

5



Межрегиональная Ассоциация "Идуд Хасадим"

Член Союза Благотворительных Организаций России

Член Европейского Совета Еврейских Общин

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22.12.2003

Judge of the United States District Court
Edward Korman
Special Master
Judah Gribetz

По вопросу возмещения ущерба жертвам фашизма

Уважаемые господа Корман и Грибец!

Мы, представители 51 Хэсэда России выражаем глубокую и искреннюю благодарность Федеральному окружному суду США и лично судье Эдварду Корману за решение о выделении финансирования, предоставляемого Швейцарскими банками на благотворительные программы Хэсэдов. Эти программы осуществляются уже в течение нескольких лет при постоянном контроле и профессиональной поддержке Джойнта.

Благодаря этим средствам сеть благотворительных центров Хэсэд оказывает неоценимую помощь десяткам тысяч жертв нацизма на территории всей России. Экономическая ситуация в нашей стране продолжает оставаться напряженной. По официальной информации 37 миллионов человек находятся за чертой бедности. Подавляющее большинство из них пенсионеры и инвалиды. В связи с этим, особенно возрастает роль этих фондов, вносящих огромный вклад в улучшение качества жизни людей, переживших Катастрофу, большинство из которых сейчас в преклонном возрасте и испытывает серьезные материальные и бытовые проблемы. С большим удовлетворением отмечаем, что евреи – жертвы нацизма – получили возможность жить лучше и почувствовать внимание и поддержку со стороны еврейской общины.

Мы искренне надеемся на продолжение финансирования благотворительных программ Хэсэдов в будущем.

Ассоциация Хэсэдов просит обратить внимание, что определение «Жертвы Катастрофы», используемое сейчас, не включает некоторые категории евреев, пострадавших от нацистских преследований, например, тех из них, кто проживал во время войны в прифронтовой зоне и жителей блокадного Ленинграда.

Хэсэды России, на основании накопленного опыта работы с евреями, перенесшими ужасы фашизма, отмечают, что им жизненно важна моральная поддержка, так как психологические травмы с возрастом становятся все острее и требуют постоянной реабилитации.

Более 100 000 подопечных Хэсэдов высоко ценят поддержку, оказываемую Судом сети благотворительных центров Хэсэд по всей России.

От имени Хэсэдов России
Председатель Совета

Проф. В.Лейзеоман
«Идуд Хасадим»

Исполнительный директор
«Идуд Хасадим»

Л.Колтон



Межрегиональная Ассоциация "Идуд Хасадим"

Член Союза Благотворительных Организаций России

Член Европейского Совета Еврейских Общин

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26.12.2003

Judge of the United States District Court

Edward Korman

Special Master

Judah Gribetz

Concerning compensation for the damage caused to the victims of fascism

Dear Mr. Korman and Mr. Gribetz,

We, the representatives of 51 Hesed Centers of Russia, would like to express our deep and sincere gratitude to the United States District Court, and personally to Judge Edward Korman, for their decision to allocate the money offered by the Swiss banks to the welfare programs of Hesed. These programs have been working successfully for several years for the welfare of needy people under close supervision and with professional assistance of the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee.

This financial support enables the whole network of Hesed charitable centers to give vitally important aid to almost a hundred thousand of victims of Nazism all around Russia. Russian economy is still weak, so the country cannot secure the welfare of its citizens. The estimated number of 37 million people in Russia now live beyond the poverty line. The majority of them are pensioners and people with limited abilities. Among these people there are many Holocaust survivors, who are now very old, indigent, and have to face numerous hazards in their everyday life. That is why we highly appreciate the financial support that foundations offer to these people in order to facilitate their lives and help them to survive. It is very heartening to see that the Jews who suffered from Nazism have been given an opportunity to live better and cope with some major everyday problems. Moreover, they feel the attention and support from the Jewish Community and Jews worldwide.

We want to believe that the welfare programs of Hesed will continue getting financial support in the future.

The Hesed Association would like to draw your attention to the fact that the definition "Holocaust survivors", that is used at present, does not include several categories of Jews who suffered from the oppression of fascists. For example, the definition does not imply those who lived in front-line areas, and the residents of Leningrad who stayed there during the siege.

Employees and volunteers in Heseds all over Russia have a broad experience of working with Jews who had to endure all the horrors of fascism. We are certain that, as psychological traumas tend to become more acute with years, the Holocaust survivors need constant psychological support, and thus they have to undergo regular courses of rehabilitation.

Over a hundred thousand of Hesed subjects highly appreciate the help and concern that the United States District Court renders to the network of Hesed charitable centers.

On behalf of Heseds of Russia,
Chairman of the Board
Executive Director

prof. V. Leizerman
L. Kolton



ГРАМАДСКАЕ АБ'ЯДНАННЕ
ГОМЕЛЬСКАЯ АБЛАСТНАЯ ЯУРЭЙСКАЯ
АБШЫНА «АХДУТ»

☎ 246017, г. Гомель, вул. Чырвонаармейская, 1а
☎ тэл./факс 53-19-68, 53-44-05
☎ факс 3015210440016 у Галаўным філіяле па
Гомельскай вобласці ОАО «Белінвестбанк» г.
Гомель
МФО 151501768 УНН 400738914



ОБЩЕСТВЕННОЕ ОБЪЕДИНЕНИЕ
ГОМЕЛЬСКАЯ ОБЛАСТНАЯ
ЕВРЕЙСКАЯ ОБЩИНА «АХДУТ»

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Гомельской области ОАО «Белінвестбанк» г.
Гомель
МФО 151501768 УНН 400738914

Shalom, Special Master Judah Gribetz.

От лица Председателя Еврейской Общины г. Гомеля «Ахдут» хочу Вам, прежде всего, выразить благодарность за возможность рассказать о наиболее важных вопросах и проблемах, связанных с жизнью клиентов, подходящих в категорию «жертва нацизма».

Для начала приведу некоторые цифры: всего в базе данных «Хесед-Батья» на данный момент 2.669 клиентов, из них 2.212 чел. – подходят в категорию «жертва» нацизма. Это 83% от общего числа клиентов. Из них 298 чел. – это одинокие и одиноко проживающие люди.

В современных экономических условиях РБ пожилому человеку выжить очень сложно в силу того, что пенсии зачастую не достигают уровня потребительского бюджета, а ведь на эти деньги нужно и прокормить себя, и внести коммунальные платежи за квартиру (а они с 2004 года продолжают заметно повышаться). Также очень много средств уходит на приобретение лекарств, обследование в медицинских учреждениях, приобретение медицинского оборудования (в силу стоимости приобрести его практически нереально, все пользуются оборудованием, предоставляемым Хеседом, но и на него нужны средства). Тот объем помощи, который предоставляет клиентам благотворительный фонд «Хесед-Батья» на данный момент удовлетворяет лишь самые основные потребности, а хотелось бы еще больше помочь людям, которые прошли ужас войны, издевательства и унижение. Помочь им хотя бы на старости лет почувствовать поддержку и протянуть руку помощи. Поэтому дополнительные средства, выделенные в форме специального гранта, предназначенного для «жертв нацизма» были бы серьезным подспорьем в работе программ «Хесед-Батья».

Поясню, почему дополнительное финансирование для «жертв нацизма» мы видим через организацию «Хесед-Батья»: эта организация, прежде всего, имеет информацию в базе данных относительно всех клиентов, имеет возможность делать сравнительные анализы, отчеты и т.д. Также каждая программа «Хесед-Батья» имеет ряд наработанных методик, опытных руководителей, поставщиков продукции. Т.е прочную базу, для создания ряда дополнительных услуг для клиентов-жертв нацизма.

Члены нашей организации высоко ценят поддержку, оказываемую Судом, в виде предоставления сети наших благотворительных служб возможности оказывать помощь тысячам нуждающихся евреев, пострадавших от фашизма.

С уважением,

Председатель Еврейской Общины г. Гомеля г-н Гершанок В.Б.

"Ahdut" Gomel Regional Jewish Community
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Tel/fax: 53-19-68, 53-44-05
Account # 3015210440016 in the Main Branch of "Belinvestbank"
Gomel

Shalom, Special Master Judah Gribetz,

On behalf of the Chairman of "Ahdut" Jewish Community in the town of Gomel, I would like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to tell you about urgent problems in the lives of our clients who fall into the category of "Nazi victims".

First please allow me to quote some figures: there are currently 2699 clients at Hesed Batya, 2212 of them (83%) belong in the "Nazi victims" category. There are 298 single or living alone clients among them.

In the existing economic conditions in Belarus, elderly people can hardly survive: the pensions are often smaller than the minimum cost of living. These people only have their pensions to provide for all their needs: food, cost of utilities (constantly on the rise since the beginning of 2004), medicines, tests and examinations in medical institutions, medical equipment, etc. The latter is very expensive, and no one can afford to purchase it. All clients use the equipment rented from Hesed, but even this requires funds. At present, the services offered by Hesed Batya welfare fund can satisfy only the most basic needs of these clients, although we would like to be able to offer some more help to people who lived through the atrocities of the war, and suffered from persecution and humiliation. We would like to extend a helping hand to these people and help them feel someone cares for them, at least in their old age. If Hesed Batya programs could receive additional funds for victims of Nazism, it would help us achieve this goal.

I will explain why, in my opinion, Hesed Batya is the best address for channeling additional financing for Nazi victims. This organization keeps a database of all clients and can perform comparative analysis, submit reports, etc. In addition, all programs at Hesed Batya have experienced directors, tested work methods and procedures, and reliable suppliers, i.e. a solid basis for providing additional services to Nazi victims.

The members of our organization highly appreciate the Court's support which enables our network of welfare services to help thousands of needy Jews who suffered from the Nazism.

Respectfully,

V. B. Gershanok
Chairman
Jewish Community of Gomel

ОБЩЕСТВЕННАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ
ЕВРЕЙСКИЙ БЛАГОТВОРИТЕЛЬНЫЙ ФОНД
«ХЭСЭД-РАХАМИМ»



ГРАМАДСКАЯ АРГАНІЗАЦЫЯ
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№576/03 - 29. декабря 2003 г.

Судебному поверенному
г-ну Иуде Грибцу

Уважаемый г-н Грибец, благодарим Вас за участие в благородном деле оказания помощи пострадавшим от Холокоста.

Еврейский благотворительный Фонд «Хэсэд-Рахамим» осуществляет свою деятельность в течение 10 лет, и на протяжении этого времени нами создана организованная, четкая структура помощи еврейскому населению – пожилым и инвалидам. Особое внимание при этом мы уделяем людям, пострадавшим от Холокоста.

Хэсэд имеет комплексный подход к проблемам клиентов. В Беларуси фактически нет других организаций кроме Хэсэдов, которые могли бы оказать разностороннюю поддержку пожилому человеку или инвалиду.

Все услуги предоставляются Хэсэдом в соответствии с критериями, установленными профессионалами и общественным правлением организации. При этом наиболее нуждающиеся (одинокие, с наименьшими пенсиями, более старые люди) получают больше наименований услуг и в большем объеме.

Сотрудники Хэсэда владеют всей информацией о правах клиентов и являются их представителями в государственных учреждениях (социальных службах, больницах и т.п.), а также в общественных организациях, занимающихся проблемами пожилых людей и инвалидов.

Хэсэд организует рациональное использование получаемых от спонсоров средств и своевременно предоставляет качественные и «прозрачные» отчеты.

Все это позволяет надеяться, что организация и впредь будет получать финансовую поддержку и сможет оказывать необходимую помощь лицам, потерпевшим от Холокоста и геноцида.

На сегодняшний день в базе данных Хэсэд-Рахамим всего 7156 подопечных, из них 4484 потерпевших. Благодаря очень своевременной поддержке Швейцарского Фонда, Хэсэд-Рахамим смог поддержать людей питанием, приобретением лекарств, оплатой лечения, уходом на дому, помощью в оплате топлива, одеждой и т. п.

Но, к сожалению, общая ситуация в стране в материальном плане ухудшается. Постоянно растет квартплата, государство переходит на платные медицинские услуги,

дорожают продукты питания, отменяются государственные дотации на лекарства для пенсионеров и инвалидов. Государственные социальные службы перешли на платную основу. К тому же пожилые люди, потерпевшие от Холокоста, становятся старше и все больше нуждаются в услугах для обеспечения их нормальной жизни. На Хэсэд ложится большая ответственность за поддержание достойной жизни наших клиентов.

Сотрудники Хэсэд-Рахамим, Правление, люди пострадавшие от геноцида с благодарностью принимают помощь и поддержку Швейцарского фонда и надеются на дальнейшее плодотворное сотрудничество.

С уважением

Председатель Президиума
ОО ЕБФ «Хэсэд-Рахамим»

Директор

Леонид Левин

Софья Абрамова

"Hesed Rahamim" Jewish Welfare Fund
Public Association
28 V. Khoruzhei St., Minsk
Belarus 2220123
Tel/fax: (017) 210-11-78

Outgoing No. 576/03
December 29, 2003

To: Judah Gribetz
Special Master

Dear Mr. Gribetz,

Thank you for your participation in the noble course of providing assistance to the Holocaust survivors.

Since its establishment 10 years ago, "Hesed Rahamim" Jewish Welfare Fund has created a well-functioning aid system for Jewish disabled and elderly population, with a special emphasis on assistance to Holocaust victims.

Hesed activities are based on a comprehensive approach to clients' needs. In Belarus, there are no other organizations capable of providing comprehensive support and services to elderly and disabled people. Aid is provided in accordance with the criteria established by the professionals and Public Board of the organization. The neediest clients (clients who live alone, the most elderly clients, clients with the smallest pensions, etc.) are entitled to a wider range and a greater scope of Hesed services.

Hesed employees possess all the information on the clients' rights, and represent the clients in various State structures (welfare agencies, hospitals, etc.), as well as in public associations dealing with problems of elderly and disabled people.

Hesed arranges for rational use of the funds received from the sponsors, and duly submits complete and transparent reports on the use of these funds.

Based on all these factors, we believe that Hesed will continue to receive financing and will be able to provide the required services to people who suffered from Holocaust and genocide.

At present, there are 7156 clients in Hesed Rahamim database, 4484 of them are Holocaust survivors. Thanks to the timely support of the Swiss Fund, Hesed Rahamim succeeded in providing food aid, medicines, medical treatment, homecare services, fuel and clothing to these people.

However, the economic conditions in the country continue, regretfully, to deteriorate. Rent and cost of utilities are rising; the State switches to paid medical services and cancels subsidies for medicines that were available to pensioners and disabled people; the prices for basic foodstuffs rise. The State welfare agencies now operate on the basis of a fee. In addition, elderly Holocaust survivors grow older and need more support to maintain their daily life. It is Hesed's responsibility to help our clients live decently.

Hesed Rahamim employees, the Board of Directors, and Holocaust survivors accept help and support of the Swiss Fund with gratitude, and hope to continue fruitful cooperation in future.

Respectfully,

Leonid Levin
Chairman of the Presidium
Hesed Rahamim Welfare Fund

Sofia Abramova
Director



«ЕВРЕЙСКИЙ БЛАГОТВОРИТЕЛЬНЫЙ КОМИТЕТ»
г. 127422, МОСКВА, ТИМИРЯЗЕВСКАЯ 4/12; 211-12-19

26.02.03

Судебному поверенному
Special master Иуде Грибец

По вопросу возмещения ущерба
жертвам нацизма

Уважаемый господин Грибец,

Благотворительный Фонд «Еврейский Благотворительный Комитет» представляет интересы 5-ти Хэсэдов, которые обслуживают в Москве и Московской области более 32,000 евреев – пенсионеров, и инвалидов всех возрастов. 20,000 наших подопечных являются инвалидами, из них 2/3 страдают тяжелыми сердечно-сосудистыми заболеваниями, 3,500 человек больны диабетом, 2,240 – нервно-психическими расстройствами. Большинство подопечных Хэсэдов находятся в тяжелом материальном положении, так как средняя пенсия в Москве и, особенно в Московской области, существенно ниже прожиточного минимума.

Среди наших подопечных около 19,000 обладают статусом жертвы нацизма. Мы понимаем, что бюджет Швейцарских фондов будет целиком предназначен для помощи пострадавших от нацизма и принимаем эту практику.

Мы благодарны Суду за предоставленную нам возможность помогать нуждающимся евреям. В 2003 году благодаря бюджету Швейцарских фондов мы смогли помочь тысячам людей. Около 19,000 клиентам мы смогли оказать разного рода продуктивную помощь, 11,000 человек получили жизненно важные лекарства. Все это значительно улучшило качество жизни наших подопечных, которое, однако, еще далеко от оптимального уровня.

Мы надеемся, что Вы продолжите финансирование жизненно важных программ Хэсэдов также и в последующие годы.

С уважением,
Председатель попечительского совета
Фонда «Еврейский Благотворительный Комитет»

Ефим Гологорский

Jewish Welfare Committee
4/12 Timiryazevskaya St., Moscow
Russia 127422
Tel: 211-12-19

February 26, 2003

To: Judah Gribetz
Special Master

Re: Compensations to Victims of the Nazism

Dear Mr. Gribetz,

The Welfare Fund "Jewish Welfare Committee" is a representative of five Heseds in Moscow and the Moscow Region serving more than 32,000 retired and disabled Jews of all age groups. 20,000 of our clients are disabled, 2/3 of them suffer from serious cardiovascular diseases, 3500 people are diabetics, and 2240 people suffer from psychic and nervous disorders. Most clients have very low financial status, because average pension in Moscow and especially in the Moscow Region is considerably lower than the minimum cost of living.

About 19,000 of our clients have a special status as "Nazi victims". We understand that the budget of the Swiss Fund will be aimed entirely at helping Nazi victims, and we accept this practice.

We thank the Court for giving us the opportunity to help needy Jews. In 2003, thanks to the Swiss Fund aid, we succeeded in helping thousands of people. About 19,000 clients received various kinds of food aid, 11,000 people received vitally important medicines. All this helped to considerably improve the quality of life of our clients; however it is still far from the optimal level.

