

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

General - C-D

Folder 2: Co-Cu

3
Warr Refugee
P.D.

993

COMMITTEE OF CATHOLICS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

1775 BROADWAY
Room 802

NEW YORK 19, N. Y.
Circle 7-5457

W. H. B. _____
King Authority _____
Tel. Files _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____
Acting Director

EMMANUEL CHAPMAN
Professor, Fordham and Hunter

Honorary Board

- FRANK J. LAUSCHE
Mayor, Cleveland, Ohio
- Most Rev. ROBERT E. LUCEY
Archbishop, San Antonio, Texas
- FRANK MURPHY
Supreme Court Justice of the U. S.
- JAMES E. MURRAY
Senator
- PHILIP MURRAY
President, Congress of
Industrial Unions
- GEORGE N. SHUSTER
President, Hunter College

SECRETARIAL BOARD
FOR RECONSTRUCTION
AND COORDINATION

William J. Bennett
Secretary to the President

June 2, 1944.

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

Dear President Roosevelt:

The Committee of Catholics for Human Rights, at its Membership Committee meeting held last night at the Hotel Commodore, New York, unanimously adopted the following resolution to be sent to you:

The establishment of "free ports" wherein refugees can find a haven, pending plans for their permanent settlement, has our strong approval. To perform the corporal work of mercy of sheltering the homeless, the victims of Nazi persecution and injustice, is elementary Christianity and democracy.

Very sincerely yours,

Emmanuel Chapman
Emmanuel Chapman
Director

EC:TRW

MEMBERS (Partial List)

GEORGE F. ADDES
 Detroit, Secy-Treas., U.A.W.-C.I.O.

A. de BETHUNE
 Newport, R. I., Artist

MRS. MARY BRISON
 Bronxville, N. Y.

JOHN BROPHY
 Washington, D. C., Director,
 CIO Industrial Councils

Rev. VINCENT A. BROWN
 Brooklyn, N. Y., Priest

ANNETTE CREMIN BYRNE
 New York City, Artist

BARRY BYRNE
 New York City, Architect, Critic

Rev. DANIEL M. CANTWELL
 Mendota, Ill., Professor of
 Sociology, St. Mary of the
 Lake Seminary

LOUIS J. CAPPOZZOLI
 Washington, D. C., Congressman

Dr. EREN J. CAREY, M.D.
 Milwaukee, Wis.; Dean, School
 of Medicine, Marquette University

JAMES B. CAREY
 Wash., D. C., Secy-Treas., CIO

Dr. JAMES GORDON CLAPP
 Department of Psychology and
 Philosophy, Hunter College

MYLES CONNOLLY
 Los Angeles, Cal., Writer

Sister CONSUELA, O. Carm.
 New Orleans, La.

EDWARD CORSI
 Industrial Commissioner,
 New York State

JOHN C. CORT
 Labor Editor,
 The Commonwealth

Mother GRACE C. DAMMANN
 President, Manhattanville College
 of the Sacred Heart

AUGUST DERLETH
 Sank City, Wis., Novelist

JOSEPH F. DINNEEN
 Boston, Mass., Columnist, Radio
 Commentator, Boston Globe

JOHN J. DONOHUE
 Principal, P.S. 89, Bronx

Rev. VINCENT DONOVAN, O.P.
 New York City, National Director,
 Catholic Thought Association,
 Spiritual Director, St. Paul Guild

Very Rev. JOHN A. DRISCOLL, O.P.
 River Forest, Ill., Prior, Dominican
 House of Studies

Rev. GERALD ELLARD, S. J.
 St. Mary's, Kansas, Professor of
 Liturgical Theology, St. Mary's
 College

Dr. ARTHUR G. FALLS, M.D.
 Chicago, Ill.

JAMES A. FITZGERALD
 Assistant Professor of Education,
 Fordham University

Rev. VINCENT J. FLYNN
 St. Paul, Minn., President,
 College of St. Thomas

Rev. GEORGE B. FORD
 Chaplain,
 Columbia University

HENRY E. FOLEY
 Boston, Mass.

GUS GAYNOR
 San Francisco, Calif.

Rev. Dr. JAMES R. GILLIS, O.P.
 S.T.D., River Forest, Ill.

WILLIAM GORMAN
 Annapolis, Md., Professor of
 Philosophy, St. John's College

ANTHONY GOREN
 Brooklyn, N. Y.

WILLIAM HARD
 Koving, Editor,
 Readers' Digest

M. E. HARRISON
 San Francisco, Cal.

JULIUS H. HLAVATY
 Bronx, N. Y., Chairman,
 Department of Mathematics,
 High School of Science

REGINALD T. KENNEDY
 Cleveland, Ohio, Regional Director,
 National Conference of
 Christians and Jews

JEROME G. KERWIN
 Chicago, Ill., Professor,
 Political Science

MARTIN KYNE
 New York City, Exec. Vice-President,
 United Retail, Wholesale and
 Department Store Employees of
 America

EDWIN A. LAHEY
 Labor Editor,
 Chicago Daily News

JOHN M. LEWIS
 New York City, Justice,
 Municipal Court

JOHN R. LONGO
 Jersey City, N. J.

Sister M. MADELEVA, C.S.C.
 Holy Cross, Ind., President,
 St. Mary's College, Notre Dame

JOHN J. MAHONEY
 Boston, Mass., Professor of
 Education, Boston University

Rev. RAYMOND J. MILLER, C.Sa.R.,
 Oconomowoc, Wis., Professor
 of Sociology

Rev. JOSEPH I. MALLOY, C.S.P.
 New York City

EDWARD MARCINIAK
 Chicago, Ill., Editor of WORK

Rev. J. N. MOODY, U.S.N.R.
 Patuxent River, Md., Chaplain

Rev. THOMAS V. MOORE
 Catholic University of America

PAUL V. MURRAY
 Mexico, D. F., High School
 Principal of The American
 School Foundation

DAVID J. McDONALD
 Pittsburgh, Pa., United Steel
 Workers of America

T. HUBERT McCAULEY
 Newark, N. J., Past National
 Commander, American Legion

J. I. McINERNEY
 Grand Rapids, Mich.

FRANCIS E. McMAHON
 Asst. Prof. of Philosophy,
 University of Chicago

ROBERT McWILLIAMS
 San Francisco, Cal., Judge,
 Superior Court

ROBERT F. J. O'DONNELL
 Brooklyn, N. Y.

JAMES O'GORMAN
 Chairman, Department of Psychology
 and Philosophy, Hunter College

FRANCIS J. O'MALLEY
 Notre Dame, Ind., Professor of
 English, Managing Editor,
 The Review of Politics

JOSEPH O'MEARA, Jr.
 Cincinnati, Ohio, Lawyer

ELIZABETH WARD PERKINS
 Boston, Mass., Educator

MARY LOUISE REILLY
 Brockton, Mass., Teacher

Mother M. ROSE ELIZABETH
 Holy Cross, Ind., Superior General,
 Sisters of the Holy Cross

DOROTHY ROTHSCHILD
 Hunter College High School

Mgr. JOHN A. RYAN, D.D.
 Washington, D.C., Director,
 Natl. Catholic Welfare Conference

Dr. ANGELO M. SALA, M.D.
 Pathologist, New York City
 Cancer Institute

ELIAS J. SEAMAN
 Bama, Miss.

Rev. E. HAROLD SMITH
 New York City

OTTO L. SPAETH
 Dayton, Ohio, President, Dayton
 Tool & Engineering Co.

FRANCES SWEENEY
 Editor, Boston City
 Reporter

HARRY SYLVESTER
 Orleans, Mass., Writer and
 Journalist

JAMES A. VOCELLE
 Tallahassee, Fla., Commissioner,
 Florida Parole Commission

DANIEL C. WALSH
 Professor of Philosophy,
 Manhattanville and Columbia

AUDREY WHITE
 Dedham, Mass.

CUTHBERT WRIGHT
 Worcester, Mass., Professor of
 Literature, Assumption College

RECEIVED
 WAR REFUGEE BOARD
 WASHINGTON, D. C.
 JUN 9 AM 11 54

1

Miss Hadel
Room 190

JAM
S

PHI

COPY

CONTROL COPY 911

COMMITTEE OF CATHOLICS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
1775 BROADWAY
Room 802

NEW YORK 19, N.
Circle 7-5457

W. H. D. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

Honorary Board
FRANK J. LAUSCHE
Mayor, Cleveland, Ohio
Most Rev. ROBERT E. LUCEY
Archbishop, San Antonio, Texas
FRANK MURPHY
Supreme Court Justice of the U. S.
JAMES E. MURRAY
Senator
PHILIP MURRAY
President, Congress of
Industrial Unions
GEORGE N. SHUSTER
President, Hunter College

Acting Director
EMMANUEL CHAPMAN
Professor, Fordham and Hunter

June 2, 1944.

