

Admission of Refugees to U.S.
(Free Ports and Emergency Refugee Shelter)

General - C-D

Folder 1 - Ca-Cn

In reply please refer to: 846

JUN 3 1944

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Caesar:

I have your letters of May 24, 1944, to the President and to me, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. and Mrs. Abraham D. Caesar,
1327 Spruce Street,
Philadelphia 7, Pennsylvania.

Free Post

EST RBH Hutchison:agr 6-1-44 JWH

Letter # 22; 800
70 2407A 2/24/44

RECEIVED
MAY 26 1944

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 26, 1944

Respectfully referred to the
War Refugee Board for considera-
tion and acknowledgment.

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

1944 MAY 29 AM 10 21

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON
D. C.

846

RECEIVED
AGENCY/INMIGRATION
CONSIDERATION

William V. Frankel
Secretary to the President

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority
To: Files _____
Ans. JUN 8 1944
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON, D. C.
1327 Spruce Street
Philadelphia 7, Pa.
May 24, 1944

Honorable Franklin Delano Roosevelt
President of the United States of America
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sir:

We are heartily in favor of the establishment of
Free Ports in the United States for Refugees and we respectfully
urge that you do all that is within your power to cause their
creation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mollie Magil Caesar
Abraham David Caesar

835

1327 Spruce Street
Philadelphia 7, Pa.
May 24, 1944

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

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

Dear Sir:

We are heartily in favor of the establishment of Free
Ports in the United States for Refugees and we respectfully urge
that you do all that is within your power to cause their creation.

Respectfully submitted,

Mollie Magil Caesar
Abraham David Caesar

MAY 24 11 42 AM '44

WASHINGTON D.C.
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
RECEIVED

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Refuge Board

3342

MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE SOUTH HADLEY MASSACHUSETTS

W. R. B. _____

Authority _____

To: File 997, 1941
September 2, 1941

Ans. _____

No. Ans. Req. _____

Initial _____

Date _____

SECRETARILY RECEIVED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William V. Farrell

Secretary to the President

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

Dear Mr. President:

I would just like to call your attention
to the splendid suggestions offered by the
Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of
Europe concerning the rescue of many people
who without our thought might not
survive. The committee would request the
President:

" 1. To establish without delay, temporary
Rescue Camps within the United States,
as a compelling example to all mankind; to
give these "free ports" of hope and encourage-
ment to those Jewish people who can flee
Nazi murder squads, and to give them
sanctuary therein until the coming peace

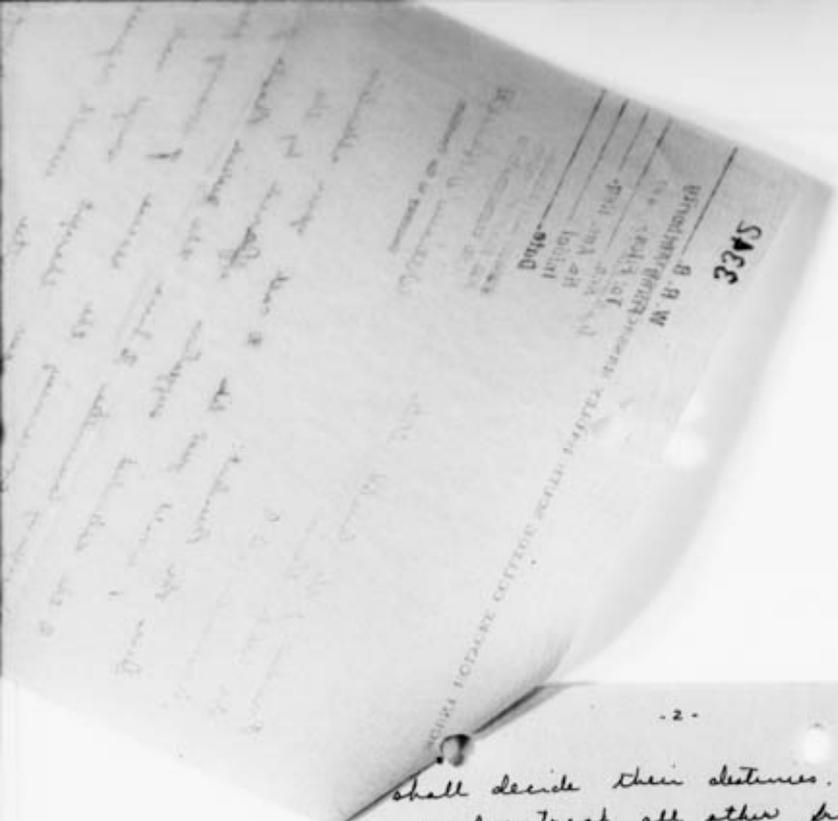
shall decide their destinies.

2. So entreat all other friendly and allied powers to take like action.

3. So convey to the British Government, entrusted with the Mandate over Palestine, that all liberty-loving Americans desire the gates of Palestine be opened and kept open for the unrestricted admission of all Hebrews rescued from the German charnel-houses in Europe; and that we as Americans consider it unrighteous to deny to Jewish People alone, of all peoples, free entry into Palestine in this period of their deepest distress and disaster. "

demurely hope that America can help these people.

