December 20, 1948

TC: World Jewish Congress
     American Joint Distribution Committee
     Jewish Agency for Palestine
     American Jewish Committee
     American Jewish Conference

Gentlemen:

Since this is the last of my reports from Germany, I shall make it rather full. In it I shall attempt to summarize the developments of the past ten months, indicate what the current problems are and project what issues may have to be faced in the future.

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Personal Note
I. INTRODUCTION - GENERAL ESTIMATE OF SITUATION

When I entered upon my duties the latter part of January, the situation in Germany was anything but encouraging. Although the United Nations' decision on partition had been reached, the countries that supported it, including our own, were vacillating on this issue and for a while it appeared that the victory achieved at Lake Success was an illusory one. I recall the mood of the DPs. It was one approaching despondency. Jewish Palestine was engaged in war with the Arabs and the only people in whom the Jewish Agency for Palestine, operating in Germany, were interested, were those who could readily be integrated into the fighting forces. Immigration had bogged down to insignificant figures for the prospect of going to Cyprus rather than to Palestine was not very inviting. In addition to this, the status of the Romanian Jewish infultrates was not determined. They were being threatened with eviction from the camps in which they were illegally absorbed.

This situation was not only disheartening to the DPs but was disquieting to the military authorities. With little to occupy their time, the DPs engaged altogether too openly in the black market and the authorities countered with frequent search raids on the camps. One of my first impressions that there was a sense of crisis about the entire situation was reported to you in my first letter, dated February 24.

The picture changed as conditions in Palestine improved. It took on a radically different aspect when on May 15 Israel came into being and the United States and other countries hastened to give it recognition. This was followed by a brief period of uncertainty in which the DPs wondered whether the Arab challenge to Israel would succeed. When the Jews not only stood their ground but took the initiative away from the Arabs, the picture changed completely. People began to flock to the Jewish Agency offices for the early opportunity to migrate to Israel. They dropped their complaints that they were "trapped" and "imprisoned" in Germany and Austria and went about their business of preparing themselves for migration to that country.

The U. S. Immigration bill convinced many people that their hope to migrate to the States was illusory, but it helped to crystallize the thinking of these people as to where they had to go.

At the same time that the prevailing mood of the DPs changed, the attitude of the military authorities softened. The constant criticism of the DPs that one would hear on the highest levels yielded to an intense interest in helping the migration out of Germany. Thus, when IRO took the position that it could not sponsor or participate in
the movement to Israel, the Army stepped into the breach and lent the
migration logistic support. This metamorphosis was of course not
inspired by any suddenly developed love for the DPs. The change mere-
ly emphasized what my predecessors, Judge Rifkind, Rabbi Bernstein and
Judge Levinthal consistently maintained; namely, that the DPs are an
irritant to the Army and that the only thing that could improve the
unwilling marriage between the two is to divorce one from the other.
The Army proved its eagerness to hasten this separation as will be seen
later in this letter. The mass movement of people out of the camps has
actually been under way for the past several months.

II. PROGRESS ON DP PROBLEM DURING 1948

1. Reduction in Size of Problem

Beyond doubt the greatest single advance made in the Jewish DP pro-
blem during the current year is the shrinkage in the population during
that period. You are already aware of the fact that accurate, up to
date population figures are not available. Neither the Army nor the
IHO has succeeded in developing the techniques for an accurate statist-
cal count of camp population and the measure of the number of Jewish
people living on the "German economy" is even less satisfactory. The
figures used below therefore, represent the best estimates, based on
such quantitative data as is available. The chart below indicates the
extent to which there has been a reduction from the beginning to the
end of the year 1948:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>US Zones</th>
<th>British Zones</th>
<th>French Zones</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>Germany</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 1 1948</td>
<td>29,500</td>
<td>22,700</td>
<td>17,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 31</td>
<td>1948</td>
<td></td>
<td>2,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(Estimated)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHRINKAGE</td>
<td>54,500</td>
<td>13,000</td>
<td>11,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is our view that as of the end of this year there are approxi-
mately 75,000 Jewish displaced persons in and out of camp in the U.S.
Zone, Germany; about 9,700 in the U.S. Zone, Austria; about 6,500 in
the British Zones of Germany and Austria; and about 1,600 in the French Zones of Germany and Austria. Thus the total number of Jewish displaced persons in all zones of Germany and Austria, as of the end of 1948 is estimated at 82,800.

The estimate of 82,800 Jewish displaced persons, in and out of camp in all zones of Germany and Austria does not include the German Jewish communities in these countries. You will be interested to know that at the end of 1948 there are estimated to be about 25,000 German and Austrian Jews living in the following communities:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Community</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Berlin</td>
<td>7,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>US Zone</td>
<td>3,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>British Zone</td>
<td>3,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vienna</td>
<td>10,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Remainder of Austria</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>25,400</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It should be indicated that these communities of German and Austrian Jews contain a considerable number of Jewish displaced persons from eastern countries who have become a part of these communities. I am told, for example, that of the 10,500 people in the Vienna community, no less than 2,000 are not really Austrian Jews but they consider themselves a part of the Jewish community in Vienna and are so considered by the community.

The reduction in the population cannot be accounted for wholly by the extent of resettlement during the period in question. Actually the official figures as of January 1, 1948 were inflated and represented so-called "malochim" whose departure in previous periods was not reflected in the population estimates. Moreover, any number of people left the zones during this period without any official sponsorship. By way of illustration, the actual resettlement figures from the U.S. Zone Germany, for the period under consideration, will reach only 37,572, as against the indicated reduction of 54,500 for this area.

2. Emigration Destination of Jews from Germany

You may be interested in the destination of the 37,572 Jewish people who left Germany during the year:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbados</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>Mexico</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>Nicaragua</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Norway</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>3,239</td>
<td><strong>Palestine</strong></td>
<td>24,219</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Paraguay</td>
<td>194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Rhodesia</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>1,460</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>France</strong></td>
<td>4,594</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>2,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Union South Africa</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Uruguay</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total ................................................................. 37,572

* It should be noted that the vast majority of those with visas from Germany to France probably went to Israel.

**This figure includes the estimated emigration for the month of December of 6,000. The "official" figure for emigration to Palestine is somewhat lower than indicated above as such official figures do not include those who left "illegally" between January 1 and May 30, 1948.

3. Health of the DFs

Without a complete medical survey of the camp population and the DFs who live in German communities, comments concerning the health situation must be in general terms. There is some evidence which justifies a rather favorable and optimistic report on this problem. To begin with, the JAFF and the AJDC have made rather extensive health surveys in many camps. In addition, the medical authorities for the Jewish Agency have provided a medical checkup for every emigrant destined for Israel. This was particularly thorough for the younger men who were being "recruited" for the giyus. The rejection rate in connection with giyus was about 10% ... which signifies relatively little since the physical standards were exceptionally flexible.
Nevertheless, one is impressed by the general appearance and health among the IPs and those who are familiar with the situation which prevailed a year ago and earlier attest to the fact that this represents an amazing improvement.

