June 20, 1944

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

My dear President:-

Those people who have felt the sting of Fascism have been shifted around Nazi-occupied Europe, torn away from their homes and families, must indeed be rejoicing at the combined advances of the Allies.

It is certainly our duty to see that these persecuted victims are restored to their pre-war rights of citizenship.

I urge, therefore, respectfully that you do everything possible to effect the passage of the Free Port Bill.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Faison Foster

No address -
In reply please refer to: 580

MAY 6 1944

Dear Mr. Cavert:

Thank you for your letter of April 19, 1944, concerning the possibility of establishing "free ports" for refugees.

Your interest is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

[Signature] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Samuel McCrea Cavert,
The Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America,
297 Fourth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Free Ports
Secretary Morgenthaler

Mr. Gaston
Mr. Paul
Mr. White
Mr. E.M. Bernstein
Mr. DuBois
Mr. Friedman

Miss Hodel

PLEASE REGARD THIS AS THE CONTROL COPY AND PREPARE REPLY.

JW Pehle

J. W. Pehle
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
April 19, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle  
Director, War Refugee Board  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am greatly pleased to read in the press this morning that the War Refugee Board is giving serious consideration to the establishment of "free ports" of temporary residence in the United States" for refugees from Nazi Europe. It is my earnest hope that you may receive sufficient support for this project to justify undertaking it. I imagine that the number of refugees who would or could take advantage of such a haven would be small but it seems to me that the moral influence of making the proposal would be very great and put the Government of the United States in a far stronger position in its negotiations with other countries in behalf of refugees.

With grateful appreciation of your leadership in this humanitarian enterprise, I remain

Very sincerely yours,

(signed) Samuel McCrea Cavert  
Samuel McCrea Cavert

P. S. The Federal Council of Churches is on record as favoring the setting up of camps as temporary havens for refugees.  
SMC
To: Mrs. Bills - 194

J. W. Pehle

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
May 4, 1944

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President:

I warmly welcome the announcement in the press that the War Refugee Board of the Department of State is considering a plan for establishing "free ports of entry" for refugees whose lives are in danger unless they can be removed from Europe. I write to express my great interest in this proposal. It seems to me that our country would be in a far stronger moral position in appealing to other countries to provide assistance to refugees if we had ourselves made some such offer as that which is suggested by the War Refugee Board.

In my judgment, the proposal that refugees should be admitted temporarily and cared for in camps, with the understanding that at the end of the war they would be returned to their European homes, is one which will have hearty support in the constituency of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America.

Very sincerely yours,

Free Ports

Samuel McCrea Gevert
General Secretary
In reply please
refer to: 948

Dear Mr. Feiner:

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. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Max Feiner,
1576 - 49th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
Brooklyn, N.Y.
1576-49 Street
June 7, 1944.

Gentleman:

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

Respectfully yours,

Max Feiner.
Honorable President,
Washington D.C.

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

Max Feiner.
In reply please
refer to: 2902

Dear Mr. Feldman:

I have your letter of June 29, 1944, regarding House Resolution 576 concerning the matter of providing temporary asylum in this country for refugees.

I am sure that you were glad to see the accounts of the President's recent action for the establishment of an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. I am enclosing as a matter of interest to you copies of his message to Congress on June 12, 1944, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum to the agency heads concerned with the execution of the plan.

Your interest in measures for saving the lives of the victims of enemy persecution is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Simon Feldman,
299 Broadway,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
June 29, 1944

Hon. John W. Pehle, Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Treasury Building,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I strongly urge the adoption of H. Res. 576.

Very truly yours,

SIMON FELDMAN

SF:DS
In reply please refer to: 740

Dear Mr. Frenyear:

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. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Mr. Marion Frenyear,
Secretary,
Refugee Committee of the Fellowship of
Reconciliation,
Room 614,
45 Astor Place,

Enclosures:

BYjowler:db 6/14/44
In reply please refer to: 740

MAY 29 1944

Dear Mr. Frenyear:

Thank you for your letter of May 17, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

[Signed] J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Marion Frenyear,
Secretary,
Refugee Committee of the Fellowship of Reconciliation,
Room 614,
45 Astor Place,
Honorable John Pehle,  
War Refugee Board,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

Appalled by the plight of refugees in Europe, many concerned people have been seeking for something immediate and effective we here in the United States can do to actually save lives and build hope and faith in these hunted people. We believe free ports for refugees is such a plan. If we go ahead with this, it will then be possible for our War Refugee Board to suggest that other countries take similar action.

