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

General - M-N
Folder 1 - Ma-Mir
Dear Miss Wadciff:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 19, 1944, concerning the plight of European Jews.

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, to care for approximately 1,000 persons, who have fled from their homelands to Southern Italy, until conditions will permit them to return to their homes at the end of the war. 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 measures for saving the lives of the victims of enemy persecution are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

[Signed] J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Miss Emma I. Wadciff,
Pfeiffer Jr. College,
Misenheimer, N. C.

Enclosures.
The Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt

The White House

Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Roosevelt:

I urge that all possible aid be given to the suffering, dying Jews of Europe and that you use your influence and direct government activities to that end. So may we act the democracy we profess.

Sincerely yours,

Emma I. McDuff
In reply please refer to: 954

Dear Mr. Mailman:

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 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

Mr. Henry Mailman,
7266 Rising Sun Avenue,

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: Henry Halleman
Address: 726 Boston Avenue

Name: 
Address: 

JUN 14 1944

In reply please refer to: 994

My dear Mr. Marcantonio:

Thank you for your letter of June 7, 1944, enclosing a copy of your letter of June 6, to the President concerning temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure that you are pleased with the President's action last week in the establishment of an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Port Ontario, Oswego, New York.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) J. W. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Honorable Vito Marcantonio,
House of Representatives.

JWP:mgf 6/13/44
Mr. John W. Fehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington D.C.

June 7, 1944

Dear Mr. Fehle:

Permit me to bring to your attention the enclosed copy of a letter which I addressed yesterday to President Roosevelt urging the establishment of a "free port" for Jewish refugees from war-torn Europe to be established in the United States and for practical plans for the transit of these victims of Hitler tyranny to the United States.

I know that your Board is already considering such proposals and I will be grateful to you if you will bring to their attention my views on this important matter. It is my earnest conviction that such action by the War Refugee Board will not only save the lives of many thousands of the long-suffering Jewish victims of Hitler but as well will heighten the fighting morale of millions of Americans of Jewish extraction, whose justifiable concern for the fate of their loved ones in Europe has made their unselfish contribution to our war effort more difficult than would otherwise have been the case.

May I stress the need for a speedy and favorable determination in this matter. For twelve long years Jews in Europe have undergone increasing hardship and misery. Their suffering has had its repercussion in America. Quick and speedy action on this great humanitarian project would do incalculable good.

I will be grateful to you if, at your earliest convenience, you can inform me of the prospects of accomplishing these proposals as seen by yourself and the members of your Board.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
June 6, 1944

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

Dear President Roosevelt:

In this hour of the liberation of the continent of Europe from the ravaging hand of Hitler and Hitlerism, I join with all Americans in the expression of the deepest appreciation for your leadership in this most critical period in the life of our nation.

It seems fitting to me that on this significant day I should address you about the problem of the Jewish people now prisoners in Hitler Europe. For on this day the signal for the struggle for their liberation was given. Now at least it is possible for America to offer the long-oppressed Jewish people the aid and succor we have long been prevented from giving them because of the conquest of Europe by Hitler.

As you know there is the prospect that in the wake of the successful invasion of Europe by the gallant men of the United Nations armed forces, there will be tens of thousands of Jewish war refugees from every section of Europe, who have hitherto been ruthlessly uprooted from their homes. The long period of famine and oppression experienced by these people under Hitler makes it imperative that America extend to them a helping hand. They were the first to feel the heel of Hitler tyranny and should be the first to be freed from Nazi oppression.

Because I know full well that you share my sentiments in this regard, I am writing to urge you direct the War Refugee Board to establish in the United States a refugee rescue camp or "free port" where these refugees may find sanctuary from the horrors of war at least for its duration. By this practical step we may save the lives of thousands of refugees, who might otherwise perish. May I further urge that this problem be presented to others of the United Nations to the end that such refugee rescue camps may be established elsewhere and to the end that aid in the transit of the refugees to America be afforded.

It is my fervent prayer that our first act of mercy in liberated Europe may be extended to the Jewish people, first victims of Hitlerite slavery.

Sincerely,

Vito Marcantonio, M.C.
MEMORANDUM FOR

JUN 14 1944

Mr. William D. Hassett,
Secretary to the President.

Pursuant to your request, there is attached
a draft of a reply to Congressman Vito Marcantonio's
letter of June 6, 1944, to the President. Congressman
Marcantonio's letter is returned herewith.

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

Enclosures.

[Handwritten note: Original signed by Mr. Fehle]
DRAFT

My dear Mr. Marcantonio:

The President has asked me to acknowledge your letter of June sixth and to thank you for the interest which you have expressed in the rescue of the victims of enemy oppression and the matter of providing places of temporary asylum for them.

