

MEMORANDUM

British Empire

Great Britain.

The British Government is understood to be admitting refugees from Germany at the rate of 75 a day to Great Britain proper, a rate practically identical with that of admission to this country under the German quota. The British Government is unwilling to make any public announcement concerning its admission of these refugees and desires to avoid any publicity concerning it.

Palestine.

Jewish immigration into Palestine from 1933 through 1936 was:

1933	30,327
1934	42,359
1935	61,854
1936	<u>29,727</u>
Total	164,267

These figures include a substantial number of emigrants from Poland.

The British Government sharply restricted Jewish immigration during 1937, the number falling to 10,536. The restrictions were slightly relaxed later in the year, the total Jewish quota for the nine-month period August 1937 - March 1938 being fixed at 9,600, and the quota for the

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the six months from April through September 1938 being 8,550. Total Jewish immigration during 1938 is expected to approximate 15,500.

The recent outbreaks led to further drastic restrictions, the quota for the six months October 1938 - March 1939 being only 4,870. These restrictions do not cover students and dependent wives and children of both new immigrants and immigrants previously legally admitted, who will continue to be admitted without numerical limitation.

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, announced in the House of Commons on November 24 that proposals by the Jewish Agency for Palestine for immediate admission from Germany of 10,000 children between the ages of 6 and 14 years, 2,500 boys and girls between 15 and 17 who had begun agricultural training, and 7,500 trained farm workers between 18 and 25, were receiving "immediate and most careful consideration."

#### Australia.

It is understood that Australia is admitting refugees from Germany at the rate of 5,000 a year, but that the Government is likewise anxious to avoid any publicity concerning it.

#### Canada.

No specific information has yet been received from  
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the Canadian Government. Under Canadian law immigrants from continental Europe must be either agriculturalists with capital or dependents of residents of Canada. Admission of other classes is granted only by special Administrative Exemption, which is made "with due regard to existing unemployment and the requirements of the industrial and economic conditions in Canada, and to the particular circumstances of each individual case."

New Zealand.

No specific information is available. New Zealand law has no numerical limitations or restrictions by occupation or amounts of capital.

South Africa.

The Government declined to be represented at Evian. It is reported that there is strong and increasing anti-Semitism in the Union.

British Guiana.

An area of at least 10,000 square miles in the interior is stated to be available for colonization if "careful surveys by experts indicate its suitability." Agricultural development in this area has hitherto been prevented by unfavorable conditions and lack of communications.

Suggestions have been made by Jewish and other unofficial sources in this country that the major part of British and French Guiana be taken over, possibly as part payment on the war debts, as a new Jewish homeland. The combined areas of the three Guianas is approximately 170,000 square miles, or half again as large as France, and the territory is comparatively rich in resources; but Dutch Guiana is in the middle, the climate unfavorable, transportation almost entirely lacking, and the expense involved would be enormous. Very careful study and extensive surveys would be essential to serious consideration of such a project.

Other British Colonies.

Plans have been announced for making 50,000 acres in Tanganyika available for colonization and in addition for the individual settlement of some 200 settlers. Kenya is admitting small numbers of trained agriculturalists. The Governors of Northern Rhodesia and Nyassaland state that small-scale settlement in those colonies might be possible.

Other Colonial Empires

Suggestions have been made of colonization in Madagascar and French New Caledonia, but neither France nor either of the remaining colonial empires represented on the Intergovernmental Committee, Belgium and the Netherlands, has indicated any willingness to permit colonization.

The American Republics

Mexico.

The Government has been unreceptive to proposals for the admission of refugees and has adopted new restrictive immigration legislation as of November 1. A provision in the decree that immigrants must establish "mestizo families" was interpreted by the press to mean that they must marry Indians. The Mexican Foreign Office, however, holds that this interpretation is incorrect and that the provision merely means that immigrants are expected to become Mexican citizens and to become incorporated into Mexican life.

Many proposals have been made for the establishment of a new Jewish homeland in Lower California, some proposals linking it with a settlement of the controversy over expropriation of the property of the petroleum companies. Despite the difficulties due to lack of water, natural resources and communications, these proposals persist and a Dr. Otto Goldschmidt, formerly professor of Economics at the University of Mexico is now in Mexico City attempting informally to secure an indication of the attitude of the Mexican Government. In view of the intense antagonism in Mexico to any suggestion for alienation of any part of the national domain it is believed that the attitude of the Mexican Government will be strongly unfavorable.

Cuba.

Cuba has been relatively hospitable to refugees but has so far not been willing to make any specific commitment concerning the numbers which it can accept. It is believed that most refugees going to Cuba consider it merely the doorstep for entry into the United States.