We hope that you will continue to provide financial support to Heseds' vitally important programs in the future.

Respectfully,

Efim Gologorsky,

Chairman of the Trustees' Council
"Jewish Welfare Committee" Welfare Fund

– Одесса –

ЕВРЕЙСКАЯ БЛАГОТВОРИТЕЛЬНО-ОБЩИННАЯ МИССИЯ
«ЄДНІСТЬ»

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24 Декабря 2003 г.

Судье Эдварду Корману
Судебному поверенному Иуде Грибецу

*По вопросу возмещения ущерба
жертвам фашизма*

Уважаемые господа Корман и Грибец!

Правление и руководство Еврейской благотворительно-общинной миссии «Єдність» признательны за поддержку, оказываемую Судом в виде предоставления нашим благотворительным организациям помощи, в которой нуждаются тысячи евреев, пострадавших от Холокоста.

Консультации с представителями Джойнта и многолетняя практика обосновывают правильность распределения бюджета на группы, с учетом количества пострадавших от фашизма в регионе, для оказания им помощи по медицинским программам, по программе СОС и по другим благотворительным программам.

Надеемся, что финансирование благотворительных программ Хеседов будет продолжено и в следующем финансовом году.

С уважением.

Председатель Правления Еврейской
благотворительно-общинной миссии «Єдність»



Тиревицкий Андрей
Благотворитель общинной миссии «Єдність»

Патлажан И.Е.

Фиктман Л.Г.

Odessa

“YEDNYST” (“UNITY”) – THE JEWISH CHARITY COMMUNITY MISSION

24th December 203

To: Justice Edward Corman
Special Master Yehuda Gribetz

Re: Compensations for nazis' Victims

Dear Justice Corman and Mr. Gribetz!

The executive and the leadership of the “Yednyst” Jewish Charity Community Mission are thankful for the support provided by the Court in the shape of assistance to our charity organizations, which help thousands of Jews, who have suffered during the Holocaust.

Consulting with Joint representatives and the many years of practice, base the correct distribution of this budget to groups, taking into account the number of nazis' victims in the region, in order to provide them with aid by medical programs, SOS programs and other charity programs.

We hope that the financing of the Heseds' charity programs will continue in the next financial year too.

With Best Regards,

The Executive Chairman of the
“Yednyst” Charity Community Mission (signature) Patlazhan I. Y.

The Director of the
“Yednyst” Charity Community Mission (signature) Fichtman L. G.



ОРЕНБУРГСКАЯ ГОРОДСКАЯ ОБЩЕСТВЕННАЯ БЛАГОТВОРИТЕЛЬНАЯ
ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ «ЕВРЕЙСКИЙ ЦЕНТР»

ХЭСЭД «АВИВ»
Center HESED AVIV

460000, г. Оренбург, ул. 9 января 23 телефон (3532) 77-80-86 факс (3532) 77-80-86

e-mail: hcsed@oris.ru

ИНН 5610034599, Р/СЧ 40703810984000000004 филиал «Оренбургский» АКБ «Авангард»

г. Оренбург, К/СЧ 30101810700000000815, БИК 045354835

КПП 561001001, ОКОНХ 98600, ОКПО 46742379

Судье Эдварду Корману
Судебному поверенному
Special Master Джуде Гринбецу

По вопросу бюджета Швейцарских Фондов

Настоящим информируем Вас о том, что средства Швейцарских Фондов оказывают неоценимую помощь в улучшении жизненных условий и удовлетворении самых насущных нужд жертв нацизма, проживающих в нашем регионе.

К сожалению, в настоящее время из-за тяжелых экономических условий, на грани бедности оказалось огромное число пожилых людей, и социальная помощь остро требуется большому количеству жертв нацизма - значительно большему количеству, чем есть возможность эту помощь оказать.

К настоящему времени система Хеседов показала себя как наиболее эффективная структура для предоставления социальной помощи наименее обеспеченным слоям еврейского населения на территории бывшего Советского Союза.

Система Хеседов обладает отлаженным механизмом контроля за распределением помощи, обученными на высоком уровне кадрами, уникальным опытом работы в этой сфере и доверием Еврейской общины.

Учредители в лице Ромма Михаила Борисовича и Пайна Александра Генриховича выражают свою глубокую признательность Суду за предоставленную Благотворительным центром "Хесед" возможность оказывать неоценимую помощь нуждающимся евреям, пострадавшим от фашизма. Мы надеемся, что такая возможность будет предоставлена Благотворительным центром "Хесед" и в следующем году.

М.Б. Ромм

А.Г. Пайн

THE ORENBURG CITY PUBLIC CHARITY ORGANIZATION
"JEWISH CENTER"

HESED "AVIV"

46000 Orenburg, the Davyatogo Yanvaryaya St. 23, Tel. (3532) 77-80-86 Fax (3532)
77-80-86 e-mail: hesed@oris.ru

To: Justice Edward Corman
Special Master Yehuda Gribetz

Re: The Swiss Fund Budget

We hereby inform you that the Swiss funds' money is an irreplaceable resource of improvement of the life conditions and the satisfaction of the most immediate needs of Nazism victims residing in our region.

Unfortunately, because of the current difficult economic situation, a large number of elderly people have found themselves at the breach of poverty, and a respectively large number of Nazism victims require immediate social support. Their number is far more than what we can provide the necessary assistance for.

To this day, the Hesed system has proved to be the most effective structure for purposes of providing social support for the needy groups among the Jewish populations residing on the territory of the former Soviet Union.

The Hesed system operates a fine tuned mechanism of aid distribution control, has staff trained to the highest standards, a unique work experience and the trust of the Jewish community.

The founders, represented by Mikhail Borisovich Romm and Alexander Genrikhovich Payin, would like do express their deepest appreciation to the Court for the aid provided to the Hesed Charity Centers, enabling those to provide crucial support to Jewish victims of Nazism in need. We hope that such opportunity will be provided to the Hesed Charity Centers in the upcoming year.

(signature) M. B. Romm
(signature) A.G. Payin



Местная Религиозная Организация - Ростовская Еврейская Религиозная Община

☎ 344007, г. Ростов-на-Дону, пер. Газетный, 18 ☎ (8632) 62-47-59
ИНН 6163023823, Р/сч. 40703810808890003596 Рострочетройбанк (ОАО)
К/сч. 30101810300000000889 БИК 046015889

КОМУ: Judah Gribetz, Special Master
ОТ КОГО: Еврейской общины г. Ростова-на-Дону
ТЕМА: Письмо о работе Хеседа
ДАТА: 19.12.2003 г.

Уважаемый господин Judah Gribetz,
как Вы знаете, с 1998 года в Ростове-на-Дону действует благотворительный фонд «Хесед Шолом Бер», целью которого является помощь социально нуждающимся членам еврейской диаспоры Ростова и Ростовской области.

К сожалению, бедность и социальные нужды еврейского населения в нашем регионе крайне обострены. В целом – как и в масштабах всего СНГ – на юге России наблюдается быстрый процесс старения еврейской диаспоры. Среди членов еврейской общины, являющихся подопечными Хеседа, велик процент женщины старше 73 лет. Почти 60% страдают хроническими заболеваниями, более 55% нуждаются во вспомогательных приспособлениях, более 50% имеют пенсии ниже официально установленного для нашей области прожиточного минимума. А по данным российских СМИ каждый четвертый житель нашего региона живет за чертой бедности.

Многие люди, пережившие трагедию Катастрофы, находятся в тяжелых условиях, так как имеют пенсии на уровне или ниже прожиточного минимума, страдают от заболеваний, пережитых душевных травм, плохо питаются, вынуждены покупать недорогие лекарства, так как те, которые им необходимы, и не дают нежелательных побочных эффектов, стоят намного дороже.

Работа по социальной помощи ведется в нашей общине на высоком уровне. Двенадцать постоянно действующих социальных программ, 150 волонтеров и 50 наемных сотрудников – это высокопрофессиональный ресурс нашей общины, создавшей механизм грамотной системы социального обеспечения. Важно отметить, что вся деятельность осуществляется Хеседом в соответствии с представлением самих членов общины, так как все условия, критерии и правила оказания помощи предварительно обсуждаются и утверждаются Попечительским Советом Хеседа, куда входят видные члены Еврейской общины нашего города. Работая добровольно на благо общины, Попечительский Совет выражает

общинный взгляд на развитие и деятельность Еврейской общины нашего города.

1682 подопечных Хесед Ростов и Ростовской области подпадают под определение Швейцарского Фонда «Nazi Victim» («Пострадавшие от Катастрофы»). Потребность в благотворительных услугах для лиц данной категории растет, т.к. с возрастом увеличивается потребность в медицинских услугах, изнашивается и приходит в негодность бытовая техника, самостоятельно приобрести которую клиенты Хесед в большой массе не могут - их доходы в основном ниже прожиточного уровня, либо превышают его на незначительные суммы.

Из средств Швейцарского Фонда уже второй год наш Хесед получает значительную помощь по программе «SOS - экстренная помощь», что позволило:

- оплачивать лекарства, дорогостоящие медицинские исследования, лечение в стационарах, операциях; зубо- и ортопротезирование
- приобретать предметы бытовой техники (холодильники, стиральные машины, телевизоры, электропассосы, газовые плиты и водонагревательные приборы)
- приобретать глюкометры для людей, страдающих сахарным диабетом
- приобретать постельное белье и постельные принадлежности (матрацы, подушки, одеяла)
- приобретать специальную мебель (для сна и приема пищи)

За 2003 год наш Хесед помог 222 людям - участникам программы SOS, пережившим ужасы Катастрофы. Это составляет 14% от общего количества людей данной категории. Сотрудники и волонтеры фонда с готовностью предоставили бы гораздо большее количество услуг, но, к сожалению, суммы, выделяемые из средств Швейцарского Фонда, не позволяют нам охватить хотя бы половину нуждающихся.

Велико количество обращений по возможной оплате лекарств, операций, предоставления услуг в обслуживании на дому, в средствах медицинского ухода, постельных принадлежностях, теплом белье и др.

Всего же социальных услуг получили в 2003 году 1665 человек, подходящих под критерии различных программ Хесед и соответствующих определению «пострадавший от Катастрофы» - это 99,2%. Эти услуги были оплачены из средств Швейцарского Фонда и «Клеймс Конференс».

Принципы помощи каждому члену общины, отвечающему критериям Швейцарского Фонда, важный гуманный принцип Хесед - как подлинно еврейской гуманитарной структуры. Однако общие критерии, предлагаемые «Джойнтом», предоставляют приоритет жертвам нацизма лишь в случае их равнозначной или большей степени материальной нуждаемости по отношению к другим пенсионерам и инвалидам, что не всегда позволяет оказать действенную помощь нуждающимся.

Rostov-on-Don Jewish Religious Community

Address: 18 Gazetny Lane, Rostov-on-Don, 344007
Telephone: (8632) 62 47 59

To: Judah Gribetz, Special Master
From: Rostov-on-Don Jewish Community
Subject: Hesed Activities
Date: December 19, 2003

Dear Mr. Judah Gribetz:

As you are aware, *Hesed Sholom Ber* Welfare Foundation has been functioning in the city of Rostov-on-Don since 1998; the goal of this Foundation is to provide assistance to the needy members of the Jewish community both in the city of Rostov-on-Don and in Rostov Province.

Regrettably, the poverty and social needs of the Jewish population in our area are extremely acute. The aging of the Jewish population is very rapid in the Southern area of the Russian Federation (which is also characteristic of the FSU on the whole). The rate of females belonging to the Jewish community at the ages of 73+ among Hesed clients is very large. About 60% of them suffer from chronic illnesses, above 55% need special medical equipment, above 50% have pensions below the standard of living officially asserted for our Province, not to mention the fact that, according to data published in Russian mass media, every fourth citizen of our area lives below the poverty line.

Many members of the Jewish community, who suffered the Holocaust atrocities, are now poverty-stricken since their pensions are at the poverty level or even poverty line, while they suffer from diseases and psychic traumas, are underfed, cannot afford good and efficient medication (and the use of low-priced medicines, which they can afford, is aggravated with various negative side effects).

Social assistance is organized in our community on a high level. Twelve standing social programs, 150 volunteers and 50-strong personnel testify to the professional strength of our community's welfare system organized. It is worth mentioning that all the objectives for Hesed work are set by the community itself, since the conditions, criteria, and regulations of the social assistance are discussed and approved by the Hesed Board comprised of the prominent members of our Jewish community. The Board (operating on the strictly voluntarily basis) expresses the views and attitudes of our Jewish community.

1,682 clients of Hesed meet the criteria of *Nazi Victim* Swiss Foundation (for the Holocaust victims). The demands for the welfare assistance among Hesed clients increase steadily, since the older are the clients, the larger are their needs of medical services; besides, their home appliances become inoperative, while the majority of clients cannot afford new appliances, since their incomes are mostly at the poverty level.

Nazi Victim Swiss Foundation has been providing, already for more than a year, considerable assistance in the framework of the SOS – *Emergency Assistance* Program, which allowed:

- to pay for expensive medicines, tests, operations, in-patient treatment, dentistry and dental prosthetics;
- to acquire home appliances (refrigerators, washing machines, TV sets, electric water pumps, gas ovens, and water heating equipment);
- to acquire glucose meters for diabetics;
- to acquire bed linen, pillows, blankets, mattresses;
- to acquire special furniture (for those with sleeping and eating problems).

During 2003 we provided assistance to 222 clients covered with SOS Program (Holocaust victims), which comprises 14% of the total amount of Holocaust victims. The personnel and volunteers would have served larger amount of clients, but the resources provided by *the Swiss Foundation* were not adequate to support even a half of this group.

We are addressed by many people who are in need of medicines, surgery, home care assistance, medical supplies, bed linen, warm clothes, etc.

In 2003 welfare services were provided to 1,665 clients altogether, covered by various Hased programs and eligible for "Holocaust victims" definition, i.e., 99.2%. The expenses for these services were met from the donations of *the Swiss Foundation* and Claims Conference.

To provide the assistance to each community member, who meets the criteria of the *Swiss Foundation*, is the imperative humanitarian principle of our Hased, a truly Jewish humanitarian institution. However, according to the JDC criteria, Holocaust victims have the priority only when their income level is equal or below the level of other potential clients, and this viewpoint in certain cases hinders us in the provision of the efficient assistance.

The activity of our Hased is supervised through the system of committees, which ensures the provision of efficient assistance and services to the maximal possible amount of clients, taking into consideration their needs and the available resources.

The Jewish community of Rostov-on-Don is grateful to the American Jewish Distribution Committee, *Nazi Victim Swiss Foundation*, Claims Conference, and all the sponsors, whose donations and support helped to save many people from malnutrition, misfortune, illnesses, improved their quality of life and mental health.

We would like to express our special gratitude to the sponsors supporting our cultural projects, such as *Warm House* project, educational and library programs, Yiddishkeit Seminar, Volunteers' Seminars, etc.

We are positive that in the present difficult times Hased network helps many thousands of Jews not only to survive, but also to live dignified life, to foster their Jewish identity and to be confident of tomorrow.

Best regards,

Yu.G.Rubinov,
Chairman,
Rostov-on-Don Jewish Religious Community



ВСЕУКРАИНСКИЙ ЕВРЕЙСКИЙ
БЛАГОТВОРИТЕЛЬНЫЙ
КУЛЬТУРНО-ПРОСВЕТИТЕЛЬНЫЙ ФОНД
«ОР-АВНЕР «ХАБАД ЛЮБАВИЧ»
(«СВЕТ АВНЕРА «ХАБАД ЛЮБАВИЧ»)
"אור אבנר-חב"ד ליובאוויטש"
מרכז להיגיון יהודי ברחבי אוקראינה



Special Master Judah Gribetz
US Court

Over the course of the last ten years, we've been witnessing with pride and gratitude the operation of Hesed welfare centers run by the Joint Distribution Committee in our region.

Thanks to the Swiss Banks Settlement allocations, they have pioneered specialized care for Jewish Nazi Victims throughout FSU. The allocated funds allow dedicated Hesed professionals to make their efforts more and more efficient, reaching out every single Jewish elderly who survived the Holocaust terrors and meeting his every single vital need.

Providing those people with all their heart and body may need, local community is setting standards of achievement of which we are all proud and very grateful.

It is so vitally important that restitution funds are used not to let Nazi victims in need die of cold and hunger. Nowadays, when it is Justice to decide, and not somebody's ill will that had already affected them in the past, it means so much to so many...

And we do hope Your decision will let this noble work continue.

Director of the Charitable Fund
Or-Avner "Chabad Lubavitch"

Yefim Antonovsky



Федерация иудейских религиозных общин Украины
Federation of Jewish Communities of the Ukraine איגוד הקהילות היהודיות באוקראינה

Special Master Judah Gribetz
US Court

Dear Sir,

It is an absolute privilege for us to express our gratitude and appreciation of the important mission You've been carrying out allowing Holocaust survivors in their last years to get care and comfort, which they desperately need and undoubtedly deserve.

It's due to Swiss Bank restitution allocations that the needy Holocaust survivors in the FSU have been receiving welfare services that actually keep them alive. It's due to Your wise and competent decision that over 14 000 needy Jewish victims of Nazi persecutions in Eastern Ukraine only have been daily provided with food, medicines and other vital necessities through the network of Hesed welfare centers, supported by JDC all over Former Soviet union.

Getting miserable pensions of \$30 monthly (average), absolute majority of the Holocaust survivors cannot afford the essentials, neither they can get any support from the state. Living in appalling conditions, they are totally dependent on Hesed Welfare Centers, setting excellent standard of welfare services.

On behalf of the local communities we express here our hope and belief that this year verdict of Yours will let JDC continue its noble mission of saving thousands and thousands of Jewish lives.

