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United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal, joint statements
of AHS and J. B. Wise, 1939-1940.

United Jewish Appeal for Refugees
and Overseas Needs
342 Madison Avenue
New York City

FOR RELEASE IN NEW YEAR EDITION

NEW YEAR PRESENTS GREATER RESPONSIBILITIES FOR AMERICAN JEWRY IN LIGHT
OF WORSENING SITUATION OVERSEAS, SAY RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
AND RABBI JONAH B. WISE

- - - - -

The responsibilities of American Jewry will rise during the year to come as the impact of war strikes ever larger areas abroad, Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise, National Chairmen of the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs, declared in a New Year's statement to the American Jewish community.

"War intensifies every human problem and instead of diminishing, increases every human responsibility," the statement read.

The New Year's message stressed the generous support of American Jewry to the campaign of the United Jewish Appeal and said that it is the function of the Jews of America to be "messengers of hope to those who would otherwise be completely submerged in the morass of European war."

The text of the statement reads:

"This New Year presents to the Jewish community of the United States problems as well as opportunities which are unprecedented in our history as Americans and as Jews. The United Jewish Appeal holds that it cannot in any way deviate from the request which it made for twenty millions of dollars to meet actual distress and human needs arising from the persecution of Jews in Central Europe. It calls attention to the fact that the Jewish community of the United States has during the past eight months loyally and substantially supported the attempt to bring together a fund which would meet the needs of the refugees here, in Eastern Europe and in Palestine.

"The situation has changed so rapidly in the last few weeks that no statement of present intentions can be made which is not in some way a prophecy of what is to happen. It is, therefore, not the intention of the United Jewish Appeal at the present time to alter in any way its previous arrangement with the American community, but it is its intention to continue as vigorously as possible to provide funds which are now more than ever needed.

"War intensifies every human problem and instead of diminishing, increases every human responsibility. America is a neutral nation and nothing that Jews of this country have planned in any way departs from the

strictest and highest standards of neutrality incumbent upon the citizens of the United States.

"At the same time we feel that we are free -- nay, that we are indeed bound -- to a greater generosity to those who enjoy neither the neutrality nor the freedom which gives us the liberty of action which should be used for the highest humanitarian purpose. America still stands tall and aloof as a watch-tower in the turmoil of the world of today. It is a symbol of hope to dying and doomed millions. As good Americans we should share that distinction and continue to be messengers of hope to those who would otherwise be completely submerged in the morass of European war."



(9/7/39)

Text of New Year Message by Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and

Rabbi Jonah B. Wise

1939
WJA

This New Year presents to the Jewish community of the United States problems as well as opportunities which are unprecedented in our history as Americans and as Jews. The United Jewish Appeal holds that it cannot in any way deviate from the request which it made for twenty millions of dollars to meet actual distress and human needs arising from the persecution of Jews in Central Europe. It calls attention to the fact that the Jewish community of the United States has during the past eight months loyally and substantially supported the attempt to bring together a fund which would meet the needs of the refugees here, in ~~Eastern~~ Europe and in Palestine.

The situation has changed so rapidly in the last few weeks that no statement of present intentions can be made which is not in some way a prophecy of what is to happen. It is, therefore, not the intention of the United Jewish Appeal at the present time to alter in any way its previous arrangement with the American community, but it is its intention to continue as vigorously as possible to provide funds which are now more than ever needed. There must be no illusion on the part of our American Jews that war is a means of escape for them from their responsibilities. Quite the contrary. War intensifies every human problem and instead of diminishing, increases every human responsibility. America is a neutral nation and nothing that Jews of this country have planned in any way departs from the strictest and highest standards of neutrality incumbent upon the citizens of the United States. Therefore at this New Year we ~~must review all our obligations~~ ~~should conduct ourselves~~ ~~as citizens~~ ~~to~~ ~~the law of the land and the ideals of the country.~~ ^{must review all our obligations on a new basis with} At the same time we feel that we are free - nay, that we are indeed bound - to a greater generosity to those who enjoy neither the neutrality nor the freedom which gives us the liberty of action which should be used for the highest humanitarian purpose. America still stands tall and aloof as a watch-tower in the

turmoil of the world of today. It is a symbol of hope to dying and doomed millions. As good Americans we should share that distinction and continue to be a messenger of hope to those who would otherwise be completely submerged in the morass of European war.



UNITED JEWISH APPEAL (Inc.) FOR REFUGEES AND OVERSEAS NEEDS

ON BEHALF OF
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC.
UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and
NATIONAL CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE FUND, INC.

National Chairmen

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
RABBI JONAH B. WISE

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

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September 8, 1939

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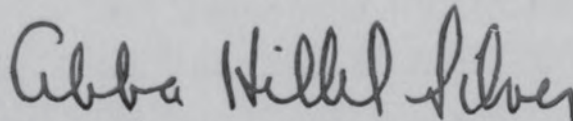
Dear Friend:

We are sending you a memorandum which is enclosed herewith. We are sending this memorandum at the urgent request of a number of community leaders who wish to know the present status of fund-raising and the present requirements, as far as we can determine them, of the beneficiaries of the United Jewish Appeal for 1939. This memorandum is for your own use and is confidential. No part of it is to be quoted in print. You are, however, free to use it in any discussion you wish to undertake with your community leaders and community contributors.

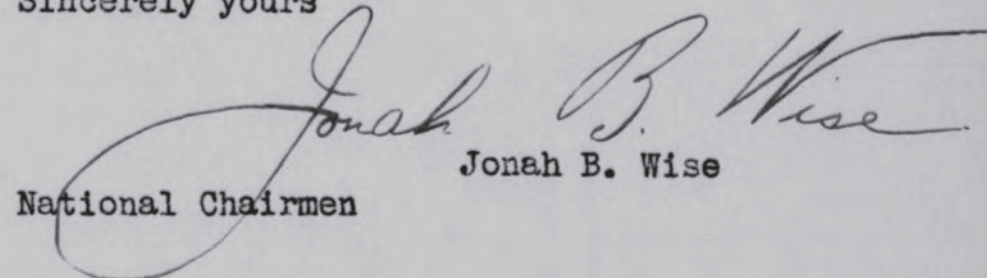
The United Jewish Appeal will keep you informed as to the situation as frequently as possible. If there are any questions you care to ask, please do not hesitate to write and we shall try to answer them.

With kindest regards and best wishes for the New Year, we remain

Sincerely yours



Abba Hillel Silver



Jonah B. Wise

National Chairmen

\$20,000,000 is the National Goal for 1939

September 8, 1939

STATEMENT

The United Jewish Appeal was created to deal with the normal and emergency tasks of Jewish needs in peace time. It had not been envisaged that it would have to deal with war necessities or to meet the problems that war would bring to its constituent agencies. Though conscious of the responsibilities added to its program because of the European conflict, the United Jewish Appeal is not planning at this time to enlarge its call upon American Jewry over and above the \$20,000,000 for 1939. But in view of questions that have come to us, we feel it urgent to call the attention of community leaders to these facts:

- (a) That the United Jewish Appeal requires funds for its agencies with greater dispatch than ever before, and
- (b) That the country may be assured that the agencies within the United Jewish Appeal, by reason of personnel, machinery and experience, are properly equipped to adapt themselves to the new situation created by war.

The need for immediate funds for the constituent agencies of the United Jewish Appeal is so great that communities that have already held their drives are being urged to remit immediately as large resources as can be mobilized. Communities which have not yet held their 1939 campaigns are being urged to organize their fund-raising efforts as promptly as possible in order that the minimum of \$20,000,000 may be fully realized. It is evident to every observer of the European scene that \$20,000,000 is truly a minimum.

The situations confronting the agencies of the United Jewish Appeal are as follows:

1. The National Refugee Service, Inc., which is represented in the United Jewish Appeal through the National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc. has so

far exceeded in its rate of expenditure its original allotment. There is no prospect of anything but a large demand upon its resources up to the end of the year 1939. The numbers of transient refugees now waiting in countries outside Germany for admission to the United States are so large that it is quite unlikely that there will be any diminution from the quota permitted by Federal law. There will be no easing up on the obligation to meet the problems of migration to the United States even though Germany may not permit Jews to leave the country during the hostilities. The problems of rerouting, resettlement, maintenance and employment are by no means changed. Therefore, we cannot expect to alter the rate of expenditure of the National Refugee Service, Inc. As far as the United Jewish Appeal is concerned, we must provide it with funds on the basis of the \$20,000,000 appeal.

2. The Joint Distribution Committee has been forced in recent months to take over much larger obligations than it anticipated when the \$20,000,000 budget was agreed upon. It is confronted today with a grave emergency situation in all the countries of Europe, whether belligerent or neutral, in which it has expended considerable sums in the past several years. The countries at war with Germany, such as England, France and Poland, are facing problems that require immediate attention from all their nationals. A similar situation obtains in such presently neutral countries as Holland, Belgium, Switzerland and Italy, which are affected by their proximity to the warring nations. In all these lands local collection of funds for assistance to refugees is being seriously handicapped. It must also be apparent that Jewish citizens in these countries must withdraw from the fields of welfare and refugee activity to which they have given leadership for so many years in order to devote their services to matters of immediate national interest in their respective countries. Reports from our representatives in Poland indicate rapidly mounting needs for evacuation, relief, shelter and food for women, children and old people. In the face of all of these situations, the

J.D.C. approved an advance September budget of \$690,000 plus an initial emergency grant of \$500,000, making a total of \$1,900,000 for September alone to begin to meet the war appeals which have been received and which are anticipated. This does not state the whole problem of the Joint Distribution Committee for, as you know, it is responsible for widespread assistance in all parts of the world. War by no means reduces these responsibilities, but increases them.

3. The United Palestine Appeal is faced with the necessity of backing up the work in Palestine for the benefit of those who have settled there and of those who are going there now in larger numbers than had been anticipated before the outbreak of war. This number is increased so substantially that previous figures are of no value. Because of the necessity of evacuation of refugees from many European countries which may involve new conditions and opportunities in Palestine the problem becomes one which involves a very serious financial responsibility. This becomes more true when it is remembered that England, France and Poland which hitherto shared substantially in the Palestine upbuilding program cannot be relied upon for further help in view of the domestic defense requirements. With thousands of Jews in Palestine standing as defenders by the side of Great Britain, we must see to it that the peaceful task of reconstruction which they have laid aside may be continued in increased measures by others. Palestine Jewry will need large resources for the maintenance of the structure that has already been created and for the enlargement of the opportunities that may be afforded.

This statement is made as brief as possible. The details can be had if you desire them.

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UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and
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342 MADISON AVENUE
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MRS. FELIX M. WARBURG
RABBI STEPHEN S. WISE

October 12, 1939

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the United Jewish Appeal, of which you are a member, will be held on Monday evening, October 30th, at 8 o'clock at the United Jewish Appeal offices, 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

Among the matters we shall consider are the progress of our \$20,000,000 campaign to date, the situation that confronts the agencies within the United Jewish Appeal as a result of the outbreak of war and similar issues affecting the progress of our work.

We trust that you will make every effort to be present.

