

U. S., Britain Believed Agreed On Jewish Aid

By Wallace Carroll

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LONDON, Nov. 17.—Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain told the House of Commons today that the government is treating the problem of settling refugees from Germany in the British colonies as a matter of urgency.

Chamberlain said he has taken up the question with several colonial governors, including the governor of Tanganyika, East Africa, and hoped to be able to make a statement next week.

Chamberlain's promise of a statement was taken as an indication that Britain and the United States have reached an agreement on rescuing some 700,000 Jews from their plight in Germany, and that only details need to be worked out.

The plan, initiated by American Ambassador Joseph Kennedy and which would cost approximately \$150,000,000, was expected to be submitted to a five-power directorate of the inter-governmental Jew committee.

In essence, the plan calls for Great Britain to provide land in her colonies, while Jewish and other private organizations of the United States raise money to finance their settlement. France and other colonial powers, as well as South American nations, might also be asked to contribute land.

If the negotiations succeed the five-power directorate, including representatives of the United States, Great Britain, France, The Netherlands and Brazil, would be summoned within two weeks.

Diplomatic circles warned there were many difficulties to overcome
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before all or almost all German Jews could be assured of a refuge abroad.

According to British sources, Ambassador Kennedy told Lord Halifax, British foreign minister, that the United States Government would not be able to contribute money to the plan, but that a huge fund could be raised privately in the United States, if Britain found land for the Jews.

As a result Britain began scouring the Empire for likely places and picked British Guiana as one possibility. This hot corner of Northeastern South America has great natural resources, but is swampy and its climate is not generally considered too healthy.

More May Come To U. S.

It was learned that Malcolm MacDonald, colonial-dominions secretary, conferred with Stanley M. Bruce, high commissioner for Australia. It was reported that the French were prepared to offer territory in Madagascar. Both New Guinea and Madagascar are undeveloped and great amounts of capital would be needed, but their climates are more suitable.

It was also reported that the British had offered to relinquish the annual quota of British immigrants to the United States, if the United States would add it to the German and Austrian quotas. Kennedy replied that the immigration laws could be changed only by Congress.

Holland and Belgium as well as Britain have offered to give refugees a temporary home and train them for life overseas if permanent homes can be found.