



## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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

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

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

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United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal,  
National Refugee Service, 1940.



M I N U T E

OF A MEETING TO DISCUSS CAMPAIGN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE  
NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE AND THE UNITED JEWISH APPEAL  
AT UNITED JEWISH APPEAL OFFICE, 342 MADISON AVENUE  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 25, 1940, 9:00 A. M.

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PRESENT: Rabbi Jonah B. Wise  
William Rosenwald  
Dr. Joseph Schwartz  
Mrs. Pauline Falk  
Dr. William Haber  
Isidor Coons  
Ephraim Gomberg  
M. Robert Herman  
Henry Montor  
Meyer F. Steinglass

In opening the meeting:

Mr. Coons said that its purpose was to clarify certain problems of a campaign character that arose out of the relationship of the National Refugee Service to the United Jewish Appeal. He referred to the fact that there were hundreds of committees throughout the country corresponding with the National Refugee Service; that the National Refugee Service had speakers, a publicity department, and other services and that this network of activity should be correlated to the campaign work of the United Jewish Appeal.

He wanted to establish the principle that if arrangements are not made in advance for the deduction of funds for maintenance of refugees locally, it must be understood by the National Refugee Service that deductions cannot be made later from the allotment to the United Jewish Appeal from the local community.

Mr. Coons, during his remarks, made several references to the failure of the National Refugee Service to cooperate fully with the United Jewish Appeal insofar as campaign relations are concerned. He remarked that during 1939 field men of the National Refugee Service, after a survey of local refugee needs would then turn around and recommend to the local community to ask the United Jewish Appeal, after it had received its allotment, to send back a portion of its funds to the local community for use for local refugees.

Mr. Coons thought it would be helpful if William Rosenwald would send a letter, as head of the National Refugee Service, to communities to remind them that any allotments made for local refugee needs must be deducted from funds raised locally and can have no relation to the amounts that must be provided for the United Jewish Appeal nationally.

Rabbi Wise, in commenting on Mr. Coon's suggestion of a letter from William Rosenwald, said that under no circumstances should the National Refugee Service, without consultation with the United Jewish Appeal make any representations to any community regarding allotments. He felt that it was essential that as one of the constituents of the United



Jewish Appeal, the National Refugee Service have no relationship with a community, insofar as funds are concerned, without getting the approval in each case of the United Jewish Appeal national headquarters.

Dr. Haber said that in 1939 many communities had made no preparations locally for the care of refugees. It would be advisable for the National Refugee Service in 1940 to send to its 500 or 600 communities a communication asking that there be kept in mind the local refugee needs in planning a budget so that later on deductions should not be made from the allotment provided for the United Jewish Appeal.

Rabbi Wise said that he and the officers of the United Jewish Appeal wanted to see any letter of such a character that would go out from the National Refugee Service.

Mr. Montor remarked that local communities could not distinguish satisfactorily between the amounts set aside for the United Jewish Appeal, which includes the National Refugee Service, and the sums that were being called for to provide not only for the maintenance of refugees locally, but also for regional/service activities.

Rabbi Wise said that there was a tendency to give more in 1940 for local refugee needs. It is important for the United Jewish Appeal to repair these leaks so that the funds of the United Jewish Appeal should not be depleted.

Mr. Coons felt that the United Jewish Appeal ought not to carry the burden of the responsibility for refugee problems which are the responsibility of the National Refugee Service. It was up to the National Refugee Service to do its utmost to cooperate with the United Jewish Appeal in ironing out such difficulties.

Dr. Haber said that the danger of 1940 arises out of the fact that local communities have been bitten by the refugee problem. They found that they had to spend more than they originally contemplated. They are going to try to play safe. It will be up to the National Refugee Service to tell these communities when they are giving too much or allotting too much for refugee requirements. He believed that the National Refugee Service field men could handle such problems.

Rabbi Wise again emphasized that all such matters must be cleared through the United Jewish Appeal.

It was agreed that there should be coordinated action between the National Refugee Service and the United Jewish Appeal on all problems affecting campaign activities of the United Jewish Appeal.

Mr. Coons undertook to consult with Dr. Haber on all these matters so that there could be one source of central responsibility in the National Refugee Service.

Mr. Ephraim Gomberg, Field Director of the National Refugee Service, stated that there are ten Field Men now in the employ of the National Refugee Service; seven operating in the field throughout the country and three in New York City. Their primary task is to build up resettlement



quotas for each community and generally to care for the interests of the National Refugee Service.

Rabbi Wise declared that it was necessary for the United Jewish Appeal to know the itinerary and assignments of the National Refugee Service field men. He remarked that an important factor in the 1940 campaign is the presence of seven National Refugee Service field men in the country traveling to the various communities. There must be an understanding of what these field men are doing and how they are doing it.

Rabbi Wise and Mr. Montor cited their personal experiences in 1939 when, in contact with various communities, they found that although they were present for the United Jewish Appeal, they sometimes found other speakers on the same program who were there exclusively for the National Refugee Service. Such conflicts must be eliminated.

Mr. Herman, Director of Field Staff of the United Jewish Appeal, pointed out that communities were being asked to support four avenues of activity related to refugees: first, was the allotment to the United Jewish Appeal, which includes the National Refugee Service; second, is the amount required for local refugee needs; third, is the amount asked for regional service bureaus in many areas; and fourth, sums are being asked for the maintenance of social service workers to look after certain phases of the refugee problem not directly related to placement or maintenance, but rather with cultural adjustment.

Mr. Rosenwald said that the National Refugee Service has a definite problem to get the refugees out into communities. This precipitates the problem of a social worker because many local communities feel that it requires a full time person to look after the varied activities resulting from the refugee problem. To what extent, he asked, is the National Refugee Service in a position to tell the local communities how to handle the problem?

Rabbi Wise said that there is a danger that local communities may note that New York is giving \$1,000,000 to the National Refugee Service, constituting 20 per cent of the total for the United Jewish Appeal, and might perhaps try to emulate this example. This was a serious situation to which every effort had to be directed for solution.

Dr. Haber declared that it was wrong to say that the National Refugee Service gets funds from three other sources than the United Jewish Appeal. It was important to emphasize that the refugee problem is national and also local.

Rabbi Wise proposed that the officers of the United Jewish Appeal should meet occasionally with the officers of the National Refugee Service and with NRS field men to clarify the problems under discussion.

Mr. Coons proposed that on every bulletin and on every piece of literature issued by the three constituent agencies of the United Jewish Appeal there should be a statement that the National Refugee Service receives



its funds from the United Jewish Appeal. He felt that that should be done not only by the National Refugee Service but also by the two other organizations.

Mr. Coons also pointed out that he assumed that the National Refugee Service would continue with the transfer of funds it receives directly into the treasury of the United Jewish Appeal.

Mr. Rosenwald raised the question of the National Refugee Service in relation to the agreement constituting the 1940 United Jewish Appeal.

Rabbi Wise and Mr. Montor said that this particular meeting was not the place at which such matters could be discussed.

Mr. Rosenwald remarked that it would be a greater incentive to insure the co-operation of the National Refugee Service officers and friends if the signatories of the agreement included the head of the National Refugee Service.





