I salute the invaluabie humanitarian achievements accomplished by the Joint Distribution Committee and its incomparable efforts on behalf of persecuted and tortured European Jewry.

— [Signature]
30 YEARS
The Story of the JDC

Contents
Introduction ........................................ 2
The Year and Years to Come ................ 3
30 Years of J.D.C. .............................. 5
Who is the J.D.C. ................................. 12
The Year 1944 ................................... 16
The J.D.C. at Work ............................... 22
All This... Means People .................... 26
A Message from Europe ....................... 30
Financial Report ............................... 31
In this booklet the reader will find the story of a 30-year global war for survival. It began in 1914 with the clash of contending armies. It went on through years of so-called peace when hatred, greed, economic dislocation and political crisis swept over the world. It brought to our days, along with the thunder of warfare, the scorched residue of extermination camps.

The victims of this 30-year war are still uncounted. Many are buried in unknown mass graves. Others are among the ashes scattered over the plains of Eastern and Central Europe. Still other victims are alive; children with haunting fear in their eyes, men and women driven as dust before the wind, the sick, the wounded, the enfeebled, the despoiled.

This war has had its heroes too. Its heroes are all those men, women and children who endured the years of enslavement and the cataclysm of war. Its heroes are the underground of many faiths and many lands who at the risk of their own lives held out the hand of friendship. Its heroes are those who sought out the victims, snatched them from danger, gave them shelter and healing, restored their bruised bodies and spirits.

Not least, its heroes are the anonymous Jews of America who heard across thousands of miles the moan of suffering and saw with eyes of compassion the agony of their brethren across the seas.

This 30-year story is fully written only in the memories of those who have been spared and who, now in the year 1945, can look with renewed hope to a renewed life. Here there is brought together the barest record of an effort that must still go on—to save, to relieve, to heal, to restore. It is the story, in brief, of what the American Jews who support the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee have tried to do for their fellow Jews; and of what they are determined to continue doing until this war too, a war for survival, shall have been won—in the days beyond the final victory of the armed forces of the civilized world.

Chairman

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THE YEAR...AND YEARS...AHEAD

We must face the future with a full realization of the tragedy that is now unfolding before our eyes. As the forces of the United Nations are liberating the European continent, the bitter truth is emerging from a six year fog of apprehension. We may have had other hopes, we may have believed the tragedy to be less than some had imagined but as the facts are now fully coming to light, they turn out to be more dreadful than any believed possible. The Jewish community in Europe is in ruins.

The tragedy is not only that of the dead: of those who have been driven to their graves in labor camps; who have been brutally murdered by the Gestapo and who have come to a fiery end in the furnaces of the extermination camps. The enormity of the tragedy that is now unfolding takes in the living as well. This must be underscored: the surviving Jews of Europe have been deprived almost completely of the wherewithal to help themselves.

Upon us then, the more fortunate American Jews, rest the gravest responsibilities. We cannot escape making the decision as to whether the survivors shall or shall not continue to live; as to whether they will or will not be granted the chance to re-acquire for themselves a normal, reasonable, creative life.

By conservative estimate, there are (outside of the Jews of the U.S.S.R.) about 1,500,000 Jews who have survived the years of the terror. It is a shockingly low number when contrasted with the size of the Jewish population of 6,000,000 in Central and East Europe immediately prior to the war. But it is a staggeringly high number in terms of what must be done in their behalf. A million five hundred thousand people, Jews who have gone through a fiery ordeal, are in need of everything that human beings must have to sustain themselves, to revive, to live again.

After the last war, the J.D.C. problem in Europe was enormous. Yet it shrinks in contrast with the situation today. In the period after the last war, there were still local communities of considerable size that retained some strength and resources, that were able to help themselves and even to help others. Today, the Jews have nothing or almost nothing. They have been scattered across the continent, men, women and children hunted down like animals.

They are without homes. Bombing, expropriation, a scorched earth policy have deprived them of the most elementary shelters. They must be helped to re-acquire shelter and homes.

They have lost their health. The psychological agonies of thirteen years and more, and the physical deprivations, hardships and agonies have taken a fearful physical toll. They must be nursed back to health.

They have been dispersed and scattered. Families have been broken up; husbands and wives and children are unaware of one another's fate. They must be re-united. They must be helped to return to their former homes, or to find new homes in Palestine or elsewhere. Thousands of Jewish children, orphaned, or separated from their parents, have to be brought back from their hiding places, from their enforced surroundings, to Jewish homes and rearing. A thousand psychic wounds must be healed to restore this lost generation to take their place in the building of the future.

They are without businesses, occupations and the tools of earning a living. They must be helped to re-acquire those tools and to start life once again. They must be given help, modest loans, economic guidance and aid, so that they may again be self-respecting, self-supporting citizens.
They have been psychologically tortured and humiliated. Their nerves are shattered, their morale at a dangerous low. They must be restored.

They have lost the institutions built up over many centuries: their synagogues and schools and academies of learning, their hospitals and clinics, their orphan institutions and homes for the aged. They must be helped to reconstruct them anew since man does not live by bread alone.

To contend with the ravages of such a vast calamity, new concepts are needed. What we have been conditioned to think of as emergency assistance will be required for a long time to come. The amount of money that it will take will be staggering. No past benevolence by American Jews can be the yardstick for the years ahead.

The only way to face the future is to prepare to carry on, on a scale and with a program unlike anything done before in J.D.C. history or in the history of American Jews.

For the task for the year—and years—ahead must embrace 1,500,000 human beings who, having lost everything, will therefore need everything.

J.D.C. work is based on the reality that Jews in various areas of the world need special assistance because of the cruelties and tragedies they have undergone in unwonted and unprecedented degree. Whatever the suffering, the executions and the hardships by the Nazis upon the subjugated peoples of Europe generally, the peasants will still have their lands to till, the artisans for the most part will have tools. Many will return to their homes and occupations. Fortunately, in many cases they will find their families joyously awaiting them. The starved, driven, dispossessed, exiled Jews, however, and those who survive at home will have even less and nothing to which to return. To restore them will be an enormous task calling for cooperation among governments, intergovernmental bodies and voluntary agencies like the J.D.C. Each will have its burden. None will replace the others. The sum total of assistance that can be given by all will fall short of the sum total of the human needs.

J.D.C.’s part in this must necessarily be large even when it supplements the services of governments and public bodies. For the immediate future J.D.C. must continue to bear the responsibility for: (1) extending emergency relief to the hundreds of thousands of Jews still under enemy control where J.D.C. relief, the only major source of aid, stands between life and death;

(2) continuation of relief for refugees who found temporary havens in neutral countries;

(3) continuation of aid in transporting refugees from temporary neutral havens to Palestine and other countries;

(4) aiding Jewish nationals in enemy and enemy countries who were never displaced or who returned to their homes immediately after liberation, e.g., Roumania, Bulgaria.

(5) emergency aid to Jews in liberated countries pending the organization of assistance by UNRRA which operates only by invitation of the respective national governments and approval of the military. Surviving Jews, who literally crawl out of hiding cellars, broken in health and penniless, are in most immediate need of physical aid;

(6) cooperation with UNRRA by lending J.D.C. personnel with experience and knowledge of Jews and by offering forms of supplementary relief to meet special needs of Jews who were everywhere singled out for harsh treatment and suffered more than most people;

(7) immediate assistance in the reviving of Jewish communal, religious and welfare institutions, medical, child care training and economic aid, which were completely destroyed by Axis occupants and which are indispensable to the effective restoration of Jewish communal life, a task which UNRRA can under no circumstances assume;

(8) and, finally, cooperation with governmental and inter-governmental agencies, to plan for assistance in the long run economic reconstruction of Jewish life and aid in the resettlement of those who cannot return to their former homes.

This is the burden for American Jews who have created and sustained the J.D.C. as an all-embracing global agency for rescue, relief and reconstruction.

Executive Vice-Chairman

Joseph C. Himmelfarb
It is possible to tell the story of the thirty years of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee (J.D.C.) only in terms of catastrophes. Europe's Jews, particularly the Jews of Eastern Europe, have known them in abundance. That would constitute a bleak chronicle of oppression and subjugation before 1914, of a war (the first World War), of revolutions and counter-revolutions, of the travail of a peace between wars, of economic depression, of persecution, and finally, of war again. In such a story, the Joint Distribution Committee would be the embodiment of a struggle for sheer survival; and a testament to the work of rescue, relief and rehabilitation that were carried on—and swept away again by later calamity.

(See photo above) On November 27, 1914, the first business meeting was held of the newly established American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. The artist's conception of that historic event shows Felix M. Warburg, Chairman until 1932, presiding at a formal gathering of representatives of the American Jewish Relief Committee, and of the Central Relief Committee. Shortly after that, the People's Relief Committee became a constituent member of J.D.C. Among the representatives were: (Seated from left to right) Felix M. Warburg, Chairman; Louis Marshall, Albert Lucas, Secretary; Mrs. F. Friedman, Official Stenographer; Boris D. Bogen, Executive Director; Leon Sanders, Harry Fischel, Sholem Asch, Alexander Kahn, Jacob Milch, Miss Harriet B. Lowenstein, Comptroller; Colonel Moses Schoenberg, Aaron Teitelbaum, M. Z. Margolies, Israel Friedlander, Paul Baerwald, Associate-Treasurer; Julius Levy, Peter Wiernek, Meyer Gillis, Harry Cutler, Cyrus Adler, Arthur Lehman, Treasurer; Jacob H. Schiff. (Standing, left to right) Herbert H. Lehman, Abraham Zucker, Isadore Hershfield, Meyer Berlin, Stanley Bero, Louis Topkis, Morris Engelman.