Except for the group that we call the "medical hard core", to whom I shall refer later, the Jewish IPs look like any normal, healthy group of people. The health and appearance of their children are particularly outstanding.

4. Morale of the IPs

I have casually alluded to the present morale of the IPs. I should like to elaborate on this point.

The spiritual health and the collective morale of the IPs have manifested themselves as a sensitive phenomena, capable of achieving high points and sinking to dangerous depression. During the course of the past year the group morale of the Jewish displaced persons has assumed various levels.

Basic to an understanding of the present character of DP morale and its development during the past year is an awareness of the factors which control and determine it. They are: (a) the fate of Israel; (b) the outlook for emigration to other countries; (c) the prospects of war; (d) the conditions of DP life.

Practically all the IPs, whether they are personally interested in emigration to Israel or not, recognize that they have a stake in the fate of that country and that their present status and their future are affected to a greater or lesser degree by what happens to the Jewish community in Israel. With the vast majority of the IPs the fate of Israel has been a crucial, personal question. They know that they must ultimately settle in Israel or go homeless for the rest of their days. They are concerned with the destiny of their friends and family who preceded them to Israel. It is clear that the events leading up to the establishment of the State, the military struggle and the political maneuvers that are still taking place, have had and will have a profound effect on the morale of the IPs.

It is obvious by now that a considerable part of the DP population came originally to the U.S. Zone Germany and Austria with the hope of joining relatives in the United States and other countries. While they fled from Poland and their other native lands because of fear, they certainly took many risks when they decided to gamble on the big hope of getting to the west. Increased movement to Canada
had a good effect on DP morale. The DP Immigration bill produced mixed results; it quickened the hopes of those who were eligible under the law and quickly killed the hopes of the ineligible. Although there was some disappointment in the unsatisfactory character of the DP bill, no depression of morale followed in its wake, or at least it was not discernible. The people were preoccupied with the giyus (recruitment for military service in Israel) and their elation over the establishment of the Jewish state and its military victories. While there is no overwhelming interest in the proposed liberalization of the DP Immigration law, I am certain that many DPs would welcome such a step. Many who had definitely concluded to go to Israel because they felt there was no chance of getting to the United States in the foreseeable future, are inclined to postpone their departure in the hope that if they remain a while longer in Germany, an amended DP immigration bill will make it possible for them to emigrate to the States. This feeling may postpone the solution of our problem. At least from the standpoint of the Jewish DPs, it were far better if Congress acted quickly one way or the other.

While in the main, the DPs have felt that in the event of war between east and west they would be ground to dust, some felt secure all along, maintaining a peculiar faith that the Jewish organizations would rescue them in the event of hostilities. They reasoned that they lived through one war and would live through another. The vast majority of the DPs however, have sporadically been plunged into mortal fear of the ugly prospects of war and their morale has certainly reacted to the easing and tightening of tensions between the east and west. Early in the year 1948, just before and immediately after the Berlin blockade began, the mood was one of panic because it was taken for granted by the DPs that war was inevitable and that it would come soon. Today the mood has leveled off. There is an undercurrent of anxiety but they believe that war is a long way off, and this factor does not significantly affect the morale of the DPs at this particular moment.

Their morale is in a large way also influenced by external conditions. The wave of raids on Jewish DP camps at the beginning of the year, the desecration of Jewish cemeteries, other anti-Semitic incidents, and the currency reform in June 1948 had a serious effect on the morale of the DPs. The little security and satisfaction which they had enjoyed from their successes in the economic struggle for simple subsistence in the land of starvation, were being dealt one blow after another. However, as the supply of the new currency became available and German production increased, buying and selling by Jews became profitable again.
During the past year there was also a decided improvement in housing conditions. Although thousands departed from the camps, very little housing space was taken away and the DP's were able to spread out and live somewhat more comfortably. While two or three families, at the beginning of the year, were still living in a single room, and large numbers of men, women and children lived together in large rooms or dormitories, this condition is not as prevalent. Today most every family has at least one room. Pressure has been removed from the frayed nerves of the people who literally lived on top of one another, in a condition of congestion which caused serious outbreaks of hysteria and bitter contention among the DP's.

In brief, the morale of the people today is much improved. Because the Jewish DP's feel that they have a place to which they can go and because their creature comforts have improved considerably, their morale is probably higher today than it has ever been since the end of the war.

5. Resistance to Extension of German Control Over DP Camps

An issue that kept bobbing up constantly is the extension of the control of German police authority over the DP camps. The immunity against surveillance by the German police was the only differential that the Jewish DP's enjoyed and constant pressure was exerted by the Germans to bring all in-camp DP's under their control. They maintained that in the face of the extra-territoriality extended to the Jewish DP's the German authorities were powerless to enforce the law. In this argument they were supported by a substantial number of influential Army officers, particularly in Military Government circles. The issue was raised squarely in several staff studies that recommended the use of German police in DP camps in varying degrees. Thus far, we have been successful in warding off this threat. I count this among the favorable developments because in the contest for the retention of the status quo, I think we succeeded in convincing the members of the Civil Affairs Division, who were pressing for the change, that it would be imprudent to turn the German police loose on the DP's before the size of the problem had been substantially reduced. I have already reported that on this matter General Clay supported our position throughout and he has also indicated that even when a western German state is created, responsibility for displaced persons will be retained by the occupation authorities.

6. Reduction in Number of Search and Seizure Raids on Camps

Related to the issue of the jurisdiction of German police over
the DPs is that of raids on the camps. In line with the position taken by my predecessors, we maintained that the mass raids were an indictment of an entire camp community and that the DPs were entitled to the safeguards against unreasonable search and seizure that the Army had extended to the Germans. Each time this argument was advanced the military authorities maintained that they did not have adequate personnel to patrol the camps and that as long as German police would be excluded from the camps the extraordinary methods of enforcing the law would have to be pursued. We finally succeeded in bringing our Headquarters around to the view that independent of the question of the use of German police in camps, the mass raids should be abolished. This position was taken in a Staff Study which had unanimous endorsement in EUCOM but, which, I am informed, was shelved by OMGUS in Berlin, pending the adoption of the Occupation Statute for Western Germany. Notwithstanding the fact that our views have not as yet found their way into any directive, I believe that our discussions of the problem have borne fruit. Within recent months there have been almost no raids, and I should be surprised if large scale mass raids will be conducted in the future. The effect of this development is to increase the sense of security on the part of the DPs, to decrease the possibilities of serious incidents and perhaps improve the attitude of the average soldier toward the DPs. The only contact our soldiers have had with Jewish displaced persons has often been as members of a raiding party.

