Admission of Refugees to U.S. (Free Ports and Emergency Shelter)
Dear Sirs:

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

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his 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

Eastern Tissue Corporation,
55 - 33rd Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

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

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington

JUL 17 1944

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT PRESIDENT OF THE US

THE WHITE HOUSE

PLEASE TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TOGETHER WITH THE OTHER ALLIED
POWERS TO ESTABLISH FREE PORTS AND SAVE AS MANY AS POSSIBLE
OF THE JEWS OF THE OPPRESSED COUNTRIES

EASTERN TISSUE CORP.

55-33K1024 (4-33)
Dear Sirs:

I have your recent resolution in support of House Resolution No. 576 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.

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

East Side Community Committee,
1128 Lexington Avenue,

Enclosures.
WHEREAS millions of innocent and helpless people of various races and religions, particularly Jews, have been ruthlessly murdered in Nazi dominated Europe by the Hitlerite hangmen, and
WHEREAS millions more are threatened by a similar fate. Hitler having declared it to be his intention to exterminate all the Jews in occupied Europe, and
WHEREAS, it is imperative that temporary havens of refuge be established so that some of these unfortunate may have a chance to survive; and
WHEREAS, it is essential that the United States take the lead in this humane endeavor, the intention to do so having already been expressed by President Roosevelt who created the War Refugee Board which has been rescued many thousands; and
WHEREAS, House Resolution 576 introduced by Congressman Samuel Dickstein, Chairman of the House Immigration Committee would help in the establishment of free ports in the U. S. as temporary havens for refugees; therefore be it
RESOLVED that the National Unity Conference being held today, support H. Res. 576 and call upon the Congress of the United States to adopt it. Be it further
RESOLVED, that this National Unity Conference called by the East Side Community Committee support the rescue program of our Commander-In-Chief and the work of the War Refugee Board.

Copies of this Resolution to be sent to President Roosevelt; Hon. John W. Pehle, Executive Director, War Refugee Board; and Congressman Samuel Dickstein.
Honorable John W. Fehl
Executive Director
Board of War Refugees
Washington, D.C.

May 14, 1934

VOTERS FOR ROOSEVELT
East Side Community Committee
1128 Lexington Avenue
New York, N.Y.

833 W. 112th Street
New York, N.Y.

This is to inform you that the East Side Community Committee is planning to hold a meeting at the East Side Community Committee on [insert date]. We would be glad if you could be present and support our efforts to elect Franklin D. Roosevelt in the upcoming election.

Yours sincerely,
[Signature]

The officers of the East Side Community Committee
In reply please refer to: 3324

SEP 14 1944

Dear Miss Eberhart:

The President has referred to me your letter of September 1, concerning the plight of the Jews of Europe.

Since its establishment in January of this year for the purpose of rescuing the victims of enemy persecution and affording them all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war, the War Refugee Board has initiated numerous measures to accomplish its task. These measures include programs to assist persons to escape from enemy-occupied territories, 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. Established private organizations engaged in refugee and relief activities have cooperated in the development and execution of these programs and are rendering a valuable service. The Board has stationed representatives in strategic countries to expedite these measures.

In connection with the problem of finding places of asylum for persons enabled to escape from enemy-controlled areas, the President recently took action for the establishment of an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, where approximately 1,000 refugees are being cared for until they can be returned to their own countries 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.

With respect to the Jews of Hungary, I am enclosing a copy of a joint statement recently issued by
the United States and British Governments which I am sure will be of interest to you. This Government, in cooperation with other governments and with private refugee organizations, has taken and is taking all practicable measures to protect the Jews of Hungary.

I assure you that the War Refugee Board will continue to do everything in its power to accomplish its humanitarian objectives.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Elizabeth B. Eberhart,
40th Street,
Virginia Beach, Virginia.

Enclosure.
September 1st.

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

My dear Mr. Roosevelt,

May I express my great desire to see the Jews of Europe given asylum immediately in this country. We have waited far too long and it is but let us not increase our crimes by being altogether too late with our help.

You have very wisely set up the War Refugee Board. May we hope to see some immediate & decisive action to rescue the persecuted minorities of Europe.

Sincerely yours,

Elizabeth R. Elkan

40th St.
Dear Miss Eckal:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 24, 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

Miss Clara L. Eckal,
Kent Acre,
Kent, Connecticut.

Enclosures.
July 24, 1944

My dear Mr. President,

I beg you to act promptly to establish rescue camps for the matchless Jewish people of Europe, and to urge the action of our Allies.