Respectfully yours, ✓
 Carolyn Baker



In reply please
refer to: 3097

JUL 29 1944

Dear Miss Campise:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 21, 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 with the execution of the project are enclosed.

I assure you that the War Refugee Board is doing everything in its power to rescue these persecuted people 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 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 Campise,
750 Melrose Avenue,
Bronx, New York.

Enclosures.

PH Hutchison:agr 7-27-44

JW

*War
Refugee
Board*

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William Small
Secretary to the President

July 27

3097

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. 1944 _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

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

My dear Mr. President:

I wish to urge you to take immediate action in order to save the Jewish people in Nazi Europe, by establishing temporary refugee shelters here, in America, for their well-being. Also, impress upon the friendly and allied nations to take the same steps to help these people. I also feel that Palestine should be open to all Hebrews, which is their homeland.

I am sure you will do all in your power to alleviate this condition and to influence other leaders to help in this great task.

Respectfully yours,

Rose Campise
750 - Melrose Ave.
Bronx, N. Y. C.

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
JUL 27 1944

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W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial *W.R.B.* _____
Date *6/2/46* _____

MAILED
JUN 1 1946

811

1944 JUN 2 AM 8 46

28812

WJ11 NL

NEWYORK NY JUN 1 1944

JOHN W PEHLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

WAR REFUGEE BOARD TREASURY BLDG

WE URGE IMMEDIATE ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE PORTS TO PROVIDE

TEMPORARY HAVENS FOR WAR REFUGEES. IMMEDIATE ACTION IS

NECESSARY TO SAVE THOUSANDS OF LIVES

CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP.

JUNE 2 845AM

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**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON**

June 2, 1944

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

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

WASHINGTON, D.C.
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
RECEIVED
JUN 2 1944

901

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. 12 _____
No. Ans. Reg. _____
Initial EC _____
Date 6/1/44 _____

JUN 27 15 AM 1944

War Ref

WB1 NL

NEWYORK NY JUN 1 1944

PRESIDENT F D ROOSEVELT ✓

WHITE HOUSE

WE URGE IMMEDIATE ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE PORTS TO PROVIDE
TEMPORARY HAVENS FOR WAR REFUGEES. IMMEDIATE ACTION IS
NECESSARY TO SAVE THOUSANDS OF LIVES
CARNegie HILL NEIGHBORHOOD GROUP.

*Not listed in N.Y. Directory
vol. 6-8-44*

RECEIVED
JUN 2 1944

In reply please
refer to: 3337

SEP 22 1944

Dear Miss Carney:

The President has asked me to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of September 12, 1944, concerning the Emergency Refugee Shelter recently established at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Your support of this program is indeed appreciated.

Copies of the President's message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum to the heads of the agencies concerned with the execution of the project are enclosed as a matter of interest to you. I am sure you will also 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.

With respect to the plight of the Jews in Hungary, there is enclosed a copy of the joint statement recently issued by the Governments of the United States and Great Britain. Please be assured that the Board is doing and will continue to do everything in its power to save as many as possible of the victims of enemy persecution in Hungary and elsewhere in Europe.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Lucy P. Carney,
5627 Kimbark Avenue,
Chicago 37, Illinois.

Enclosures.

ESTowler:agr 9-20-44

Ed -

3337

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

Went
to
see
Board

5527 Kimbark Ave.
Chicago 37, Ill.

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

RECEIVED JULY 1941
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION
William D. Howett
Secretary to the President

Dear Mr. President -

I want to express my
appreciation of your action in giving
asylum to Jews recently rescued
from Europe. May I urge at the same
time that this generous and thoroughly
American policy be carried out to an
even larger extent?

Recently I have read

[Faint, illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

37

Authority

79. _____

of new horrors being perpetrated on Jews
in Hungary. As defeat draws near, the
Axis powers seem to be desperately
wreaking even greater cruelties on their
victims. I beg that the action of the United
States be even more vigorous in trying
to rescue these people and to give
them asylum in our own country.

Respectfully,
Lucy P. Carner
CARNER

September 12, 1944.

JUN 17 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1144

Dear Miss Carosso:

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 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 Marie Carosso,
1537 West 10th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.

X 1144

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

— 1537 W. 4th St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Pihle,

Being interested
in Free Ports for
Refugees I ask
you to see that
this project is
speedily accomplished

Yours truly
MARCIA C. COZZO
Marcia Cozzos

In reply please
refer to: 742

JUN 2 1944

Dear Mr. Carter:

Thank you for your letters of May 16, 1944,
to the President and to me, concerning the establish-
ment of temporary havens for refugees.

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Richard B. Carter
The Carter's Ink Company,
Cambridge 42,
Boston, Massachusetts.

(Temporary Havens)

EAT

REHutchison:agr 5-31-44

pat -

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The Carter's Ink Company

CAMBRIDGE 42

BOSTON, MASS. ARCHIVE 25/44

No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date May 16, 1944

*War Refugee
Board*

May 16, 1944

To the President of the United States
Executive Mansion
Washington, D. C.

Temporary Asylum for
European Jews

MAY 18 11 54
RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

Mr. President:

If we are to go on calling ourselves Christians, without putting our tongues in our cheeks, we must do what we can to curtail the slaughter of European Jews.