7. Change in Attitude Toward Black Market

I believe that it is important to note that within recent months the authorities have matured on the problem of the black market and that this attitude has inured to the benefit of the Jewish DPs. In their joint report on certain aspects of the DP problem, Harry Greenstein and Major Hyman pointed out that in the disturbed economy of Germany and Austria, the prevalence of the black market was inevitable and that while members of all groups were involved in this traffic, a certain percentage of Jewish DPs were quite prominent in the large scale operations, and that nothing but the increase in the flow of consumer goods could remove the props that support the black market. There was never any doubt in my mind as to the accuracy of this analysis. There has been some increase in the flow of consumer goods either through local production or through importation from abroad. This has somewhat reduced the magnitude of black market operations. In addition, however, the military authorities have taken a more realistic view of black market activities. Since the DPs were more conspicuous in these activities than any other group, the change in the Army's attitude towards the whole problem has gone a long way toward minimizing the blanket indictment of all Jewish DPs.
8. Improvement of Army's Attitude Toward DPs

I should like to enlarge on the improvement in the attitude of the military authorities toward the DPs. Obviously, as I indicated above, the fact that the problem has entered the liquidation phase is largely responsible for this healthy development. I should like to believe that my very cordial relations with General Clay were another contributing factor. However, I believe that of greatest importance in this connection is the development in Israel and the awareness that most of the Jewish DPs are headed for that country. I do not believe it is possible to over-emphasize the psychological impact of the strength shown by the new state of Israel, both upon the DPs and upon the military authorities. At least with respect to the Jewish DPs I have the feeling that the authorities realize they are not dealing with pariahs but rather with potential citizens of a dynamic state. In this connection I believe that the presence of General Clay and Ambassador Murphy at the farewell banquet for David Treger, Chairman of the Central Committee for Liberated Jews, in Munich on October 27, was of considerable significance, aside from the impression it made on the General's subordinates and incidentally on the Germans. The visit gave a tremendous lift to the morale of the DPs. On the whole, because of the present relationship between the Army and the DPs, the entire atmosphere is infinitely less tense and much healthier than it was in the early part of the year.

9. Formation of Jewish Construction Company

You will recall the scepticism with which I reported the plans to form an all Jewish labor company. This construction company was organized in May 1948 and its performance has won the respect of the military authorities. During the initial months of its life the company was on probation, especially because of the dissatisfaction with the men who were assigned to non-skilled labor. The company finally hit its stride however under the vigorous leadership of several DP engineers and has been doing remarkably well. Its present strength is 223 men. All together 335 men have from time to time served as members of this company. As men leave for permanent resettlement, replacements fill the vacancies. During the past seven months the company has participated in road construction, renovation of military buildings and dependents' quarters, drainage work and similar miscellaneous engineering activities. The fact that this company continued as a going concern, despite the dire predictions every one made, has been a factor in the improvement of public relations vis a vis the Army and has made it easier for us to dispel the easily made generalization that among Jewish DPs there are no men who can do skilled work with their hands.

10. Cessation of Further Infiltration Into Germany and Austria

The Jewish DP population in Germany and Austria was constantly
swelled during 1946 and 1947 by infiltration of new groups from Poland, Roumania, Hungary and other areas. That infiltration seems to have come to an end late in 1947. No substantial infiltration of Jews into Germany took place during the past ten months — the longest period since the end of the war.

The political upheaval in Czechoslovakia precipitated only a slight exodus of Jews from that country. It is estimated that only eleven hundred persons arrived and of this number eight hundred promptly left for Palestine. In a re-registration program carried out by the Army in March 1948, Roumanian Jewish infiltrates who were discovered to be living in the camps, contrary to the directive barring DP care and maintenance to arrivals in the zones of occupation after April 21, 1947, were evicted. However, I am reasonably sure that somehow they again found their way into the camps. At least their eviction did not create the hardships that were predicted.

It is reported to me that in the past three months approximately 1,500 Jews have come into the U.S. Zone Austria from Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Roumania. While I do not have direct knowledge about this group, I am reliably informed that on the whole they are people of means, who in their flight from these "satellite" countries, were able to salvage considerable means. They are reported to be interested in reaching Switzerland or other countries in western Europe, where they might resume business activities.

The cessation in the flow of new arrivals in the zone is an important factor in the present optimistic outlook. There is nevertheless every likelihood that a substantial movement of people from the Balkan countries may be resumed. We are informed that there is considerable resentment among Jews in the Balkan states, who are finding it difficult to emigrate to Israel. Negotiations between the Israeli authorities and Roumania, for example, concerning the movement of Roumanian Jews to Israel are still in progress. We are advised that if these are not successfully concluded and if legal exits from that country and other Balkan countries are not possible, we should anticipate a substantial underground movement into Austria during the early spring months. Needless to say, this should be avoided if at all possible. The sooner we get the DPs out of Germany and close shop here the better it will be for the Jewish DPs and for Jews everywhere.

11. Operation of Jewish Restitution Successor Organization

It is still too early to judge the success of the restitution law in Germany. The restitution laws in Austria have been in effect for a much longer period of time; however, I confess that because of our preoccupation with Germany, it has been difficult to keep our fingers on the situation in Austria to the extent that I should have
preferred. During my recent visit to that country I learned from meetings with representatives of the Vienna community that they are greatly dissatisfied with the way restitution is working in Austria. It is my plan to send Major Hyman into Austria for a week, for the purpose of studying the matter. I shall make my recommendations on the basis of his analysis. I am not particularly sanguine about my ability to influence the situation in Austria to any appreciable degree, especially in matters relating to laws passed and implemented by the Austrian government. As a liberated state, headed by her own government and parliament, Austria is free to do pretty much as she pleases and the United States authorities are very reluctant to suggest anything that might either offend the Austrians or that might suggest that Austria's sovereignty is not complete.

As for Germany, I believe that the interested organizations in the States are sufficiently posted on restitution through the reports submitted by Benjamin Ferencz, Director General of the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization. I merely wish to assure you that the interest of the Jewish community in the heirless and unclaimed property is in excellent hands. Mr. Ferencz is a very wise choice for the position he holds. Already he has demonstrated his fine administrative talent in addition to his legal abilities. In a very limited time he assembled a staff and geared the work of his organization to a tempo that will enable the organizations to meet the deadline of December 31, 1948 for the filing of some 100,000 claims.