Respectfully,
S. Eichel
Dear Miss Eisenstein:

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. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Miss Blanche B. Eisenstein,
5916 No. 19th Street,

Enclosures.

EBTowler: 7/20/44
5916 No. 19th St.
Phila, 41- Penna.
June 17, 1944

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

Dear Mr. President:

Your humane and special efforts in behalf of the refugees of Europe, fleeing from the ruthless and brutal scourge of the Nazis and Fascism are heartily applauded and strongly supported by me, my family and friends. The only suggestion we would like to make is that the number provided for (1000) out of the millions of homeless and starving and destitute refugees is not sufficient.

We feel sure, Mr. President that this immense and wonderful country of ours, which was a haven of refuge for the early settlers can well afford to offer a temporary haven, and even a permanent haven to thousands and thousands of refugees, who, we are sure, have much to offer our country, civilization and way of life. Surely, we who believe in helping others, in democracy and preach democracy to the whole world, and believe in liberalism, and have become the leaders of the world and are looked to as the saviors of the world, must needs exercise that leadership and confidence in us by setting an example to the whole world and throw open our shores to those who are in desperate need of our assistance, and make available numerous "free" camps, ports or havens to them.

Please know that we are all with you in your magnificent efforts in behalf of humanity.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Secretary to the President
In reply please
refer to: 3173

Dear Mr. Eisner:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 29, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you are glad to learn of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador 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 the victims of enemy persecution and to find havens of refuge for them where they can remain in safety and be cared for until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war. In this connection, you will be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

Very truly yours,

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

Mr. Edward Eisner,
177 Seventh Avenue,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
July 29, 1944

The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
President Of The United States of America
Washington D.C.

Dear Sir:-

I solemnly appeal to you to establish temporary Rescue Camps within the United States to all people who can flee Nazi murder squads and to entreat all other friendly and allied powers to take like action.

Respectfully yours,

Edward Eisner
In reply please refer to: 3025

JUL 26 1944

Dear Miss Elkan:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of July 17, 1944, concerning the plight of the Jewish people in Europe.

On January 22, 1944, the President created the War Refugees 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 Refugees Board has initiated numerous measures to assist persons to escape from enemy and enemy-occupied countries, to find havens of refuge for them, to obtain better treatment for those for whom escape is not possible, and to induce the satellite countries to assist from cooperating with the Nazi policy of persecution and extermination of minority peoples. The Board has stationed representatives in strategic countries in order to expedite these measures.

In connection with the problem of finding places of asylum for those who are enabled to escape from enemy-controlled areas, you will be interested to know that the President has recently taken action to establish an Emergency Refugees 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.

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 Belle Elkan,
5487 Hyde Park Blvd.,
Chicago, Illinois.
To: F. D. Roosevelt

The White House, Washington, D.C.

Dear President Roosevelt,

Please, in the name of humanity, do all that is in your power to help rescue the Jews in Nazi-dominated countries, and prevent the extermination of the race. Help to provide permanent or temporary asylum for those who can escape. Change our immigration laws to allow more to enter this country.

Belle Elkan

5457 Hyde Park Blvd, Chicago

July 17, '44.
In reply please refer to: 1118

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Ellison:

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,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. and Mrs. Allen Ellison
725 North 7th Street,

Enclosures.

EBTowler:inp 6/15/44
Dear Sir:

We are vitally interested in the establishment of "freighters" in the United States for refugees from stricken lands of Europe. We understand that proposals regarding these ports are now being discussed in Congress and we sincerely urge you to speak favorably on them.

Allen & Bertha Allison
725 N. 7th St., Phila. 23. Pa.

Harry & Jennie Kurtzberg
723 N. 7th St., Phila. 23. Pa.

Phila. Pa. June 8, 1944
In reply please refer to: 3094

Dear Miss Ely:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 21, 1944, requesting assistance for the Jewish people in the occupied countries of 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 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.

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. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Miss Grace D. Ely,
3378 Stephenson Place,
Washington, D. C.
The Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

As an American citizen and a member of the Conference of Christians and Jews, I am appealing to you on behalf of the Jewish people so cruelly persecuted in the occupied countries of Europe, asking especially that food may be sent them according to the Greek plan and that more refugees be admitted to this country or that temporary asylum be afforded them. So shall the name of America continue to be the symbol for justice and mercy.