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NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

165 West 46th Street

New York City

February 2, 1940

Mr. Henry Montor  
Executive Vice-Chairman  
United Jewish Appeal (Inc.)  
for Refugees and Overseas Needs  
342 Madison Avenue  
New York City

STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

Dear Henry:

In Detroit, we discussed your draft of the 1940 United Jewish Appeal Agreement, with special reference to that portion of Section V which gives the National Refugee Service, Inc. the right to receive grants from certain classes of foundations.

As you will recall, it was thought that the United Jewish Appeal should be informed of contributions received from all sources, regardless of whether or not they might be considered as constituting funds which National Refugee Service, Inc. should turn over to the United Jewish Appeal. It was felt, on the basis of prior discussions that have been held, that any contribution which might be received from any foundation which did not contribute to the United Jewish Appeal, nor to the National Refugee Service, Inc., in 1939, should be retained by National Refugee Service, Inc., without any obligation on its part to remit these contributions to the United Jewish Appeal (nor would these contributions, therefore, be considered as part of the funds distributable to National Refugee Service, Inc., from the United Jewish Appeal). Contributions from foundations which contributed to National Refugee Service, Inc. or to the United Jewish Appeal, in 1939, should be remitted to the United Jewish Appeal.

It was understood that the purpose of this arrangement was to enable the securing of maximum funds. It was indicated, too, that there will be cases where a foundation may feel that it could properly contribute funds to the National Refugee Service, Inc., with the knowledge that National Refugee Service, Inc. would remit a like amount to the United Jewish Appeal (or where the foundation might give to the United Jewish Appeal, earmarked for National Refugee Service, Inc., but with the knowledge that National Refugee Service, Inc.'s allocation would not thereby be increased). In all such cases, National Refugee Service, Inc. will recommend to the foundation in question that it give the money in such a way as to benefit the United Jewish Appeal.

The following constitute exceptions to the foregoing:



February 2, 1940

Mr. Henry Montor

- a) Where the Board of Directors (Trustees) of the Baron de Hirsch Fund, or of the Hofheimer Foundation, believes that the acceptance of this recommendation would (because of its charter restrictions, or because of policies established over a number of years and reflected in similar decisions affecting other organizations) deter it from making any contribution, then, National Refugee Service, Inc. would be allowed to retain that contribution without the necessity of remitting a like amount to the United Jewish Appeal (nor would that contribution, therefore, be considered as part of the funds distributable to National Refugee Service, Inc. from the United Jewish Appeal -- it being understood, however, that contributions from this source, as from all other sources would be reported to the United Jewish Appeal). The decision, in each case, is to be left with the Board of Directors of the contributing foundation. The records of the national United Jewish Appeal are to have made available to them, as promptly as sent or received, the application to the particular foundation for a grant to the National Refugee Service, Inc. and the verbatim decision of the Board of Directors of the particular foundation.
- b) As part of this effort to enable the National Refugee Service, Inc. to secure additional funds, it was felt that any contribution received from the Davison Fund (or from other Rockefeller Foundations), in 1940, should be retained by National Refugee Service, Inc. (nor would a contribution from such a source, therefore, be considered as part of the funds distributable to National Refugee Service, Inc. from the United Jewish Appeal).

Funds which individuals turn over to National Refugee Service, Inc. for transmittal to specific refugees, in whom they are interested (or for use on behalf of such refugees) are not to be considered contributions. Bequests and legacies, unless made specifically to the United Jewish Appeal are, also, not to be considered contributions. This paragraph merely confirms the understanding which has prevailed in the past, and which continues to prevail.

You indicated that you did not have the power to pass on this, but that you would be glad to submit the results of our conversation to Dr. Silver. It would be appreciated if you would keep me posted as to developments, and (if the spirit of this letter is approved by Dr. Silver) take the necessary steps to have this interpretation suitably incorporated into the final agreement.



Mr. Henry Montor

February 2, 1940

With renewed thanks for your help in getting this matter  
straightened out, and looking forward to the pleasure of hearing  
from you, I am,

Cordially yours,

(Signed)

Bill<sub>pls</sub>

William Rosenwald, President  
NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.



Mr. Rosenwald regrets that he was  
unable to sign this personally. (stamped)



CABLES: NACOMREF, New York  
TELEPHONE: BRYANT 9-2102

## NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

AN ORGANIZATION DESIGNED TO CARRY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL  
COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES AND CERTAIN OF ITS AFFILIATES

165 WEST 46TH STREET

NEW YORK CITY

March 14, 1940

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JACOB H. KRAVITZ  
*Acting Director*

WILLIAM HABER  
*Executive Director*

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver, Chairman  
Jewish Welfare Fund  
Ansel Road & East 105th Street  
Cleveland, Ohio

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The German Jewish Children's Aid, Inc. has, for a number of years, brought into this country (under the immigration quota) in monthly groups, children from Germany, and now has a large number of applications from Austria, Bohemia and Moravia. The total number of children who have already come to the United States through the German Jewish Children's Aid, is 464. On account of the situation abroad, there is today a resumption - on a larger scale than heretofore - of the immigration of these children. Reports reaching us from Germany and Central Europe indicate that Jewish parents who were most reluctant to let their children leave them, are today anxious to send even children of tender years to us. The problem, therefore, becomes more significant today than before.

As a result of this development, conferences have taken place between the National Refugee Service, Inc. and the National Council of Jewish Women in order to provide effective methods of meeting this situation. The Council was requested two years ago, by the then National Coordinating Committee, to concern itself with the finding of funds adequate to provide for the needs of these children in this country, and to furnish the essential services for the national offices of the German Jewish Children's Aid, Inc. The Council has, therefore, in the last few years, succeeded in raising through its local sections and by cooperation with the welfare funds (where these undertook responsibility for maintenance) the requisite amounts, both for the care of children in the communities in which they are placed, and, also, for the office and general administrative services of the German Jewish Children's Aid in New York.

Through these discussions, there has been every desire to take into account conditions in the respective communities, with a view to avoiding in every degree, any elements of friction with local welfare funds or campaigns.



Late in 1939, the National Refugee Service, Inc. desirous, in the general interest of the whole American Jewish community, to effect a closer centralization of this work within the whole general structure of the emergency refugee program, studied the problem with a view to effectuating two steps:

- 1) to supervise the general administration of the national office of the German Jewish Children's Aid, Inc.
- 2) to finance the general operating charges of the German-Jewish Children's Aid, Inc.

The first step has proceeded quite successfully, and there is, today, a very close community of interest and collaboration between the office of the German-Jewish Children's Aid, Inc. and the National Refugee Service, Inc., the latter body exercising a general supervisory relationship.

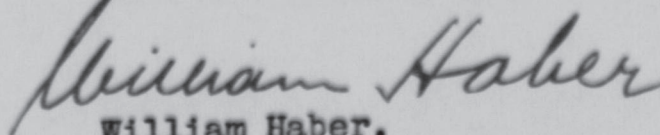
As to the financing of the German-Jewish Children's Aid program during the year 1940, it was intended, if the income and resources of the National Refugee Service, Inc. this year warranted such a step, for the National Refugee Service, Inc. to include financial provision for the German-Jewish Children's Aid program. An analysis of the current financial situation of National Refugee Service, Inc., however, the rising costs due to the cumulative nature of the work of National Refugee Service, Inc., in so many other essential fields - relief, resettlement, employment, migration, etc. - makes clear that the National Refugee Service cannot (in the immediate future) assume the financial responsibility for German-Jewish Children's Aid, Inc. during 1940. In these circumstances, National Refugee Service, Inc. again looks to the National Council of Jewish Women, which has generously agreed to finance this program, to continue to secure the funds requisite for the national office administrative and service charges of the German-Jewish Children's Aid, Inc., in addition to the commitments which local sections have made to take care of children in local communities for the balance of this year.