Sincerely,

Rabbi Meir Stambler
Chairman, Federation of Jewish
Communities of Ukraine

КООРДИНАЦИОННЫЙ СОВЕТ АССОЦИАЦИИ
БЛАГОТВОРИТЕЛЬНЫХ ФОНДОВ «ХЭСЭД»
ВОСТОЧНОЙ УКРАИНЫ
г. Днепрпетровск

Special Master Judah Gribetz
US Court

Dear Sir,

Working for local Jewish organizations striving to provide vital welfare services for thousands of impoverished Jewish elderly, we feel our privilege and obligation to share with you our first hand experience of facing every day life of needy Holocaust survivors.

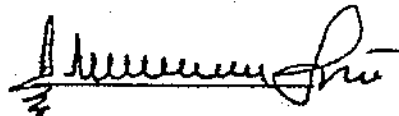
We daily alleviate the overwhelming needs of those who survived Holocaust once in their life, and who have to struggle today for existence, often found by Hesed people at the edge of poverty, starving and having nobody around to help.

It is such satisfaction and comfort to know that thanks to Swiss banks restitution money so wisely used by JDC to develop the highest standard Hesed welfare services, we are able to be that only helping hand these people need so desperately.

It is clear that there are numerous priorities you have to consider while making decision on Swiss restitution funds - and we are drawing your attention to just one. But we so much believe it's the most important one for all of us as Jews, human beings and people of the world remembering their past and thinking of their future.

Sincerely,

Anatoly Shveld
Chairman, Association of Hesed Welfare Centers,
Eastern Ukraine



БЛАГОТВОРИТЕЛЬНЫЙ ФОНД «ЕВРЕЙСКИЙ БЛАГОТВОРИТЕЛЬНЫЙ КОМИТЕТ»

20.01.2004г.

Судье Эдварду Корману
Судебному поверенному
Special Master Иуде Грябецу

Тема: возмещение ущерба жертвам фашизма

Уважаемые господа Корман и Грябец,

Хотим проинформировать Вас по вопросу бюджета Швейцарских фондов на предстоящий финансовый год.

Мы являемся организацией, объединяющей Хэсэды в пяти областях Украины: Киевской, Черниговской, Черкасской, Винницкой, Житомирской, - подопечными которой являются более 20000 (двадцати тысяч) евреев, пострадавших от фашизма.

Понимая, что региональный бюджет благотворительности будет разбит на общий бюджет благотворительности, СОС и медицинские программы с учетом количества пострадавших от фашизма в каждом регионе, мы полностью одобряем подобную практику.

Подопечные и члены нашей организации высоко оценивают помощь и поддержку, оказываемую Судом, в виде предоставления возможности благотворительным организациям оказывать столь необходимую помощь тысячам нуждающихся евреев, пострадавших от фашизма.

Мы также очень надеемся, что Вы продолжите финансирование программ Хэсэдов с принятой разбивкой.

С уважением,

Председатель Правления
БФ «Еврейский благотворительный комитет»

Natan Gombert
Натан Гомберг



"Jewish Welfare Committee" Welfare Fund

20.01.2004

To:
Justice Edward Korman
Special Master Judah Gribetz

Re: Compensations to Victims of Nazism

Dear Sirs,

Please find below our considerations regarding the budget of the Swiss funds for the next fiscal year.

Our organization unites Heseds in five regions in the Ukraine: Kievsky, Chernigovsky, Cherkassky, Vinnitsky, and Zhitomirsky. Among our clients are more than 20,000 Jewish victims of Nazism.

Understanding that the budget will be divided into three parts – general welfare budget, medical programs and SOS - and based on the number of Nazi victims in each region, we fully support this policy.

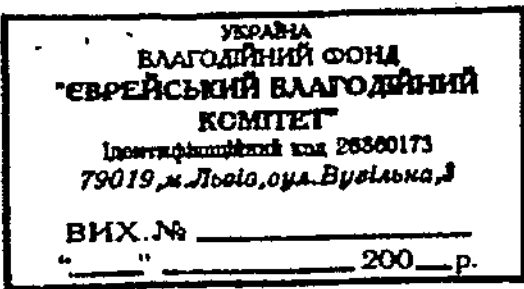
Our clients and the members of our organization highly appreciate the Court's support and assistance in giving us the opportunity to help thousands of needy Jewish victims of Nazism.

We also hope that you will continue to provide financial support to Heseds in accordance with the budget division above.

Respectfully,

Nathan Gomberg,

Chairman of the Board
"Jewish Welfare Committee"



Судье Эдварду Корману

Судебному поверенному
Special Master Иуде Грибецу

По вопросу возмещения ущерба
жертвам фашизма

Уважаемые господа Корман и Грибец !

Проконсультировавшись с представителями Джойнта в нашем регионе по вопросу бюджета Швейцарских фондов на предстоящий финансовый год, Благотворительный фонд " Еврейский благотворительный комитет " , объединяющий все Хэсэды и их филиалы всего Западного региона Украины ("Хэсэд Арье" г. Львов, "Хэсэд Ошэр" г.г. Луцк и Ровно, "Хэсэд Лейб" г.Ивано-Франковск, "Хэсэд Гур-Арье" г. Дрогобыч, "Хэсэд Бешт" г.г. Хмельницкий и Тернополь, "Хэсэд Шпира" г. Ужгород, "Хэсэд Шушана" г. Черновцы,) , выражает свое понимание в целесообразности и предметности планируемого 100% бюджета, основанного и скорректированного с количественным учетом пострадавших от фашизма в каждом отдельном регионе и с соответствующей разбивкой на три группы – общий бюджет благотворительности, СОС, медицинские программы.

Мы понимаем и всецело одобряем подобную практику.

Все члены Комитета высоко ценят поддержку , оказываемую Судом, в предоставлении Комитету и западно-украинским региональным Хэсэдам возможности оказывать столь необходимую помощь тысячам нуждающихся евреев, пострадавших от фашизма. Мы выражаем надежду, что и в дальнейшем Вы продолжите финансирование жизненно важных программ .

С уважением,

Председатель Правления Комитета




Адель Дианова

Ukraine
"Jewish Welfare Committee" Welfare Fund
The town of Lvov

To:
Justice Edward Korman
Special Master Judah Gribetz

Re: Compensations to Victims of Nazism

Dear Sirs,

After consulting with the JDC representatives in our region regarding the budget of the Swiss Fund for the next fiscal year, the welfare fund "Jewish Welfare Committee" that unites all Heseds and Hesed branches in the entire Western Ukraine ("Hesed Arie" in Lvov, "Hesed Osher" in Lutzk and Rovno, "Hesed Leib" in Ivano-Frankovsk, "Hesed Gur Arie" in Drogobych, "Hesed Besht in Khmel'nitsky and Ternopol, "Hesed Shpira" in Uzhgorod and "Hesed Shushana" in Chernovtsy), expresses its understanding and complete support of the budget which is being planned for the new year on the basis of the numbers of Nazi victims in each region. The budget is divided into three parts – general welfare budget, medical programs and SOS.

We understand and wholly approve this practice.

All the members of the Committee highly appreciate the Court's support and thank the Court for giving the Committee and regional Heseds in Western Ukraine the opportunity to help thousands of needy Jews, victims of Nazism. We hope that you will continue to provide financial support to Heseds' vitally important programs in the future.

Respectfully,

Adele Dianova,

Chairman of the Board
"Jewish Welfare Committee"

ФОНД
"ЕВРЕЙСКИЙ БЛАГОТВОРИТЕЛЬНЫЙ КОМИТЕТ ПОВОЛЖЬЯ И
ЦЕНТРАЛЬНОЙ РОССИИ"

Судье Эдварду Корману
Судебному поверенному
Special Master Джуде Грибецу

По вопросу бюджета
Швейцарских Фондов

Уважаемые господа,

К сожалению, к настоящему времени на территории бывших республик Советского Союза сложились тяжелейшие экономические условия, поставившие на грань бедности огромное число пожилых людей, которые потеряли свои сбережения и социальную поддержку со стороны государства. Социальная помощь остро требуется большому количеству пожилых людей, включая жертв нацизма.

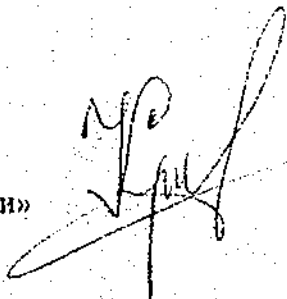
Средства Швейцарских Фондов оказывают неоценимую помощь в улучшении жизненных условий и удовлетворении самых насущных нужд жертв нацизма, проживающих в регионе Поволжья и Центральной России.

В настоящее время самым эффективным каналом оказания помощи нуждающимся жертвам нацизма на территории Поволжья и Центральной России является система благотворительных центров - Хеседов, обладающая всеми необходимыми ресурсами, квалифицированным, хорошо обученным персоналом и ответственными руководителями на местах.

Фонд «Еврейский Благотворительный Комитет Поволжья и Центральной России» выражает свою глубокую признательность Суду за предоставленную Благотворительным центрам "Хесед" возможность оказывать неоценимую помощь нуждающимся евреям, пострадавшим от фашизма. Мы надеемся, что такая возможность будет предоставлена Благотворительным центрам "Хесед" и в следующем году.

С уважением,

Директор Фонда «Еврейский
Благотворительный Комитет
Поволжья и Центральной России»



Андрей Кривицкий



**Jewish Welfare Committee of Volga Region and Central Russia
Welfare Fund**

To:
Justice Edward Korman
Law Attorney
Judah Gribetz
Special Master

Re: Swiss Funds Budget

Dear Sirs,

Regretfully, current economic conditions in former USSR republics placed a great number of elderly people who had lost all their savings and the State support on the verge of poverty. A great number of elderly persons, including Nazi victims, desperately need welfare aid.

The aid from the Swiss Funds serves as a source of invaluable assistance in improving living conditions and satisfying the most basic needs of Nazi victims living in the Volga region and in Central Russia.

The most efficient of the existing aid channels for Nazi victims in Volga Region and Central Russia is currently a system of Heseds – welfare centers that have all the required resources, qualified and trained personnel, and responsible leaders in the field.

Jewish Welfare Committee of Volga Region and Central Russia is pleased to express its deep gratitude to the court for allowing Hesed welfare centers to provide invaluable aid to needy Jews, victims of Nazism. We hope that Heseds will be allowed to continue their welfare activities in the New Year.

Respectfully,

Andrei Krinitsyn
Director
Jewish Welfare Committee of Volga Region and Central Russia
[Signature, stamp]

6

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

<u>#</u>	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
1 a)	Hesed Avraham	St. Petersburg	Russia
b)	"Tikva" Welfare Fund (Production Center)	St. Petersburg	Russia
c)	Central Warehouse	St. Petersburg	Russia
2	Hesed Agamim	Petrozavodsk	Russia
3	Community Cultural Center "Shalom"	Vologda	C. Russia Volga
4	Hesed Akhim	Arkhangelsk	Russia
5	Hesed Itzchak	Pskov	Russia
6	Hesed Magen	Velikie Luki	Russia
7	Hesed Yakov	Veliki Novgorod	Russiaa
8	Zabota-Siyanie (Zohar) Hesed	Murmansk	Russia
9	ENKA community	Syktvykar	Russia
10	Hesed Menachem	Moscow	Russia
11	Hesed Chama	Moscow	Russia
12	Hesed Avraham	Moscow	Russia
13	Yad Ezra	Moscow	Russia
14	Ethel Fund	Moscow	Russia
15	Religiouse Community "Shamir"	Moscow	Russia
16	Gineini	Reutov	Russia
17	Jewish Religious Community	Saltykovka	Russia
18	Community Center	Malakhovka	Russia
19	Hesed Sara	Nijni Novgorod	C. Russia Volga
20	Hesed Rachel	Yaroslavl	C.Russia

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

<u>#</u>	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
21	Welfare org. "Atikva"	Penza	C.Russia Volga
22	Hesed Ester	Samara	C.Russia Volga
23	Hasdei Yerushalaim	Saratov	C.Russia Volga
24	Hesed Tikva	Bryansk	C.Russia Volga
25	Hesed Zion	Kostroma	C.Russia
26	Inform. and Cultural Center "Jewish Home"	Kursk	C.Russia Volga
27	Welfare org. "Nash Dom"	Tambov	C.Russia Volga
28	Hesed Neshama	Tula	C.Russia Volga
29	Hesed Akiva	Smolensk	C.Russia Volga
30	Hesed Moshe	Kazan	C.Russia
31	Hesed Nehama	Voronezh	C.Russia Volga
32	Hesed Lev	Vladimir	C. Russia Volga
33	Hesed Zabota	Tver	C. Russia Volga
34	Hesed Makor	Yoshkar-Ola	C. Russia Volga
35	Hesed Iona	Lipetsk	C. Russia Volga
36	Community Charitable Center "Nesher"	Oryol	C. Russia Volga
37	Hesed Tshuva	Ryazan	C. Russia Volga
38	Cultural and Educational Org. "Shalom"	Ulyanovsk	C. Russia Volga
39	National Jewish Autonomy	Cheboksary	C. Russia Volga
40	Hesed Akim	Rybinsk	C. Russia Volga
41	Hesed Atikva (Nadezhda)	Kirov	C. Russia Volga
42	Hesed Menorah	Yekaterinburg	Russia Ural

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

#	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
43	Hesed Nehama	Chelyabinsk	Russia Ural
44	Hesed Aviv	Orenburg	Russia Ural
45	Hesed Kochav	Perm	Russia Ural
46	Hesed Ariel	Izhevsk	Russia Ural
47	Hesed Gedalia	Orsk	Russia Ural
48	Hesed Alef	Nijni Tagil	Russia Ural
49	Hesed Ezra	Magnitogorsk	Russia Ural
50	Hesed Daniel	Tyumen	Russia
51	Hesed Lea	Ufa	Russia Bashkiriya
52	Hesed Ester	Krasnoyarsk	Russia Far East
53	Hesed Israel	Khabarovsk	Russia Far East
54	Hesed Tikva	Novosibirsk	Russia
55	Hesed Ha-Yad	Irkutsk	Russia Far East
56	Hesed Rachel	Omsk	Russia Siberia
57	Hesed Sara	Vladivostok	Russia Far East
58	Jewish Religious Community Freid	Birobijan	Russia Far East

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

<u>#</u>	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
59	Hesed Sholom Ber	Rostov-on-Don	Russia Northern Caucasus
60	Hesed Tagan Shofar	Taganrog	Russia Northern Caucasus
61	Hesed Yahad	Sochi	Russia Northern Caucasus
62	Astrakhan Hesed	Astrakhan	Russia Northern Caucasus
63	Hesed (branch of Rostov Hesed)	Novorosijsk	Russia Southern Caucasus
64	Hesed Bencion	Pyatigorsk	Russia Northern Caucasus
65	Hesed Tikva	Krasnodar	Russia Northern Caucasus
66	Hesed Imid	Nalchik	Russia Northern Caucasus
67	Jewish Ruplic Cultural Organization "Shlomo"	Vladikavkaz	Russia Northern Caucasus
68	Hesed (branch of Rostov Hesed)	Novocherkassk	Russia Northern Caucasus
69	Hesed Menachem	Dnepropetrovsk	Eastern Ukraine
70	Hesed Rachel	Pavlograd	Eastern Ukraine
71	Hesed Zelda	Zheltye Vody	Eastern Ukraine
72	Hesed Tsdaka	Donetsk	Eastern Ukraine
73	Hesed Moriah	Kramatorsk	Eastern Ukraine

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

<u>#</u>	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
74	Hesed Mikol Aneshama	Mariupol	Eastern Ukraine
75	Hesed Velvele	Melitopol	Eastern Ukraine
76	Hesed Golda	Konstantinovka	Eastern Ukraine
77	Hesed Shofar	Gorlovka	Eastern Ukraine
78	Hesed Iosif	Slavyansk	Eastern Ukraine
79	Hesed Zicharon	Artyomovsk	Eastern Ukraine
80	Hesed Hana	Krivoi Rog	Eastern Ukraine
81	Hesed Michael	Zaporozhye	Eastern Ukraine
82	Maayan Hesed	Dnepro- dzerzhynsk	Eastern Ukraine
83	Hesed Haim	Kremenchug	Eastern Ukraine
84	Ner HaHesed	Lugansk	Eastern Ukraine
85	Hesed Eliyahu	Nikopol	Eastern Ukraine
86	Hesed Debora	Berdiansk	Eastern Ukraine
87	Hesed Or	Novomoskovsk	Eastern Ukraine
88	Shaare Tikva	Kharkov	Eastern Ukraine
89	Charity group, the branch of Sumy Hesed	Gluhov	Eastern Ukraine
90	Hesed Nefesh	Poltava	Eastern Ukraine
91	Hesed Chaim	Sumy	Eastern Ukraine

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

<u>#</u>	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
92	Hesed Sholom	Shostka	Eastern Ukraine
93	Hesed Ester	Konotop	Eastern Ukraine
94	Hesed Shahar	Mirgorod	Eastern Ukraine
95	Hesed Shofar	Lubny	Eastern Ukraine
96	Hesed Avot-Azriel	Kiev	Central Ukraine
97	Hesed Sade-Lavan, the branch of Hesed Avot	Belaya Tserkov	Central Ukraine
98	Hesed Shlomo	Zhitomir	Central Ukraine
99	Hesed Itskhak, the branch of Hesed Shlomo	Berdichev	Central Ukraine
100	Hesed Emuna	Vinnitza	Central Ukraine
101	Hesed Ester	Chernigov	Central Ukraine
102	Hesed Dorot	Cherkassy	Central Ukraine
103	Hesed Nakhman, the branch of Hesed Dorot	Uman	Central Ukraine
104	Hesed Arich	Lvov	Western Ukraine
105	Hesed Gur Arich, the branch of Hesed Arich	Drogobych	Western Ukraine
106	Hesed Shushana	Chernovtsy	Western Ukraine
107	Hesed Besht	Khmelnitskiy	Western Ukraine
108	Hesed Fridlander, the branch of Hesed Besht	Ternopol	Western Ukraine
109	Hesed Shpira	Uzhgorod	Western Ukraine
110	Hesed Osher	Rovno	Western Ukraine
111	Hesed Gotlib, the branch of Hesed Osher	Lutsk	Western Ukraine
112	Hesed Leib	Ivano-Frankovsk	Western Ukraine