Sincerely yours,

Abba Hillel Silver

Abba Hillel Silver

National Chairmen

Jonah B. Wise

Jonah B. Wise

MEH

Co-Chairmen

PAUL BAERWALD
RABBI SOLOMON GOLDMAN
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ELIHU D. STONE
and officers

\$20,000,000 is the National Goal for 1939

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

January 13, 1940

Editor
The Jewish Chronicle
47 and 49 Moore Lane
London, E.C. 2
England

Dear Sir:

Having always regarded, and continuing to regard, the Jewish Chronicle as the world's foremost publication of Jewish interest, I hesitated long before sending any communication that might be interpreted as a lack of appreciation of the consistent service which the Jewish Chronicle has rendered to the cause of Palestine in all its phases.

However, my admiration for the Jewish Chronicle has for a long time been tinged by amusement at what so often passes as news of America in your columns. This amusement was transformed into a more positive quality, however, when I saw the story in your issue of December 8, in which there purported to be a description of the United Jewish Appeal, and the participation therein of the United Palestine Appeal.

May I say, first, that the results obtained by the United Jewish Appeal in 1939, the largest in the history of similar fund-raising efforts among American Jewry, were due to the combined efforts of both the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal, which are equal partners in the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs.

I would not wish to draw any invidious distinctions between the services performed for the United Jewish Appeal by one or another of the men and women associated with either the Joint Distribution Committee or the United Palestine Appeal. It might be pointed out, however, that Dr. Abba Hillel Silver, National Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal, and one of the two National Chairmen of the United Jewish Appeal, visited more communities and opened more major campaigns than any other personality connected with the United Jewish Appeal.

It should also be noted that the officers of the United Palestine Appeal, numbering among them such men as Dr. Stephen S. Wise, Mr. Louis Lipsky, Dr. Solomon Goldman, Dr. Israel Goldstein and Judge Morris Rothenberg, constituted far more than 50% of the speakers whose efforts and stimulation helped to evoke the unprecedented response given by hundreds of communities to the 1939 United Jewish Appeal. Of the two treasurers of the United Jewish Appeal, one is Mr. Arthur M. Lamport, Treasurer of the United Palestine Appeal, whose efforts in the national campaign, and whose services as Co-Chairman in the Greater New York United Jewish Appeal, contributed substantially to the final outcome of the campaign.

In the second place, it should be noted that your correspondent's reference to the Joint Distribution Committee as "the parent body" of the United Jewish Appeal is erroneous. The United Jewish Appeal is a corporation whose board of directors is equally divided between members representing the United Palestine Appeal and those representing the Joint Distribution Committee. It happens, moreover, that there are two Executive Vice-Chairmen of the United Jewish Appeal who are responsible for every phase of the technical administration of the United Jewish Appeal campaign. I, as Executive Director of the United Palestine Appeal, am one of the Associate Vice-Chairmen in that capacity, and can assure you that the forces interested in Palestine, as leaders of local campaigns, as substantial contributors, and as workers, made their appropriate contribution to the final outcome of what is known to be the most successful overseas campaign in American Jewish History.

UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

- 2 -

The United Jewish Appeal received pledges during 1939 of approximately \$17,000,00. Of that sum \$4,000,000 was allotted to the United Palestine Appeal. Your correspondent remarks that the "campaign partnership with the 'Joint' has been a boon for Zion's budgetary needs." It ought to be noted, for the sake of the record, that if the United Palestine Appeal received a larger sum in 1939 than in 1938, it was due, not especially to its participation in a unified campaign with the Joint Distribution Committee, but rather to the fact that American Jewry generally contributed $2\frac{1}{2}$ times what it did to the same agencies in 1938.

It is true that the unification of efforts for overseas causes provided the foundation on which there could be built a more satisfactory and concerted appeal for greater generosity, but it is safe to say that the United Palestine Appeal, on the basis of ratios established in communities throughout the nation for many years, could have received at least a similar amount from American Jewry in 1939, if the same level of giving had been maintained in a separate as in a unified campaign.

In general, there seems to be a misconception as to the methods of fund-raising in the United States. No longer does the United Palestine Appeal or the Joint Distribution Committee as a unit appeal to individual communities with its respective needs and requirements. During the past five years there has developed an entirely new system of fund-raising which governs more than 200 of the major communities in America. These communities have one campaign, once a year, for all causes.

At the close of the campaign, or sometimes at the beginning, there is a determination of the allocations to be established for local, domestic, and overseas requirements. Every individual in the community who contributes to any cause embraced within a welfare fund, makes his contribution to the welfare fund. In the event that an individual contributor in the community is dissatisfied with other causes and determines to send his particular contribution to just one agency in New York or elsewhere, the sum of his contribution is deducted from the total allotment made to that particular cause by the local welfare fund.

The day has long passed when any one could say with justice that non-Zionists or Zionists contribute the funds raised in this country for overseas purposes. The distinctions have been broken down in the local communities, where the individual Jew knows that he is giving to all causes that have been determined as important.

That mass sentiment for Palestine is strong, is a truism recognized even by your American correspondent. It is interesting to note, therefore, that the number of contributors in each community has undergone sharp increases in the past few years. Thus, though there were only 4,000 contributors to the Cleveland Welfare Fund in 1935, there were 22,000 in 1939. The same ratio of increase could be found virtually in every community in the Country. The reliance, therefore, upon a few men is no longer the bulwark of campaigns conducted in the United States.

The dispatch of your American correspondent in the issue of December 8 seems to have been written without knowledge of the dispatch appearing in your issue of December 1, in which the statement is made that, "American Jewry is on the whole Zionist-minded, or, at least, sympathetic toward the Zionist idea."

It is a matter of regret to me that my first communication to the Jewish Chronicle should be one taking issue with its news, but I felt that I was justified, at least once, in pointing out my own wonder that the Jewish Chronicle, which has been a great organ for Palestine, should be served in the United States by a series of correspondents notorious for their anti-Zionist position.

Sincerely yours,

Henry Montor
Executive Director

HM:ET

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R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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

Feb. 2, 1940

Dr. Leo Jung
New York, N. Y.

I will be in New York next Thursday
afternoon, stopping at Commodore Hotel.

Abba Hillel Silver

- collect -

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WESTERN UNION

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

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CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

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FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

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DR A H SILVER=

THE TEMPLE=

WRHS



DOCTOR BREUER RABBI BLAU OF AGUDAH ANXIOUS DISCUSSING
WITH YOU MATTERS OF UTMOST IMPORTANCE TOUCHING PALESTINE
PLEASE RESERVE AN HOUR FOR THEM AT YOUR NEXT VISIT TO
NEWYORK IF THAT BE MUCH DELAYED THEY ARE READY TO GO
TO CLEVE=

LEO JUNG. (

C
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P
Y

JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE
175 East Broadway
New York City

February 9, 1940

Mr. Edward M. M. Warburg, Chairman
New York United Jewish Appeal
261 Fifth Avenue
New York City

Dear Mr. Warburg:

We have learned with deep regret that in spite of every effort made by the American ORT Federation to be included nationally in the forthcoming United Jewish Appeal Campaign, a definite decision in the matter has not been reached as yet.

We, the representatives of the Jewish Labor Committee, believe that it would be in the interest of every organization connected with relief work to have a really united campaign in the United States for overseas relief. However, if for some reason a definite decision about the inclusion of ORT nationally cannot be reached at the present time, we want to say that we are vitally concerned that ORT be included at least in the New York City Campaign.

The Jewish Labor movement, the trade unions, Landsmanschaften, Workmen's Circle and hundreds of other Jewish organizations which are affiliated with the Jewish Labor Committee, are determined to carry on an energetic campaign for overseas relief. We have always considered the ORT a very important agency, to whom we have always given full support. We therefore consider now that it would be in the interest of all organizations to have one real united campaign for New York City, and thus avoid the necessity of ORT to have an independent campaign among labor, as well as among the various trades, and business.

We want to emphasize again that we are very much concerned about a decision regarding inclusion of ORT in the New York City campaign, and want to hear from you as soon as possible so that we can arrange our own Campaign plans accordingly.

Anticipating your kind cooperation in this matter, we remain

Sincerely yours,
JEWISH LABOR COMMITTEE

(Signed)

Adolph Held, Chairman
N. Chanin, Chairman Office Committee

ABBA HILLEL SILVER
CLEVELAND, OHIO

April 17, 1940

Mr. George A. Levy,
Hotel Adolphus,
Dallas, Tex.

Dear Mr. Levy:

In a few days Jews will be celebrating the Passover holiday. This festival of the liberation of the Jewish people will mock hundreds of thousands of Jews who are being enslaved or destroyed. American Jewry will be the only group in a free, peaceful, democratic land able to understand and appreciate the symbolism of this Passover.

Is it not appropriate that we should utilize the channel of the United Jewish Appeal to express a measure of our gratitude that Providence has permitted us to be on the west instead of east of the Atlantic?

What needs to be emphasized at this time is that we have it within our power to liberate Jewish life. The greatest enterprise in that program is the maintenance and expansion of the Jewish homeland in Palestine, which is the lodestar of great masses of Jews begging for the chance to share with other Jews in the building of a secure, dignified life in the land of Israel.

Funds received through the United Jewish Appeal maintain the agencies of the United Palestine Appeal, the central organ of American Jewry to further immigration, colonization, land purchase and general development in Palestine. The tasks in Palestine are increasingly urgent, as the Hitler madness grips new portions of the Continent.

Thousands of refugees, undernourished, ill after weeks and months of hazardous travel on the Mediterranean, have been made the responsibility of the Jewish Agency. Food, clothing, shelter, medical attention and ultimate integration into the economic life of the country require far larger resources than could have been realized only six months ago.

War has affected various branches of Palestine's economy, including primarily the citrus industry, building and various other industries. Widespread unemployment has not yet been curbed. With private initiative unable or unwilling to function in this crisis, it is the national institutions like the Jewish Agency which must come to the rescue of a network of activities on which the lives of hundreds of thousands of Jews are based. The Jewish Agency has aided old enterprises and helped new ones in order to offset unemployment; it has assisted construction programs to absorb workers. Above all, it has expended large sums for fundamental relief and social welfare purposes.

The Jewish community of Palestine has done more than its share. It has imposed a voluntary emergency tax for the very same purposes embraced in the United Jewish Appeal. The poorest worker and middle class groups alike have

taxed themselves for monthly contributions ranging from ten to twenty percent of their entire income. Here indeed is a model of sacrificial generosity for emulation!

Recent discussion of the unjust, unwise land legislation enacted for Palestine by Colonial Secretary Malcolm MacDonald has obscured the fact that in the "free" zone alone, there is twice as much land still to be bought as the Jewish National Fund was able to acquire in thirty-eight years. American Jewry, which is genuinely concerned with land for colonization purposes, will take heed from recent experiences and mobilize all possible resources so that precious land may be quickly bought to settle the thousands of Jews who continue to enter Palestine month after month.

