Admission of Refugees to US
(Free Ports and Emergency Refugee Shelter)

General B
Folder 1 - Ba-B1
Dear Dr. Bacon:

The President has asked me to acknowledge and thank you for your recent letter concerning the plan to give temporary asylum to approximately 1,000 refugees from Europe in the Emergency Refugee Shelter being established at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York.

I wish also to thank you on behalf of the War Refugee Board for your support and interest in this program.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. C. C. Bacon, Minister
The First Methodist Church
Tenth and Pleasant Streets
Des Moines, Iowa
President Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washington, D. C.

My dear President,

I want to convey to you my support of the plan for the establishment of certain refugee rescue camps. I think that we can render an immediate service and accomplish great ultimate good by providing a temporary haven for qualified persons needing sanctuary from the Nazi tyranny.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. C. C. Bacon

CCB/mb
In reply please refer to: 1982

JUN 23 1944

Dear Miss Bagwell:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 16, 1944, concerning the formation of the War Refugee Board and urging speedy action to rescue the victims of Nazi persecution.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 6, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of these persecuted people is indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Olive B. Bagwell,
403 Miami Street,
North Manchester, Indiana.

Enclosures.
Dear Mr. President:

May the Giver of all gifts give you wisdom and strength for the great tasks surrounding you, but most of all may He increase your love for your fellowman.

I am writing to commend the formation of the War Finance Board and to urge that all speed possible be used to rescue the victims of Nazi persecution.

Let us accept more refugees and send more of our abundance to the starving peoples of Europe.

Sincerely,

Olive B. Bagwell
- Public School Teacher
In reply please refer to: 1154

Dear Mr. Bakst:

Thank you for your recent card concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's recent action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944 to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[signature] J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. A. Bakst,
1336 - 45th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
June 9, 1944

Dear Sir:

We urge you to support the plan of Free Ports for refugees in order that those now doomed may yet be saved.

Thank you.

[Signature]
In reply please refer to: 974

JUN 15 1944

Dear Mr. Hakst:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's recent action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944 to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Isaac Hakst,
1123 Broadway,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
Hon. John W. Fehl,
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We are in favor of free ports for refugees and ask you to extend your good offices and see that this great project is speedily accomplished.

Very truly yours,

Isaac Bakst
RUGBY MFG. CO.

SPECIALIZING IN

YARNS

1123 BROADWAY

NEW YORK CITY

June 6, 1944.

President Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

We are in favor of Frei Ports for Refugees and ask you to extend your good offices and see that this great project is speedily accomplished.

Very truly yours,

Isaac Bakst
In reply please refer to: 3000

Dear Miss Balch:

The President has referred to me your recent letter concerning the Emergency Refugee Shelter being established at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, to give temporary asylum to approximately 1,000 refugees who have fled from their homelands to Southern Italy.

Details of the plan were outlined by the President in his message to Congress on June 18, his cablesgram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum to the agency heads concerned with the execution of the project. Copies of these documents are enclosed as a matter of interest to you.

I assure you that the War Refugee Board is doing everything in its power to rescue the victims of enemy persecution and to find havens of refuge for them where they can remain in safety and be cared for until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war. In this connection, I am sure you will be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Miss Emily G. Balch,
17 Beantown Road,
Wellesley, Massachusetts.

Enclosures.

EDTowler: 7/20/44
To President Franklin Delano Roosevelt:

Dear Sir, President,

May I express to you my profound gratification that you are establishing an emergency shelter near Oswego.

I trust that this measure may be the first of more adequate provision for this great need.

It is true, indeed, few new and generous policies toward refugees. Up to date, the American people deserve to me they have played a pretty shabby part. What has been done in the way of generous and "occupational" giving, mainly by Jews, has to be put against the really shocking obstructionism in the State Department in the matter of visas.

While I blame this governmental attitude, I realize with shame and regret that it is related to a widespread popular reluctance to admit immigration, especially Jewish immigration, up to the limits provided by the immigration laws and administrative regulations. So it is possible that this measure...
attitude, demonstrated also in our quarters
in relation to Japanese Americans, might have
been responsive to active political leadership and
education, for the force?

There before me two sleddings, one dated July
first, relates to Senator Reynolds' highly recurrent
inanges plan; the other reports that the Government
in Indian, with a population of about 200,000 half
Indians, is preparing to receive and care for the nuclear
millions, is preparing to receive and care for the nuclear
millions, if necessary. Of course the two situations
are not comparable but what Zimbabwe, London,
and England have done for Africans makes any face
and innocent have done for America's makes any face
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Precisely this.

pray you continue through another successful
administration to help these people to be all that
they might be.

Sincerely yours,

Ernest G. Boldt.
June 7, 1944

Dear Mr. President,

I am in favor of the idea of Free Ports for refugees and would like to see you extend your good offices for the accomplishment of this project.

Very respectfully,

Sylvia Belfan
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Free Ports
In reply please refer to: 3908

AUG 30 1944

Dear Miss Bardack:

The President has referred to me your letter of August 5, 1944, concerning the Emergency Refuge Shelter established at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, to give temporary asylum to approximately 1,000 refugees who had fled from their homelands to Southern Italy, and urging action to save the Jewish people of Hungary.

Details of the plan to establish the Emergency Refuge Shelter were outlined by the President in his message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum to the agency heads concerned with the execution of the project. Copies of these documents are enclosed as a matter of interest to you.

With respect to the problem of Hungarian Jews, I enclose a copy of a joint statement recently issued by the United States and British Governments which I am sure will be of interest to you.

I assure you that the War Refugees Board is doing everything in its power to rescue the victims of enemy persecution and to find havens of refuge for them where they can remain in safety and be cared for until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war. In this connection, I am sure you will be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

Very truly yours,

[signed] J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Rose Bardack,
1283 Princess Avenue,
Camden, New Jersey.

