

GALE PRIMARY SOURCES

Refugees, Relief and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II

Royal Navy official photographer, Tomlin, H W (Lt) / Public domain



ABOUT THE ARCHIVE

Refugees, Relief and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II chronicles the plight of refugees and displaced persons across Europe, North Africa, and Asia from 1935 to 1950. This collection brings over 550,000 pages of government documents, relief organization files and refugee reports, memoranda, and correspondence that together document the causes, effects and responses to refugee crises before, during and shortly after the Second World War.

Number of Pages: approx 550,000

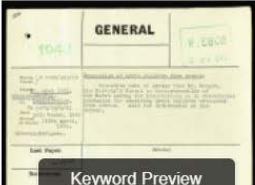
Content Types: government documents, relief organization files, refugee reports, memoranda, and correspondence

ADVANCED SEARCH FEATURES

Applied Filters: **Place of Departure : "Greece" Or "Central Europe" Or "Europe" Or "Eastern Europe" ✕**

Refugee Population : "Greek" ✕

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Issue of Travel Documents to Cretan Refugees
Manuscript Number: CO 67/303/7
Source Library: The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom)
February, 1939-September, 1940 File
Collection: Refugee Records from the War Cabinet, the Colonial Office, the Home Office and the War Office, 1935-1949
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Evacuation of Greek Children from Greece
Manuscript Number: FO_371_32640_W5608
Source Library: The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom)
March 24-April 17, 1942 Correspondence
Collection: Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the

With this archive we are introducing four bespoke Advanced Search limiters to assist in the research process.

Refugee Population: The nationality, religious or ethnic background, or political affiliation of the refugee group described in the document.

Place of Departure: The location from where the refugee or refugees embarked or originated. The location name is based on how it is referenced in the document, so more than one place may be mentioned by its historical name.

Place of Destination: The location where the refugee or group of refugees was headed. The location name is based on how it is referenced in the document, so more than one place may be mentioned by its historical name.

Current Location: The location of the refugee or group of refugees at the time the document was created. The location name is based on how it is referenced in the document, so more than one place may be mentioned by its historical name.

THE VALUE OF THIS COLLECTION

The global history of refugee crises throughout the twentieth century remains largely untold through primary sources. This archive brings together material from across four esteemed sources to convey this history.

Access to this archive makes it possible for researchers to unravel the complex history of forced migration during this critical period in the twentieth century at every level, from the logistical details concerning the migration and resettlement of those in flight to the political challenges faced by refugee populations and national governments during and after the war.

Documentation offers a first-hand record of the response of governments to various crises and shifts in policy; a chronicling of the aid work undertaken by NGOs and charities seeking to provide relief and aid in resettlement; and a recognition through individual narratives of the daily reality of the refugee experience.

This archive enables researchers to examine not only the plight of those forced to resettle inside and outside their national borders but also the many types of refugee situations that arose, from voluntary evacuations and the internment of individuals in displaced person (DP) camps to whole population transfers and the return of forced laborers.

Refugees, Relief and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II represents an ambitious first step in a series of titles that will explore the global history of forced migration from the late nineteenth century through the mid- to late twentieth century.

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY RESOURCE

Refugees, Relief and Resettlement: World War II and Forced Migration serves scholars in a variety of fields, including global, military, and diplomatic history; public health, sociology, economics, political science, religion, and area studies (Jewish, Asian, African, and European studies). A sample of just some of primary sources available reveals the vast range of possibilities for scholarship for the study of Global, Military, and Diplomatic History

- [U.K. Delegation Proposal on Refugees and Displaced Persons under Article 17 of the Draft Austrian Treaty](#)
- [Repatriation of Dutch Prisoners of War from Odessa](#)

Review of Key Issues in Sociology and Economics of Refugeeism

- [Provision of Clothing and Pocket Money for Refugees](#)
- [Financial Arrangements for Displaced Persons](#)

Examination of Public Health and Its History

- [Agreement for the Health and Sanitary Control of Displaced Persons in the Far East during Repatriation](#)
- [Feeding of Refugees in Government Spain](#)

WHICH COLLECTIONS ARE INCLUDED?