Temporary Refugee Camps as proposed by the War Refugee Board seem the most promising single measure. But speed is essential to any real accomplishment and that means a Presidential order.

I earnestly urge that you issue an order for such camps without delay.

Very truly yours,

Richard B. Sartorius

E.V.K.

The Carter's Ink Company

CAMBRIDGE 42

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Filing Number
To: Files
Ans. 6/2/44
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

May 16, 1944

War Refugee Board
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

The work you have already done in aid of the European Jews, as indicated in a letter from Mrs. John H. Randall, Jr., and her pamphlet "The Voice of Thy Brother's Blood" is interesting and important.

In an effort to help as far as possible I am circulating Mrs. Randall's pamphlet with my own comments to a local group of forty men, and am writing the President as per enclosed copy.

Yours very truly,

Richard B. Carter

E.V.K.

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON D.C.
MAY 20 1944

Mrs. Randall - War Refugee Board

May 16, 1944

To the President of the United States
Executive Mansion
Washington, D. C.

Temporary Asylum for
European Jews

Mr. President:

If we are to go on calling ourselves Christians, without putting our tongues in our cheeks, we must do what we can to curtail the slaughter of European Jews.

Temporary Refugee Camps as proposed by the War Refugee Board seem the most promising single measure. But speed is essential to any real accomplishment and that means a Presidential order.

I earnestly urge that you issue an order for such camps without delay.

Very truly yours,

E.V.K.

RECEIVED
MAY 16 1944
WASHINGTON D.C.
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

1684

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: File 44 _____
Att. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial BB _____
Date 8/10/44 _____

To our President

I think you are doing a
marvelous job. Keep up the good
work and may God bless you.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. Bonny Caruthers

No address

JUN 19 1944

In reply please
refer to: (637)

Dear Reverend Komora:

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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Rev. Emil N. Komora,
Executive Director,
The Catholic Committee for Refugees,
265 West 14th Street,
New York 11, New York

Enclosures.

E. B. T. ✓

EBTowler:dh 6/16/44

In reply please
refer to: 637

MAY 8 1944

Dear Reverend Komora:

Thank you for your letter of May 2, 1944,
concerning the possibility of establishing "free
ports" for refugees.

Your interest is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signature)
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Rev. Emil N. Komora,
Executive Director,
The Catholic Committee for Refugees,
265 West 14th Street,
New York 11, New York.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

To: Mrs. Fowler 194
(1) (Room) (Bldg.)
(2) (Room) (Bldg.)
(3) (Room) (Bldg.)

Simple acknowledgment

From: FH 5/4
..... (Date)
..... (Room) (Bldg.)

CONTROL COPY

COPY

W. R. # 637

THE CATHOLIC COMMITTEE FOR REFUGEES
(Including Refugee Children)
265 West 14th Street, New York City, 11

Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans. 5/8/44
No. Ans. Req.
Initial
Date

COMMITTEE OF THE HIERARCHY

The Most Rev. Samuel A. Stritch, D. D.
Archbishop of Chicago

The Most Rev. John F. Noll, D. D.
Bishop of Fort Wayne

_____ The Most Rev. Joseph F. Rummel, D. D. _____
Archbishop of New Orleans
Chairman

Cable Address
Cathcomref

The Most Rev. Stephen J. Donahue, D. D.
Auxiliary Bishop of New York
Treasurer

Rev. Emil N. Komora
Executive Director

The Most Rev. Charles H. Le Blond, D. D.
Bishop of St. Joseph

In reply refer to:
Misc.

May 2, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

As an organization dedicated to aiding refugees we wish to express our agreement with the plan for establishing "free ports" for refugees in the United States. We are in accord with any plan or measure designed to save human lives.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Emil N. Komora

Rev. Emil N. Komora
Executive Director

ENK/bd

RECEIVED
MAY 10 1944
U.S. DEPT. OF TREASURY
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 8, 1944

Dear Dr. Cavert:

As you suggested, I am enclosing a rough draft of a letter to the editor of the New York Times endorsing its editorial of May 4, 1944, supporting the plan to receive refugees into this country. A letter on the editorial page of the New York Times signed by Bishop Tucker would be of inestimable help.

Very sincerely yours,

I. M. Weinstein
Special Assistant to the
Executive Director

Dr. Samuel McCrea Cavert,
Federal Council of the Churches
of Christ in America,
297 4th Avenue,
New York, 10, New York.

Enclosure:

May 8, 1944

Sir:

I was deeply gratified with the editorial in the New York Times, May 4, 1944, endorsing my idea of establishing havens in the United States for refugees from Hitler's terror. The establishment of such havens in this country is a moral obligation that our government must not fail to meet.

In forming the War Refugee Board, our President notified the world that the Government of the United States had made the fate of European refugees its official concern. To emphasize the importance of the Board's mission, the President appointed the three highest members of the cabinet, Secretary of State, Mr. Hull, Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Morgenthau, and Secretary of War, Mr. Stimson, as its members and he named the youthful and energetic Mr. John W. Pehle as its director. All the overseas resources of our Government were put at the disposal of the War Refugee Board. Thus the Board was endowed with all the dignity and power needed to accomplish the great task of rescuing those persons in imminent danger of death in Nazi-occupied Europe.

