at noon.

I suppose it was too much to expect that the man known as a cold-blooded butcher would suddenly turn into an idealistic humanitarian.

Bad news too, today, on the Red Cross. Brown, up there, very frankly told me the Germans are obdurate in forbidding Red Cross men to visit German Poland, which is completely under Army control. The Germans say: "Doesn't the American Red Cross trust their brothers, the German Red Cross, and will not the American Red Cross allocate their medical supplies and clothing for distribution by the German Red Cross?"

The American Red Cross has been forced to say: "Sure, we trust the German Red Cross, and we are willing to let them handle the distribution. We insist, however, that we have someone in Poland as an observer to see that the stuff reaches the most needy."

"But then you do not trust us!" say the Germans.

"Oh, yes, we do," say the Americans, tongue in cheek.

It has been going on like that for three weeks, now, and God knows when they'll reach a settlement.

PAT FRANK



[1939]

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28. The Red Cross showed a complete lack of resolution in reaching their agreement with the Nazis on the distribution of medical supplies and clothing in Poland.

Worse, they tried to conceal it. Their announcement of the agreement, made today, is full of holes.

Mr. Pell, up at the State Department, said that the Germans failed to back down ON A SINGLE POINT. He knows. He has received private advices through diplomatic cables. He says the agreement represents a complete breakdown of the Red Cross demands, and that the American Jews have no reason to expect that any of the Red Cross material will reach the Jews in Poland.

The Germans did not agree to allow the American Red Cross to supervise distribution.

They did not agree to allow the Red Cross to inspect the results of distribution, except at certain stated intervals.

The inevitable result will be that the German Red Cross--which of course now controls the Polish Red Cross--will hand out the stuff as it wills. A large portion of the Quarter million will be used to buy hospital supplies for the hospitals wrecked by the Nazi air raids. Will those hospitals be available for Jews?

It's laughable to suppose that JEWS WILL RECEIVE ANY BENEFIT WHATSOEVER from this first quarter million. Brown, at the Red Cross, admitted to me that only one Red Cross delegate has been allowed into Poland, and he was only allowed to visit Warsaw, where he was conducted on a carefully prepared tour.

The Red Cross' syrupy statements, made to me at intervals during the last three weeks, all indicated that the Nazis were giving in on one point after another. Actually, they were giving in on nothing tangible. They were making promises--but they were sternly counter-mading anything smaking of acutal supervision or inspection.

This whole thing smells to high heaven. It's a swell newspaper story--if any paper cares to go after it. It would be most impolitic for a Jewish paper to hit it--or for a Jewish reporter, like myself, to ask all the embarrassing questions I was tempted to ask today.

But the story is there. Who wants it?

Going back to the Dominican matter. Despite Mr. Rosenberg's protestations today that the Spaniards don't worry him, I think they do. He lunched with the Chilean diplomat, Davila, today, and Davila promised to see Trujillo about the affair. Mr. Rosenberg is determinedly pressing forward, but I fear--from all I've heard about Trujillo--that his path of good intentions will be lined with thorns.

PAT FRANK



(3)

One line along which the German government will not bend is that none but German agencies superintend relief in Poland, although this relief may then be distributed by Polish or Jewish agencies afterwards

Anyway, Davis said, it would require a staff of 500 Americans to actually do the distribution work. Getting together such a staff--even if it were allowed--would be impossible. So in any case the Red Cross has to proceed with the local relief agencies.

Davis said he had no confirmation of outbreaks of typhus, and added that he believed the Germans were cleaning up the wrecked Polish cities as quickly as possible.

The initial supplies sent to the Cracow depot will be \$50,000 worth of "biologicals"--serums--purchased in Germany, and \$50,000 worth of warm clothing sent from the United States.

Mr. Davis said he had been able to learn nothing of the Lublin reservation. Mr. Pell said the State Department had been able to learn nothing. I said that conditions there would probably be worse than any other place in Poland, judging from our own dispatches. Mr. Davis didn't say anything.

\*\*\*\*\*



COPY

November 28, 1939.

Dear Mr. Landau:

I think we ought to do something about this Red Cross situation. The way they're going to distribute this quarter million is a crime. The stuff is going to end up in the German Army, beyond a doubt.

Worse, there is another three quarters of a million dollars worth of stuff going to be sent into Poland without adequate safeguards.

I don't think the Red Cross would ever dare make public the cables which have passed between Washington and Berlin in the past three weeks. If a good reporter for a non-sectarian newspaper -- a man like Ken Crawford -- were put on this story he'd come up with a tremendous expose, I have no doubt.

The Dies speech was supposed to be ready this afternoon, but Dies suddenly decided to rewrite it -- and it probably won't be ready until morning, when I will put the text on the wire.

Best regards.

Sincerely yours,

PAT FRANK (SIGNED)



WASHINGTON, Nov. 30--Mr. Norman E. Davis, Chairman of the Red Cross through Mr. Robert Pell of the State Department, asked me to see him for an interview today, on the matter of relief in Poland. Mr. Davis had learned that we were somewhat skeptical of the agreement reached between the Red Cross and the German government. For one thing, he had seen a copy of the Smolar cable from Paris on the matter. In the second place, I think he had been informed by Mr. Pell of my own sentiments, and so, in an effort to make clear the position of the Red Cross to the Jewish community, he called me in. Mr. Pell went with me from the State Department, and sat in on the interview.