Action in the devastated areas was possible because our own Government—and other nations—recognized the importance of relief work and came to respect the J.D.C., its humanitarian objectives, its broad scope, its leaders and personnel. The action was effective because, from the outset J.D.C. worked with native organizations created by the very people who were victims of a war disaster. In areas occupied by the German Army the work was carried on through the Juedische Hilfskomite of Berlin and the Israelitische Allianz zu Wien. On the other side of the front, in Russia, an efficient relief organization with which J.D.C. cooperated was formed by Russian Jewry. So in tune was J.D.C. with American tradition that it was frequently able to extend its aid through direct help of embassy and consular officials of the United States. In this way a pattern was established for friendly counsel with governments and for working relationships with representative Jewish organizations abroad.

When the United States entered the war, the State Department granted J.D.C. permission to maintain an agency in neutral Holland from which the tasks of rescue and relief could be carried on. In the war years—up to the end of 1918, a total of $15,000,000 was expended through J.D.C.

Far more than the transmission of funds was involved. The tasks were legion. The work went on. J.D.C. was able to use to good effect two immeasurable assets: the combined good will of America's Jews; and the friendship, appreciation and help of our own Government and of the governments of Europe.
Yet such a narrative, by itself, would not be the true story. It would overlook
the real, the enduring significance of the Joint Distribution Committee: its
meaning to the American Jewish community; its catalytic effect upon East
European Jewry in an evolution from resigned helplessness to renewed,
invigorated aspirations.

For the J.D.C.'s activities must be seen against the background of a sub­
merged, ghetto-ized, disheartened community of millions. When the J.D.C.
was first organized, democracy even in its most tentative forms, barely
touched those lands of Eastern Europe in which, at that time, the overwhe­
ming majority of the world's Jews were living. Emancipation for the Jews was
all but unknown.

Into this enclosure came the J.D.C. as a
messenger from America's Jews. It was
an agency for philanthropic, humani­
tarian tasks, for saving lives, healing the
sick, extending relief, providing rehabil­
itation. It earned the warm regard and
support of governments and statesmen;
although it took no part in political
activity. In its universal concern with
bringing to Jews in need what they
needed for a new opportunity in life,
it was completely beyond politics. And
by that very fact, J.D.C.'s contribution
to the rescue and rebuilding of Eastern
Europe's Jews, to lifting them out of
the slough of despond, to enabling them
to reconstruct their lives as free men,
is incalculable in its dimensions. The
very experience of Jews abroad with
the primary organization of the Jews
of the United States; the very contacts

(See drawing above) In November 1918 came the
Armistice. Yet, before and after that date, Eastern
Europe was convulsed by revolution and counter­
revolution; by the upheavals of suppressed na­
tionalities and the arrogance and chauvinism of
new nations. The Jewish communities of Eastern
Europe already seared by the war, were now
enmeshed in the turmoils of a precarious peace.

From 1919 through 1925, the main task of J.D.C.
was to bring relief and rehabilitation. Money was
needed; and 65 million dollars were raised in
that period for J.D.C. People were needed; and
J.D.C. sent welfare experts, relief workers, medical
men, organizers. Three hundred thousand Jews
were helped to emigrate or to become repatriated.
Financial support made it possible for local institu­
tions for child care, economic reconstruction,
medical service and, not least, education to save
and re-establish other hundreds of thousands.
As they revived with the breath of a new life,
Jews of Europe could acquire institutions for
normalizing themselves and for attaining a status
of independence. What had begun with a war was
now channelized into a constructive peace activity
of enormous dimensions; was felt in one way or
another by millions of Jews of Central and Eastern
Europe.
established between organizations, practices, social services, ideas, helped preserve and sustain the spiritual strength of people who needed that precious plasma as much as they needed direct economic assistance. In its effect, therefore, the history of the J.D.C. goes beyond the expression of humanitarian purposes. In the face of severe economic and political odds, millions of human beings—Jews, were helped to their feet and stimulated and aided in fulfilling themselves as free men.

The medical services and child care institutions set up and sustained by the J.D.C. did more than save lives. The loan societies, the cooperatives, the trade schools did more than furnish an economic footing. They became instruments in preparation for a fuller life in the western world. Aid to schools and cultural institutions was not only a step in preserving an ancient heritage, in Europe, in Palestine and in new homes Jews sought out in the western hemisphere. It also helped meet the broad challenge of adjustment and achievement.

At first it might seem that all of these labors of thirty years were only transitory. But, in truth, much has endured; and what has endured is basic to the present tasks of restoration, revival and reconstruction. Millions have been killed in the ghastly ordeal of the Nazi charnel house. Institutions, patiently sustained over generations, have been razed. But Jews have survived. They will survive. And they will have with them an awareness of experiences and capacities manifested in the thirty years during which the J.D.C. walked
among them as a symbol of the free community of American Jews.

The survivors of the First World War had as their immediate background a record of persecution and suppression. The survivors of this war will have behind them, in addition, a record of redeeming achievement, of precious experience in reconstruction, of an indomitable resurrection. When the war is over, the human spirit that the J.D.C. kept alive for thirty years will be free to come into its own.

In the United States too, the J.D.C. came to be more than a noble humanitarian effort. The very act of brotherly service had profound consequences within the American Jewish community.

When it was first organized, the J.D.C. represented three distinct, diverse groups: The American Jewish Relief Committee, organized by the older established settlers; the Central Relief Committee, organized by later immigrants of orthodox background; and the People’s Relief Committee, organized by labor groups among the new immigrants. Each of these elements felt itself distinct and separate. Even the fund-raising continued for a time on that separatist basis. Yet in the process, by the very experience of working harmoniously in the J.D.C., led to a change. The divisions gave way; the lines of demarcation faded, J.D.C. became the master solvent for differences. J.D.C. was the great meeting ground, the complete expression of the philanthropic urge, the religious compulsion, the sense of noblesse oblige that sought to help Jews in need whoever they were, whatever their views in religion, politics, Jewish and general life.

In the year the Agro-Joint was formed, J.D.C. entered into an arrangement with the Jewish Colonization Association (ICA). A new operating agency, the American Joint Reconstruction Foundation, took over the formidable task of holding the economic line during a period of increasing tensions and of final, worldwide depression.

The Foundation concentrated on the development and operation of credit cooperatives to provide a banking and credit structure for Jews who had access to no other resources. At the height of its activities, the Foundation had 700 cooperative loan societies associated with it; its turn-over ran into hundreds of millions of dollars. Assistance to building and other cooperative business and agricultural enterprises gave the Jew who was trader, small merchant, artisan or farmer the opportunity to earn a livelihood. In the years after 1933, the Foundation extended its activities to help the Jews of Germany and the refugees from that country, throughout Western Europe, Palestine, South America and elsewhere.

J.D.C. was planning to cease its operations when, in 1925, the severe economic depression hit Eastern Europe. The entire economic life of the area spun in a spiral of collapse. The institutions that had been reborn threatened to crumble again. It was imperative to help the Jews of Eastern Europe hold on; maintain themselves until the broader forces of economic life could bring about a general improvement. In this task, especially in Poland, the J.D.C. Free Loan Societies rose to a new high level. Two million dollars were invested by J.D.C. in free loan societies to provide a livelihood for scores of those who could not avail themselves of even the low interest credit facilities of the cooperatives.

Through the years when Nazism began to poison the continent, J.D.C. continued this basic help to Eastern European Jewry, increasingly pressed by poverty and political hostility. J.D.C. kept alive the great organizations it had helped establish—the medical societies, Toz and Osé; Centes and other child care groups; the cooperative and free loan societies, the schools, yeshivahs and other educational institutions.

The political and economic situation continued to deteriorate into
tragically familiar sequels: pogroms, boycott; poverty and disease, and finally war. The primary need was to sustain life and morale. Antedating the Nazi threat to the lives of Jews were the threats of despair, hunger and disease. From these the Jews of Eastern Europe continued to be saved by the single-minded service of J.D.C.

*(See drawing below)* A new war began in 1933. At first it was an internal war in Germany with the Jews as the chief victims. What had been one of the strongest Jewish communities in Europe now itself needed assistance.

The process involved was the liquidation of a community of over a half million people. The problem was to save lives, to bring about resettlement in a desperate race against time. In the face of steadily increasing restrictions, punitive measures, violence and bloodshed, marvels of rescue were achieved. The part that German Jews themselves played was enormous. Yet much of this heroic achievement of survival was made possible by the strong, sustaining hand of J.D.C.

Since scores of thousands had to flee, the problem of Germany's Jews soon became the problem of all Europe and indeed of all the world. It spilled over into neighboring countries; everywhere, in France, Belgium, Holland, Switzerland, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Spain, Portugal, the Scandinavian countries and even Poland and Rumania, J.D.C. had to step in for new services of rescue, relief, resettlement. J.D.C.'s program now reached world-wide dimensions. The enormous work in Eastern Europe had to be continued; the exodus from Germany, Austria, and later Czechoslovakia, meant that J.D.C. services had to be extended in other ways to over 50 countries.

The communities in each of these lands gave their support. Many relief organizations joined in the task. Above all, the generous backing of the entire American Jewish community enabled J.D.C. to attain new levels in its tasks. Lives were saved, tensions were kept at a minimum, while the world was slowly moving to grapple with the forces that had unleashed the war.