Mr. Ferencz has reviewed with me his ideas for the rapid liquidation of these claims. He is of the opinion that an endless and costly process of litigation will face the restitution organization if these claims must be adjudicated on an individual basis in German courts. The political atmosphere will become less friendly to the liquidation of these claims with every passing month. There is already an organization of Germans, organized to fight these claims publicly in the courts. As the influence of the occupation wanes, the prospect of generous settlements and favorable decisions is bound to decline. Mr. Ferencz is therefore exploring the possibility of a collective settlement of these claims by the German Laender. He has asked me to review it in a most tentative form with General Clay which I shall do at the earliest opportunity.

Mr. Ferencz will undoubtedly outline his plan for the consideration of the parent organization in the States at an early moment.
III. CURRENT PROBLEMS

1. Camp Consolidation

Before the mass emigration of Jewish DPs to Israel began it was anticipated that when large numbers of people would begin to leave the camps it would become increasingly difficult to satisfactorily maintain and to justify the existence of installations not used to full capacity. We recognized that the Army needed and wanted for military purposes, some of the installations which are being used to house the DPs. In addition, the Army wished to vacate installations for which rent was being paid to the Germans. The IRO is also interested in reducing the number of installations in order to economize on administrative and operational costs. We realized further that as the population of the camps thinned out we would be left with a shortage of able DP leadership and an inadequate number of professional people such as doctors, nurses and teachers, upon whom the efficient operation of the camps depend. The Central Committee, the Voluntary agencies and my staff were agreed that a reasonable program of camp consolidation was essential. This would serve the interest of the Army and the IRO and it would be beneficial to the DPs that a planned and orderly merging of the camp population should parallel the movement of the Jewish DPs out of the Zone. Thus as the DP population of Germany is reduced, there should be a reasonable equivalent reduction in the number of DP installations.

The first step in the consolidation program was the closing of the camps in Berlin. About 5,500 Jewish DPs were transferred to camps in the U.S. Zone Germany. The next step in the program was the closing of the Zeilsheim camp. Approximately 2,000 Zeilsheim residents were transferred to other camps, in addition to about 600 who decided to remain on the German economy.

Early in November, IRO and the Army worked out a consolidation plan based on existing vacancies and on vacancies that would accrue due to anticipated emigration. I proposed that representatives of the Civil Affairs Division, Headquarters EUCOM, IRO, the Voluntary agencies and the Central Committee meet to discuss that plan and to formulate a schedule of camp consolidation which might receive endorsement of all the interested parties. On November 22 a meeting attended by representatives of these groups, my assistants and me, took place. The plan was reviewed and tentative dates for the evacuation of specific installations were decided upon. Some differences were reconciled and the meeting concluded with a calendar of camp consolidations.

Three camps in the Kassel area; namely, Gold Cup, Herzog and
Fritzlar and six small installations in the Regensburg area will be closed by December 31, 1948. Three camps in the Kassel area; namely, Hasenhecke, Rochelle and Hof Geismar and Fockin in the Regensburg area will be closed January 31, 1949. Alte Kaserne, Neue Kaserne in Deggendorf will be closed as of February 15, 1949. Metzler will be closed April 1, 1949 and Stuttgart West in June 1949. The rest of the schedule will be formulated as the DP population decreases.

Before closing a camp every effort will be made by the JAFP to accept all those who are interested in emigration to Israel. The rest of the population who are not prepared to go to Israel by the time the camp is closed and who intend to emigrate to other countries, will be moved to the more permanent camps in order to avoid the hardship of a double movement. Although all responsible Jewish agencies and the Central Committee recognize the desirability and necessity of consolidation, it is anticipated that the DFs will not passively accept the closing of the camps. There is an understandable reluctance on their part to move from one camp to another. They maintain that in view of the fact that their final resettlement is imminent it is cruel to force them to make an additional move to temporary quarters. As painful and inconvenient as it may be, I am convinced that consolidation is absolutely essential from the viewpoint of the Army and the InO. It is also highly desirable for those who would serve the interests of the Jewish organizations, particularly the JAFP and the AJDC. I am convinced further that it would serve in the long run the interests of the DFs themselves.

2. German Indemnification Law

By this time you have received my memorandum on the proposed German indemnification law. The views expressed there were not only mine but represented the combined judgment of the local German communities, of the Jewish Agency, the AJDC and of the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization. InO also filed a memorandum interposing major objections but, at least for the time being, is not prepared to ask the authorities to veto the law in the event the German Landerrat is unwilling to remove the objections. We succeeded in having the Civil Affairs Division of EUCOM go along with us in their recommendations to General Clay. At the present time the law is pending before the Legislative Review Board of Military Government. Because the proposed law represents the final word on restitution of non-identifiable property, I consider it as one of great importance. I propose to meet with the Review Board in Berlin, and, if necessary, follow it up with General Clay. I shall be interested in the views of the organizations in New York as to the course that should be followed and I strongly urge all of you to write to us about this at the earliest opportunity. The basic question on which I want to be reinforced by your opinion is whether I am on solid ground when I recommended that General Clay veto the proposed law if the major objections are not removed. You may wish to refer to my
memorandum addressed to Dr. Edward A. Litchfield, Director of
Civilian Administration Division, dated December 10, a copy of
which was sent to you, in which the major objections to this pro-
posed law are outlined.

3. Cultural Jewish Property

Very little progress has been made in the disposition of the
heirless cultural property in the U.S. Zone, Germany. As you know,
most of this consists of the Judaica at the Offenbach Archival Depot.
Dr. Joshua Starr of the Cultural Reconstruction Corporation did what
is reported to me to have been a splendid job in assisting in the
direction of the cataloguing and classifying of the books. General
Clay was prepared to turn over the entire library to the Cultural
Reconstruction Corporation; he so advised the Department of the
Army in Washington, which was directed by the Department of State,
to advise him to delay taking such action until authorized to do so.
This was in September.

It was not until last week that CMUS received a reply to
this request. Washington advised that the cultural property def-
initely identified as originating in Germany, may be turned over
outright to the Cultural Reconstruction Corporation. As to pro-
perty coming from outside of Germany, the instructions were that
this property should be turned over to the Cultural Reconstruction
Corporation against a custodian's receipt. Washington has requested
CMUS to submit its recommendations on the terms of the custodianship.
I understand that in the absence of Dr. Starr, the Jewish Restitution
Successor Organization has taken hold of this problem and has pre-
sent ed its views on the terms of such custodianship. I am also
informed that Mr. Perencz has submitted his views on this matter
to the American Joint Distribution Committee.

The terms of the custodianship are to be submitted by CMUS
for the approval of the Department of State. It would be most
unfortunate if the Department took as much time to pass on this
formula as it took to respond to General Clay's September inquiry.
I therefore urge that every effort be made in the States to bring
this matter to an early conclusion and thus prevent the dissipation
of the valuable items in the Offenbach collection.