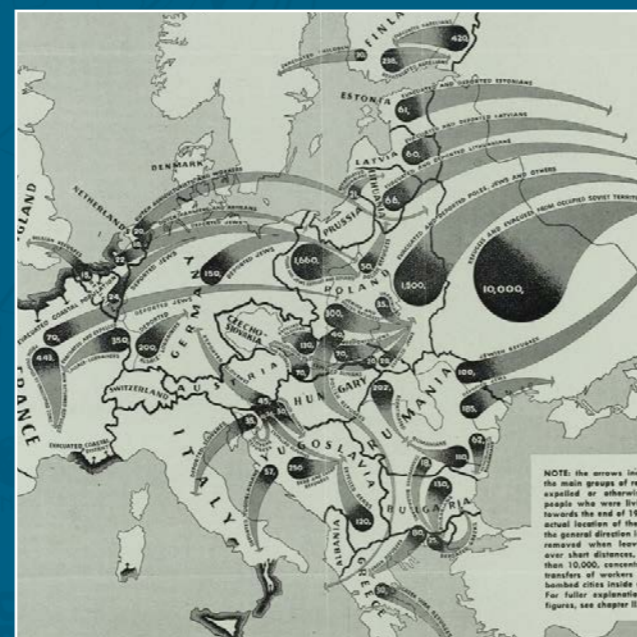
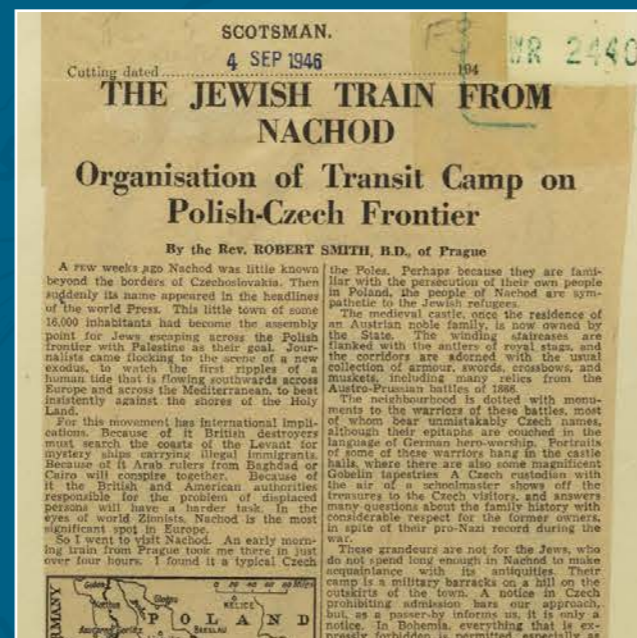
Records within *Refugees, Relief and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II* cover the entire “war theatre,” from evacuations in Burma and mass migrations within central and Eastern Europe to the displacement of North African populations and resettlement of refugees in Latin America. Records are drawn from the foreign and colonial office files from *The National Archives*, UK, the U.S. State Department from the National Archives Records Administration (NARA), the British India Office collection from the British Library, and the archives of World Jewish Relief. They provide researchers detailed insights into the complicated and shifting landscape across Europe, Asia, and Africa during and following World War II.

Refugee Records from the General Correspondence Files of the Political Departments of the Foreign Office, Record Group 371, 1938-1950 | The National Archives (Kew, UK)

This collection provides a broad swath of English-language material that maps refugee situations before, during, and shortly after World War II. Researchers will find content on the establishment of temporary displaced person camps, the relocation of prisoners of war, the repatriation of populations to their home territories, the displacement of local populations who served colonial administrations, and much more. This collection emphasizes, above all, the political aspects of addressing the refugee crisis during and in the wake of the war.