The transition to direct fund-raising by the J.D.C. itself, came shortly thereafter. It developed on a community basis. City by city, town by town, it came to be the first of the joint efforts of almost the entire Jewish citizenry in the United States. An enormous impetus was thereby given to a development of a wholesome, homogeneous, community life. What began as a union for fund-raising and allocation led to the stimulation within our own country of a more responsible and responsive community conscience. Later came the United Jewish Appeal to raise funds jointly for the needs of the United Palestine Appeal, The National Refugee Service, as well as of the Joint Distribution Committee. Here was yet another expression of the increasing communal spirit.

Along with these developments, there were modifications in the structure and organization of the J.D.C. More and more, community leaders from all over the country, men and women of ability and devotion, emerged to take their place in the councils and tasks of the J.D.C. More and more, representative Jews from every conceivable element—from the ranks of orthodoxy, conservative Judaism and reformed; from labor and capital, from the large cities and the smaller communities, from the fields of business and professional and educational pursuits, took their place in the committees, boards and councils of the J.D.C. Today, J.D.C. is more than ever a representative agency of all American Jews. Its funds, its leadership, its policies, its procedures, are drawn from a vast outpouring of generosity and talent from Jews all over the United States.
This is the full story. The J.D.C. began as an organization conceived in temporary terms for immediate relief tasks.

It has developed into and is today a profound social influence among American Jews; and among Jews in all parts of the world who have been saved and sustained by its world-wide labors of Rescue, Relief and Rehabilitation.

(See drawing at right) In September 1939 Germany's external war began, in terms of the familiar conventions of statecraft and military operations. The problems of 1914-1918 revived, but this time with an impact and to a degree unlike anything known before.

The obstacles did not halt the work. In addition to relief, resettlement and refugee aid, J.D.C. took on the problem of sheer rescue, of assistance to democratic forces, driven underground, in their efforts to snatch Jews from the consuming Nazi flame. Little by little, the story is coming out: of a vast enterprise to save thousands of human lives from the executioner.

Thus, the story of J.D.C. in the war years, is epitomized—although it cannot be told in full—in the report of 1944 that appears on page 16.
In America it is the "J.D.C.". In Europe it is known as "Joint," a syllable that the European Jew speaks as if he were repeating the biblical phrase "and thy name shall be blessed." For thirty years that word has meant hope, strength, recovery, life itself. For thirty years it has yielded an inner glow to all who have been touched by its comforting hand or who have seen and known its work. To the Jews of Europe and Palestine and to those who have found refuge in the Near East and the Far East, the very special quality of the organization is here expressed: as a united effort of American Jews undertaken jointly, together.

Precisely because the Jews for whom the J.D.C. was created have had direct, personal experience with its manifold, humanitarian services, they know more about J.D.C. than do American Jews. They know the answer to the question:

Who is the J.D.C.?
For those less familiar, a simple, accurate answer would be: J.D.C. is the world's outstanding relief and welfare agency of and for Jews throughout the world. More, it is one of the greatest of all relief agencies.

J.D.C. is not provincial, not limited to any sector, not restricted by any political theory. J.D.C. is global in scope. Wherever the consequences of war, disaster, discrimination, anti-Semitism, affect Jews, J.D.C. is at work in rescue and healing and rebuilding.

J.D.C. means people; so many of them, that they can only be embraced in so unifying a term as the European Jews apply when they say "Joint."

Who are those people? To begin with, J.D.C. is a group of efficient social engineers, experts in welfare work and relief, men and women trained in medical sanitation, migration, child care, cultural and economic affairs.

These men and women are a substantial part of J.D.C.'s continuing resources.

There is an invaluable asset in their expertness, the training they have had before and after coming to J.D.C., their human sympathy and, not least, their sense of dedication to one of the greatest tasks in a troubled world. Their smooth organization and integration into an efficient unit are described elsewhere (see page 22). They are the active workers in one of man's outstanding services to fellow man. Guiding, directing, inspiring these active workers, are the officers of J.D.C.

The Emergency Administration Committee meets formally at least once a week as the functioning arm of the Executive Committee, dealing with appropriations, cable appeals and decisions, cooperation with government agencies, relations with other Jewish and non-Jewish bodies:—the working decisions. They symbolize in their common purpose and constant activity, the meaning of the word "Joint."

Sustaining this Emergency Administration Committee is an Executive Committee of 36 who plan the wide program, consider and establish policy, review the decisions of the Administration Committee and schedule the work ahead.

The Executive Committee which meets at least once a month is the central body of authority of J.D.C.

Yet another and larger group brings to J.D.C. the talent and energy and services of the widespread community. This is a body known as the Board of Directors made up of 210 leaders in American Jewish life, consulting on policy, evaluating needs and decisions and furnishing guidance and directive to the Executive Committee. On this Board sit representative American Jews of all walks of life.
But to get the full picture of J.D.C. we must come to that large body of men and women through whom there is expressed the combined will and viewpoint of all American Jews united in a humanitarian cause. This is the National Council, in legal terms, the basic corporate body of the J.D.C. The Board of Directors, the Executive Committee, the Administrative Committee are drawn from this National Council. Its 5200 members are selected from the communities of Jews throughout the United States, on the sole test of their devotion to Jewish life and therefore to the work of the J.D.C., with one-third of the membership up for election every year. In this way there is a constant rotation of old and new forces to sustain the J.D.C.'s vitality and to register the evolving character of Jewish communal life.

They are the active leaders and workers in the life of America's Jews: representative community heads, officers of federations and welfare funds and community councils, educators, business and labor leaders, rabbis, representatives of landsmannschaften—a vast outpouring of variety and interest. Their place in the Council draws into J.D.C.'s task the strength, the considerations, the values of the groups and communities with whom they are in constant touch.

Through a specially developed field service they keep in constant touch with J.D.C. and with key leadership. At least once a year—over and above the annual meeting—the field staff meets with the National Council members and their associates in over 250 communities. By special reports, memoranda, research material and regional and city meetings, the members of the National Council participate in the all-year-round thinking, the study of the facts as they are made available by cable and research, the evaluations, checks, reviews and new action that go into J.D.C. operations.

Thus thousands of American Jews take an active part in J.D.C. as members of its basic corporate structure, the National Council. But many thousands more, are tied to J.D.C. by indissoluble bonds: as subcommittee workers, as fund-raisers, as specialists, as staff. And not least, as contributors. Through the local welfare funds and federations, the trade groups and the landsmannschaften, the synagogues, and the local and regional and national conferences, a high percentage of American Jewry takes a direct part in the totality that is J.D.C.

In one form or another, all American Jews who maintain their identity as Jews, are thus related in specific terms in the direction, consultation, planning, management, and financial support of J.D.C. From all ranks, and sections and groups in American Jewish life, J.D.C. draws its support, its ideas, its organization, its evaluations. All these threads enter into a cohesive entity that give substance to the word “Joint.” In this way, American Jews through the nationwide pattern of organization and participation, give their own clear answer to the question “Who is J.D.C.?”

J.D.C. is the America Jew, single-minded in dedication to a brave task in behalf of a suffering element of humanity.
The Year 1944

Fateful is the word for 1944.

In that year there came the liberation of large areas of Axis-dominated Europe. In the same year the full extent of the tragic destruction of Jews became appallingly clear. Here and there Jews were emerging from their hiding places. But they found their homes gone or occupied, their businesses vanished or transferred to other hands; their families dead or dispersed.

The grim facts began to emerge from the nebulae of speculation; it was clear that several million Jews had been exterminated. Of those who survived the vast majority was uprooted, expropriated, dispossessed. They needed everything, from the primitive necessities of life, food, clothing, shelter and medicine, to the fuller establishment of their status, careers, institutions.

Instinctively the Jews of Europe turned to J.D.C. Tens of thousands had been rescued, protected and maintained by J.D.C. even in the years when the Gestapo was raging over the land. Now J.D.C.’s work was greater than ever.

What Needs

How enormous that burden was can be judged from appropriations made in 1944,—over $20,000,000—unprecedented in J.D.C. history.

Withal, it cannot be said that every vital need was met. Thousands had to be given no more than one or two meals a day, or had to do with inadequate clothing and shelter. But in one field, that of rescuing lives, snatching Jews from the Nazi hangman, the J.D.C. met every call that came to it. In the work of relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction, the J.D.C. had to cut its services to its resources. No project went completely by default or went undone for lack of funds, though the need was greater than could be met. But nothing stopped J.D.C.’s work in rescue.

J.D.C. collaboration with the War Refugee Board set up by President Roosevelt in January, 1944 was close. This opened up methods of aid to Jews of occupied Europe that had heretofore been closed. The rescue work, in cooperation with the War Refugee Board, received an allotment of almost ten million dollars. Translated into lives this means that many thousands of Jews are today alive who would have perished without that aid.

Close contact was maintained with UNRRA and the Inter-governmental Refugee Committee. The J.D.C. assigned to the UNRRA a unit of ten workers, one physician and nine trained social workers for service in the Balkans. Although they operate as part of the UNRRA staff, they are free to report to the J.D.C. on all matters pertaining to Jewish relief and rehabilitation problems. At the Montreal Conference in September of 1944, enabling resolutions were passed which permit UNRRA to enter enemy or ex-enemy territories to aid displaced nationals of the United Nations or such displaced enemy nationals as have been persecuted by reason of their race, religion or activities on behalf of the United Nations. It is hoped that as a result of these enabling resolutions, UNRRA will extend its relief and rehabilitation services to many Jews in enemy or ex-enemy territories where the needs are overwhelming.