Before Mr. Pell and I left for the Red Cross, Mr. Pell told me (not for publication but for inclusion in any private report I made) that the crux of the matter lay in the rivalry of the Red Cross with the Quakers and the Polish Relief Committee, which is dominated by Herbert Hoover. Hoover, of course, is a Quaker.

It seems that the Quakers are trying to undercut the Red Cross for the glory of relief in Poland, the Quakers have announced that they would be allowed to distribute relief under their own supervision. This announcement, Mr. Pell told me, came because the Quakers had reached an agreement with Goering. BUT DISINTERESTED STATE DEPARTMENT MEN IN BERLIN INFORMED WASHINGTON THAT THE GOERING AGREEMENT WOULD NOT HOLD, AND THAT ALL POLAND IS UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE REGULAR ARMY.

Mr. Pell, who two days ago told me that the Red Cross--Nazi agreement was a complete victory for the Germans, now says that the Red Cross did absolutely the best it could. Until last night, he apparently had not known of the complete record of the bargaining contained in the Red Cross cables and the transcript of telephone conversations.

Mr. Davis was completely frank with me, and he laid his cable book open. He said forthright that the Quakers were exaggerating in their claims.

Mr. Davis said that shortly after the war started the American Red Cross, acting through the German Red Cross, made available \$25,000 in medical supplies for Polish wounded. The Red Cross is satisfied that the \$25,000 was used by the German Red Cross for the purposes designated.

The German Red Cross--through which the Red Cross has now agreed to distribute \$250,000 worth of clothing and medical supplies in Poland--is headed by Hartman, a man who Mr. Davis said had no sympathy with the Nazi regime, and would insist--insofar as he was able--that the supplies be distributed upon the nonsectarian, nonracial basis agreed upon.

He said the German Government felt they were making a concession to the American Red Cross when they agreed to allow the German Red Cross to handle the American supplies, rather than the official Nazi party relief agency.

"We have been allowed all the guarantees that you can hope to receive in a country dominated by the military," Mr. Davis said. This includes the right to conduct periodic inspections, with the sole proviso that if the military authorities fear disturbances, they can bar the Red Cross representatives from Polish territory.



(2)

As things stand, \$250,000 worth of supplies will be sent to the Red Cross warehouse in Cracow. The Red Cross will retain title to the supplies until it is actually distributed from the warehouse--partially to Jewish relief agencies and partially to Polish. The allotments will be agreed upon by a representative of the American Red Cross conferring with the German Red Cross.

I asked Mr. Davis whether he thought it possible for Jewish relief agencies to continue their work in German-Poland, and he quoted Mr. Paul Baerwald, who was in conference with him yesterday, as saying that the JDC was still operating in Poland, and was feeding 50,000 persons daily.

Incidentally, Mr. Baerwald asked Mr. Davis whether the JDC couldn't proceed in Poland on the same basis as the Red Cross. "It's logical," Mr. Davis quoted himself as telling Mr. Baerwald, "but it isn't practical"

"There's no sense waving a red flag under the noses of the Germans," Mr. Davis added.

In that connection, the financial position of the Red Cross has to be appreciated. Poles have contributed almost all the \$239,000 donated for direct relief in Poland. Jews, except for several thousand dollars given by the B'Nai B'Rith, have given very little.

Just the other day, Mr. Davis said, an official of a Polish society which had donated \$150,000 came into the Red Cross and reminded him--Davis--that while the Poles agreed with the Red Cross principle that all peoples who needed help should receive it, still this \$150,000 had been given expressly for Poles--not Jews.

Mr. Davis emphasized that the Germans NEED the American Red Cross, although they pretend not to need it. "They need it," he said, "to combat possible epidemics in Poland. Epidemics don't know any racial lines. It is not a matter of humanity with them. It is completely practical. They don't want epidemics to break out in Poland."

This is why the Germans have agreed to allow Jews as well as all others receive the Red Cross medical supplies and warm clothing, Mr. Davis said. But on the other hand, according to a telephone conversation with Nicholson in Berlin today, the Germans don't want the news that Jews are being treated on the same basis with all others to seep back into Germany.

"The Jews," Mr. Davis said, "have to be very careful, because the German propaganda ministry is watching American public opinion, and newspapers, closely. The Jews (and by the Jews I fancy he meant the JTA) should not make it appear that the Germans have surrendered to the Red Cross, and on the other hand, they should not say that the Germans are denying the Jews in Poland relief from the Red Cross."

He showed me a cable from the Red Cross man in Berlin, which said that the Propaganda Ministry was very much perturbed by a story which appeared in the Times-Herald here--a Chicago Tribune dispatch from Europe saying the Germans were blocking the Red Cross in Poland.

Nicholson (the Red Cross man) said it was urgent that American newspapers publish nothing like this, if practical results are to be obtained.



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

December 8, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

Our matter was taken up at the last meeting of the Palestine Emergency Committee -- unfortunately in your absence. The upshot was rather inconclusive.

I understand that the Emergency Committee has only been allotted \$50,000 instead of the \$250,000 it asked for, and under the circumstances they felt it would be best to refer our request to Jerusalem with a recommendation for favorable action. I believe they also labored under a misunderstanding. I understand a statement was made that the J.D.C. had turned us down, while as I informed you the J.D.C., as well as the American Jewish Committee decided to each give us one-third of \$50,000.