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

The Committee of Catholics for Human Rights, at its Membership Committee meeting held last night at the Hotel Commodore, New York, unanimously adopted the following resolution, to be sent to President Roosevelt and to yourself:

The establishment of "free ports" wherein refugees can find a haven, pending plans for their permanent settlement, has our strong approval. To perform the corporal work of mercy of sheltering the homeless, the victims of Nazi persecution and injustice, is elementary Christianity and democracy.

Very sincerely yours,

/s/ EMMANUEL CHAPMAN

Emmanuel Chapman
Director

EC:TRW

JUN 19 1944

In reply please
refer to: 894

Dear Miss Bradley:

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

Miss Elizabeth G. Bradley,
Executive Secretary,
Committee for a Democratic
Foreign Policy,
565 Fifth Avenue,
New York 17, New York.

Enclosures.

EBT ✓
EBTowler:inp 6/16/44

In reply please
refer to: 894

JUN 5 1944

Dear Miss Bradley:

Thank you for your letter of May 25, 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

Miss Elizabeth G. Bradley,
Executive Secretary,
Committee for a Democratic
Foreign Policy,
565 Fifth Avenue,
New York 17, New York.

COPY

CONTROL COPY

894

COMMITTEE FOR A
DEMOCRATIC
FOREIGN POLICY

565 Fifth Avenue
New York 17, N.Y.

Telephone: PL 4-0205

Initial _____
Date _____

Wing Authority
JUN 5 1944
Ans. No. 0205
Ans. Req. _____

WM. JAY SCHIEFFELIN, Chairman
MORTIMER HAYS, Chairman
Executive Committee

May 25, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Pehle

I am writing you in behalf of our Committee to tell you of our complete support and approval of the proposed plan to establish "Free Ports" for refugees in the United States.

I believe that it is very difficult for all of us in the comfort and security of our homes here in the United States to think of the incredible suffering which the Jewish people of Europe have undergone in the last decade.

Many thoughtful citizens feel that the U S Government has made only empty gestures toward remedying their suffering. They realize the difficulties involved in admitting large numbers under regular immigration regulations. Therefore, the "Free Port" solution seems to us to meet both humanitarian objectives and the difficulties which might arise from a more liberal approach to the problem.

I hope that the matter can go forward speedily - it is long overdue.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Elizabeth G. Bradley

Elizabeth G. Bradley
Executive Secretary

EGB:MO

SEP 14 1944

In reply please
refer to: 3321

Dear Mrs. Conard:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of August 29, 1944, concerning the plight of the Jews in Hungary.

Enclosed as a matter of interest to you is a copy of a joint statement recently issued by the Government of the United States and Great Britain, concerning this matter.

All practicable measures to protect the Jews in Hungary have been and are being taken by this Government in cooperation with other governments and with private refugee organizations. Please be assured that we will continue to do everything in our power to save as many of these people as possible.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Leticia M. Conard,
Grinnell, Iowa.

Enclosure.

EBF
EBFowler:inp 9/12/44 Jod ✓

11-
W. R. B.

RESPECTFULLY REQUEST
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William D. Grinnell
Secretary to the President

x3321

W. R. B.
Filing Authority
To: Files
A. S. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Date August 27th

President Franklin D. Roosevelt,
Washington D.C.

Mr. President:

The word that the lives of
400,000 Jews in Hungary hang
in the balance is indeed shocking.

I beg you as the head of
our great country to either,
urge Great Britain to open the
gates to Palestine for these persecuted
people - or

To give refuge to some in
the United States or to do both
things - or

To open up alternative methods
of escape -

The plight of these people is

too terrible for civilized countries
to permit. You have power

Respectfully,
Mrs. Lactitia M. Coward

In reply please
refer to: 1454

JUN 27 1944

Dear Mr. Stern:

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 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. Charles M. Stern, President,
Congregation Beth Emeth,
Temple Office, 78 State Street,
Albany 7, New York.

Enclosures.

EBT ✓
EBFowler:inp 6/26/44

PRESIDENT
CHARLES M. STERN
P. O. BOX 148
VICE-PRESIDENT
AVRON M. JACOBBS
TREASURER
CHARLES A. HAHN

3
Wm. R. ... Bd.

Congregation Beth Emeth

Lancaster and South ~~St. ...~~
Temple Office, 78 ~~St. ...~~
Albany, N. Y.

1454
BERNARD J. GANBERG
SECRETARY
HENRIETTA E. GLATNER
TELEPHONE 4-1914

June 13, 1944.
RECEIVED
POST OFFICE
AND CONSERVATION

William ...
Secretary to the President

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

Sir:-

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Temple Beth Emeth held during the present month it was unanimously approved to ask you to have the proper authorities establish "free ports" in America.

The Board felt that you are so familiar with the necessity for the creation of these ports that no words of ours are required beyond calling your attention to our great interest in this humanitarian project. We ask and feel confident that you will do whatever is possible towards an early creation of these "free ports".

With assurances of our high regard, we are

Cordially yours,

CONGREGATION BETH EMETH

Charles M. Stern
Charles M. Stern,
President.

CMS:HBB

JUN 20 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1429

Dear Rabbi Feldman:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 14, 1944, enclosing a resolution adopted by your Board of Trustees, 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 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

Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman,
The Congregation Beth Israel,
145 Ballard Drive,
West Hartford 7, Connecticut.

Enclosures.

EBF
RBH
RBHutchison:agr 6-19-44

7
w.r.p.

6/16

1429



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

THE CONGREGATION BETH ISRAEL
ORGANIZED 1843
HARTFORD • CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF THE RABBI
ABRAHAM J. FELDMAN
145 BALLARD DRIVE
WEST HARTFORD 7, CONN.

June 14, 1944

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

Sir:

The undersigned beg to transmit to you the enclosed resolution on Free
Ports adopted by the Board of Trustees of this Congregation.

Respectfully yours,

Maurice Hartman *Abraham J. Feldman*
Maurice Hartman, President Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman

AJF:ETV
Enclosure

RESOLUTION ON FREE PORTS

Adopted by the Board of Trustees
of the Congregation Beth Israel
at its Meeting held June 9, 1944,
at Hartford, Connecticut.

America 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 brothers' 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, and 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 dowered 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 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. We appeal to the conscience of America to respond immediately to this suggestion of the War Refugee Board, and we call upon our representatives in Congress, as well as upon all our fellow-citizens, to save the lives of thousands and even hundreds of thousands, otherwise destined for mass extermination, by setting up at once such free ports, such islands of temporary rescue, upon the free and cherished soil of America.

Maurice Hartman *Abraham J. Feldman*
Maurice Hartman, President Rabbi Abraham J. Feldman

JUL 6 1944

In reply please
refer to: 2919

Dear Mr. Meller:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 16, 1944, quoting a resolution adopted by the Congregation B'nai Abraham 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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. David S. Meller,
President,
Congregation B'nai Abraham,
Meriden, Connecticut.

Enclosures.

EAT ✓ RB
RBHutchison:gr 7-5-44

3
War Refugee
Bd. ✓

✓2919

Congregation B'nai Abraham
MERIDEN, CONN.



RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
FOR ADOPTION, CARRYING
AND CONSIDERATION

June 16, 1944

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

William S. Miller

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

Dear Mr. President,

At a meeting of the Congregation B'nai Abraham held Monday, June 12, 1944 the following resolution was unanimously adopted.

"Millions of Jews have been doomed to death by the blood-stained Nazi tyranny and the few who survive in Axis Europe live daily in the shadow. But a small remnant remains, helpless and hunted, doomed to extinction unless the democratic world acts.

The Nazi occupation of the Balkans now menaces the Jews who are trapped in Hungary and Roumania. Action, vigorous and sustained, and commensurate with the gravity and urgency of the situation, must be undertaken to rescue those who may yet be saved.

We respectfully address a most earnest appeal to the President of the United States, to approve the establishment of refugee rescue camps or free ports in this country and thus proclaim to the world the right of temporary asylum for those who can escape from the Hitlerite fury.