For these reasons the Refugee Committee of the Fellowship of Reconciliation wishes to register its hearty approval of the plan for free ports for refugees and to urge you to do all in your power to set such a plan in operation.

Very truly yours,

/s/ MARION FRENYEAR

Marion Frenyear  
Sec'y  
Refugee Committee of the Fellowship of Reconciliation.

MF-L.

Carbon copy to President Roosevelt.
August 27, 1944

Mr. J. W. Peble, Executive Director
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D.C.

My dear Mr. Peble:

This is to acknowledge with many thanks, your kind and detailed letter of Aug. 17 in regard to the U.S. facilities for European war refugees, and for the enclosures accompanying your letter.

I was much interested in the article in this week's "Life Magazine" and the pictures reproduced of the refugees in the camp near Auschwitz, N.Y. We can only wish and hope that many thousands more will find such comfort and safety as soon as possible.

Very truly yours,

[Handwritten signature]

War Refugee Branch
Seabrain
3186

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Executive Director,
War Refugee Board
Washington 25,
D.C.
In reply please refer to: 3186

Dear Mrs. Figmic:

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 were glad to learn of the President's action in establishing the Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy, 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

Mrs. John A. Figmic,
Box 236,
South Duxbury, Massachusetts.

Enclosures.
South Dunbury, Mass.
Box 236
July 29, 1944.

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

Respectfully referred for acknowledgment and consideration

William J. Donovan
Secretary to the President

Dear Mr. President:

It is my earnest hope that the appeals which are reaching you from the "Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, Inc," will meet with your determined effort to make it possible that there will be a refuge for these unhappy people in this country and that these places of refuge will be opened to these suffering people as soon as it is humanly possible to do so.

This letter is from one of your faithful followers, a consistent supporter of your views since
you first ran for office. My faith in what you are able to accomplish, when once your heart is in it, is boundless.

I feel deeply confident that your heart is in this plan to save what is left of the Jewish people of Europe. May this plan become a reality before it is too late!

Faithfully yours,

Minnie Burke Figueric

(mrs. John Q.)
In reply please refer to: 1389

Dear Mr. Filler:

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,

[Signature]

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. A. Filler,
2928 Jerome Avenue,
New York, 58, New York.

Enclosures.

EBTowler: 7/20/44
President Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. President,

It was with great appreciation and pride that I read of your establishment of temporary havens at unused camps for refugees rescued from diabolical Hitler and his Nazi followers. Your initiative in setting an example for other nations is in line with your practice of facing problems and applying the practical solution.

I entreat you to continue your good work and to increase the facilities to be made available to all those whom we are able to rescue, Christian and Jew alike.

I also wish to take the opportunity to express my appreciation for all social and humanitarian progress made under your guidance.

Sincerely yours,

A. Feller
In reply please refer to: 579

MAY 6 1944

Dear Mr. Finchell:

Thank you for your letter of April 20, 1944, concerning the possibility of establishing "free ports" for refugees.

Your interest is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Bernard Finchell,
116 Seaman Avenue,
New York, New York.

Free Ports
116 Seaman Avenue
New York, N.Y., April 20, 1949

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

My dear Mr. Pehle:

I am extremely gratified to learn that you are giving earnest consideration to the "Free Ports for Refugees" plan, recently publicized in the New York press.

As the originator of a similar, "Free Zone Areas" plan, which, incidentally, I have presented to Mr. Samuel Grafton, of the New York Post, in my letter addressed to him on Dec. 18, 1943, I take pleasure in sending you an enclosed appeal I had sent, at my own initiative and expense, on Jan. 15, 1939, to hundreds of prominent persons and groups throughout the country.

I hope and trust that my idea, by whomever revived, modified and claiming paternity, will be brought, at last, to belated fruition.