Very respectfully yours,

Grace D. Ely

3378 Stevenson Place
Washington, D.C.
In reply please
refer to: 3130

Dear Miss Ende:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 27, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you were glad to learn of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador 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 the victims of enemy persecution and to find havens of refuge for them where they can remain in safety and be cared for until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war. In this connection you will be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Dorothy Ende,
1735 Davidson Avenue,

Enclosures.

Hutchison:agr 8-3-44
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

You no doubt have already received thousands of letters of appreciation for your establishment of the War Refugee Board and the other efforts you have made toward saving the remnants of persecuted Jewry in Europe, and to these expressions of appreciation I wish to add my own.

This is certainly a step in the right direction but another and very immediate one is still necessary - that is, the creation of temporary rescue camps within the United States not only to serve in themselves as havens for these unhappy people, but also to set an example for other United Nations to open their doors to those Jewish People who are able to make their escape from the Nazi murderers.

I also believe it is of paramount importance that you make known to the British Government the desire of liberty and freedom loving Americans that Palestine admit without restriction all Jewish People who can be rescued from the terrorism they are now suffering and who can be transported to that country, for there is no reason in the world to deny to this group alone, and to no others, the free access to Palestine which means life itself to them.

In order that our aims in this war shall be more than hollow words to be forgotten almost as soon as they are uttered, I appeal to you to use your great and good influence to establish with all possible speed temporary havens of refuge within the United States for the Jewish People of Europe, to urge our Allies to do the same where at all possible, and to stress to the British Government the necessity for opening Palestine's doors to the Hebrews.

I am confident that if you work toward these goals, your efforts will be heralded and acclaimed by all of us who live and fight for the democratic way of life that is the moving spirit of our United States.

Yours respectfully,

(Miss) Dorothy Ende
In reply please refer to: 1086

Dear Mr. Endzweig:

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

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's 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. Hyman Endzweig,
1652 - 53rd Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
Dear Mr. President,

Won't you please use your good offices to extend the Port to Refugees.

Sincerely,

Hyman Eisdorf

1652 - 53rd St.
Bklyn, N.Y.
In reply please refer to: 1400

JUN 24 1944

Dear Dr. England:

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

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

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

Dr. Albert C. England, Jr.,
68 Louis Frang Street,
Boston, Massachusetts.

Enclosures.

Free Post
Dear President Roosevelt,

W. R. B.  
Filing Authority  
To: F. W.  
A-S  
Religious, Req.  
Initials  
Date  

June 9,  

Dr. Albert C. England, Jr.  
Secretary to the President

Erie matter of Free

Port for political refugees demands your prompt definite specific action! A temporary refuge to many, especially the helpless Jews, is a physical necessity. Else prolonged inactivity of our own or well-meaning Allies is shameful. Else plan is extra legal - it avoids the complicated details of social migration.
I can only submit my support of Samuel Grafton and E. T. Ford's suggestions.

With respect,

Albert C. English, M. D.

65 Louisburg Street
Boston, Mass.
Dear Miss Engel:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Ester Engel,
949 - 49th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
Dear Miss Engel:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

[Signed] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Esther Engel,
949 - 49th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
John W. Rehle
War Refugee Board
Dear Sir,

Washington, D.C.

June 2, 1944

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

You truly,

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

Dear Mr. President,

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

Your truly, Esther Engel
Dear Mrs. Epstein:

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

Mrs. Edward Epstein,
The Bolivar,
230 Central Park West,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
To the President J. F. Roosevelt—

United States—

Honored Sir:—

War

Respectfully referred for consideration and consideration

W. J. Bowd

In the name of the people, that the prosperity and good

The distressed, oppressed and poor

The distressing, oppressed and poor refugees.

May the day of the victory we rejoice with you

May we be answered. May you

Be spared many more years in health and

Strength, to guide us with
Your wisdom, compassion and understanding —

Sincerely faithfully,

Mrs. Edward G. Epstein

June 6, 1944.
In reply please refer to: 1034

Dear Mr. Epstein:

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,

[Signature]

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Max Epstein,
1236 - 49th Street,
Brooklyn 19, New York.
Honorable Sir:

Mankind will long remember your approval of "Free Ports" for defenseless human beings. I'd bless you.

Respectfully yours,

Max Fishbein

7236-49 Street
Brooklyn 19 N.Y.
June 8, 1944.
In reply please refer to: 2990

Dear Miss Erskine:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of July 7, 1944, and its enclosure, concerning the plight of the Jewish people in Europe.

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

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

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

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.

