

PROPOSALS FOR COURSE OF ACTION TO ALLEVIATE THE TRAGIC
CONDITION OF JEWS IN OCCUPIED COUNTRIES

I- Food Problems:

The reason why the problem of food must be stressed is that we are informed through documents received from the Department of State that one of the primary reasons for the extermination policy is the difficult food situation in Poland and in other occupied countries. It is a matter of fact that the plan for the extermination of the Jews was presented by Herman Backe, Secretary of State for Economics of the German government. The plan of Herman Backe was based on economic reasons in order to ease the difficult food problem by the annihilation of at least four million persons who would otherwise have to be fed.

Another vital fact is that the Jews in Poland receive only one third of the meager bread rations allotted to the Poles. Furthermore:

- a) Jews cannot purchase unrationed articles still available;
- b) They are denied access to many rationed products;
- c) They receive no supplementary food for heavy manual labor such as are given other manual laborers, and
- d) Being confined to the ghetto, they cannot go to the countryside in search for food;
- e) Finally, pregnant Jewish women, mothers and small children are denied milk rations.

Thus, it is clear that it is a policy of the Germans besides other direct methods, to have the Jews die of hunger and disease.

The following proposal is suggested to alleviate this problem:

THAT the American and British Government sanction the sailing of "mercy ships" of food to be sent from the United States to Poland and to other occupied countries to augment their rations to approach the subsistence rations of the rest of the population and would be distributed through the medium of the International Red Cross or other neutral bodies, and that negotiations be made with the necessary countries to see that the plan be expedited.

A similar precedent has been established by the Allied Governments by sending periodically mercy ships to Greece under the supervision of neutral bodies.

We feel that if this proposal is carried through it will be one of the greatest expressions of sympathy the world can show to the destitute Jewish people. It will best depict the desire of the Allied countries to help these innocent suffering millions and will probably have a marked influence on the Nazis in their treatment towards the Jews.

II - Exchange Methods:

Another proposal which is made is that of exchange. Efforts must be made to have the American and British Governments institute a system of exchange between Jews who are nationals of the United Nations under Nazi occupation and German national civilians who are in Allied countries, and that the former be transposed until after the war, to any of the Possessions or Dominions under Allied control. This method of exchange has already been effectively put into action on three different occasions in Palestine in the year 1942 by the British Government.

III - Rescue of Jewish Children from German-occupied Countries:

a) The greatest efforts by far must be exerted by the Allied Governments to save the Jewish children who are reputedly mercilessly and specifically chosen for annihilation over the adults.

b) That negotiations be undertaken by the Allied Governments with the governments of neutral countries neighboring on German-occupied territories in order to insure entry into the neutral countries of a greater number of such children with the guaranteed assurances for their eventual migration to other countries after the war, and with the complete assumption of responsibility for their provision while in the neutral countries.

c) That upon granting permission by the neutral countries for the entry of the refugee children, it will be vital for the Allied Governments to arrange through proper authorities to negotiate with the German government for the exit of these children.

d) That the Allied Governments negotiate with the neutral countries such as Switzerland, Sweden, Turkey and others to permit the entry of Jewish refugees until the conclusion of the war, and that the Allied nations assure the neutral countries that these refugees will not become public charges.

IV - That the United States Government be requested under existing immigrations laws to facilitate and propitiate the entry into the United States of these victims of persecution now in neutral countries. These neutral countries such as Spain and Portugal, thus vacated will thereby provide the opportunity to other victims seeking refuge in their countries.

IV - b - It is noteworthy that far reaching problems are being discussed in England on a major platform for the immediate relief of the Jews condemned to torture and death. A newspaper dispatch from London dated January 28th is of particular interest in this connection. This dispatch reports that a delegation representing both Houses of Parliament and all political parties and elected by special committee including the Archbishop of Canterbury at a long conference with Ministers, the following proposals were presented;

1. To request of the Hitler Regime (through proper neutral authorities) that it permit the Jews to leave Nazi-occupied territory.
2. To make public that England, its dominions and colonies, and all other United Nations, including the United States, will provide a haven for these Jews.
3. The means for transporting these Jews are to be provided.
4. To prevail upon neutral countries to permit the Jews to enter their territories.