Enclosures.
RMHutchison: 8/25/44
President Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Roosevelt:

An appreciable number of the doomed Jews of Europe can be saved from certain death even now. The 400,000 Jews whom Hungary has promised to release can certainly be spared. But they can be saved only if there is some place to take them.

With the doors of Palestine closed to them, with no other country on earth willing to accept them, we must take the lead in offering these helpless human beings refuge. To turn our backs on the offer of the Hungarian government would be tantamount to a death sentence—a death sentence imposed by us on these innocent victims.

We have experienced no difficulty in finding room for thousands of war prisoners. Have we a right to do less for these hounded people—our allies? Were we to set the example, the other allied nations could no longer refuse to do likewise.

Of course, the obvious refuge for these Jews is Palestine. There, they would be welcome. It is pathetic and enraging that we should have to consider finding resting places for them thousands of miles across the sea when haven awaits them within a stone’s throw of their hell. But the British Lion is immovable. It awakens only when its imperialistic designs are threatened. These Jews on the brink of annihilation, cannot afford to wait until human blood begins to flow in the veins of the British empire.
It is our duty to establish "free ports" for the refugees escaping the jaws of German barbarism and to use our good offices to persuade other countries to do the same. The step you took in opening Camp Ontario as a refugee shelter is heartening and one for which all decent men and women extend to you their deep-felt gratitude. But this is only a beginning and not enough.

Please, Sir, don't let these people down. There else can they turn but to the greatest democracy on earth and to the greatest leader in the world.

Respectfully yours,

(Rose Bardack)

(Miss) Rose Bardack
In reply please refer to: 812

Jun 1 1944

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Barnett:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees. Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Dr. and Mrs. Alfred Barnett,
Keen Garden - 8-1,
63rd and Montgomery Avenue,
Philadelphia 31, Pennsylvania.
Honorable John M. Pehle
Executive Director
Refugee Board
Washington 25, D.C.

The Honorable John M. Pehle,

Opening place for entry of Jews from terrorism of the Nazis is a wonderful act. We think giving these unfortunate people a safe haven is very humane. Hoping to see their plans.
successfully executed.

Sincerely yours,
Mrs. & Mr. Alfred Barnett
Nov 29, 61
3715 E Montgomery
Alma St, Ok
In reply please refer to: 916

JUN 16 1944

Dear Miss Baskin:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's recent action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cabled message to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944 to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] J. W. Peale

J. W. Peale
Executive Director

Miss Carol R. Baskin,
154 Blackburn Avenue,
Lansdowne, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.
June 3, 1944

154 Blackburn Ave
Lancaster, Pa.

Dear Mr. Beale,

I am a member of the Jewish Refugee Board in Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir—

Concomitant with all the suffering in Europe comes the proposal in Congress for "Free Port" immigration to this country. 

Jewish refugee centers, as this country, was founded because of European persecution, and therefore, I feel it urgent at the moment to do all one can for these victims of the Nazi terror.
May I ask (together with millions of others whose hopes are fleeting and dying in other what once democracy be maintained) that you do all in your power to permit these refugees a home here as a temporary asylum?

Thank you for your compassion and kindness.

Sincerely,
(Mrs.) Carol R. Baskin
April 21, 1944

Mr. John W. Fehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

It was with interest that I read of your proposal for "Free Ports" to which Refugees might find admission.

The plan seems to offer various possibilities.

It so happens that the writer, as explained in the attached article, had considerable international experience and recently concluded a survey on world-wide air cargo traffic.

The views obtained as result of this background may be of use to your organization.

If you happen to be coming up this way, please let me know a little in advance and we might arrange to discuss them.

Very truly yours,

George F. Bauer
CARGO PLANES

Can Expand World Trade

A recognized authority on international commerce here analyzes the influences likely to be wrought in world trade by air transport. The author presents some surprising figures on savings through reductions in intermediary costs as compared with surface shipping.

By GEORGE F. BAUER
International Trade Commission

WILL WORLD TRADE depend principally upon airplane transport after the war? Are most of our products going to be sent to other lands by cargo planes and shall we receive by the same kind of transportation many of the material riches of other regions throughout the globe have to offer us?

A review of the fundamentals which underlie international commerce, particularly those which may be affected by air transportation, will give us guidance toward the answers.

First of all, what is international trade? Is it very much different from domestic business? If it were not for languages and man-made boundaries of nations, we would find these differences to be similar to those arising in trade of the citizens of certain of our States with the people of other States. In both foreign and domestic trade, people of one section offer their products and hope to obtain the goods of people in another section; in domestic trade the sections are in the same country; in world commerce they are in different nations.

The more that goods can be exchanged by one group for the largest possible supply of products of another, the more there is to go around of all kinds of goods for the well-being of all.

This presupposes that in effecting the exchanges of goods, the tributes of an intermediary nature for handling, financing, transportation, supervision and distribution are kept within reasonable bounds.

If airplane transport of persons or goods tends to decrease these intermediary costs in international trade, to what
In export salemanship, the airplane already has definitely provided vast economies for the American business firm desiring to extend its contacts abroad. Formerly an executive wishing to visit distributors in Argentina had to tarry 18 days on a steamer. Now he can fly there by plane in about four days. For the manufacturer sending him, there is a saving in the salary of an executive for a period of two weeks. Expenses for actual accommodations by air or steamer are very little apart.

The airplane, the development of overseas markets has consequently become a decidedly less costly undertaking than in the olden days. This saving in sales promotion expenses as result of smaller total travel costs, including salary outlay, transportation, hotels and foods, can be passed on to final buyers abroad. This one development tends to bring goods of all kinds within buying reach of increasing numbers of people everywhere.

Actual transportation of goods by airplanes was already well developed before the war started. Shipments of service parts to distributors in various parts of the world were not unusual, but after the war, with the great advances in air cargo ships, they will multiply rapidly.