You will be interested in the enclosed copies of the President's cablegram of June eighth to Ambassador Robert Murphy in Algiers, regarding the establishment of an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, his memorandum of the same date to the heads of agencies concerned with the execution of the plan, and the message sent to the Congress on June 12, 1944, relative to this matter.

Very sincerely yours,

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

Honorable Vito Marcantonio,

House of Representatives.

Attachments

EST: JWF: mg 6/13/44
The White House
Washington

June 3, 1944

Respectfully referred to the Executive Director of the War Refugee Board for preparation of reply for my signature.

[Signature]

William D. Hasett
Secretary to the President
President Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington D.C.

Dear President Roosevelt:

In this hour of the liberation of the continent of Europe from the ravaging hand of Hitler and Nationalism, I join with all Americans in the expression of the deepest appreciation for your leadership in this most critical period in the life of our nation.

It seems fitting to me that on this significant day I should address you about the problem of the Jewish people now prisoners in Hitler Europe, for on this day the signal for the struggle for their liberation was given. Now at last it is possible for America to offer the long-oppressed Jewish people the aid and succor we have long been prevented from giving them because of the conquest of Europe by Hitler.

As you know there is the prospect that in the wake of the successful invasion of Europe by the gallant men of the United Nations armed forces, there will be tens of thousands of Jewish war refugees from every section of Europe, who have hitherto been ruthlessly uprooted from their homes. The long period of famine and oppression experienced by these people under Hitler makes it imperative that America extend to them a helping hand. They were the first to feel the heel of Hitler tyranny and should be the first to be freed from Nazi oppression.

Because I know full well that you share my sentiments in this regard, I am writing to urge that you direct the War Refugee Board to establish in the United States a refugee rescue camp or "free port" where these refugees may find sanctuary from the horrors of war at least for its duration. By this practical step we may save the lives of thousands of refugees, who might otherwise perish. May I further urge that this problem be presented to others of the United Nations to the end that such refugee rescue camps may be established elsewhere and to the end that aid in the transit of the refugees to America be afforded.

It is my fervent prayer that our first act of mercy in liberated Europe may be extended to the Jewish people: first victims of Hitlerite slavery.

Sincerely,

(Sgd.) Vito Marcantonio
Dear Miss Marcus:

Mrs. Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of June 19, 1944, concerning the plight of the Jewish people in Europe.

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

To accomplish the purpose for which it was created, the War Refugee Board has initiated numerous measures to assist persons to escape from enemy and enemy-occupied countries, to find havens of refuge for them, to obtain better treatment for those for whom escape is not possible, and to induce the satellite countries to assist from cooperating with the Nazi policy of persecution and extermination of a 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 Beatrice Marcus,
2612 River Avenue,
Camden, New Jersey.
In answering the enclosed, please say you are doing so at Mrs. Roosevelt’s request.
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

For a long time, I have been disillusioned and hurt by the failure of the civilized world to lift a finger on behalf of the helpless Jews of Europe. Now, I have become infuriated and disgusted by its noble mouthings.

What multitude of issues may be presented about the rescue of the European Jews or the opening of the doors of Palestine, one is never mentioned—the will of the present British Government that the Jews of Europe be murdered. Dead Jews cannot go to Palestine. Nothing, no one, must stand in the way of British Imperialism. If there be one fact to dispute this, I should like to hear it.

Were I an artist, I should draw a cartoon of the leading Nazis and British Tories clasping bloody hands and dancing merrily around the ever growing pyre of Jewish martyrs.

In the past twenty-five years, Great Britain has violated every article of the Mandate over Palestine. She has done everything in her power to prevent the establishment of the Jewish National Homeland. She has incited the Arabs to five pogroms against the Jews. Who can forget the cries of the Arab terrorists when they rioted against the Jews, "The government is with us," or the spectacle of British police either joining the rioters or coolly watching the slaughter.

Britain's treachery and hypocrisy I can well understand. Buy why has our great nation joined in the betrayal? Is it because their ultimate goal might be Palestine, that Jews have not been given refuge in "free ports"?
A large portion of the Jews of Europe could have been rescued from the Nazi butchers; some can still be saved. Place the blame on the Arabs, the Japs, the Nazis, military expediency, on whom or what you will. The truth remains--Great Britain is guilty.

It is because I have always looked to you as a champion of decency and justice, that I write to you in this moment of bitterness and anger. I had hoped to find in your writings words of encouragement and have often wondered why you have been so reticent about the right of the Jews to enter Palestine.

Respectfully yours,

Beatrice Marcus
(Miss) Beatrice Marcus

P.S. I have just seen in the column of one of our leading commentators that Winston Churchill was unwilling to drink a toast to the extermination of 50,000 Nazi officers. Would he have been as reluctant had the toast been to the destruction of 50,000 Jews?
In reply please refer to: 1123

Dear Miss Margoshes:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Mae L. Margoshes,
3301 Hull Avenue

Enclosures.