Refugee Files from the Records of the Foreign Office, 1938-1950 | The National Archives (Kew, UK)

This collection draws on records dedicated to refugee matters spread across the files of the Foreign Office. These records highlight the work of the various departments within this government division and includes work of policy groups and individuals’ correspondence. This collection allows researchers to explore the myriad political, diplomatic, and economic issues raised by efforts to address the mass displacement of the millions of refugees during this period. Of special interest will be the direct comparison scholars can make to materials from the U.S. State Department’s own initiatives.



Refugee Records from the Public and Judicial Department Collections of the British India Office, 1939-1952 | British Library

This collection provides insight into a unique form of refugee relief and resettlement, as a colonial power transformed India, its largest Asian colony, into a refugee way station for expatriate citizens and allies. The files of the British India Office document the evacuation of civilians from Hungary, the Balkans, Russia, Turkey, Syria, Egypt, Cyprus, Palestine, Indochina, Thailand, Burma, Hong Kong, and China to India.

Archives of the Central British Fund for World Jewish Relief, 1933-1960

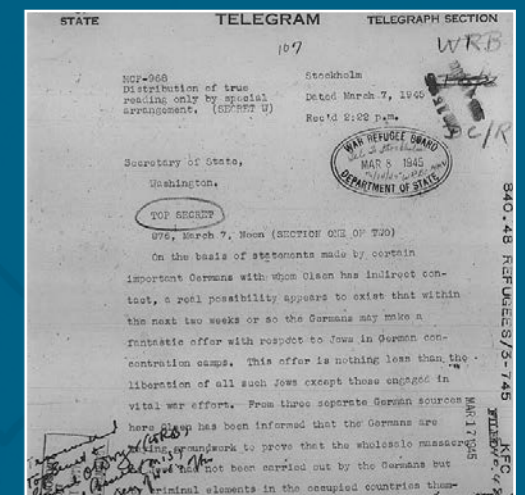
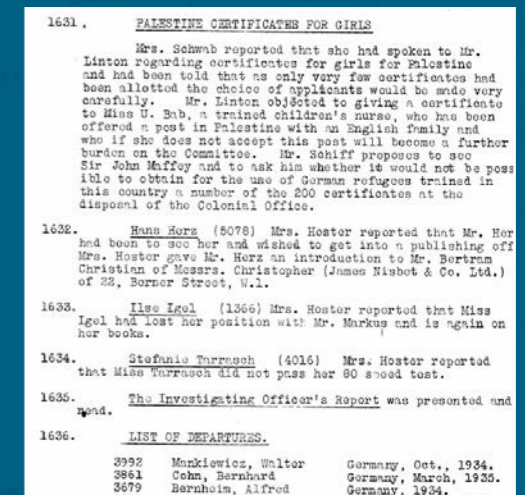
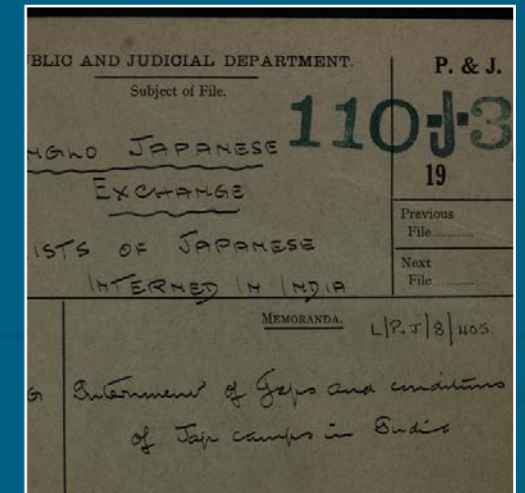
The records of the British Fund for World Jewish Relief document the organisation’s role in aiding refugees from Nazi oppression and survivors of the Holocaust. This collection opens a window onto the inner workings of a leading NGO in addressing the refugee crisis that enveloped the Jewish populations of Europe pre- and post-World War II.