I remain, my dear Mr. Pehle, with kindest personal regards and good wishes for your personal welfare and the success of your devoted and capable labors,

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Finchell

1 encl.
The sentiments of the overwhelming majority of the American
people, in regard to the victims of racial, religious and political discri-
mination and persecution, are being amply expressed through resolutions
adopted at innumerable gatherings of civic-minded citizens, pledging un-
stinted efforts—"to secure asylum for those who, because of race, creed,
political convictions, or moral necessity, are forced to leave their native
lands"—whom President Roosevelt eloquently described as: "helpless
wanderers with no place to lay their heads, humble men and women forbidden
to think their own thoughts, to express their own feelings, to worship God".

At a recently held symposium of the American Association for
the Advancement of Science, a report was submitted by the Chief of the
United States Public Health Service, showing that "mass migration results
in a severe loss to the respective countries and a net gain to the nations
to which they migrate, racial and political pressure tending to give good
elements to the latter, the migrations causing loss to the former of ene-
getic, intelligent, enterprising stock".

Our past experience, indeed, verifies these truths, for it can
plainly be seen that expanding prosperity has been halted since the gates
of this country have practically been barred to immigrants, whose predeces-
sors have so handsomely contributed toward the unsurpassed development
of the United States.

Free Trade Zones, and/or Bonded Stores, are rightly provided
for commerce and to facilitate international trade. Are human beings less
deserving?—especially in periods of universal distress? Because of the
restricted quotas of immigrants from various countries, it is herewith pro-
posed that a number of persons equal to the combined quotas of five, or
even ten, years be admitted into this country during one single year, to
reside in "Free Zone Areas"—somewhat similar to the Indian Reservations—
established in one or more of the sparsely populated States. Thus, until
their final, legal entry into the country at large, as regular quota im-
migrants—thousands of unfortunates will be spared the terrible hardships
and sufferings of languishing, literally perishing, on foreign soil, for-
lornly awaiting long-deferred deliverance, with quota-number-slips clasped
in their hands.

Such "Free Zone Area" plan is decidedly feasible without any
infringement upon the provisions of the existent Immigration Laws. Its
financing would be undertaken through a publicly subscribed loan, adminis-
tered by an interdenominational board, the carrying charges of which loan
seem insignificant in relation to its extremely humane purpose. As surety
against infractions of the terms under which "Free Zone Areas" would func-
tion, each of the States harboring these refugees would receive a non-in-
terest-bearing loan, in lieu of a collective bond—as provided by law—de-
pending upon the number of "Free Zone" persons residing therein.
Seldom has any human enterprise gained the support such a plan would receive, for rarely, if ever, has any been more deserving. Singly and collectively, individuals and organizations, all will cheerfully contribute, in greater measure than ever before, to the successful issue of such an undertaking. And, at long last, will a haven of safety have been attained by the unfortunates over whose tragic plight we are supposedly concerned. It will also spare them from being subjected to insults added to injury, through the elimination of callously contrived projects envisaging their exodus and banishment to forsaken wildernesses.

This great country, faithful to the ideals of its venerated founders, in grateful recognition of the services rendered by groups and individuals of varied races, and true to its noblest traditions, has seldom withheld aid and assistance from the peoples of the world in their hours of adversity. No nation had ever been presented with such --fortunately rare -- opportunity of serving mankind. None has ever been as favored by circumstances and potentialities to avail itself of it, as the United States of America, at the present time. Humanity expects us to perform our duty. Evading it, would mar the records of this nation's history. Heeding the call of this duty, would serve as a worthy, exemplary deed on the part of a worthy people, and as renewed evidence of its faith in democratic government and institutions.

Aside from the purely humane motives, which, alone should move all of us to contribute, in proportion to this country's vast means, toward the early solution of the refugee problem, the United States would derive, as in the past, untold moral, physical, intellectual and material benefits through the urgent adoption of the presently suggested "Free Zone Area" plan, details of which will gladly be furnished upon request.