All Americans who believe in justice and human dignity greeted the President's move with deep gratitude. For we felt that in establishing the Board, the President reaffirmed one of the noblest of all American traditions -- our historical willingness to aid the

victims of tyranny and oppression.

But to rescue those persons Hitler has marked for death is only half the task of the War Refugee Board and the American people . We must find havens for those we save. As you pointed out in your editorial, any kind of haven in this country would seem like heaven to anyone who had lived under the Nazi whip. And yet, we need not think in terms of mere subsistence. We can, and must, remember that years of terror have left their mark on those we save. We must do all we can to heal those spiritual wounds with kindness and understanding. No matter where we erect havens for the refugees, we must so organize them as to impress the refugees that, despite their recent experiences, there are places in the world governed by humaneness and love.

Editor of the New York Times

In reply please
refer to: 2986

JUL 21 1944

Dear Mr. Marcuson:

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 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.

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. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Isaac E. Marcuson,
Administrative Secretary,
Central Conference of American Rabbis,
204 Buford Place,
Macon, Georgia.

Enclosures.

Ebt ✓
EBTowler: 7/20/44

2-
N.R. ✓

7/13/44

2986

CENTRAL CONFERENCE
OF
AMERICAN RABBIS

OFFICERS 1944-1945
SOLOMON B. FRESHOP, President
Pittsburgh, Pa.
ABRAHAM SILVER, Vice-President
Cleveland, Ohio
HARRY S. MARGOLIS, Treasurer
St. Paul, Minn.
ISAAC E. MARCUSON, Administrative Secretary
Macon, Ga.
SIDNEY L. RECHNER, Financial Secretary
Reading, Pa.

OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY
204 BUFORD PLACE
MACON, GA.

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority
To: Files
ANS. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____
MAURICE J. ROSEN, Newburgh, N. Y.
WILLIAM G. SHULMAN, Providence, R. I.
STANLEY R. SHAW, Vicksburg, Miss.
ABRAHAM SILVER, Cleveland, Ohio
ALAN S. COHEN, Cincinnati, Ohio
JAMES G. HILL, Cincinnati, Ohio
ARYEH LEVY, Cincinnati, Ohio
JACOB R. WITTE, Cincinnati, Ohio
ALBERT G. WITTE, Cincinnati, Ohio
PHINEAS BOLLER, Chicago, Ill.
HARRY J. STERN, Montreal, Canada
LOUIS WITTE, Dayton, Ohio

July 11, 1944

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William D. Barrett
Secretary to the President

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Roosevelt:

I am instructed by the Central Conference of American Rabbis in Convention assembled to convey to you the enclosed resolution with the assurance of our high regard and esteem.

With cordial personal greetings, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Isaac E. Marcuson
Isaac E. Marcuson
Administrative Secretary

IEM/jf



RESOLUTION ADOPTED BY
THE CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS

WHEREAS, the rescue of Jews from Nazi Europe remains one of the paramount issues facing the civilized world, and

WHEREAS, the plan of free ports advocated by the War Refugee Board and endorsed by the President of the United States and by many Congressmen would provide a temporary haven for men, women and children who otherwise would be doomed to slaughter in the extermination chambers of Europe,

THEREFORE, The Central Conference of American Rabbis takes this occasion to thank the President of the United States for the temporary haven of refuge already established and to urge the further establishment of a series of such havens or free ports in America.

CENTRAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN RABBIS
OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY
204 BUFORD PLACE
MACON, GA.



Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

In reply please
refer to: 703

MAY 22 1944

Dear Mr. Chesner:

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

Your interest is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Seymour Chesner,
259 East 172nd Street,
Bronx, New York.

(Temporary Havens)

EAT

PH

Hutchison:agr 5-17-44

JW-

703

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. 5/20/44 _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

Dear Sir:

I have been reading in
the newspapers lately
of "Free Ports" for refugees.
I think this is a very good
idea. If a free port in this
country would do the refugees
a world of good, and would put
us out in no way whatsoever.
These refugees can stay in
abandoned military camps till
after the war. When the war
ends they can go back to their
natural lands. I propose that you
Gentleman use your influence
and good judgment in opening up a

SECRET FOR THE
SECRETARY GENERAL

703

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. 5/20/44 _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

free port in this country.
Sincerely yours
Seymour Chwiler

APR 20 1944
WASHINGTON D.C.

JUN 23 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1410

Dear Mr. Chrein:

Thank you for your communication of June 14, 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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Mortimer Chrein,
4901 - 14th Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.

1410

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

6/14/44

Dear Sir:

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

Yours for VICTORY

Madame
Cher

MAY 19 1944

In reply please
refer to: 647

Dear Mr. Atkinson:

Thank you for your letter of May 3, 1944,
concerning the possibility of establishing temporary
havens for refugees.

Your interest is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Henry A. Atkinson,
The Church Peace Union,
70 Fifth Avenue,
New York 11, New York.

(Temporary Havens)

CONTROL COPY

THE CHURCH PEACE UNION

Office of the Secretary
70 Fifth Avenue
New York 11, N. Y.

May 3, 1944

W. R. O. X647
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans. May-19-44
No. Ans. Req.
Date

Mr. John W. Pehle, Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am writing to express my hearty support and approval of the proposed plan to establish "free ports" for refugees in the United States. I hope that this plan can be carried through.