Refugee Records from the War Cabinet, the Colonial Office, the Home Office and the War Office, 1935-1949 | The National Archives (Kew, UK)

This collection looks at records related to refugee matters outside of the Foreign Office. In particular, researchers will discover the unique role played by such divisions as the Colonial Office, Home Office, and War Office in response to the refugee crises. These materials shed light on the global nature of the history of forced migration in this period, with a special emphasis on the extraction of refugees from and resettlement of refugees in the United Kingdom and British territories during and just after the war.

Records of the Department of State Relating to the Problems of Relief and Refugees in Europe Arising from World War II and Its Aftermath, 1938-1949 | National Archives (United States)

Records from this collection address two difficult problems facing the United States from 1938 to 1949: the first of these was how to handle relief measures in a Europe in the throes of political conflict and war; the second concerned how to deal with refugees displaced by persecution and fighting and unable to return home in the war’s aftermath. The State Department’s interest and involvement with relief efforts represented in this collection began before the outbreak of war in Europe in September 1939 and continued after the war ended in May 1945.



KEY THEMES

Camp Life

The abstract numerical and logistical aspects of refugee relief and resettlement cannot mask the grim reality of the daily experience—for both the refugees who lived within the camps and the individuals and agencies tasked with administering them. Government and NGO responses to and administration of camps across the world can be understood through ration supply lists, expenditure statements, organisational charts, internal minutes and other documentation. A more on-the-ground understanding comes from camp reports and first-hand accounts that examine all aspects of camp life, including health, employment, discipline and schooling, giving a real sense of what it was like to live in these environments. By exploring refugee voices alongside administrative voices, the full story can begin to be unearthed.

The Plight of Children

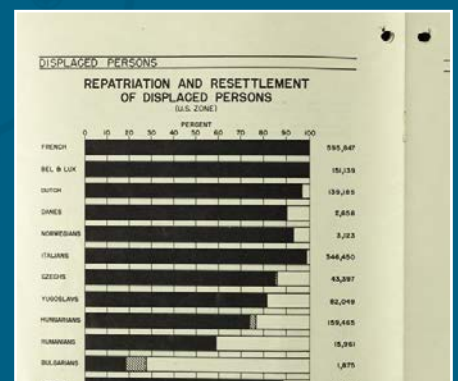
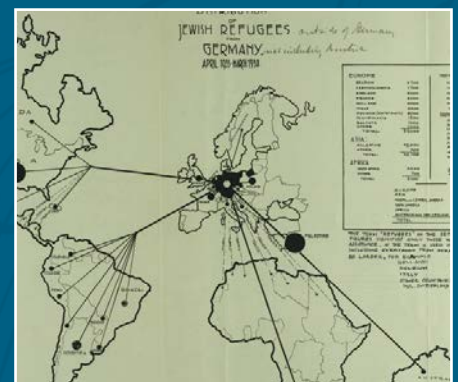
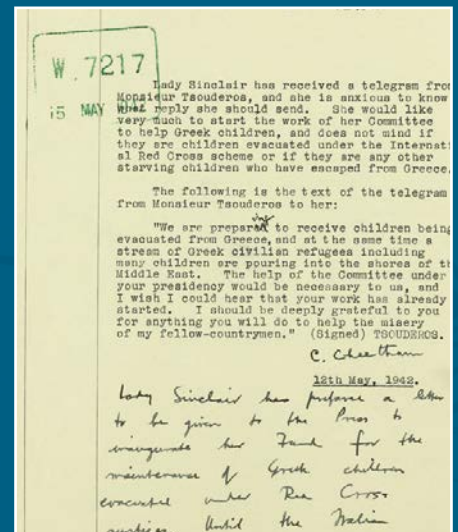
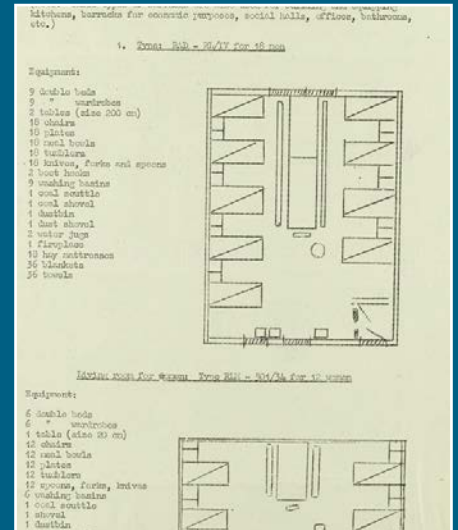
Children were often the first evacuees because they were the most helpless—and the easiest to place. With government and NGO documents discussing topics such as the rescue effort of Jewish children following Kristallnacht and the evacuation of children overseas, offers to host refugee children, and the first-hand Greek accounts that were critical to gaining support for refugee efforts, including translated accounts from child refugees of the Spanish Civil War, and accounts from child survivors of the Holocaust, *Refugees, Relief and Resettlement* allows researchers to explore the experience of children as refugees through a range of different lenses.