This action would be in the historic tradition of America, a great asylum for the oppressed. It would mean salvation for those who can be brought here. It would serve as an example to other nations. It would encourage the peoples of the occupied countries to shelter the Jews from their Nazi oppressors. It would be a powerful weapon in the fight to deny victory on this front to Hitler."

David S Miller Pres.

JUN 20 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1208

Dear Mr. Pfeifer:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 7, 1944, enclosing a resolution 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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Leo Pfeifer,
President,
Congregation B'nai Israel,
Capitol Avenue and Broadway,
Little Rock, Arkansas.

Enclosures.

EBT - RBH
RBHutchison:agr 6-19-44

was P. Singer

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

CAPITOL AVENUE AND BROADWAY

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

June 7, 1944

LEO PFEIFER, President
DAVE GRUNDFEST, Vice-President
THEO M. SANDERS, Treasurer

TEANE GREEN, Secretary
OFFICE—TEMPLE
PHONE 4-2173

IRA E. SANDERS
RASH

Co
1208
19
W. R. B.
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans.
No. Ans. Req.
Jahai
Date

William J. Smith
Secretary to the President

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

Honorable Sir,

The Administrative Committee of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations passed the enclosed resolutions at a meeting held in Cincinnati on May 21, 1944.

In the name of Congregation B'Nai Israel, Little Rock, Arkansas, and those refugees who are in distress at this time, we kindly ask your cooperation in establishing "free ports" in ~~America~~. We will appreciate your consideration of these resolutions and respectfully ask your endorsement.

We realize that you know the grave position these people are in and that you will assist us in every way possible.

Respectfully yours,

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

Leo Pfeifer

President

Leo Pfeifer/wm

Enclosure

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

CAPITOL AVENUE AND BROADWAY

LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS

RESOLUTION ON FREE PORTS

LEO PFEIFER, President
DAVE GRUNDFEST, Vice-President
THEO M. SANDERS, Treasurer

TEANIE GREEN, Secretary
OFFICE--TEMPLE
PHONE 4-2173

IRA E. SANDERS
RABBI

Adopted by the Administrative Committee
of the Union of American Hebrew Congre-
gations at its Meeting Held Sunday, May
21, 1944, at Cincinnati, Ohio.

America 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 brothers' blood wherever and whenever they have been enslaved and persecuted. Particularly because of its deep religious heritage and character, believing that man 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 dowered 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 Naziism 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 Naziism, than we do for our enemies who, as prisoners of war, are provided with at least such temporary sojourn and security. We appeal to the conscience of America to respond immediately to this suggestion of the War Refugee Board, and we call upon all of our congregations and their members, as well as upon all of our fellow-citizens, to save the lives of thousands and even hundreds of thousands, otherwise destined for mass extermination, by setting up at once such free ports, such islands of temporary rescue, upon the free and cherished soil of America.

CONGREGATION B'NAI ISRAEL

Capitol Avenue and Broadway
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS



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

In reply please
refer to: 3202

AUG 17 1944

Dear Mr. Hurwitz:

The President has referred to me your letter of August 1, 1944, concerning the Emergency Refugee 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.

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.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Henry L. Hurwitz,
President,
Congregation Bnai Israel,
10 Riverside Avenue,
Red Bank, New Jersey.

EBH ✓ *EBH* Enclosures.
EBHutchison:agr 8-14-44

7
www.BnaiIsrael.org
Bnai

Congregation Bnai Israel

10 Riverside Avenue
Red Bank, N. J.

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

August 1, 1944

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William D. Powell
Secretary to the President

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William D. Powell
Secretary to the President

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

Dear Mr. President:

The Congregation Bnai Israel of Red Bank,
New Jersey, representing a membership of one hundred
fifty-one families, has gone on record as whole-
heartedly approving your efforts in establishing a
"Free Port" in this country for one thousand refugees
from Hitler's terror in Europe . Please be assured
of our continued support in this move.

In view of the great humanitarian aspect
of this program, we trust that you will soon be in
a position to open additional "Free Ports" in this
country of ours.

Most respectfully yours,

CONGREGATION BNAI ISRAEL
BY:

Henry L. Warwitz
Henry L. Warwitz, Pres.

In reply please
refer to: 1689

JUN 27 1944

Dear Sirs:

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 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

Rabbi David H. Wise,
Dr. I. J. Rachlin, President,
Congregation B'nai Jeshurun,
High Street and Waverly Avenue,
Newark, New Jersey.

Enclosures.

EAT ✓ EBTowler:inp 6/26/44

1689

CONGREGATION B'NAI JESHURUN

HIGH STREET AND WAVERLY AVENUE
NEWARK, NEW JERSEY

June 8, 1944

DAVID H. WICE, RABBI
SOLOMON FOSTER, RABBI EMERITUS
DR. I. J. RACHLIN, PRESIDENT

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

FOR ACTUAL RETURN
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William J. Smith
Secretary to the President

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

Honored Sir:

Cognizant of your great humanitarianism, we wish to add our petition and the petition of our Trustees and Congregation numbering 650 families, the oldest and largest Jewish Congregation in New Jersey, praying your continued interest in the rescue of innocent refugees from the ravages of the Nazis and Nazi-dominated countries. Whatever asylum can be afforded them will renew the lustre to one of our greatest American traditions. We beseech your leadership in this direction.

Faithfully yours,

David H. Wice

David H. Wice
Rabbi

I. J. Rachlin

Dr. I. J. Rachlin
President

3
War Refugee
Bill

In reply please
refer to: 1433

JUN 24 1944

Dear Mr. Kraft:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 15, 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 organization 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. Fahle

J. W. Fahle
Executive Director

Mr. Julius M. Kraft,
President,
Congregation Mishkan Israel,
Orange and Audubon Streets,
New Haven, Connecticut.

Enclosures.

EWB - RBH
RBHutchison:agr 6-20-44

W. R. B. Siskin

6/16

1433

CONGREGATION MISHKAN ISRAEL

D. EDGARE SISKIN, *Roll*

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

JULIUS M. KRAFT, PRESIDENT
MAX LIVINGSTON, VICE PRESIDENT
DR. BERNHARD A. ROODWISL, TREASURER
LOUIS D. MANN, SECRETARY

ORANGE AND AUDUBON STRE
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

FOUNDED 1840
June 15, 1944

President Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

At a meeting of the Board of Trustees of Congregation Mishkan Israel, New Haven, Connecticut held on Monday evening, June 5, 1944, it was voted to adopt a RESOLUTION ON FREE PORTS. It was further voted that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, for his kind consideration. Following is the resolution:

America 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 brothers' 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 dowered 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 forth-right 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

CONGREGATION MISHKAN ISRAEL

DREDCARE SISKIN, *Rth*

JULIUS M. KRAFT, PRESIDENT
MAX LIVINGSTON, VICE PRESIDENT
DR. BERNHARD A. KODOWSKI, TREASURER
LOUIS D. MANN, SECRETARY

ORANGE AND AUDUBON STREETS
NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT

FOUNDED 1840

- 2 -

murdered to the last man. We agree that America can do no less for these, our allies and fellow-foes of Naziism, than we do for our enemies who, as prisoners of war, are provided with at least such temporary sojourn and security. We appeal to the conscience of America to respond immediately to this suggestion of the War Refugee Board, and we call upon all of our Congregations and their members, as well as upon all our fellow-citizens, to save the lives of thousands and even hundreds of thousands, otherwise destined for mass extermination, by setting up at once such free ports, such islands of temporary rescue, upon the free and cherished soil of America.

With our best wishes for your well-being, we remain

Yours respectfully,

Congregation Mishkan Israel

Julius M. Kraft
President

CONGREGATION MISHKAN ISRAEL,
P. O. Box 1672,
NEW HAVEN, CONN.



President Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washington, D.C.

JUN 19 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1193

Dear Mr. Pulvermacher:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 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 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. Joseph Pulvermacher,
President,
Congregation Rodeph Shalom,
Seven West Eighty-Third Street,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.

GRP ✓ RBH
RBHutchison:agr 6-17-44

Endicott 2-8800

1193

Congregation Rodeph Shalom
Seven West Eighty-third Street
New York

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

Office of the President

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
FOR AGREEMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William D. Kuehl
Secretary to the President

June 6, 1944

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

My dear Mr. President:

May I bespeak, with our sister Temples of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations, your cooperation in approving the establishment of "Free Ports" in America. Because of your great heart and humane sympathies, we know that you will encourage the plan of the War Refugee Board to offer temporary haven to those poor afflicted who are the victims of Nazism.