Recalling the ancient adage: "By the deeds of its leaders shall be judged the ethical and moral standards of a people", this ardent appeal is addressed to your good self, one of this country's outstanding citizens, in the fervent hope that you will grant this extremely urgent problem your valuable consideration and moral support.

I am eagerly looking forward to early and kind suggestions and opinion regarding this matter, and remain, with cordial greetings and good wishes for your personal welfare,

Sincerely yours,

Bernard Finchell.
In reply please
refer to: 953

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Fischer:

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

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fischer:
1109 Prospect Avenue,
Melrose Park, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.
Dear Sir:


We are vitally interested in the establishment of "free ports" 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.

Name

Address

Name

Address
In reply please refer to: 957

Dear Mr. Flaschen:

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. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. M. Flaschen,
5000 - 15th Avenue,
Brooklyn 19, New York.

Enclosures.
June 7, 1944

Dear John W. Pelle,

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

Yours truly,

Mr. M. T. Schacter
June 7, 1944

Dear President F. D. Roosevelt,

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

[Signature]

[Name]
In reply please refer to: 1152

Dear Dr. and Mrs. Fleisher:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Dr. and Mrs. Harry Fleisher,
6542 Ogontz Avenue,

Enclosures.
Phila., Pa., Aug 8, 1944

Dear [Name],

We are vitally interested in the status of "refugee ports" in the United States for refugees from abyssinian lands of Europe. We understand that proposals regarding these ports are now being discussed in Congress and we sincerely urge you to fight favorably on them. Our [Name] [Occupation]

6642 [Address]

Harry Fleisher
In reply please refer to: 756

Dear Rev. Flint:

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

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

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Rev. James C. Flint,
289 Fourth Avenue,

Enclosures

EBTowler:db 6/14/44
Dear Rev. Flint:

Thank you for your letter of May 10, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fohle

J. W. Fohle
Executive Director

Rev. James C. Flint,
289 Fourth Avenue,
May 18, 1944.

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

My dear Mr. Pehle:

I write to express my hope that you will use your good offices to make possible the establishment of "free ports" for refugees. I want you to know that as a citizen of the United States, I'd be proud to have our country make such facilities available to refugees.

I would further state that the organization which I have the honor to represent considers it a privilege to give every assistance within its means to these refugees during their period of temporary haven and in making plans for their individual permanent adjustments.

Cordially yours,

/s/ James C. Flint
James C. Flint.
Miss Yetta Fogle,
949 - 49th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.
Dear Miss Fogie:

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,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Yetta Fogie,
949 - 49th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
In reply please refer to: 1053

Dear Miss Fogie:

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

Miss Yetta Fogie,
949 - 49th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

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

June 6, 1944

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.  

Yours truly,  

Yetta Fozee
In reply please refer to 3050

JUL 29 1944

Dear Mrs. Foreman:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Reuben Foreman,
3814 Rogers Avenue,
Baltimore 15, Maryland.

Enclosures.
Dear Mr. President,

If we can find as much room for prisoners and Japs interned here, why can't we find room for the poor refugees? Please open up the doors of the United States to them even if you have to do so.

Very truly yours,

Elizabeth Foreman

Mrs. Reuben Foreman

38, 15th Roger Ave. Port 15th

July 18, 1944
In reply please refer to: 2042

Dear Mrs. Fox:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 20, 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,

[Signature] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Irving G. Fox,
80 Overlook Road,
New Rochelle, New York.

Enclosures.
June 20th
1944

The President
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

It seems essential at this time when our men and women are fighting in France, pushing back the Nazis in Italy, and bombing Tokyo, that we should make clear to the victims of ravaged Europe, that they will be restored to the status of full citizenship in their pre-war countries.

Since the use of our ports is vital in assisting them to this adjustment of which they are so richly entitled, I urge you to use all influence in supporting the Free Port Bill.

I have the honor to remain,

Most respectfully yours,

[Signature]

Overlook Road
85 Overlook Road
New Rochelle, N. Y.
New Rochelle, N. Y.
June 7, 1944

W. R. B.  
Filing Authority  
To: Files  
Ans.  

President Franklin D. Roosevelt  
Washington, D.C.  