4. Inspection of Israel Bound Barrage

Backed by some elements in Military Government, the German
customs officials have been giving the people, leaving for Israel,
considerable trouble in removing their personal belongings. The
problem has arisen particularly in connection with the shipment of
The Germans have insisted that this baggage is subject to inspection by their customs and to the payment of export duties. This problem has been tossed around between our headquarters and Military Government. The other day an interim arrangement was reached that would permit the most important items of household furniture (refrigerators, stoves, washing machines, suites of furniture) to be shipped without inspection. The temporary directive also permits the removal of hand tools used by the emigrant in his trade. Special licenses have to be secured for machines. There is, I should make it clear to you, no trouble whatsoever with the baggage that accompanies the emigrant. Such baggage is certified to by the Jewish Agency as being in proper order and goes without any inspection whatever.

The Military Government officials are of course primarily interested in Germany's economic recovery. Accordingly they are eager to avoid any export of items which are in short supply here or which if sold abroad by the Joint Export Import Agency would bring in hard currency into Germany. They are aware of the plans and desires of prospective emigrants to Israel to take with them small tools and machinery and urge that such movement be controlled by export licenses. The entire matter is, however, now under study by Military Government, and the information that reaches me leads me to believe that the problem is going to give us considerable trouble.

5. France's Suspension of Transit Visas for Israel Bound DPs

Several weeks ago the French Consul in Munich suddenly announced that he had been instructed by the Political Adviser to the French occupation authorities in Baden-Baden (Headquarters) to discontinue issuing transit visas for the DPs leaving for Israel. This change in policy was alleged to have been the result of information transmitted by the Political Adviser to the French occupation authorities by the IHO. In brief, it was suggested that since IHO was not sponsoring emigration to Israel, because such emigration was in violation of the UNO truce, there was no justification for the French aiding such emigration by the issuance of transit visas to the Jewish DPs leaving Germany.

Whatever the origin of this change in operation may have been it threatened to play havoc with the mass movement from Munich to Haifa now in progress. I am pleased to advise that the U.S. military authorities sought the aid of our embassy in Paris to clear up this matter with the French Foreign Office. Through the intervention of our embassy and strong representations made by the JAF, the matter has for the time being at least been satisfactorily settled. Except for the movement by air, direct from Munich to Haifa, the Jewish DPs from Germany leave for Haifa.
through France (Marseilles). That avenue must be kept open if the present mass exodus is not to bog down.

6. IRO Support of Emigration to Israel

The contents of the cable from Mr. Ryan, Director of IRO's operations in Germany, sent to Mr. Tuck, attending the Rome session of the IRO Executive Committee, was already transmitted to you. As you will recall, Mr. Ryan strongly urged that the present IRO policy which refuses to sponsor and provide financial support for emigration should be reversed.

Through press reports and other sources I learned that the matter was fully reviewed at the Rome Executive Committee meeting, with the French and American delegations supporting such a reversal. The subject is to be resolved at the next meeting of the Executive Committee which will take place in Montreal on January 26. It is imperative that the strongest representation be made to the American delegation before that time. When I was in Washington, in November, I reviewed this matter with Under-secretary Draper and Assistant Secretary Saltzman, and urged upon them the importance of reversing the present IRO position on this subject. I am of the opinion that this is the best opportunity we have had to secure IRO logistic and financial support, to emigration to Israel. With world opinion accepting the view that Israel is a going concern, I cannot see how IRO can postpone much longer retreating from its present untenable position.

7. Slowness in Implementation of United States DP Bill

The implementation of the U.S. DP Immigration act of 1948 leaves much to be desired. The work in Germany has had an exceedingly slow start and in my judgment, the Commission will be way below its schedule for some months to come. The optimistic plans which called for the departure of 4,000 U.S. bound emigrants in December, for 6,000 monthly from January through June and for 12,000 monthly thereafter cannot be achieved without a radical change in the method of operation.

Thus far only three boats, carrying somewhat over 2,000 DPs from Germany, have departed. It now appears that no more than 5000 to 2000 will leave here during the month of January. The February figure, in my judgment, will be under 3,000 and I doubt whether a figure of 5000 to 6000 monthly will be reached before June. If these estimates are correct, it will be seen that less than 25,000 emigrants will enter the United States during this fiscal year, imposing a terrific load on the Commission for the se-
cond fiscal year, if the goal of 200,000 over two years is to be realized.

I have spent some time with Mr. Carusi and Mr. Squadrilli, the co-ordinator for Germany and have inquired as to the explanation for this slow start. Part of the difficulties is understandable. The undertaking is a complicated one; four departments of the government are involved, the congressional restrictions - geographical and occupational, make for cumbersome administration, the delays in setting up an organization "from scratch" cannot be avoided. In my judgment, however, the Commission is itself responsible for some of the difficulties. I refer particularly to the unwillingness of the Commission to use the Voluntary agencies which have had substantial experience in emigration under earlier programs.

There may be some explanation for this view. In the past when the Truman program was being implemented and the number of visas were scarce, the zeal of our organizations, working with immigration, often got the best of them and some showed no reluctance in sponsoring people whose eligibility for migration was questionable. This elastic conscience, particularly of Vaad Hatzalah, in sponsoring rabbinical students and rabbis who were neither, was a matter of common knowledge among the American consuls and when Carusi was here in 1947 he got an earful on this subject. Obviously, the situation has changed and I believe it is time that the authorities dealing with immigration be made to understand that these pressures do not exist. For the duration of my stay I shall make this problem one of first priority and do what I can to dissipate the present attitude towards the Jewish organizations.

Any attempt to estimate the number of Jewish DPs who will be included in the above total during the next six months would be a pure guess. There are an adequate number of assurances and if the Jewish Voluntary agencies were utilized to aid in documentation, a substantial proportion of the Jewish DPs who are eligible under the law could be prepared for emigration in the months immediately ahead. However, the Commission is apparently following a policy which seeks to maintain a balance among the various national and religious groups. Accordingly, I learn that Catholic and Jewish cases are being held back because there are an inadequate number of Protestant cases.

There are alleged to be public relations' advantages in this procedure. I doubt however whether we ought to look with favor upon the Commission establishing what are in effect, religious and racial restrictions beyond those imposed by the Congress itself. I hope the American organizations will review this problem and make appropriate representation if in their judgment such a policy is undesirable.
There is considerable disappointment with the action of the Commission in not utilizing Voluntary agencies to aid in documentation. The Commission relies exclusively on the IRO and I have been informed that the IRO resettlement workers have in effect been instructed not to consult the Voluntary agencies concerning documentation. The National Catholic Welfare Council has filed strong objections to this practice and some of the Jewish agencies have also indicated their disappointment.