In an address before the Foreign Commerce Club of New York a little while ago, Grover Loening stated that the "air method of shipping is no less than 25 times as fast as what is non

The saving in interest charges will look as one of the most important charges on an international viewpoint. Goods on the oceans of the world, if shipped by cargo airplanes, would require only 1/25 of the time now needed to arrive at their destination. Money represented by these products would consequently only be tied up for 1/25 of the present time now involved in the shipping period.

Normally the export and import trade of the United States may be estimated at $800,000,000 a month. The interest charge, if conservatively calculated, would amount to $4 percent, but for every quantity on the high seas there is at least a like quantity in inventory carrying another $4 percent interest charge.

The monthly foreign trade of the United States is consequently subjected as result of sea traffic delays to an interest charge of 1 percent on $800,000,000, or $8,000,000 monthly, or $96,000,000 a year. With cargo airplanes the time tied up in shipments and inventories could be cut to 1/25 of the time now required. The interest charge would be cut to $3,360,000. This one item would make an annual saving on our foreign trade of more than $90,000,000 and accordingly permit acquisition of additional real goods by that amount by our foreign customers and us.

Actually, the time saving factor will also apply during periods that goods are shipped from the interior to seashore and from the foreign seaport to the interior of the foreign country. This time economy may be estimated at half of the period involved in the ocean voyage by freighter as against cargo plane, or in terms of added interest savings, $45,000,000 a year.

The time factor, then, favors the cargo plane as against the freighter when related to interest charges on goods tied up in voyage or in inventories.

What about the direct cost factor? According to Mr. Loening, "commodity shipments can be shipped on a modern freighter at least as low a ton-mile. It appears equally evident that with me
of gliders and new developments in prospect, transoceanic air costs will run about $5, a ton-mile.

Offhand it looks as if the direct cost factor now favors the freighter as against the cargo plane.

During recent years very fundamental changes occurred in the methods of conducting foreign trade. Finished goods have been sent abroad in decreasing quantities whereas the tendency to send parts and components for assembling in plants abroad has increased. Certain economies in freight space requirements, boxing and shipping charges have been the reasons; this transition favors the cargo plane.

With freighters there has been difficulty in adapting the cargo to the ship. In most instances it was absolutely required to prepare the cargo to fit in with the limitations of a freighter.

There was insistence, for example, on proper boxing of goods, a requirement quite understandable from the viewpoint of the ship's operator and yet most costly from that of the final buyer abroad. The claim was made that facilities in foreign ports were inadequate and that the cargo would be spoiled unless fully protected by boxing. Nevertheless, there were instances when a more shipping box resulted in an increase of 13 percent in the cost of the goods it contained. It was not the cost of the container as such, but rather the pyramided charges assessed on it with freight on a weight basis, customs duties and internal taxes on the increased cost, that brought about this situation.

Boxing is one thing that should be capable of great modification, when not entirely eliminated, in shipments by cargo planes. Wrapping, too, may not require the same expenditure as when goods are under way a long time on the seas.

Insurance, one of the intermediary cost factors, may also be favorably affected by air transport. Need for transshipments under trying conditions in many unimproved harbors will diminish and thereby reduce breakage—an important component in determining insurance rates.

Transshipments, themselves, may become less frequently necessary as goods will go forward from centers of production to places of buyers without costs of excessive handling from factory into railway freight cars, onto lighters, or into lighters, trucks and steamships with consequent unloading at destinations, and then again, onto piers and into foreign freight trains and final delivery by truck to the overseas merchant. These operations can be most costly and must indirectly enter into the prices paid by overseas customers; their elimination or reduction will be a factor favoring air cargo planes.

Congestion at seaports tends to make for higher rentals for warehouses in which to store goods pending customs examinations prior to distribution to major parts of a country. With landing fields scattered over a wide area and goods brought closer within reach of the merchants who ordered them, the chances of congestion diminish and local facilities with their more reasonable rentals can be brought into use. In some cases, the buildings of local merchants can become bonded warehouses thereby creating additional savings that always follow when congestion is avoided as happens when ports no longer become bottlenecks of traffic.

Local transport means, possibly belonging to merchants, themselves can be utilized and the expenditure for hiring of such vehicles at ports with high operation costs avoided.

All of these intermediary charges when prorated on individual products become considerable and, if their avoidance is gradually made possible by cargo planes, the transition to them from present methods of transportation will be impressive.

In the trade among individuals, the speed factor definitely favors air cargo ships; the intermediary cost factor needs further consideration although numerous intermediary charges that enter into it are being eliminated or deducted as result of the newer form of international transportation.
FOLLOWING up the several articles in the October issue giving the truth about our warplanes—articles which have been quoted by press and radio commentators from coast to coast—AVIATION this month presents an authoritative analysis of the factors controlling aircraft design and combat performance (page 96). This study by Maj. Nathaniel F. Silsbee of the Army Air Forces gives heretofore unrevealed performance figures and design features and presents a clear refutation of much of the unfounded criticism which has been leveled at American aircraft. Every military plane is a compromise, but Maj. Silsbee shows how American designers have done an outstanding job of compromising on the right factors. His report is both sound and encouraging.

Cooperating for Victory

Some of the reasons behind the miraculous production job done by the aircraft industry are revealed for the first time in an exclusive AVIATION survey (page 94) of cooperative ventures which today are the rule rather than the exception. This study shows how one-time competitors are not only lending each other vitally needed materials, but how they are trading invaluable "know-how," lending each other engineers and technicians—even giving design and production secrets to competitors to keep the production lines rolling at a faster pace.

In presenting Design Considerations for Plywood Structures (page 114), AVIATION begins an authoritative series by L. J. Marhoefer, an outstanding plastic bonded plywood design engineer. His approach to the problem is completely fresh; he treats plastic bonded plywood design as it should be treated—as a different technique rather than a mere adaptation of metal working practices.