Ms. Hamer  
Secretary to the President  

The undersigned plead with you to use your good office for the establishment of 2,000 camps in this country as quickly as possible so that the lives of many may be saved and men returned to the front. In this way, our own humanness in providing sanctuary to the oppressed for the duration of the war, will give courage to people of the earth everywhere that justice still prevails.

Betty Berger, 210 West 101 St., N.Y.C.
Molly Young, 210 W. 101 St., N.Y.C.
Mary Steiner, 315 W. 101 St., N.Y.C.

Alma Herman, 68-38 Yellowstone Blvd., Forest Hills, L.I.
David Frankel, 68-38 Yellowstone Blvd., Forest Hills, L.I.

Selma Frankel, 68-38 Yellowstone Blvd., Forest Hills, L.I.
Shirley Radiner, 1250-53rd St., 70th Ave., Bayside, Queens, N.Y.

Harry Rosenthal
Beatrice Blumenfeld
David R. Warren

Harold Poleman

Estella Levy

Mary A. Abercrombie

Ezelle Gershing

H. Gershing

Annie Aronson

Henry Aronson

Ruth S. Aronson

Harry Helfen

Harry Aronson

65 Central Park West, N.Y.C.
Woodmere, L.I.

1450 Park Ave., N.Y.C.
576-5th Ave., N.Y.C.
145-35 Star and Main, L.I.
145-35 Woodbury, N.Y.

1150 Park Ave., N.Y.C.
576-5th Ave., N.Y.C.
145-35 Star and Main, L.I.
145-35 Woodbury, N.Y.

580-5th Ave.

Ike and Rose Harris

145-35 Woodbury, N.Y.

25 Park Ave., Harrison, N.Y.
Pres. Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington D.C.
Hon. Joe Webley
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Honorable Sir:

The undersigned plead with you to use your good offices for the establishment of refuges in this country, as quickly as is possible, so that lives may be saved from destruction. In this way, our own humanity in providing sanctuary to the oppressed for the duration of the war, will give courage to good people of the earth everywhere that justice still prevails.

Betty Berger - 210 West 101st St., N.Y.C.

Eva Berger - 210 West 101st St., N.Y.C.

May Green - 210 West 101st St., N.Y.C.

Anna Herman - 111 West End Ave., N.Y.C.

Dora Grunfeld - 81-38 Yellowstone Blvd., Whitestone, L.I.

Julia Grunfeld - 68-38 Yellowstone Blvd., Whitestone, L.I.

Elda Gruen - 113-36 118th St., Whitestone, L.I.

Norma Frankel - 68-38 Yellowstone Blvd., Whitestone, L.I.

Shirley Reiner - 125-34 85th Street, Bayside, N.Y.

Eva N. Reiner - 901 Ave W., Brooklyn, N.Y.

Harry Rosenthal - 68-64 Yellowstone Blvd., N.Y.C.

Beatrice Silverman - 490 West 86th Ave., N.Y.C.

David H. Warren - 490 West 86th Ave., N.Y.C.

Sara Reiner - 491-65 Ave., Bayside, N.Y.

Mrs. Samuel Steinman - 67-31 Central Park West, N.Y.C.

Estelle Sarny - 115-50 Park Ave., N.Y.C.

W. Ginsberg - 576-5th Ave., N.Y.C.

Max Stein - 180-5th Ave., N.Y.C.

J. Barnett - 155 5th Avenue, N.Y.C.

Mrs. John - 91-57425, Long Acre, N.Y.

Esther & Mandelmann - 265 Ford Ave., N.Y.

Beatrice Fisher - 43-55 Keaton Blvd, Flushing, N.Y.
Gerald T. Monat
55-5th
Atlantic Beach, N.Y.

Rec'd
1944 Jul 27 AM 10 30

Re: Treasury
Foreign Funds Control

War Finance Board
Received
1944 Jul 29 AM 10 30
To

Miss Kodel
Room 190

Race. J.W.
Peble
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.
In reply please refer to: 1191

Dear Miss Frankel:

Thank you for the petitions which you recently forwarded to the President and to me concerning temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure that you and those who joined with you in requesting that refugees be granted asylum in this country 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. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Miss Deborah Frankel,
350 Central Park West,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
Hon. J.W. Pehle,  
War Refugee Board,  
Washington, 25, D.C.