Close cooperation was worked out with the Inter-governmental Committee for Refugees. This agency, of which Sir Herbert Emerson is the Director, is primarily concerned with the non-repatriable refugee population, whose resettlement will require long range planning. There is a friendly and intimate relationship between the Committee and the J.D.C. which augurs well for the future when the baffling problems of the stateless refugees must be wrestled with.

The most pressing task of J.D.C. during the year was that of rescue—the sheer problem of saving lives within the countries still occupied by the
Nazis or their satellites, to get as many as could be out of those countries.

**RESCUE**

Tens of thousands of children and adults were maintained in hiding by J.D.C. Relief in the form of supplies or funds were made available to Jews even in concentration camps, ghettos, and forced labor battalions. One camp alone received 18,000 monthly parcels through the instrumentality of the International Red Cross. Help was given to underground forces. Under special Treasury license J.D.C. was able to remit local currencies for use by the underground in the work of relief and rescue. For example, to meet the desperate situation of the Jews in Hungary and the possibilities of rescuing them, a special emergency grant of $1,000,000 was made. Another method was by borrowing locally on the strength of J.D.C. credit and good name for repayment after the war.

On top of this enormous task of sustaining lives of Jews in ghettos or in hiding, there went the maximum possible rescue from the occupied countries to neutral and the liberated areas. Rescue projects were priority number one.

Outstanding among these projects was the evacuation of Jews from the Balkans to Palestine for which a grant of three million dollars was made. Boats were chartered; men, women and children were brought overland. Everything was done to bring out of the inferno those who could reach safe shelter. About 6,000 Jews were rescued through Turkey alone: others, particularly from Hungary, were brought to safety in Switzerland. For the relief needs of the Jews in the occupied countries such as China (Shanghai), France, Czechoslovakia, Rumania, etc., a total of $3,300,000 was set aside during 1944.

**RELIEF**

Relief needs mounted tide-high. With every advance of the liberating armies there came the revelation of starved, shelterless, uprooted peoples. In North Africa, J.D.C. continued to care for refugees and for the local population that had been bombed out of their homes. Soup kitchens were maintained as was a children's camp. Relief was furnished to about a thousand refugees who were completely dependent upon J.D.C. In 1944, the sum of $391,000 was appropriated for North Africa.

For liberated Italy alone, J.D.C. spent $34,500 in 1944 for emergency aid to 4,500 refugees and to many of the 12,000 Italian Jews who survived the Nazi occupation. In addition, a total of $120,000 was allocated during 1944 for the still-occupied section of Italy.

France, where some 170,000 Jews survived, constituted a formidable challenge. Some 60,000 were in need of emergency aid. Hot soup kitchens had to be opened. 8,000 children who had been hidden during the occupation had to be collected and housed and if possible re-united with their families. The total allocation for France was $1,850,000.

About 20,000 Jews came out of hiding in Belgium, including 3,000 children saved through underground forces. An emergency grant of $150,000 was rushed for the relief of Jews in Belgium who were without homes or possessions or resources. This over and above a further sum of $390,000 that was made available during the course of the year.

A special grant of $500,000 had to be dispatched quickly to the desperate survivors in Rumania—about 300,000; supplemented by another fund of $250,000 plus $100,000 for Hungarian refugees in Rumania. Hundreds of thousands of dollars, borrowed for relief work during the Nazi occupation, are being repaid to Jews of Rumania. But 150,000 are totally destitute. Many others require substantial supplementary aid. Before the liberation of Rumania, assistance was extended either through local borrowing or with funds sent in from Switzerland, to the extent of $40,000 a month or a total for the year of $480,000.

In Poland, which bore the brunt of the Nazi attack, the surviving Jews are estimated to be not much more than 3,500. Their condition defies description. J.D.C. rushed shipment of 50 tons of food, clothing and medicine from Teheran. Two hundred and fifty tons more were authorized shortly thereafter. Additional $250,000 worth of supplies was furnished from the United States.
A periodic parcel service is maintained for 30,000 families of Polish Jews in the Soviet Union. The 1944 appropriation was $1,285,000 for parcel service into the Soviet Union which gave sympathetic cooperation to the relief task. This is exclusive of monies provided by the J.D.C. for work in Poland through the Polish Government and other channels and for bulk shipment of food, clothing, medicines, etc. These totalled $1,285,000 for 1944.

A special grant had to be made for Yugoslavia for 1,400 liberated refugees.

As the armies of the United Nations advance, the immensity of the problem of relief emerges in all its magnitude. The full extent of the aid necessary will become known only in the year 1945—and corresponding exertions made.

Meanwhile, Jews who had found refuge in the neutral countries had to be sustained. For the various programs supported by the J.D.C. in the neutral and Allied Countries, a total of over $7,740,000 was made available in 1944. 25,000 Jews found asylum in Switzerland and for many of them, without any resources, J.D.C. had to provide supplementary assistance. About 7,000 Jewish refugees who were in Switzerland prior to August, 1942 are fully the responsibility of J.D.C.

In Spain 2,000 refugees were steadily maintained by J.D.C. The total number helped was far larger, with hundreds evacuated to make way for new waves of men, and women and children in flight. 600 Sephardic Jews were able to pass through the lines from German occupied countries on the basis of a J.D.C. maintenance guarantee. While nationals of the United Nations are being helped by their respective governments, the German, Austrian and stateless refugees—the bulk of those who are still in Spain—are the full responsibility of J.D.C. The same conditions had to be met for the six or seven hundred refugees in Portugal, pending their migration to countries of permanent asylum. In Sweden aid was given to German, Austrian, Czechoslovakian refugees who had arrived in Sweden prior to the war as well as to refugees from Finland and supplementary assistance to the Jews who had to flee from Denmark.

In Turkey the J.D.C. carried on a four-fold program: assistance to refugees from the Balkans in transit to Palestine; purchase and shipment of supplies from Turkey to occupied Rumania and Czechoslovakia for distribution by the International Red Cross; relief to Turkish nationals who were repatriated from France; and aid to the local Jewish communities that were affected by the discriminatory levy on minority groups.

In Palestine J.D.C. carried on a program of aid to needy refugee rabbis and scholars and to about 70 educational and cultural institutions of higher learning accommodating 25,000 students. A special grant of $50,000 was made to the yeshivoth for feeding of undernourished students, after a survey had been made of their nutritional needs.

Aden harbored about 2,000 Yemenite refugees. Early in the year a typhus epidemic broke out and J.D.C. rushed a medical unit from Palestine that succeeded in halting the epidemic. Relief was given to many of the refugees and about half were transported to Palestine by J.D.C.

Similar help still had to be given in the relief and rehabilitation program in Latin American countries. While the local Jewish communities are gradually taking over their responsibility, supplementary grants totalled $469,000 in 1944.

This is the skeleton story of furnishing basic relief needs: food, clothing, minimum shelter, medications. The thousand and one tasks of saving lives and sustaining them had to be borne while the broader program of rehabilitation and reconstruction got under way.

One aspect of this broader program was the settlement—after rescue—of transient refugee Jews in permanent homes. A large part of this work was carried on in cooperation with the Jewish Agency.

J.D.C. undertook to pay for Jews heading for Palestine—80% of the cost of the sea voyages to Istanbul and 100% of their maintenance and later transportation to Palestine. In January a chartered J.D.C. boat brought 750 immigrants to Palestine from Spain and Portugal. Later, 434 more settlers were enabled to enter the country. 8,000 came through Turkey. Yemenite Jews
stranded in Aden were moved to Palestine. About 500 refugees found asylum in Canada. A thousand Tripolitan Jews were repatriated.

The tragedy of Jews fleeing for their lives had its impact on the communities into which they drifted. Many such communities have been helped by J.D.C. and organized so as to pyramid the work of rescue and relief. But J.D.C. had to take over the maintenance costs of Swiss and Portuguese Jewish institutions, while funds raised by Jews of those countries were devoted to the work in occupied zones. In Palestine educational and cultural institutions had to be aided. In Iran the schools were helped. In Algiers local institutions had to be assisted, including sanatoria and clinics.

The Jewish spirit too was sustained. Responsive to the needs of religion and education in the lives of Jews, J.D.C. has supported institutions of learning which have long kept alive Jewish values.

Through the J.D.C.’s cultural committee regular grants are made to Yeshivahs which have been re-established on the fragments rescued from Poland and Lithuania. Passover food was made available for which close to $75,000 was spent. In 1944 J.D.C. spent $384,500 to sustain those cultural and religious institutions which hold within them the promise of renewed life for the Jews of Europe, the Near East and North Africa.

J.D.C. funds were thus the instrumentality for the rescue of many thousands, the preservation of many hundreds of thousands, and the resettlement and reconstruction and revitalizing of Jewish lives. The J.D.C. was also a catalyst for the enlistment of the efforts of Jewish communities throughout the world.

For many years Jews of Canada have been an integral part of J.D.C. Jewish communities in Latin America, South Africa, Australia and New Zealand, in Switzerland, in Egypt and England, have worked to coordinate their relief efforts with J.D.C. In most instances expenditure of their funds is made by the overseas staffs of the J.D.C. and represent, in all cases, additional aid to Jews.

The pattern of cooperation with Jewish organizations has followed the pattern of intimate collaboration with government agencies. Under the direction of Dr. Joseph Schwartz the overseas staff of the J.D.C. was enlarged so that staff members are now stationed in Portugal, Spain, France, Italy, Sweden, Turkey, Iran, Argentina, Uruguay and Cuba. A Swiss national represents the J.D.C. in Switzerland carrying on magnificently one of the most difficult and important tasks.