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

<u>#</u>	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
113	Gmilus Hesed	Odessa	Southern Ukraine
114	Hesed Shlomo	Kirovograd	Southern Ukraine
115	Hesed Shahar	Sevastopol	Southern Ukraine
116	Hesed Menachem	Nikolaev	Southern Ukraine
117	Charity Department, Judaic Religious Community "Khabad"	Kherson	Southern Ukraine
118	Hesed Shimon	Simferopol	Southern Ukraine
119	Charity Department, Regional Cult. & Enlightenment Jewish Community	Feodosia	Southern Ukraine
120	Hesed Shalom	Evpatoria	Southern Ukraine
121	Jewish organization "Menora"	Ismail	Southern Ukraine
122	Charity Department, Jewish Community "Gesher"	Kerch	Southern Ukraine
123	Hesed Yehuda	Kishinev	Moldova
124	Hesed Yaakov	Beltsy	Moldova
125	Hesed Rachel	Rybnitsa	Moldova

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

<u>#</u>	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
126	Hesed Chana	Tiraspol	Moldova
127	Hesed Yosef	Bendery	Moldova
128	Hesed Rachamim	Minsk	Belarus
129	Hesed Baruch	Mogilev	Belarus
130	Hesed Batya	Gomel	Belarus
131	Hesed David	Vitebsk	Belarus
132	Hesed Nachum	Grodno	Belarus
133	Hesed Efraim	Polozk	Belarus
134	Hesed Emuna	Borisov	Belarus
135	Hesed Shmuel	Bobruisk	Belarus
136	Hesed David	Brest	Belarus
137	Hesed Ezra	Baranovichi	Belarus
138	Jewish Cultural Club "Ami"	Rechitsa	Belarus
139	Hesed Lida	Lida	Belarus
140	Hesed Aron	Pinsk	Belarus
141	Welfare center "Rachamim"	Svetlogorsk	Belarus
142	Iudaic Religious Community "Beit-Israel"	Kalinkovichi	Belarus
143	Hesed Emanuil	Mozyr	Belarus
144	Hesed Shalom	Orsha	Belarus
145	Jewish culture club	Slutsk	Belarus
146	Hesed Polina	Almaaty	Kazahstan

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

<u>#</u>	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
147	Hesed Shimon	Shymkent	Kazakhstan
148	Hesed Astana	Astana	Kazakhstan
149	Hesed Miriam	Karaganda	Kazakhstan
150	Hesed Sara	Aktobe	Kazakhstan
151	Hesed Rachel	Pavlodar	Kazakhstan
152	Hesed Efraim	Petropavlovsk	Kazakhstan
153	Hesed Taraz	Taraz	Kazakhstan
154	Hesed Golda	Uralsk	Kazakhstan
155	Hesed Faina	Ust-Kamenogorsk	Kazakhstan
156	Hesed Natan		Kazakhstan
157	Hesed Nashama	Kostanau	Kazakhstan
158	Hesed Tikva	Bishkek	Kirgistan
159	Hesed Eliyahu	Tbilisi	Georgia
160	Hesed Abuli	Kutaisi	Georgia
161	Hesed Shalom	Gori	Georgia
162	Hesed Moshe	Oni	Georgia
163	Hesed Tzvi	Batumi	Georgia
164	Hesed Aviv	Rustavi	Georgia
165	Hesed Gershon	Baku	Azerbaijan
166	Branch of Hesed Gershon in Sumgait	Sumgait	Azerbaijan
167	Branch of Hesed Gershon in Gandja	Gandja	Azerbaijan
168	Branch of Hesed Gershon in Oguz	Oguz	Azerbaijan
169	Branch of Hesed Gershon in Privolnoe	Privolnoe, Jalilobad distr.	Azerbaijan

Hesed Centers/Jewish Welfare Programs in the FSU (January 2004)

<u>#</u>	<u>Name of Hesed</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Region</u>
170	Hesed Gorskiy Dom	Makhachkala	Dagestan - Russia
171	Orot Hesed	Yerevan	Armenia
172	Hesed Yeoshua	Tashkent	Uzbekistan
173	Hesed Nisim	Andijan	Uzbekistan
174	Hesed Hanan	Samarkand	Uzbekistan
175	Jewish Community Welfare Program	Tallinn	Estonia
176	WIZO/Rahamim Welfare Program/Jewish Community	Riga	Latvia
177	Jewish Community Welfare Program	Vilnius	Lithuania

7

Boris Ginzburg from Dnepropetrovsk

Boris Ginzburg was born in Dnepropetrovsk in 1918. He evacuated to Ural (Russia) in August 1941, then went to the front in January 1942. Boris got into German encirclement near the city of Kerch where he was taken prisoner. He stayed in a labour camp in Austria till May 1945, when was liberated by American army. He survived by miracle, pretending to be a Georgian. On returning to the Soviet Union in June 1945 Boris was condemned by the military tribunal to 8- year deportation to Siberia for being in German captivity. He was released and allowed to come back to the native city only in 1953, after Stalin's death. On coming back to Dnepropetrovsk, he had been working as a barber until retired in very advanced years.

85-year old, Boris is absolutely lonely. He is fully bed-ridden, just survived very serious urological surgery. Suffers lapses of memory, serious cardiovascular disease, glaucoma, and cataract.

Having a 140-grivna pension and nobody to take care of him, Boris is fully dependent on Hesed people and aid. He has been receiving Hesed help since 1997. Boris gets from Hesed Menachem homecare assistance day and night, food packages, medicines, Foods-to-home, men's underwear, bed linen, and other humanitarian aid (within a Winter Relief program).

Tatyana Pivovarova from Dnepropetrovsk

Tatyana Pivovarova was born in Suvorovka village (Krivoy Rog region) in 1928. When nazi soldiers occupied the village in 1941, she lived there with her mother, Faina Yangol. Till 1943 Tatyana and her mother had worked for Germans under supervision of Ukrainian police. In August 1943 they got to the concentration camp located in mines near Krivoy Rog. One of the local policemen saved Tanya and her mother while the other people in the camp were killed right before the Soviet Army liberated the region.

75-year old, Tatyana lives alone. She survived stroke, almost not mobile. Tatyana suffers diabetes, blind in one eye. She also had some serious industrial injury caused by fall from a great height.

Tatyana has no one to support her living. Hesed is the only hope and help for her.

Tatyana Pivovarova has been receiving Hesed help since 1997. She is a client of the following Hesed programs: homecare assistance, food packages, medicines and medical consultations, Meals-on-wheels 6 days a week. She is also getting from Hesed women's underwear, bed linen, and other humanitarian aid (within a Winter Relief program).

Elena Moiseevna Kirbaba from Kharkov

Born in the Luzhinsky district of the Zhitomirsky region and lived with her parents, brother and sister. When the war began, her father and brother were drafted, and her brother was soon killed in action. Her mother hid with her and her sister in various hide-outs. The sisters hid in a cellar in one house, and their mother in another. In June 1942 Elena left her hiding place and went to look for her mother; she was caught and sent to Germany, to a large camp for prisoners of war near the town of Stuttgart. Elena worked at the Bosh factory with other prisoners. She stayed in the camp till April 1945 when she was liberated by American and French soldiers and brought to East Germany, to the town of Dresden. In the same year she returned to her native village where she found her mother and sister. She married a man from Kharkov and moved to the Kharkov region. She studied in a railroad technical school but did not finish it and then worked as a general worker at various factories. She has two sons, one living in Murmansk, the other in the Kharkov region. At present she lives with a granddaughter and two great-grandchildren. She is a client of Hesed since August 2003. She receives monthly food packages, medicines (including from Emergency Aid Fund), winter relief, and traditional holiday packages; Hesed helped her have a medical examination in a hospital.

Mordukh Freidin

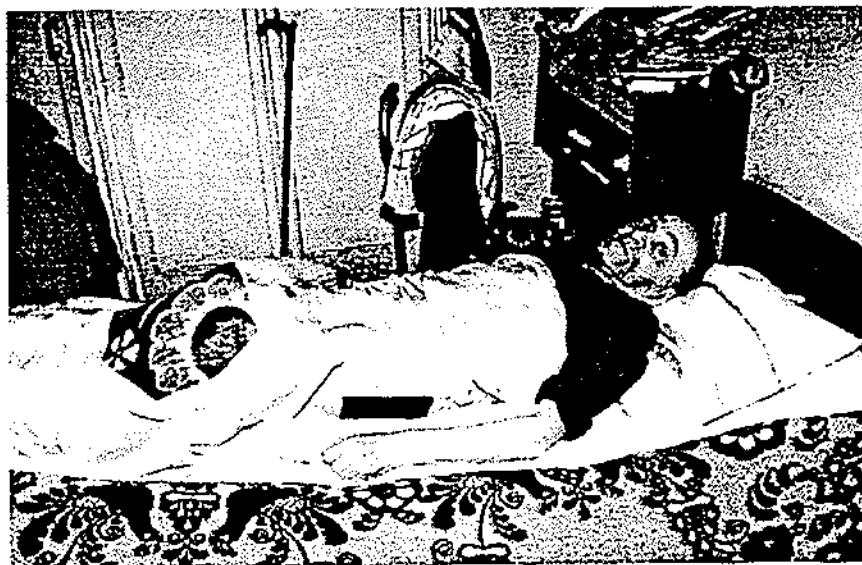
from Minsk

DB: 1917

Birthplace: Minsk

Current city of residence: Minsk

Experiences during World War II: When the war began he was evacuated to Mogilev, Belarus, but then he joined the Red Army as a soldier. He finished the War in the town of Kotbus near Berlin.



Short biography: Mordukh was born in a religious family that stuck to Jewish traditions and celebrated all Jewish holidays. His father was a foreman. Before the war he studied at Minsk College of Electric Communications and worked for a telegraph company.

In 1947 Mordukh returned to Minsk and all

his life he worked as an engineer at the telegraph.

At present Mordukh is bed-ridden and suffers from joint stiffness, diabetes, cerebral vascular spasms.

Whether s/he lives alone: lives alone

Detailed list of services s/he receives from Hesed: - home care visits (once a week), free medications, rehabilitation equipment from the local Hesed Rachamim, food packages.

How long s/he has been a client of Hesed: since 1992

Buma Vinokur from Nizhny Novgorod

Date of Birth: June 20, 1935

Place of Birth: settlement Stanislavchick, the Zhmerinsky district of the Vinnitsa region

Place of residence: Nizhny Novgorod

During the War was in ghetto;

Education: higher, engineer

Marital status: married

Social status: pensioner

Relatives: a daughter

Hesed client from 1999

Life story

Buma Vinokur was born in a settlement Stanislavchick of the Zhmerinsky district of the Vinnitsa region, Ukraine on 20th June 1935, where he lived with his parents before the World War II.

When World War II started, the family tried to be evacuated on a horse harnessed in a cart, but after about 17-20 km of the ride, near the town Tyvrov, German motorcyclists overtook them and directed them back home.

For some time they lived in a looted house, then in November 1941 the Vinokurs family together with the other families were ordered to gather on the square and then driven to Zhmerinka, where there was set a ghetto fenced with barbed wire and guarded by soldiers with dogs.

In the ghetto Buma's father had to do the work on altering the gauge of the railway road to the European standard. The family lived in permanent fear that father could be killed. Then the fear had faded away. The children were left to their own resources, they were playing by the barbed-wire fence, bartering bread for something from the Ukrainian children. Severe hunger was torturing all the time. In winter it was even worse, it was difficult to get warmed, there were no medicines. Many of the peers died of starvation and illnesses. All these lasted for two years and a half.

In March 1944 the Red Army encircled Zhmerinka cutting the Germans off. Unexpectedly, they fled leaving the place in desolation. The Vinokurs family returned to their own half-ruined house.

After the War Buma married, graduated from the Polytechnic University. But the years of destitution did not pass without grave consequences. They were gastric diseases, chest rachitis, impaired blood circulation of the brain. As a result Buma Vinokur had to spend much on expensive medicines and twice a year have a course of droppers to sustain functioning of the cerebral vessels.

Detailed services received

Year	Services	
1999	Food Packages	
2000	Food Packages	
	Winter Relief	
2001	Medicines	
	Food Packages	
	Medical Consultations	
	Winter Relief	
2002	Medicines	
	Food Packages	
	Holiday Food Packages	
	Medical Consultations	
2003	Food Packages	
	Holiday Food Packages	

Yakov Babenko from Odessa

Yakov was born in Odessa, on June 15 1929. He finished high school and wanted to enter a college or University, when World War II broke out.

When Odessa was occupied by the Nazis (Romanian troops supporting the fascist Germany), Yakov and his parents, as well as thousands of other Jews, were kicked out of their homes, marched to ghettos or concentration camps, sent to work, shot.

Yakov's parents were executed, but he managed to escape and had to hide in the cellars of Odessa houses during the entire winter. Then someone reported on him to the police. Yakov spent seven months in prison, then – was in ghetto (village of Ambarovo, Nikolaev region) till April 1944.

After the liberation Yakov was sent to Azerbaijan for treatment and rehabilitation course.

Having served in the army, the gentleman graduated from automobile industry college and worked as an engineer.

At present Yakov lives alone (he has been divorced for some years and never had children). His pension is 151 Ukrainian Grivnyas (\$28) a month. He suffers from heart disease, glaucoma and cataract (can see with one eye only). In 1998 he had a stroke.

Since 1998 Gmilus Hased of Odessa has been assisting Yakov with services through the following programs

- Food Packages
- Medications
- Medical Consultations
- Winter Relief
- Moked (repairs of domestic appliances and apartment).

Galina Leibovna Klinkovich
(born Hana Leibovna Weisspiter)
from Tbilisi, Georgia

She was born in 1921 in Poland, in the village of Voislavitz, Lublin region and lived there till 1939 when the Germans occupied Poland. Jews fled to the East across the Bug River, to find refuge with then Russians. The family reached the town of Vladimir-Volynsky, 12 km from the territory occupied by the Germans; they did not have any documents, or a place to stay. Three months later they were brought by a freight train to the Ivanov region, where Galina, then 18, had to work at a textile factory. In 1940 Galina managed to find her uncle and join him in Tbilisi.

In 1943 Galina married Yakov Klinkovich, who was disabled due to wounds suffered in action, and lived with him for 50 years till his death after a serious disease in 1993. She has two sons and four grandchildren.

Galina can read and write Yiddish. She also reads the Torah.

After her husband died, Galina was left without any source of income, and she applied to the JDC and then to Hesed. She receives the following services from Hesed: meals on wheels, winter relief, day center, food packages, medical services (dentures).

Grigory Samoilovich Goldshtein. from Yekaterinburg, Russia

Grigory Samoilovich was born 86 years ago in the Polish town of Lodz. Grigory had a difficult childhood – he never knew his father and his poor mother struggled to raise Grigory on little income. Grigory's mother died when he was 12 years old and, with no one to care for him, he was left to fend for himself.

At the age of 14, he began working in a knitting workshop and joined the anti-fascist movement. When the Nazis invaded Poland in 1939, Grigory walked to Warsaw to defend the country's capital. But, the city had been occupied and the Nazis were rounding up the Jews by the time he arrived. Grigory was able to escape to western Ukraine and he settled in the small town of Gluhov. Shortly after Grigory got married, he and his wife were evacuated to Chelyabinsk in the Urals in August 1941, where he was drafted into the army's construction battalion. His service left him profoundly deaf in both ears.

When World War II ended, Grigory moved to Sverdlovsk (Yekaterinburg), completed high school and studied civil engineering. He worked in construction until he retired. Today, Grigory lives alone. *Hesed* center provides him with hot meals in the communal dining room.

Alexandra (Shufra) Izrailevna Sivash (Rochstein)
from Yekaterinburg, Russia

Shufra was born in 1922 in Uman on the outskirts of Kiev. When she was 15 years old, her mother was exiled to a concentration camp in Siberia. After finishing high school, Shufra began a course at a teachers training college. However, her studies were interrupted when the Nazis invaded Ukraine. Shufra's father was drafted into the army in 1941 and died during the Battle of Stalingrad. With no parents to care for them, Shufra and her younger brother and sister, could not be evacuated from Kiev and were forced to remain in the ghetto - only Shufra survived.

In 1945, Shufra married and moved to Lvov with her husband, where she completed her college education. After ten years of separation, Shufra was reunited briefly with her mother in 1947. However, since her mother was forbidden from living in large cities, she was unable to move near Shufra.

Shufra suffered another tragedy in 1950, when her only son died. Shortly afterwards, Shufra and her husband moved to Sverdlovsk (Yekaterinburg), where Shufra worked as the director of a kindergarten until her retirement. Shufra has been a widow since 1994 and she now lives alone in a two-room apartment struggling to survive on a \$46 pension. After spending \$13 each month on utility bills, she has little money left over to buy food or medicine. Thankfully, Shufra has been receiving food, medicines and home care assistance from *Hesed Menora*, since 1999, which has greatly improved her quality of life.

Inna Yakovlevna Gavrilova from Kharkov

Born in Kharkov on September 10, 1939. When in 1941 the Germans occupied Kharkov, her relatives hid her and her mother in a hide-out in the vicinity of Lysaya Gora and continued transferring the mother and daughter from one hiding place to another until one of the neighbors informed on them, and they were deported to Germany. Inna's mother was a doctor and worked in a hospital, and Inna, still a toddler, was allowed to stay with her mother. They stayed in Germany throughout the war, and after the war they returned to Kharkov. Inna went to college, graduated and worked for many years as an engineer. At present she is retired and at the same time has a half-time position as a clerk in an outpatient clinic. She lives with her daughter who is a dentist. Inna is a client of Hesus since January 1998. She receives monthly food packages, medicines, and traditional holiday packages.