Sincerely yours,
(signed) Henry A. Atkinson

HAA:is

RECEIVED
MAY 19 1944
U. S. DEPT. OF THE TREASURY
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

AUG 12 1944

In reply please
refer to: 3096

Dear Dr. Churchill:

The President has referred to me a letter dated July 23, 1944, signed by you and the members of your household, concerning the plight of the persecuted minorities of Europe.

On January 23, 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 who are in imminent danger of death, 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 desist 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 is equipped to care for approximately 1,000 refugees until they can be returned to their homelands at the end of the war. Arrangements also have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer 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,

[Signed] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Kenneth Churchill,
46 Green Street,
Lebanon, New Hampshire.

8/12/44
KMHutchison: 8/2/44

JW

2
New Refugee Book

7/24 3096

RECEIVED
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
KENNETH CHURCHILL, M. D.
46 GREEN STREET
LEBANON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
July 22, 1944
W. R. B. [initials]
Secretary to the President

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: File _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

To the President of the United States of America, Washington
Dear Mr. President,

The members of this household earnestly entreat you to take the initiative in securing immediate action by the United Nations to save what remains of the Jewish people of Europe. As the Nazis see that defeat is inevitable they are redoubling their efforts to make good their boast that they will leave no Jews alive. It will be an enduring shame to the rest of humanity if it leaves one stone unturned to rescue any Jews that can be rescued.

Therefore we beg you, in the name of the principles upon which this nation was founded, to use your great prestige, and that of the United States, to bring about the immediate establishment, by all the United Nations, of temporary havens of refuge for any Jews, or other victims of Nazi persecution, who may be able to escape with their lives. Immediate action of this kind, and world knowledge thereof, would undoubtedly save many thousands of lives. Do we not all, as Americans, believe that such lives are worth saving?

Respectfully yours,

Miriam F. Churchill
Evelyn Fuller
Mary Churchill
Martha Churchill
K. Churchill, M. D.

SEP 22 1944

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF INVESTIGATION
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

2645

W. R. B.
620 East 37th St.
Brooklyn
June 26, 1944.

File No.	Authority
For File	74
Ann.	
No. Ann. Reg.	
Initial	
Date	

#967

Mr. J. W. Peble
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Peble:

Thank you for your letter and enclosed material of June 17th.

However I do not feel that establishing a camp for 1000 refugees is any answer to the acknowledged problem. We must have such camps for hundreds of thousands now.

Yours respectfully,
(Miss) B. S. Cogan
~~to be~~

620 E. 53 St.
Bklyn 3, Ny



Miss Hodel
Room 190

Mr. J. W. Pehle 967
Executive office of the President
War Refugee Board
Washington, 25, D.C.

Top #
-11
11

JUN 17 1944

In reply please
refer to: 967

Dear Miss Cogan:

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 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 B. Sheba Cogan,
620 East 53rd Street,
Brooklyn 3, New York.

Enclosures.

FBI ESTowler:inp 6/15/44

967

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

6/6/44

Dear Sir:

We urge you to act quickly
for the establishment of free ports as
temporary havens for refugees.



Respectfully,

B. Sheta Cogan
620 E. 53rd St.

BKlyn 3 NY

MAY 23 1944

In reply please
refer to: 762

Dear Mrs. Cohen:

Thank you for your letter of May 19, 1944,
concerning the establishment of temporary havens for
refugees.

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mrs. David E. Cohen,
4800 Pine Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Free Ports

EAT RBH
REMatchison:inp 5-20-44 JWC

762

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. 5/23/44 _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

Hon. John W. Pehle:

Dear Sir:

I am indud in favor of a
free port in United State for
Refuge that have flown from
the Nazis.

Will you please press for
a free port for War Refuys?

Sincerely

Mrs. David H. Cohen
4800 Pine St
Phila Pa

762

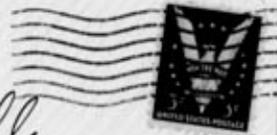
Priority

444

9.

RD

37



Hon. John W. Pehle.
Executive Director
War Refuga. Board.
Washington 25. D.C.

Postage should be paid
to the addressee

NOV 20 1944

Dear Mr. Cohen:

Thank you for your letter of November 10, 1944, enclosing a resolution adopted by your organization on behalf of the refugees from Nazi dominated Europe.

The interest of your organization in the fate of these persecuted people is greatly appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Jacob H. Cohen,
President,
Brownsville & East New York Jewish
Community Council,
16 Court Street,
Brooklyn 2, N. Y.

FH:hd 11/20/44

Joh

BROOKLYN JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

16 COURT STREET
BROOKLYN 2, NEW YORK

RABBI ISRAEL H. LEVINthal
HONORARY PRESIDENT
MAXIMILIAN MOSE
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

HARRY ZETZ, PRESIDENT
LED MARDER, SECOND VICE-PRESIDENT
MILTON J. KARP, TREASURER

OSCAR A. LEWIS
CHAIRMAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS
LEWIS J. GRIBETZ
SECRETARY

November
10th
1944

Mr. John Fiehle, Director
War Refugee Board
Dept. of State
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Fiehle:

Enclosed you will please find a copy of a resolution adopted at the Brownsville and East New York Jewish Community Council, on Sunday, October 22, 1944, at the Hebrew Educational Society, 564 Hopkinson Ave.