A few facts in review of Palestine's history in 1939 serve to remind us that Palestine is the great reservoir of Jewish strength and consolation, of Jewish man-power and self-affirmation. From a community of 55,000 souls during the last war, the Yishuv today exceeds 500,000. Land possessions of 420,000 dunams in 1914 compare with 1,533,000 dunams owned by Jews today. In 1914 there were 44 Jewish colonies, with 12,000 Jews earning a living on the soil, while today there are 254 settlements giving immediate livelihood to 130,000. In the last three years 55 new colonies were erected, six of them since the outbreak of war. Whatever the difficulties Palestine industry is experiencing in this transition period, it cannot be forgotten that Jewish production in 1914 was valued at less than £500,000, while in 1939 Jewish industry produced goods worth more than £10,000,000.

In Palestine there is being built a permanent, sound economy for the readjustment of the Jew physically and spiritually. If American Jewry has imagination and statesmanship as well as compassion and generosity, it will dedicate itself in 1940, through the United Jewish Appeal, to help save the flower of Jewish youth in Europe through settlement in Palestine.

The task of plucking the victims of Hitlerism from imminent destruction will require a new conception of individual responsibility for the salvage of Jews. It will demand from Jewish leadership in every community a fair interpretation of the relationship between the emergent, unpostponable tasks of relief and rescue and the less critical problems that face the American Jewish community.

I send you best wishes for a joyous Passover holiday, in the hope that through your active assistance thousands of Jews may be set on the path toward freedom in Palestine.

Very cordially yours,

Abba Hillel Silver
Abba Hillel Silver

MBC

\$23,000,000 is the National Goal for 1940
UNITED JEWISH APPEAL (Inc.) FOR REFUGEES
AND OVERSEAS NEEDS

ON BEHALF OF
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UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and
NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

May 23, 1940

National Chairmen

RABBI ABBA HILLEL SILVER
RABBI JONAH B. WISE

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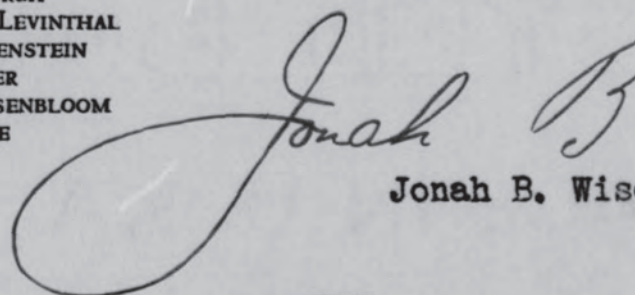
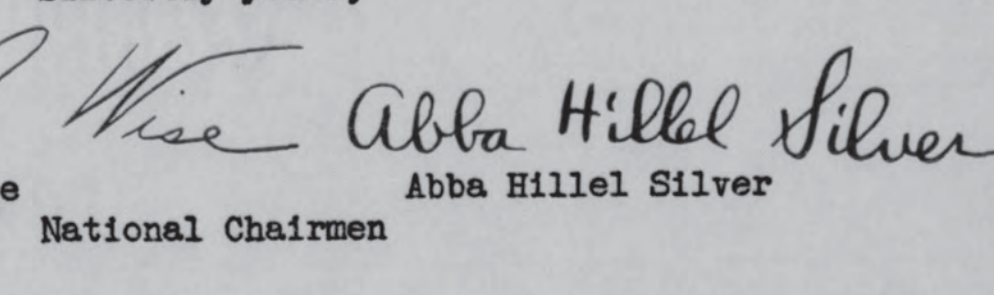
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and officers

In response to many inquiries as to the effects of the spread of war and the invasion of Belgium and Holland on the problems and programs of the constituent agencies of the United Jewish Appeal, we feel that our friends among the Jewish leaders throughout the country are entitled to the fullest information available.

What can be done? What must be done? These questions we have sought to answer in the light of the most recent developments in Europe. We urge you to read the enclosed statement which presents the facts in the present situation.

Sincerely yours,


Jonah B. Wise

Abba Hillel Silver
National Chairmen

SFW
Enclosure

THE EFFECTS OF THE WAR ON THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL

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The invasion of Holland and Belgium has led many of our friends throughout the country to inquire what effect the extension of the war in the West has had upon the work of the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs.

We realize the concern created in the Jewish community by the catastrophic situation and we recognize that our friends have a right to know what the three agencies included in the United Jewish Appeal can do and what they cannot do under the circumstances.

In a review of the current situation, it is readily understood that conditions are still in a state of flux. Nevertheless, a number of impelling facts stand out. Among these is that the calls upon the agencies in the United Jewish Appeal are more urgent than ever before and that the war has naturally created new difficulties. Standing in the way of continued and effective operation of these agencies, however, is NOT WAR, nor POLITICS, but ---- LACK OF FUNDS.

As long as funds are available, these programs will continue:

THE PROGRAM OF THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

OLD GERMANY: 220,000 Jews remain in Germany. One-fourth require day-to-day relief. Schools must be maintained for 10,000 Jewish children, homes and hospitals for the aged, medical service for the population as a whole. Emigration service is required for up to 1,500 persons per month as long as transportation remains available. Today the J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

AUSTRIA: 50,000 Jews remain in Austria. 45,000 require day-to-day relief and feeding. Schools must be provided for 1,400 children, homes for 2,500 aged, emigration aid for as many as 2,000 persons per month as long as transportation facilities remain available. Today the J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

BOHEMIA-MORAVIA: 75,000 Jews remain in the Protectorate. Relief, medical service, child care, emigration aid must be provided for these people. Today J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

SLOVAKIA: 90,000 native Jews, 3,500 Polish war refugees and a considerable group of German-Jewish refugees remain. 10,000 native Jews and an equal number of refugees must be fed daily, and other emergency services rendered. Today J.D.C. is able to continue rendering these services.

FRANCE: 42,000 refugees are in France. 12,500 require food and lodging daily. Medical aid, child care, vocational training must also be provided. There are also 150,000 East European Jews in France, of whom large numbers, economically dislocated by war, require relief. Today the J.D.C. is able to continue rendering

all these services. In the past ten days thousands of Belgian and Dutch refugees have clogged French highways. Large numbers of Jews among them are destitute, starving. Today the J.D.C. is geared to help them.

SWITZERLAND: 18,000 refugees are menaced by the new developments. But 3,000 of these still depend on J.D.C. for their daily bread and shelter. Today the J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

BELGIUM-HOLLAND: 40,000 refugees were domiciled in these countries when they were invaded by Germany. The native Jewish populations numbered 220,000. Communication with these people is at present cut off. In 1939, the J.D.C. expended 10 percent of its funds in Belgium and Holland.

OTHER REFUGEE LANDS: Groups of refugees remain in Hungary, Italy, Yugoslavia, Latvia and other European countries. These require relief and emigration assistance where possible. In all these countries J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

LATIN AMERICA: 85,000 refugees now settled in these lands. Immigration continues. Bolivia and Chile alone permitted 14,000 new refugees to settle in 1939. 18 committees in South and Central America receive help from J.D.C. which last year amounted to \$500,000. Today the J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

SHANGHAI: 18,000 refugees live here in dire need. Funds once provided by British Jews are now cut off. In 1939, J.D.C. granted \$103,000. Vastly increased sums now needed for feeding, shelter and other relief services. Today J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

POLAND: 500,000 war victims must be fed at free kitchens. Clothing needed for 200,000. Shelter required for 20,000 orphaned children in Warsaw and food for 100,000 children throughout the country. Medical service, protection against epidemics are primary necessities. For such work J.D.C. has already expended huge sums. Today the J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

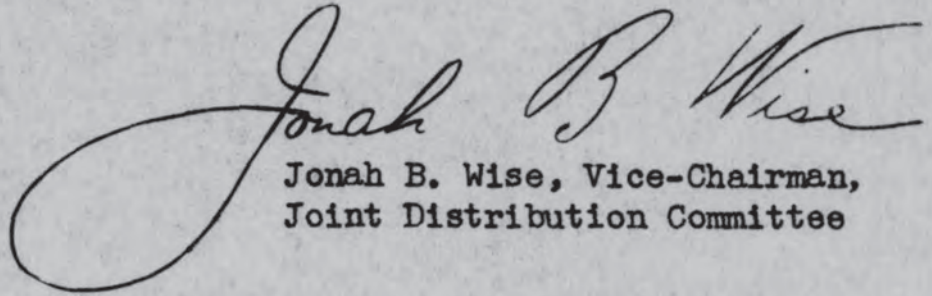
LITHUANIA: 15,000 Polish Jewish war refugees are in the Vilna and Kaunas areas. 10,000 must be fed daily at free kitchens and more than 6,000 provided with lodging. Fully half of Vilna's native Jewish population of 60,000 require relief. 2,000 refugees from Germany, Austria and Memel throughout Lithuania also require relief. A full program of relief, medical aid, child care and other emergency services must be provided all these groups. Today J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

RUMANIA: 900,000 Jews live in Rumania; 25 percent of them have been denationalized and deprived of the right to work. Grinding poverty is experienced by the others. Relief, child care, medical service, economic aid must be provided. 1,600 Polish war refugees and 400 German refugees require day-to-day relief. Today J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

HUNGARY: 600,000 Jews live in Hungary, subject to its racial laws which have thrown out of employment heads of families totalling 200,000 persons. Relief

work, child care, medical service, vocational retraining are now an urgent necessity for these people. Similar aid must be given 1,500 German refugees and 500 Polish war refugees in the country. Today J.D.C. is able to continue rendering all these services.

But these services can only be continued if funds are made available through contributions to the United Jewish Appeal.



Jonah B. Wise, Vice-Chairman,
Joint Distribution Committee

THE PROGRAM OF THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

The rebuilding of the Jewish homeland in Palestine takes on ever greater significance as the foundations of Jewish life in an increasing number of lands are undermined or completely destroyed. The preservation of this great center of Jewish existence and assistance to those who have the need and the opportunity to find haven in Palestine depend almost exclusively today on the Jews of America.

The United Palestine Appeal, one of the three agencies in the United Jewish Appeal, finds its financial obligations and its capacity for service to harassed Jewry reaching unprecedented levels. The ravages of war-time offer a unique test to the capacity for statesmanship of the Jewish people in solidifying the gains in Jewish Palestine.

IMMIGRATION

During the six-month period ending September 30, 1940, over 9,000 Jews will be enabled to enter Palestine through the issuance of immigration certificates through the Jewish Agency for Palestine. It should be noted that in the first seven months of the present War, approximately 14,000 Jews entered Palestine, including certificated and non-certificated immigrants. The consequent enlargement of the financial burdens of the Jewish Agency has been in the direction of relief assistance, economic integration and housing.

As this statement is written, 600 Jews are on their way to Palestine, with immigration certificates provided by the Jewish Agency. Four hundred are in Trieste, one hundred in Stockholm and ninety-one in Vilna.

One question frequently asked relates to the possibilities of immigration if, whatever the reason, the Mediterranean is closed to traffic. Provision has already been made for this contingency. An agreement has been reached with the English

and Russian Governments whereby immigrants leaving Stockholm and Vilna may be routed through Odessa. Constanza is another port on the Black Sea through which immigrants may be routed. As a last resort, negotiations are now under way to perfect a system whereby immigrants may be brought to Istanbul and transferred to Palestine by the land route.

