



(C 4997/95/G)

*Pomerania
Beveria*

*Timid
& despairing
Fears R.A.*

Foreign Office,
S.W.1.

25th August, 1945.

Dear Buxton

Many thanks for your letter of the 14th August in which you raised the question of the plight of those Germans who have been expelled from the territories recently occupied by Poland.

You will by now have seen Mr. Churchill's statement on this subject in the House of Commons on the 16th August and, although Mr. Churchill was speaking on that occasion from the Opposition Bench and although I had occasion in my statement of the 20th August to draw attention to certain ambiguities in regard to the figures quoted by Mr. Churchill, I think you will realise from what he said that many of the anxieties, to which you gave expression in your letter, were shared by the members of the United Kingdom Delegation when the matter was discussed at Potsdam. It was of course to obviate the kind of occurrence to which the Times correspondent referred, that the appeal was made from Potsdam to the Polish and Czechoslovak Governments to suspend further expulsions for the time being.

ie he agrees

*as occurred
at Potsdam*

*Implies
not affair*

The situation described by the Times correspondent is that which existed before our request to the Czechoslovak and Polish Governments will have had time to have taken effect. We shall, of course, be keeping a careful watch on the future developments of this question of expulsions and of the plight of those who have been expelled. Many Germans are inevitably going to go cold and hungry in

Germany/

The Right Honourable
Lord Noel-Buxton.



(sic! Did he compare this letter!)

Germany this winter, but His Majesty's Government have every intention of doing all that lies in their power to prevent starvation and to mitigate excessive suffering.

*Yours sincerely
C. D. D.*

COPY.

Slave Trade
to A.S.

Foreign Office,
S.W.1.
5th November 1947

Confidential.

Sir,

I am directed by Mr. Secretary Bevin to refer to your letter of the 17th October about a report which appeared in the Evening Standard of the 26th August, alleging the existence of an extensive slave trade between Africa and Arabia.

2. The information received by this Department does not confirm the suggestions made in this press report. His Majesty's Minister in Jeddah was recently informed by the Saudi Arabian Government that eight natives of Eritrea had illegally been brought to Saudi Arabia and there sold as slaves. They were liberated by the Saudi Arabian authorities and repatriated to Eritrea. No other reports suggesting any revival of the slave trade have been received.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

B.H.B. Burrows.

The Secretary
Anti-Slavery Society,
Denison House,
S.W.1.