America, under your leadership, in this great hour of liberation, will extend the hand of helpfulness to those distressed souls who seek haven for their lives.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Pulvermacher
JOSEPH PULVERMACHER
President

JUN 12 1944

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
JUN 12 1944

In reply please
refer to: 2019

JUN 27 1944

Dear Mr. Juda:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 20, 1944, and its enclosure, 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. Leon Juda, President,
Congregation Sherith Israel,
California and Webster Streets,
San Francisco 15, California.

Enclosures.

WBT

ERTowler:inp 6/26/44

W.R.B.



PRESIDENT LEON JUDA
VICE PRESIDENT BERT F. NEUMANN
SECRETARY HENRY KANTER
TREASURER HARRY K. WOLFF

WARDEN AND SUPERINTENDENT OF
PORTALS OF ETERNITY MAUSOLEUM
DAVID MONASCH

CONGREGATION SHERITH ISRAEL

ORGANIZED APRIL 1874, 1881 - 1912
FILLMORE 1720 - 1721
CALIFORNIA AND WEBSTER STREETS
SAN FRANCISCO, 18, CALIF.

4/20/19

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

RABBI MORRIS GOLDSTEIN
CANTOR BENJ. LIEBERMAN

June 20th, 1944.

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President, United States of America,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

Enclosed herewith we are pleased
to submit Resolution with the hope that it
will help towards achieving this great human-
itarian purpose.

Sincerely yours,

CONGREGATION SHERITH ISRAEL,
per-

President.

LJ:M
Enclosure.

RESOLUTION ON FREE PORTS

Adopted by the Board of Trustees of Congregation
Sherith Israel, San Francisco, California, at its
meeting held on Tuesday, June 13th, 1944.

---0---

WHEREAS, the United States of America by its
spirit and by its tradition has been the haven
of refuge for oppressed peoples, and

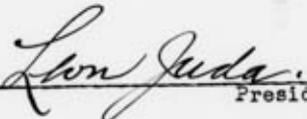
WHEREAS, the President of the United States
through the creation of the War Refugee Board
has given evidence of a sincere effort to save
those lives of Nazi victims which still can be
saved, and

WHEREAS, the suggested plan of Free Ports advo-
cated by the War Refugee Board providing temporary
haven in vacated army camps and other suitable
places would be the means of saving thousands of
innocent souls who would otherwise die under the
foot of the Nazi tyrant, and would yet not disturb
the present immigration laws of our country, NOW
THEREFORE,

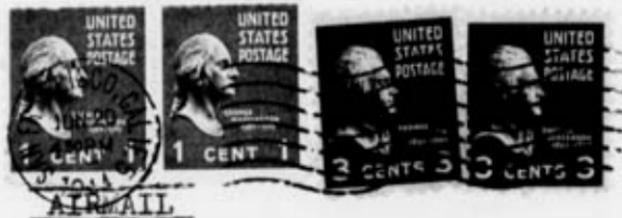
BE IT RESOLVED, that we respectfully call upon our
President, our Senators, our Representatives and
citizens to exert their best efforts to put this
plan into effect at the earliest possible moment.

Signed, this 20th day of June, 1944.

CONGREGATION SHERITH ISRAEL,
per-


President

CONGREGATION SHERITH ISRAEL
California and Webster Streets
San Francisco, 15



Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President, United States of America,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

JUN 14 1944

In reply please
refer to: 943

Dear Mr. Goldberg:

Thank you for your telegram of June 6, 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.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Lipman Goldberg,
Secretary,
Congregation Sons of Israel,
363 Lowell Street,
Lawrence, Massachusetts.

Enclosures.

Edw *feh*
RH Hutchison'agr 6-13-44

**THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON**

June 7, 1944

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

WILLIAM D. HASSERT
Secretary to the President

JUN 9 11 11 AM '44
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
RECEIVED

ED BOARD
D.C.

02

WASHINGTON
DATE OF FILE NOTICE

The White House
Washington

JUN 7 7 46 AM 1944

RECEIVED
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
JUN 8 11 11 AM '44

943
W. R. B. *[Signature]*
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

WB64 NL

LAWRENCE MASS JUNE 6 1944

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WE THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP OF CONGREGATION SONS OF ISRAEL OF
LAWRENCE 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
LIPWAN GOLDBERG SECRETARY 363 LOWELL ST.

THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS



War Refugee Board,
Washington, D.C.

TO:

Secretary Morgenthau

Mr. Gaston

Mr. Lesser

Mr. Paul

Mr. Luxford

Mr. White

Mr. Stewart

Mrs. Taylor

Mr. E.M. Bernstein

Files

Mr. DuBois

Mr. Friedman

Miss Hodel - 190

J. W. Pehle

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

336

INDICATED
TELEPHONE YOUR TELEGRAMS
TO POSTAL TELEGRAPH



THIS IS A FULL RATE TELEGRAM, CABLE-GRAM OR RADIOGRAM UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED. ~~P. B.~~ BY THE PREAMBLE OR IN THE ADDRESS PAGE. SYMBOLS DESIGNATING SERVICE SELECTED ARE OBTAINED FROM COMPANY'S TARIFFS ON HAND AT EACH OFFICE AND ON FILE WITH REGULATORY AUTHORITY. ~~No. Ans. Req.~~

Form 15

W. BA 184

WA

Initial
Date



RD93B NL= LAWRENCE MASS 6
WAR REFUGEE BOARD=
(WASHDC)=

1944 JUN 6 PM 11 04

WE THE OFFICERS AND MEMBERSHIP OF CONGREGATION'SONS OF ISRAEL
OF LAWRENCE MASS REALIZING THE DESPERATE SITUATION OF
REGUGEES FROM EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AND THE NECESSIRTY 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 AMERIA=

LIPMAN GODBERG SECRETARY 363 LOWELL ST.

In reply please
refer to: 2944

JUN 13 1944

Dear Mr. Friedlander:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 29, 1944, quoting a resolution adopted by the Trustees of 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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Louis Friedlander,
President,
Congregation Temple De Hirsch,
Fifteenth Avenue at East Union Street,
Seattle 22, Washington.

Enclosures.

EAT ✓ RBH RBHutchison:agr 7-11-44

2944 ✓

Trustees

LOUIS FRIEDLANDER, President
 CHARLES HOROWITZ, Vice-President
 ALFRED SHEMANSKI, Secretary
 EDWARD F. STERN, Treasurer
 ROY G. ROSENTHAL
 ALFRED SHYMAN
 MAX A. SILVER
 LESLIE STUSSER
 LEO WEISFIELD



RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
 FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT
 AND CONSIDERATION
 BY THE
W. B. D. Rabbi
 Filing Authority
 To: Files
 Secretary to *Rabbi Emeritus*
 SAMUEL KOCH
 No. Ans. Req. _____
 Initial _____
 Date _____
 1111 TENTH AVENUE
 AT EAST UNION ST.
 SEATTLE 22, WASHINGTON ✓

*War Refugee
 2301*

Congregation Temple De Hirsch

June 29, 1944

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

Sir:

At a meeting of the Trustees of our Congregation, held at Seattle, Washington on June 13, 1944, the following resolution pertaining to "free ports" was unanimously adopted:

"America 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 brothers' 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 dowered land is calling upon us to 'bring forth the prisoner from the prison house and those that dwell in darkness from the dungeon'.

"Now, therefore, be it resolved that 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

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States

-2-

June 29, 1944

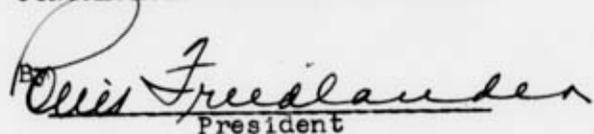
War Refugee Board, which has already evidenced its sincere determination to rescue as many as possible of those victims of Naziism otherwise marked out for wholesale slaughter in the extermination chambers of Europe. We heartily endorse the plan of "free ports" advocated by the War Refugee Board, whereby 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 Naziism, than we do for our enemies who, as prisoners of war, are provided with at least such temporary sojourn and security. We appeal to the conscience of America to respond immediately to this suggestion of the War Refugee Board to save the lives of thousands and even hundreds of thousands, otherwise destined for mass extermination, by setting up at once such free ports, such islands of temporary rescue, upon the free and cherished soil of America.

"Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the President of the United States."