The J.D.C. took the initiative in the formation of the Central Location Index Inc. a cooperative venture on the part of seven national agencies concerned with the problem of serving inquirers who wish to locate the whereabouts of their relatives and friends overseas. The agencies are the American Friends Service Committee, the American Christian Committee for Refugees, the Hias, the International Migration Service, the National Council of Jewish Women, the National Refugee Service and the Joint Distribution Committee. The Index acts as a central clearing body for all inquiries originating with the member agencies, thereby eliminating duplication, and also cooperates with the International Red Cross and other overseas agencies in a centralized effort to locate displaced persons. This service will be vital in helping to reunite families, particularly children and their surviving parents.

These were the high spots in a year tense with tragic discovery, with the revelation of vast needs, complex problems and desperate urgencies. It was a race against time; and once in a while the race was lost, as in regard to Hungarian Jews for whom J.D.C. went to all lengths in a gigantic effort of rescue and relief.

As J.D.C.’s work was effective in the year 1944 the prospect increased of still greater tasks for the year 1945. Jews who were saved and sustained as the liberating armies brought about their freedom, will have to be helped in larger measure before they can resume their normal lives.

The year 1944 has demonstrated J.D.C.’s ability to meet the new challenge.
In 1944 J.D.C. expended over twenty million dollars. In the 30 years of its existence from 1914 through 1944, J.D.C. spent over 151 million dollars directly and millions more through related organizations. Hundreds of thousands of individual Jews have felt the direct benefits of J.D.C.'s existence.

That job, carried on over 30 years and now at a time of greatest need reaching its peak, called for organization on a scale commensurate with the global service of J.D.C.

This is the story of J.D.C. at work.

The machinery of J.D.C. has been set up for one purpose only: to bring J.D.C.'s help wherever, and to the degree that, help is needed by Jews in distress. The measure of J.D.C. is in the service it renders to our co-religionists abroad. That, its only purpose, is what makes J.D.C. machinery tick.

The organization itself embraces three broad sectors.

Primary in importance is the vast army of contributors who provide the life blood and the vitality of J.D.C. activities.

Its corporate structure draws into J.D.C. thousands of American Jews. Through a National Council, an advisory Board of Directors, an Executive Committee, and its administrative committees and sub-committees, a mechanism has been built up out of years of experience to determine policy, to raise and allocate funds, to negotiate and supervise, and to be responsive to the American Jewish community of which J.D.C. is a united expression.

A third sector is that of the staff: the men and women to whom the volunteer leadership assigns a complex process reaching from the individual American Jew who makes his contribution to another individual Jew in Poland or North Africa or France or Italy—or Shanghai.

The organization centers in New York. Here at 270 Madison Avenue, the governing bodies of J.D.C. and the staff work to translate policy into reality. A network of foreign offices and travelling representatives communicates with the national headquarters as a two-way circuit. It brings to the United States the relevant information and appraisal of the situation abroad. It conveys to the Jews in whose behalf this institution was created the materiel of J.D.C. assistance. The technical machinery thus consists of an administrative, research, interpretative and auditing agency in the United States and offices abroad directly at the service of Jews in distress.

Four main divisions make up the staff of the national headquarters.

The administrative responsibility rests with the executive officers and staff — the direct link between policy making and policy execution. Working with the responsible body, the Executive Committee of the J.D.C., the Administration translates decisions into action, assigns the duties, supervises the work and correlates
all of the staff operations, here in the United States and abroad throughout the world. The sub-divisions of its work are both functional and geographic.

A geographical example: there is a secretary in charge of relief activities in Latin America through whom there clears all of the correspondence, budget estimates, allocations and negotiations effecting Latin American countries. A functional example: a secretary of the Cultural Committee is in charge of the efforts in numerous countries relating to educational and cultural programs vital to the Jews of those communities.

A nerve center of the Executive Office's work is its contact with other organizations. Governmental agencies constitute one such category, general relief agencies, another. Jewish organizations, in and out of the United States, are kept in closest touch with J.D.C. and share in the smooth operation of J.D.C. services.

One form of collaboration and consultation with Jewish groups and organizations is an advisory and consultation group of European representatives right here in this country. A member of the J.D.C. Executive and Administrative Staff is a liaison man with these representative personalities who have been in the United States for some years and are especially qualified to advise J.D.C. on its current program and postwar planning.

This body has no political or fund-raising functions and makes no direct negotiations with United States agencies. It is set up for the purpose of bringing to J.D.C. a wealth of information and human resources indispensable to the world-wide J.D.C. operations.

This is one example. The process, however, is a continuous one here and abroad; a process of exchanging ideas, consulting, gathering information, recording different points of view. All through the year this proceeds with hundreds of Jewish and non-Jewish organizations: the reality of democracy in action.

Because J.D.C. activities are world-wide a vast correspondence reflecting the universal character of J.D.C. operations pours into the New York headquarters. J.D.C. does not do individual case work but J.D.C. must furnish to hundreds who inquire, information that is available or that can be secured from the appropriate source.

A special responsibility of the Executive Office is in its Purchasing Division. The war and the difficulties of supply and transport mean that it is not enough to make funds available to a desperately starving or newly rescued community of Jews. In normal times, allocation of funds would promptly make available commodities needed: food, clothing, shoes, drugs, medical supplies, tools (the minimum technical equipment of the artisan or craftsman who seeks to re-establish himself in a self-sustaining occupation). Today, J.D.C. has to furnish supplies directly in situations where they would otherwise be unobtainable. The purchase and shipment of such material, enormous quantities of goods and tools, is the job of the Purchasing Division.

A basic function of the Executive Office is related to budget planning and allocation. However large, J.D.C. funds have always been a fraction of what has been called for by communities in need. The heart-breaking task of J.D.C. is to pare down these requests to the irreducible minimum; and to retain enough flexibility for emergencies likely to come up during the year.

This is how the budget is prepared.

About three months before the end of each year, the Committees with which J.D.C. works abroad
and J.D.C.'s representatives from all over the world, submit figures of their estimated requirements for the coming year. Local support is taken into account with the balance asked of J.D.C. These estimates are supported by substantiating documents to enable the national leadership to understand and properly evaluate the needs.

All of these reports are compiled and collated at national headquarters. Policy considerations: emphasis on relief as against programs of emigration or programs of reconstruction, enter into the calculations. The collation of this material, compact with human values, comes up before the Executive Committee, the Board and the National Council for the planning of the year to follow.

This is the total responsibility of the Executive and Administrative Staff. In its work, is concentrated the job for which J.D.C. is responsible as trustee for America's Jews.

The basis for this work is information, the fundamental, factual material without which no action is taken by the J.D.C. officers and administrators.

To furnish that information, J.D.C. maintains an extensive Research Department that systematically collates reports and information having any bearing on the conditions of the Jews in various parts of the world and on J.D.C. activities. From the material of the Research Department special studies are prepared as well as a weekly review, a digest of pertinent material and other literature. Another major J.D.C. department deals with community information, service and publicity. J.D.C. is a community enterprise. It is dependent, therefore, on the broadest knowledge and understanding by the community from which it derives its authority and resources. The business of the Department of Community Information is to maintain the closest informational contact between the national office and the total community of America's Jews. It operates through a field service staff and a publicity department.

The field service is the instrumentality whereby J.D.C. has an all-year round contact with the leadership and constituency of the J.D.C. throughout the country. Personnel conferences, local and regional meetings, consultations with the national Council members and community heads constitute the job of the field service staff. In addition, there is a youth division to spread information and stimulate interest among young American Jews in the work of J.D.C.

The publicity department furthers that knowledge. It prepares publications, reports, documents, press conferences, pictorial and other displays, in the fullest possible account of J.D.C. operations. As a result of community service and publicity work, the Jews of America are kept abreast of the J.D.C.'s activities and are able to share in determining J.D.C.'s policies.

In 1945, fund-raising efforts of the J.D.C. which had been part of the United Jewish Appeal from 1939-1944, will be conducted by the Joint Distribution Committee Campaign. This new organization will be responsible for raising funds to meet J.D.C.'s minimum requirements estimated at over $46,570,000 for 1945.

A special responsibility attaches to the work of the Accounting and Financial Departments. The operations of an organization of J.D.C. dimensions would, under any circumstances, require a highly efficient accounting and recording staff. Its present tasks are more formidable than ever because of the wartime requirements of the American Government and of the countries in which J.D.C. can operate.
Repayments must be made to committees in occupied countries who were authorized just before the outbreak of the war to borrow funds locally for the continuance of relief activities. All the transactions involved in the period of rescue and relief of Jews under Nazi occupation are the province of an Accounting and Financial Department whose records are audited by one of the chief accounting firms in the United States.

The machinery abroad has developed out of thirty years experience. With the exception of one J.D.C. office in Buenos Aires which reports directly to New York, all of the global activities of J.D.C. are supervised by an office having its headquarters in Lisbon, Portugal, under the chairman of the European Executive Council. All field men, all of the temporary and permanent offices in Europe, Africa, the Middle East and the Near East are responsible to the main office in Lisbon.

Specific work of relief, rescue and negotiations with governments is carried on from additional offices, such as those in London, Paris, Rome, Teheran, Istanbul, Stockholm and St. Gall, Switzerland. The regional offices are responsible for J.D.C. work not only in the countries in which they are situated but in adjacent countries.

The London Office acts chiefly as liaison with the American agencies located in London and with other government and intergovernmental bodies.