The Brownsville and East New York Jewish Community Council consists of sixty-four affiliated Jewish organizations, with a total membership of twelve thousand.

Sincerely yours,

Jacob H. Cohen

JACOB H. COHEN, President
BROOKLYN & EAST NEW YORK JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

BROWNSVILLE & EAST NEW YORK JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
RESOLUTION ADOPTED AT CONFERENCE OF JEWISH ORGANIZATIONS

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22nd, 1944

Whereas, despite the demands of war, which at this time prevent a permanent solution to the problems of resettling refugees from Nazi-dominated lands, the United Nations must, in the name of mercy and humanity, provide havens of refuge for the persecuted multitudes who are being decimated daily by murder, starvation and disease. Such a haven has been provided at Oswego, New York, for one thousand refugees. Additional havens are necessary to save more of those who are doomed to sure death. Therefore, let us resolve that we urge the United States Government to use its good offices to prevail upon other members of the United Nations to establish similar sanctuaries in their respective countries.

SEP 2 1944

In reply please
refer to: 3244

Dear Mr. Cohen:

The President has referred to me your letter of August 3, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens 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, where approximately 1,000 refugees, who had fled from their homelands to Southern Italy, are being cared for until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war. Copies of his message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 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 until 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.

Very truly yours,

Signed: J. W. Pahlé

J. W. Pahlé
Executive Director

Mr. Aaron C. Cohen,
Box 787,
Huntington 12, West Virginia.

Enclosures.

EBH
RBHutchison:agr 8-17-44

3244

LOCAL AND LONG DISTANCE
PHONES: 604
605



OFFICE AND WAREHOUSE
726-728
Filing Authority
SECOND AVE. BLDG. 10 BY.
PRIVATE
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

THE M. COHEN COMPANY

Waste Materials

* HUNTINGTON, W. VA.
RESPECTFULLY REQUESTS
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION August 3, 1944.

William T. Russell
Secretary to the President

Box 787

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President, United States,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Since religious persecution has been rampant in those foreign lands ruled by the hand of Naziism, your American religious heritage and leadership in the cause of humanity has stood in view of the entire world, and praise of you for the hand extended to the afflicted has been freely expressed by fellow Americans regardless of religious affiliations.

Since the War Refugee Board contemplates establishment of Free Ports to relieve the plight of those oppressed by Naziism, I personally appeal to your honor to respond favorably to those recommendations of the War Refugee Board.

Confident that your belief in humanity will continue to prevail in this instance, I ask to remain,

Very respectfully,
Aaron C. Cohen
Aaron C. Cohen

ACC/G

MEMBER
INSTITUTE OF
SCRAP IRON
AND
STEEL, INC.

JUN 19 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1189

Dear Mr. Cohen:

Thank you for your communication of June 8, 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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Harry Cohen,
1461 - 57th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.

ECT - RBH
REHutchison:agr 6-17-44

1189

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

Dear Sir
I am in favor of Free Ports
for Refugees and ask you to do what
you can towards accomplishing
this wonderful project
Thanking you for whatever you
can do
Sincerely
Harry Cohen

1461-57 St
Bklyn N.Y 11244

JUN 15 1944

In reply please
refer to: 982

Dear Mr. Cohen:

Thank you for your communication 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.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Melvin J. Cohen,
4815 Fifteenth Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.

6-17-44 HBN Hutchison:agr 6-14-44

W. R. B. 1 982
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ass. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

June 7, 1944

My dear Mr. Pehle

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

Melvin J. Cohen
Brooklyn N Y

4815-15th Ave.



RECEIVED
MAY 10 1944
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
MAY 10 1944

In reply please
refer to: 3090

JUL 26 1944

Dear Mrs. Cohen:

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 cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned with 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

Mrs. Peggy Cohen,
201 Eastern Parkway,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.

11
New Report
Boards

PLEASE REPLY SEPARATELY
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William V. Russell
Secretary to the President

✓
201 Eastern Parkway
Brooklyn, N.Y.
July 18, 1944

3090

W.R.B.
Filing Authority
Files
Ins. Req.
Date

To: Franklin Delano Roosevelt
President of the United States
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr President:

In behalf of the Jewish and all
persecuted peoples in Europe who are able
to flee Nazi terrorism may I urge that
immediate action be taken to establish
Rescue Camps within the United States
where they will find safety and renewed
hope until such time as their further
welfare is decided at the coming peace
Let us set an example to our Allies to
take similar action. At this critical and
desperate time the gates of Palestine are
closed to free entry of Jewish People by
the British Government. Surely we must
let Great Britain feel the weight of our
disapproval of such undemocratic principles
so that they may be influenced to open these gates
at the earliest possible date.

If we are firm and unflinching in
loyalty to our shining democratic heritage, the
courage and sacrifice of my husband and his
brothers fighting on foreign soil will not be
in vain.

Respectfully,
Mrs Peggy Cohen ✓

In reply please
refer to: 783

MAY 31 1944

Dear Mrs. Cohn:

Thank you for your petitions of May 20, 1944,
to the President and to me, 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

Free Vets

Mrs. L. M. Cohn
736 West 173rd Street,
New York, New York.