In the meantime time is passing and we feel very aggravated because of the urgency of our starting at last.

I have seen Mr. Lipsky and he is favorable. I had another talk with Mr. Montor, and we are beginning to see eye to eye with regard to straightening out the Palcor situation.

I understand you will be here Monday, and I would like very much to see you before the next meeting. I am still hopeful that some plan can be worked out which would insure immediate action on our request. Perhaps part of the money can be put up by the Palestine Emergency Committee, another part by the Zionist Organization, and the remainder by the United Palestine Appeal.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

JL:F

*Jacob Landau*  
JACOB LANDAU,  
Managing Director

By air mail



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	NIGHT LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	SHIP RADIOGRAM

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK
ACCT'G INFMN.
TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

December 13, 1939

Dr. Solomon Goldman  
Belmont Plaza Hotel  
New York, N.Y.

LANDAU INFORMS ME THAT YOU WOULD SEND CABLE PALESTINE URGING UPA GRANT TO JTA. YOU MAY ADD MY SIGNATURE TO SUCH CABLE.

ABBA HILLEL SILVER



December 13, 1939

Mr. Jacob Landau, Managing Director  
Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.  
1560 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

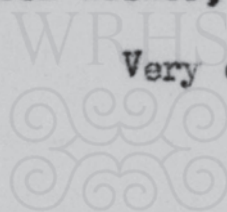
My dear Mr. Landau:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of the  
telegram which I sent to Dr. Goldman today.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

QHS:BK  
Enc.





GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

December 15, 1939

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

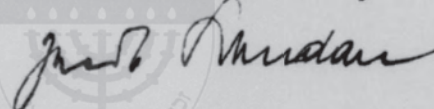
I have the copy of your telegram to Dr. Goldman.

I wish to thank you for your kind cooperation.

JL:F

WRHS

AMERICAN JEWISH  
Sincerely yours,



JACOB LANDAU,  
Managing Director



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

January 2, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th Street & Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

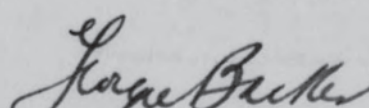
We trust you will find it possible to attend the annual meeting of our Board on Saturday, January 6, 1940, at three o'clock in the afternoon at the Biltmore Hotel, Madison Avenue at 43rd Street ( Room 102 ), New York City., formal notice of which has been previously sent you.

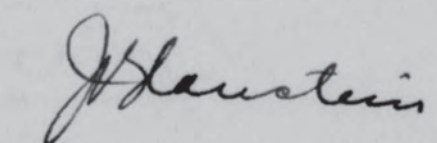
There are a number of important questions arising with regard to the immediate launching of the Overseas News Agency, the funds for which we are confident will soon be made available. Establishment of the Overseas News Agency represents real expansion of J.T.A. activities and we would appreciate your counsel.

May we urge your attendance at this meeting.

Yours very truly,

GB :f  
J B

  
GEORGE BACKER  
President

  
JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
Chairman of Board



Washington, January 25--It strikes me that it's a darned shame there isn't a Jew in Congress of greater than .22 calibre.

Especially am I thinking of Dickstein. He got up in the House yesterday to talk about Poland, and you couldn't have emptied the chamber quicker if you had dropped a stench bomb.

He had the makings of a great speech--if he had been able to present his facts properly, if he was a decent speaker, and if, more important, he compelled the respect of his fellow members.

The mere fact that he spoke on Poland injures the cause of the Jews in Poland, in my estimation.

The bumbling Sabath, and the blatant Bloom aren't so hot, but Dickstein--phew!

It would be a wonderful thing, if a man of the calibre of Frankfurter, Ben Cohen, or Lubin were a representative in the House, or a Senator. It's a shame that the Jewish spokesman has to be Dickstein.

at 10 o'clock yesterday morning Dies was all set to resign as chairman of the un-American committee. At noon, he was determined to continue in the post. Here's the way it happened.

Dies is very ill. He has angina. His physicians told him that if he returned to Washington, and embroiled himself in the turmoil of more committee hearings, he wouldn't leave. So he told Joe Starnes to take over.

When this was printed here, some members of the House gave out statements hinting that Dies didn't dare continue because of his affiliations with the Christian Front. He didn't dare come back and face the music.

Dies immediately called his Washington office and said he will be back, "if it kills me."

It may. His health is very bad.

Pat Frank



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

February 19, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th Street at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

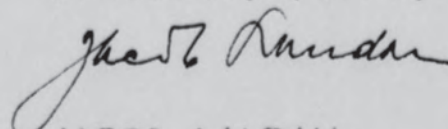
I understand that after the executive committee meeting of the United Jewish Appeal, you, Dr. Jonah Wise, and Mr. Hyman discussed the desirability of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency receiving a grant from the United Jewish Appeal. We would be very grateful if such action could be taken at this time.

We are about to launch the Overseas News Agency on a somewhat limited scale because the funds placed at our disposal are rather modest. As I pointed out to you in our conversation, the J.T.A. has lost more than \$30,000 in annual contributions formerly received in Europe, and is hard pressed for funds.