J.D.C. representatives in the various countries clear all of their information, reports and budgetary requirements through the Lisbon Office. But the heart of J.D.C.'s work overseas is in its highly developed relationships with the local communities where relief is necessary. Wherever possible, even the emergency and rescue operations are carried out through available local groups. In broad functional fields such as child care, emigration, vocational training, the J.D.C. cooperates with specialized institutions having their own personnel and leadership throughout the relief areas.

Ose, an organization for medical aid and child care, is one such collaborative effort; Hicem, for emigration, is another which has obtained substantial grants from J.D.C.

It is a basic principle of J.D.C.'s work to set up a local organization where none such exists and to make sure that it is representative of all sections of Jewish opinion.

This form of collaboration makes for a maximum efficiency of operations. It also draws into the total cooperative effort the financial, moral and physical resources of all sections of the community in which J.D.C. operates.

In France, for example, a special agency had to be set up immediately after the outbreak of the war in 1939. J.D.C. took the initiative in forming a special coordinating committee in which all groups and factions were represented, who assumed responsibility for the actual relief work and were in turn responsible for the statistical and budgetary data. Similarly in 1940 when war refugees made their way to Lisbon, the local Jewish community, small as it was, was encouraged to organize a Refugee Aid Committee for which the local Jewish leaders assumed the responsibility.

A similar development occurred in Italy as Rome was liberated. In all of these efforts, the maximum local support is obtained.

J.D.C. has a direct share in the enlargement of the scope, responsibilities and methods of the communal work abroad. J.D.C. standards are becoming a model of modern relief and rehabilitation programs throughout the world. The experience of working with J.D.C. has given birth to a deeper sense of social responsibility.

This is the machinery: an organized team having only these purposes: to save lives, to relieve suffering, to reconstruct hopeful futures.
"Even through Nazi-erected ghetto walls in Poland, J.D.C. brought hope and help."—J.D.C. report.

It's all in the diary kept by young Mary Berg, who was 15 years old when the Nazis marched into Poland, when Warsaw was pulverized, when the ghetto rose as a mass cenotaph. Her diary entry on October 1939 read: "Today I am 15 years old. I feel very old and lonely." But the will to live remained and with life—as J.D.C. work has demonstrated—there is always hope and effort.

So Mary Berg wrote down in her diary all of the things that happened, from the day Warsaw was besieged until the day of her journey to freedom in the United States.

Out of the agony of the hunted, a sudden, hopeful note is sounded. For in the diary for August 16, 1940, she writes "The young Jewish people of Lodz have founded a club for the purpose of raising relief funds." And "Since we were organized, a representative of the Joint Distribution Committee appealed to us to arrange a show to raise funds for the refugees from Lodz. We went to work with enthusiasm."

Enthusiasm in the Warsaw ghetto!

“Our first performance (she wrote on September 11th) “took place early this month at 5 Przejazd in the J.D.C. office. Our success surpassed all expectations, and the receipts were considerable. We were immediately asked to give other performances, all of which were very successful.”...

The J.D.C. office . . . the representative of the organization established to help Jews in distress . . . even through Nazi-erected walls, even within the crumbling ghetto of Warsaw . . .

“We went to work with enthusiasm.”

26
And at the end of five years they were still interned. Useless to point out to the
refugees the difference between their present camps and the concentration
camps under enemy domination. Useless to explain to them that it was a
matter of effective emergency relief: that in a camp they could be sheltered,
clothed, fed with greater efficiency. They only knew that they were enclosed
by the familiar stockade, the same barbed wire fence, the same depressing
surroundings.

Liberation had been a wave that washed over them. Liberation seemed only a
dream, a fantasy. Now there was final disillusionment. And something hap­
pened to Isaac R., refugee from Rumania, that even the Germans had not been
able to do. His spirit was crushed.

Isaac R. had all of his adult life been a community leader—a member of his
local Kehillah, a delegate to Zionist congresses, a person to be consulted on
Rumanian Jewish problems, a friend to refugees in the early days of Hitler's
terror against the Jews of Germany and Austria. Now he was a refugee him­
self, and a prisoner. He had fled to Italy, only to be interned there on German
orders. In prison camp, he had somehow preserved his dignity as a man, was
the acknowledged leader among the other prisoners, had done much to main­
tain their spirits, through the dreadful ordeal.

But now he was like one dead. The Nazis had been driven off but the doors
were not flung open. True, he was now treated with courtesy. True, there were
no more beatings, nor fear of beatings... He was still a prisoner.

When a meeting was held, under the new auspices, of the internees in camp,
he did not attend. He remained in his bunk, slumped down, indifferent. Hours
passed and he did not move.

A fellow internee roused him from his lethargy, shook him into consciousness.
"Isaac, Isaac! You have been elected!"

Elected! What was that? A forgotten word.

"You have been elected to represent this camp at the Congress of all camps
in the Bari area. It will meet to discuss our problems, and what is to be done
to solve them. It will make decisions."

Isaac R. straightened up. To represent! Elec­
tions! Who had done this? What had called
them?

"The J.D.C. It asks our advice. It wants our
experience. We are to confer with its repre­
sentatives."

A proud smile played on the old man’s face.
"Yes, certainly. That is how it should be. That
is how it used to be. When I was a delegate... .
Let us prepare everything. We must meet with
our American colleagues—our brothers."
The story of rescue work in Europe is far too often told in terms of statistics, organization, shipments, bookkeeping. The reality is in other terms. After every disaster rescuers work their way through scenes of utter desolation, a depressing task at best. The dead, the dying—what can be done for them? — and then a voice is heard, a cry that can be answered. Feverishly the rescuers labor with quickened pulses, to reach that one.

The J.D.C. representative in Barcelona was wakened at one in the morning by a telephone call.

“This is Dr. Lopez in Andorra. A party of refugees crossed the border. Two women can walk no more—severe frost bite—danger of gangrene. One of the women said—if I could reach you, you would help to get her to a hospital.”

All through the night the representative labored, making ’phone calls, rushing around. It was five in the morning before his efforts were finally rewarded.

An ambulance sped through the dark streets enroute to Andorra, the tiny mountain republic set high in the Pyrenees. The representative rode with the driver as they sped past the sharp turns, the dangerous mountain curves.

Hurry! Hurry!

It was worse than Dr. Lopez had reported. Both women, sisters, would have to suffer amputations—one of both feet above the instep; the other of all the toes on her right leg.

“Will we walk again?”

“Yes, with the aid of artificial feet.”

No tears. “There are some,” said the older sister, “in Hitler’s world who would gladly sacrifice their feet to see their husbands and sons again. It is not too high a price to pay.”

The day for which Emil had prayed was come. The Allies had marched into Paris.

Outwardly showing his jubilation together with his fellow-captives at the French camp, Drancy, still he feared to absorb the reality of the situation.

For only yesterday he had been told to prepare for transfer to another place.

And he had said to himself, well, this is it. The death chamber in Poland.

A squeeze of his hand awoke him to the nearness of Lorchen, who was looking anxiously at his face. He knew what was in her mind. Their four-year-old boy, Peter. His memories surged forward... That day in Nice when the
Nazis were actually in the house, their new friends, the Breunings, had resolved to chance everything in an escape attempt. After all they had a Palestine certificate secured with the help of the Joint.

At the last moment Lorchen had snatched up Peter and flung him into their arms. “Take him with you,” she had whispered. “Let him have a chance at least.” Then, after the whispered words, “Joint-Lisbon,” they were gone.

After that Emil and Lorchen had not spoken of it. But each knew how the other would try surreptitiously to learn the names or description of new arrivals at Drancy. It became a horrible fascination. Each day they dreaded the possibility of the Breunings’ arrival.

“Emil, the Joint man, will come today. We must find out if they are safe.” He looked at her in surprise. She had changed suddenly. There was something purposeful about her. She was no longer afraid of good fortune.

Together they hurried out. Somebody was making a speech in French through the amplifying system.

“You are now free. Those of you who have your documents in order will please form a line at that large table over there. The people at the desk on that side will answer questions and give information. You are now free and we want to speed up arrangements for emptying this place.” Another voice repeated the same facts, this time in German. For another hour the words went on in Yiddish, Italian, Polish.

The people from the Joint were there. Emil and Lorchen queued up. Their turn came.

Yes, there would be immediate communication with the Lisbon office. Breuning, Johann and Bertha, and Peter Cohen? Tomorrow they hoped to have some information.

Early the next morning they took their places in the Joint line. It was still too early for the Joint staff to be there, but the line had formed nevertheless. One couldn’t do anything else. People made an effort to chat, but it was only token conversation to help ease the tension of waiting. They talked of the ceremony of thanksgiving and the memorial service held the night before.

For the most part, a deep silence prevailed. Eyes were dry and anxious. The excitement of the previous day had given way to sober consideration.

A stir at the head of the line indicated the arrival of the Joint staff. Holding tightly to their forms, people began closing in as the line slowly shortened.

Now and then there was a cry as people turned away from the desk—they had received definite news of loss, perhaps. Others danced jubilantly as they learned of safe arrivals of relatives, or received emigration permits for themselves.

For Emil and Lorchen it was soon over. The Joint worker had shown them a terse telegram: “Breunings, Peter Cohen en route Palestine. Certificate Emil Cohen and wife available.”
I have just returned from a visit to Italy, France, Belgium and Switzerland. I have met with Jews from those countries and from others liberated and about to be liberated. A cold recital of figures does not tell the story adequately. Jews who have managed to outlive the Nazi terror still have to continue their fight for survival. They are alive—barely so—but they are mostly ruined: hungry, homeless, impoverished. But their will to live and rebuild is still high. The task of helping them will be gigantic. It will require great effort of international organizations, of individual governments as well as of private organizations in particular, the Joint Distribution Committee.