Glider Construction

One of the greatest problems in developing America's glider program was to build the motorless carrier without cutting into the critical material supply of the industry. Just how it is being done, and how quality is being maintained with quantity, is told in the article on Wood Techniques Developed in Glider Construction, beginning on page 108.

In the concluding article of his series on the Future of Water-Based Planes (page 122) Capt. Frank T. Courtney shows why a new approach to the problems of designing such craft is essential to give them performance comparable to land-based planes. It is inevitable, he points out, that water-based planes will equal land-based planes in performance; it is essential that such results be achieved first in this country if we are to maintain our qualitative superiority in aircraft development.

Drop Hammer Operations

New techniques which widen the scope of usefulness of drop hammers are presented to AVIATION's readers (page 118) by Chris J. Frey of Brewster Aeronautical Corp. and Stanley S. Kogut of the Eastern Aircraft Production Forum.

AVIATION this month inaugurates a new regular feature: its Factory Maintenance Section (page 133), opening with a practical, down-to-earth study on the maintenance of arc welders by R. F. Wyer. The equipment maintenance section this month features the importance of piston rings (page 205), in which Paul S. Lane gives hows and whys of practices leading to better engine performance.

In the military field, Myles V. Cave, AVIATION's British correspondent, presents a detailed description of design features of Germany's BMW-801 engine, the most advanced aircooled powerplant put into production by the Nazis and the forerunner of the 2,000-hp 802 which is just beginning to make its appearance.

Fire Power of Nazi Planes

Also in the sphere of foreign military aircraft, AVIATION reveals fire power details of German planes. This excellent "companion piece" to Maj. Silsbee's article illustrates the protective fire screen of four Luftwaffe "workhorses" and exposes their vulnerable spots.

Lt. Comdr. P. V. H. Weems, outstanding authority on navigation, explains the advantages of new simplified computers (page 233) for both military and civilian navigators, illustrating their use by actual problems.

Coming

Bigger than ever before, AVIATION's Annual December Maintenance Issue next month will bring a wealth of new and useful information on maintenance practices and procedures to America's military and civil operators of aircraft. Maintenance of American Aircraft Abroad, Manpower Problems in Maintenance, Preventive Maintenance for Safety and Military Field Maintenance are but a few of the subjects which will be covered by recognized authorities in their fields.

The editors of AVIATION are scouting the maintenance bases, military depots, shops and factories over the length and breadth of the country to report first hand to the industry on the newest and best practical innovations for better and faster maintenance. Numerous sketches, drawings and photographs will be presented illustrating efficient workstands and benches, hoists and shop equipment such as jacks, dollies, racks and special jigs and fixtures for engines, accessories and other aircraft components.

Also, watch for announcement of the winners of AVIATION's coveted Annual Maintenance Award.
Technical improvements are increasing the efficiency of cargo planes through fuel economy and larger useful loads. Progress is being made in utilization of glider trains. All of these point to still more favorable effects in reducing the actual cost per ton-mile of goods transported by planes in world commerce.

In all countries, farsighted businessmen continually have been anxious to reduce time between purchase and sale of the goods they handle to permit faster turnover of capital, increase chances for profit and afford the benefits of attractive prices to their customers. Air cargo will help to achieve these goals and thereby, after the war, assist in restoring and improving the standards of living, in terms of goods, of people everywhere on the globe.
In reply please refer to: 3074

DEAR MISS BAUMGARTEN:

The President has referred to me your recent letter concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the plan are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signed] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Miriam S. Baumgarten,
228 East 67th Street,

Enclosures.
Sir:

If it is America's destiny to lead the nations of the world, she should assume that leadership boldly and without hesitation, now, by asserting her humanitarian regard for the cruelly oppressed and barbarously murdered Jews of the world.

She should open wide her gates of mercy and refuge.

Bahaman negroes are untouched by the war yet they are imported here to fill a supposed labor-shortage. If there is room here for unharrassed people, then all the more reason why heartlessly persecuted Jews should find a haven here.
The responsibility for the slaughter of defenseless Jews rests in a measure on the United States, for if she had asserted her willingness to aid them the fiends in human shape, the Nazis, would have had less persons to murder.

As one step in the direction of world-Leadership I believe the United States should not hesitate any longer to offer refuge to the Jews of the world.

Marian J. Baumgartner

228 E. 67St.
New York, 21, N.Y.
In reply please
refer to: 910

JUL 24 1944

Dear Mr. Beasley:

The President has referred to me your telegram of June 2, 1944, concerning the admission of refugees to this country.

There is enclosed a copy of the President's message to Congress on June 12, which explains the background and purpose of the recently announced Emergency Refugee Shelter being established at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, to care for approximately 1,000 refugees until they can be returned to their homelands at the end of the war.

Your views on this matter have been noted.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Pahle
Executive Director

Mr. J. N. Beasley,
San Antonio, Texas.

Enclosure.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 3, 1944

Respectfully referred to the
War Refugee Board for consideration
and acknowledgment.

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President
SANANTONIO TEX JUN 2 1944

THE PRESIDENT
WASHDC

THE PEOPLE OF THIS COUNTRY ARE OPPOSED TO FILLING THIS COUNTRY UP WITH FOREIGN REFUGEES WE HAVE TOO MANY OF THEM HERE NOW

J N BEASLEY.
In reply please refer to: 2010

JUL 7 1944

Dear Miss Beck:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of June 28, 1944, concerning the plight of the Jewish people in Europe.

On January 22, 1944, the President created the War Refugee Board for the purpose of taking all possible measures to rescue and save the victims of enemy oppression and to afford them all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war.

To accomplish the purpose for which it was created, the War Refugee Board has initiated numerous measures to assist persons to escape from enemy and enemy-occupied countries, to find havens of refuge for them, to obtain better treatment for those for whom escape is not possible, and to induce the satellite countries to assist from cooperating with the Nazi policy of persecution and extermination of minority peoples. The Board has stationed representatives in strategic countries in order to expedite these measures.

