

# PRESS SERVICE

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## AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

100 East 42nd Street, N. Y. C.

LExington 2-5200

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE MAKES ARRANGEMENTS FOR LANDING REFUGEES ON ST. LOUIS IN ANTWERP

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BELGIAN RED CROSS TO PROVIDE TENDERS FOR DE-  
BARKATION; PASSENGERS IN RADIOGRAM LAUD WORK  
OF AMERICAN COMMITTEE  
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NEW YORK, JUNE 15 -- SPECIAL TENDERS PROVIDED BY THE BELGIAN RED CROSS WILL TAKE OFF THE REFUGEES NOW ON BOARD THE ST. LOUIS WHEN IT ARRIVES IN ANTWERP, BELGIUM, ACCORDING TO PLANS FOR LANDING THE PASSENGERS OF THE HAMBURG AMERICAN LINER ANNOUNCED HERE TODAY BY JAMES N. ROSENBERG, CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE. AT THE SAME TIME, MR. ROSENBERG MADE PUBLIC THE TEXT OF A RADIOGRAM FROM THE REFUGEES ON BOARD SHIP TO THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE.

MR. ROSENBERG DECLARED THAT ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE WITH THE HAMBURG-AMERICAN LINE TO HAVE MORRIS C. TROPER, EUROPEAN DIRECTOR OF THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE, BOARD THE ST. LOUIS AT FLUSHING, TWO HOURS BEFORE THE VESSEL ARRIVES IN ANTWERP, IN ORDER TO PREPARE THE LISTS OF PEOPLE WHO WILL GO TO EACH OF THE FOUR COUNTRIES, BELGIUM, HOLLAND, FRANCE AND ENGLAND, WHICH HAVE PROVIDED HAVENS FOR NUMBERS OF THE REFUGEES. THE ST. LOUIS IS EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN ANTWERP ON SATURDAY AFTERNOON. THE RED CROSS TENDERS WILL TAKE OFF THE PASSENGERS WHO WILL PROCEED TO HOLLAND, FRANCE AND ENGLAND. THOSE WHO ARE TO BE ADMITTED INTO BELGIUM WILL REMAIN TEMPORARILY IN ANTWERP.

MR. ROSENBERG SAID THAT ACCORDING TO THE MESSAGE RECEIVED FROM MR. TROPER THAT THE 250 REFUGEES WHO WILL BE ADMITTED INTO FRANCE WILL BE TAKEN FROM ANTWERP BY THE TENDER RACOTIS AND LANDED IN BOULOGNE, WHERE FRENCH REFUGEE COMMITTEES WILL HOUSE THEM FOR EIGHT DAYS, AFTER WHICH THEY WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ACCORDING TO THE NEEDS IN CHILDREN'S HOMES, WORKSHOPS AND FARMS IN THE VARIOUS PARTS OF FRANCE.

IN ADDITION TO THE 250 REFUGEES FROM THE ST. LOUIS WHO ARE BEING ADMITTED INTO FRANCE, MR. ROSENBERG SAID, THAT COUNTRY WILL ALSO ACCEPT 90-ODD PASSENGERS FROM THE SS FLANDERS WHO WERE ALSO REFUSED ADMITTANCE INTO CUBA. AS IN THE CASE OF THE ST. LOUIS REFUGEES, THE PASSENGERS ON THE FLANDERS WILL BE ADMITTED ON THE GUARANTEES MADE BY THE JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE.

THE RADIOGRAM OF THE REFUGEES ON BOARD THE ST. LOUIS ADDRESSED TO MR. TROPER FOLLOWS:

"THE 907 PASSENGERS OF ST. LOUIS DANGLING FOR LAST THIRTEEN DAYS BETWEEN HOPE AND DESPAIR RECEIVED TODAY YOUR LIBERATING MESSAGE OF THE 13 JUNE THAT FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR ALL PASSENGERS HAVE AT LAST BEEN REACHED. OUR GRATITUDE IS AS IMMENSE AS THE OCEAN ON WHICH WE ARE NOW FLOATING SINCE MAY 13 FIRST FULL OF HOPE FOR A GOOD FUTURE AND AFTERWARDS IN THE DEEPEST DESPAIR. ACCEPT MR. CHAIRMAN FOR YOU AND FOR THE AMERICAN JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE AND LAST BUT NOT LEAST FOR THE GOVERNMENTS OF BELGIUM, HOLLAND, FRANCE AND ENGLAND THE DEEPEST AND ETERNAL THANKS OF MEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN UNITED BY THE SAME FATE ON BOARD THE ST. LOUIS."

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