J.D.C. will have to furnish forty million dollars to do its part adequately to rescue and rehabilitate Europe’s Jews during 1945.

Last year, in 1944, our chief problem was rescue work, to save Jews from Nazi-occupied Europe. This rescue work is continuing this year. It has top priority since no one can predict today what massacres may develop in the convulsive period of the last days of the Nazis. There are perhaps two hundred thousand Jews still in Nazi hands.

But, in addition a gigantic, complex relief problem is becoming clear in every nation thus far liberated. The problem challenges the humanitarianism of those nations who have been left untouched by the ravages of war.

In Poland one hundred fifty thousand Jews are alive. They have appealed for medicines, clothing, blankets, shoes. They have explicitly urged that they be sent tools to resume work in industry and on farms.

The same requests are pouring in from other countries.

In France ten thousand Jewish children are now orphaned. Many of them are in Christian institutions or homes. They must be reclaimed. There, as in Holland and Belgium, Jews need not only direct relief but assistance in rehabilitation of their occupations and professions. Scientists, doctors, lack all equipment to resume their professions and are turning to our financial agencies to aid them to re-establish themselves. In Hungary one hundred twenty thousand Jews have escaped massacre and need everything for their re-establishment. Duplicate this picture throughout Europe.

That is the situation American Jews must face. I am confident American Jewry will not fail them.

Joseph J. Schwartz
Chairman, European Executive Council
March 6, 1945

The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.

Dear Sirs:

We have examined the following accompanying statements:

of The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc., from Inception, October 1914, through December 31, 1944:

EXHIBIT "A" - Statement of Liabilities and Resources as of December 31, 1944.

"M" - Summary Statement of Income and Expenditures from October 1944 through December 31, 1944.

SCHEDULE F1 - Expenditures from October 1944 through December 31, 1944 by countries and territories.

We have reviewed the system of internal control and related accounting procedures in the New York Executive Office and, without necessarily making a complete detailed audit of the transactions, have examined or tested the accounting records and other supporting evidence of such transactions as had been received from J.D.C. overseas offices by which we deemed it appropriate, and to the extent possible by reason of U.S. Government regulations and general war conditions.

The receipt from time to time of additional material from abroad may require some adjustments among certain of the items appearing in the financial statements. Because of restrictions appearing in the financial statements, the final status of these accounts will not be known until the post-war period is at hand.

We have been informed that the New York Executive Office and the J.D.C. European Chairman have received reports from independent local accountants in the various countries of local accounts handled by the J.D.C., and that these operations have been performed through November 1944 in these countries. However, since these accounts have not been examined or tested by the New York Executive Office, no reconciliations can be made with the New York Executive Office, and reports are also being prepared by the independent local accountants. Reports on these audits have been received through October 1944.

Field audits were performed by us in 1944, of the J.D.C. records of J.D.C. central accounting, and in Central America, on which reports have been submitted under separate cover. All data included in these reports have been reconciled with the New York accounting records.

The financial data relating to the J.D.C. overseas offices, included in this report, represent operations through September 1944. The Lisbon office reports have been received only recently for October, November and December 1944, and have not yet been examined, recorded, and audited. No reports have been received as of this date of this report, from the other overseas offices for October through December 1944. Accordingly, the financial data included herein concerning the year 1944, are tentative, before closing; and subject to final audit.

In our opinion, subject to our final audit and report for the year 1944, and our comments herein, the accompanying statements present fairly the position of The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc., before closing, as of December 31, 1944, and the results of its operations for the period 1944, inclusive, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS.
Liabilities

Due committees in countries with which J.D.C. has maintained contact, for expenditures authorized through December 31, 1944 (against this amount payments are being made currently as Treasury Licenses are received); and miscellaneous unpaid balances:

- on account of 1944 appropriations: $3,737,671.32
- on account of 1943 and prior years appropriations: 322,061.05
- Note payable to Chase National Bank of the City of New York (due on or before April 18, 1945): 1,000,000.00
- Other liabilities (contingent upon post-war checking of records): 51,140.70
- Accounts payable, suspense credits, etc.: 607,108.22
- Life insurance reserve: 10,000.00

Total: $5,728,215.27

Accounts payable to Overseas Committees and individuals for relief disbursed through clearance arrangements and for funds borrowed locally and paid out for the account of the J.D.C. (against which payments are being made currently as Treasury Licenses are received):

A-Prior to U.S. entry into the War, December 7, 1941
- Representing undrawn appropriations definitely authorized and at the disposal of committees in countries with which contact has been broken (principally Poland, Germany and Holland): $1,674,372.84

B-Subsequent to U.S. entry into the War, December 7, 1941
- For continuing relief programs in countries with which contact has been broken, with funds borrowed locally for the account of the J.D.C. and disbursed for relief, in accordance with instructions given by the J.D.C. prior to U.S. entry into the war; and by J.D.C. representatives subsequently thereto - (more than half to France and Poland):
  - on account of 1944: $1,578,193.33
  - on account of 1943 and prior years: 2,904,531.12

Total: $7,157,097.29

Available for "A" and "B" above, the J.D.C. had:

- U.S. Government securities in New York, at cost, in the amount of: $4,110,565.51
- and cash in banks and in sight aggregating $4,103,589.31 (see Resources below) of which there would be required to liquidate these liabilities, the sum of: 3,046,531.78

Total: $7,157,097.29
### Resources

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash funds; and other securities - New York (includes $7,225. cash balances</td>
<td>$501,749.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>blocked under provisions of Executive Order 8389, as amended.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash fund - Oswego refugees - special (blocked under provisions of</td>
<td>$85,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive order 8389, as amended)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Liability to Oswego Group</td>
<td>$84,758.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash funds - overseas (subject to adjustment as accountings are received)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accrued interest receivable on securities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated balance to be received from the 1944 Campaign of the</td>
<td>$3,505,813.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Jewish Appeal (based on total allotments of $13,972,558*)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estimated balances to be received from campaigns of the</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Jewish Appeal for years prior to 1944</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$3,538,413.36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Needed to complete liquidation of accounts payable of</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$7,157,097.29 (see Liabilities above) to overseas committees and individuals</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(in addition to U. S. Government Securities of $1,110,565.51)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advances made for transportation which, in part, will be reimbursed in</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cash, and, in part, will represent charges against budgetary commitments</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>when full accountings are received.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loans, sundry accounts and notes receivable, and advances for</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1945 appropriations</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Reserve for possible shrinkage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claims against foreign banks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less: Reserve for possible uncollectibles</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,589,597.32</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**General Fund Net Deficit as of December 31, 1944**

(A) $1,589,597.32

- This net deficit of $1,589,597.32 results after utilizing to the full the $620,000
  Working Fund of the J.D.C. as accumulated in the period prior to 1939. The
  accumulated deficit resulting from operations is $1,110,565.51.

It is expected that the J.D.C. will receive additional amounts out of the proceeds of the
1944 United Jewish Appeal Campaign when further action will be taken by the 1944 Allotment
Committee of the United Jewish Appeal.

**Notes:** The above statement does not include the following:

1. Commitments aggregating $1,791,238.16 deferred to future years.
2. J.D.C. Transmigration Bureau (N.Y.) deposits aggregating $31,924.63.
3. Guarantee of $250,000.00 given to U.S. Government through U.S. Committee for the
   Care of European Children for emigration and maintenance of 5,000 children to be
   brought to this country.
4. Items held for transmission purposes, $239,257.79.
5. Lena and Selig Cohen Trust Fund - $71,800.11 for restricted purposes.
6. Investments previously made in American Joint Reconstruction Found., Palestine Economic
   Corporation; Gemiloth Chessed Kassas; American Jewish Joint Agricultural Corporation, etc.,
   being of no present cash value to J. D. C.
7. Contingent asset of $50,000. representing payment for guarantee to the Iranian Customs
   authorities (thru the Imperial Bank of Tehran) for 50% of the value of foodstuffs and
   other supplies in transit, intended for shipment to Russia for the relief of evacuees and
   refugees. The purpose of this guarantee is to indemnify the Iranian Government in the
   event of sale or distribution of the supplies in Iran (Guarantee expires May 31, 1945),
   and is subject to renewal for six month periods.
8. Legacy account of $232,192.79 is not included in the General Funds and is not available
   for general purposes.
9. Property (Children's Home) in La Paz, Bolivia, at a cost of $17,000.
10. Possible refundable items by relatives and friends of refugees and others.
THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, INC.
SUMMARY STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURES
FROM OCTOBER 1, 1944, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 1944
GENERAL FUND - ACCRUAL BASIS
YEAR 1944, TENTATIVE, BEFORE CLOSING; SUBJECT TO FINAL AUDIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>$14,487,505.81</td>
<td>$20,011,970.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>14,457.12</td>
<td>9,379,818.27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>15,309.90</td>
<td>6,757,771.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>6,058,753.41</td>
<td>5,944,109.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940</td>
<td>6,298,675.06</td>
<td>6,326,867.54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1939</td>
<td>8,137,391.27</td>
<td>8,863,731.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1938</td>
<td>10,507,314.61</td>
<td>3,799,987.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1937</td>
<td>2,952,185.09</td>
<td>2,883,759.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>2,340,385.77</td>
<td>1,904,925.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1935</td>
<td>917,749.20</td>
<td>983,345.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1934</td>
<td>1,102,198.29</td>
<td>1,308,926.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1933</td>
<td>1,151,728.29</td>
<td>665,754.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1932</td>
<td>319,250.52</td>
<td>340,815.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>771,705.67</td>
<td>958,760.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930</td>
<td>1,175,733.95</td>
<td>4,387,118.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1929</td>
<td>1,632,288.88</td>
<td>4,201,598.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1928</td>
<td>3,522,660.51</td>
<td>2,812,301.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1927</td>
<td>4,589,760.83</td>
<td>4,892,935.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>4,618,965.02</td>
<td>4,892,935.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1925</td>
<td>206,195.48</td>
<td>1,956,577.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1924</td>
<td>579,077.85</td>
<td>3,910,111.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1923</td>
<td>4,956,953.30</td>
<td>6,071,040.39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1922</td>
<td>9,081,036.82</td>
<td>9,655,303.52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>6,906,788.61</td>
<td>5,023,398.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920</td>
<td>13,840,700.54</td>
<td>11,189,361.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1919</td>
<td>13,714,253.22</td>
<td>11,601,708.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1918</td>
<td>5,315,761.67</td>
<td>5,934,587.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1917</td>
<td>4,009,153.01</td>
<td>2,827,729.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916</td>
<td>6,167,091.54</td>
<td>4,229,561.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1915</td>
<td>128,647.41</td>
<td>1,904,749.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1914</td>
<td>123,192.79</td>
<td>61,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Income: $146,161,201.46
Total Expenditures: $150,299,848.31
General Fund Net Deficit as of December 31, 1944 (Exhibit "A") (A) $4,138,647.45