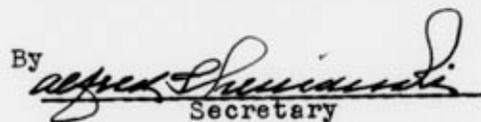
Sincerely yours,

CONGREGATION TEMPLE DE HIRSCH

By


President

By


Secretary

EFS:gh

JUL 21 1944

In reply please
refer to: 2030

Dear Mr. Cook:

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. Charles G. Cook,
227-A Monroe Street,
Brooklyn, 16, New York.

Enclosures.

EAT^v MBTowler: 7/20/44

2030

10
Warr
Refugee Bd

✓
CHARLES G. COOK
227-A MONROE STREET
BROOKLYN, N. Y. 16

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

June 20, 1944.

WASHINGTON, D.C.
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
RECEIVED
MAY 24 1944

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

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William B. Russell
Secretary to the President

My dear Mr. President:

Admitting a thousand refugees into the country is certainly a fine gesture, but considering their great need and how far the quotas are from being filled, don't you think the number is far too small? Can't it be multiplied by a very respectable number?

Cordially yours,

Charles G. Cook

JUL 15 1944

In reply please
refer to: 2959

Dear Miss Cooleage:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 7, 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 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 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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Mary A. Cooleage,
423 West 120th Street,
New York, New York.

EST

REN

RBHutchison:agr 7-13-44

201 -

2959

423 WEST 120TH STREET

NEW YORK, N. Y.

W. R. B. _____

Filing Authority

To: Files _____

Ans. _____

No. Ans. Req. _____

Initial _____

Date _____

W. R. B.
Refused
To the
Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt

The White House
Washington, D. C.

Are every means being employed to check
this appalling extermination of the Jews
by the Nazis?

Can we not as a government take sus-
tained and vigorous action to rescue those
who may yet be saved?

Surely, the administration of our immigra-
tion laws should be altered toward this
humane end, that we be not silent partners
in this great crime.

7 July 1944

Respectfully yours,
May A. Coolidge

JUN 15 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1140

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Copperman:

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 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. M. L. Copperman,
5215 North Ninth Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.

EBTowler:inp 6/14/44

/1140

5215 N. Ninth Street
Philadelphia, Pa.
June 9, 1944

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
No. Ann. Reg. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

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

Dear Sir:

There is a great deal of human suffering during these tragic days. That is unavoidable. For that very reason whatever the more fortunate of us can do to alleviate any suffering should be done.

There has been a great deal of talk about a homeland for the Jewish people. Most of these plans have either proven either impractical or have been stymied. However, a plan is now growing whereby Free Ports or temporary homes are provided for these Jewish refugees until such time that they will be able to return and reconstruct their home land. These Free Ports can be in any democratic country and I believe that if these United States should take the first step in this direction, other countries will soon follow.

We are imploring you to use whatever power you have - invested in you by the citizens of this country - to take affirmative action regarding this plan. The waste of life is tremendous. It is terrible enough that lives must be forfeited in order to save a type of living that we Americans know is morally, economically and spiritually right. However, when a life is taken for no good nor specific reason - this is even more terrible to contemplate.

We, as two American citizens, are looking to you to fulfill those moral obligations which we, as individuals, cannot fulfill.

Respectfully,

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Copperman

M. L. Copperman
Mrs. B. Copperman

10 4 29 12 28 4 01
WASHINGTON D C
AND GEORGE BOYD
RECEIVED

erman
52 Street
Philadelphia, Pa.



John W. Pehle

Executive Director of the War Refugee Board

Washington, D. C.

7
War Refugee Fund

1214 6/10

5215 N. Ninth Street
Philadelphia, Pa.
June 9, 1944

IMMEDIATELY REPLY
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William F. Russell
Secretary to the President

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

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

Dear Mr. President:

There is a great deal of human suffering during these tragic days, that is unavoidable. For that very reason whatever the more fortunate of us can do to alleviate any suffering should be done.

There has been a great deal of talk about a homeland for the Jewish people. Most of these plans have either proven either impractical or have been stymied. However, a plan is now growing whereby Free Ports or temporary homes are provided for these Jewish refugees until such time that they will be able to return and reconstruct their home land. These Free Ports can be in any democratic country and I believe that if these United States should take the first step in this direction, other countries will soon follow.

We are imploring you to use whatever power you have - invested in you by the citizens of this country - to take affirmative action regarding this plan. The waste of life is tremendous. It is terrible enough that lives must be forfeited in order to save a type of living that we Americans know is morally, economically and spiritually right. However, when a life is taken for no good nor specific reason - this is even more terrible to contemplate.

We, as two American citizens, are looking to you to fulfill those moral obligations which we, as individuals, cannot fulfill.

Respectfully,

Mr. and Mrs. M. L. Copperman

M. L. Copperman
Mrs. M. L. Copperman

JUL 17 1944

In reply please
refer to: 2984

Dear Mr. Corum:

The President has referred to me your recent communication 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. Roy W. Corum,
5769 W. Washington Blvd.,
Los Angeles 16, California.

Enclosures.

EBT ✓ RBH RBHutchison:agr 7-17-44

5769. W. Washington Blvd. L. A. 16, Cal
Mr. President:

Refugee 30
It is my desire that you
do all you can to save the Jewish
People of Europe. Establish rescue
Centers for temporary (!) detention and
care until we've knocked the Hell
out of Hitler. Then we can return
them safely to their homeland.

Sincerely, Roy W. Corum.

(Incl)

(NOT A JEW.)

25 SQUARE MILES OR ... 2,000,000 LIVES

Which Shall It Be?

Since this advertisement was written, the news report has come out of Hungary that official slaughter camps and lethal baths "Nazi style" are being installed to liquidate the Jewish population trapped in that country. It is not the story of the two or three million Jews already dead. It is the dreadful challenge that plans are under way to slaughter a million more human beings—right under your very eyes. Will you keep silent—when a way has been found to save some or maybe all of them, or will you raise your voice so that the men who can do something stop twiddling their thumbs—and do it now?

Now, in the eleventh hour of the reign of death, a way has been found that will enable the United Nations to save untold thousands of human lives.

It is suggested that approximately 25 square miles of rescue camps in the whole world

taking this necessary step to rescue those who are doomed to death.

In the shadow of the Statue of Liberty stands Ellis Island where several thousand refugees can be sheltered. Other islands and camps can be established elsewhere—not only in the United States, but in the lands of other

—that our country has shown the way and created the pattern. A rescue camp established in the United States will be a compelling precedent for all the members of the United Nations and for neutral countries.

Not the Dead, but the Living



Which Shall It Be?

Since this advertisement was written, the news report has come out of Hungary that official slaughter camps and lethal baths "Nazi style" are being installed to liquidate the Jewish population trapped in that country. It is not the story of the two or three million Jews already dead. It is the dreadful challenge that plans are under way to slaughter a million more human beings—right under your very eyes. Will you keep silent—when a way has been found to save some or maybe all of them, or will you raise your voice so that the men who can do something stop twiddling their thumbs—and do it now?

Now, in the eleventh hour of the reign of death, a way has been found that will enable the United Nations to save untold thousands of human lives.

It is suggested that approximately 25 square miles of rescue camps in the whole world—five temporary mercy reservations, located in Palestine, Turkey, North Africa, and some of our own abandoned military training camps in the United States and some of the territories of Great Britain can hold all the Jews who can immediately escape from Nazi Europe.

A Practical Plan

Senator Guy M. Gillette of Iowa has just introduced a resolution (S. R. 297), urging upon the President the establishment of Rescue Centers on Ellis Island or other designated places "for temporary detention and care until the President has determined that they return to their homeland without undue risk of their personal safety."

If you have mercy in your soul, if you loath the Nazi reign of terror that is daily sacrificing thousands of innocent lives, if you believe that the American tradition of justice and humanity and moral leadership is worth perpetuating—you will take action.

You will write to the President, to your Senators and Congressmen, to the members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, urging them not to delay one more day in

taking this necessary step to rescue those who are doomed to death.

In the shadow of the Statue of Liberty stands Ellis Island where several thousand refugees can be sheltered. Other islands and camps can be established elsewhere—not only in the United States but in the lands of other United Nations and of neutrals.

For America will not be alone in this deed of mercy. Others will follow her lead. With all the moral weight of her leadership she will say to the nations of the world: "You must help."

The United States Must Show the Way

Palestine, Turkey and North Africa are geographically nearest—that is a visible fact. But just as important as geography is the role which the United States must play—her traditional role of leader in every battle against tyranny and oppression.