Ear

RRHutchison:agr 5-24-44

pat -

Letter No: 482
in reply please

New Refugee
Ad

808

New York, May 20th, W.R.B.
 Filing Authority
 To: Files
 Ans. 5/31/44
 No. Ans. Req. _____
 Initial _____
 Date _____
 AS William D. K...
 Secretary to the President

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

Honorable Sir:-

The attached petition covers the signatures of 83 persons who, very humbly and very sincerely, ask that you consider their plea for the establishment of Refugee Rescue Camps so that considerable numbers of refugees might find sanctuary in this country and, also, other countries would be encouraged to follow our example.

It would give concrete expression to our many fine statements that a better world may come out of this present debacle.

President Roosevelt - I want you to know that all of these people who have signed this petition hold you in the highest honor and esteem and truly love you for the great gentleman and humanitarian that you are. We have fullest confidence that you will do all you can to save the lives of the innocent, persecuted peoples.

Respectfully yours,
Sylvia S. White

Mrs. Louis M. Cohn
736 West 173rd St.
New York City, N.Y.

1
2
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ED
E BOARD
ON, D. C.
PM 4 24

President FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT,
White House, Washington, D.C.

New York, May 20th, 1944.

Honorable Sir:-

Due to the tragic plight of refugees because of Nazi oppression, with inhumanity and murder rampant against innocent souls, we ~~are~~ plead with you to use your high office for the speedy establishment of REFUGEE RESCUE CAMPS, sometimes referred to as "FREE PORTS", in the United States as a haven for the duration of the war.

Alfred Simon
 Bella Sommerfeld
 Mrs. E. Meyer
 Jessie Nykark
 Sunny Fisher
 Ernest Meyer
 Joseph J. Chulich
 Frank J. Chulich
 Edward Nykark
 Homer Sly Cox
 Eva Eisenberg
 Sophie Phillips
 J. Gubian
 G. Baker
 Bella Mendelson
 Simon Rohett
 David Baker
 Jonas Phillips
 Mrs. B. Wiener
 Sylvia Thurman

Other
side
please

Rosamund L. Fisher
 Henriette J. Hershey
 John Derst
 Hermann Fester
 Anna Kotheckel
 Annie Storch
 Mary J. Joffe
 A. Berlin
 Cecily Heller
 Elizabeth West
 Esther Simon
 Lillian S. Berlow,
 Emmy J. Strauss
 Sam Baum
 Rita Jaschnick
 Hilde Baum
 Gladys Siff
 Aron A. Saperman

Pauline Lippowitz
 Rose D. Colton
 Berrie Cohn
 Sidonia Levy
 Anna Frank
 Mrs. Fannie Wasserman
 Mrs. Yvette Titelman
 Shirley Eisentub
 Fannie Brecht
 Lena Tassch.
 Mrs. Gertrude Barish
 Saeq Goldberg
 Mrs. B. Cyp.
 Barbara Herman
 Sue Copen
 Beatrice Schwarz
 Beatrice Herman
 Samuel Adelman
 Sol Eisenberg
 James M. C.

Bellewice
 J. Thurman
 E. Witt
 Langerfeld
 Braud
 Jennie Loewenberg
 Morris Loewenberg
 Flora Loewenberg
 Carlotta Sterling
 Bertha Bond
 Mrs. Annabel Friedman
 Mrs. E. Meyers
 Mrs. R. Braunstein
 Mrs. Grapfelden
 Rebekah Loewenberg
 Mrs. Leona Barbat
 Annie Harris
 Sonya S. Cohn
 H. Krug
 Mrs. S. Rohoff
 Mrs. Estelle H. Apper
 Lily
 Albert Outear
 W. Frank

Hon. John W. Fehle,
 War Refugee Board,
 Washington, D.C.

Honorable Sir:-

Due to the tragic plight of refugees because
 inhumanity and murder rampant against innocents
 you to use your office as head of the War Refugee
 Rescue Board to establish a REFUGEE RESCUE CAMP
 as "FREE PORTS", in the United States as a
 the war.

RECEIVED
 1940

Release
 J. Thurman
 E. Witt
 J. Brown

783

Hon. John W. Pehle,
 War Refugee Board,
 Washington, D.C.

New York, May 20th, 1944

W. R. B. _____
 Filing Authority _____
 To: Files _____
 Ans. 5/31/44 _____
 No. Ans. Req. _____
 Initial _____
 Date _____

Honorable Sir:-

Due to the tragic plight of refugees because of Nazi oppression, with
 inhumanity and murder rampant against innocent souls, we plead with
 you to use your office as head of the War Refugee Board for the
 speedy establishment of REFUGEE RESCUE CAMPS, sometimes referred to
 as "FREE PORTS", in the United States as a haven for the duration of
 the war.