Raisa Kleshchevskaya from Odessa

Raisa was born in 1917 in the town of Dubossary (Moldova). She came to Odessa and here graduated from Teachers' Training University.

When World War II started in 1941, she was already married and had a year-old daughter. With her, Raisa left Odessa to be evacuated to Kharkov region. On the way to the destination point, she reached Moshkovskaya station (Rostov region) trying to settle there. Soon, at the beginning of 1942, the territory of Rostov region was occupied by the fascists. All the Jews were marched to one place – an old barn in the outskirts of the village, where they were kept without food, warm clothes, etc. Together with hundreds of other poor, hungry and sick women and children, Raisa had to perform the hardest jobs that needed a lot of physical effort and proper nutrition: they restored blown-up bridges, carried heavy railway sleepers, and then died of hunger and weakness. No one even cared to bury them.

In late December 1942, the Soviet troops liberated Moshkovskaya village on the way to Stalingrad. Those who managed to survive were liberated. Raisa and her daughter were among them.

Between 1943-1946, Kleshchevskaya lived in Kuibyshev (Samara, Russia) at her brother's place. In 1946 her husband, who went through the whole war, came to Kuibyshev to take them back to Odessa, where Raisa is currently residing. She has worked as a Biology teacher for many years, and now is retired with a monthly pension of 161 Ukrainian Grivnyas (\$30).

Many years ago Raisa's husband passed away, the lady lives alone in a small apartment calling for repairs. Her only daughter lives in the city of Yaroslavl (Russia) and can visit mother quite rarely.

Raisa suffers from diabetes, heart disease, lungs and vessels disorders, poor vision due to cataract, very limited mobility as a sequence of hip fracture that she had in 1995. Gmilus Hased of Odessa has been assisting her since 1998 through such programs as

- Home Care
- Winter Relief
- Loan of Rehabilitation Equipment
- Meals on Wheels
- Medications
- Medical Consultations
- Moked (repairs of domestic appliances)

Riva Kogan from Omsk, Siberia

Born in August 17, 1938, village Luchinetz, Vinnitza

Currently lives in Omsk, Siberia, Russia

Ghetto Prisoner

Lives alone, has a son and a daughter living in the city

Hesed client since February 2001

Receives Food Packages, Medications, Club and Winter Relief since 2002

In 2002 received clothes and Medical Consultations.

Mobile.

In the hall of the Hesed you can often meet a very nice elderly woman waiting for the vocal studio rehearsal. This is Riva Kogan. She was born in 1938 in village Luchinetz in Vinnitza. Her father went to the army and was killed when the war just started. Her mother was left with three kids – Riva, her younger brother and sister. Riva's grand parents lived with them.

A Jewish ghetto was made in the village. Riva's family lived in the ghetto for four years. Since Riva's father was a communist her family suffered from harassment and violence more than other families.

One day a local *politzaï* brought Nazis in their home. They demanded that the grandfather sewed uniform for them. The old man was very ill and couldn't do that but they wouldn't listen and started to beat him. Soon after that he died. Granny followed him.

There in ghetto the family looked the death in the face every minute. Fear and hunger followed them everywhere.

"One night we saw that mother was taking apart her sewing machine and hiding the pieces in different places. Mother sewed well and tried to earn some money by that", tells Riva. Nazis broke in when morning came. They couldn't find the machine. They beat the mother bad and took her to commandant's office. She came back some days ago, her hair all white.

"The most dreadful thing was called *opelli'*". People were driven to the central square and shot. Screams and moans were going from everywhere. Often they burnt houses down. During one of such *opel* her family had to be shot. By a happy chance they were saved by partisans who broke in the village at that moment.

"I remember the song they made us sing there in ghetto:

Зачем, зачем мать родная

меня на свет ты родила?

Судьбой жестокой наградила

Название юдея мне дала?

[Why my dear mother did you give birth to me?

Why did you give the name of Jew – such evil fate?"]

After Riva's husband died in 1963 she moved to her sister in Omsk with two kids – son and daughter. One day in synagogue she met Hesed director Tziljana Gorbunova. Riva started to go to the JCC. Vocal studio curator suggested her sing in the new choir. Riva

agreed. Now she is of the most active and enthusiastic singers and community members. Riva is very thankful for the material support she gets from JDC programs – SOS Swiss, food packages and medications sometimes.

“As I grew older I understood that there is one more thing no less important than material support. It is emotional care and thoughtfulness towards elderly people which only Hessed can give me and my friends”.

8



THE AMERICAN JEWISH
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

printed from www.jdc.org

JDC – A Lifeline to the Jewish World

Since 1914, the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. (JDC) has served as the overseas arm of the American Jewish community. Our mission is to serve the needs of Jews throughout the world, particularly where their lives as Jews are threatened or made more difficult.

We sponsor programs of relief, rescue and renewal and help Israel address its most urgent social challenges. We are committed to the idea that all Jews are responsible for one another and that "To save one person is to save the world" (*Mishna, Sanhedren 4:5*).

Rescue – Whenever and wherever a Jewish community is threatened, JDC offers rescue. In the early 1990s, JDC helped sustain the lives and secure the rescue of 15,000 Ethiopian Jews.

Relief – For Jewish communities in distress, JDC offers aid. For more than a decade, JDC has been providing food, clothing and medicine to some 250,000 elderly and impoverished Holocaust survivors in the former Soviet Union.

Renewal – Since the fall of communist regimes in Europe, JDC has been helping Jewish communities rediscover their heritage and rebuild a vibrant Jewish communal life.

Israel – JDC continues to provide assistance to the State of Israel as it addresses the social service needs of its most vulnerable communities: children-at-risk, struggling immigrant populations, the elderly and the disabled.

Non-Sectarian Aid – In times of crisis – natural disasters, war, famine – JDC offers aid to non-Jews to fulfill the Jewish tenet of *tikkun olam*, the moral responsibility to repair the world and alleviate suffering wherever it exists.

Our Operating Principles – JDC adheres to three operating principles.

- We are non-partisan and apolitical.
- We seek to empower local communities by creating model programs and training local leadership to run the programs. During a project's formative stage, we handle the administrative responsibilities and evaluate the project for effectiveness.
- We build coalitions with strategic partners who, ultimately, will assume responsibility for the programs.



THE AMERICAN JEWISH
JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

printed from www.jdc.org

History of JDC

Founded in 1914 to assist Palestinian Jews caught in the throes of World War I, JDC has aided millions of Jews in more than 85 countries.

The Early Years

In the fall of 1914, Henry Morgenthau, then United States Ambassador to Turkey, cabled Louis Marshall and Jacob H. Schiff in New York requesting \$50,000 to save the Palestinian Jews (then under Turkish rule) from starvation. By November, the funds were raised, and JDC was formed to distribute them to needy Jews in Palestine and in war-torn Europe.

World War I ended in 1918, but the suffering of European Jews continued. The aftermath of the Russian Revolution and the dissolution of the Austro-Hungarian Empire brought new outbreaks of anti-Semitic hostility in Russia and Poland. Hundreds of thousands of Jews perished in pogroms and from disease and famine. Those who survived found their homes destroyed and their economic and social institutions in ruins.

JDC helped local Jewish communities establish relief programs and new health and child care facilities in Poland and Russia. We also supported religious, cultural and educational institutions. In 1921, JDC began working through local agencies to make Jewish communities self-supporting. We helped establish more than 300 locally operated Eastern European cooperative credit unions to assist Jewish-owned businesses.

Meanwhile, Agro-Joint – working with the Soviet government as it resettled some 600,000 Jews in the Ukraine and the Crimea – trained them to work as farmers. Agro-Joint was expelled from the USSR in 1938.

World War II

As Hitler consolidated power between 1933 and 1939, JDC accelerated its aid to German Jewry. JDC helped 250,000 Jews flee Germany and 125,000 to leave Austria. As German armies approached Paris in 1940, JDC transferred its offices to Lisbon. From there, we helped thousands escape from Europe. JDC maintained thousands more in hiding throughout the war. JDC aid reached Jewish prisoners in labor battalions in France. Some 250,000 packages from Teheran sustained Polish and Ukrainian Jews in Asiatic Russia. Supplies were parachuted to Yugoslavia, and funds were smuggled to the Polish Jewish underground.

JDC supported refugee resettlement efforts in Latin America and organized a relief program in Shanghai for more than 20,000 refugees. After Pearl Harbor, JDC channeled aid to Jews in occupied Europe and Shanghai through connections its Swiss office had established with neutral embassies and the International Red Cross.

Post-War Efforts

Late in 1944, JDC entered Europe's liberated areas and organized a massive relief effort. By the end of 1947, some 700,000 Jews received aid from JDC. More than 250,000 of them lived in Displaced Persons (DP) camps operated by JDC. JDC's retraining programs helped people in DP camps learn trades that would enable them to earn a living, while its cultural and religious activities helped re-establish Jewish life.

JDC funding helped Jewish refugees leave Europe. We opened an office in Buenos Aires, Argentina, to assist Holocaust survivors immigrating to South America. Our contributions enabled 115,000 refugees to reach Palestine before 1948.

In May 1948, Israel proclaimed its independence. JDC, in cooperation with the Jewish Agency, helped some 440,000 Jews to reach Israel from Europe, North Africa and the Middle East. Many of these new immigrants were too old or infirm to build new lives. JDC established JDC/MALBEN for their care and also provided services to the physically and mentally disabled in Israel.

JDC organized welfare programs for Jews in North Africa and the Middle East in 1949 and later assisted in the evacuation of Jews from Iraq and Yemen. We continue to fund health, welfare and educational programs for those who remained, a population that has dwindled over the years.

In Western Europe, JDC helped local organizations assist the devastated communities restore Jewish life, train new leadership and revive communal institutions. With onset of the Cold War, JDC was expelled from most countries of Eastern Europe but was able to provide indirect assistance to Jews behind the Iron Curtain.

1960-1979

Few could predict the changes that the 1960s and 1970s would bring. In 1962, JDC began working in India, assisting the Jewish poor and working to strengthen Jewish life. In 1967, JDC was invited back to Romania, primarily to help the community provide for its needy elderly and to sustain Jewish religious life.

In Israel, JDC began its evolution from a direct service operator of programs for disadvantaged new immigrants to a catalyst for societal change.

In 1969, JDC, in partnership with the government, established ESHEL, the Association for Planning & Developing Services for the Aged. ESHEL has helped develop comprehensive services for the aged that serve as models for communities around the Jewish world. JDC was also instrumental in establishing a network of American-model community centers that have helped integrate all sectors of Israeli society.

In 1975, we established the JDC-Brookdale Institute. Today, it is the world's leading Jewish center for applied research on aging, health policy, disability, and children and youth.

The mid-1970s brought the loosening of barriers to Soviet Jewish emigration. While thousands of Soviet Jews emigrated to Israel, others disembarked during stopovers in Italy hoping to start new lives in the West. They were housed in Ladispoli, outside Rome, until they could obtain visas to Western countries. For more than a decade, JDC provided these transmigrants with relief and welfare services, and religious and cultural programming.

The 20th Century's Final Decades

In 1983, the Ethiopian government granted JDC permission to establish a nonsectarian program in the Gondar region, where most Ethiopian Jews lived. Later, in the early 1990s, JDC provided aid to tens of thousands of Ethiopian Jews as they awaited *aliyah*. We also were key players in "Operation Solomon," the massive airlift of 15,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel in May 1991.

JDC launched the International Development Program in 1986. Over the years, this nonsectarian program has provided development aid and disaster relief in Europe, Asia, Africa, the former Soviet Union and Latin America.

During the 1980s, JDC was able to return to many countries in Eastern Europe. Since then, we have helped local communities develop welfare services for their needy elderly and community centers that offer a range of cultural and religious programs for Jews of all ages.

JDC returned to the Soviet Union in 1988. We immediately initiated programs of cultural and religious renewal, and, within a year, we were providing welfare relief to thousands of destitute elderly Jews. JDC also launched a program to train local Jewish activists and helped them develop communal organizations that would orchestrate welfare and Jewish renewal programs. Today, JDC-supported welfare programs reach 250,000 needy elderly in more than 2,600 cities and towns, and Jews of all ages participate in cultural and educational programs, holiday celebrations and other communal activities.

In 1991, the Cuban government lifted restrictions on religious practice. Since then, JDC has been providing badly

needed food and medical supplies and has fostered the revival of religious and communal life for Cuba's 1,500 Jews.

2000 –

In Israel today, JDC's top priority is responding to the *Matsav* that threatens Israel's existence. As we develop and launch emergency assistance programs such as "Keep Our Children Safe," we continue to provide strategic intervention that focuses on protection of children and teens; care for the elderly; aid for vulnerable immigrant populations; research and development of social services; promoting philanthropy and volunteerism and project management for donors.

We also are responding aggressively to the economic crisis in Argentina that has left more than 40,000 Argentine Jews destitute and in urgent need of direct welfare assistance. Using a multileveled approach, JDC is supervising and coordinating allocations of food, shelter, medications and clothing to the most needy Jews through Social Assistance Centers and the Volunteer Network; providing relief and welfare to the elderly; establishing programs for small business development and job opportunities, and working to increase the fund-raising capacity of the local community.

And, of course, we are continuing our work in the former Soviet Union and in all those countries where Jewish communities need our support.

Wherever and whenever Jews are in need, JDC will be there to offer them help and hope, for we are "One people, one heart..." (Rashi, Exodus 19:2).

In Memoriam

During the 20th century, JDC tragically lost courageous individuals whose commitment to world Jewry led them to martyrdom. We shall forever hold in our hearts the memory of

Rabbi Bernard Cantor & Dr. Israel Friedlander, JDC emissaries who were murdered in 1920 while on a mission to investigate the fate of Ukrainian Jews

Isaac Giterman, who infiltrated the Warsaw ghetto during World War II to bring aid to the embattled Jewish community

Charles Jordan, JDC's executive director, who was murdered in Prague in 1967

9



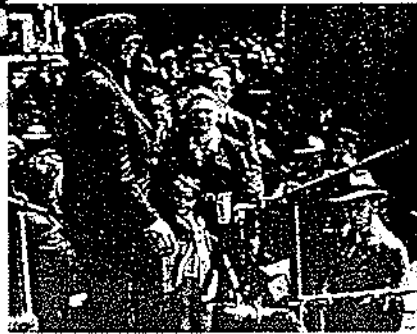
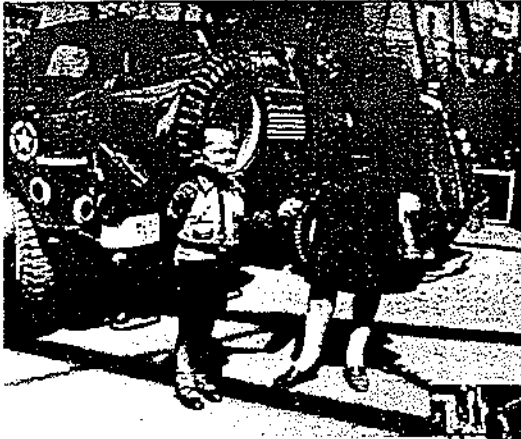
*Rebuilding
Jewish Lives and
Jewish Life:*

THE AMERICAN
JEWISH JOINT
DISTRIBUTION
COMMITTEE IN THE
POST-HOLOCAUST
YEARS





Fleeing once more: Having recently returned to Poland from their families' wartime refuge in Russia, these weary Jewish children were on the move again, fleeing westward with JDC aid in the face of violent outbursts of anti-Semitism.



(Top) In April 1946, JDC social worker Selma Bendremer (now Sally Wideroff), escorted 105 orphans—including this small boy from JDC's Blankenese children's home—by train from Hamburg to Marseilles. The group celebrated an open-air Passover seder with contingents from various DP camps, some of whom are shown (at right) boarding the Champollion, the first legal postwar transport to Palestine.

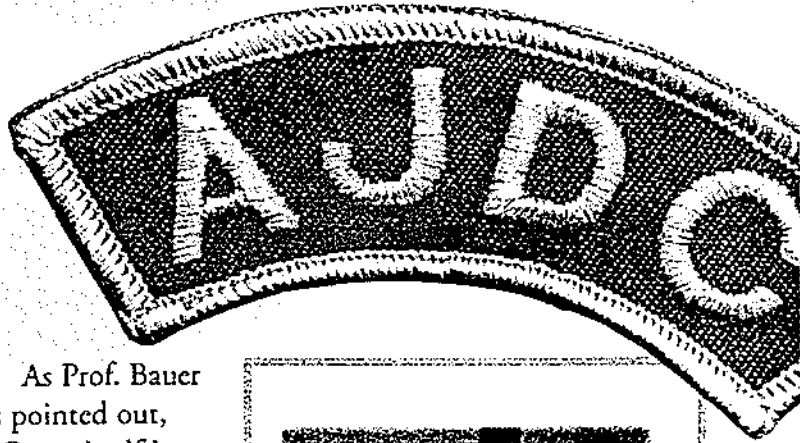
"I am proud to have participated in what future historians may well call one of the truly great moments in modern Jewish life. For in our time the Jews of one strong, free nation—the United States—reached out to rebuild life for the uprooted, despairing survivors of the Hitler era."

These were the words of JDC's own Dr. Joseph J. Schwartz, when he took leave as JDC Director General to serve as Executive Vice-Chairman of the United Jewish Appeal in 1951.

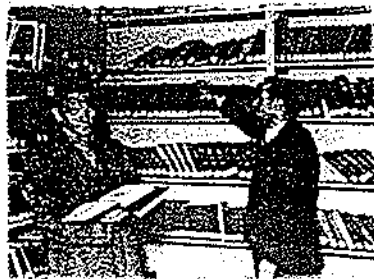


Careful attention to the health of these infants at a DP camp in Bad Reichenhall, Germany was but one aspect of JDC's extensive program of postwar medical aid. In 1947, JDC was supporting 380 medical institutions throughout Europe and sending in a continuous flow of medical supplies. Its network of facilities in the DP countries included hospitals, dispensaries, dental clinics, convalescent homes, and maternity wards, with flying squads of doctors and nurses helping to prevent epidemics in the overcrowded DP camps.