We know that it will not be practical to save the Jewish people of Europe in tens and hundreds of thousands by transporting them to rescue camps in the United States. We know that first and foremost they will have to be evacuated to territories close to the Balkans—principally Palestine, but also Turkey, Cyprus and North Africa.

In order to bring pressure effectively upon all other allied and neutral countries to offer such havens, it is vital that the Government of the United States declare with clear conscience that we have done more than our share



—that our country has shown the way and created the pattern. A rescue camp established in the United States will be a compelling precedent for all the members of the United Nations and for neutral countries.

Not the Dead, but the Living

Mr. and Mrs. America: We are not speaking to you of the three million (3,000,000) innocent men, women, and children who have been brutally killed in the past four years.

We are asking you to think of those who are dying today and who will be murdered tomorrow and the next day and the next—in Poland and Slovakia, in Bulgaria and Romania and Hungary.

*Some of these people can still be saved.
What are you doing to save them?*

How You Can Help Effectively

You can help us mobilize public opinion from coast to coast. You can help spread our appeal among many more millions of Americans in order to arouse them to their responsibilities. It is imperative that we place this message in hundreds of newspapers throughout the country and through national hook-ups. For each day dooms thousands that might otherwise be saved.

We need financial help immediately. NOW! You can sign your name below and enclose your contribution to speed the effectiveness of our fight to save the Jewish people of Europe.

Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe

5371 WILSHIRE BLVD. — ROOM 219 — YORK 5263

National Committee Executive Board

Co-Chairmen

Dean A. Ruge
Peter M. Bergson
Louis Bromfield
Ben Hecht
Hon. Will Rogers, Jr.
Hon. Andrew L. Somers
Madame Sigrid Undset
Dr. Maurice William
Dr. Li Yu-Ying

Vice-Chairmen

William S. Bennett
Konrad Bercovici
Jo Davidson
Oscar W. Ekhorn
William Halls
Dean George W. Matheson
Herbert S. Moore
Fletcher Pratt
A. Madani Raffell
Lisa Serpie
John J. Smertenko

Executive Director

Samuel Maron

Secretary

Gabriel A. Wechsler

Treasurer

Mrs. John Gunther

LOS ANGELES

CHAPTER

Honorary Chairman

Manchester Boddy

Chairman Advisory Board

Stewart P. McLennan,
D.D.

Chairman Steering Committee

A. Bernard Shore

Executive Director

Henry S. Dottenheim

Advisory and Executive Committee Members

Morris Abraham
Dr. Eliam J. Anderson
Mrs. Rubin Basan
Judge John Beardley
Mrs. Elmer Bell
Rev. Frederick J. Berger
Mrs. Joseph Berman
Lew C. G. Bliss
Rev. Keith L. Brooks
Rev. Ernest Caldwell
Dr. Mary Sinclair Crawford
George L. Eastman
Capt. E. Patrick Davis
Dr. George Martin Day
Philip S. Eisenrath
Thomas S. Evans
Max Factor, Jr.
Sol B. Fingerman
Nat. Finton
Max Forestein
Harry W. Flannery
A. J. Gusk
Sid Grauman
Mrs. Feys Halperin
Andrew Harden
Dean Ernest Holmes

John B. Hughes
Sam Jaffe
Mrs. Mabel Kinney
Thomas Knudsen
Richard Lane
Lawrence Lipton
Rebecca Book Loy
Mrs. Patsy Lytle
Stewart P. MacLennan, D.D.
Joshua Marks
Groucho Marx
Murray Miller
Mrs. Frederick Harold Mitchell
Otis K. Olsson
Judge Harlan G. Palmer
Professor Constantine Panoulat
Joseph Peil
Albert Parady
Paul Curtis Phillips
Dr. Frederick W. Roman
Victor H. Rossetti
Joseph Scott
David Tipp
Clara Warner
Dr. Gordon Watkins
Nathan Weisman
David Weisman

WILL YOU HELP?

We operate solely through voluntary contributions. By your support, the speed, scope and effectiveness of our fight to save the Jewish people of Europe will be determined.

**EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
TO SAVE THE JEWISH PEOPLE OF EUROPE**
5371 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles (36), Calif.

I enclose my contribution of \$..... to enable you to carry out your tremendous task.

NAME

ADDRESS

By a ruling of the Treasury Department, contributions to the Emergency Committee are deductible on your income tax returns.

COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNITY

ROOM 404, 215 WEST SEVENTH STREET • LOS ANGELES 14, CALIFORNIA

W. R. B. _____
 Filing Authority _____
 Tol. Files _____
 Ans. _____
 No. Ans. Reg. _____
 Initial TRINITY 6271 _____
 Date _____

June 20, 1944

DR. E. C. FARNHAM
Chairman

GABRIEL NAVARRO
Vice Chairman

OSCAR PATTIZ
Vice Chairman

REV. CLAYTON RUSSEL
Vice Chairman

MARY C. McCALL, Jr.
Secretary

JAMES WALLACE
Treasurer

FLORENCE MISCHEL
Acting Executive Secretary

Board of Directors:

GEORGE BRADLEY

JACK BURKE

REVELS CAYTON

PHILIP M. CONNELLY

MRS. PHILIP DWORSKY

DR. GEORGE GLEASON

THOMAS GRIFFITH

REV. J. RAYMOND HENDERSON

MARIE M. HUGHES

JAMES McCANDLESS

PROFESSOR WALTER MUELDER

DR. MAX NUSSBAUM

FRANK PELLETTE

I. H. PRINZMETAL

AARON RICHE

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

Dear Mr. Pehle:

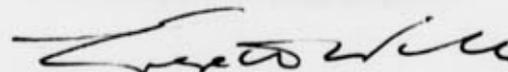
Referring to your communication No. 798, under date of June 15th, may I note on behalf of the Council for Civic Unity that while the establishment of the emergency refugee center at Ft. Ontario is a gratifying beginning, it seems to us to be a most inadequate measure and must be followed up with many similar shelters in order to make any appreciable difference to the suffering people of Europe.

Surely the admission of 1000 refugees can be considered as nothing more than a testimonial or gesture toward alleviating what the President terms, in his message of June 12th, "Hitler's program of mass extermination."

We therefore express our hearty support and concurrence of this first move and hope to hear that the program will be extended in the very near future to more realistic proportions.

Yours truly,

COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNITY

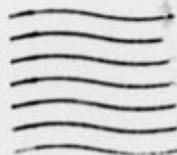


Everett Wile,
 Executive Secretary

EW:mw

COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNITY

215 West 7th Street
Los Angeles 14, California



MISS Kodel
Room 190

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

JUN 15 1944

In reply please
refer to: 798

Dear Mr. Wile:

Since my reply to your recent letters 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

Mr. Everett V. Wile,
Executive Secretary,
Council for Civic Unity,
Room 404,
215 West 7th Street,
Los Angeles 14, California

Enclosures:

ESTowler:db 6/14/44

EST ✓

In reply please
refer to: 798

MAY 31 1944

Dear Mr. Wile:

Thank you for your letters of May 19, 1944,
and enclosures, 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. Peble

J. W. Peble
Executive Director

Mr. Everett V. Wile,
Executive Secretary,
Council for Civic Unity,
Room 404,
215 West 7th Street,
Los Angeles 14, California.

EDT RBHuthcison:agr 5-24-44 JH

COPY

COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNITY

CONTROL COPY

Room 404, 215 West Seventh Street . Los Angeles 14, California - Trinity 6271

May 19, 1944

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

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority _____
To: Files _____
Ans. 5/21/44 _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

Dear Mr. Peahly:

The Council for Civic Unity, an organization of nearly 150 affiliated organizations, dedicated to the proposition that the problems of all races, all creeds, all colors, are not the problems of these minorities alone but of the community as a whole, wishes to go on record in favor of having the War Refugee Board establish refugee rescue camps or free ports in the United States, in which persecuted people of foreign nationalities would be given a haven for the duration of the war.

It seems to us less than reasonable that human beings should be deprived of such a temporary haven because of immigration laws which were never formulated to cope with such a situation as the world now faces, and we believe that such a system of free ports would serve the purposes of humanity during this emergency period without necessitating any change in the existing statutes covering immigration.

We are appending herewith a list of the organizations sponsoring the activities of the Council for Civic Unity, in whose name we urge you to do everything possible for the speedy establishment of refugee rescue camps.