Honorable Sir:-

The undersigned plead with you to use your good office for the establishment of Free Ports in this country, as quickly as is possible, so that lives may be saved from Nazi murder. In this way, our own humaneness in providing sanctuary to the oppressed for the duration of the war, will give courage to good people of the earth everywheres that Justice still prevails.

Mrs. J. Goldman 201 W. 89 St
Mrs. H. Greengear 123 W. 93 St
Mrs. H. Bernbach 15 W. 81
Mrs. E. Neck 275 C.P.W.
Mrs. P.E. Keeler 101 C.P.W.
Suea Cosner 910 Fr. Corne.
Kloba Jusz 373 C.P.W.
Sillen Bernstein 65 - 11790 S.F.
Belin V. Steen Park Central 562
Francesa Ressler 101 Central Park West
Ozene D. Payne 293 Main, Terra Brookland
Mrs. Leah Goodman 6 We West Mass.
Miss Victoria Trechink 28 W. 74 St.

Mrs. V. Thurnam 255 W. 84th St. N.Y.
Mrs. Kate H. Eickhardt Hotel Congress  
Bernard J. Nickel 350 Central St. West 24 N.Y.
Mrs. Ailis Duff 125 N. 96 St. N.Y.

Sallie Silberman 101 E. 116 St.
Mrs. Ray J. Naut, 15 Central Park West
Prence J. 100 E. 230 West 105 - N.Y. 17 St. (25)
Mr. J. Murphy 33rd Reservoir Oval Bk.
Mrs. Daniel M. Scherl 692 Washington A
John

10/3/60

Your request has been received.


dated 9/30

War RECEIVED
Washington, D.C. 13M 9

1954
President Franklin D. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D.C.

Honorable Sir:

The undersigned plead with you to use your good office for the establishment of Free Ports in this country as quickly as possible so that the lives of many may be saved from Nazi murder. In this way, our own humanness in providing sanctuary to the oppressed for the duration of the war, will give courage to people of the earth everywhere that Justice still prevails.

Mrs. J. Goldman 201 W 85 St
Mrs. N. Benmer 15 W 81
Mrs. H. Greenbaum 111 E 87 C.P.W.
Mrs. E. M. Reem 101 C. P. W.
Mrs. I. Halpern 101 C. P. W.
Friede Ashan 910 8th Ave.
Alvina Gaynor 373 C.P.W.
Lillian Furman 85 E 10th
Leah V. Jep 9 3rd Park Central Hotel
Frances Keeler 101 Central Park West
Dora E. Parks 273 Mornings Terr. Parkside
Mrs. Leah Friedland 367 W 77
Miss Salish 98 3rd Terr. Parkside
Miss Salish 28 W 74 St.
Mrs. V. Hieronymus 253 W 84 St.
Kate P. Backlund Hotel Ensonce

Mrs. Betty Roth 121 W 73 St. N.Y.
Sarah Sullivan 101 E 116 St.
Mrs. Ray B. Nathan 15 Central Park West
Theresa J. Lock 230 West 105th N. Y. G (a)
Mrs. M. Mehl 3341 Reservoir Blvd. N.Y.
Mrs. B. Heaton 350 Central Park West N.Y.
Mrs. David M. Scher 69 W 72nd St. N. Y. 22
To: Long Sain, Berg, 175 Riverside Dr.
Frances C. Gallo, 395 Riverside Dr.
Sylvia Welsh - 165 West 91 St.
Mr. Poul Bell - 165 West 91 St.
Mrs. M. Dalti - 123 W. 74th St.
Federal Tanker 350 Central Park West.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>To:</th>
<th>From:</th>
<th>Date:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td>Dear [Name]</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td>Files</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Will you please register? I did the first one, it is [Date].
Dear Dr. Franklin:

Thank you for your telegram of June 16, 1944, to the President and to me, concerning the matter of giving war refugees temporary asylum in this country.