The Flight of Jewish Refugees

With the Nazis and European collaborators having targeted their extermination and no “home country” to rejoin, Jewish refugees posed a special challenge to the world community. For example, Operation Oasis was one of the key events in the British effort to prevent the SS Exodus from bringing Jewish refugees to Palestine. British authorities ultimately re-routed its passengers to the British zone of Germany, where they were forcibly removed from the ship and put in displaced person camps. The archive also highlights the many unofficial negotiations to discuss Jewish refugee settlement location possibilities including in Angola, Australia, Bolivia, Brazil, Mindanao, New Caledonia, Dominican Republic, and Venezuela.

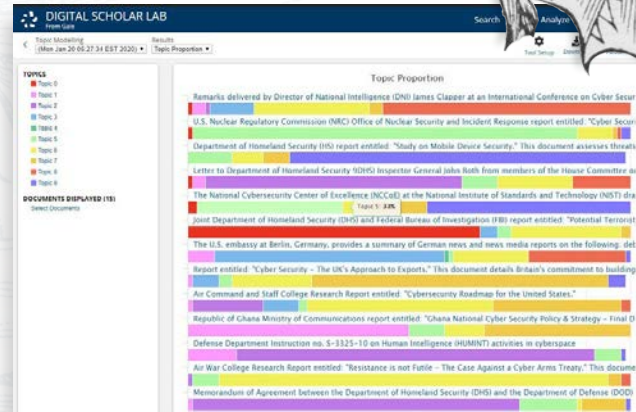
Resettlement and Repatriation

With so many displaced persons in need of some form of resettlement, there is a sad inevitability to the emphasis on numbers: the counting of resettled individuals, food stocks, health supplies, housing units, available workers, and—as always—financial resources. This collection abounds with this kind of data. Maps can be used to understand the movement of refugees, the numbers of people who were deported, expelled or otherwise transferred from their homes, and the distances they travelled. Key statistics and data can be understood through charts and tables, which divide refugees and resources into easily measured, if often impersonal, groups. Domestic and foreign policies can also be explored using the government documents in the archives. Operation Westward Ho, for instance, was an effort to bring unmarried, childless European refugees to Great Britain as ‘European Voluntary Workers’, while Operation Caravan was implemented to deal with the mass-migration of German civilians fleeing the Russian-occupied zone of Germany.





GALE DIGITAL SCHOLAR LAB



In combination with powerful search technologies, *Gale Primary Sources* brings the thoughts, words, and actions of past centuries into the present. For nearly two decades, we have been preserving and extending access to scholarly research materials and content from prestigious source libraries through our ground-breaking digitisation program.

To advance research even further, the data from these archives, including *Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement*, can be explored in new ways using *Gale Digital Scholar Lab*, a cloud-based research environment that allows students and researchers to apply natural language processing tools to raw text data (OCR) from Gale's Primary Sources in a single research platform.

CREATE CONTENT SETS

The *Gale Digital Scholar Lab* gives users the ability to create custom content sets containing as many as 10,000 documents. Users can search across their library's *Gale Primary Sources* holdings and seamlessly select documents to be added to their custom content set.