In connection with the problem of finding places of asylum for those who are enabled to escape from enemy-controlled areas, you will be interested to know that the President has recently taken action to establish an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, which will be equipped to care for approximately 1,000 refugees for the duration of the war or until they can be returned to their homelands.

I assure you that the Board is doing everything in its power to achieve its humanitarian objectives, knowing that the measure of its success will be the number of lives saved.

Sincerely yours,
[Signature]

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Newmarket, New Hampshire.

[Signature]

[Stamp] 7-5-44

[Stamp] Hutchison agr
New York, N. Y.
June 28, 44

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President,

It seems that the Jews are in immediate danger of Nazi brutality. I propose that an Emergency Committee has been set up.

May I urge you to use every available means to further this great work.

Very truly,

Miss Loes Drew Geff
In reply please refer to: 792

MAY 23 1944

Dear Miss Becker:

Thank you for your letter of recent date, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Miss Anne J. Becker,
502 E. Roosevelt Boulevard,
Philadelphia 30, Pennsylvania.
Hon. John W. Peble
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Wash. 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing this to express my desire for a free port in America. I am sure that you will do all in your power to accomplish this.

Sincerely yours,

Anne J. Becker
502 E. Roosevelt Blvd.
Phila. 26, Pa.
Dear Mrs. Becker:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 7, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[J. W. Pehle]

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Herman A. Becker,
936 Herbert Street,
Philadelphia 24, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.
June 7, 1944

Mrs. Herman A. Becker  
936 Herbert Street  
Philadelphia 24, Pa.

Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

I wish to urge you to give your support to the proposal that the United States open "free" ports for war refugees as a temporary haven until such time as they can be repatriated or other success obtained for them.

It seems to me the only possible humanitarian thing to do.

Most sincerely,

[Signature]

Mrs. Herman A. Becker
In reply please refer to: 1149

JUN 15 1944

Dear Mr. Becker:

Thank you for your recent card concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's recent action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944 to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Samuel Becker,
5001 - 14th Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
June 19, 1944

We are in favor of Free Ports for Refugees and ask you to extend your good offices and see that this great project is speedily accomplished.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
In reply please refer to: 1088

JUN 7 1944

Dear Mr. Ben Ezra:

The President has referred to me your recent card concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's recent action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944 to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Meyer Ben Ezra,
1349 - 55th Street,
Brooklyn 19, New York.

Enclosures.
My Dear Mr. President,

Please continue in your efforts to establish the ports for refugees.

Yours truly,

Meyer Benzer

1349-55th St.
Brooklyn, 19. N.Y.
In reply please refer to: 984

Dear Mrs. Benzerre:

Thank you for your recent cards to the President and to me concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Pauline E. Benzerre,
1540 - 55th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures:
June 6, 1944

My dear Mr. Pehle:

Keep up your good work in behalf of Free Ports for Refugees, a good piece of humanitarian work, if ever there was one.

Yours truly,
(Mrs) Pauline E. Benezra

Brooklyn, N. Y.
1349 55 St.
June 6, 1944

My dear Mr. President:

Please use your good offices in behalf of free ports for refugees. God bless you and yours.

Sincerely yours,

Pauline S. Benegra

1349 55th St.
Brooklyn, 19, N. Y.
In reply please refer to: 3166

AUG 12 1944

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Berger:

Thank you for your communication of July 26, 1944, concerning the work of the War Refugee Board and the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you were glad to learn of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador Mushky in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned with the execution of the project are enclosed.

I assure you that the War Refugee Board is doing everything in its power to rescue the victims of enemy persecution and to find havens of refuge for them where they can remain in safety and be cared for until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war. In this connection, you will be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Berger,
1777 Sturms Drive,
Los Angeles, California.

Enclosures.
Mr. Schill,

We urge you to work by the open method. There is a sliding coat hand tray and a tray and an open book, until the work is clear.

I take great care of the health of the master. Although it is necessary to extend these human reasons perfectly, pure health must be recommended.
In reply please refer to: 1013

Dear Miss Berger:

Thank you for your recent cards to the President and to me concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his telegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Miss Lena Berger,
1450 - 48th Street,
Brooklyn 19, New York.

Enclosures.
We are in favor of free pots for refugees and ask you to extend your good offices and see that this is accomplished.

6/1/44

1456-48 St.

Bolton 17, N.Y.

Thank you.

Lena Pegu
I am in favor of Free Ports for Refugees and ask you to extend your good offices and see that this is accomplished.
11/34
Thank you
Era Lives
Sept 19 44
JUN 14 1944

In reply please refer to 1012.

Dear Mr. Berger:

Thank you for your recent cards to the President and to me concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Philip Berger,
1450 - 46th Street,
Brooklyn 19, New York.

Enclosures.
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans.
No. Ans. Req.
Initial
Date

The are in favor of Free Port for Refugees and ask you to extend your good offices and see that this is accomplished.

1450 H St.
July 15th, 19--

Philip Berger
We are in favor of the Port for Refugees.

Kindly extend your good offices and see that this is accomplished. Thank you.

1450 4F St.
Blythe 19, NY.

Philip Bergin
Dear Mr. Berger:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 17, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his telegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Peake
Executive Director

Mr. Samuel Berger,
393 West End Avenue,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
July 10, 1944

Mr. B. Roosevelt

Presidential Records

Dear Mr. Roosevelt:

I am writing to express my concern regarding the plight of the Jewish people in Europe. Their suffering is enormous, and it will only get worse unless we act soon. Time is running out. The situation in Europe is dire, and we must act fast.

I urge you to please open the doors of the United States for a temporary haven for these people. Let us give them a chance to live. I am very concerned about their future. I pray to God that all the nations of the world will cooperate in this effort.

I am writing to you in a moment of crisis. The future of the Jewish people is at stake. I cannot let this happen to them.