It is understood that the local sections of the National Council of Jewish Women, in seeking these funds, shall in all instances bear in mind the viewpoint and practice in the respective communities, and shall adapt their procedure to the requirements of the local welfare funds and campaigns this year.

National Refugee Service, Inc. contemplates, should its income and resources prove adequate in 1941, to include the entire program of the German-Jewish Children's Aid, Inc. so far as national office administration, services, supervision, and finances are concerned.

Sincerely yours,

NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.



William Haber,  
Executive Director.



NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.  
165 West 46th Street  
New York City

April 19, 1940

Confidential  
Not for Publication  
Information Bulletin #5

Subject: RECENT INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

There has been no decrease in the number of immigrants arriving from Central Europe during the past three months. Immigrants within Greater Germany are still receiving visas, and although the number of steamers now crossing the Atlantic has decreased, each steamer is carrying enough refugees to insure the filled quotas from Greater Germany during 1940. In addition to Italian and Dutch steamers, the United States Steamship Lines have opened service between Genoa and this country. English steamers are also arriving, although the names and time of arrival are carefully guarded, so that no advance information of due dates is available.

Earlier predictions that the number of refugees arriving during 1940 would equal the 1939 total will apparently be fulfilled.

BAGGAGE FROM THE SS "ST. LOUIS" SUBJECT TO SALE IN HAVANA

Many of the former passengers of the SS "St. Louis" have had lift vans stored in Havana. Storage charges have been accumulating and the contents of the vans may soon be put up for sale to cover the storage charges. Relatives and friends of the parties concerned should communicate with the National Refugee Service if they are able and willing to pay the necessary charges to free this baggage.

RENEWAL AFFIDAVITS

American Consuls are calling up for examination applicants who registered for visas 12 months or more ago. Since affidavits more than 12 months old are not valid, the Consuls now ask applicants to produce current evidence of the affiant's interest and financial ability to care for the prospective immigrant. To meet these requirements the affiant should submit new affidavits with documentary proof of current financial ability, and in the case of distant relatives or friends, the affiant should also attach a detailed letter to the Consul indicating his interest in the applicant and his plans for caring for him after his arrival.



REQUESTS FOR AFFIDAVITS SHOULD BE CLEARED WITH NRS

Very often the same request for an affidavit from an individual in Central Europe is received by dozens of communities and organizations. All committees and communities receiving such requests from strangers are urged to clear these inquiries through the National Refugee Service before proceeding to take any action on them.

AFFIDAVITS TO AMERICAN CONSULS MAY BE SENT BY DIPLOMATIC POUCH

So many affidavits and supplementary documents have failed to reach their destination in Greater Germany when sent by regular mail that the use of clipper registered service is advocated.

In special cases the State Department has agreed to forward important documents by diplomatic pouch. The unsealed envelope containing the documents should bear sufficient postage and be mailed in another envelope, with a covering letter, to the Department of State in Washington, D. C.

Documents intended for refugees now residing in German-occupied Poland should be addressed to the American Consul in Berlin.

REGULATIONS GOVERNING VISAS FOR DIVIDED FAMILIES

Cases have occurred where wives and/or children, who registered with their husbands or fathers at an American Consulate for visas under the German quota, have become separated from the husband or father under whose quota status they expected to emigrate. Often members of the same family find themselves in three different countries--children in England, wife in Germany, husband in Holland. According to the law, if the quota of country of birth of either wife or child is exhausted, the wife or child may secure visas under the quota of the husband or father's country, provided that quota is open and they are making application in person at the same time and at the same Consulate, and expect to travel with the husband or father. The question has arisen as to whether the American Consuls will still grant such visas under the German quota applicable to the separated father, to children and wives born outside of Germany.

The State Department has advised that there is no change in the procedure, for the law specifically states that the application must be made simultaneously in person by the wife and children with the husband and father to the same Consul. Therefore, every effort must be made to have the family meet in some neutral port and apply at the office of the Consul there for visas if they are to take advantage of this provision of the law.



PRESENT STATUS OF QUOTAS

The American Consuls are now inviting for examination of their documents applicants who registered at about the dates indicated below, under the respective quotas listed:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Annual Quota</u>	<u>Approximate Registration Date of Persons Now Being Called</u>
Czechoslovakia	2,874	July, 1938
Denmark	1,181	Current
Finland	569	Current
Germany (including Austria)	27,370	September 9, 1938
Hungary	869	December 1, 1937
Latvia	236	December 1, 1938
Lithuania	386	November, 1938
Poland	6,524	May 20, 1938
Roumania	377	June 4, 1935
Russia	2,712	1 year's wait
Syria	123	July 17, 1936
Turkey	226	January, 1935
Norway	2,377	Current
Sweden	3,314	Current

All preference quota visas for these countries, including Roumania, are being called currently. There may be a delay of one month at most. Please note that while information is available as to persons currently being called for examination, it is still difficult to ascertain when their turn will be reached in the quota.

Australia

Applicants from Australia must wait until July 1, 1940 for preference or non-preference quota.

Danzig and Warsaw

All applications made in Danzig or Warsaw should now be referred to the American Consul in Berlin.

France

The American Consulate has now reopened its office in Paris and visas are again being issued to applicants residing in Paris.

Poland

The State Department advises that there is no change contemplated at this time in the allocation of quotas for the occupied parts of Poland. The Polish quota remains as heretofore; persons born in Poland, as set up by the Versailles Treaty, will be chargeable to the Polish quota regardless of whether they are now living in the German or Russian-occupied areas. Persons residing in the Lublin area have to apply to the American Consul at Vienna for visas, and persons now living in the Russian-occupied part of Poland have to apply to the American Consul in Bucharest or Riga.

PAYMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BY COMMITTEES FORBIDDEN

Attention should again be directed to the fact that it is against the immigration laws of the United States for any alien coming to this country to have his transportation paid by a committee, corporation, or society. However, anyone may, as an individual, arrange for such transportation, which must be paid for in dollars.



FUNDS FOR TRANSPORTATION SHOULD PROVIDE FOR INCIDENTALS

Frequently, local committees forward checks or money orders to the National Refugee Service, intended to defray the transportation costs of arriving immigrants from New York to their ultimate destination. This money, which is turned over to the dock workers of organizations responsible for meeting steamers, should be sufficient to cover costs of baggage, taxi fare, transfer, meals, and other incidentals for overland travel to avoid undue delays and hardships. At least \$5 should be included for such incidentals, exclusive of transportation.

ELLIS ISLAND CLOSED OVER WEEK-END

It should be noted that Ellis Island is closed from Saturday noon to Monday morning. Telegrams and long distance calls relative to persons detained on the Island during this interim are therefore of no avail.