Needless for me to say, the J.T.A.'s work is of direct importance to the United Jewish Appeal. There can be no doubt about the Jewish Telegraphic Agency's effectiveness in stimulating a larger measure of responsiveness toward our cause by throwing light on Jewish events, which stir up people to the realization of the gravity of the plight of our brethren overseas.

I hardly need say that if you have any suggestions which would further increase our usefulness to your campaign we will be glad to cooperate to the fullest extent.

Sincerely yours,



JACOB LANDAU  
Managing Director

JL:T



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

January 13th, 1940.

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th Street & Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Dr. Silver:

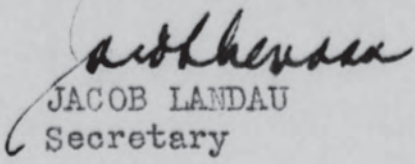
At the meeting of the Board of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, held Wednesday, January 10, 1940, it was decided to conclude all necessary preparations for the launching of the Overseas News Agency. (The enclosed letter by Mr. Swope, which you have undoubtedly seen, explains briefly the purposes of the Overseas News Agency.) Establishment of the Overseas News Agency does not imply the discontinuation of the Jewish Telegraphic Agency, which will continue to function under the old name as far as the Jewish press is concerned.

It was unanimously decided to extend an invitation to you to serve on the Board of the Overseas News Agency. We trust we may count on your advice and active cooperation in the direction of the Overseas News Agencywork.

The question was raised whether some prominent non-Jews should be invited to serve on the Board of the Overseas News Agency. While the majority of those present voted in favor of this suggestion, it was decided to solicit the reaction to this proposal of those members of our Board who were not present at this meeting.

We would appreciate hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

  
JACOB LANDAU  
Secretary

JL:J



January 24, 1940

Mr. Jacob Landau  
Jewish Telegraphic Agency  
1560 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Landau:

In reply to your kind letter of  
January 13, permit me to say that I shall be  
pleased to serve on the Overseas News Agency.

With best wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



# Overseas News Agency, Inc.

165 WEST 46TH STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y.

January 26, 1940


Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

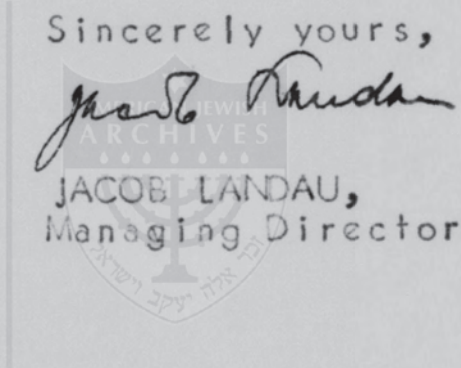
Dear Dr. Silver:

Many thanks for your letter of January 24th. We were pleased to learn that you are willing to serve on the board of the Overseas News Agency.

JL:F

Sincerely yours,

  
JACOB LANDAU,  
Managing Director





COPY

## P A L E S T I N E

### LAND PURCHASING REGULATIONS

To be issued on February 27, 1940

#### SUMMARY.

In the delimitation of the zone, and in the application of the principles on which transfers in "restricted" areas shall be permitted, the regulations follow closely the proposals made in the Woodhead Commission's report; where there are variations from those proposals they are generally favourable to the Jews.

2. The hill country and the Gaza area (where there is congestion) and the Beersheba area (where a survey and an investigation of titles have not yet been carried out), are to be areas within which further sales of land by Arabs to any person not a Palestinian Arab will, for the present at any rate, be prohibited.

3. In the plains, and in the Negeb, on the other hand, Jews will still be able to purchase land from Arabs either freely or subject to certain restrictions. Land purchases will be subject to no restriction in the greater part of the maritime plain. In the remainder of the plains, and in the Negeb, however, it is proposed that sales by Arabs to persons who are not Palestinian Arabs shall only be permitted when the transfer falls within one or other of the following classes:

A. When it is made for the purpose of facilitating irrigation or consolidating or expanding holdings already in the possession of the transferee or of his community, and when the land to be transferred is contiguous to such a holding;

B. When it is made for the purpose of enabling land held in undivided shares by transferer and transferee to be parcelled;

C. It is in furtherance of some special scheme of development in joint interest of both Arabs and Jews to which Government may have signified approval.

4. Finally, transfer of land in municipal areas throughout the country will remain unrestricted.

British Library of Information,  
50, Rockefeller Plaza,  
New York, N. Y.

NW

February 27, 1940



February 27, 1940

Dr. Chaim Weizmann  
Hotel Ambassador  
Park Avenue & 51st Street  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Weizmann:

This morning the Palcor published a report about the land ordinance, the first paragraph of which reads as follows:

"The point in the 'White Paper' which attempts to limit the sale of land to Jews in certain areas of Palestine has already been put into effect in accordance with an official statement which has been issued by the colonial secretary, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, in London."

In subsequent paragraphs the Palcor publishes the full text of the colonial secretary's statement. The report also says that the statement has been published today simultaneously in Jerusalem and in London.

We had been asked not to publish this story until it will be officially released. We obeyed these instructions.

The Palcor, however, published the story.