The massive operation launched by the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, Inc. (also known as JDC or the Joint) in the closing days of World War II to aid the Jews who survived the Nazi horrors is a hallmark of JDC history. This episode has been chronicled in detail by a number of eminent historians, including Prof. Yehuda Bauer of Hebrew University.



As Prof. Bauer has pointed out, JDC saw itself in the post-Holocaust years (as it still does today) "as the embodiment of whatever American Jewry was willing to do for its fellow Jews overseas."



JDC's aid efforts were all-encompassing, from the nourishing food it provided to children like these at the Bergen-Belsen DP camp nursery (top photo), to the truckloads of mail it delivered to help survivors reconnect with the outside world (center), to the hundreds of thousands of books it provided for use in the classes and libraries it established, like the one pictured here (bottom) at a camp in Munich.



Rebuilding health: This recently married resident of the Feldafing, Germany DP camp—who was being trained as a printer at a JDC-ORT trade school—is being guided by JDC consultant Dr. John Landzkron (at right) on the use of his new prosthesis. JDC placed particular emphasis on medical rehabilitation, and its efforts continued in Israel, where it subsequently helped thousands of elderly and disabled immigrants through MALBEN.

Recalling that the chief concern in 1945 was whether the men, women, and children who had been liberated “would survive to enjoy the fruits of freedom,” Schwartz explained that “the help we sent through JDC—the tons upon tons of food, clothing, and medicines—tipped the scales from death to life.”

In addition to material aid, JDC brought in scores of trained workers—doctors, nurses, teachers, and welfare professionals. They rebuilt health and hope among the devastated survivors of the Nazi death camps and other atrocities who were already in the Western occupation zones of Germany and Austria, or in France and Italy, at war's end.

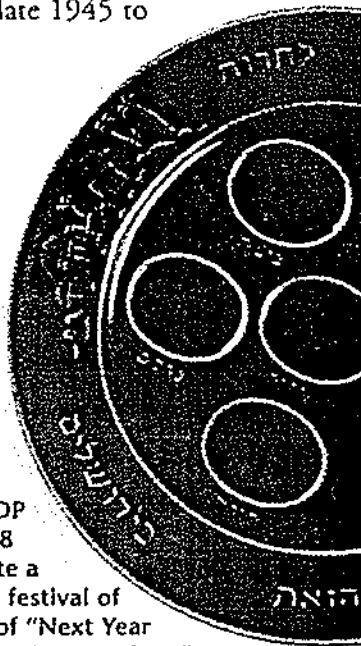
These survivors were soon joined by thousands of other Jews who began streaming westward from Russia and Central Asia and then from Poland, Hungary, and Romania—swelling the number of Jews in the displaced persons (DP) camps and centers in Germany, Austria, and Italy from 75,000 in late 1945 to some 230,000 in 1947.

Nourishing the Jewish Soul

Since 1914, JDC has not only been helping Jews to live—but to live as Jews. Providing the religious personnel and the ritual items needed to maintain Jewish life was therefore a key element of JDC's postwar relief effort. Survivors who were less traditionally minded were nevertheless drawn to JDC's holiday celebrations, with Passover and Hanukka in particular involving weeks of preparation and major excitement in the DP camps.

In addition to the thousands of tons of matza that JDC shipped to Europe or baked locally during the DP years, and the countless bottles of wine, JDC in 1948 helped residents of the Foehrenwald DP camp create a special Passover seder plate to celebrate this Jewish festival of freedom. In place of the traditional Passover wish of "Next Year in Jerusalem," the Foehrenwald plate reads "This Year in Jerusalem," thereby expressing the survivors' fervent hope and heralding the impending birth of the State of Israel one month later.

JDC also played a critical role in another unique effort, helping to underwrite and facilitate the publication of a DP edition of the *Talmud* dedicated to the US Army for its "major role in the rescue of the Jewish people from total annihilation." Reprinting the *Talmud* on German soil was considered by many survivors to be the ultimate symbol of the indestructibility of the Jewish people in the face of its most vicious attackers. The set's distinctive title pages include drawings of a Nazi labor camp and of the coast of Israel, coupled with the Hebrew phrase "From Slavery to Redemption."



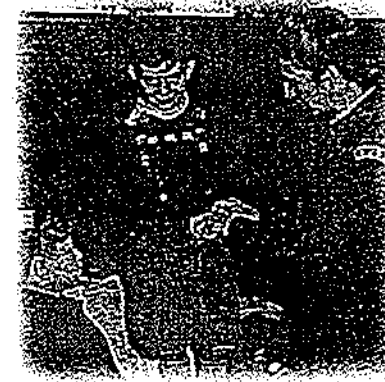
JDC Executive Vice-Chairman Moses A. Leavitt described the basic elements of JDC's work with the DPs in 1946: protecting the rights of the people and representing them before the military and other authorities, providing them with supplementary food, clothing, and other items, and establishing essential welfare services. These included vitally needed health care and rehabilitation efforts, educational programs, vocational training and employment opportunities, help with religious needs, personal counseling, a tracing service, and emigration assistance.

The facts and figures that lay behind these efforts were astounding in 1946—and remain so today. In defense of Jewish lives and Jewish life, JDC was engaged in a mammoth rescue and reconstruction enterprise for the million and a half Jews who remained alive in Europe outside the Soviet Union.

Orphanages, hospitals, and synagogues rose from the rubble. With JDC support, the once great communal institutions of Europe began to function again. And even as the survivors were slowly climbing out of the shadow of the past, they were provided with the stuff and symbols of normal life—tools and a chance to work. And they used them well.

(Top) A tailoring workshop in the Foehrenwald camp in Germany, one of JDC's many and varied work/training projects.

(Bottom) This shy youngster is wearing the two sets of clothing that JDC gave each of the 441 orphans it helped transport to Palestine in March 1948.





Members of the Kibbutz Talba hachshara (agricultural training center) in Schesslitz, Germany posed for this 1946 photo in uniforms tailored at the center, where they were preparing for a new life in Palestine with JDC's aid. The group's Hebrew motto says that strength of will can transform even the bitterest experience into something sweet.

Above all, as it has done throughout its history, JDC worked with and through those whom it sought to aid—the survivors who, as Bauer makes clear, are “the real heroes of this story.” Their life-affirming spirit led them to begin “rebuilding their individual and collective lives immediately upon their liberation.” The Central Committees that they quickly organized in the various DP camps helped to develop a wide variety of communal activities, from nurseries, schools, and youth groups to sports clubs, synagogues, newspapers, drama groups, and orchestras, and their actions served to inspire and challenge their JDC helpers to ever greater efforts.

"Without the heroic spirit and the sense of purpose of the survivors," wrote JDC Chairman Edward M. M. Warburg in 1947, "our accomplishments would be meaningless ... [they] have taken our dollars and made them live." The Jews of Europe, he went on to say, "seek our participation, not philanthropy. They regard us as partners in the challenging adventure of rebuilding Jewish life."

At the same time, and throughout the immediate postwar years, JDC was working to stave off hunger and cold for the tens of thousands of Jews who remained in the Eastern European countries and for thousands of other Jews living in the West outside the DP camps and centers, in communities that were just beginning to struggle back to life.



Toys are even better than Hamentaschen: Costumed youngsters at this Purim celebration at a JDC-supported kindergarten in Munich were delighted with the special Mishloach Manot (holiday packages) provided by JDC.

Rebuilding Jewish Communities One Family at a Time



To help the survivors rebuild their lives, JDC's field staff quickly found themselves "making weddings." According to Ted Feder, a life-long "jointnik" who was then Deputy Director at JDC US Zone Headquarters in Germany, "JDC went about providing what the survivors would have had in a normal Jewish community. We were involved from the cradle to the grave."

While the couple in this Jewish ceremony at a DP center in Italy are standing under a *chuppah* (wedding canopy) made from a *tallit* (prayer shawl), weddings became such an essential part of life in the DP camps that JDC soon had its own *chuppot* manufactured in Palestine/Israel. JDC supply lists for this period also included the unadorned wedding rings used in Jewish ceremonies, and Feder recalls sending a JDC worker by jeep to Milan to buy up all the plain wedding bands available at a bulk discount.

One of the JDC *chuppot*, labeled in Hebrew "Joint—Product of the Land of Israel," was recently acquired by a JDC Board member and donated to JDC, where it is proudly on display at the New York Headquarters. This age-old symbol of the new Jewish home that is created through the marriage ceremony is an equally fitting symbol of JDC's efforts to help rebuild Jewish life in Europe after the devastation of the Holocaust.

In 1946, some 120,000 Jews in Hungary, 65,000 Jews in Poland, and nearly half of Romania's 380,000 Jews were solely dependent on JDC for their food and other basic needs. By 1947, JDC was providing aid to one out of every two Jews in Europe living west of the Soviet Union, some 700,000 people each month.

JDC's emigration department helped the DPs find havens in the US, Palestine, Canada, and other countries. JDC also provided significant financial and logistical support to the *Bricha*, which was helping to smuggle Jews out of Eastern Europe, and to *Aliya Bet*, the "illegal" movement that brought some 115,000 refugees to Palestine before May 1948. And when the British opened detention camps on Cyprus for illegal immigrants, JDC was there to provide relief and assistance. JDC's collaboration with the *Bricha* reached its height in 1946, when it provided emergency aid to some 100,000 Polish Jews who, panicked by the Kielce pogrom of July 4, were fleeing westward through Czechoslovakia to the US zones of Austria and Germany.



A math class being conducted in Hebrew at the Foehrenwald camp. In 1947, some 10,000 children in the US zone of Germany alone were attending schools and classes established in the DP camps with JDC support.



*Child Care
Was a
Key Aspect
of JDC's
Work*

In April 1947, Dr. Joseph Schwartz, reporting to JDC Board members on the condition of Europe's Jews, wrote that they were "making a deliberate effort to look beyond the tragic past and think in terms of a vital tomorrow. They are concerned with life—not death."

As evidence, Schwartz cited the "unusually high Jewish birth rate" in all European lands. "Jews without fixed homes, without countries," he wrote, now have an annual birth rate "two and a half times that in the United States, where people have well-ordered lives and a substantial degree of security."

Already concerned with caring for the precious few, mostly orphaned children who had been among the liberated, JDC was soon engaged in an all-out effort to provide baby food, layettes, and proper medical care to newborn infants and their mothers in the DP camps and centers.

The number of family groups among the Jews who returned to Eastern Europe and those who subsequently fled to the Western zones further swelled the number of Jewish children in JDC areas of operation to an estimated 182,000 in 1947, 137,000 of whom were receiving some form of JDC aid.

JDC was assisting virtually every Jewish DP child in Germany, Austria, and Italy that year—some 41,650 in all. It provided them with supplementary food, medical care, educational programs, and health-building recreational opportunities that included summer camps.

The inspiration for JDC's child care efforts came chiefly from the survivors themselves, who demonstrated a self-sacrificing devotion to all Jewish children—their own and the orphaned. "Children have become a sort of religion here," wrote Schwartz, "a symbol of the continuity of a people."

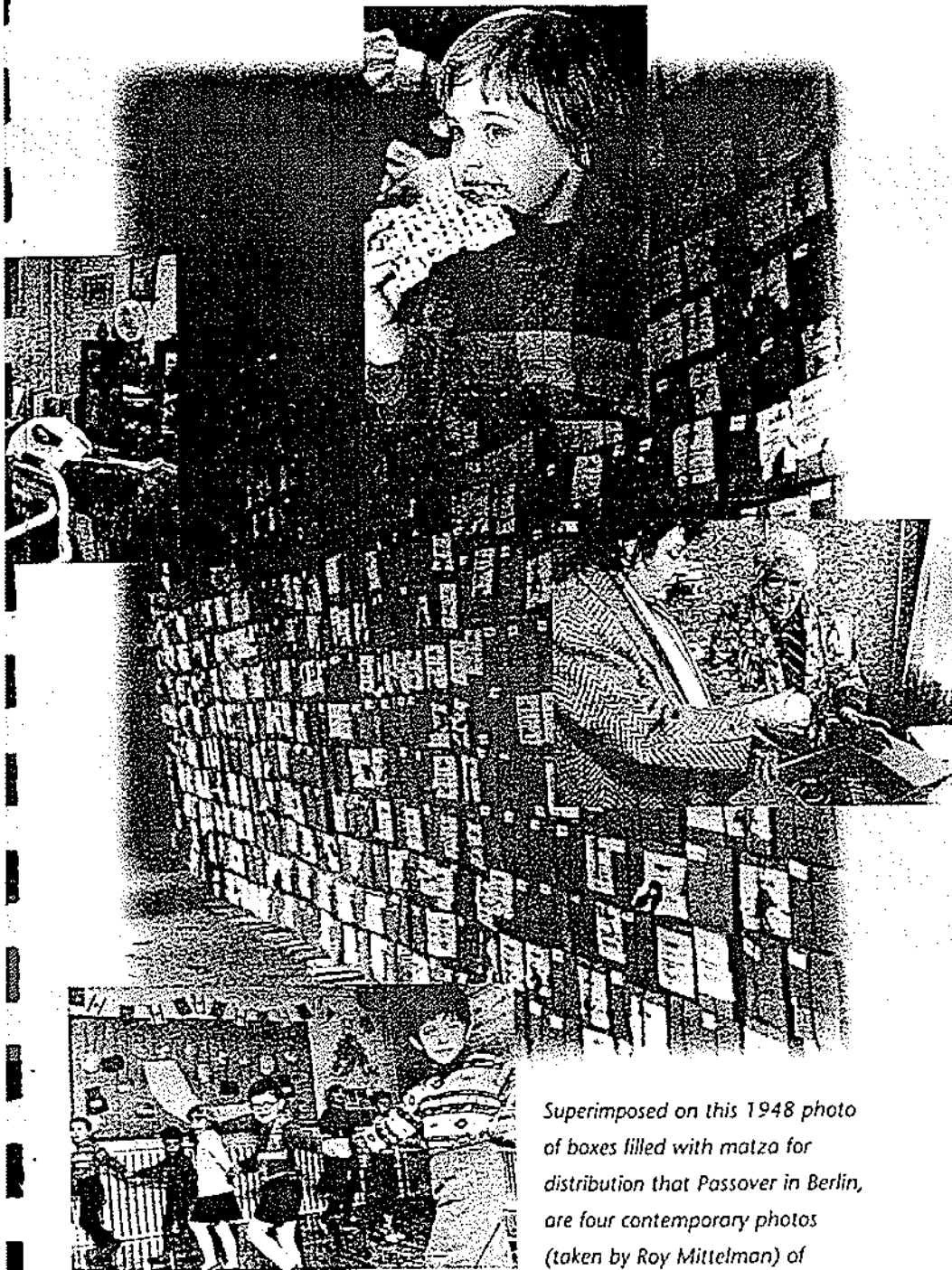
In Bergen-Belsen in the British occupation zone and in the separate camps set up for the Jewish DPs at President Truman's directive in the American zones of Germany and Austria, JDC worked with the military authorities, with the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration (UNRRA), and with its successor agency, the International Refugee Organization (IRO). It also worked in close cooperation with the US Jewish Advisor, with the American Jewish chaplains and other Jewish army personnel, with the British Jewish Relief Unit, with the Jewish Agency for Palestine and the Palestinian Jewish Brigade, and with other international Jewish service organizations like ORT and OSE.



The effort to rebuild Jewish life did not end with the emptying out of the DP camps that first began in earnest in 1948. Indeed, for many Jews in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, who have endured both Nazi depredations and the Communist yoke, it is an effort that has barely begun. And once again, JDC is there to help make it happen, aware that time is of the essence and using the experience it gained in helping to restore Jewish life in Western Europe following World War II.

Today, in the former Soviet Union, in an effective partnership with the Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany and the Federation system, JDC is providing relief and welfare services to over 175,000 elderly Jews, and it continues to maintain the life-sustaining aid that it has provided for decades to the Holocaust survivors of Central and Eastern Europe.

To learn more about these current programs or about JDC's other activities on behalf of Jews overseas, we invite you to contact JDC's New York office or your community Federation. For you, too, can be part of this great adventure, as American Jewry continues to help write the Jewish history of our time.



Superimposed on this 1948 photo of boxes filled with matza for distribution that Passover in Berlin, are four contemporary photos (taken by Roy Mittelman) of current JDC Jewish renewal and welfare activities on behalf of Jews around the world.

10

allocation also is warranted by current demographics, as Jewish victims now constitute the overwhelming proportion of surviving "Victims or Targets of Nazi Persecution" as defined under the Settlement Agreement.³⁴⁷

4. Mechanism of Distribution

(a) Assistance to Needy Jewish Survivors

The Jewish survivor community is concentrated primarily in Israel, the former Soviet Union, North America and Europe, with additional concentrations in other regions including Australia, Argentina and elsewhere. Their post-War experiences have been extraordinarily diverse. In most Western nations, Nazi victims generally have benefited from relatively strong economies and "social safety net" programs intended to assist the needy and the ill.³⁴⁸ Equally significant, Nazi victims in the United States and Israel, as in most Western nations, have been eligible for a wide range of indemnification and restitution programs intended to provide modest to sometimes significant recompense for the material losses suffered at the hands of the Nazis and their accomplices.³⁴⁹ However, notably absent from most post-Holocaust compensation programs are the victims of Nazi persecution who remain behind what was once the Iron Curtain.³⁵⁰

³⁴⁷ See Annex C ("Demographics of 'Victim or Target' Groups").

³⁴⁸ See Annex F ("Social Safety Nets").

³⁴⁹ See Annex E ("Holocaust Compensation").

