DEC 17 1943

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My dear Mr. Secretary:

I thank you for your letter of December 6, 1943 concerning the delay which has occurred in bringing into effect plans developed by the World Jewish Congress for the evacuation of a large number of Jews from France and Rumania.

While we may still disagree regarding some of the points involved in this particular case, these matters I must agree are insignificant in terms of your willingness to review the whole matter and your assurances that it is the policy of your Department to deal expeditiously and sympatetically with proposals of this nature.

I would like to end here, but the confused state of the record in this particular case at this point makes further comment necessary. Your letter gave me the impression that you may have been led to believe that the Treasury had handled this matter in such a way that our Legation in Berne has not been in a position to issue a license. Specifically, your letter would indicate that a license has not been issued because:

(1) Treasury has not formulated a workable financial program for the evacuation of these refugees; and

(2) Treasury has not cleared the proposal with the British.

Accordingly, I have had the entire matter carefully reviewed by Randolph Paul, who acts for me on all matters relating to Foreign Funds Control.

I am enclosing a copy of Mr. Paul's memorandum for your information. This memorandum has satisfied me that the conclusions reached in your letter of December 6, 1943 are