The great problem bound up with facilitation of immigrant transport is that of financial resources, which makes larger funds for the United Jewish Appeal imperative if the opportunities for saving Jewish lives may be fully utilized.

Another new factor introduced by the catastrophic events of the past few weeks is the elimination of many Jews who were prepared to take advantage of the capitalist immigration visas for Palestine. The Jewish Agency is now endeavoring to secure substitute certificates in other categories, which would enable those without means to leave Europe for Palestine within the framework of the current immigration schedule. This achievement alone would require far greater financial resources, for, obviously, the capitalist immigrant brings capital to the country, while those without means require a larger expenditure of capital on their behalf for transportation and economic assistance.

In the first seven months of the war, the Jewish Agency spent on immigration, training, and relief for refugees, £75,000.

COLONIZATION

A very large part of the budget of the national funds (Palestine Foundation Fund, fiscal instrument of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, and the Jewish National Fund) incorporated in the United Palestine Appeal is now devoted to agricultural settlement and the purchase of agricultural land. In the five-month period from October 1, 1939 to March 1, 1940, the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Jewish National Fund expended a total of £926,770. Of that sum, £236,642 was used for the purchase of new agricultural land, £143,990 for agricultural colonies; and £205,182 represented continued payments on land and colonies established within the past few years. Fifty-five new settlements were created since April, 1936 alone.

It may be stated, confidentially, at this time that the Jewish Agency and the Jewish National Fund have just initiated a program involving the establishment of fifteen new settlements in every section of Palestine in the next six months. The entire program, when completed, will require £800,000, but for the next six months the two national funds will require £400,000 to go through with this vast new program of reasserting Jewish determination to expand colonization opportunities in Palestine.

LAND PURCHASE

As American Jewry has become aware by this time, even under the previously announced land transfer regulations, there are, outside of the Negev, 750,000 dunams (four dunams to an acre) of land which can be acquired by Jews in Palestine. The

Jewish National Fund is urging the largest possible financial assistance to take advantage of these opportunities.

In the period from October 1, 1939 to March 1, 1940, the Jewish National Fund acquired the following land: 2,032 dunams in Judea; 4,683 in the Sharon Plain; 1,024 in the Beisan Plain; 339 in Jordan Valley; 2 dunams in Lower Galilee; 8,618 in the Huleh Zone, 5,404 in the Galilee mountains and 1,645 dunams in the Acre zone.

In sixty years of land purchase in Palestine, Jews acquired only 1,500,000 dunams of land. Was there ever a greater challenge than now to the generosity and imagination of Jews to obtain as much soil as possible in Palestine today for additional colonization?

SOCIAL RELIEF

The war and its repercussions on every phase of the economic life of Palestine, together with the continued large-scale entry of immigrants, certificated and non-certificated, have thrust new and unexpected responsibilities on the Jewish Agency for Palestine. In the last six months, the Jewish Agency and the Vaad Leumi, Jewish National Council of Palestine, have spent a total of £80,000 on social relief alone. In the next six months, the Jewish Agency expects to spend for social relief and for unemployment works that will eliminate relief a total sum of about £60,000.

All of these figures, whether in the category of social relief, immigration or colonization, are dependent on a continuation of the present situation. If the position in Europe should deteriorate and a new flood of refugees spill into Palestine, and prices rise in Palestine itself, there will be an increase of need in every direction, perhaps even a doubling.

ECONOMIC POSITION

The obligations on the Jewish Agency, as the public instrument of Jewish development in Palestine, are linked to the economic position in Palestine. The period is still one of transition from peace-time to war-time economy. There are certain signs of improvement, as compared with six months ago, in trade, in mixed agriculture and in industry. As a result of the war, there has been a decrease of imports and an increase in demand for local products, due, firstly to the large military force in Palestine, and, secondly to immigration. A bigger market has been created for agricultural as well as industrial products. Another encouraging sign has been the decrease of the totally unemployed from 18,000 last September to ten or 11,000 today. There has been only a slight decrease, however, in the needs of the middle class elements, for whom assistance must be provided. A social problem also arises out of the immigrants who, because of their non-certificated character, cannot be placed in occupations. But even in these fields, there has been some slight improvement because of trade conditions. Another interesting index is that in the first three months of 1940 some fifteen new factories, employing several hun-

dred people, have been erected. This is significant largely as a symbol of the spirit in Palestine.

One other favorable factor is that this year's general crop is a good one so that the economy of the country will be greatly helped. In addition, new opportunities for expansion in the transport field are being opened. Use of the new Jerusalem-Cairo road and the Haifa-Baghdad highway, together with the large transport requirements for troops, is giving employment to many.

Despite the difficulties and the causes for anxiety, there is no panic in the Jewish community of Palestine. Everyone goes forward with his tasks in order to maintain a normal form of life.

LOSSES IN INCOME

The destruction of organized Jewish communities in Europe gives American Jewry a preponderant responsibility for the maintenance and expansion of the Jewish homeland in Palestine. An instance of the losses sustained by the Palestine Foundation Fund and the Jewish National Fund is indicated in the fact that with the Nazi conquest of Poland, Scandinavia, Belgium and Holland, these institutions have lost an income in excess of £60,000.

POLITICAL SITUATION

A factor which assumed much weight in many minds was the White Paper on Palestine issued by the Chamberlain-MacDonald Government. With Winston Churchill as the head of the new British Cabinet, a new constellation is on the horizon for Palestine. Clement Attlee, Arthur Greenwood, Herbert Morrison, A. V. Alexander, distinguished Labor members of the Cabinet and staunch, veteran friends of Jewish Palestine, are committed by their Party program to facilitate Jewish development in Palestine. After the new Cabinet went into office, the Labor Party at its Bournemouth Conference went on record once again in complete endorsement of the Jewish National Home objectives, in the fields of immigration, land purchase and general development. In addition, the present Cabinet includes such other noted friends of the Zionist movement as Leopold Amery, Sir Archibald Sinclair, Alfred Duff Cooper and many others.

AMERICAN JEWRY'S ROLE

The Jewish community in Palestine has been a phalanx of strength for the Jewish people. It has held its ground in the face of many difficulties. It has made room and is making room for additional tens of thousands of Jews. But with the enlargement of the Jewish crisis to history-shattering proportions, it awaits a sign from American Jewry, the last free remnant of Israel, that it will display the generosity and the vision required in this crucial period.

Eliezer Kaplan, distinguished Jewish leader and Treasurer of the Jewish Agency for Palestine, who is in America briefly to consult on ways and means of ac-

celerating larger funds for Palestine upbuilding purposes, summarized the attitude of Palestine Jewry in this:

"We pin our hopes on American Jewry. It is the only Jewish community today which has the opportunity to raise funds and the freedom to exercise its generosity with those funds so that great segments of the Jewish people may be salvaged from the holocaust. American Jewry is responsible to Jewish history for the fate of the Jewish people."

Abba Hillel Silver

Abba Hillel Silver, National Chairman,
United Palestine Appeal

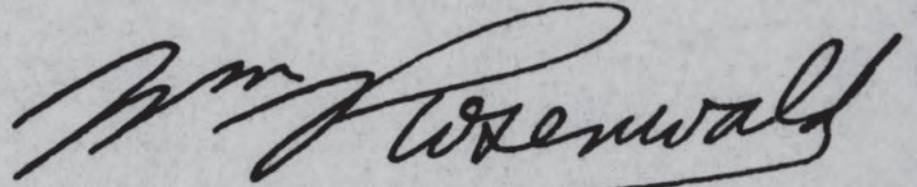
THE PROGRAM OF THE NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE

The task confronting the National Refugee Service continues to grow more difficult with every shift in the international scene. In spite of considerable confusion there is no immediate likelihood of any reduction in the volume of refugees coming to the United States. Even though the turn of events in Europe may reduce the number of ports of embarkation, a sufficient number of visas will have been issued to cover substantially the entire quotas of Germany, Austria and Czecho-Slovakia by the end of the fiscal year. The number of refugees temporarily in South America, Shanghai, Cuba, Mexico and other countries seeking admission to the United States are more than enough to fill the quotas from Greater Germany.

There is no cessation of effort to get out of Germany, Poland, Czecho-slovakia and Austria. In view of the threatened closing of the Mediterranean ports, efforts are being made to effect arrangements to move refugees from these countries across Russia to Siberia where they would go from Vladivostok to Yokohama, Japan, and from there by steamer across the Pacific to the United States. If Italy should enter the war and the ports of that country should be closed to immigrant transportation, it may be expected that a substantial number of refugees will continue to come from England. If immigration were shut off from every country in the world except China the refugees from Continental Europe now waiting in Shanghai alone would fill certain of the quotas for many months. Today (May 23rd) the Conte Di Savoia will arrive from Italy and many other ships bearing refugees are scheduled to reach American ports within the next few days.

Quite apart from present immigration there is a large continuing responsibility which cannot be relaxed at this time. The process of adjustment of the refugees in the United States must be speeded up. They must be taught English; they must be educated to an acceptance of American customs and traditions; they must be helped

to become self-supporting and independent. The resettlement program of the National Refugee Service must be continued no matter what turn affairs in Europe take. Resettlement makes possible the integration of refugees into American community life. Only as sufficient funds are made available will we be permitted to deal with this problem humanely and intelligently.



William Rosenwald, President,
National Refugee Service, Inc.

* * *

These, then, are the effects which the extension of the war in the West has had upon the three agencies in the United Jewish Appeal:

J.D.C.: It has added greatly to the burdens in Europe and made operations more difficult.

U.P.A.: It has made the work of colonization, immigration and up-building in Palestine more imperative.

N.R.S.: It has emphasized the urgency of continued efforts in behalf of the refugees in this country.

REMEMBER: Standing in the way of continued, urgent and effective operation of these agencies is NOT WAR nor POLITICS but --- LACK OF FUNDS.

May 23, 1940

\$23,000,000 is the National Goal for 1940
**UNITED JEWISH APPEAL (Inc.) FOR REFUGEES
AND OVERSEAS NEEDS**

ON BEHALF OF
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC.
UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and
NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

June 18, 1940

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LOUIS P. ROCKER
CHARLES J. ROSENBLUM
ELIHU D. STONE
and officers

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
The Temple
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Friend:

To report insofar as possible on the results of the spring phase of the 1940 campaign and to consider other matters of importance, a meeting of the Executive Committee is being convened for Wednesday evening, June 26 at 6:30 P.M. at 342 Madison Avenue.

In order to expedite the business of the meeting and to conserve the time of the members of the Executive Committee, a buffet supper will be served in connection with the meeting.

It is desirable that every member of the Executive Committee be in attendance. Please advise us as promptly as possible, on the return card, that you will attend.

Sincerely yours,

Abba Hillel Silver

Abba Hillel Silver

Jonah B. Wise

Jonah B. Wise

National Chairmen

SW:RDB

American Jewry must raise \$23,000,000 in 1940
Telephone VANDerbilt 6-2080
1940

1940

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL (Inc.) FOR REFUGEES AND OVERSEAS NEEDS

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Rabbi Jonah B. Wise
National Chairmen

ON BEHALF OF
AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC.
UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and
NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

[[Statement by the National Chairmen]]

I

The UNITED JEWISH APPEAL for Refugees and Overseas Needs must be provided with \$23,000,000 in 1940 for the requirements of its constituent agencies. The UNITED JEWISH

What Is the United Jewish Appeal?