The following cablegrams which we received with regard to this matter will be of interest to you:

LONDON, FEB 27 1940: COLONIAL OFFICE INFORMS US ORDINANCE WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED TONIGHT STOP PALCOR EVIDENTLY BASED COPY HANDED EXECUTIVE STOP SHOULD EYE PROTEST COLONIAL OFFICE

NEW YORK, FEB 28 1940:  
JEWCORRAU LONDON - DO NOT PROTEST COLONIAL OFFICE  
LANDAU

LONDON, FEB 28 1940: SHERTOK PHONED IN ORDER WARN AGAINST PREMATURE PUBLICATION WHICH MOST HARMFUL SAYS HE CABLED NEW YORK BUT FEARS TOO LATE

BIENSTOCK

LONDON, FEB 27 1940: JERUSALEM CABLED ANNOUNCEMENT POSTPONED  
BIENSTOCK



Dr. Chaim Weizmann

2.

I am attaching copy of a statement with regard to the land ordinance which we have received from the British Library of Information in New York.

Later in the day we received the following letter from the Library:

"The British Library of Information  
50 Rockefeller Plaza  
New York

27th February, 1940

Dear Sirs:

We have just given your Mr. Schorr a copy of a summary of the Land Regulations which we understood had been published in Palestine today according to Palcor dispatches. Mr. Schorr informs us that you have just received a cable from London to the effect that the Colonial Office had stated that these Regulations would not be published today. Mr. Schorr has agreed not to make use of this release, but we are confirming this understanding by letter so that there may be no mistake about the matter - that is, that our release has been withdrawn until we can clear up the question as to whether or not the Regulations are being issued today.

Yours very truly,

/s/ Angus Fletcher

Angus Fletcher  
Director "

I do not wish to add anything to the facts which I have enumerated. They speak for themselves.

Very sincerely yours,

JACOB LANDAU  
Managing Director

JL:T  
encl.



LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WARSAW  
WASHINGTON

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

March 4, 1940.

Dr. Abba H. Silver  
The Temple  
105th and Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver -

I remember with pleasure the columns you used to do for the old Jewish Daily Bulletin.

Would you care, at this time, to revive the column for the J.T.A. feature syndicate? You would, of course, have full freedom to express your views on a wide variety of topics engaging the interest of Jewry today. I am sure the Anglo-Jewish weeklies we serve and their readers would greatly appreciate having you write for them on a regular basis again.

If you should decide to accept this invitation, the column need not run longer than 800 words. It should be in our hands not later than Tuesday or Wednesday of each week.

Mr. Landau sends you his warmest regards.

Very truly yours,

*H. Wishengrad*

H. WISHENGRAD  
Editor



March 6, 1940

Mr. H. Wishengrad, Editor  
Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.  
1560 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Wishengrad:

I deeply appreciate your kindness in inviting me to write a column for the Jewish Telegraph Agency feature syndicate. I recall with pleasure the column which I wrote for the Jewish Daily Bulletin a few years ago. Unfortunately I have taken on so much work since that time, particularly in connection with the United Jewish Appeal and the United Palestine Appeal, that I cannot, in justice to myself, take on any additional responsibilities.

Perhaps at some future time I may be of service to you. With all good wishes, I remain

Very cordially yours,

AHS:BK



# Overseas News Agency, Inc.

165 WEST 46TH STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y.

March 21, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th Street at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

The Overseas News Agency is the outgrowth of an organization (The Jewish Telegraphic Agency), that has been dealing with certain phases of Jewish news originating in Central Europe. The need of a wider and non-sectarian coverage has been demonstrated by existing conditions, which, each day, become more desperate.

Therefore, the O.N.A., from now on, is to concern itself with the existence and continuance of the persecution of Jew, Catholic and Protestant, as well as all those who are being martyred for their political views. It will attempt to acquaint America with conditions abroad, which, first brought to light by the news reports, are soon relegated to the back pages of the papers, if they are printed at all, because of the regularity, not to say monotony, of their occurrence.

The O.N.A. will, in no sense of the word, be competitive to the news services of the news associations or of the individual papers. It will be supplementary to these important organizations.

The Agency will concentrate on Central, South and Eastern Europe. It will seek to focus attention on such developments as in Poland, where, by deliberate action of the conquerors, news has been suppressed so that the world had to be shocked into a partial knowledge by the revelations made by the Pope. That country and its people have been barricaded from the world and from help that would come were conditions known, through an outraged public opinion, which, though sometimes long deferred, is eventually effective.

The O.N.A. also will carefully and extensively report all those constructive efforts towards building a durable peace which aims at securing the world from the ever recurring onslaughts of war.

The O.N.A. will be an agency devoting itself exclusively to reporting facts. It will indulge in no propaganda; preach no theory or philosophy.



March 21, 1940

You, because of your interest in matters of this sort, are invited to become a director of the Overseas News Agency, which is not a charity but is in the nature of a public service. The list of this directorate is being kept small. I shall be glad to inform you of those who have assented, and others who are being approached. William Allen White of Emporia and I are doing this part of the work.

If you accept, we are meeting Wednesday, April 3, at five o'clock, at my house, 895 Park Avenue, for the organization meeting.