Very respectfully,

Samuel Berger

393, Main St. N. W.

Secretary to the President
Dear Reverend Bergstresser:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 6, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Rev. H. C. Bergstresser,
Pastor,
Trinity Lutheran Church,
130 North Church Street,
Hazelton, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.
To the President of the United States.

Dear Sir:

From many Jewish Organizations you are no doubt receiving requests for "free ports" for Refugees of the Jews.

May I add the request, as a Christian, to the many of our faith also, that would appreciate your help in this humanitarian act?

Sincerely yours,

W. Clay Bergstresser
In reply please refer to: 3072

JUL 29 1944

Dear Mr. Berk:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 18, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you were glad to see the accounts of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Joseph Berk,
143 Front Street,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
J. BERK, Inc.
Importers and Jobbers of
TEAS and COFFEES
143 FRONT STREET
NEW YORK

July 18th, 1944.

Hon. Franklin Delano Roosevelt,
White House,
Washington, D. C.,

Honorable Sir:

I wish to take this means of adding my name to those of my People who are appealing to you to use your efforts in behalf of those who are facing extermination at the hands of the common enemy.

I am in full accord with the establishment of Free Ports for the rescue of the oppressed in this hour of their peril.

Immediate action on your part and that of our Allies is imperative.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

J. BERK

JB:AS
In reply please refer to: 1467

DEAR MRS. BERLOVE:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the plan to give temporary asylum to approximately 1,000 refugees from Europe in the Emergency Refugee Shelter being established at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York.

I wish also to thank you on behalf of the War Refugee Board for your support and interest in this program.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Lester Berlove,
955 Howard Street,
Rochester, New York.
Mr. John W. Peale
Director, War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Peale:

As an individual, I would like to express my gratitude for the humanitarian spirit displayed in the policy of establishing a free haven for refugees. It makes one feel proud to be a citizen of a nation great enough to give temporary shelter to those whose need is so great.

Gratefully yours,

Julia M. Berleme
(Mrs. Lester Berleme.)
In reply please refer to: 972

JUN 7 1944

Dear Mrs. Berlove:

Thank you for your communication of May 24, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Lester Berlove,
955 Howard Street,
Rochester, New York.
May 24, 1949

Mr. John Peble
Director of War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Peble:

May I urge the establishment of "free ports" in this country. Not only will this move benefit our country, give materially needed aid to oppressed people, but an example will influence other nations to show more to those victims of oppression. I remain

Mrs. Sadler, Room C
Mrs. Berlevé
1207 Howard St. Washington, D.C.
Dear Miss Bernstein:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's recent action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944 to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fohle

J. W. Fohle
Executive Director

Miss Frances Bernstein,
1503 President Street,
Brooklyn 13, New York.

Enclosures.
Mr. John W. Peck
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Peck,

I urge you to see to it that the free ports be restored immediately and that provisions be made to transport refugees to our shore.

Very truly yours,

Sincerely,

Francis Bernstein
Mr. John W. Lehle
Resettlement Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.
Dear Mr. Belt:

Thank you for your letter of June 26, 1944, quoting a resolution adopted by your organization concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

The concern of your organization for the fate of refugees and its interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] J. W. Pahle

J. W. Pahle
Executive Director

Mr. A. L. Belt,
Secretary,
Bassarabian Society of Boston,
25 Quincy Street,
Roxbury, Massachusetts.

Enclosures.
June 26, 1944.

War Refugee Board,
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:-

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:-

We, the officers and membership of the BESSARABIAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON, located at Boston, Mass; realizing the desperate situation of refugees from European Countries, and the necessity for finding a haven or refuge for these people, desire to record ourselves in favor of legislation for the establishment of "Free Ports" in the United States of America.

Sincerely yours,

BESSARABIAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON
Secretary

25 Quincy Street, Roxbury, Mass
June 26, 1944.

To the President of the United States:
Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

We, the officers and membership of the BESSARABIAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON, located at Boston, Mass.; realizing the desperate situation of refugees from European countries, and the necessity for finding a haven or refuge for these people, desire to record ourselves in favor of legislation for the establishment of "Free Ports" in the United States of America.

Sincerely yours,
BESSARABIAN SOCIETY OF BOSTON
Secretary

25 Quincy Street,
Roxbury, Mass.
JUN 5 1944

In reply please refer to: 079

Dear Mr. Hesset:

The President has referred to me your telegram of May 30, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Peklo

J. W. Peklo
Executive Director

Mr. J. Hesset,
1418 Shannon,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Carbon copies to:

K. Kim, 5627 N. 6th
P. Yachinski, 3408 Southwest
J. Gerbont, 1306 Montclair
S. Finkelstein, 1593 Clare
J. Walman, 5418 Intal
A. Osho, 1397 Samuel
M. Kames, 7460 Stanford
N. Kames, 2263 Flover
B. Greenwald, 5474 Cole Brilliante
L. Finkelstein, 1519 Saberst.
THE PRESIDENT

WHITE HOUSE

CRITICAL STATUS OF MILLIONS OF EUROPEAN LIVES NECESSITATE
IMMEDIATE ESTABLISHMENT OF TEMPORARY HOMES IN AMERICA AND
OTHER FREE COUNTRIES TO SHELTER THOSE WHO ARE RESCUED. WE
URGE IMMEDIATE ACTION FOR SUCH FREE PORTS AS RECOMMENDED BY
MESSRS. IRA HIRSHMAN AND J. W. PEMLE

J BESSER 1415 SHAWMUTH
M KIM 5627 ETZEL

F TOLCHINSKY 5419 SOUTHWEST D'C
AVB BEERSEE BOYAD

J CORNBLET 1325 MONTCLAIR
In reply please refer to: 622

Dear Mr. Greenwald:

Since my reply to your recent letter concerning temporary havens in the United States for refugees, the President has taken action for the establishment of an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. I am sure you will be interested in reading the attached copies of the President's recent message to Congress, his cablegram of June 8, 1944, to Ambassador Robert Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of the same date to the agency heads concerned with the execution of the plan.