I am sure that you were heartened by the President's action for the establishment of an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. I am enclosing as a matter of interest to you copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum to the heads of the agencies concerned with the execution of the plan.

Your interest in measures for saving the lives of the victims of enemy persecution and finding havens of refuge for them is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fohle

J. W. Fohle
Executive Director

Dr. S. P. Franklin,
Dean of the School of Education,
University of Pittsburgh,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.
WAR REFUGEE BD
WE ARE DEEPLY IMPRESSED WITH THE VALUE OF THE FREE PORTS PLAN AS AN INSTRUMENT OF SAVING THE LIVES OF INNOCENT VICTIMS OF THE NAZIS. WE URGE THAT YOU CONTINUE TO DO ALL IN YOUR POWER TO MAKE POSSIBLE THIS HUMANITARIAN MEASURE.

S P FRANKLIN DEAN OF SCHOOL OF EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH
H HILL SUPERINTENDENT OF PITTSBURGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
B J HOVDE ADMINISTRATOR HOUSING AUTHORITY OF PITTSBURGH
JOHN J KANE CHAIRMAN BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
ARTHUR B KINSOLVING 11 CALVARY EPISCOPAL CHURCH
(MRS W C) ELINORE R RIDGE MEMBER BOARD OF EDUCATION
CORNELIUS D SCULLY MAYOR CITY OF PITTSBURGH
SARA M SOFFEL JUDGE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.
WE ARE DEEPLY IMPRESSED WITH THE VALUE OF THE "FREE PORTS" PLAN AS AN INSTRUMENT OF SAVING THE LIVES OF INNOCENT VICTIMS OF THE NAZIS. WE URGE THAT YOU CONTINUE TO DO ALL IN YOUR POWER TO MAKE POSSIBLE THIS HUMANITARIAN MEASURE.

S P FRANKLIN DEAN OF SCHOOL OF EDUCATION UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH

JOHN'S HERRON COUNTY COMMISSIONER HENRY H HILL

SUPR OF PGH PUBLIC SCHOOLS B J HOWDE ADMIN HOUSING AUTH OF PGH

JOHN J KANE CHAIRMAN BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED FOR CONSIDERATION
REV ARTHUR B KÍNSOLVING II CALVARY EPISTOCAL CHURCH
(MRS W. C.) ELINORE R RIDGE MEMBER BOARD OF EDUCATION
CORNELIUS D SCULLY MAYOR CITY OF PITTSBURGH SARA M SOFFEL
JUDGE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.
Dear Mrs. Friedman:

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. Poble

J. W. Poble
Executive Director

Mrs. Jerome S. Friedman,
5036 Gainor Road,

Enclosures.
June 5, 1944

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

Dear Sir:

Kindly do all in your power to help our President establish "free ports" for war refugees, as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Florence S. Friedman

(MRS. Jerome S. Friedman)
Hon. John W. Peble
Executive Dir. War Refugees Board
Washington, D.C.
Dear Mr. and Mrs. Friedman:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Friedman,
1451 - 52nd Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
June 6, 19xx

Dear Mr. Peeble,

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

Sincerely yours,

Friedman

[Handwritten signature]

Members of Organization
Matte Council of Young Israel
June 6, 1944

Dear President Roosevelt,

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

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Mr. and Mrs. Louis Friedman

Members, Organization of Young Israel
In reply please refer to: 880

JUN 5 1944

Dear Mr. Freiman:

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

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Mr. S. Freiman,
4856 Page Street,
St. Louis, Missouri.

cc: S. Wortman, 6615 Clemens,
    L. Litvack, 5843A Cotebrilliante All in St. Louis, Mo.
    B. Poster, 5735 Page,
    J. Goldman, 5832A Enright,
THE WHITE HOUSE

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

S FREIMAN 4856 PAGE.
S WORTMAN 6615 CLEMENS.
L LITVACK 5843A COTEBRILLIANTE.
B POSTER 5735 PAGE.
J GOLDMAN 5842A ENRIGHT.
In reply please refer to: 1132

Dear Mr. Friend:

The President has referred to me your telegram 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

Mr. I. Friend,
426½ No. Sierra Bonita Ave.,
Los Angeles, California.

