August 25, 1941

Dear Friends:

We understand that your organization is making some efforts to save 450 Rabbis and Yeshivah students who are now in Japan and Shanghai and we are most interested in knowing more about this matter. The World Jewish Congress will be very glad to cooperate with you in saving these people.

We were sorry to learn that there is a misunderstanding in Shanghai between the former relief committee there and the Jewish refugees coming from Poland and that this led to the establishment of a separate committee for the Eastern European Jewish refugees. As far as we are concerned, we see no great disaster in the functioning of two refugee committees in Shanghai, since it would certainly be most difficult for one committee to fulfill the needs of two such different groups as the Jews coming from Germany and from Poland; their natures and their standard of living are so varied. We hope that the Joint Distribution Committee will understand this point of view and will agree to subsidize the Eastern Jewish Committee as well.

In any case, you will no doubt be glad to learn that the World Jewish Congress, after being informed of the plight of the Eastern Jews by the representatives of the Polish Jews in New York, decided to subsidize the Eastern Jewish Committee to the extent of $500 monthly.

Hoping to hear from you in regard to your work, we remain,

Very sincerely yours,

Dr. Arieh Tartakower
Secretary-General