Let me take this opportunity to thank you again for the interest which you have expressed in this matter.

Very truly yours,

(Submitted) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Abraham Greenwald,
President,
Beth Hamedrash Hagodol,
60-64 Norfolk Street,
New York 2, New York.

Enclosures:

RMJowler: 6/12/44
In reply please refer to: 626

MAY 10 1944

Dear Mr. Greenwald:

Thank you for your letter of May 1, 1944, concerning the work of the War Refugee Board.

The interest of your organization in the work of the Board is appreciated, and I assure you that everything in our power will be done to provide speedy and effective rescue programs to save the persecuted minorities of Europe who are in imminent danger of death.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Fohle
Executive Director

Mr. Abraham Greenwald,
President,
Beth Hamedrash Hagodol,
60-64 Norfolk Street,
New York 2, New York.
HONORABLE SIR:

At a mass meeting held in Cong. Beth Hamedrash Hagadal, 60 Norfolk Street, NYC, founded in 1852 and located on the lower East Side, in response to an appeal made by our worthy Rabbi Benjamin Fleischer, the gathering unanimously approved your work in re: saving the remnant of poverty-stricken refugees and urgently asks your help to request immediate opening of the free ports in our beloved country for a temporary haven for the most oppressed in order at least to save the countless lives who are now doomed to ultimate death by the oppressors.

May you be strengthened in your efforts to urge the proper authorities to act immediately in this worthy cause. Please convey our sincerest appeal to President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and urge him in our name as patriotic citizens to act now before it is too late. We would appreciate your kind acknowledgement of this appeal.

Respectfully yours,

CONG. BETH HAMEDRASH HAGADOL

By

Abraham Greenwald, President
In reply please refer to: 1399

Dear Rabbi Lovitt:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 9, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

The concern of your Congregation for the fate of refugees and its interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Rabbi Meyer Lovitt,
Beth Israel Congregation,
Jackson, Mississippi.

Enclosures.
Beth Israel Congregation  
Jackson, Mississippi  
June 9, 1944

Franklin D. Roosevelt  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Beth Israel Congregation of Jackson, Mississippi, of which I am the Rabbi, and which practically constitutes the entire Jewish community of the city, heartily endorses the plan of "free ports" advocated by the War Refugee Board, and would be deeply grateful to you if you would use your influence to have it put into effect at the earliest possible moment.

Respectfully yours,

Rabbi Meyer Lovitt
In reply please refer to: 2921

Dear Dr. Blum:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 27, 1944, enclosing a resolution adopted by the Board members of the Beth Israel Temple, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refuge Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 28, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

The concern of your organization for the fate of refugees and its interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] J. W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Maurice L. Blum,
Secretary,
Beth Israel Congregation,
Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.
Beth Israel Congregation

DR. ALLAN TARSHISH, RABBI
HAZLETON, PA.

June 27, 1944

Pres. F. D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed please find a resolution adopted by the Board members of the Beth Israel Temple, Hazleton, Pennsylvania, at a meeting held on Tuesday, June 20, 1944.

We hope that you will do all in your power to alleviate the tragic suffering of the European Jews.

Thank you for your continued interest in these God inspired works.

Very truly yours,

Maurice L. Blum
Secretary

MLBigum
Enc.
RESOLUTION ON FREE PORTS

Adopted by the Administrative Committee of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, at its meeting held Sunday, May 21, 1944, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

American was founded by refugees: by refugees fleeing from religious persecution and racial bigotry. This great nation "conceived in liberty" has been peculiarly sensitive to the cry of its brother's blood wherever and whenever they have been enslaved and persecuted. Particularly because of its deep religious heritage and character, believing that men are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, among these being liberty, the pursuit of happiness, and above all, life. America has been the traditional haven of those who have been robbed of these precious possessions.

The hour has come when America must once again rise to this, her manifest destiny, when the God who led our early Founding Fathers to this richly endowed land is calling upon us to "bring forth the prisoner from the prison house and those that dwell in darkness from the dungeon."

We commend the President of the United States for his leadership and vision manifested in championing the cause of the afflicted, not only by words, but by forthright deeds. Especially timely has been his recent creation of the War Refugee Board, which has already evidenced its sincere determination to rescue as many as possible of those victims of Nazism otherwise marked out for wholesale slaughter in the extermination chambers of Europe. We heartily endorse the plan of "free ports" advocated by the War Refugee Board, whereby temporary haven may be provided for those who would otherwise be murdered to the last man. We agree that America can do no less for these, our Allies and fellow foes of Nazism, than we do for our enemies who, as prisoners of war, are provided with at least such temporary sojourn and security.
NOT AT ADDRESS GIVEN
NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Miss Edith Bikales,
1115 Broadway,

Not in Directory
Madison Square Park

JUN24
WASHINGTOB D.C.
6-PM

PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID PAYMENT OF POSTAGE $0.05

RETURNED TO SENDER
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In reply please refer to: 1414

JUN 24 1944

Dear Miss Bikales:

Thank you for your communication of June 13, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Edith Bikales,
1115 Broadway,

Enclosures.
June 13th, 1944

Sir:

I am in favor of Free Ports for Refugees and ask that you please extend your good offices and see that this great project is speedily accomplished.

Respectfully yours

Edith Bikales,
1116 Broadway
New York 10, N.Y.
MAY 20 1944

In reply please refer to: 730

Dear Mrs. Binder:

Your letter of May 10, 1944, to the President, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees, has been referred to me.