³⁵⁰ See generally Annex E. In the 1990s, Germany entered into several "mutual reconciliation agreements" with Central and Eastern European nations, including Russia, Ukraine, Belarus, Poland and the Czech Republic, paying each nation the equivalent of several hundred million dollars in post-War reparations. Little public information is available concerning the recipient nations' use of these funds. However, it appears that most of the German reparations have been channeled toward Nazi victims in general, including political prisoners and forced laborers, who, in Central and Eastern

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Because their situation is so dire, their number so great, and their half century of virtual exclusion from compensation programs so inequitable, the Special Master recommends that, of the \$90 million designated for the Jewish members of the Looted Assets Class, a substantial sum — 75% (\$67.5 million) — should be earmarked for programs assisting destitute, elderly Jewish victims of Nazi persecution in the former Soviet Union. The Special Master further recommends that the remaining 25% (\$22.5 million) should be allocated to programs in Israel, North America, Europe and other parts of the world which likewise serve the neediest elderly Nazi victims.

“One important goal ... is that the court maximize the resources available for service expenditures by operating projects through existing provider organizations rather than by creating a new organization In addition, making grants to existing service providers can help strengthen worthy projects already in place, and can prime the pump for programs that will persist and prove useful after the ... Settlement Fund is exhausted.”³⁵¹ Consistent with this objective, it is recommended that the Court appoint the JDC and the Claims Conference to handle day-to-day management, monitoring and/or administration of these programs, subject to the Court’s continuing supervision.

Tellingly, when the Allies negotiated the 1946 Paris Reparations Agreement provisions for the assistance of so-called “non-repatriable” Nazi victims, the JDC was one of only two non-governmental organizations to which the Allies assigned responsibility for allocating and distributing the “Jewish” portion of these funds — recognizing, as is true for this

Europe, constitute a much greater proportion of Nazi victims than do Jewish survivors. *Id.*

³⁵¹ Agent Orange, 689 F. Supp. at 1274. See also Annex B (“Legal Principles Governing Distribution of Class Action Settlements”).

Settlement Fund; that it is "essential that the administering agency should not create a large and expensive field organization, but should operate by allocating the funds under its control to public and private organizations which themselves have facilities for operating in the field."³⁵²

For the past fifty years, the JDC has remained the central agency providing relief to Jewish victims of Nazi persecution in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union. Recognizing the growing capabilities of local organizations, the JDC's more recent programs in those nations have been undertaken and implemented upon consultation with local communities with the aid of the Claims Conference. In Israel, North America, Western Europe, Australia, South America and other parts of the world, similar social welfare programs have been funded, and their implementation supervised by the Claims Conference, with the direct input of local survivor communities.³⁵³ Significantly, virtually all of the recommended programs for the

³⁵² See "Background" Statement to Paris Reparations Agreement, Article 8, "Allocation of a Reparations Share to Non-Repatriable Victims of German Action", Par. G (declassified by the United States National Archives in 1996, Document A 203486) ("With a fund as small as that provided in the present Agreement, it seemed essential that the administering agency should not create a large and expensive field organization, but should operate by allocating the funds under its control to public and private organizations which themselves have facilities for operating in the field. Thus it should be expected that, as a normal matter, the Inter-Governmental Committee will carry out its responsibilities by inviting such agencies as the Friends Service Committee, the various national Red Cross organizations, and the American Joint Distribution Committee to present programs for the resettlement or rehabilitation of particular classes and numbers of persons, and by allocating funds for the support of approved programs").

³⁵³ The JDC and the Claims Conference, between them, have one hundred and fifty years of unmatched expertise in serving the needs of Nazi victims. The Claims Conference was created in 1951 specifically to negotiate with Germany for material recompense on behalf of Jewish Holocaust victims, and has had a singular role in post-Holocaust compensation ever since. Virtually every significant German and Austrian indemnification and restitution program is directly attributable to the Claims Conference's initiative and strenuous negotiations on behalf of hundreds of thousands of Nazi victims. Of equal importance, within the last decade, the Claims Conference has utilized the proceeds of sales of restituted properties in the former East Germany to fund an ever-growing network of social welfare programs designed primarily for the benefit of needy and ill elderly Jewish victims of Nazi persecution. See Annex E ("Holocaust Compensation"). The JDC, in existence since 1914, is a humanitarian agency of equal international renown. In addition to resettling Holocaust victims immediately after the War, the JDC paid more than half the costs of maintaining

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needy are already functioning, and will incur no start-up costs and relatively low administrative expenses, a crucial concern in light of the Special Master's duty to minimize such deductions from the Settlement Fund.³⁵⁴

(i) Former Soviet Union

The Special Master recommends that the initial "Looted Assets" payment of \$67.5 million for the former Soviet Union be allocated wholly to the network of social service programs known as the "*Heseds*," created by the JDC in 1992 to assist destitute, elderly Jewish victims of Nazi persecution still living in the former Soviet Union. Beginning in 1995, the Claims Conference began to contribute significantly to the *Hesed* program, in recognition that many, and often nearly all, program participants are Jewish victims of Nazi persecution.³⁵⁵ Many of these victims fled for their lives in advance of the Nazis, served in the Red Army,³⁵⁶ or lived

those Jewish refugees who were admitted into Switzerland during World War II, relieving the overwhelmed Swiss Jewish community, which until then was heavily burdened with these expenses (see Bergier Refugee Report, at 196); airlifted Ethiopian Jews for resettlement in Israel; and sent medical aid, food and other supplies to victims of the recent conflicts in the Balkans, Jews and non-Jews alike. See, e.g., "American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee," Encyclopaedia Judaica – CD-ROM Edition (Judaica Multimedia (Israel) Ltd.); Yehuda Bauer, American Jewry and the Holocaust: The American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, 1939-1945 (Detroit: Wayne State University Press 1981).

The Special Master notes that Section III of the proposal submitted on November 22, 1999 by the WJRO recommends that social service projects on behalf of Jewish Nazi victims should be implemented "by utilizing the existing mechanism established and operated by the Claims Conference" See WJRO's "Proposal to the Court" (October 1999), at www.swissbankclaims.com. As noted above, in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, social service programs for needy Holocaust victims are funded in part by the Claims Conference, and operated by local organizations with the expertise and technical assistance of the JDC.

³⁵⁴ See Annex B ("Legal Principles Governing Distribution of Class Action Settlements").

³⁵⁵ By 1999, over half of all funding for the *Hesed* program came from the Claims Conference, targeting services for Nazi victims. As noted previously, the Claims Conference funds are derived from the proceeds of sales of unclaimed property of Nazi victims located in the former East Germany. See Annex E ("Holocaust Compensation").

³⁵⁶ In contrast to other combatants, Jewish members of the Red Army were targeted by the Nazis as
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under occupation, and so have been ineligible for prior compensation programs, most of which have limited payments to survivors who spent specified periods of time in concentration camps or ghettos officially recognized under German law, or lived in hiding for a requisite length of time. Nevertheless, as true for Nazi victims across Europe, Jews in the former Soviet Union who lived in, owned property in, or fled from areas under Nazi occupation lost virtually all of their material possessions to the Third Reich's plunder, which in Eastern Europe was led by the notorious *Einsatzgruppen*, often assisted by the local population.³⁵⁷

"*Hesed*" is a Hebrew word meaning "acts of loving kindness," and most of the elderly clients served by the program have suffered an absence of *Hesed* for much of their lives.

As one scholar has described their condition:

Jews, *per se*. As described by Raul Hilberg, "the German regulations against Jewish prisoners of war from the western armies were in no way comparable to the drastic measures that were applied to the Jewish prisoners from the Red Army. The only western Jewish prisoners subject to shooting were the emigrants from the Reich, who were shot immediately upon ascertainment of their identity ... prior to the transfer of the prisoners to the permanent Stalags." Hilberg, at 626-7; *see also id.* at 335-36 ("On July 16, 1941, barely four weeks after the opening of the eastern campaign, [Head of Reich Security Main Office] Heydrich concluded an agreement with the chief of the General Armed Forces Office [on the treatment of Soviet prisoners of war] On the next day, Heydrich alerted his regional machinery to prepare for the selection (*Aussonderung*) of all 'professional revolutionaries,' Red Army political officers, 'fanatical' Communists, and 'all Jews' (citing Operational Order No. 8, July 17, 1941, NO-3414, and "earlier draft referring to 'all Jews' by RSHA IV-A-1, June 28, 1941, PS-78")), *id.*, n.4; *id.*, at 1026 (war crimes defendant claimed that his "order to remove Jews from Soviet prisoner-of-war battalions in his area" was "entirely superfluous" because, "to begin with, there were no Jews among these prisoners, for the selection had already taken place in Germany (*i.e.*, the Jewish prisoners had already been shot as they were shuttled through the Reich)"); Shmuel Krakowski and Yoav Gelber, "Prisoners of War," in *Encyclopedia of the Holocaust* (New York: Macmillan 1990), at 1189 (Jewish soldiers from Western nations "were treated no differently [by Germany] than other POWs from these countries"; by contrast, German policy for Jews serving in the Red Army "was immediate and total annihilation, with no delay"); Yitzhak Arad, "Soviet Jews in the War Against Nazi Germany," 74 *Yad Vashem Studies* XXIII (Jerusalem: Yad Vashem, 1993) (Aharon Weiss, ed.), at 83 ("Already in the first months of the war Jewish soldiers realized that the Germans fought against them both as soldiers of the Red Army and as Jews"; "if captured they could expect torture and death").

³⁵⁷ See Annex G ("The Looted Assets Class").

These Jews, whose lives were largely and demonstrably ruined directly by the Holocaust, have spent their entire postwar lives at the site of "their" part of the Holocaust. Even now, ... every daily move is haunted by the relatives, friends and neighbors who "once walked these streets." Their ongoing relationship to the Holocaust is incalculably more profound — and immediate — than their counterparts who started new lives elsewhere a half-century ago. Moreover, the forces of history have cruelly conspired against Holocaust victims who still live in their homeland. After Hitler came the worst of Stalinist communism and, more recently, loss of life savings and a series of economic catastrophes that have rendered the state pension woefully inadequate to a minimally dignified old age.³⁵⁸

Just as their personal needs were increasing with advancing age, many of these Nazi victims watched as their savings were consumed by the hyperinflation that followed the demise of the Soviet Union, their once adequate pensions dramatically declined in value and often arrived months late if at all, and they no longer had resources sufficient to purchase even basic foodstuffs, clothing, medicines or fuel for heat and cooking.³⁵⁹

The *Hesed* program attempts to fill the vacuum by providing elderly Nazi victims with the basic necessities of life through a "network of independent, community-based welfare centers." Major *Hesed* program services include food, medical relief, home care and winter assistance. *Hesed* programs include the provision of services in the home, at local community sites, and at multi-service centers in larger cities where the elderly can receive medical and welfare assistance under one roof. In 1999 alone, more than 190,000 elderly clients, primarily

³⁵⁸ Dovid Katz, *How to Help the Holocaust's Last Victims*, The Forward, September 24, 1999, at 9.

³⁵⁹ Largely as a result of the Holocaust, moreover, a considerable number of these elderly Nazi victims never married or have lost their spouses, have never borne children or have lost them also. Many of those with families meanwhile have seen them move to Israel, the United States or elsewhere in Europe, leaving their elderly relatives behind and without nearby family to help with their day-to-day care. Nazi destruction and communist restrictions decimated Jewish community institutions, and the Soviet social welfare and health network that partially replaced them is in disintegration. See Annex F ("Social Safety Nets").

Jewish Nazi victims, were served by the *Hesed* program through 120 centers and 34

Hesed Mobiles reaching 1,320 towns and villages.³⁶⁰

Food: In 1999, the *Heseds* provided needy elderly persons with approximately 960,000 food packages; over 2,724,000 hot meals were served in communal dining rooms; 11,000 homebound clients received 2,200,000 meals-on-wheels; and 9,000 clients took part in 640 "*Bayit Cham*" ("Warm Home") programs, which met two to three times weekly and at which thousands of hot meals were served every month.³⁶¹

In addition to supplying needed supplementary nutrition, all of these activities are meant to bring together isolated Nazi victims to foster a sense of community and combat loneliness. As described by journalist Marilyn Henry of a "warm home" meal hosted in the Kiev apartment of Kira Begelman, who "remembers . . . a terrifying flight from Kiev to Stalingrad [at age 5], and hunger".³⁶²

It is a simple concept with stunning results across the former Soviet Union — hundreds of small groups of older Jews meet regularly in someone's home for hot meals and to celebrate Jewish festivals. These meals, which are subsidized by the JDC, reverse the social isolation and fend off the hunger that imperil these Jews, many of whom are survivors . . .

The "warm home" program creates family-like circles. "We help one another. When someone is sick, we get them medicine, take them a meal," said Paulina Kotsubey. A retired bookkeeper, she lives on a pension of \$30 a month, much of which is used to pay her rent. Having

³⁶⁰ "Snapshots 2000: JDC Activities in the Former Soviet Union" (American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee) (hereinafter, "Snapshots"), at 9. In a few communities in the former Soviet Union, the *Hesed* program is formally known by another name, but it is the intent of the Special Master that such similar programs also be eligible for funding under this proposal.

³⁶¹ "Snapshots," at 9, 46, 51; see also 1999 Claims Conference Annual Report, at 24.

³⁶² Marilyn Henry, *Window on the Former Soviet Union: Warm Homes*, available at www.jdc.org/news/windowfsu.text (visited on January 12, 2000).

lunch in the homey Begelman flat is a comfortable way to get food assistance with dignity and to enjoy the company of [others]³⁶³

Medical and Home Care: In addition to food programs, the *Hesed* program also offers, among other services, medical consultations, medicine and health care equipment, winter relief (including heating and cooking fuel, blankets, warm clothing and home repairs), and home care (such as help with cooking, cleaning, bathing and clothes washing).³⁶⁴ In 1999 alone, for example, the *Heseds* provided 1,585,000 homecare visits to 18,000 clients; loaned 26,000 pieces of medical equipment; and provided winter relief to 76,000 individuals in hundreds of cities and towns across the former Soviet Union. Additionally, 18,900 elderly patients received medical care and 143,000 medical prescriptions were filled.³⁶⁵

The individual *Hesed* centers are umbrella organizations, whose Boards of Directors represents the major components of the local Jewish community. The Board typically is composed of a local rabbi, a representative of the survivor association, heads of existing Jewish social welfare agencies and programs, prominent community leaders and local donors.³⁶⁶

³⁶³ *Id.*

³⁶⁴ "Snapshots," at 50 ("The caregivers are members of the community who are paid to look after, shop and cook for people who cannot perform these tasks for themselves and see to it that essential home repairs are carried out. Often, they will bring a Jewish newspaper or a book from the local community library, providing both spiritual and material sustenance, as well as the companionship that so many elderly people lack. In some of the more rural areas of the FSU, homecare includes pumping and carrying water from local wells and chopping wood for heating and cooking"); Spencer Foreman, M.D., Report of findings on annual visits to the FSU, 1996-1999 (December, 1999) (hereinafter, "Foreman"), at 4 (on file with Special Master). Dr. Foreman, President of Montefiore Medical Center, Bronx, New York, traveled to the former Soviet Union in four consecutive years, 1996-1999, to "observe conditions affecting elderly Jews and to assess the JDC's efforts to assist them through its extensive social services network." *Id.* at 1.

³⁶⁵ "Snapshots," at 9, 51; 1999 Claims Conference Annual Report, at 24.

³⁶⁶ See December 1999 "List of Board Members of Hesed Welfare Centers in the Former Soviet Union" (on file with the Special Master). For example, in Kiev ("*Hesed Avot*"), the Board includes, among others, members of the Ukrainian Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities ("VAAD"), a leader of the Ukrainian Association of Concentration Camps and Ghetto Prisoners, members of the

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The *Hesed* Boards in some cases make sub-allocations of funds to support other existing welfare programs in the community. In most cases, the *Hesed* boards administer the programs directly; in other cases they provide funding to administrative structures under the *Hesed* umbrella.

The *Hesed* programs make use of volunteers and other communal frameworks (such as Jewish university students and schools) for service provision whenever possible. Many of the volunteers — 10,500 in 1999 alone³⁶⁷ — are themselves needy Nazi victims and thus receive *Hesed* benefits, including food and medical aid.

Hesed training programs are intended to teach practical concepts of efficient and accountable management and service provision to *Hesed* staff, lay-leaders, and volunteers. The training programs are coordinated by the JDC Rosenwald Institute for Communal and Social Service Workers, with branches in St. Petersburg, Dnepropetrovsk, Kiev, Minsk and Kishinev, Krasnoyarsk and Odessa.³⁶⁸

On the local level, each Board of Directors, together with the director of the *Hesed*, is responsible for establishing policy and operational controls, including the supervision of the field workers. JDC representatives monitor balances and expenditures by budget lines and help *Hesed* directors establish and monitor financial procedures and assess individualized

Board of the Kiev City Jewish Community, a rabbi, a member of the Ukrainian Jewish Congress, and a university professor. In Minsk ("*Hesed Rechamim*"), the Board includes, among others, the President of the Federation of Jewish Associations and Communities, the Chairman of the Belarus Union of Jewish War Veterans, Partisans and Underground Members, an officer of the Association of Former Concentration Camp and Ghetto Prisoners, a member of the Nazi Victims Memorial Foundation, and a leader of the Jewish People University. The Boards of other *Heseds* similarly are comprised of local community leaders.

³⁶⁷ "Snapshots," at 9.