INFORMATION REGARDING PERSONS TEMPORARILY IN THE UNITED STATES

As an aid to answering many questions on persons in this country on a temporary basis who reside outside of New York City, a questionnaire form has been prepared by the National Refugee Service, a copy of which is attached. Those who wish advice concerning individual cases of persons temporarily residing in this country are requested to submit information according to the attached form. Upon receipt of such information, every effort will be made to give advice on the questions raised.

AMERICAN CITIZENS MAY COLLECT GERMAN LEGACIES

The State Department has issued the following information concerning application for transfer from Germany of inheritances to American citizens:

"The text of the aide-memoire received by the State Department from the German Embassy on December 20, 1938 states that the German authorities require evidence of the American citizenship of heirs and have requested that such evidence be submitted in form of a certificate from a competent German Consular officer. The German authorities have specifically asked that no documents should be sent directly to Germany. Evidence should first be sent to the Department of State in Washington where, if found satisfactory, a certified letter is issued for submission by the applicant to the nearest German Consulate in the United States with a request for appropriate authentication prior to its transmission by the applicant directly to the local Devisenstelle in Germany.

"After examination, the local Devisenstelle will forward the application to the Oberfinanzpraesident, Berlin, for final action.



"American diplomatic and consular officers are prohibited by law from acting as agents or attorneys for American citizens in private matters. However, if it is desired to retain the services of an attorney, the American Consul at Berlin will be glad to furnish a list of attorneys at request."

#### DOMINICAN REPUBLIC PROJECT

In answer to the inquiries received by us with regard to the new colonization plan organized by the Dominican Republic Settlement Association, Inc., we call attention to the policy of that Commission with reference to selection of the first group of settlers. For the initial settlement of the first five hundred colonists, competent experts will select from various countries in Europe, preferably from within Greater Germany, only bona fide farmers, skilled artisans, and others who are strong enough for tropical pioneer life.

Persons seeking temporary asylum in the Dominican Republic while awaiting visas to the United States will not be accepted as members of the colony. A further statement on other aspects of the Dominican Republic project will be issued shortly.

#### HONDURAN APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE IN LONDON

The Acting Colonial Secretary of British Honduras at Belize has announced that no applications from or on behalf of refugees in Germany or German-occupied territory can be entertained by the British Honduran Government, and that permission for such persons to enter that colony can only be obtained from the British Government in London.

#### NEW RULES FOR ADMISSION OF REFUGEES TO THE UNITED KINGDOM

The Jewish Refugee Committee of London has been advised by the Home Office in London that the following regulations are in effect with regard to admission of refugees to the United Kingdom:

- "1. No visas for the United Kingdom may be granted to persons still resident in enemy territory. ✓
- "2. No visas for the United Kingdom, granted before the outbreak of war, can be renewed for persons still resident in enemy territory. ✓
- "3. No visas for the United Kingdom can be granted to refugees in allied or neutral countries unless they held a visa prior to the outbreak of war. ✓



- "4. Applications from persons in possession of visas for the United Kingdom before the outbreak of war, who were resident in allied and neutral countries prior to September 3, 1939, will be considered.
- "5. Where applications were originally made by any of the refugee organizations and where a case for renewal of visas exists, application is to be made by the organizations concerned and the organizations must undertake financial liability for such cases admitted.
- "6. In cases of persons receiving visas before the outbreak of war, who were successful in reaching neutral countries after war was declared, it will be necessary to make new applications for visas."

#### DEPOSIT REFUNDS MADE IN STERLING

Arrangements have been concluded with the Jewish Refugees Committee in England for the refund of deposits made directly to the London organization by depositors in this country. Such deposits were made to enable persons from Germany to enter England. Negotiations could not be completed, however, because of the war. Although the deposits were made in dollars, they were converted into pounds sterling when originally received by the committee in England. Therefore, the refunds will be paid in pounds sterling which, when reconverted into dollars, may entail a loss because of the difference in the rate of exchange. Since deposits were made solely for the purpose previously stated, the English committee regrets that it is unable to be of assistance in connection with the loss on exchange and states that it cannot accept any responsibility for alterations or fluctuations in the rates.

#### CONTACTS WITH NAZI POLAND AND SOVIET POLAND, and "GOUVERNEMENT GENERAL" OF POLAND

##### Mailing Service

We are informed that the United States Post Office will accept mail for all parts of Poland, and according to the International Red Cross, mailing service within the occupied territory of Poland, both German and Russian, is now functioning more or less normally.

##### Location of Relatives

The International Red Cross has organized a special service for locating relatives in Poland, in both the German and Russian areas. Messages of not more than 25 words, of a personal or family nature, are being accepted by the local Red Cross chapters, transmitted to the headquarters at Washington, and transmitted thence to the International Red Cross at Geneva. Where possible, replies are being secured.

From time to time, lists are being received by J.D.C. and other agencies here of Polish Jewish refugees who have fled into the countries bordering on Poland. These lists are published in the Yiddish Press.



Facilities for forwarding remittances to individuals in all parts of Poland are available through banks, generally, and the American Express Company. Those desiring to make such remittances should inquire at their banks or at the American Express Company for detailed information on such transmissions.

#### Transmission of Money

Section Annexed to Germany - Registered gift marks may be sent to the area which has been formally annexed to Germany. These are sold at a very favorable rate, 6.90 (almost 7) to the dollar, and a maximum of 500 marks a month may be sent to any individual, a maximum of 1,500 marks a month to a family. The transmission charge is seventy-five cents regardless of the amount sent.

German-Occupied Area - Money is transmitted to the German occupied section of Poland in dollars and paid out in zlotys at the official rate of exchange. A maximum of 100 zlotys a month may be received by any individual.

Russian-Occupied Area - Money is transmitted to the Russian-occupied section of Poland in dollars and paid out in roubles at the official rate of exchange. Banks generally are accepting funds for transmission into the Russian occupied area of Poland.

Because of conditions brought about by the war, no bank will guarantee delivery of remittances, but if delivery is not effected, the banks stated that they will make refund to the senders.

#### Transmission of Packages

At the present time there is no way of sending packages into either the German or the Russian-occupied area of Poland. Although there are certain commercial companies which claim to be able to send food packages into the German occupied area, it is considered inadvisable to send such gifts to people living in that territory.

#### Transmission of Clothing

The Polish National Council, at 25 St. Marks Place, New York City, is accepting gifts of used clothing. The Polish Relief Commission which has arranged for shipment of this clothing has assumed responsibility for its distribution, on a non-sectarian basis, among the refugees in Lithuania, Hungary, Roumania, and the needy population in Poland. It is suggested that persons interested in making donations of used clothing should get in touch with the Polish National Council in order to secure detailed information in regard to the matter.

(We are indebted to the Joint Distribution Committee for this information with regard to Poland. Neither the Joint Distribution Committee nor the National Refugee Service, Inc. can assume any responsibility for money transmitted to European countries at this time.)



REFUGEES INTERNED IN FRENCH CAMPS MAY EMIGRATE

The French Government has issued instructions to the military directors of the camps in which refugees are interned to permit those refugees who are prepared to emigrate to be transferred to camps near to the port of embarkation. This is especially true for those who receive visas for the United States.