You may be interested in the enclosed copies of the President's message of June 12 to Congress, his telegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8 to the heads of the agencies concerned in the establishment of the Emergency Refugee Shelter.

Very truly yours,

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

Miss Dorothy Erskine,
233 Chestnut Street,
San Francisco, California.

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

Dear Mr. President:

Your humanity, wisdom and far-sightedness have done so much to save this country not only during this war but long before the blow came -- that I, and I know countless Americans feel as I do -- appeal again to act swiftly and save a few of the Jews now being exterminated in Europe. I understand that you have suggested a Free Cost

—May Lewis.
And that other nations will follow
our lead & do likewise if we reac-
tually act. Four million Gews
are estimated to have died under
the barbarous "race policy." I
cannot bear to think that America,
which has grown great by being
the refuge for the oppressed. A
hard-hearted, cruel people should fail in
this desperate crisis to help
the remnant of a fine & proud
group of people who have suffered so
unbelievably under Hitler. I
beg you to do all in your power
to clear the way for decent, happy
people in this great & generous feeling
for all men everywhere who have
suffered. Most sincerely, Dorothy Poshek

—May Lewis.
VISA

I—of that name belonging to each person
(Thus designating all one human family),
I—desire to live;
To hold in decency the gift of life.
What do I need? Not the decree of God;
He wills it, since I breathe;
Not food—a crust suffices now and then;
Nor shelter—doorways, under a bridge, will do;
Rags make a covering;
What do I stand in need of
Desperately?
A slip of paper; signed by some small man
Officially grown big.
That is the raft of rescue; only that.
O God! that one, supposedly my brother;
Has it within his power to refuse.

—May Lewis.
In reply please refer to: 367

Dear Miss Ortner:

Since my replies 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 Port 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 telegram 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. Pohle
Executive Director

Miss Anna Ortner,
Executive Secretary,
Evening Adult Students' Association,
Room 811, Board of Education,
110 Livingston Street,
Brooklyn 2, New York.

Enclosures:

EJFowler#6 6/12/44
In reply please refer to: 801

MAY 31 1944

Dear Miss Ortner:

Thank you for your letter of May 22, 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 Anna Ortner,
Executive Secretary,
Evening Adult Students' Association,
Headquarters of the Council of Delegates,
Room 811, Board of Education,
110 Livingston Street,
Brooklyn 2, New York.
Mr. John W. Pehle
Executive Director of the War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I understand that your committee is considering the establishment of a system of "free ports" in the United States, which would provide a temporary haven for war refugees who cannot at present enter the country under existing immigration laws.

I am writing in behalf of the 17,000 members of the Evening Adult Students' Association, who ask that you exert your good offices in behalf of the bill establishing "free ports." The members of this Association are adult students in the evening schools of this city, most of whom are foreign-born. They are keenly conscious of the difficult situation in which refugees find themselves. They are good, loyal American citizens and want to do what they can to extend a helping hand to so many who are in great need.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Anna Ortner

ANNA ORTNER,
Executive Secretary
In reply please refer to: 687

JUN 7 1944

Dear Miss Ortner:

The President has referred to me your letter of May 22, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

The interest of your organization in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Miss Anna Ortner,
Executive Secretary,
Evening Adult Students' Association,
Room 811, Board of Education,
110 Livingston Street,
Brooklyn 2, New York.

OK Free Post
In reply please refer to: 867

JUN 7 1944

Dear Miss Ortner:

The President has referred to me your letter of May 22, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

The interest of your organization in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

[Signed] J. W. Pehle

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O.K. Free Press
EVENING ADULT STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION
HEADQUARTERS OF THE COUNCIL OF DELEGATES
ROOM 811, BOARD OF EDUCATION
110 LIVINGSTON STREET, BROOKLYN (2) N. Y.
Telephone MAIN 4-2800, Ext. 293

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May 22, 1944

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Mr. President:

I understand that there is under consideration a proposal to establish a system of "free ports" in the United States, which would provide a temporary haven for war refugees who cannot at present enter the country under existing immigration laws.

I am writing in behalf of the 17,000 members of the Evening Adult Students' Association, who ask that you exert your good offices in behalf of the bill establishing "free ports." The members of this Association are adult students in the evening schools of this city, most of whom are foreign-born. They are keenly conscious of the difficult situation in which refugees find themselves. They are good, loyal American citizens and want to do what they can to extend a helping hand to so many who are in great need.

Respectfully yours,

Anna Ortner
Executive Secretary

PLS:EK