ANALYSE CONTENT SETS

Users can analyse and interrogate the data with the text analysis and visualisation tools built into the Lab. Digital humanities analysis methods include: Named Entity Recognition, Topic Modelling, Parts of Speech Tagger, Sentiment Analysis, Ngrams and Document Clustering.

MANAGE AND SHARE

Users' content sets remain saved in the *Gale Digital Scholar Lab* allowing them to manage their research for long term projects. Users can publish their outputs with confidence retaining all intellectual property rights and are free to share analysis outputs.

The *Refugees, Relief, and Resettlement: Forced Migration and World War II* archive is available within the Lab, providing a new lens to explore these unique documents, and empowering researchers to generate world-altering conclusions and outcomes.

and had been told that as only very few certificates had been allotted the choice of applicants would be made very carefully. Mr. Linton objected to giving a certificate to Miss U. Bab, a trained children's nurse, who has been offered a post in Palestine with an English family and who if she does not accept this post will become a further burden on the Committee. Mr. Schiff proposes to see Sir John Haffey and to ask him whether it would not be possible to obtain for the use of German refugees trained in this country a number of the 200 certificates at the disposal of the Colonial Office.

- 1632. **Hans Herz** (5078) Mrs. Hoster reported that Mr. Herz had been to see her and wished to get into a publishing office. Mrs. Hoster gave Mr. Herz an introduction to Mr. Bertram Christian of Messrs. Christopher (James Nesbet & Co. Ltd.) of 22, Borneo Street, W.1.
- 1633. **Ilse Igel** (1366) Mrs. Hoster reported that Miss Igel had lost her position with Mr. Markus and is again on her books.
- 1634. **Stefanie Tarrasch** (4016) Mrs. Hoster reported that Miss Tarrasch did not pass her 80 speed test.
- 1635. **The Investigating Officer's Report** was presented and read.
- 1636.

JEWIS!

STOP KIDDING YOURSELVES!

You and your fellow Jews will be hounded and persecuted as long as you are a people without a country, a vagrant among the nations of the world.

THE JEWS WILL NOT BE LEFT IN PEACE

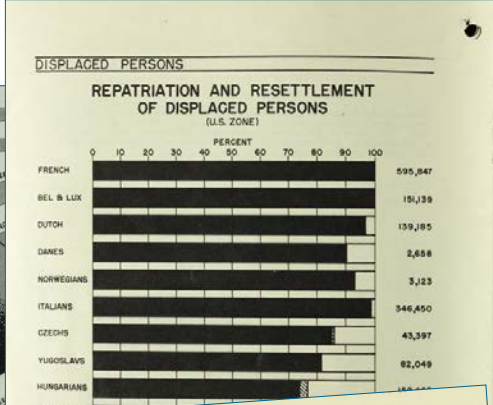
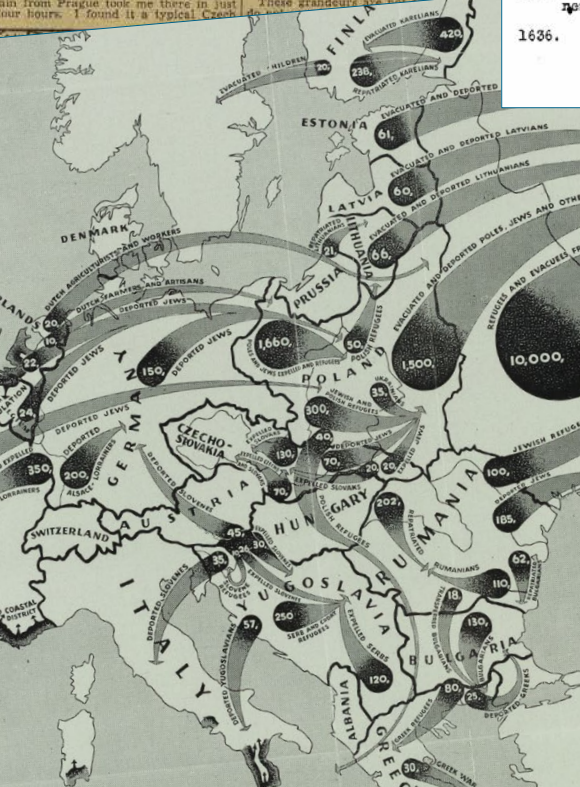
until a United Jewish Nation is established in a Sovereign Jewish State.