Yours very truly

COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNITY

/s/ EVERETT V. WILE

Everett V. Wile
Executive Secretary

EVW:ah
Encls.

COPY

LIST OF SPONSORS
COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNITY

A.M.E. ZION CHURCH, SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN
CONFERENCE
ALTA QUALIDAD CLUB
ALTRUSA CLUB OF L.A.
AMERICAN ANTI-PREJUDICE SOCIETY, INC.
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
American Federation of Teachers, Local 430
Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters
Dining Car Employees, Local 582
I.A.M., Local 727, YEA Vote Comm. of Lockheed
I.L.G.W.U.
Cloak Joint Board
Local 65
Jeweler's Union, Local 23
Photo Engravers, No. 32
Screen Office Employees Guild
Screen Story Analyst Guild
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
L.A. Regional Council
Women's Division
Southland Women's Division
AMERICAN LEGION
Benj. J. Bowie Post No. 228
AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY
Nat Turner Club
Patriots Club
Stevens Club
ARMOUR BEARERS CLUB
ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH GRADUATES
BAPTIST MINISTERS' UNION
BETHEL AFRICAN M.E. CHURCH
BEVERLY WESTWOOD DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
B'NAI B'RITH
L.A. Auxiliary No. 11
Los Feliz
Los Feliz Auxiliary
Los Feliz Jr. Girls' Auxiliary No. 34
BON TON SOCIAL CLUB
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL GIRLS LEAGUE
CALIFORNIA EAGLE
CALIF. FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS, L.A. DISTRICT
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN
COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, PASADENA
CONFERENCE OF STUDIO UNIONS
CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS
L.A. Council
Women's Auxiliary Council
I.L.W.U., Local 26
L.A. Newspaper Guild
S.C.M.W.A.
U.E.R.&M.W.A., Local 1421
Utility Workers Organizing Committee

0

DAHLIA GIRLS' CLUB
EASTERN MUTUAL SOCIAL CLUB
EASTSIDE SETTLEMENT HOUSE
ELKS OF WORLD, IMPROVED BENEVOLENT & PROTECTIVE ORDER
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF L.A.
FRIDAY NIGHT FORUM
GLEASON PARLIAMENTARY CLUB
HADASSAH
 Los Angeles Chapter
 Los Angeles Junion
HOLLYWOOD DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
HOLLYWOOD WOMEN'S COUNCIL
INDIA NEWS
INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER, DISTRICT COUNCIL
JEWISH CENTERS ASSOCIATION
JEWISH CLUB OF 1933, INC.
JEWISH PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB
JEWISH WAR VETERANS U.S.A.
KANSAS CLUB
KOREAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
JOHN M. LANGSTON LAW CLUB
LAWYERS' GUILD
LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS
L.A. COUNTY NEGRO DEMOCRATIC CLUB
L.A. FORUM
L.A. JEWISH COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
L.A. JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
L.A. PROPERTY OWNERS AND BUSINESS MENS' ASSN.
L.A. TRAVEL CLUB
L.A. TRIBUNE
L.A. URGAN LEAGUE
L.A. DISTRICT, ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
MARRIED WOMEN'S LITERARY & ART GUILD
WM. MEAD RESIDENT ASSOCIATION
MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH
MOZIREV UNGEGD LANDSLEIT VEREIN
MT. CARMEL BAPTIST CHURCH
NATIONAL ASSN. FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
 Youth Council
NATIONAL ASSN. OF COLORED GRADUATE NURSES
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR JEWISH WOMEN, L.A. Section
NEGRO VICTORY COMMITTEE
THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN OBSERVER
PIONEER WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION
PITTSBURGH WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION
PITTSBURGH COURIER
PLAZA COMMUNITY CENTER
QUEEN'S DAUGHTERS OF LOS ANGELES
THE RADIO WRITERS GUILD, AUTHOR'S LEAGUE OF AMERICA, INC.
RESIDENT COUNCIL
SCREEN PUBLICISTS GUILD
SCREEN WRITERS GUILD
SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

SEPHARDIC SISTERHOOD, TEMPLE TIFERET ISRAEL
SINAI TEMPLE
SLEEPY LAGOON DEFENSE COMMITTEE
SOROPTIMIST CLUB OF LOS ANGELES
SOUTH EBELL
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
TEMPLE ISRAEL OF HOLLYWOOD
THETA CLUB
20 MEN SOCIAL CLUB
UNITED JEWISH RETAIL GROCERS ASSN.
UNITED RACES OF AMERICA
UNITY OF CHRISTIAN FAITH CONFERENCE
UNIVERSITY CHURCH - METHODIST
UPTOWN SERVICE COMMITTEE
WEST ADAMS HEBREW CONGREGATION
WESTERN JEWISH INSTITUTE
WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY CLUB
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF Y.M.C.A. - PACIFIC SOUTHWEST AREA COUNCIL
Y.M.C.A.
 Downtown Branch
 East Los Angeles
 Southeast
 West Los Angeles
 Wilshire
 Y's Owls
STUDENT Y.M.C.A. & Y.W.C.A. IN THE PACIFIC SOUTHWEST
Y.W.C.A.
 Hollywood
 Woodlawn Branch
WORKMEN'S CIRCLE - No. 590 and 983

810

War Refugee Bd.

COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNITY

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority
Id: *File*
Ans. *5/31/44*
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial *NY 6271*
Date _____

ROOM 404, 215 WEST SEVENTH STREET • LOS ANGELES 14, CALIFORNIA

May 19, 1944

- DR. E. C. FARNHAM
Chairman
- GABRIEL NAVARRO
Vice Chairman
- OSCAR PATTIZ
Vice Chairman
- REV. CLAYTON RUSSEL
Vice Chairman
- MARY C. McCALL, Jr.
Secretary
- JAMES WALLACE
Treasurer
- FLORENCE MISCHER
Acting Executive Secretary
- Board of Directors:*
- GEORGE BRADLEY
- JACK BURKE
- REVELS CAYTON
- PHILIP M. CONNELLY
- MRS. PHILIP DWORSKY
- ~~DR. GEORGE GLEASON~~
- THOMAS GRIFFITH
- REV. J. RAYMOND HENDERSON
- MARIE M. HUGHES
- JAMES McCANDLESS
- PROFESSOR WALTER MUELDER
- DR. MAX NUSSBAUM
- FRANK PELLETTE
- I. H. PRINZMETAL
- AARON RICHE

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

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

William D. Harwell
Secretary to the President

Dear Mr. President:

The Council for Civic Unity, an organization of nearly 150 affiliated organizations, dedicated to the proposition that the problems of all races, all creeds, all colors, are not the problems of these minorities alone but of the community as a whole, wishes to go on record in favor of having the War Refugee Board establish refugee rescue camps or free ports in the United States, in which persecuted people of foreign nationalities would be given a haven for the duration of the war.

It seems to us less than reasonable that human beings should be deprived of such a temporary haven because of immigration laws which were never formulated to cope with such a situation as the world now faces, and we believe that such a system of free ports would serve the purposes of humanity during this emergency period without necessitating any change in the existing statutes covering immigration.

We are appending herewith a list of the organizations sponsoring the activities of the Council for Civic Unity, in whose name we urge you to do everything possible for the speedy establishment of refugee rescue camps.