William Haber  
Executive Director

Cecilia Razovsky  
Director, Migration Department

WRHS





# NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE

## QUESTIONNAIRE

DATE:

RE:

PORT OF ENTRY NUMBER:

WASHINGTON FILE NUMBER:

NAME OF IMMIGRANT (FULL)

PRESENT ADDRESS:

FORMER ADDRESSES: (Including country of origin and transit country)

DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH:

DATE

PLACE

FAMILY DATA:

MARRIAGE

DIVORCED

WIDOWED

PERSONAL DATA RE. WIFE AND CHILDREN:

NAMES

AGES

PRESENT RESIDENCE

WHO REFERRED IMMIGRANT TO AGENCY?

PERSONAL DESCRIPTION: (Particularly with regard to ability to maintain self. Is there a physical handicap? If so, describe it; is it of recent origin?)

OCCUPATION OR PROFESSION: (Give full details. If there is a physical handicap has it interfered with work?)

TO WHOM DESTINED:

NAME

ADDRESS

IMMIGRATION DETAILS:

Date of arrival

Place of arrival

Steamship or railroad - give exact name

BOND (if any)

State amount, number, type and bondsman's name and address

PASSPORT - NUMBER AND COUNTRY:

Date issued:

Place issued:

Extensions:

When expires:

TYPE OF VISA:

When issued:

Where issued:

Extensions - date (attach copies of letters granting extensions)



PROSPECTIVE AFFIANTS - (if necessary, add further details on separate sheet)

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>RELATIONSHIP</u>	<u>PLANS FOR IMMIGRANT</u>
--------------	----------------	---------------------	----------------------------

OTHER RELATIVES AND FRIENDS - U.S. OR ABROAD:

<u>NAMES</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>	<u>RELATIONSHIP</u>	<u>PLANS FOR IMMIGRANT</u>
--------------	----------------	---------------------	----------------------------

FUNDS AVAILABLE:

For transit country:  
For change of status:

ASSISTANCE RECEIVED - Relatives:  
Other Sources:

Has Immigrant an opportunity to secure employment? - Enter Business? - Obtain Scholarship for student status?: (Give full details)

IS IMMIGRANT KNOWN TO ANY OTHER AFFILIATED AGENCY? (If so, give details. If report available, please attach.)

YOUR RECOMMENDATIONS:



CABLES: NACOMREF, New York  
TELEPHONE: BRYANT 9-2102

## NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

AN ORGANIZATION DESIGNED TO CARRY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL  
COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES AND CERTAIN OF ITS AFFILIATES

165 WEST 46TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

May 1, 1940

### OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

JOSEPH P. CHAMBERLAIN  
*Chairman of the Board*

WILLIAM ROSENWALD  
*President*

WILLIAM K. FRANK

EUSTACE SELIGMAN

DAVID H. SULZBERGER

MORRIS WOLF  
*Vice-Presidents*

S. MARSHALL KEMPNER  
*Treasurer*

PAUL FELIX WARBURG  
*Secretary*

MRS. MYRON S. FALK, JR.

SAMUEL A. GOLDSMITH

I. EDWIN GOLDWASSER

HARRY GREENSTEIN

JOSEPH C. HYMAN

SOLOMON LOWENSTEIN

CLARENCE E. PICKETT

ERICH M. WARBURG

ETHEL H. WISE

JONAH B. WISE

WILLIAM HABER  
*Executive Director*

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

The Executive Committee has instructed me to notify you that a meeting of the members and directors of the National Refugee Service, Inc. will be held in New York on Tuesday afternoon, May 21, 1940. Further formal notice of the meeting will be sent you in due course. We are, however, writing you at this time in advance of the formal notice so that you may have more time in which to make your plans to attend the meeting.

The Executive Committee was of the opinion that it would be preferable to conduct a formal meeting in the afternoon, in conjunction with a meeting of the Executive Committee itself, rather than to hold the meeting over a Spring weekend. It was thought wise to have this meeting as soon as possible in order to have our plans for work completed before the summer.

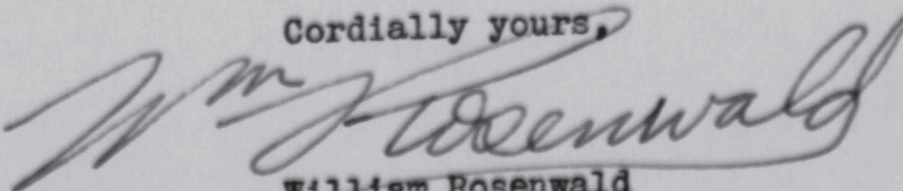
The success of our plan in holding this meeting will depend on getting from you the fullest measure of your cooperation by your making every effort to insure that we have a well attended meeting on the date set.

We need your approval of our plans both for our operations and for making our financial arrangements for the coming year, and, as I said in my earlier letter, we wish to get your best thoughts to guide us on these subjects and policies in addition to your participation in the formal business to be transacted.

Will you, therefore, please indicate on the attached copy of this letter, which is enclosed for your convenience in replying, whether or not you will be present. We know that you are aware of the significance of the plans to be made and that you will do your best to join with us at the meeting, on May 21st.

With kind personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

  
William Rosenwald  
President

I shall be able to attend \_\_\_\_\_

I shall not be able to attend \_\_\_\_\_



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

THE OFFICERS, MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND THE FOLLOWING:

MICHAEL G. APPEL, Brooklyn  
 MRS. GEORGE BACKER, New York  
 PAUL BAERWALD, New York  
 EDGAR S. BAMBERGER, West Orange  
 WALTER H. BIERINGER, Boston  
 JACOB BILLIKOFF, Philadelphia  
 JACOB BLAUBSTEIN, Baltimore  
 ABNER BREGMAN, New York  
 DAVID M. BRESSLER, New York  
 ALEXANDER BREST, Jacksonville, Fla.  
 ARTHUR BRIN, Minneapolis  
 JOHN S. BURKE, New York  
 BENJAMIN J. BUTTENWIESE, New York  
 FRED M. BUTZEL, Detroit  
 LOUIS CAPLAN, Pittsburgh  
 DUDLEY CATES, New York  
 SAMUEL MCCREA CAVERT, New York  
 G. A. EFROYMSON, Indianapolis  
 MRS. SYDNEY B. ERLANGER, New York  
 ALFRED I. ESBERG, San Francisco  
 JOHN M. FRANK, Chicago  
 ROBERT V. FRIEDMAN, St. Louis  
 HENRY J. FRIENDLY, New York  
 MRS. MAURICE L. GOLDMAN, San Francisco  
 RICHARD S. GOLDMAN, New York  
 DAVID M. HEYMAN, New York  
 MAX HIRSCH, Cincinnati  
 MAX S. HIRSCH, Portland, Ore.  
 PHILIP C. JESSUP, New York  
 ALVIN S. JOHNSON, New York  
 MRS. ELY J. KAHN, New York  
 LOUIS E. KIRSTEIN, Boston  
 DANIEL E. KOSHLAND, San Francisco  
 FLORINA LASKER, New York  
 PETER I. B. LAVAN, New York