(A) - This net deficit of $4,138,647.45 results after utilizing to the full the $620,000. Working Fund of the J.D.C. as accumulated in the period prior to 1939. The accumulated deficit resulting from operations is $4,758,647.45.

(B) - Represents income from November 1, 1916, through December 31, 1917.

(C) - Represents income from October 1, 1914, through December 31, 1915.

* It is expected that the J.D.C. will receive additional amounts out of the 1944 United Jewish Appeal Campaign when further action will be taken by the 1944 Allotment Committee of the United Jewish Appeal.

LEGACY ACCOUNT
(Not Available for General Purposes)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Income</th>
<th>Expenditures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1944</td>
<td>$28,510.52</td>
<td>$160,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1943</td>
<td>7,114.11</td>
<td>$160,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1942</td>
<td>3,251.57</td>
<td>$160,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>12,286.59</td>
<td>$160,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Balance (See Footnote No. 8 Exhibit "A") $232,192.79
### Schedule #1

**Expenditures - October 1914-December 31, 1914**

**By Countries and Territories**

**General Fund - Accrual Basis**

**Year 1914, Tentative, Before Closing; Subject to Final Audit**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>October 1914 through December 31, 1914</th>
<th>Year 1914</th>
<th>Year 1914</th>
<th>Total October 1914 through December 31, 1914</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Abyssinia</td>
<td>$15,207.57</td>
<td>$13,520.00</td>
<td>$6,000.00</td>
<td>$15,207.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aden</td>
<td>$15,215.20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$15,215.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albania</td>
<td>$36,531.55</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$36,531.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alexandria, Egypt</td>
<td>$58,651.55</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$58,651.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Argentina</td>
<td>$5,700.00</td>
<td>$1,900.00</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
<td>$5,700.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria, Burma, New Zealand</td>
<td>$5,712.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,712.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria and Hungary, including Galicia (Prior to 1920)</td>
<td>$2,681,691.10</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$2,681,691.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>$3,356,677.35</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$3,356,677.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baltic Provinces</td>
<td>$10,672.35</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$10,672.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>$1,601,332.20</td>
<td>$1,500.00</td>
<td>$1,100.00</td>
<td>$1,601,332.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>$2,375,952.22</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$2,375,952.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>$16,036.48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$16,036.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bulgaria and occupied territory of Serbia</td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$20,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>$380,451.53</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$380,451.53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Europe</td>
<td>$56,712.00</td>
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<td>$56,712.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>$16,036.48</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$16,036.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>$551,274.33 (K)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$551,274.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>$15,522.10</td>
<td></td>
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<td>$15,522.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Costa Rica</td>
<td>$8,458.52</td>
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<td>$8,458.52</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>$68,581.05</td>
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<td>$68,581.05</td>
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<tr>
<td>Curacao</td>
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<td>$25,353.65</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cyprus</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,881,691.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Czechoslovakia, Bohemia &amp; Moravia, Slovakia</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$1,881,045.61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
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<td></td>
<td>$15,215.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominican Republic</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$81,712.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>$1,410.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,410.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>England</td>
<td>$1,470.80</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,470.80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Estonia</td>
<td>$21,750.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$21,750.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>$3,865,652.05</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$3,865,652.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>$5,732,448.25</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$5,732,448.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>$1,266,178.70</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,266,178.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greece, Turkey, Serbia, Syria</td>
<td>$1,881,678.70</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$1,881,678.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$10,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>$30,675.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$30,675.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holland</td>
<td>$2,400.00</td>
<td>$2,400.00</td>
<td>$2,400.00</td>
<td>$2,400.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>$4,295.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$4,295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>$4,295.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$4,295.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Iran - Persia</td>
<td>$3,450.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$3,450.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy, including Rhodes</td>
<td>$16,890.50</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$16,890.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>$50,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
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<td>$265,471.28</td>
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<td>Kenya (Africa)</td>
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<td>Latvia</td>
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<td>$2,400.00</td>
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**Total**

$15,207.57

$13,520.00

$6,000.00

$15,207.57
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<th>Country</th>
<th>1945</th>
<th>1946</th>
<th>1947</th>
<th>1948</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Africa (Algeria, Libya, Morocco, Tangiers, Tunisia)</td>
<td>93,457.85</td>
<td>257,856.75</td>
<td>391,050.00</td>
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<td>Norway</td>
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<td>Palestine</td>
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<td>130,000.00</td>
<td>800,000.00</td>
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<td>Panama</td>
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<td>1,652,161</td>
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<td>Paraguay</td>
<td>11,528.10</td>
<td>600.00</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
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<tr>
<td>Poland, Lithuania and Kurland (Prior to 1920)</td>
<td>11,543,198.37</td>
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<td>Poland</td>
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<td>Portugal</td>
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<td>Roumania</td>
<td>3,152,179.32</td>
<td>(K)</td>
<td>850,000.00 (H) (J)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russia (Prior to 1920)</td>
<td>4,000,300.00</td>
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<td>Russia and Ukraine (Polish and other refugees in Russia, Iran, etc.)</td>
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<td>1,193,940.99</td>
<td>1,200,000.00</td>
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<td>Siberia</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
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<td>Syria</td>
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<td>Turkey</td>
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<td>Uruguay</td>
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<td>30,580.00</td>
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<td>Yugoslavia</td>
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<td>S. S. St. Louis Refugees</td>
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<td>Unclassified Geographically</td>
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<td>Constituent Committee for Cultural Work</td>
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<td>Administration, Information and Community Service, Jr. Division, Public Relations, etc. - New York Executive Office</td>
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<td>361,304.26</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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<td>$3,799,916.28</td>
<td>$20,911,970.99</td>
<td>$82,668,152.73</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Ever since 1933, the J.D.C. has not remitted dollars to Germany or any of the lands subsequently annexed or occupied by Germany.  
(A) Includes Hicem through 1936 in the sum of $227,127.32. In the years 1937 through 1942 the payments through Hicem were included in the respective countries.  
(B) Includes ORT, Europe and Russia; and the OZE through 1935; Jewish Welfare Board; American Red Cross; Emergency Committee for Jewish Refugees; miscellaneous expenditures on account of the German emergency; etc., and European operating expenses.  
(C) Includes emigration appropriations which cannot be distributed geographically, grants to various cooperative organizations and groups, and other expenditures.  
(D) Exclusive of expenditures aggregating $831,596.12 incurred for administration of New York special activities and for remittance bureau, the last transaction of any of the items included therein having been in the year 1929.  
(E) Expenditures for these countries in 1944 are included in the amount of $4,571,000. (I).  
(F) Expenditures for these countries in 1943 are included in the amount of $2,401,788.63 (F).  
(G) The amount of $120,000 represents a contribution to the Belgian Government for relief purposes. This is in addition to the expenditures for Belgium included in (F).  
(H) Expenditures for these countries in 1944, are included in the amount of $4,571,000. (I).  
(J) During 1944, many of the occupied countries were liberated and the appropriations made for liberated territories are shown under the respective countries. However, the amounts made available for those countries during their occupation, and for the occupied areas, are included in the total appropriation for emergency aid in occupied countries, amounting to $4,571,000.  
(K) Expenditures for these countries in 1942, are included in the amount of $2,009,200. (L).
December 2, 1944

Dear Mr. Baerwald:

I am glad to have this opportunity to extend my warmest greetings to you and the members of The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee on the thirtieth anniversary of your service to the stricken and oppressed.

Through three decades your committee has been the constant and unfailing source of help and hope to the victims of persecution and disaster. Your great humanitarian activities have been especially marked throughout these tragic and trying war years. Through you our American citizens of the Jewish faith have been able to extend tangible proof of their sympathy for their suffering brethren.

Let us with hope look forward to a time when the hatred and havoc of war must give way to good will and cooperation in a democratic world of peace, plenty and security for all.

Very sincerely yours,

Herbert H. Lehman

Mr. Paul Baerwald, Chairman,
The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc.,
270 Madison Avenue,