

Eleanor Roosevelt Papers
102 Refugee Letters
1940 N-P

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August 13, 1940

My dear Mrs. Panick:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to acknowledge your letter and to say that, unfortunately, she can do nothing outside of official channels to help you. She is giving your letter to the proper committee here in America, which has been organized to give all possible aid to people like yourself.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mrs. Lilly Panick
The Jewish Aid Committee
Bloomsbury House
Bloomsbury
London

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On Aug. 19, Miss Thompson sent from HP papers consisting of a Declaration of Intention, U. S. Citizenship, of Hans Panick, a certificate of Employment from Goldblatt, Chicago, re Henry Leufkens (brother-in-law of Lilly Panick), and a ~~certificat~~ certified copy of Marriage License, Cook Co., Ill., of Hans Panick and Lillie Kaufman, Dr. Kingdon all of which were forwarded on 8/20, to Dr. Kingdon.

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June 20, 1940

My dear Mrs. Perry:

In the absence of Mrs. Roosevelt and her secretary I am writing to acknowledge your letter.

In answer to similar letters Mrs. Roosevelt has said that as yet no plan for taking care of the refugee children has been evolved. Much thought is being given to the question, however, and when plans are announced you will be able to reach the proper persons.

Very sincerely yours,

Administrative Officer
Social Correspondence

Mrs. Frank Perry
Natural Bridge
New York

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Part I...

reply
JUN 19 1940

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6/20/40*

Natural Bridge, Ky.

June 17, 1940.

Dear Mrs Roosevelt,

I heard over the radio that is a ship load of refugee children coming here to the United States I am going to tell you just how I am situated. I have five children of my own. My husband is a World's War Veteran. He gets a pension of fifty dollars (\$50) a month from the government. We are paying for a little farm that we are on out of this fifty dollars. I have a dairy of ten (10) cows, I have pigs, chickens + turkeys. We have all our crops in the ground. I would like one of these little girls. I would see that she would be used the same as my own children. She would not have all the luxuries in the world. But I think it would be heaven for her here. She could have all the milk that she wants fresh eggs, home made butter + meat.

Part #

this is all my children get and
I think they are doing wonderful
If it was really necessary I could
take two a brother & sister. Now,
as for my religion I am Protestant
Whatever church she belongs to
she may continue. If I can get
one 10 or 11 years of age. But if I
cannot send me what you
think would be all right. My
nationality is French and I speak
very good French. My husband
is French & Irish and he also
speaks French. The school is very
nice and is right across from our
house. Now if you think could
have one of these children tell me
what I have to do to get one. We
are out to do our part and we
will fight to do it! I am willing
to share with another who is
badly in need. I also have a
neighbor here they are very nice
people. He is a World War Veteran
He said he would take a little boy.

Part III. 9 or 9 years of age. there are lots of
nice people here who are capable
taking care of these children. I am
going out to see them about it.
Please give me all details on
how to get these children.

Thank you.

Yours Truly,

Mr Frank Perry

R.D. 1. Natural Bridge, New, Ya

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August 26, 1940

My dear Mr. Pick:

I have your letter of August 16,
enclosing telegram from ⁺Carey McWilliams, and
at Mrs. Roosevelt's direction am sending it to
the Emergency Rescue Committee.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. Walter R. Pick
7141 Senalda Road
Los Angeles
California

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Telegram to Miss Gahagan July 18 - German refugees - including Werfel,
Henrich Mann, Fuechtwanger - in French concentration about to be turned
over to Hitler. Asked help in eliminating diplomatic red tape and
bringing people over under American consular protection - matter of hours -
State Dept. willing to issue 150 emergency visas.