APPEAL for Refugees and Overseas Needs has been accepted by the Jewish community of the United States as the most effective means of supporting the programs of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service.

The UNITED JEWISH APPEAL for Refugees and Overseas Needs was established in 1939 to serve as the single instrument through which enlarged resources could be made available for the extraordinary financial responsibilities arising out of the relief and rehabilitation requirements of the Jews in Europe, the settlement of Jews in Palestine and the integration of refugees in the United States. The new standard of generosity established in 1939 and the efficient manner in which the unified fund-raising organization functioned in that year led American Jewry to request a continuation of this instrumentality to meet the grave situation confronting millions of Jews during the year 1940.

American ^{Israel} Jewry is now called upon to raise through the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL a minimum sum of \$23,000,000 in 1940. This represents a substantial increase over the amount which the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL regarded as the minimum required in 1939 for the needs of its agencies. The quota challenging the sacrificial generosity of American Jewry is the largest that has ever been placed before the country for a single year. It is an index of the enormous obligations that must be met if survival and hope are to be assured to millions of Jews who have no prospect of assistance from the countries in which they live or, with small exceptions, from sources other than the Jews of the United States.

Large as it is, it meets only a meagre share of the problem.

The office of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL will continue at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City. The campaign will be conducted as the unified fund-raising organization of the three agencies, and all applications to communities for participation in the national quota will

(1)

come from this central headquarters and all allotments and remittances to the agencies within the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL are to be made to these same central headquarters at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

II

Following the procedure which proved acceptable to the nation in 1939, the funds raised by the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL in 1940 will be distributed as the result of studies of needs made by a Distribution Committee that is to be established. In order, however, not to impede the continuity of the immediate programs of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service, certain advances are being made to each to enable them, during the next few months, to carry on with commitments already made. These amounts are as follows:

The Distribution of Funds

To the Joint Distribution Committee.....	\$5,250,000
To the United Palestine Appeal.....	2,500,000
To the National Refugee Service.....	2,500,000

from the national income of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL. The National Refugee Service is also to receive \$1,000,000 from the Greater New York UNITED JEWISH APPEAL campaign. The balance of the money to be raised in 1940 will be allocated by a Distribution Committee on which there will be an equal number of representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal in association with representatives of Welfare Fund communities.

The principle of scientific allocation of funds was introduced by the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL in 1939 when, through an Allocations Committee, it undertook to survey the needs of various phases of the Jewish situation without determining at the beginning of the year the full amount that would be distributed to the participating agencies. This principle is being continued and perfected in the year 1940. The Distribution Committee constitutes an assurance to the contributors to the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL that their funds will be utilized throughout 1940 in specific relationship to those causes and opportunities which offer the most productive results from the funds that can be provided.

III

The UNITED JEWISH APPEAL believes that the vital necessity of providing maximum resources for the tragic needs of great masses of men, women and children who are the victims of peacetime persecution and destitution, or of the savagery of war, deserves the first consideration of American Jewish generosity. The UNITED JEWISH APPEAL appreciates, however, the concern which many communities manifest toward other local, domestic and overseas enterprises, and urges that every community consider this responsibility in relation to the needs to be met and the scope of the programs to which funds are given, so that all communities will share in a maximum degree in the universal determination of American Jewry to make available through the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL the financial assistance which alone can safe-

Community Sharing of Responsibility

guard the existence of millions of Jews, whether they be residents in their native lands, refugees, immigrants in Palestine, or refugees settled in the United States.

IV

When the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL was organized in 1939 its agencies were confronted with the most serious needs that had developed for the Jewish people since the last World War.

The Effects of War The ruthless campaign of expropriation, expulsion and extermination which was set under way by the Nazi government within the borders of Greater Germany had repercussions in all lands where its anti-Semitic doctrines were imitated or whither the refugees had gone for temporary shelter.

The year 1940 finds the agencies in the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL confronted with responsibilities of overwhelming scope and gravity. Chief of the problems that must be dealt with is the plight of millions of Jews in and of Poland. After suffering from the ravages of war, the Jews of Poland, always destitute, are now on the brink of starvation and death.

The war has added immeasurably to the burdens upon the financial resources of the agencies in the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL. Many of the Jewish communities in other countries which had formerly shared in the maintenance of institutions in Germany and Poland and which had given substantial assistance to the refugee problem are now hindered or completely estopped from the extension of such aid, because of exchange restrictions imposed by their governments or because of the heavy patriotic and public responsibilities devolving upon citizens in countries at war and in neutral lands affected by the critical situation.

Not even during the last World War was American Jewry faced with so complete a challenge to its understanding of European Jewish needs and its generosity in meeting those needs. The sums required are unprecedented to meet unparalleled tasks. In setting before the Jews of America a national quota of \$23,000,000 the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL believes that this sum represents the irreducible minimum if the many phases of the Jewish problem are to be met with any degree of adequacy. The total of the budgets of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service far exceeds the sum of \$23,000,000 which has been set up as a minimum expectation, but the officers of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL are concerned not only with presenting the full extent of the requirements, but are also mindful of the fund-raising experience of previous years in placing before American Jewry a program within range of fulfillment.

V

The tasks before the Joint Distribution Committee during 1940 are the most severe in its entire twenty-five year history of rendering assistance to distressed Jewish communities overseas. Jewish life in Europe is faced by a "blackout" in the grimmest sense of that term.

The Joint Distribution Committee—Its Program and Requirements

There are today 5,500,000 Jews in the European countries of distress. From them comes a desperate plea to the Joint Distribution Committee for help. One-third of these unfortunates are in German-held territory—Poland ravaged by war; Germany, Austria, the Czech Protectorates and Slovakia, where Jews have been suffering intolerable persecution.

There are also 900,000 Jews in Rumania. Almost one in every four has been denationalized, a term which to these people means loss of citizenship, loss of the right to earn a livelihood, utter destitution. There are 600,000 Jews in Hungary subject to numerous clausus laws and consequent economic and social deprivation.

There are 170,000 refugees from Germany in Europe. Another 75,000 have come to Central and South America and to Shanghai. There are additional thousands of Jewish aliens in France in dire distress. And there is a new class of refugees—the war refugees from Poland who fled to the bordering lands—Lithuania, Rumania and Hungary—under the most frightful conditions.

All these cry out to the Joint Distribution Committee for help because the war has already dried up most of the other sources of assistance to which they could turn in the past.

The war victims in Poland must be fed and clothed. It costs only six cents to provide a meal in Poland. But meals must be provided, one meal a day, for a minimum of 200,000 adults each day if they are not to starve. That alone amounts to \$360,000 per month. In addition, meals must be provided for 150,000 children. Inquiries at present reveal that 60 to 80 per cent of the entire Jewish population is in need of food, clothing or medical care.

The 25,000 war refugees who fled into the border countries with only the clothes on their backs must also be fed and clothed and sheltered. In Lithuania alone the Joint Distribution Committee's representatives estimated minimal monthly requirements of \$150,000.

At least half the refugees from Germany in European lands require support entirely or in part. It costs only \$10 per month, on the average, to support a refugee. But 75,000 refugees need this support if there are not to be wholesale deportations back to Germany. In Latin America, where the native Jewish population is less than a quarter of a million, large sums are needed to help the refugees and to adjust them as permanent settlers.

Thousands in Germany and Austria still have an opportunity to emigrate to Palestine, to the Americas, to Australia, and elsewhere. If they do not emigrate they face the threat of the concentration camps or of Lublin. There is an enormous cost for the emigration of these people, borne largely by the Joint Distribution Committee. Then, too, those who remain behind and cannot emigrate must be provided with maintenance by the Joint Distribution Committee.

And then there are the problems of the native Jews of Rumania, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, quite apart from the new, sudden war refugee problems in those lands. The Jewish welfare and community institutions need continued and increased support from the Joint Distribution Committee for their economic, educational, child care, and medical programs.

The responsibility placed upon the Joint Distribution Committee during 1940 is doubly great. The war situation, on the one hand, has created needs larger than ever before; and, on the other, has served to destroy nearly all other sources of support available to the stricken communities. Local resources naturally have all but disappeared, and contributions from the Jewish communities of England, France and the Western European neutral countries have also been cut almost to the vanishing point because of requirements at home. The stricken Jews of Europe, therefore, look to the Joint Distribution Committee for help. Their hope is in us.

VI

The United Palestine Appeal is the instrument through which the Jews of America make available funds for every phase of the rebuilding and resettlement program in Palestine. Its

The Tasks of the United Palestine Appeal

two constituent agencies are the Palestine Foundation Fund, the fiscal instrument of the Jewish Agency for Palestine recognized in the League of Nations Mandate as the supreme representative of the Jewish people in Palestine, and the Jewish National Fund, the agency for land redemption in the name and for the inalienable possession of the Jewish people. The Palestine Foundation Fund makes appropriations for assistance to immigration, agricultural and urban settlement of immigrants, furtherance of labor and housing, development of trade and industry, education and culture, promotion of national security, health and social service, and every enterprise designed to increase the absorptive capacity for Jewish immigration. For the supplementary support of orthodox institutions in Palestine, the United Palestine Appeal also makes a grant to the Mizrahi Palestine Fund.

The year 1939 emphasized the unique place which Palestine fills in the structure of Jewish life as related to the problem of homelessness. The excesses of anti-Semitism in Germany which extended to ever new areas during the year 1939 resulted in a pressure for emigration which found Palestine a chief outlet. Continuing its rôle as a haven, Palestine, during the twelve months ended September 30, 1939, provided a home for 35,000 Jewish men, women and children who escaped from Germany, Poland and other lands in Europe. From the outbreak of ~~the war~~ through December 1939 some 8,000 immigrants made their way to Palestine, ~~shores~~ despite the war.

The steady, ~~irreducible~~ flow of immigration to Palestine has created widespread problems which have become of even greater urgency since the outbreak of the war. The refugees who have arrived during the past year have entered the country at the end of long weeks or months of malnutrition, disease and indescribable hardships. They have had no resources upon which to count. Their elementary requirements of clothing and food must be met. They must be maintained until place is found for them. Plans must be laid for their integration in the agriculture or industry of the country.

The unemployed laborers, the middle classes, small traders and others who have lost their livelihood through the war crisis present another grave problem requiring the support of the United Palestine Appeal. At a time when Jewish survival is endangered in many countries of Europe and the requirements for maintenance and growth of the communal structure in Palestine are greater than ever before, the American Jewish community must make available through the United Palestine Appeal sacrificial sums for the continuance of the upbuilding effort so that the structure which today houses 500,000 Jews may be preserved with its full complement of agricultural, industrial and cultural activities and that resources may be created to permit the absorption of additional thousands of Jews fleeing from intolerable oppression in European lands.