ROBERT LAZARUS, Columbus, Ohio  
 ROBERT LEHMAN, New York  
 CHARLES J. LIEBMAN, New York  
 ISIDOR LOEB, St. Louis  
 JOSEPH P. LOEB, Los Angeles  
 RICHARD O. LOENGARD, New York  
 HERBERT MALLINSON, Dallas  
 JAMES G. McDONALD, Brooklyn  
 ARTHUR S. MEYER, New York  
 HENRY MONSKY, Omaha  
 WILLIAM A. NEILSON, New York  
 REUBEN OPPENHEIMER, Baltimore  
 DAVID DE SOLA POOL, New York  
 MICHAEL J. READY, Washington, D. C.  
 EDGAR SALINGER, New York  
 MRS. JOSEPH M. SCHAAP, Brooklyn  
 LEONWIG SCHIFF, Los Angeles  
 WILLIAM J. SROEDER, Cincinnati  
 ABBA HILLEL SILVER, Cleveland  
 EDGAR B. STERN, New Orleans  
 MRS. MARION R. STERN, New York  
 HUGH GRANT STRAUS, Brooklyn  
 MRS. NATHAN STRAUS, Valhalla, N. Y.  
 LEWIS L. STRAUSS, New York  
 FRANK L. SULZBERGER, Chicago  
 WILLIAM B. THALHIMER, Richmond, Va.  
 F. FRANK VORENBERG, Boston  
 EDWARD M. M. WARBURG, New York  
 GEORGE L. WARREN, New York  
 ALBERT C. WEIHL, Cincinnati  
 FRANK L. WEIL, New York  
 SOL WEINBERG, Philadelphia  
 WILLIAM ALLEN WHITE, Emporia, Kansas  
 HENRY WINEMAN, Detroit  
 RALPH WOLF, New York



CABLES: NACOMREF, NEW YORK  
TELEPHONE: BRYANT 9-2102

## NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

AN ORGANIZATION DESIGNED TO CARRY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL  
COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES AND CERTAIN OF ITS AFFILIATES

165 WEST 46TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

May 15, 1940

### OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

JOSEPH P. CHAMBERLAIN  
*Chairman of the Board*

WILLIAM ROSENWALD  
*President*

WILLIAM K. FRANK

EUSTACE SELIGMAN

DAVID H. SULZBERGER

MORRIS WOLF  
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S. MARSHALL KEMPNER  
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SOLOMON LOWENSTEIN

CLARENCE E. PICKETT

ERICH M. WARBURG

ETHEL H. WISE

JONAH B. WISE

WILLIAM HABER  
*Executive Director*

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

Dear Rabbi Silver:

Although you have indicated that it will not be possible for you to attend the meeting of the Board of Directors to be held on Tuesday, May 21, 1940, I thought you would be interested in seeing the enclosed material which will be considered at that time.

Enclosed herewith you will find:

- a) The Treasurer's report for the year 1939, and a statement of income and expenditures for the first quarter of 1940.
- b) A statement over the signature of Mr. I. Edwin Goldwasser, Chairman of the Budget Committee, concerning the budgetary situation, and a summary of the issues which the Board of Directors must consider at this meeting.
- c) A summary of the matters dealt with by the Executive Committee during the ten meetings which have taken place since the last report submitted at the meeting of the Board of Directors held in Chicago, on December 2, 1939.

I regret very much that you will not be able to be with us next Tuesday.

With best wishes to you,

Sincerely yours,

*William Haber*  
William Haber



C O N F I D E N T I A L

Report of the Treasurer  
of the National Refugee Service, Inc.  
for the Annual Meeting  
of the  
Members and the Board of Directors  
in New York City, on May 21, 1940

The receipts of the National Refugee Service, Inc. for the year from January 1 to December 31, 1939 amounted to \$2,543,391.14. These receipts were derived chiefly from the United Jewish Appeal.

Expenditures for the same period were in the amount of \$2,470,393.01.

National Refugee Service, Inc. began the year 1939 with a deficit of \$112,821.72 and ended the year with a deficit of \$39,823.59. As of December 31, 1939 the National Refugee Service, Inc. had received from the United Jewish Appeal on account of the \$2,600,000 allotted for the year 1939 a total of \$2,500,000 (which is the amount included in the figure of income for 1939 quoted above). Of the \$100,000 due us at the close of the year, \$60,000 has been made available during 1940. It is anticipated that additional collections which the United Jewish Appeal will make on its 1939 pledges will make it possible for us to receive this year the \$40,000 balance still due us.

The records of the National Refugee Service, Inc. have been audited and attested by Messrs. Loeb & Troper, Certified Public Accountants, for the year 1939. The statement of income and expenditures for 1939 (Exhibit A, attached) represents part of their report.

During the first four months of this year, in order to continue operations we were obliged to borrow \$1,300,000 from various sources, including Foundations, American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, and the Public National Bank and Trust Company, as specified in Exhibit B, attached. These borrowings, together with funds from other sources, mainly United Jewish Appeal, gave us cash resources of \$1,647,171.94,



of which we have expended for operations \$1,147,342.21, leaving a cash balance on April 30, 1940 of \$499,829.73.

I should like to point out that the loans from the Foundations are repayable by August 1st of this year. We have arranged to set aside semi-monthly, out of funds received by us from the United Jewish Appeal, 25% of the amount due to the Foundations in order to provide for the repayment of these loans. The loans from the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, amounting to \$450,000 are payable October 1, 1940. We have anticipated payment of the obligation by paying the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee \$200,000 on account. Detailed information in connection with these loans is given in Exhibit B, attached.

Any further information in connection with this report may be obtained upon request.

S. Marshall Kempner  
Treasurer

5/15/40



NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE INC.

(INCLUDING PREDECESSOR ORGANIZATIONS)

GENERAL FUNDS

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES

Exhibit "A"

Q

INCOME:

Receipts from United Jewish Appeal - 1939 Campaign.....		\$2,500,000.00 (A)
Contributions - 1938 Campaign.....	\$ 15,412.60	
Less: - Provision for Uncollectible Pledge.....	2,400.00	13,012.60
Refunds - Relief (from clients, relatives, affiants).....	\$ 22,809.04	
- Expenses.....	7,569.50	30,378.54
<u>TOTAL INCOME</u> .....		<u>\$2,543,391.14</u>

EXPENDITURES:

	<u>Relief</u>	<u>Salaries</u>	<u>Total</u>
Functional Departments:			
Relief and Service Department.....	\$ 989,407.58	\$232,184.20	\$1,221,591.78
Migration Department.....	160,754.68	150,506.76	311,261.44
Resettlement Department.....	109,298.71	75,471.35	184,770.06
Employment Department.....	896.55	31,204.00	32,100.55
Special Committees.....	56,344.19	20,226.81	76,571.00
Greater New York Coordinating Committee.....	-	22,688.38	22,688.38
	<u>\$1,316,701.71</u>	<u>\$532,281.50</u>	<u>\$1,848,983.21</u>
Non-Functional Departments.....	-	115,670.57	115,670.57
	<u>\$1,316,701.71</u>	<u>\$647,952.07</u>	<u>\$1,964,653.78</u>
Office Expenses.....		\$ 249,868.26	
Subvention to Other Organizations Aiding Refugees.....		177,986.75	
<u>Total Operating Expenditures</u> .....		<u>\$2,392,508.79</u>	

Non-Recurring Expenditures:

Cost of Enlarging Office Quarters.....	\$ 63,125.89	
Lease and Service Deposits.....	14,758.33	77,884.22

TOTAL EXPENDITURES.....\$2,470,393.01

EXCESS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURES - YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1939.....\$ 72,998.13

Deficit - January 1, 1939 (as adjusted).....112,821.72

DEFICIT - DECEMBER 31, 1939.....\$ 39,823.59 (A)

(A) The income does not include a balance of \$100,000 necessary to complete the allotment of \$2,600,000 by the United Jewish Appeal, Inc., for 1939, of which \$50,000 has been received subsequent to December 31, 1939.



