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AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
NEW YORK CITY

Dr. Wise's personal address to
which replies should be sent is:
40 West 68th St., New York City

July 23, 1943

The Hon. Secretary of the Treasury
Washington, D. C.

Dear Secretary Morgenthau:

At the White House yesterday I had the opportunity of discussion with the President a proposal which Dr. Goldmann of the World Jewish Congress and I had previously taken up with Secretary Welles. He stated at the time that the matter would, of course, have to be discussed with and considered by the Treasury Department, and I believe that some officials of your Department have had the matter under consideration and that before this it may have come to your attention.

I explained the proposal to the President and he was entirely sympathetic thereto and said that he would take it up with you either yesterday or today. I feel that you too will understand that nothing is more urgent than that any and all steps be taken to make possible the release of these Jewish victims of Hitler from that situation which means death unless somehow they be rescued. The officials in the Treasury Department will, of course, have explained to you that not one penny of the funds to be held in escrow in Switzerland will reach any representative of the Axis governments until after the wat shall have ended, and it may be expected that some of the people with whom our friends in Europe are dealing will not even survive.

I know how deeply sympathetic you will be to any undertaking which may save the lives of those otherwise doomed Jews, and I shall be very happy to learn either from you or the President that the arrangement thus proposed and which must, of course, have your sanction, has gained your support.

I enclose a copy of the letter which I have just sent to the President.

With most cordial greetings and hoping that Mrs. Morgenthau is much better after her illness, always

Faithfully yours,
(Signed) Stephen S. Wise
PRESIDENT

SSW:tw