The men and women who have been rescued from physical and spiritual destruction in Europe must be enabled to survive through a temporary economic crisis. In order to provide place for the refugees now in the country, to make provision for additional newcomers, to counteract the effects of war and to bolster up the foundations of the economy erected during the

The Jewish National Fund, which purchases and ameliorates the land on which a new Jewish agricultural existence finds its base carries forward a parallel program in the restructurification of Jewish life, and during the year ended September 30, 1939, obtained a new high sum of 51,892 dunams of land in areas of vital economic and strategic importance, thus bringing its total possessions to 471,000 dunams, or 35% of all Jewish-owned land in the country.

past two decades, the national funds, that is, the agencies benefiting from the United Palestine Appeal, must not only continue their normal tasks of colonization, land acquisition and national reconstruction but must intensify their efforts.

VII

The National Refugee Service, Inc., in 1940 faces the problem of caring for and integrating the thousands of refugees who again will come to the United States under the quota laws.

The Needs of the National Refugee Service

To these victims of religious bigotry the United States is a haven of refuge to which they come despite the terrors of the mine-infested Atlantic.

The "new Americans," in a much larger proportion than previously, come to our shores mentally and physically exhausted after years of intensive persecution. They arrive with little more than the clothes on their backs and with hope for a new life in America. It is these people whom the National Refugee Service must serve; their first call in America is at the N. R. S. headquarters, where they ask for advice or help. A tremendous number of American citizens throughout the length and breadth of the land look to the N. R. S. for ways and means of helping friends and relatives migrate from the areas of persecution. These urgent and often frantic requests require a service which N. R. S. must furnish in addition to service and actual financial assistance to the refugees themselves.

To convey some idea of the scope of the activities of the N. R. S. it is sufficient to point out that over 7,000 persons visit its offices each week. More than 8,000 pieces of mail are received each week. Hundreds and hundreds of telephone calls, telegrams and cables come in each day. What does the N. R. S. do for these people who call personally, write, telephone and telegraph?

The Migration Department is taxed to the utmost in guiding refugee immigrants through the maze of visa problems, affidavits, and a myriad of other technical barriers which emigration from Europe presents. It must not only keep in constant touch with new regulations affecting the individual as he tries to leave Europe but also assist him through lands of temporary haven before his American quota number is called.

The N. R. S. must help the individual refugee to start his life anew in this country. This means food, clothing, and shelter so that the refugees will not become public charges. It means helping them to find employment and, in fact, retraining them in preparation for such employment. It means utilizing every possible avenue to Americanization: cultural activities; schools for the children; classes in English; instructions in the functioning of our government; and all the advice and practical assistance which can be commanded.

Perhaps the most vitally important activity of the N. R. S. is carried on by its Resettlement Division. Through the cooperation of hundreds of local resettlement committees, it routes refugee families and individuals to their new homes throughout America. Without increased activity on the part of this department, a dangerous concentration of refugees at the ports of entry would result—dangerous for them and dangerous for us. The country has recognized this and the number of families being resettled is increasing rapidly.

American Jewry has a tremendous stake in the problem of the refugee immigrant. We must face the fact that the problem must be met in America and that only we in America can meet it.

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VIII

What was notable about the 1939 campaign of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL was the new standard of generosity established in virtually every community in the United States. If the new and higher goal set for 1940 is to be realized it is imperative that these standards be used as the foundations on which to build larger resources in the coming year. We now realize with greater vividness than ever before that while other peoples who may be suffering have their lands and their governments upon which to depend for assistance, the suffering Jews of Europe can depend only on the voluntary generosity of the Jews of the United States.

Standards of Generosity

The amount which any community can contribute to the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL is dependent upon the standard set by the leaders of each community. The substantial individual gift is important not alone for the beneficence which it represents but for the stimulation which it gives to large numbers of other contributors to endeavor to measure their responsibility by the generosity of the top givers. It is our confident hope that during 1940 those men and women who are blessed with a bountiful share of the benefits of life in the United States will once again make adequate contributions to their local campaigns in such measure as to insure to the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL the urgent funds required for the Jewish relief and rehabilitation program throughout the world.

IX

During the year 1939, American Jewry generally gave dramatic evidence of its recognition that the suffering of our people must be eased by deeds and not words. Through the earnest labors of thousands of contributors and workers there was forged during 1939 a bond of unity between the Jews of the United States and our suffering people abroad which gave to the latter not merely physical easement of their burdens but spiritual strength that has enabled them to endure the indescribable hardships which they are undergoing.

Deeds, Not Words

As the National Chairmen of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, we solemnly appeal to every Jew in the United States again to join with us this year in shouldering and meeting a responsibility that is the most sacred task that has confronted Jews during their entire history of freedom and opportunity in America.

Abba Hillel Silver

Joseph B. Wise
National Chairmen

A STATEMENT

By Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver and Rabbi Jonah B. Wise

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The compelling necessity of providing even larger resources to meet the tragic needs of the Jewish people, and the earnest desire of American Jewry to continue the use of a single instrument through which to extend its support for three important causes has brought about a decision to continue for 1940 the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs.

When the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal unified their fund-raising efforts in 1939 and included the work of the National Refugee Service, American Jewry expressed its approval in unprecedented generosity, which provided for each of the agencies larger sums than they had previously obtained.

In 1940 there comes to the Jews of America a solemnly challenging plea from the hearts of millions of our fellow-Jews who have been made to bear the burden of hate and oppression, whose devastation has been intensified by the sweep of war. Condemned to the status of chattels, deprived of the opportunity of self-maintenance, denied the essentials of subsistence -- these millions of human beings look to American Jewry with sorrowful hope that they may be enabled to survive through this period of brutality and destruction.

As we launch the 1940 fund-raising effort of the United Jewish Appeal and call upon every community in America to assume its share of the inescapable responsibility, we give earnest assurance that large funds can be used and must be provided.

The three programs sustained by the United Jewish Appeal have attained new dimensions and gravity as a result of the events of 1939.

Through the Joint Distribution Committee, the compassionate spirit of America must express itself through enlarged assistance to great masses of men, women and children so that they can be given relief where they now are, either in permanent or transitory homes, and, wherever possible, assisted to new and self-sustaining environments.

Through the United Palestine Appeal, the desire of American Jewry for the continued upbuilding of the Jewish homeland, through the safeguarding of the present community of 500,000 souls and the extension of a foothold to other thousands of Jews, must be given concrete expression.

Through the National Refugee Service we must fulfill our responsibility as American Jews to the newcomers in our midst who are endeavoring to accept their full place in American life with our encouragement.

Recognizing that conditions will determine the most efficacious use of the funds entrusted to the United Jewish Appeal, it has been determined that certain basic sums shall be made available promptly to the three agencies so that they may meet commitments for the first part of 1940. Accordingly, the Joint Distribution Committee will be granted \$5,250,000; the United Palestine Appeal, \$2,500,000; and the National Refugee Service, \$2,500,000 out of the first funds to be made available to the national United Jewish Appeal. The Greater New York United Jewish Appeal will provide out of its campaign \$1,000,000 additional for the National Refugee Service.

The total sums contributed by American Jewry beyond these initial grants will be distributed at the judgment of a Distribution Committee, composed in equal number of representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal, with the addition of representatives of ~~the Greater New York United Jewish Appeal~~ Welfare Fund communities.

The standards of voluntary obligation established by American Jewry in 1939 furnish the basis on which the United Jewish Appeal hopes to enlarge its financial support of these three imperative programs.

The problem of helping a huge segment of the Jewish people to emerge from this testing-period in world history is great, but not so great that the American way of brotherly sympathy and help cannot in great measure solve it.

On behalf of the United Jewish Appeal we urge that every individual Jew and every community in America accept with us, the National Chairmen, a share in the sacred task of helping our people, our honor and our culture to survive until that day when sanity and peace shall be restored to the world.

LETTER TO HONORARY VICE-CHAIRMEN OF UPA

Dear.....:

I take great pleasure in informing you that the officers of the United Palestine Appeal, appreciative of the high service you have given to the cause of Palestine upbuilding, have recommended your election as an Honorary Vice-Chairman of the United Palestine Appeal. This action will be announced at the National Council for Palestine being sponsored by the United Palestine Appeal at the Hotel Mayflower, in Washington, D.C., on January 6th and 7th.

During the year 1939 the fund-raising effort of the United Palestine Appeal was included in the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs. All of us who have had a share in the unprecedented results of the United Jewish Appeal campaign recognize the service that you rendered in your community to make possible the enlarged results which so effectively furthered our upbuilding program in Palestine.

The confusion and chaos which envelop broad sections of Jewish life in Europe make all the more luminous the achievements of the Jewish people in the rebuilding of Palestine, which has meant not only salvation for individual Jews but also the creation of new reservoirs of spiritual strength for the whole Jewish people everywhere.

I should like this letter to serve not only as a formal but also as a truly personal expression of appreciation for your collaboration with the United Palestine Appeal this year and in the past.

Very cordially yours,

AHS:MBC

Abba Hillel Silver
National Chairman

United Jewish Appeal, Inc.

342 Madison Avenue

New York, N. Y.

MEMORANDUM

We are sending you the attached statement because we regard it as immensely important that every Jewish community in America have a complete understanding of the set-up and objectives of the 1940 United Jewish Appeal. We firmly believe that through this campaign \$23,000,000 must be raised this year if the minimum needs for administering relief and rehabilitation aid and giving hope to large sections of the Jewish people crushed by war and oppression are to be met by the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service, Inc.

Abba Hillel Silver

Jonah B. Wise

National Chairmen

**SUGGESTIONS
TO SPEAKERS**

for the

**UNITED
JEWISH
APPEAL
in 1940**

SPEAKERS cooperating with the United Jewish Appeal in addressing campaign functions in any community are respectfully asked to keep in mind the following facts for inclusion in any address:

1. The quota of the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees and Overseas Needs during 1940 is \$23,000,000. It is the hope and the desire of the officers of the United Jewish Appeal that every community increase by at least 25% the amount which was made available on behalf of the United Jewish Appeal during 1939.

2. The United Jewish Appeal raises funds for the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal and National Refugee Service, Inc.

- (a) The Joint Distribution Committee provides funds for the relief and rehabilitation of the Jews in and of Europe.
- (b) The United Palestine Appeal, the fund-raising instrument of the Palestine Foundation Fund, the Jewish National Fund, and the Mizrahi Palestine Fund, provides resources for immigration, colonization, land-purchase, education, and the development of every economic and cultural enterprise designed to enlarge the absorptive capacity of Palestine for Jewish immigration.

- (c) The National Refugee Service deals with the problems of integrating refugees into the United States.

3. Aside from amounts advanced to each of the organizations to enable it to conduct its financial operations during the first few months of 1940, decisions with respect to the allotment of funds will be in the hands of a Distribution Committee consisting of two representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee, and two of the United Palestine Appeal, together with representatives of Welfare Fund communities. With this system of a Distribution Committee, contributors and communities have the assurance that the funds they make available will be utilized most effectively in accordance with situations as they develop.