STATEMENT OF LOANS  
NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE

<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>DATE DUE</u>	<u>DATE OF INTEREST</u>
New York Foundation	\$ 50,000	August 1st	2%
Hofheimer Foundation	50,000	August 1st	2½%
Baron de Hirsch Fund	25,000	August 1st	1½%
Felix and Frieda Schiff Warburg Foundation	25,000	August 1st	2%
Rosenwald Family Association	150,000	August 1st	1½%
Ittelson Foundation	50,000	*	1%
Joint Distribution Committee**	450,000	October 1st	2½%
Public National Bank & Trust Co. of N.Y.	500,000	October 15- \$100,000 November 15- 100,000 December 16- 300,000	2½% 2½% 2½%
 TOTAL	 \$1,300,000		

\* Repayable semi-monthly at rate of \$12,500. beginning with June 15th.

\*\* The loans from the Joint Distribution Committee amounting to \$450,000 are payable October 1st. At this writing we have anticipated this date by paying The Joint Distribution Committee \$200,000. on account.



SUMMARY OF THE MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS  
OF THE  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.  
COVERING THE PERIOD  
NOVEMBER 28, 1939 THROUGH APRIL 30, 1940

The Executive Committee of the National Refugee Service, Inc., meets at the offices of the organization every other Tuesday at 3:45 P.M. Since the last report to the Board of Directors covering the meetings through November 21, 1939, the Executive Committee has had ten meetings. In addition to reviewing current operations of the agency, approving decisions of the Budget Committee, examining and passing upon such reports as are presented by the Executive Director and others, the following items on which specific action was taken by the Executive Committee are briefly summarized below for ratification by the Board of Directors:

POLICY CONCERNING AFFIANTS AND RELATIVES OF CLIENTS SEEKING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The Committee, on November 28, 1939, approved the then current procedure,-- namely, that the National Refugee Service, Inc. would in no case send a refugee directly to affiants or relatives out of town prior to clearance with the respective affiant, relative or local committee. It was further agreed that whenever possible, National Refugee Service, Inc. would secure assistance for clients through relatives or affiants, but that discretion would be used in seeking such assistance from persons who were accommodation affiants only.

It was established that in the case of non-accommodation affiants who were able to assist but refused to do so, the agency would not give relief. However, if such cases resulted in a threat of deportation, the Executive Committee would be apprised and the case would be considered by a sub-committee appointed for this purpose. The agency would have to assume responsibility so that the refugee would not suffer undue hardship.

RELIEF POLICY IN RELATION TO RESETTLEMENT

On November 28, 1939, the Executive Committee decided that relief should be denied to:

- a. Refugees who refuse to accept resettlement.
- b. Refugees who have been resettled but returned to New York without good cause.

It was further agreed that resettlement policy should be continued on the basis of the applicant's fitness for adjustment in the available community and not on the basis of relief status.

SCOPE OF EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

There was general agreement at the meeting of the Committee on November 28, 1939, that employment service would be made available to all refugees applying, regardless of relief status or refusal of resettlement. However, it was agreed that in selection of refugees for job opportunities, first consideration should be given to persons on relief, provided that qualified applicants can be found.

GIVING OF RELIEF ON A LOAN BASIS

It was decided at the meeting of the Committee on November 28, 1939, that



all applicants for relief should be asked to sign a form of loan, in which they agree to repay the agency at such time as funds are available.

#### SPACE

On January 2, 1940, the Executive Committee authorized the Executive Director to make such arrangements for additional space as was needed to meet the current situation of increased traffic at the offices.

#### SURETY BONDS

The Committee, at its meeting on January 2, 1940, approved an agreement with the National Surety Corporation for the issuance of surety bonds in connection with the admission of aliens to this country up to an amount not exceeding \$50,000 in the aggregate.

#### ENGLISH DEPOSITS

In order to facilitate the clearance of checks and drafts received from the Jewish Refugees Committee or the German Jewish Aid Committee of London, England, the Executive Committee, on January 2nd, adopted a resolution authorizing their endorsement by any two of four specified persons--as follows: Arthur D. Greenleigh, William Haber, Cecilia Razovsky and Irwin Speiser.

#### SUBVENTIONS TO OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

On January 23, 1940, a sub-committee was appointed to study the problem of subventions which the National Refugee Service, Inc. makes to other organizations. In the meantime the Budget Committee was authorized to make monthly allocations on the prevailing basis.

The Committee approved a motion, on March 5, 1940, to limit the subventions to other organizations to a total of \$254,500, which is included in the total budget of \$3,790,525. It provided further that an additional sum, not exceeding \$10,000 be set aside as a reserve for additional subventions to be approved by the Executive Committee in each instance.

#### BUDGET

On January 23, 1940, the Executive Committee withheld endorsement of the budget for \$4,362,000 submitted as an estimate for the needs of the organization in 1940. The Committee approved, however, the estimates for the first quarter and authorized the Budget Committee to approve monthly budgets on that basis within these amounts.

A revised budget on the basis of the first quarter's experience, representing an estimate of \$3,790,525 was presented on March 19, 1940 and approved by the Committee with a provision that it be reviewed before July 1, in relation to the then current needs and the then estimated income. In the interval, the Budget Committee was authorized to approve monthly budgets for April, May and June, within the estimates indicated in the budget of \$3,790,525, and with the additional authority to exceed this amount by no more than \$10,000 in any one month.

#### MIAMI

The Committee approved, at their meeting on January 23, 1940, the opening



of a \$1,000 revolving fund account in a Miami Bank in order to provide for current disbursements for transportation and relief in connection with National Refugee Service operations in Miami.

#### CUBA

The Committee accepted, at their meeting on March 19, 1940, the agreement of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee that as of January 1, 1940 the latter would assume responsibility for administrative and relief expenses for cases sent to Cuba by the National Refugee Service for change of status.

#### RESPONSIBILITY FOR NEW YORK CITY RELIEF LOAD

In accordance with the action of the Board of Directors at its meeting on December 2, 1939, the Executive Committee has discussed with the New York Federation for the Support of Jewish Philanthropic Societies the assumption of responsibility by the Federation for phases of our work which are distinctly local in character. The sub-committee of the Executive Committee has been in consultation with a sub-committee of the Distribution Committee of the Federation and has made a specific request for the assumption by the Federation of certain costs now met by National Refugee Service over and above the sum of \$1,000,000 made available by the New York Campaign of the United Jewish Appeal. The Federation sub-committee has indicated that Federation institutions are already spending large sums directly for refugee needs, particularly in hospitalization and medical services. At this date the matter is being given further study in order to determine the actual expenditures being made by Federation agencies for such purposes.

#### BROOKLYN RELIEF LOAD

The Executive Committee, on March 5, 1940, approved the rental of space in Brooklyn to provide for a branch office of the Relief and Service Department which would serve the Brooklyn relief load of approximately 800 cases.

#### AUTHORIZATIONS FOR NEW ACCOUNTS AND PROCEDURES PERTAINING THERETO

The Committee gave specific approval for the establishment of appropriate accounts and financial controls and authorized signatures to its checks and vouchers.