I am particularly distressed by the fact that this procedure is alleged to have originated in Washington as a result of Mr. Carusi's conviction that the Jewish Voluntary agencies "cannot be trusted" with such documentation. The Jewish organizations are said to have collaborated with the DPs in filing false documents with the American consulates in the U.S. Zone or at least not to have made any effort to distinguish the false from the true. Mr. Carusi is said to have been told by the Army that it would be a serious error to utilize the Jewish organizations in connection with any documentation for U.S. immigration.

Whatever the explanation for this situation may be, I think it exceedingly important that Mr. Carusi be set straight on this matter. The damage is already substantial and if unchallenged can be incalculable. I urge the organizations involved in emigration assistance to DPs to review this matter and agree on the representation to be made to the DP Commission in order to correct the present unfavorable position of Jewish emigration organizations. We shall do whatever is possible from this end. I am convinced however that the difficulty here stems from Washington.

8. "Admission of Pogromists and Collaborators Under the DP Bill"

The articles by Ducker and Kussbaum against the present DP bill have been called to my attention. Although neither of the articles present sufficient evidence to substantiate the generalizations that the bill would permit the entry into the United States of fascists, collaborators, pro-Nazis and murderers, the generalizations are nevertheless important enough to justify some comment.

There is no doubt in my mind that under the present bill and under any amendments that may be adopted, some collaborators and Nazi sympathizers and even criminals may be admitted. Laws are not self-executing and human beings, even with the best of intentions, make errors in applying the best laws.

The current DP bill requires that the prospective immigrant have DP status as established by the IRO. IRO in turn, by its
constitution, is not authorized to grant DP status to the people falling within the categories that the critics of the bill maintain, have a carte blanche to our country.

A serious effort to screen out objectionable elements from the DP camps has been made during the past three years. The screening programs were conducted by UNRRA and later by the Army and by IRC. Many thousands were disqualified and evacuated from the camps. Mr. Max Braude, a former Jewish Chaplain in this Command and now a high administrative official with ILO in Germany, informs me that more than 25,000 appeals were filed by people removed from the camps and that very few of the rejectees were reinstated.

There is in addition, the Central Filing System in Berlin which is consulted with every application for emigration to the United States. The DPs themselves have had an opportunity within the past three years to denounce their former persecutors and in many instances these denouncements have resulted in evictions from the camps. In many cases however, the accusations were vague and could not be sustained.

Finally, reference should be made to the proposed amendment which would declare ineligible for United States emigration anyone who advocated or participated in the persecution of any racial or religious group. I am informed that EUCGI has cabled its approval and endorsement of this proposed amendment, to the Department of the Army.

That there are fascist minded individuals and perhaps Nazi collaborators in some of the non-Jewish DP camps is in my judgment not subject to question. The blank indictment of all or most non-Jewish DPs as fascists and collaborators is a dangerous generalization. Perhaps with the exception of the Baltic group, there is no evidence to support it, and I doubt seriously whether even the expenditure of tens of thousands of dollars for case studies will provide such evidence.

We should support every effort to amend the law, to the end that collaborators and Nazi minded people would not be admitted as immigrants to the United States. The legislative mandate can be squarely indicated in imposing a specific responsibility upon the Army and the consular officials to reject such cases. I would however, not begin with the assumption that the vast majority or "most of the DPs" as Mr. Ducker says, fall in that category. If the purpose is to prevent persons who are anti-Semitic from entering the United States, then we had better prohibit all emigrants for most emigrants from Europe have a good deal of anti-Semitism.
An ever present and beyond doubt the most stubborn problem in Germany is anti-Semitism. I do not propose to provide a detailed analysis on this subject in this report. I merely wish to share some of my conclusions. I have reached the point where I believe it is all but hopeless to expect much progress in this field within the foreseeable future. During the past ten months I have sounded out many people on this subject, including Germans in the different economic strata, trade unionists and professional people, and am convinced that the anti-Jewish psychosis is so thoroughly imbedded in the German mind that it will take generations of re-education to make much headway with this problem. Most people maintain that anti-Semitism is now more deep seated than in Hitler's day and that it has spread to the working class which was relatively cooler than most German groups to Hitler's anti-Semitism.

Invariably any reference to this subject leads to a discussion of the Jewish DPs and their relationship to persistence and intensity of present anti-Semitism in Germany. It is pointed out that the DPs have complicated the problem, that the Germans resent being responsible for their maintenance, the displacement of Germans from their homes to make room for the DPs and the offensive "kaftans" worn by the Eastern European Jew, etc. The Hitler trained element that has known no Jews finds in the few "kaftan" robed Jews a confirmation of Hitler's description of the Jew, and is, I am informed prepared to accept everything about Jews that the Nazi education provided.

It goes without saying that no progress has been made in developing a more "tolerant" attitude on the part of the Germans. Perhaps this is in part due to the fact that very little progress - if any - has been made in developing democratic institutions or support for democratic ideas. It may well be that until general support for such democratic principles develop in Germany, very little can be done about the problem of anti-Semitism. I am personally quite pessimistic as to the progress with the present generation. All the bombs that fell on the Germans have not shaken them out of their dreams and those dreams have not included devotion to democratic ideals. Little is to be gained therefore by investing money and effort in fighting anti-Semitism in Germany. It must be part of the larger program of democratic education and training. A large investment by the occupation authorities in that area of activity will no doubt pay dividends in the next generation.

As long as Germany will not repudiate National Socialism in general it will not renounce anti-Semitism in particular. German labor leaders tell me there is no room in the German
economy for the Jews who may want to remain here, and most people are agreed that when the American forces leave Germany, overt acts would be directed against Jews. This analysis would force many to the conclusion that the only practicable solution for anti-Semitism in Germany is to seek to make Germany "Judenrein" to the fullest extent possible.

IV. RE-EVALUATION OF POLICY ISSUES FOSED IN EARLIER REPORTS

At this point I should like to refer to several policy issues I raised in my April 1st report. One concerned the application of the means test in the administration of the AJDC's relief program. The other was related to the problem raised by the refusal of Jewish DPs to work in the German and Austrian economies. Both of these issues are treated in the Greenstein-Hyman report, already sent to you. I agree with the conclusions these men reached. The application of the means test is apparently either impracticable for sociological reasons or prohibitive for financial reasons. As to encouraging our DPs to work in the local economies, the present situation is so fluid that even if we considered the employment of the DPs in the economies desirable, any campaign in this direction would be abortive. Moreover, the whole matter has become academic. There are not enough work opportunities in Germany and Austria to provide full employment for the native population. When I raised these and similar issues the situation appeared stable and there was no immediate prospect of large scale migration out of the zone. Except for the residual element that will remain after the opportunities for mass migration have been exhausted, there are in my opinion, no basic changes in the operating programs of the Jewish organizations here which should be introduced at this time. Radical innovations in operating programs, if they are to be made, must be related and applied primarily to the "hard core" that will remain after the mass movement has come to a halt.