NEEDS AND PROGRAM OF JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

5,500,000 IN DISTRESS: Jews in distress in European countries who look to J. D. C. for assistance total 5,500,000. One-third are in dire need in war-torn Poland, Germany, Austria, the Czech Protectorate, and Slovakia, where Jews have been suffering intolerable persecution. Of Rumania's 900,000 Jews, more than 250,000 have lost their citizenship

and the right to earn a livelihood. In Hungary almost one-third of the Jewish population of 600,000 has been eliminated from employment.

REFUGEES REQUIRE HELP: Scattered in European lands are 170,000 refugees from Germany, while 75,000 others are now located in Central and South American countries and in Shanghai. At least half of the refugees in Europe require support at the rate of \$10.00 per month each. The ranks of the refugees have been swelled by more than 25,000 who fled from Poland to Rumania, Lithuania, and Hungary.

RELIEF IN POLAND: War victims in Poland must be fed and clothed by J. D. C. One meal costs only six cents, but at least 200,000 adults must receive one meal a day and 150,000 children must also be provided with food. Between 60% and 80% of the entire Jewish population is in need of food, clothing, or medical care.

EMIGRATION NEED CONTINUES: Thousands in Germany and Austria still have an opportunity to emigrate to Palestine, to the Americas, and elsewhere. If they fail to leave they face the threat of the concentration camps or Lublin.

J. D. C. must provide funds for transportation for those who emigrate and care for those who are left behind.

AID IN OTHER LANDS: Assistance must also be given to the Jews in Rumania, Hungary, Lithuania, and other lands.

TASKS OF THE UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL

Embraced within this agency are the two so-called national funds—the Palestine Foundation Fund and the Jewish National Fund. The P. F. F. provides for immigration, agricultural and urban settlement of immigrants; labor and housing; aids in the development of trade and industry; education and culture; promotes national security, health, and social service. J. N. F. purchases and improves land in Palestine. Fully 35% of all land owned by Jews in Palestine is held by the J. N. F. The U. P. A. provides support for orthodox institutions in Palestine through a special grant to the Mizrachi Palestine Fund.

PRESSURE OF IMMIGRATION: In the year ended September 30, 1939, a total of 35,000 Jews were settled in Palestine.

The flow of refugees seeking to escape from concentration camps in Germany has not been reduced by the war. Eight thousand refugees entered Palestine in the period from the beginning of the war to December 1939. These newcomers, who suffered long weeks of hunger in their journey, present a special integration problem, require greater care and maintenance.

WAR BRINGS ECONOMIC HARDSHIPS: The Jewish community of 500,000 in Palestine will need greater support from the U. P. A. to meet the unemployment problem resulting from the economic dislocations of the war. Maintenance of Palestine's economic structure and its colonization and up-building progress for the continued absorption of refugees will call for materially increased financial assistance.

NEEDS OF THE NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE

Thousands of refugees who are continuing to come into the United States under the quota laws depend upon the N. R. S. for help in adjusting and integrating themselves to life in this country. Indic-

ative of the scope of service N. R. S. must render are the number of persons who visit the office, totalling 7,000 a week, and the 8,000 pieces of mail which are received every week.

WORK OF VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS: The Migration Department provides guidance in matters involving visas, affidavits, and other phases of emigration from Europe. It keeps in constant touch with regulations affecting individual refugees en route to these shores. In helping refugees start life anew, the N. R. S. is called upon to supply food, clothing and shelter, to provide retraining and employment and to promote educational and adjustment effort.

RESETTLEMENT: To avoid the dangerous concentration of refugees in large cities, families and individuals have been resettled in communities throughout the United States. With the aid of local resettlement committees the problem of the refugee must be met so that he does not become the cause of increased anti-Semitic feeling.



Issued by
**UNITED JEWISH APPEAL FOR REFUGEES
AND OVERSEAS NEEDS**
on behalf of
**AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE
UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL AND
NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE**

342 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.



American Jewry Must Raise \$23,000,000 for U. J. A. in 1940

1940

UNITED JEWISH APPEAL (Inc.) FOR REFUGEES AND OVERSEAS NEEDS

ON BEHALF OF

AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC.
UNITED PALESTINE APPEAL and
NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver
Rabbi Jonah B. Wise
National Chairmen

342 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.
Telephone VAnDerbilt 6-2080

Statement by the National Chairmen

I
The UNITED JEWISH APPEAL for Refugees and Overseas Needs must be provided with \$23,000,000 in 1940 for the requirements of its constituent agencies. The UNITED JEWISH APPEAL for Refugees and Overseas Needs has been accepted by the Jewish community of the United States as the most effective means of supporting the programs of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service.

What Is the United Jewish Appeal?

The UNITED JEWISH APPEAL for Refugees and Overseas Needs was established in 1939 to serve as the single instrument through which enlarged resources could be made available for the extraordinary financial responsibilities arising out of the relief and rehabilitation requirements of the Jews in Europe, the settlement of Jews in Palestine and the integration of refugees in the United States. The new standard of generosity established in 1939 and the efficient manner in which the unified fund-raising organization functioned in that year led American Jewry to request a continuation of this instrumentality to meet the grave situation confronting millions of Jews during the year 1940.

American Israel is now called upon to raise through the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL a minimum sum of \$23,000,000 in 1940. This represents a substantial increase over the amount which the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL regarded as the minimum required in 1939 for the needs of its agencies. The quota challenging the sacrificial generosity of American Jewry is the largest that has ever been placed before the country for a single year. Large as it is, it meets only a limited share of the problem.

The national office of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL will continue at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City. The campaign will be conducted as the unified fund-raising organization of the three agencies, and all applications to communities for participation in the national quota will

come from this central headquarters and all allotments and remittances to the agencies within the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL are to be made to these same central headquarters at 342 Madison Avenue, New York City.

II

Following the procedure which proved acceptable to the nation in 1939, the funds raised by the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL in 1940 will be distributed as the result of studies of needs made by a Distribution Committee that is to be established. In order, *The Distribution of Funds* however, not to impede the continuity of the immediate programs of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service, certain advances are being made to each to enable them, during the next few months, to carry on with commitments already made. These amounts are as follows:

To the Joint Distribution Committee.....	\$5,250,000
To the United Palestine Appeal.....	2,500,000
To the National Refugee Service.....	2,500,000

from the national income of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL. The National Refugee Service is also to receive \$1,000,000 from the Greater New York UNITED JEWISH APPEAL campaign. The balance of the money to be raised in 1940 will be allocated by a Distribution Committee on which there will be an equal number of representatives of the Joint Distribution Committee and the United Palestine Appeal in association with representatives of Welfare Fund communities.

The principle of scientific allocation of funds was introduced by the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL in 1939 when, through an Allocations Committee, it undertook to survey the needs of various phases of the Jewish situation without determining at the beginning of the year the full amount that would be distributed to the participating agencies. This principle is being continued and perfected in the year 1940. The Distribution Committee constitutes an assurance to the contributors to the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL that their funds will be utilized throughout 1940 in specific relationship to those causes and opportunities which offer the most productive results from the funds that can be provided.

III

The UNITED JEWISH APPEAL believes that the vital necessity of providing maximum resources for the tragic needs of great masses of men, women and children who are the victims of peacetime persecution and destitution, or of the savagery of war, *Community Sharing of Responsibility* deserves the first consideration of American Jewish generosity. The UNITED JEWISH APPEAL appreciates, however, the concern which many communities manifest toward other local, domestic and overseas enterprises, and urges that every community consider this responsibility in relation to the needs to be met and the scope of the programs to which funds are given, so that all communities will share in a maximum degree in the universal determination of American Jewry to make available through the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL the financial assistance which alone can safe-

guard the existence of millions of Jews, whether they be residents in their native lands, refugees, immigrants in Palestine, or refugees settled in the United States.

IV

When the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL was organized in 1939 its agencies were confronted with the most serious needs that had developed for the Jewish people since the last World War.

The Effects of War The ruthless campaign of expropriation, expulsion and extermination which was set under way by the Nazi government within the borders of Greater Germany had repercussions in all lands where its anti-Semitic doctrines were imitated or whither the refugees had gone for temporary shelter.

The year 1940 finds the agencies in the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL confronted with responsibilities of overwhelming scope and gravity. Chief of the problems that must be dealt with is the plight of millions of Jews in and of Poland. After suffering from the ravages of war, the Jews of Poland, always destitute, are now on the brink of starvation and death.

The war has added immeasurably to the burdens upon the financial resources of the agencies in the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL. Many of the Jewish communities in other countries which had formerly shared in the maintenance of institutions in Germany and Poland and which had given substantial assistance to the refugee problem are now hindered or completely estopped from the extension of such aid, because of exchange restrictions imposed by their governments or because of the heavy patriotic and public responsibilities devolving upon citizens in countries at war and in neutral lands affected by the critical situation.

Not even during the last World War was American Jewry faced with so complete a challenge to its understanding of European Jewish needs and its generosity in meeting those needs. The sums required are unprecedented to meet unparalleled tasks. In setting before the Jews of America a national quota of \$23,000,000 the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL believes that this sum represents the irreducible minimum if the many phases of the Jewish problem are to be met with any degree of adequacy. The total of the budgets of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service far exceeds the sum of \$23,000,000 which has been set up as a minimum expectation, but the officers of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL are not only concerned with presenting the full extent of the requirements, but are also mindful of the fund-raising experience of previous years in placing before American Jewry a program within range of fulfillment.

V

The tasks before the Joint Distribution Committee during 1940 are the most severe in its entire twenty-five year history of rendering assistance to distressed Jewish communities overseas. Jewish life in Europe is faced by a "blackout" in the grimmest sense of that term.

The Joint Distribution Committee—Its Program and Requirements

There are today 5,500,000 Jews in the European countries of distress. From them comes a desperate plea to the Joint Distribution Committee for help. One-third of these unfortunates are in German-held territory—Poland ravaged by war; Germany, Austria, the Czech Protectorates and Slovakia, where Jews have been suffering intolerable persecution.

There are also 900,000 Jews in Rumania. Almost one in every four has been denationalized, a term which to these people means loss of citizenship, loss of the right to earn a livelihood, utter destitution. There are 600,000 Jews in Hungary subject to numerous clausus laws and consequent economic and social deprivation.

There are 170,000 refugees from Germany in Europe. Another 75,000 have come to Central and South America and to Shanghai. There are additional thousands of Jewish aliens in France in dire distress. And there is a new class of refugees—the war refugees from Poland who fled to the bordering lands—Lithuania, Rumania and Hungary—under the most frightful conditions.

All these cry out to the Joint Distribution Committee for help because the war has already dried up most of the other sources of assistance to which they could turn in the past.

The war victims in Poland must be fed and clothed. It costs only six cents to provide a meal in Poland. But meals must be provided, one meal a day, for a minimum of 200,000 adults each day if they are not to starve. That alone amounts to \$360,000 per month. In addition, meals must be provided for 150,000 children. Inquiries at present reveal that 60 to 80 per cent of the entire Jewish population is in need of food, clothing or medical care.

The 25,000 war refugees who fled into the border countries with only the clothes on their backs must also be fed and clothed and sheltered. In Lithuania alone the Joint Distribution Committee's representatives estimated minimal monthly requirements of \$150,000.