³⁶⁸ "Snapshots," at 62; JDC Proposal to the Government of the Netherlands Seeking a Distribution from the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund, November 1999, at 2-3 (hereinafter, "JDC Proposal to the Netherlands") (on file with Special Master).

services.³⁶⁹ On a quarterly basis, the Claims Conference receives financial and programmatic reports from the *Hesed* centers, and on a yearly basis, the international accounting firm Ernst & Young provides independent audits. In addition, a management information system ("MIS") tracks the services provided to *Hesed* clients, enabling the *Hesed* and the JDC to monitor each potential client's level of need and eligibility for assistance, thereby generating lists of clients scheduled to receive medical aid or food packages, or to participate in meals-on-wheels, hot meals and "warm home" programs.³⁷⁰ For purposes of Claims Conference funding, the client's status as a Nazi victim also is determined.³⁷¹

³⁶⁹ For example, the JDC closely monitors such specific items as weight and contents of food packages (which must weigh five to eight kilograms and include a minimum of five items chosen in accordance with the recommendations of a nutritionist); quotes provided by food suppliers (with the minimum requirement that three different companies provide such bids, and that price quotes include contents, weight and prices of each item, total price, including packaging and delivery, and conditions of delivery); contracts with food package suppliers (which terms have been drafted by JDC counsel and are set forth in standardized agreements); manner of food storage (with specificity as to the maintenance of warehouses, including sanitation and security requirements); and delivery of food (with the obligation that the client or a designated recipient sign for delivery). Additionally, "the initial practise [sic] of purchasing food packages centrally ... and then sending it to each periphery town has been replaced by a policy of encouraging each community to purchase food packages locally." See JDC Internal Controls – FSU Welfare Operations, September 1998, revised October 1999, at 3-4 (on file with Special Master). Similar controls are in place for other *Hesed* services. See *id.* at 4 (describing required contracts for meals-on-wheels suppliers, monitoring of nutritional, quality and sanitation requirements, distribution routes, and other controls), *id.* at 5 (describing review of home care services, providers, and training); *id.* (describing required training of program directors in use of medical equipment, authorization of equipment by program director and, in some instances, by a physician, monitoring by home care workers, and quality and price controls; dispensation of medication by physicians only; and monitoring of winter relief via bidding and analysis of relief provided to individual clients).

³⁷⁰ See JDC *Hesed* Welfare Model, December 1999, at 2-3 (on file with Special Master).

³⁷¹ Exhibit 6 hereto includes a copy of the Questionnaire used by the *Heseds* to gather pertinent client data.

Certain *Heseds* serve a clientele comprised of elderly Jews who, although needy, were not "Victims or Targets of Nazi Persecution." The formal funding requests to be submitted to the Court by the JDC on behalf of the *Hesed* program, discussed in greater detail below, must adhere to the parameters established in Agent Orange: "Projects funded by [the Settlement Fund] should be designed to benefit the class of persons whose claims are covered by this settlement," 611 F. Supp. at 1433; namely, those whose assets are presumed to have been looted by the Nazis and therefore potentially

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Several nations which have contributed to the International Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund — including the United States, Great Britain, the Netherlands and France — have deemed the *Hesed* and comparable programs worthy of support, and have allocated several million dollars to JDC and Claims Conference relief efforts for the benefit of needy elderly survivors in Central and Eastern Europe.³⁷² With sufficient additional funding — and not only from this \$1.25 billion Settlement Fund but perhaps in the future from other Holocaust compensation

may have some link to a Releasee as set forth under Section 8.2(b) of the Settlement Agreement. As discussed above and in Annex G (“The Looted Assets Class”), all persons who lived in, owned assets in or fled territories occupied by the Nazis, belong to this class. “Funding should be directed to projects that focus on this class rather than on society as a whole or on the general [Jewish] population, even though indirect benefits may flow to [a] broader group ... from the [project’s] activities. Some worthwhile projects may not be able to deliver services exclusively to members of the class, but efforts should be made to inform and encourage class members to participate in [settlement]-funded projects. In addition, the claimants — those class members who have filed or will file a claim to participate in the settlement — should be the initial focus of projects that provide intensive services to individuals.” 611 F. Supp. at 1433.

³⁷² See Annex D (“Heirs”). In 1998 and 1999, the United States allocated a total of \$8.5 million to the Claims Conference for programs in Central and Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, much of which was designated by the United States for the *Hesed* program. See 1998 Claims Conference Annual Report, at 25; 1999 Claims Conference Annual Report, at 26.

Similarly, in June, 2000, the Netherlands advised the JDC that it will be providing that organization with a total of \$2,268,276.60 for the Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, and \$425,301.87 for Romania and Hungary, to fund food relief, medical care and home care programs. The decision followed the JDC’s November, 1999 formal proposal to the Dutch government, in which it noted, among other things, that “[a]s an established organization working directly with local Jewish communities to provide relief and welfare to Holocaust survivors, JDC is the ideal agent to implement a professional, fiscally responsible program with funding from the Nazi Persecutee Relief Fund. *The existing social service infrastructure will allow the funding received from the Fund to go strictly towards programs, with no overhead costs incurred. Furthermore, regular audits insure that funding for JDC’s programs are spent appropriately.*” JDC Proposal to the Netherlands, at 2 (emphasis in original); see also Advisory Report Issued to the Minister of Health, Welfare and Sport of the Government of the Netherlands, June 30, 2000 (on file with Special Master); Announcement of French Contribution to the International Fund for Needy Victims of Nazi Persecution, London, 28 June 2000, confirming funding of ten projects, including a grant of 5 million French francs to the Claims Conference to provide “social and medical work” in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova (on file with Special Master); British Foreign & Commonwealth Office News, July 15, 1999 (announcing that two-thirds of Britain’s “1 million pound contribution to help victims of Nazi persecution” has been allocated to the JDC “for projects providing medical care to needy survivors in Ukraine, Belarus, Russia and Moldova”) (available at <http://www.fco.gov.uk/news>).

programs — the *Hesed* program can expand its services both geographically and substantively; for example, by providing additional medications, adding more protein-based products to food packages, increasing the frequency of delivery of these food packages, expanding services to needy Nazi victims whom the *Heseds* have not yet been able to reach, and extending the period of time for which these services can be provided.

(ii) Israel, North America, Europe (Non-Former Soviet Union) and the Rest of the World

Many Nazi victims outside of the former Soviet Union have access to government funded social welfare programs, albeit to varying extents. The majority of these Nazi victims today are not considered economically “at risk.”³⁷³ However, there still are a sizeable number of Jewish victims of Nazi persecution who face problems meeting basic life needs. Sadly, even in Western countries, funding is required to help some Nazi victims pay for food, medication, medical services, clothing, housing and the like.

The social and economic situation of Nazi victims varies among countries, even among states and regions. The availability of government-funded as well as community-supported programs also varies. Therefore, funding priorities should be tailored and targeted by specific region.

Given the limited amounts available from this Settlement Fund, the assistance should target emergency relief to the neediest victims and not seek to address chronic needs. In the West, there are many social service agencies which administer emergency cash grant programs designed to address the most critical problems of Nazi victims and, crucially, help them remain safely in their own homes for as long as possible, often through funding for

³⁷³ See Annex F (“Social Safety Nets”).

medications and/or medical equipment not paid for by national insurance systems, eviction prevention and similar programs.

Like the *Heseds*, the emergency assistance programs described below consult with Nazi victims from the local community who aid in outreach and in the review of policy. In addition, as noted previously, by utilizing existing programs and structures, the Court can ensure accountability while minimizing administrative costs.³⁷⁴

The initial recommended programs are as follows:

(b) Israel

The Foundation for the Benefit of Holocaust Victims in Israel was founded in 1993. The Foundation provides assistance to Nazi victims, supplemental to that provided by the National Insurance Institute, through individual emergency grants, provision of nursing services, and emergency alert buttons.³⁷⁵

The Foundation is governed by a General Assembly composed of representatives of different Holocaust survivor organizations throughout Israel. Further, there is a Board of Directors elected by the General Assembly which also represents the survivor groups. Currently, 14 different Holocaust survivor organizations are represented in the Foundation.³⁷⁶

³⁷⁴ Current monitoring systems include relying upon social service agencies to pay vendors directly, requiring the submission of receipts, and other such controls.

³⁷⁵ See, e.g., 1999 Claims Conference Annual Report, at 23 ("The Claims Conference ... funds the Foundation for the Benefit of Holocaust Victims in Israel that provides substantial amounts of homecare to the most disabled of Nazi victims in Israel In addition, one-time emergency grants for the purchase of items not provided under the Israeli national health program, such as implant lenses, dentures, hearing aids or orthopedic shoes, and Emergency Lifeline Alert Systems are provided for Nazi victims. Tens of thousands of Nazi victims are receiving support through this foundation").

³⁷⁶ The following groups are represented: Centre of Organizations of Holocaust Survivors in Israel (itself an umbrella organization of nearly 40 survivor organizations); Association of Polish Jews; Association of Jewish Rumanian Immigrants; Invalid Association of Nazi Persecution; Association
(continued on next page)

Since its inception, nearly 40,000 individual Nazi victims have received one-time grants from the Foundation for health-related needs. These grants help vulnerable Nazi victims acquire basic medical and comparable items not provided through national health insurance plans. These grants are often used for the following:

- Dentures
- Basic home equipment
- Eyeglasses
- Medicine
- Medical rehabilitation and equipment
- Hearing aids

Eligibility criteria, including the applicant's annual income, govern the distribution of funds.³⁷⁷ Requests for assistance are reviewed and evaluated by the professional staff as well as committees of volunteer Nazi victims. Each application is screened by the survivor committees, which are vested with the final authority of approval.

(c) North America

In 1996, the Claims Conference created the Holocaust Survivor Emergency Assistance Program (HSEAP), which is administered by Jewish social service agencies in

of Past Nazi Prisoners; Association of Yugoslavian Immigrants; Association of Hungarian Immigrants; Association of Disabled Veterans and Fighters Against the Nazis; Association of Lithuanian Jews; Association in Memory of the Victims of the Concentration Camps Landsberg-Kanpring; Association of Survivors of Concentration Camps of Greek Origin Living in Israel; AMCHA (National Israeli Center for Psychological Support of Survivors of the Holocaust and the Second Generation); Association of Survivors of Forced Labor Groups; and World Conference of Polish Jews.

³⁷⁷ As of August, 2000, recipients' income was not to exceed NIS 5,200 monthly (approximately \$1,300).

11

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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In re: : Case No. CV 96-4849 (ERK)(MDG)
HOLOCAUST VICTIM ASSETS : (Consolidated with CV 96-5161 and
LITIGATION : CV 97-461)
: :
: :
: :
: :
-----X
This Document Relates to: All Cases :
-----X

**SPECIAL MASTER'S INTERIM REPORT ON DISTRIBUTION
AND RECOMMENDATION FOR ALLOCATION OF EXCESS
AND POSSIBLE UNCLAIMED RESIDUAL FUNDS**

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Special Master
SHARI C. REIG
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October 2, 2003

disabled Nazi victims (allocated \$14.5 million over a multi-year period).^{126/} In the two years since distributions began, approximately 100,000 needy Nazi victims have benefited from an array of services.^{127/}

b. Status of Distributions

1. American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee

The JDC administers the bulk of funds on behalf of the Looted Assets Class, as 75% of the allocation to Jewish Nazi victims was designated for programs serving the neediest of victims living in the former Soviet Union, a region in which the JDC has had vast experience. Through the extensive network of "Hesed" centers established by the JDC in 1992, impoverished elderly Nazi victims primarily receive food, consisting of a few food packages a year, a hot meal at a Hesed center, or a "meals-on-wheels" delivery.

^{126/} The "Looted Assets Class" funds for non-Jewish "Victims or Targets of Nazi Persecution" were intended to supplement the German Foundation allocation to humanitarian assistance programs serving needy Roma survivors and thereby provide the maximum benefit to the class members. The IOM continues to coordinate its humanitarian aid programs to satisfy the mandates under both the Swiss Banks Settlement Distribution Plan and the German Foundation. To enable the IOM to maintain flexibility in establishing what has proven to be a novel and far-reaching assistance program, the Distribution Plan did not impose a specific time frame but rather anticipated ongoing modification depending upon initial results. As more fully described below, the success of the IOM "Looted Assets Class" program to date suggests that it should be expanded to additional countries and over a more extended period of time. According to the IOM, the Foundation likewise recently has indicated an interest in extending its program through mid-2005. The specific parameters of the program will be established in continuing consultation with the Court and the German Foundation.

^{127/} As discussed below, the Looted Assets Class allocation to date has assisted approximately 40,000 Jewish Nazi victims in the former Soviet Union alone, and over 50,000 Roma and Jehovah's Witness Nazi victims in Central and Eastern Europe. Thousands of other Jewish Nazi victims in Europe, the United States, Israel and other parts of the world also are being assisted by humanitarian programs funded by the Court.

Needy Nazi victims also have received medical assistance and winter relief as a result of the distributions from the Swiss Banks Settlement.

As summarized by the JDC in its July 31, 2003 report on the initial 18-month period of Looted Assets Class funding (July 1, 2001 through December 31, 2002),^{128/} the Court's distribution of \$10.875 million over the first eighteen months of the program – \$7.5 million as provided under the original Plan, as supplemented by the 45% increase (\$3.375 million) ordered in September, 2002 – has resulted in significant but nevertheless limited assistance to a small portion of the Nazi victims in the former Soviet Union (“FSU”)^{129/}:

- 40,352 Nazi victims have received food packages over the first 18 months of funding. While this number is not insubstantial, it represents only 30% of the 134,296 Nazi victims whom the Hased program serves. Therefore, more than two-thirds of Nazi victims in the Hased program are not receiving any benefit from the food programs funded through the Swiss Banks Settlement.^{130/}
- Since pensions in the former Soviet Union are so meager – ranging from \$60 per month in Russia, to a low of \$7 per month in Georgia – and two-thirds of pensions in Russia are spent on food, the food program has provided life-sustaining relief. The packages funded by the Swiss Banks Settlement “contain non-perishable basic staples, including flour, pasta, rice, other grains, beans, sugar, oil and a protein source such as canned fish. Food packages supplement the meager diets of the elderly Nazi victim population. When combined with other items that the elderly can obtain, they will stave off hunger and most effects of malnutrition.” The food packages “are provided

^{128/} Because of the termination of appellate proceedings, distributions were able to commence as of June 28, 2001, halfway through the JDC's regular annual program, which operates on the calendar year. As a result, the initial distribution period was extended over eighteen months to enable the JDC to commence all subsequent distributions in January of each year rather than July, to coincide with the organization's general operations.

^{129/} By order dated September 23, 2003, the Court transferred an additional \$16,312,500 for the funding of JDC programs serving Nazi victims in the former Soviet Union during the calendar year 2003, see n. 123 supra and Exhibit 10, for a total of \$27,187,500 distributed to date.

^{130/} See July, 2003 JDC Report, at 9 (Programmatic Statistical Chart).

an average of eight times a year. While some clients get monthly food packages, due to budgetary constraints, others receive them only quarterly and some clients get food packages only before Passover and Rosh Hashanah.”^{131/}

- 5,558 Nazi victims (4% of the total Nazi victims served by the Hesed program over the first 18 months of funding), received food from “meals-on-wheels” or took part in canteen meals at Hesed centers funded by the “Looted Assets Class” allocation. “Due to limited funding meals are provided only once a day, on average of four times per week, and most clients who receive a hot meal are ineligible to receive monthly food packages as well.”^{132/}
- 55% of all “Looted Assets Class” funds from the first allocation made via the JDC was spent on hunger relief programs. “This is a recognition that the relief of starvation and hunger is the core life sustaining program that Hesed programs must provide and remains the service needed by the most Nazi victims in the FSU.”^{133/}
- 4,258 Nazi victims (3.17% of the 134,296 Nazi victims served by the Hesed program for the first 18 months of funding), received home care assistance from the “Looted Assets Class” allocation. This aid ranges from assistance with personal care such as bathing, dressing, managing medications and meal preparation to pumping well water and chopping wood for heating and cooking.^{134/}
- 3,688 Nazi victims (2.75% of the total Nazi victims served by the Hesed program during the first 18 months of funding) received from Looted Assets Class funds one winter relief package per winter, consisting of items such as fuel, blankets, coats, sweaters and boots. “This is a service unique among the dozens of countries where JDC provides welfare services and shows the extreme conditions and needs in the FSU.”^{135/}
- 19,118 (14.24% of the 134,296 Nazi victims served during the first 18 months of funding) received medical services from the first allocation of “Looted

^{131/} Id., at 11, 14.

^{132/} Id., at 9, 15-16.

^{133/} Id., at 13.

^{134/} Id., at 9, 17-18.

^{135/} Id., at 9, 20.

Assets Class" funds. The assistance included medical consultations, prescription medicine, and subsidies.^{136/}

- 60,359 grants were made to members of the Looted Assets Class from the "SOS Special Needs and Emergency Cases Program," worth approximately \$50 each, which funded a range of goods and services such as drugs, hearing aids and glasses, hospitalization costs, adult diapers, bedding, prostheses, emergency food supplies, extra winter relief, roof repairs, purchase of pots and pans, sinks, toilets, stoves and refrigerators, purchase of a milk cow for a client in a rural area, and rent payment to prevent eviction.^{137/}

2. Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany

The Claims Conference has administered individual compensation and humanitarian assistance programs for Nazi victims around the world for more than half a century. No other organization has had greater experience with Nazi victims.^{138/} In recognition of the agency's extensive knowledge of victim needs and its ability rapidly to distribute resources and monitor their use, the Court selected the Claims Conference to recommend and oversee service providers throughout the world in places other than the

^{136/} Id., at 9, 22.

^{137/} Id., at 9, 25-26.

^{138/} In addition to administering the programs, the Claims Conference is responsible for negotiating a great many of them, including ongoing pension payments that as of September, 2000, were benefiting over 170,000 Nazi victims. See Distribution Plan, Vol. II, Annex H ("Slave Labor Class"), at H 4-6; Annex E ("Holocaust Compensation"), describing, among other things, the various Holocaust compensation programs negotiated by the Claims Conference since its formation in 1951. See also Michael Z. Wise, "Diplomacy: Reparations," The Atlantic Monthly (October 1993), at 32 (the Claims Conference "persists in seeking benefits for tens of thousands of survivors who have still not been indemnified, and at the same time monitors Germany's compliance with existing compensation agreements. For the New York-based [Claims Conference], memory alone is insufficient. The conference has spent the past four decades quietly working behind closed doors, acting as the go-between for the victims of Nazi persecution and officials of the democratic state that rose from the ashes of the Third Reich").