V. PROBLEMS THAT LIE AHEAD

Obviously some of the past and current problems will reoccur in the months ahead:

1. Occupation Statute for Western Germany

The establishment of a western German state and the adoption of an Occupation Statute now under consideration at the Bonn meetings and by the military governors are bound to introduce significant
changes in German political life. Whether these changes will seriously affect the position of Jewish DPs cannot at this moment be determined. I have not had the opportunity to examine the preliminary drafts of the Occupation Statute nor am I posted on the proposed Constitution for Western Germany. It is important that these be carefully studied, to determine whether adequate protection for minority rights and for the position occupied by the displaced persons are provided therein.

The specific issues likely to affect Jewish displaced persons have been alluded to in earlier reports. The Bonn conference is considering the proposal that the western powers relinquish all control over the western zones except those directly concerning the occupation. This would of course extend German control over the DPs.

General Clay has to date been opposed to placing the DPs under the jurisdiction of the Germans. In fact, he authorized me to so inform the Secretary of the Army in my Interim Report. However, I do not know to what extent he may have to give ground on this issue in the process of arriving at an Occupation Statute that will meet with the approval of the other powers. This problem will certainly bear watching. In my opinion, the Jewish organizations in the States should do everything within their power to see that the status quo is maintained for the year 1949.

2. Outlook for Camp Consolidation

The problem of camp consolidation will bear constant vigilance on the part of the Jewish organizations and the Adviser's office. There is already the feeling among the people that the Jewish organizations, especially the Jewish Agency and the Central Committee, are engineering the consolidation program in order to accelerate the movement to Israel. There will be resistance to each move. The task of the organizations and the Adviser's office will be to emphasize the necessity for this move by the Army and its desirability for the good of the people themselves. I feel that there is enough understanding of the issue on the part of the Army and the IHO to justify the prediction that no move will be urged by the Army if its effect will cause serious hardship for the people. Because of the natural reluctance to move from one camp to another, the people will exaggerate their inconvenience. It will be the job of the Jewish organizations to see that no unpleasant incidents develop. Once the Jewish organizations, the Central Committee and the Adviser's office concur on the desirability and necessity of a particular consolidation move, the liquidation of the camp in question must be seen through. I mention this because I anticipate that the individual camp com-
mittees may flood the Jewish organizations in the States with complaints that the consolidation program is cruel and inhuman. It would be my advice to disregard these complaints and to accept the judgment of those on the spot.

3. Restitution and Indemnification Problems

The problems of restitution, of identifiable property, the return of the Jewish cultural property, and the German indemnification law will certainly crystallize during the coming months. My thinking on these closely related matters is that we should insist that Germany pass a decent indemnification law or none.

This is a moral obligation which must be given priority by the occupation authorities and we should reject as inadmissible, the contention that Germany cannot afford a decent indemnification law. We should not permit the Germans to satisfy their conscience before the world by passing an act which merely gives lip service to the principle of reparations and indemnification.

As to the Jewish Restitution Successor Organization, every effort should be made to liquidate its claims at the earliest possible time even at a substantial sacrifice. The longer the liquidation of the restitution problem is postponed, the more will the resistance against the implementation of the restitution laws mount, and, by the same token, the claims will become more worthless. Considerations of expediency and not justice will, as I see it, have to govern our thinking on this problem. The Successor Organization should get out of Germany as much as possible, as quickly as possible, and consider the mission accomplished. This, of course, is also true of the Cultural Reconstruction Corporation with respect to cultural property.

4. Ultimate Liquidation of DP Problem

There is one major issue on which I should like to expand and to which the Jewish organizations in the States will have to give the most serious thought in the very near future. I have reference to our attitude toward the people who remain here after the mass movement has tapered off, and what type of assistance American Jewry should undertake for the residual population.

This problem should be considered in relation to (a) emigration opportunities, (b) the extent to which the people will take advantage of these opportunities, (c) the type of people who will constitute the "hard core", (d) recommendations with respect to this group.
(a). Emigration Opportunities

At the present time the rate of emigration from the U.S. Zone, Germany to Israel is about 4,000 per month. To be sure, over 5,000 left in November and the figure for December may reach 6,000. These are two exceptional months, and it would be wiser to anticipate a monthly emigration of 4,000 or perhaps somewhat less, from January on.

The Jewish Agency for Palestine advises me that on the basis of the Israeli government immigration plan, Israel will be able to absorb all DFs who desire to emigrate to that country by September 1949. In fact they suggest that by the end of 1949, they could absorb in Israel all Jewish DFs now in Germany, if they were willing to go there.

In addition to emigration to Israel, it is estimated that during 1949 approximately 10,000 Jewish displaced persons will be eligible to emigrate to the United States under the present DP bill. Finally, emigration to other countries, principally Canada, Australia and some of the South American countries may also absorb about 5,000 Jewish DFs, during 1949.

(b). Extent that the Emigration Opportunities Will Be Used.

The best opinion is that virtually every available visa to the United States, Canada, Australia and the other countries, exclusive of Israel, will be used when it is tendered. The figure that is in dispute is the number that will avail themselves of the opportunity to go to Israel. The JAPP's most optimistic guess is that about 45,000 of the 75,000 now in the U.S. Zone, Germany, will want to go there in 1949. On the other hand, there is respectable opinion that the bulk of the people who wanted to go to Israel have already done so and that the JAPP will be able to syphon off only 25,000 from the present DP population in the zone. I am inclined to agree with this opinion. If the JAPP estimate is proved to be correct, there will be approximately 10,000 Jewish DFs in the zone by the end of 1949. If the other prediction materializes, the number will be 30,000. These figures are exclusive of the 10,900 Gemeinde Jews in Berlin and in the zone. These estimates are, of course, subject to revision, depending upon such additional opportunities as may open up by the liberalization of the United States DP bill and by the removal of the immigration barriers to other countries. I do not consider it crucial to arrive at an accurate estimate of the residual population as of any given date.
(c). Who Will Constitute the "Hard Core"?

Since my reference to the potential residual element may surprise you, I should like to indicate the composition of the "hard core". First, there is the "medical hard core." The deleterious effects of the concentration camps, of furtive living under indescribable war conditions in the forests of Poland and of hard labor in the cold wasteland of Russia, have not been completely erased by the excellent medical work of rehabilitation done by the IRO and by the AJDC. Among the DPs there is a group of people ineligible for emigration to any country because of physical or other handicaps. They are "technically" eligible for emigration to Israel and the medical department of the AJDC is making every effort to rehabilitate them.