#### POLICY CONCERNING LOANS AND AUTHORIZATION TO BORROW

At a meeting of the Executive Committee on December 19, 1939, the borrowing of funds to finance the operations of the organization until income from the United Jewish Appeal is available, was fully discussed. Authorization was given for the borrowing of a total sum of \$350,000 from various foundations in January and February. In addition, authorization was given for borrowing a total of \$450,000 during January, February and March, from the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

Since it appeared that the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee would not be in a position to advance additional funds to us in view of their own pressing needs, the Executive Committee discussed the problem of borrowing directly from banks. There were some objections to this step, expressed particularly by some members of the Committee who felt it would be undesirable to borrow directly in our own behalf since it might have an adverse effect on certain of our public relations. The Committee however, with some dissent, finally authorized the arrange-



ments for a direct loan from banks.

At its meeting on April 16, the Executive Committee authorized and approved a loan of \$500,000 from the Public National Bank and Trust Company.

ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS

On April 16, 1940, the Executive Committee authorized the holding of a joint annual meeting of the Members and Directors of the National Refugee Service, Inc., in New York on May 21, 1940.

RECOMMENDATION FOR BOARD MEMBERS AND MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee appointed, on April 30, 1940, a sub-committee to prepare suggested additions to the Board of Directors and to the Executive Committee for presentation to the Board at the annual meeting to be held on May 21, 1940.





C O N F I D E N T I A L

Report of the Budget Committee  
of the National Refugee Service, Inc.  
for the Annual Meeting  
of the  
Members and the Board of Directors  
in New York City, on May 21, 1940

Since July 1, 1939, the National Refugee Service has been able to establish budgetary control over all of its activities. On the basis of our experience during the last six months of 1939, we have been able to estimate our needs for the year 1940.

In our application to the United Jewish Appeal, we requested an allocation of \$4,500,000 to cover our estimated expenditures during 1940. It was indicated that in this estimate no provision had been made for working capital during the first months of 1941. Subsequent to our original application, the amount requested was, on the basis of the revised estimates, reduced to \$4,362,450.

The United Jewish Appeal, however, allocated a sum of \$3,500,000 with a provision that if campaign collections were sufficient, the National Refugee Service would be permitted to make an additional application not to exceed \$500,000, if the \$3,500,000 is found to be inadequate. This additional allocation of \$500,000 is, of course, to be based upon actual needs, which are to be subject to examination by the Allocations Committee of the United Jewish Appeal. It was further agreed that the National Refugee Service may solicit funds from foundations which are prohibited either by their charter regulations or by-laws, from contributing to the United Jewish Appeal.

In view of the allocation of \$3,500,000 it was necessary to make adjustments and accordingly, our budget estimate for 1940 was further revised to a total of \$3,790,525. Our present expenditures are in excess of \$3,500,000 and conform to the estimate of \$3,790,525 made earlier.



It is of course difficult to calculate at this date, the cash collections of the United Jewish Appeal during 1940. It is not possible, therefore, to forecast the probable cash receipts by the National Refugee Service. The following questions must therefore be answered:

- a) Should we continue on the basis of the present minimum estimate of \$3,790,525? Not to do so would require an immediate revision of some of our policies and the reduction of our present expenditures, particularly our expenditures in direct cash assistance to refugees. This item alone is estimated at \$175,000 for the month of May.
- b) Should we base our monthly expenditures upon \$3,500,000 already allotted to us, and leave out of consideration the possibility of an additional allocation or funds from foundations?
- c) Should our actual expenditures be curtailed even below the allocation already made to a figure which represents the probable cash income of the organization during 1940, from the United Jewish Appeal? This may be as low as \$2,750,000.

It is important for the Board of Directors to decide which of these three alternatives is to be followed. It seems to me that any drastic reduction in our expenditures at this time, is out of the question, but the facts indicated above, present the problem on which the Board of Directors must make decision at the meeting on May 21st.

Should it develop that we receive only \$2,750,000 in cash from the United Jewish Appeal during 1940, it will be necessary to borrow approximately \$850,000 by the end of this year, in order to meet our obligations for the year. Needless to say, this amount would be reduced by whatever sums we receive in cash from the United Jewish Appeal in excess of the \$2,750,000 included in this estimate.

Obviously there will be no funds with which to begin operations during 1941. If we estimate that out of the \$850,000 which will be due us from the



United Jewish Appeal, \$450,000 will actually be paid to us in cash during January, February and March of 1941, we shall be compelled to borrow additional sums to finance our operations during the first quarter of 1941. On the basis of estimates made at this time, approximately \$650,000 will need to be borrowed in order to meet our obligations during the first quarter of 1941. Thus it must be indicated that if these estimates of the cash available during 1940 and the first quarter of 1941 are correct, a sum as high as \$1,500,000 may have to be borrowed to finance our operations for the balance of this year and through the first quarter of 1941.

The Board of Directors must give serious consideration to this probability, and provide specific authorization for such steps as may be necessary.

In addition, it should be indicated that while we are quite confident that we shall be able to keep within the present estimated expenditures of \$3,790,525 during this year, it is reasonable to expect that if extraordinary developments occur, which cannot now be foreseen, our estimates may have to be revised.

I. Edwin Goldwasser  
Chairman, Budget Committee



CABLES: NACOMREF, NEW YORK  
TELEPHONE: BRYANT 9-2102

## NATIONAL REFUGEE SERVICE, INC.

AN ORGANIZATION DESIGNED TO CARRY ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE NATIONAL  
COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES AND CERTAIN OF ITS AFFILIATES

165 WEST 46TH STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

June 10, 1940

### OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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JONAH B. WISE

WILLIAM HABER  
*Executive Director*

Rabbi Abba Hillel Silver,  
The Temple,  
E. 105th St. at Ansel Rd.,  
Cleveland, Ohio.

Dear Rabbi Silver:

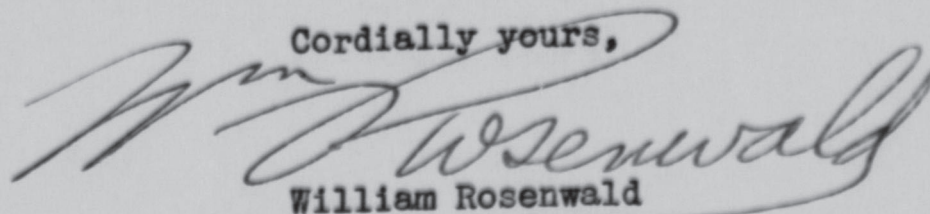
It is indeed a pleasure to inform you of your  
unanimous re-election to the Board of Directors of the  
National Refugee Service, Inc.

While I regret that it was impossible for you  
to attend the meeting of the Board on May 21st, 1940,  
in New York City, you will be interested in knowing that  
the challenging problems presented by our work received  
serious consideration. The summary of the minutes of  
the meeting is now in preparation and will be mailed you  
shortly.

If you will acknowledge your re-election on  
the copy of this letter, which is enclosed for your con-  
venience in replying, our records will be complete. With  
your support, I am confident that we can continue the  
vital work in which we are engaged.

With renewed thanks for your continued inter-  
est and cooperation, and with best personal wishes, I am

Cordially yours,

  
William Rosenwald