Your interest is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Free Press
Mrs. Harry Binder,
1202 Gaffney Avenue,
Far Rockaway, New York.
May 15, 1944

W. R. B.

Filing Authority

To: Files

Ans. 2992/44

W. J. An. Req.

Initial

Dear Mr. President,

I have been reading of the recent efforts of the 'Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe.' It seems to me that their plan to establish a haven for those persecuted people, temporarily, at least, is the first substantial answer to a world-wide problem. Surely that is the very least the people of this great nation can do, as a precedent for other countries.

Please do everything in your power to bring about the endorsement of the New Refugee Board for these camps, immediately.

I am very proud to be a citizen of a country where one may
Write to the President and know that he will be heard. Your humanitarian efforts have made many people love and respect you, in the past. In these times of stress, it would be the most merciful act you could accomplish.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Harry Binder
1232 Utopia Ave.
Far Rockaway, N.Y.
In reply please refer to: 1983

JUN 27 1944

Dear Reverend Bishop:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 19, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 6, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the safety of these persecuted people is indeed appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Reverend L. E. Bishop,
Central Church of Christ Disciples,
Ninth and Pleasant,
Des Moines, Iowa.

Enclosures.
Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sir:

May I add my endorsement to the plan you are considering for the establishment of refugees rescue camps in the United States. May I urge you to give immediate attention to the carrying out of these plans that suffering, both mental and physical may be relieved as rapidly as possible.

It is my belief that we as a nation have a great debt to the suffering nations and only by the fulfilling of that debt will we be able to establish a sound foundation for future peace. Food, clothing, medical attention, and comfortable living conditions will help to erase the scars of war and the wounds of battle. We must hasten to complete our plan, lest we are forced to reap the harvest of hate and vengeance which is rapidly ripening.

With sincere appreciation for your great sympathies, for human suffering, and with a deep approval of the plans you are laying for relieving that human need, I am

Sincerely yours,

L. R. Bishop

LKB:V

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR CONSIDERATION

William D. Hunter
Assistant to the Governor
JUL 29 1944

Dear Mr. Blecker:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 18, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cabledgram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Mr. Louis S. Blecker,
707 Beverley Road,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
767 Remsen Road
Brooklyn, N.Y.

President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

Knowing you to be a true friend of the oppressed, and the hope of the downtrodden minorities, I respectfully urge you to do everything in your power to establish rescue camps for those Jewish people who can escape the Nazis.

Thank you, and may God bless you for your great humanitarian work.

Respectfully yours,

Louis S. Blocker.
In reply please refer to: 866

JUN 7 1944

Dear Mrs. Blake:

The President has referred to me your letter of May 24, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Katherine Devereux Blake,
101 West 85th Street,

Free Ports
Dear President Roosevelt:

As one Christian to another, I appeal to you to use the great power that has been given to you by Congress during your three terms as President of these United States, to act at once on the suggestion of the War Refugee Board, and to issue an Executive Order that Free Ports and Temporary Camps be immediately opened for the admission of all the Jewish political refugees who are able to escape from the hideous fate prepared for them by their Nazi conquerors.

My early years were spent in New England, and my training in the study of the Bible made me regard the biblical Jews as our religious forefathers. Jacob and Moses and Joseph belonged to me as much as they do to any Jewish child; I, too, was a member of God's Chosen People, as were all the Pilgrim and Puritan builders of our country. How then can I sit quietly by and see the horrors of the present treatment of the Jews without trying to save them? You are the Christian leader of Honorable Franklin Delano Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.
America. You must not turn a deaf ear to their cries for China help. Great Britain, Holland, Switzerland have helped them marvelously. Shall free America do less? They ask us for a temporary asylum. How dare we refuse it?

Jesus was a Jew, his brothers cry for help. If you are a Christian, you cannot fail to hear their cry, and you will give them the temporary asylum for which they plead.

I await your reply with hope.

Yours respectfully,

Katherine Devereux Blake
In reply please refer to: 719

MAY 20 1944

Dear Miss Blake:

Your telegram of May 16, 1944, to the President, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees, has been referred to me.

Your interest is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Miss Mildred H. Blake,
Ogdens Park,
Dobbs Ferry, New York.
THE HOUSE WAS WASH DC
URGE YOU SPEED ACTION FOR FREE PORTS TO SAVE JEWISH VICTIMS OF
HITLER DISGRACE TO AMERICA WE HAVE NOT DONE THIS BEFORE
MILDRED R BLAKE/ OGDEN PARK DOBBS FERRY NEW YORK.
In reply please refer to 1450

JUL 21 1944

Dear Miss Block:

The President has referred to me your recent letter concerning the Emergency Refugee Shelter being established at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, to give temporary asylum to approximately 1,000 refugees who have fled from their homelands to Southern Italy.

Details of the plan were outlined by the President in his message to Congress on June 18, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum to the agency heads concerned with the execution of the project. Copies of these documents are enclosed as a matter of interest to you.

I assure you that the War Refugee Board is doing everything in its power to rescue the victims of enemy persecution and to find havens of refuge for them where they can remain in safety and be cared for until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war. In this connection, I am sure you will be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

Very truly yours,

J. V. Pahle
Executive Director

Miss Sonia Block,
41-41 43rd Street,
Long Island City, N. Y.

Enclosures.

[Handwritten note: "RSFowler 7/20/44"]
President Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

June 13, 1941

Dear Mr. President,

It is because I feel so deeply about the matter that I am writing to express my wholehearted support of your humanitarian action in creating a camp for about 10,000 refugees who have fled from their homelands to southern Italy.

I sincerely hope that...
Attaining more such camps may be set up so that the N.B.W. may be able to escape may be saved.

Respectfully yours,

Adina Block
In reply please refer to 1078

Dear Miss Bloom:

The President has referred to me your recent card concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's recent action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944 to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

Your concern for the fate of refugees and your interest in the problem of providing places of asylum for them are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Nellie Bloom,
1413 St. Marks Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
Dear Mr. President

We urge you to open free parks in the U.S. now.

Sincerely,

Mollie Bloom
1413 1st Mark Ave
Brooklyn