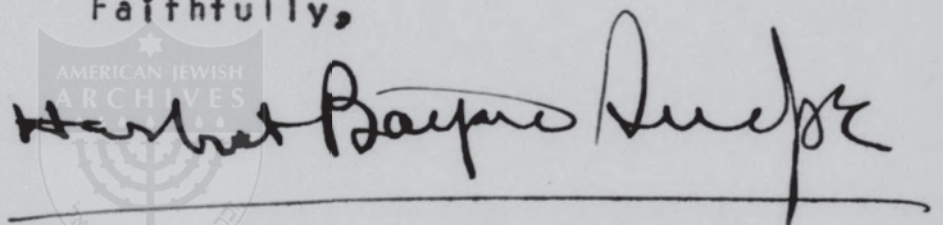
Those who have already accepted include:

William Allen White  
Henrik Willem van Loon  
Professor James T. Shotwell  
Rev. Dr. Robert I. Gannon  
Dr. Wm. Jay Schieffelin

With best wishes,

HBS:F

Faithfully,

  
Herbert Bayne Silver

Please let me know  
if I can be present  
on the date set - April 3.



March 25, 1940

Mr. Herbert Bayard Swope  
Overseas News Agency, Inc.  
165 West 46th Street  
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Swope:

Permit me to thank you for your kind letter of March 21. I shall be pleased to serve as a director of the Overseas News Agency. I am sorry that I shall not be able to attend the meeting April 3, as I am scheduled to be in Dallas, Texas on that day to open the United Jewish Appeal campaign of that community.

With all good wishes, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

AHS:BK



[1940]

CONFIDENTIAL

Washington, April 26--Barbour, of New Jersey, is going to rise in the Senate Monday afternoon and put the blast on Thorkelson, but without using his name. Senatorial courtesy forbids name-calling. But Barbour is going to make the object of his denunciation unmistakable.

From all I hear, Thorkelson won't come back to Congress. Senators Wheeler and Murray, who agree on little else, do agree that Thorkelson is a louse. And Wheeler has selected his former secretary, whose name escapes me at the moment, for Thorkelson's job.

On Wednesday the Dies Committee, according to present plans, will begin its expose of the Christian Mobilizers. First it's going to call several former members of the organization--ex-convicts--who will lay the groundwork for the main object of the investigation--Joseph E. McWilliams, who is young, handsome, unscrupulous, and dangerous.

Principal bombshell to be thrown is evidence that McWilliams was at one time a Communist, I understand. Dies hopes to bring this out.

Washington has been pretty quiet for the last few days--so far as Jewish news goes--and the most impressive thing, to me, was the strange effect of British reverses in Norway on the Hill. Every time the British suffer a setback, the isolationists lose ground. Every Allied victory (if you could call any of their operations victories) helps the isolationists. This is bizarre psychology for which I cannot account. All I know is, that's the way it is.

It may be fear. Fellows who don't give a damn about England and France feel the hot breath of Hitler on their necks when they contemplate a Nazi victory. So long as the Allies are winning, it doesn't affect them personally.

I have heard a good deal of rumbling in the Press Club--which is the best sounding board of inside opinion in Washington--since the Nazi successes. People are saying: "Let's not let England become America's Czecho-Slovakia." I think isolationists sentiment reached a peak about a month ago, and is now receding, but quite slowly.

The Presidential campaign is certain to make a cleaner division of the country on isolationist sentiment. There is certainly enough isolationism in the United States to almost force the Republicans to grab it as a popular issue. After they grab it, then it may boomerang. But that's a chance they're going to take.

Pat Frank



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WILNO  
WASHINGTON

May 2, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

I understand you will be in town next Wednesday. I  
would greatly appreciate seeing you.

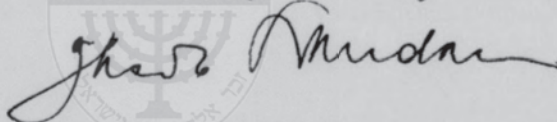
Kind regards,

JL:F

WRHS

AMERICAN JEWISH  
ARCHIVES

Sincerely yours,



JACOB LANDAU,  
Managing Director



Washington, May 23--After a day beating my way through the State Department, Congress, Justice Department--in fact every strategic seat of government--I have to tell myself:

"There is no way in which I can overemphasize the seriousness of the situation. There are no words I have to paint it black enough. There are no epithets I possess to adequately describe the stupidity of those who have betrayed civilization, and who will find they have betrayed America"

Two awful facts were thrust at me today.

1. The reports to the War Department are that not even the French 75s can stop the German heavy tanks. (Note--America has no 75 millimetre antitank guns. It does have to hundred odd 37s--less protection against tanks than you will find in a single Nazi Division.)

2. Jean Baube, the Havas correspondent who is privy to the private cables at the French Embassy, said that unless two or three hundred pursuit planes are received with the next 48 hours the situation on the continent is hopeless. The French cannot stop the Stuka dive bombers. The French have even taken their Navy planes off their carriers and are fighting them on the western front.

But worst of all is this: Two weeks ago the Britishers I know were saying the fleet would allow the destruction of the islands before they'd surrender and would continue the war from Canadian-Caribbean bases. Today, my English friends say: "Of course we'll surrender the fleet! After all, they are our wives and children--not yours." The only way you've helped us is to sell us planes at fancy prices. And when you reach the peace table, expect no help from us."

As for me, I believe that unless America goes to war within seven days all is lost. War would bring us the mobilization, direction and control we so desperately need. If we cannot do anything except organize--at least we can do that.