The NAI JUDA Movement fights to achieve Jewish National Independence. Today, the goal is within our reach! Large, rich lands are available in the Western World. NAI JUDA pioneers and soldier-settlers are trained and ready to go! It is your DUTY to find out what NAI JUDA has done to make ROOM FOR THE JEWS!

world Press. This little town of some inhabitants had become the assembly for Jews escaping across the Polish border with Palestine as their goal. Journeys came flooding to the shores of a new sea, to watch the first ripples of a tide that is flowing southwards across the Mediterranean, to beat the waves against the shores of the Holy Land.

These grandsons of the Jewish people are in their own power. Nachod and his wife are the residence of an Austrian noble family, now owned by the State. The winding staircases flanked with the antlers of royal stags, the corridors are adorned with the collection of armour, swords, crossbows, muskets, including many relics from the Austro-Prussian battles of 1866.

The neighbourhood is dotted with monuments to the warriors of these battles, all of whom bear unmistakably Czech names although their epitaphs are couched in the language of German hero-worship. For in some of these warriors hang in the castle walls, where there are also some magnificent Gobelin tapestries. A Czech custodian with the air of a schoolmaster shows off treasures to the Czech visitors, and answers many questions about the family history with considerable respect for the former owner in spite of their pro-Nazi record during the war.



W 7217
15 MAY

Lady Sinclair has received a telegram from Monsieur Tsouderos, and she is anxious to know what reply she should send. She would like very much to start the work of her Committee to help Greek children, and does not mind if they are children evacuated under the International Red Cross scheme or if they are any other starving children who have escaped from Greece.

The following is the text of the telegram from Monsieur Tsouderos to her:

"We are prepared to receive children being evacuated from Greece, and at the same time a stream of Greek civilian refugees including many children are pouring into the shores of the Middle East. The help of the Committee under your presidency would be necessary to us, and I wish I could hear that your work has already started. I should be deeply grateful to you for anything you will do to help the misery of my fellow-countrymen."

(Signed) TSOUDEROS.
18th May, 1948.

Lady Sinclair has performed a letter to the Press to...

TELEGRAM

MCP-868
Distribution of true reading only by special arrangement. (SECRET U)

Stockholm
Dated March 7, 1948
Rec'd 2:22 P.M.

WAR REFUGEE BOARD
MAR 8 1948
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

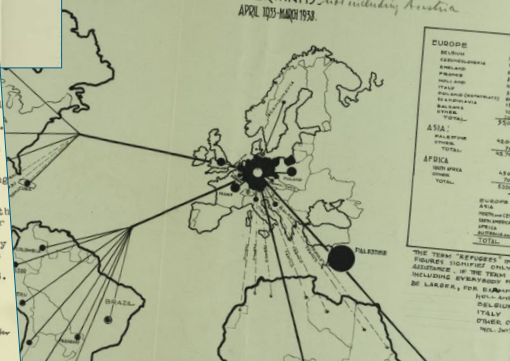
Secretary of State,
Washington.

TOP SECRET

876, March 7, Noon (SECTION ONE OF TWO)

On the basis of statements made by certain important Germans with whom Olsen has indirect contact, a real possibility appears to exist that within the next two weeks or so the Germans may make a decision with respect to Jews in German concentration camps as nothing less than a Jewish state outside of Germany.

JEWISH REFUGEES
GERMANY
APRIL 1945-MARCH 1953



For more information or to request a trial go to gale.com/rrrw