Alfred J. Jans
 Mrs. D. Meyer
 Bella Sommerfeld
 Josie Mykewitz
 Henry Fisher
 Sam Brown
 Joseph J. Chulich
 Harry D. Ehrlich
 Edward Mykewitz
 Emma Mykewitz
 Tom Eisenberg
 Sophie Phillips
 J. Gibian
 Elsie Roaker
 Bella Mendelson
 Simon Robert
 David Baker
 Jonas Phillips
 Mrs B. Wiener
 Sylvia Thurman

Rosamund L. Farber
 Henriette T. Gersh
 Hermann Tarkenton
 Anna Storch
 Anna Rothchild
 May L. Stark
 A. Barlow
 Cecily Keller
 Elizabeth Jett
 Nora Fisher
 Eula Simon
 William G. Berlow
 Emmy P. Strauss
 Rita Sosnick
 Hilda Baum
 Rose S. Carter
 Pauline Joffe

continued
 other
 side
 please

87
 Gladys Seff
 Boris Cohn
 Sidonia Levy.
 Anna Frank.
 Mrs. Famine Wasserman
 Mrs. Yvette Tetelman
 Mr. D. Cof.
 Mrs. Gertrude Bausch
 Sally Goldfarb
 Fannie Breen
 Lena Lasch.
 Hurley Eisenberg
 Barbara Herman
 Sue Cohen
 Beatrice Schwartz
 Beatrice Herman
 Samuel Adleman
 Sol Eisenberg
 E. Witt
 Estelle Schneider
 H. Bauer.

J. Thurman
 B. Weiss
 S. Braud
 Fannie Loewenberg
 Mrs. Annabel Friedman
 Mrs. E. Meyers
 Bertha Bondy
 Mrs. Grafeldt
 Mrs. R. Braumstein
 Annie Hagar's
 Roberta Gurevich
 Mrs. Sarah Gurevich
 Sonya S. Cohn
 H. Regina
 Mrs. S. Polidt
 Mrs. Estelle H. Apper
 Lily C. Hirsch
 Anna Adleman
 Fannie M. Cohn
 Mrs. Gurevich
 Mrs. Gurevich

1944 MAY 22 PM 3 35

RECEIVED
 WAR REFUGEE BOARD
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

JUL 4 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1994

Dear Mr. Cole:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of June 11, 1944, concerning the effect the intensely cold winters at Fort Ontario may have on the refugees to be sheltered there.

Your concern for the comfort and well-being of these people is deeply appreciated and I assure you that no effort will be spared to make living conditions for them as comfortable and healthful as possible.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Fred W. Cole,
27 Westside Street,
Bethesda Branch,
Washington, D. C.

EBT

RBH RBHutchison:agr 6-30-44

JW

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

To: Trust Towles
(1) (Room) (Bldg.)
(2) (Room) (Bldg.)
(3) (Room) (Bldg.)

Prepara uico
litter - Leble was
impressed - it's from
a 14 yr. old.
JH

From: (Date)
..... (Room) (Bldg.)

1994

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority
To: Files _____
Ans. 7/4/44
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

✓
ACCEPTANCE MARKING
FOR RECORDS SECTION
AND CLASSIFICATION

William S. ...
Secretary to the President

War Pe
Calvin John, Md.

June 11, 1944

Dear sir:

I see by the papers that they intend to put some refugees at Fort Ontario at Oswego, N. Y. That would be fine for the summer but it would be terrible in the winter. The northwest winds sweep across the lake and across the fort grounds and it used to get to 40 or 45 degrees below zero and I do not suppose it is any different now. We used to live across the street opposite the east side of the fort grounds and I used to carry a route of papers along there. The snow piled

1994

W. R. D. _____
Filing Authority

used to dash
ier below the
the water went
l freeze and I
on the ice on
uly where it had
go yet.

In W. Cole

up there 10 or 12 feet high
and from November to March
they could not open the front
door or see out of the windows
on the first floor. People from
a warm climate could not
stand the cold up there
Before, during and after
the Civil War there were
quite a large number of
Negros living in Aswego
but by 1873 there was only
one Negro boy living to go
to school as the rest had all
died off with consumption
or pneumonia. Please do not
think that this is meant as a
criticism as it is not. Wishing
you and yours the best of
everything I remain

Yours very truly
Fred W. Cole (14)
27 Westside St.,
Bethesda Branch,
Washington, D. C.

P.S. The waves used to dash
up over the pier below the
boat and as the water went
over it would freeze and I
have walked on the ice on
the pier in July where it had
not melted off yet.

J. W. Cole

up there 10 or 12 ft
and from November
they could not open
door or see out of
on the first floor.
a warm climate
stand the cold
Before, during and
the Civil War
quite a large number
Negros living in
but by 1873 there
one Negro boy
to school as the
died off with cold
or pneumonia
think that this is
criticism as it is
you and yours
everything I remember

Yours ve
Fred
27 West
Bethesda
Washing

JUN 15 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1175

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Coleman:

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. and Mrs. Samuel A. Coleman,
1359 - 45th Street,
Brooklyn 19, New York.

Enclosures.

EST
ESTowler:inp 6/14/44

1175

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority
To: Files _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

1359-45th Street
Brooklyn 9, N.Y.
June 10, 1944

Dear Sir:

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

Truly yours,
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel B. Collins

JUN 14 1944

In reply please
refer to: 993

Dear Mr. Chapman:

Thank you for your letters of June 2, 1944, 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. Emmanuel Chapman,
Director,
Committee of Catholics for
Human Rights,
1775 Broadway,
New York 19, New York.

Enclosures.

EAT RBH RBHutchison:agr 6-13-44