Enclosures.
LOS ANGELES CALIF JUNE 9 1944

PRESIDENT OF UNITED STATES

WASHDC

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FREE PORTS FOR THE DURATION AND SAVE MANY UNFORTUNATE REFUGEES. HUMANITY LOOKS FORWARD TO YOUR HELP.

I FRIEND

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE
Dear Mrs. Fromkes:

Thank you for your communication of July 12, 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. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Frieda Fromkes,
228 Amboy Street,
Brooklyn 12, New York.

Enclosures.
July 12, 1944

Harold Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sirs:

Support the Free Port Plan. If we can house and feed our prisoners of war, the least we can do is to help the child victims of Europe and give them the same.

Propose more liberal amendments to this plan, if you can.

Yours truly,
Mrs. Freda Fridalski
In reply please refer to: 1998

Dear Mrs. Purie:

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

Mrs. Erving Purie,
286 No. Winooski Ave.,
Burlington, Vermont.

Enclosures.

EDTowler: 7/20/44
His Excellency
President F.D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I wish to take the opportunity of telling you how heartily I approve of your move to shelter 10,000 refugees in this country for the duration.

However, 10,000 is such a small number compared to the vast number of human beings who will either be killed or starved during the crisis now going on in Europe.

I urge you, Mr. President, to do all that is possible to increase this number of
people whose lives in future depend on the shelter we will offer them.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. Evying Turia
In reply please refer to 3160

Dear Miss Furman:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of July 25, 1944, concerning the plight of refugees.

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.

It was in connection with the problem of finding places of asylum for those who are enabled to escape from enemy-controlled areas that the President took action to establish the Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. 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.

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 Blanche Furman,
105 North Fulton Avenue,
Mount Vernon, New York.
July 25, 1944.

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

Dear Sir:

Never in world history has it been impossible for those ground down by tyranny to escape to some free place.

Yet today, when we hear so much lamentation over the fate of those exterminated or to be exterminated by the most ruthless tyranny of all, a shocking and unusual closing of the gates is the rule wherever asylum is asked for.

We have started a noble precedent for others to follow in opening a refugee camp for the first thousand victims of Hitler to be accepted by us. Let us carry a good idea beyond the stage of a gesture and provide for the temporary transportation and care of the many more thousands still waiting on European shores.

Such a precedent would be followed by other countries in the Western hemisphere who have
shamed us in the past by their comparative open-handedness to European refugees.

I urge you to do everything in your power to cause this country to honor its often expressed humanitarian promises.

Yours truly,

Blanche Harman
105 North Fulton Ave
Mt Vernon, N.Y.
Los Angeles, Calif, June 9, 1944

President of United States

WASHDC

Please support the establishment of free ports for the duration and save many unfortunate refugees. Humanity looks forward to your help.

M. Furman

Free Ports
Dear Mr. Mazza:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your letter of June 20, 1944, to the Honorable Samuel Dickstein, 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. Richard Mazza,
Manager,
Furniture Workers' Union,
Local 76-B,
13 Astor Place,

Enclosures.
June 20, 1944

Hon. Samuel Dickstein, Chairman
House Immigration and Naturalization Committee
House Office Building
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sir:

The 3200 members of the Furniture Workers' Union, Local 76-B wish to express their complete support of H. Res. 576 which provides "Free Ports" at which a number of refugees could be housed for the duration.

A gesture such as this would do much to strengthen the bond between the victims of ravaged Europe and our own people who realize only too well that their fight is our own and would therefore willingly extend the use of our country as a homeland for the duration.

We urge you again to report favorably on this bill and wish to assure you that it has our support.

Respectfully yours,

FURNITURE WORKERS' UNION, LOCAL 76-B

UOPWA
16-18

Richard Mazza, Manager
FURNITURE WORKERS UNION LOCAL 76-B
80 EAST 11th STREET
NEW YORK 3, N. Y.

OUR NEW ADDRESS
13 ASTOR PLACE
N. Y. C. 3

Hon. John W. Pehle, Exec. Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Bldg.
Washington, D. C.

Miss Model
Room 190