Pat Frank



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WILNO  
WASHINGTON

May 28, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

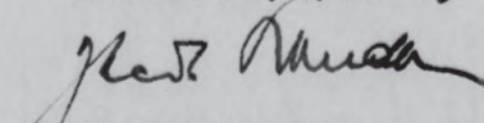
I would like to report to you about my talk with Messrs. Kaplan and Montor.

Mr. Kaplan's proposal was that we liquidate our Agency in Palestine, (Palestine Telegraphic Agency) which serves the press in Palestine, turning the field over to Palcor. He further suggested that some control be established over our service from Palestine, and similarly from London. They aim to do so by asking us to agree that no representative of the J.T.A. in Jerusalem or London may be appointed without the approval of the Palcor Agency. In other words, we are exactly where we were six years ago.

As you know from the talk I had with you and Mr. Montor sometime ago, we have every desire to cooperate fully with the Zionist Organization, and I can only reiterate that our attitude during the last six years justifies the maximum of confidence on the part of the Zionist Organization.

Mr. Kaplan stated that he intends to consult you and other Zionist leaders. It seems to me the question he poses is not only of importance to the J.T.A., but of significance to the Zionist movement whether they themselves believe in political control over news.

Sincerely yours,

  
JACOB LANDAU,  
Managing Director

JL:F



GEORGE BACKER  
PRESIDENT

JACOB BLAUSTEIN  
CHAIRMAN

HAROLD K. GUINZBURG  
VICE-PRESIDENT

JACOB LANDAU  
SECRETARY & MANAGING  
DIRECTOR

EDWARD M. M. WARBURG  
TREASURER

## Jewish Telegraphic Agency, Inc.

1560 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK CITY

LONDON  
PARIS  
JERUSALEM  
WILNO  
WASHINGTON

June 7, 1940

Dr. Abba Hillel Silver  
The Temple  
105th St at Ansel Road  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Dr. Silver:

With reference to our conversation over the telephone, I was glad to learn that you intend to speak to Mr. Kaplan.

The negotiations regarding Palcor have been dragging for three years now. I sometimes wonder whether our anxiety to reach an understanding has not been misconstrued in Jerusalem. They must ascribe this willingness on our part to weakness and not to a desire to eliminate friction in these so perilous times.

I feel very much discouraged by Mr. Kaplan's proposals. The record of the J.T.A. for the last six years speaks for itself. I do not believe that those Zionist leaders -- and I know you do not belong to them -- who do not mind that the present situation be perpetuated, are rendering a service to their cause.

It has been rather a disappointing experience, that except for you and a very few others, no real opposition has developed within the Zionist movement itself against the principle of controlled news service. I did assume that the liberal element within the Zionist movement would assert itself more vigorously in such a question. Even if the J.T.A. did not exist, a controlled news service such as Palcor should not have been introduced. While we are of course opposed to control this does not mean that we should not cooperate to the fullest extent, consult the Zionist leadership with regard to reports which may involve serious political implications. Despite the controversy with the Zionist Executive regarding the Palcor Agency, we certainly have proved our good will. It seems to me that at this juncture to continue this unfortunate situation is neither wise nor desirable.

Sincerely yours,

*Jacob Landau*  
JACOB LANDAU,  
Managing Director

JL:F

By air mail



CONFIDENTIAL

Washington, June 15 -- It is an unfortunate situation that rises in the Dominican Republic, where the Congress has just barred the entrance of all refugees who do not plan to make the island their permanent home. In other words, no more "transient" immigrants will be allowed to wait in the Dominican Republic until their quota numbers come up in the United States or a South American country.

Here's what happened:

While only a few bona fide settlers for the Sosua colony arrived before Italy barred the door to passage of all Jews, and subsequently entered the war, swarms of "transients" entered the republic. They were very much in evidence. They loitered in the parks, and they monopolized one of the more fashionable mountain resorts -- if Dominican resorts are fashionable.

Result was, strong anti-alien feeling arose, particularly in Army circles. People who had seen the Sosua project as a boon to the Dominican Republic began to change sentiment.

There were not enough permanent colonists. There were too many transients.

Everyone was pulling strings to get a cousin, or an uncle, or a friend into the Dominican Republic, for it was at least a temporary haven.

In actual fact, however, the new regulations are not likely to do immediate harm. Transient refugees can not get there from Europe now, in any case. And the law does not affect colonists.

Pat Frank



CONFIDENTIAL

Washington, June 16 -- A charge that James T. Nicholson, Jr the Red Cross man who toured Poland, is pro-Nazi and an "obstructionist" is being investigated by Secretary of the Interior Harold Ickes.

The charge is being made by a group who came to Washington to form a committee to bring evacuated children to Canada and the United States from England and France. The group was headed by Mrs. Sandor Rado, the wife of the noted New York psychiatrist. She's Swiss, and very prominent in refugee work. Others with her were Mrs. Ruth Swarthout, mother of the singer; Mrs. Regine Holzwasser, of San Francisco; and Alfred Bergman, a retired Army officer.

They went to see Ickes, and Solicitor General Biddle, and Miss Katharine Lenroot, head of the U.S. Children's Bureau, and at all these places received encouragement. But when they went to the Red Cross they encountered Nicholson, and in the words of Mrs. Rado: "All of us were shocked by his pro-Nazi attitude."