Yours very truly

COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNITY

Everett V. Wile

Everett V. Wile
Executive Secretary

EVW:sh
Encls

LIST OF SPONSORS
COUNCIL FOR CIVIC UNITY

A.M.E. ZION CHURCH, SOUTHWEST ROCKY MOUNTAIN
CONFERENCE
ALTA QUALIDAD CLUB
ALTRUSA CLUB OF L.A.
AMERICAN ANTI-PREJUDICE SOCIETY, INC.
AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR
American Federation of Teachers, Local 430
Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters
Dining Car Employees, Local 582
I.A.M., Local 727, YEA Vote Comm. of Lockheed
I.L.G.W.U.
Cloak Joint Board
Local 65
Jeweler's Union, Local 23
Photo Engravers, No. 32
Screen Office Employees Guild
Screen Story Analyst Guild
AMERICAN JEWISH CONGRESS
L.A. Regional Council
Women's Division
Southland Women's Division
AMERICAN LEGION
Benj. J. Bowie Post No. 228
AMERICAN YOUTH FOR DEMOCRACY
Nat Turner Club
Patriots Club
Stevens Club
ARMOUR BEARERS CLUB
ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH GRADUATES
BAPTIST MINISTERS' UNION
BETHEL AFRICAN M.E. CHURCH
BEVERLY WESTWOOD DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
B'NAI B'RITH
L.A. Auxiliary No. 11
Los Feliz
Los Feliz Auxiliary
Los Feliz Jr. Girls' Auxiliary No. 34
BON TON SOCIAL CLUB
BUSINESS & PROFESSIONAL GIRLS LEAGUE
CALIFORNIA EAGLE
CALIF. FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS, L.A. District
CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN
COMMUNITY BAPTIST CHURCH, Pasadena
CONFERENCE OF STUDIO UNIONS
CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS
L.A. Council
Women's Auxiliary Council
I.L.W.U., Local 26
L.A. Newspaper Guild
S.C.M.W.A.
U.E.R. & M.W.A., Local 1421
Utility Workers Organizing Committee

DAHLIA GIRLS' CLUB
EASTERN MUTUAL SOCIAL CLUB
EASTSIDE SETTLEMENT HOUSE
ELKS OF WORLD, IMPROVED BENEVOLENT & PROTECTIVE ORDER
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF L.A.
FRIDAY NIGHT FORUM
GLEASON PARLIAMENTARY CLUB
HADASSAH
 Los Angeles Chapter
 Los Angeles Junior
HOLLYWOOD DEMOCRATIC COMMITTEE
HOLLYWOOD WOMEN'S COUNCIL
INDIA NEWS
INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER, District Council
JEWISH CENTERS ASSOCIATION
JEWISH CLUB OF 1933, INC.
JEWISH PROFESSIONAL WOMEN'S CLUB
JEWISH WAR VETERANS USA
KANSAS CLUB
KOREAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION
KOREAN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
JOHN M. LANGSTON LAW CLUB
LAWYERS' GUILD
LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS
L.A. COUNTY NEGRO DEMOCRATIC CLUB
L.A. FORUM
L.A. JEWISH COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
L.A. JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL
L.A. PROPERTY OWNERS AND BUSINESS MENS' ASSN.
L.A. TRAVEL CLUB
L.A. TRIBUNE
L.A. URBAN LEAGUE
L.A. DISTRICT, ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
MACEDONIA BAPTIST CHURCH
MARRIED WOMEN'S LITERARY & ART GUILD
WM. MEAD RESIDENT ASSOCIATION
MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH
MOZIREV UMGEVD LANDSLEIT VEREIN
MT. CARMEL BAPTIST CHURCH
NATIONAL ASSN. FOR ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE
 Youth Council
NATIONAL ASSN. OF COLORED GRADUATE NURSES
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR JEWISH WOMEN, L.A. Section
NEGRO VICTORY COMMITTEE
THE PHILIPPINE-AMERICAN OBSERVER
PIONEER WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION
PITTSBURGH COURIER
PLAZA COMMUNITY CENTER
QUEEN'S DAUGHTERS OF L.A.
THE RADIO WRITERS GUILD, AUTHOR'S LEAGUE OF AMERICA, Inc.
RESIDENT COUNCIL
SCREEN PUBLICISTS GUILD
SCREEN WRITERS GUILD
SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

SEPHARDIC SISTERHOOD, TEMPLE TIFERET ISRAEL
SINAI TEMPLE
SLEEPY LAGOON DEFENSE COMMITTEE
SOROPTIMIST CLUB OF LOS ANGELES
SOUTH EBELL
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
TEMPLE ISRAEL OF HOLLYWOOD
THETA CLUB
20 MEN SOCIAL CLUB
UNITED JEWISH RETAIL GROCERS ASSN.
UNITED RACES OF AMERICA
UNITY OF CHRISTIAN FAITH CONFERENCE
UNIVERSITY CHURCH - METHODIST
UPTOWN SERVICE COMMITTEE
WEST ADAMS HEBREW CONGREGATION
WESTERN JEWISH INSTITUTE
WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY CLUB
NATIONAL COUNCIL OF Y.M.C.A. - PACIFIC SOUTHWEST AREA COUNCIL
Y.M.C.A.

Downtown Branch
East Los Angeles
Southeast
West Los Angeles
Wilshire
Y's Owls

STUDENT Y.M.C.A. & Y.W.C.A. IN THE PACIFIC SOUTHWEST
Y.W.C.A.

Hollywood
Woodlawn Branch
WORKMEN'S CIRCLE - No. 590 and 983

In reply please
refer to: 2926

JUL 12 1944

Dear Mrs. Cronon:

The President has referred to me your recent letter urging vigorous action for the immediate rescue of as many of the persecuted peoples of Europe as possible.

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 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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. E. D. Cronon,
3356 Cedarbrook Road,
Cleveland Heights, 18, Ohio.

EST RBH RBHutchison:agr 7-10-44 JAV —

*H
War
Refugee
Board*

3356 C arbrook Rd.,
Cleveland Heights, O.

2926

The Hon. Fran^Klin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William J. Russell
Secretary to the President

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

Honorable Sir:

My great concern for the European Refugees prompts me to write you urging that our American immigration laws be administered so that more refugees applying for entry into the country under the present quota system may be admitted. Also that the War Refugee Board take vigorous action for the immediate rescue of those who may yet be saved. We must not fail in this, lest in so doing we, too, shall lose our own souls.

Very sincerely yours,

Flourence M. Cronon

Mrs. E. D. Cronon,
3356 Cedarbrook Rd.
Cleveland Heights, 18, Ohio.

JUN 19 1944

In reply please
refer to: 1167

Dear Miss Cupersmith:

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 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 Celia Cupersmith,
535 South Melville Street,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.

EBA ✓ EBTowler:inp 6/17/44

1167

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

War Refugee

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

535 S. Melrose St
Philadelphia Pa

William D. Harell
Secretary to the President

June 5, 1944

Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States,
Dear Mr. President,

I appeal to you to please
support the proposal for the
establishment of a "Free Port"
in the United States providing
a home for war refugees.

Thanking you, I am
Belia Cypersmith

In reply please
refer to: 3262

SEP 2 1944

Dear Mr. Currier:

The President has referred to me your letter of August 14, 1944, concerning the Emergency Refugee 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.

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. Laurence M. Currier,
14 Stanley Oval,
Westfield, New Jersey.

Enclosures.

EBT ✓ PPH
Hutchison:inp 8/22/44

3262
B

5.
Was
Refugee
Board.

RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William J. Currier
Secretary to the President

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

14 Stanley Oval
Westfield, N.J.
August 14, 1944.

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

My dear Mr. President:

The recent admission of almost 1000 refugees from Hitler's carnage (most of them Jews) to the peace and security of Oswego, N.Y., as a result of your interest and efforts, was a great and magnificent achievement. All of America should be proud and glad that our hearts are at least this big. But, no matter how we look at it, this just cannot be considered enough. America, the time-honored refuge of the oppressed, must do more, much more.

Therefore, as a humble member of American society whose forefathers have enjoyed the richness and security of this country for many generations, I strongly urge and request you to establish at once, without delay, temporary rescue camps at many points within the United States where many more thousands of these hapless people of Europe may be harbored. Your "free port" idea is to me a good, affording a way to take quick action before it is too late, and allowing time to decide where these people shall finally be allowed to go on with their lives at a later date when there is more time.

I further urge you to employ your good offices and great prestige in the world to entreat other nations to do likewise, and particularly to urge, and if necessary bring pressure to bear upon, the British Government to convince them that the doors of Palestine should be opened and kept open, for the unrestricted admission of all Hebrews and others who may be rescued from European brutality.

We have just got to do this, Mr. President, if we wish to make real our enormous national sacrifices in the name of the Four Freedoms. Anything less cannot possibly satisfy any decent national conscience.

Sincerely yours,

Laurence M. Currier
Laurence M. Currier.

In reply please
refer to: 2975

JUL 14 1944

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Cutler:

Thank you for your communication of July 9, 1944, 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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. and Mrs. Philip Cutler,
1505 Macomb Road,
New York 52, New York.

Enclosures.

EOT ✓ RBH RBHutchison:agr 7-13-44

2975

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

July 9, 1944

Dear Sir:

We urge you to push the establishment of Free Ports and arrange to transport Refugees to our shores. Let's save as many lives as we can before they are snatched away to certain death and their "Blood be on our Heads".

Respectfully yours,

Philip Cutler
Jeanette Cutler

1505 Macomber Rd
New York 57, N.Y.