Haiti.

The Haitian Government has indicated willingness to cooperate in receiving refugees but it is believed that the absorptive capacity of the country is too limited to provide a possibility of large-scale settlement.

The Dominican Republic.

The Dominican Government offered at Evian to accept 10,000 refugees and at the August meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee in London increased its offer to from 50,000 to 100,000 refugees. This offer has just been reaffirmed, subject to the reservation that immigrants must qualify in every respect with Dominican immigration law. The Legation at Ciudad Trujillo is skeptical of this offer and points out that of 2,000 refugees who have applied for Dominican visas during the past four months only 20 were granted visas. The Advisory Committee expects to send an expert there in the very near future to investigate the possibility of large-scale settlement.

Honduras.

The Legation was advised on November 25 that the  
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Honduran Government had approved a definite plan for the admission of not to exceed 1,000 refugees provided that they were adapted and prepared to engage exclusively in agriculture and were provided with adequate assurances of support, probably one thousand dollars each.

Costa Rica.

The Foreign Office is unsympathetic toward this Government's program and there is said to be considerable anti-Semitic feeling in the country. The President is nevertheless stated to be sympathetic toward the admission of refugees and the Refugee Economic Corporation has been successful in acquiring a substantial area of land for colonization and in setting up a Costa Rican corporation, with a number of prominent Costa Ricans as officers, to carry out its colonization project.

Nicaragua.

While no specific information is available, it is understood that a fair number of refugees has been admitted into Nicaragua.

Salvador.

The Government declined to be represented at Evian or to accept any refugees.

Guatemala.

No specific information is available.

Panama.

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No specific information is available.

Colombia.

The Foreign Office states that 5,000 refugees have been legally admitted during the past year and that from 3,000 to 5,000 more have entered the country illegally, that they are practically all small traders, that more have already been admitted than is compatible with the best interests of the country, and that it will be extremely difficult if not impossible to admit any more.

Ecuador.

No specific information is available, but the attitude of the Government is somewhat unfavorable due to the fact that substantial numbers of Jews admitted last year as agriculturalists all settled in cities as small traders. Deportation of these refugees was ordered but the order was rescinded due to the efforts of the local Jewish community.

Venezuela.

No specific information is available, but the Foreign Office states that Venezuela will be represented at the December meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee and will at that time be prepared to make a public statement of the numbers it can accept and a confidential statement of what it may be able to do in addition.

Brazil.

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Although the potentialities for settlement in Brazil are probably greater than those in any other American Republic, the Government has hitherto been disinclined to admit substantial numbers of refugees. A Council of Immigration and Colonization has been recently created, and the Embassy reported on November 24 the belief that the policy of the Government was becoming considerably more liberal with respect to the admission of certain categories of Jewish refugees than had previously been the case.

The Brazilian Foreign Minister has now agreed that Brazil will be represented at the December meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee through one of its most capable officials who will accept the position of Vice Chairman. Brazil has further agreed to make a public statement at the meeting of the number of immigrants she is prepared to take and to make a confidential statement of the additional assistance she will be able to offer in the solution of the refugee problem.

Argentina.

Approximately 350,000 Jews are already resident in the Argentine, more than in the rest of Latin America combined. The Government admits the need for additional agricultural immigrants but finds little disposition on  
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part of Jewish refugees to settle on the land. New and more restrictive immigration regulations went into effect October 1. It is nevertheless probable that the Government will continue to admit a not inconsiderable number of refugees.

Uruguay.

No specific information is available but new immigration restrictions have been adopted since Evian.

Paraguay.

The Paraguayan Government was represented at Evian but was not represented at the London meeting in August. It is believed that Paraguay will be willing to take a considerable number of refugees provided she can be assured that they will not become a burden on the state and that they will be prepared to devote themselves exclusively to agriculture.

Chile.

The attitude of the Government has in general been unfavorable to the admission of refugees and restrictive immigration has been adopted since Evian. No specific information is available.

Bolivia.

It is believed that the possibilities of settlement are limited.

Peru.

Peru

The Government approves and will support our efforts. It is prepared to accept a limited number of agriculturalists, certain types of specialists and industrialists possessing capital. The Foreign Minister states that almost all refugees recently admitted have settled in the cities and that definite plans for preventing this must be made before increased numbers can be admitted. Ambassador Steinhardt believes that the absorptive capacity of the country is limited but that the Government is disposed to cooperate and that it will admit larger numbers than it could otherwise be expected to absorb if a substantial number are agriculturalists and the remainder provided with capital to establish many non-existing industries which the country seriously needs.