Approximately 1,000 of the Jewish DP population of Germany are afflicted with tuberculosis. A small proportion of these are light cases which will require short periods of treatment. Most of the patients are now located in rehabilitation centers at Passau and Bayrisch Gmain, Bavaria, where they are receiving care and vocational training to equip them for emigration to Israel within a short time. Most T.B. patients however, will require from one to five years' treatment before they will be fit for emigration.

In addition, there are about 2,170 invalids, the victims of the war and concentration camps. Of these about 1,000 are complicated cases which will not be able to meet the requirements for emigration to any country other than Israel. They are receiving the best possible medical treatment. Most of them are receiving occupational training in ORT schools, designed to qualify them for self-support.

About 200 cases involve loss of limbs and about 100 are total invalids. There are also about 500 to 600 cases of chronic illness and a group of about 100 unaccompanied old people. There are about 75 cases of insanity, now confined in institutions for the care of the mentally sick. All these categories are ineligible for emigration except to Israel, which may be willing to receive them if the cost of their maintenance and care can be underwritten by the world Jewish community.

The second group consists of the economic "hard core". That is, the DPs who intend to remain in Germany. There are at the present time in the U.S. Zone, Germany alone about 20,000 so-called "free living Jews". They have been assigned living quarters in German houses, by the German housing authorities; they pay rent and buy their own food and except that certain automatic categories receive AJDC aid, they live very much like the rest of the German population. Some of these people are "free living" because they entered
the zone too late to receive permission to live in a camp. Most of them rejected camp life because of economic or personal reasons, business connections, employment and opportunities for better housing. The majority of these DPs manage to live on the fringe of the economy by engaging in barter on a petty scale. Some have built for themselves profitable businesses. The vast majority are financially able to support themselves and would not relinquish their present position for all the attractions of free rent and free food and the other services offered in the camps.

The cultural and religious life of those people, their Zionist activity and their community organization, are not as strong and ideologically meaningful as that of the people in the camps. They maintain that their ultimate aim is to emigrate as soon as possible. There is however a significant discrepancy between their professed intentions and their behavior. A far smaller proportion of the free living Jewish DPs have taken advantage of emigration opportunities thus far than is true of the camp population. They may emigrate slowly and perhaps a substantial number will remain indefinitely, with some vague intention neatly tucked away in the subconscious, to migrate when they have made their fortune. For the moment they have accommodated themselves to the economic situation in Germany and are not prepared to abandon their economic position and take risks elsewhere. Some may in fact delude themselves into thinking that they may integrate among the German Jews and become acceptable as permanent residents to the Germans. In the main, the duration of stay of the bulk of this group will be determined by factors such as (a) the economic conditions in Israel, (b) emigration opportunities to other countries, (c) the ability to cash in on Germany's disturbed economy (d) the state of affairs and tensions between the west and east, and (e) the degree of physical security that the German scene will afford the "foreign element."

(d) Recommendations With Respect to the "Hard Core."

As to the "medical hard core" every effort should be made during the coming year to advance the state of rehabilitation of these people as far as possible. I am sure it is less costly to accomplish this in Germany than it would be in Israel. At the conclusion of this period I believe that all the people who comprise this group, except perhaps, the insane, should be extended the opportunity to migrate to Israel. I do not believe that we should permanently consign anyone to the beneficence of the Germans. If these people refuse that offer, do not take advantage of such emigration offers, it is my opinion that all aid to them, stemming from Jewish organizations outside of Germany, should be withdrawn.
As to the "economic hard core" my thinking is influenced by the fact that there is no possibility for a permanent adjustment of Jewish displaced persons to life in Germany. The objective of all Jewish social agencies in Germany has been predicated on the belief that these people who find themselves in Germany against their will must be rehabilitated and eventually resettled in countries where they have the best prospects of happy adjustment. If these organizations, after a long and arduous experience arrive at the conclusion that permanent residence in Germany offers no such prospects, American Jewry has no responsibility for helping to perpetuate the basically unhealthy condition. There may be many inequities in this approach. It is however, in my judgment, realistic. The DPs do not belong here. Their presence is an accident. They were brought here by force. Their status here is basically insecure and their life among the Germans is abnormal and artificial. A realistic program therefore requires that we do nothing to make it possible for this group to perpetuate what is inherently an abnormal, artificial condition.

It is my judgment therefore that after the mass emigration to Israel has been largely completed, a comprehensive survey should be made of the residual population. It should be the major object of this survey to determine the emigration desires of these people. Every effort to encourage emigration to Israel and other countries should be made and such effort should be supplemented by denial of assistance from Jewish agencies for those who have chosen for private reasons to prolong their stay in Germany.

I should emphasize that we should defend our right to live and work in any country in which we find ourselves. If my recommendations above appear to run counter to this philosophy, it is only because Germany can at this time at least be considered a special case. Were we convinced that there is a practical possibility for Jewish displaced persons to establish for themselves a dignified social, cultural and economic existence in Germany, I would urge that we defend their right to remain and protect them in every way. Since I am convinced that this is not possible for this particular group, sound policy seems to encourage their emigration at the earliest possible time.

These views should probably not be extended to include the German Jews now in the several gemeinden. There is a basic difference between this group and the east European DPs. The German Jews are thoroughly rooted in Germany and if, despite the brutal behavior of the Germans towards the Jews some of them feel that they cannot
pull up stakes and leave Germany, it is fairly certain that this
element will be unable to accommodate itself in any other country.
This group should also be encouraged to leave Germany but should
not be penalized for the failure to do so. The German Jews should
be treated as any normal community with respect to assistance from
American organizations, as well as with regard to protection of
their civil, economic and religious rights, on the basis of equality
with all other citizens. It will be the duty of the large Jewish
organizations to bring about the guaranty of such rights in the
basic laws of any future Germany and to secure their execution
in daily life.

A Personal Note.

I am leaving Germany on January 15 to return to Michigan and
resume my work at the University. In taking leave of this important
undertaking in Germany I wish to express my deep personal apprecia-
tion and gratitude for the devoted help provided by Major Abraham
S. Hyman and Chaplain Louis Barish. Chaplain Barish joined our
office in May and has been of great assistance in dealing with the
developing situation. Major Hyman has not only provided con-
tinuity in the work of our office, having now served with three
Advisers but has deep insight into the complex which make up the
DP problem facing our people, and his judgment has been invaluable.
I am grateful also for the unfailing cooperation and help that was
extended to me at all times by the Voluntary organizations. In
a very real sense, the American community has had a team here,
each member of which was carrying out a very important segment of
the total job. The groups composing that team have come to look
for certain guidance and leadership from the Adviser on Jewish
Affairs and the net result of this collaboration has helped not
only the work of the agencies and the displaced persons but also
the relationship with the Army and with the other governmental agencies.

Sincerely,

William Haber

WILLIAM HABER
Adviser on Jewish Affairs
to the Commander in Chief