They quoted Nicholson as saying the Nazis were doing great things in Poland, that the Jews and Poles were not being mistreated, and that in his estimation there was no necessity of transporting the children to this country, since the Nazi "would take care of them better than the French or British."

One thing he said, according to Mrs. Rado, was: "It's a shame the Red Cross isn't allowed to tell the truth about conditions in Poland." He said that all the accounts of persecution in Poland were exaggerated.

When Nicholson was asked, what about the Pope's statements on Poland, he only sneered (so they say) and said: "Why, those reports came from a Polish Cardinal!"



When Nicholson, who is an Assistant Chairman of the Red Cross, came back from Europe he held a press conference, and at that conference refused to discuss the reports of atrocities. A cub reporter for the Washington Daily News misquoted Nicholson, saying he had denied there was persecution in Poland. Subsequently this Washington Daily News story was printed in Facts in Review, the mouthpiece of the German propaganda library in New York, and it aroused quite a storm in the Red Cross.

Subsequently, Nicholson wrote me a letter in which he asserted he had been misquoted by The News. That was to keep the record straight, because he really had been misquoted, although at the interview (which I attended) he did seem to give the Nazis a pretty good break.

Anyway, the people who saw Nicholson complained to Mr. Ickes, who became interested in it, and are now preparing individual accounts of their conversation which will be sent to Mr. Ickes.

I don't know what the result will be. But I don't think any good result would come from attacking the Red Cross at this time. They're engaged in a very important drive for funds right now. And if Nicholson--even if a Nazi--was exposed and fired, it would just deliver him into the hands of the Fifth Column.

Probably Nicholson did NOT see any atrocities. He was escorted by Nazis everywhere he went, and he didn't get into Poland until things were pretty well cleaned up.

I understand that the White House, and individual congressmen, have been swamped with telegrams urging that evacuated children be brought from Europe. But Congress is very suspicious. In every humanitarian effort, it sees a plot "to bring the Jews over here."



Caroline O'Day, of New York, has drafted a bill--with the aid of Solicitor General Francis Biddle--designed to bring 10-20 thousand evacuated children to the United States. I understand that a good many Senators and Representatives have warned they won't vote for it. They think it's a subterfuge to "put over" the old Wagner program.

I can't believe that all these Congressmen who push through anti-alien laws, and vote against the simplest humanitarian acts to save children, do so because they themselves are anti-Semitic. They must be under enormous pressure from somewhere.

Incidentally, something ought to be done about the word "refugee." The word "refugee" to almost everyone, particularly Congress, means German Jews. When speaking of children to be saved from Europe, the word to use is "evacuee."

\* \* \*

A dramatic effort is being made by the Friends Service Committee, headed by Clarence Pickett, to charter a ship to leave New York not later than Wednesday to bring over to this country a few thousand children. There is tremendous need of haste.

\* \* \*

American aid--the immense aid that will be required-- to bring children to Canada from England might be well reaped. If a large proportion of the children were evacuated from the British Isles, it would be harder for Hitler to use the population of England as hostages in his coming blackmail attempt to force the surrender of the British fleet. And it would be an incentive to send the fleet to Canada to defend all that remains of British lives and civilization.

\* \* \*



As for the general situation--I can almost feel, with each Nazi victory, an American policy of appeasement growing under my feet. On The Hill the isolationists are solidifying their forces, with Lindbergh their spearhead. The country, if Congress is a true reflection of the country, is terribly confused and divided.

But I don't think Congress today mirrors the country. A portion of Congress is way behind the country. This is only a small portion--possibly twenty percent. But they're very vocal. And it is possible--so volatile a people are we--that the pendulum could swing from our present interventionist sentiment to appeasement in three or four weeks.

There is a growing move afoot to postpone the Democratic primary until September. Reason: By that time, events will have clearly shaped themselves in Europe, and the Third Term issue will be clarified. In many ways a President who is running for re-election is a "lame duck" president. We can't afford to have a "lame Duck" president in this most awesome time.

Whether we go to war now--or whether we wait until the Nazis have begun encroachments on this hemisphere--one thing is certain. We must have immediate conscription. No matter what happens to the world, whether the German victory is swift or whether there is a comparative stalemate, we must have an army of three million men within six months. Otherwise we are carrion for the picking.

Only two good pieces of news have I heard this week-end.

1. We may send some of our Flying Fortresses across immediately.
2. The British and French are using aircraft carriers to ferry our planes to England. This means no delay--means that the ships are on the Front a week after they leave Canada. If we get enough of them across before the invasion of England begins, England might--barely might--hold out "until the New World comes to the rescue of the old."

But the Achilles Heel of England is Ireland. If the Germans come into Ireland without resistance, the I.R.A. will be invading Ulster in a day, and England will be ringed by enemies. In this country, too, the alliance of Eire with the Germans would have a devastating effect.

A complete Nazi victory will split South America down the middle like a flunder. And our "good neighbors", who have never loved us overmuch anyway, will be the worst neighbors in the world. Among the probabilities, following a Nazi victory, would be:

1. A "Quisling" government, in France, will give the Nazi air bases in the French possessions in this hemisphere. All legal, too, and not a technical violation of the Monroe Doctrine.
2. Outright trade alliances between half the South American states and Germany.
3. Mexico will become our Poland, as England is our Czecho-Slovakia.

Pat Frank