At least half the refugees from Germany in European lands require support entirely or in part. It costs only \$10 per month, on the average, to support a refugee. But 75,000 refugees need this support if there are not to be wholesale deportations back to Germany. In Latin America, where the native Jewish population is less than a quarter of a million, large sums are needed to help the refugees and to adjust them as permanent settlers.

Thousands in Germany and Austria still have an opportunity to emigrate to Palestine, to the Americas, to Australia, and elsewhere. If they do not emigrate they face the threat of the concentration camps or of Lublin. There is an enormous cost for the emigration of these people, borne largely by the Joint Distribution Committee. Then, too, those who remain behind and cannot emigrate must be provided with maintenance by the Joint Distribution Committee.

And then there are the problems of the native Jews of Rumania, Hungary, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia, quite apart from the new, sudden war refugee problems in those lands. The Jewish welfare and community institutions need continued and increased support from the Joint Distribution Committee for their economic, educational, child care, and medical programs.

The responsibility placed upon the Joint Distribution Committee during 1940 is doubly great. The war situation, on the one hand, has created needs larger than ever before; and, on the other, has served to destroy nearly all other sources of support available to the stricken communities. Local resources naturally have all but disappeared, and contributions from the Jewish communities of England, France and the Western European neutral countries have also been cut almost to the vanishing point because of requirements at home. The stricken Jews of Europe, therefore, look to the Joint Distribution Committee for help. Their hope is in us.

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The year 1939 emphasized the unique place which Palestine fills in the structure of Jewish life as related to the problem of homelessness. The excesses of anti-Semitism in Germany which extended to ever new areas during the year 1939 resulted in a pressure for emigration which found Palestine a chief outlet. Continuing its rôle as a haven, Palestine, during the twelve months ended September 30, 1939, provided a home for 35,000 Jewish men, women and children who escaped from Germany, Poland and other lands in Europe. From the outbreak of hostilities through December 1939 some 8,000 immigrants made their way to Palestine despite the war.

The steady flow of immigration to Palestine has created widespread problems which have become of even greater urgency since the outbreak of the war. The refugees who have arrived during the past year have entered the country at the end of long weeks or months of malnutrition, disease and indescribable hardships. They have had no resources upon which to count. Their elementary requirements of clothing and food must be met. They must be maintained until place is found for them. Plans must be laid for their integration in the agriculture or industry of the country.

The unemployed laborers, the middle classes, small traders and others who have lost their livelihood through the war crisis present another grave problem requiring the support of the United Palestine Appeal. At a time when Jewish survival is endangered in many countries of Europe and the requirements for maintenance and growth of the communal structure in Palestine are greater than ever before, the American Jewish community must make available through the United Palestine Appeal sacrificial sums for the continuance of the upbuilding effort so that the structure which today houses 500,000 Jews may be preserved with its full complement of agricultural, industrial and cultural activities and that resources may be created to permit the absorption of additional thousands of Jews fleeing from intolerable oppression in European lands.

The men and women who have been rescued from physical and spiritual destruction in Europe must be enabled to survive through a temporary economic crisis. In order to provide place for the refugees now in the country, to make provision for additional newcomers, to counteract the effects of war and to bolster up the foundations of the economy erected during the past two decades, the national funds, that is, the agencies benefiting from the United Palestine Appeal, must not only continue their normal tasks of colonization, land acquisition and national reconstruction but must intensify their efforts.

VII

The National Refugee Service, Inc., in 1940 faces the problem of caring for and integrating the thousands of refugees who again will come to the United States under the quota laws.

The Needs of the

National Refugee Service

To these victims of religious bigotry the United States is a haven of refuge to which they come despite the terrors of the mine-infested Atlantic.

The "new Americans" come to our shores mentally and physically exhausted. They are victims of years of intensive persecution. They arrive with only the clothes on their backs and with hope for a new life in America. Their first call in America is at the N. R. S. headquarters, where they ask for advice or help. A tremendous number of Americans look to the N. R. S. for ways and means of helping friends and relatives migrate from the areas of persecution. These urgent requests require a service which N. R. S. must furnish in addition to service and actual financial assistance to the refugees themselves.

Over 7,000 persons visit its offices each week. More than 8,000 pieces of mail are received each week. Hundreds and hundreds of telephone calls, telegrams and cables come in each day. What does the N. R. S. do for these people who call personally, write, telephone and telegraph?

The Migration Department is taxed to the utmost in guiding refugee immigrants through the maze of visa problems, affidavits, and a myriad of other technical barriers which emigration from Europe presents. It must not only keep in constant touch with new regulations affecting the individual as he tries to leave Europe but also assist him through lands of temporary haven before his American quota number is called.

The N. R. S. must help the individual refugees to start their life anew in this country. This means food, clothing, and shelter so that the refugees will not become public charges. It means helping them to find employment and, in fact, retraining them in preparation for such employment. It means utilizing every possible avenue to Americanization: cultural activities; schools for the children; classes in English; instructions in the functioning of our government; and all the advice and practical assistance which can be commanded.

Perhaps the most vitally important activity of the N. R. S. is carried on by its Resettlement Division. Through the cooperation of hundreds of local resettlement committees, it routes refugee families and individuals to their new homes throughout America. Without increased activity on the part of this department, a dangerous concentration of refugees at the ports of entry would result—dangerous for them and dangerous for us. The country has recognized this and the number of families being resettled is increasing rapidly.

American Jewry has a tremendous stake in the problem of the refugee immigrant. We must face the fact that the problem must be met in America and that only we in America can meet it.

VIII

What was notable about the 1939 campaign of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL was the new standard of generosity established in virtually every community in the United States. If the new and higher goal set for 1940 is to be realized it is imperative that these standards be used as the foundations on which to build larger resources in the coming year. We now realize with greater vividness than ever before that while other peoples who may be suffering have their lands and their governments upon which to depend for assistance, the suffering Jews of Europe can depend only on the voluntary generosity of the Jews of the United States.

The amount which any community can contribute to the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL is dependent upon the standard set by the leaders of each community. The substantial individual gift is important not alone for the beneficence which it represents but for the stimulation which it gives to large numbers of other contributors to endeavor to measure their responsibility by the generosity of the top givers. It is our confident hope that during 1940 those men and women who are blessed with a bountiful share of the benefits of life in the United States will once again make adequate contributions to their local campaigns in such measure as to insure to the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL the urgent funds required for the Jewish relief and rehabilitation program throughout the world.

IX

During the year 1939, American Jewry generally gave dramatic evidence of its recognition that the suffering of our people must be eased by deeds and not words. Through the earnest labors of thousands of contributors and workers there was forged during 1939 a bond of unity between the Jews of the United States and our suffering people abroad which gave to the latter not merely physical easement of their burdens but spiritual strength that has enabled them to endure the indescribable hardships which they are undergoing.

As the National Chairmen of the UNITED JEWISH APPEAL, we solemnly appeal to every Jew in the United States again to join with us this year in shouldering and meeting a responsibility that is the most sacred task that has confronted Jews during their entire history of freedom and opportunity in America.

Abba Hillel Silver

Joseph B. Wise

National Chairmen

September 8, 1939

STATEMENT

The United Jewish Appeal was created to deal with the normal and emergency tasks of Jewish needs in peace time. It had not been envisaged that it would have to deal with war necessities or to meet the problems that war would bring to its constituent agencies. Though conscious of the responsibilities added to its program because of the European conflict, the United Jewish Appeal is not planning at this time to enlarge its call upon American Jewry over and above the \$20,000,000 for 1939. But in view of questions that have come to us, we feel it urgent to call the attention of community leaders to these facts:

- (a) That the United Jewish Appeal requires funds for its agencies with greater dispatch than ever before, and
- (b) That the country may be assured that the agencies within the United Jewish Appeal, by reason of personnel, machinery and experience, are properly equipped to adapt themselves to the new situation created by war.

The need for immediate funds for the constituent agencies of the United Jewish Appeal is so great that communities that have already held their drives are being urged to remit immediately as large resources as can be mobilized. Communities which have not yet held their 1939 campaigns are being urged to organize their fund-raising efforts as promptly as possible in order that the minimum of \$20,000,000 may be fully realized. It is evident to every observer of the European scene that \$20,000,000 is truly a minimum.

The situations confronting the agencies of the United Jewish Appeal are as follows:

1. The National Refugee Service, Inc., which is represented in the United Jewish Appeal through the National Coordinating Committee Fund, Inc. has so

far exceeded in its rate of expenditure its original allotment. There is no prospect of anything but a large demand upon its resources up to the end of the year 1939. The numbers of transient refugees now waiting in countries outside Germany for admission to the United States are so large that it is quite unlikely that there will be any diminution from the quota permitted by Federal law. There will be no easing up on the obligation to meet the problems of migration to the United States even though Germany may not permit Jews to leave the country during the hostilities. The problems of rerouting, resettlement, maintenance and employment are by no means changed. Therefore, we cannot expect to alter the rate of expenditure of the National Refugee Service, Inc. As far as the United Jewish Appeal is concerned, we must provide it with funds on the basis of the \$20,000,000 appeal.

2. The Joint Distribution Committee has been forced in recent months to take over much larger obligations than it anticipated when the \$20,000,000 budget was agreed upon. It is confronted today with a grave emergency situation in all the countries of Europe, whether belligerent or neutral, in which it has expended considerable sums in the past several years. The countries at war with Germany, such as England, France and Poland, are facing problems that require immediate attention from all their nationals. A similar situation obtains in such presently neutral countries as Holland, Belgium, Switzerland and Italy, which are affected by their proximity to the warring nations. In all these lands local collection of funds for assistance to refugees is being seriously handicapped. It must also be apparent that Jewish citizens in these countries must withdraw from the fields of welfare and refugee activity to which they have given leadership for so many years in order to devote their services to matters of immediate national interest in their respective countries. Reports from our representatives in Poland indicate rapidly mounting needs for evacuation, relief, shelter and food for women, children and old people. In the face of all of these situations, the

J.D.C. approved an advance September budget of \$690,000 plus an initial emergency grant of \$500,000, making a total of \$1,900,000 for September alone to begin to meet the war appeals which have been received and which are anticipated. This does not state the whole problem of the Joint Distribution Committee for, as you know, it is responsible for widespread assistance in all parts of the world. War by no means reduces these responsibilities, but increases them.

3. The United Palestine Appeal is faced with the necessity of backing up the work in Palestine for the benefit of those who have settled there and of those who are going there now in larger numbers than had been anticipated before the outbreak of war. This number is increased so substantially that previous figures are of no value. Because of the necessity of evacuation of refugees from many European countries which may involve new conditions and opportunities in Palestine the problem becomes one which involves a very serious financial responsibility. This becomes more true when it is remembered that England, France and Poland which hitherto shared substantially in the Palestine upbuilding program cannot be relied upon for further help in view of the domestic defense requirements. With thousands of Jews in Palestine standing as defenders by the side of Great Britain, we must see to it that the peaceful task of reconstruction which they have laid aside may be continued in increased measures by others. Palestine Jewry will need large resources for the maintenance of the structure that has already been created and for the enlargement of the opportunities that may be afforded.

This statement is made as brief as possible. The details can be had if you desire them.