JUN 17 1944
Dear Mr. Peble,

Kindly act quickly to settle in this country, as an example to our United Nations, Free Ports for the helpless refugees who may yet be saved. Every day means the loss of countless lives. Please do what you can to hasten these ports of mercy.

Sincerely,

Mae D. Margolis

3vo. Hullare N.Y.-67, N.Y.C.
In reply please refer to: 3065

Dear Mr. Mark:

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

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

Enclosures.
Mr. President:

Knowing your keen awareness, I pray with millions of your fellow Americans for your continued good health and good works.

I respectfully petition you, at this time, not to relax your worthy efforts in securing safe refuge here for the Jewish people who have been warned for extermination by the brutal Nazis. Also to exert what efforts you can to keep Palestine open for Jewish migration so some of your souls may be saved.

With deepest respect,

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

To HONORABLE FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT
President U.S.A.
Dear Miss Markle:

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,

[Signed] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Bertha C. Markle,
44 Monroe Avenue,
Larchmont, New York.

Enclosures.
June 20, 1944.

Franklin D. Roosevelt  
White House  
Wash. D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

We can do nothing more in keeping with our position as a great power in the fight for world freedom than to help rescue the victims of Hitler's fascism.

Your support of the Free Port Bill will help them return to the status of full citizenship in their pre-war countries.

Yours truly,

Bertha C. Markle  
14 Monroe Ave  
Larchmont, N.Y.
In reply please refer to: 1403

JUN 24 1944

Dear Miss Markonts:

The President has referred to me your letter of recent date, 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 Sarah Markonts,
6143 Carpenter Street,

Enclosures.

Free Post

ESAT
ABB
Hutcheson: agr 6-23-44
6143 Carpenter Street
Philadelphia

President of the United States
Franklin Delano Roosevelt

Your Excellency,

I would appreciate your aid in pressing the bill permitting the open port for refugees to the United States.

Sincerely yours,

(Miss) Sarah Marx

Respectfully referred for acknowledgment and consideration

William J. Harris
Secretary to the President
In reply please refer to: 3128

AUG 12 1944

Dear Miss Marks:

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 Eva Marks,
6370 Franklin Avenue,
Hollywood 28, California.

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

Dear Mr. President:

Our newspapers, magazines and radio tell us daily of the horrors of persecution of the Jews of Europe as well as other minorities... those hapless people the Nazis have determined to exterminate entirely. With certain and now apparent early defeat the Nazis are concocting the vilest forms of torture in the history of the world with which to expedite their threat.

We, the greatest country in the world, with a reputation for being the most humanitarian - have not done our share in helping to rescue these helpless victims. Though you, our great President, have personally caused to be established a War Refugee Board stressing "that it is urgent that action be taken at once to forestall the plan of the Nazis to exterminate all the Jews and other persecuted minorities in Europe"... that board - consisting of the Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, and Secretary of War - so far, have planned to accept only one thousand of the millions who could be saved if we would do our share to establish sanctuary for these persecuted peoples.

Mr. President, I plead with you to use your office to urge that immediate "Free Ports" and "Rescue Camps" be established within the United States to provide shelter for the victims who could still escape their murderers... shelter - if only for the period until the peace plans can provide for their future destiny.

I plead also that you use your office - in the name of humanity - to entreat the British government (entrusted with the Mandate over Palestine) to keep open the gates of Palestine for the unrestricted admission of Hebrews rescued from the German charnel-houses in Europe...

I solemnly plead with you, Mr. President, that you urge the War Refugee Board to do something definite and promptly - toward saving these persecuted peoples...

Yours very truly

Eva Marks.
Dear Miss Marks:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of July 22, 1944, urging immediate action to save the Jewish people in Hungary.

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. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Marjorie B. Marks,
3830-A Chesapeake Boulevard,
Hampton, Virginia.
Dear Mr. President:

As the Nazi regime enters the last and final phase of its barbaric existence, the situation of the Jews of Hungary grows worse daily. If we and our Allies take immediate action NOW, they may yet be saved. I, along with thousands of other American citizens, urge you to act now, lest delay in days mean death for thousands.

It is therefore up to us...
2.

The standard bearers of a new world of decency and justice, to act according to our conscience and refuse to permit such outrageous acts of inhumanity to occur. It is within our power to do this—by using our ports as temporary havens of refuge, and to entreat all other friendly nations to take like action.

Let us also convey to Britain the acute need of opening the doors of Palestine at this time to the persecuted Jewish people of Europe.

We appeal to you to act immediately—and for myself and the world
of fair-minded peoples,
we thank you for your
courage, your foresight,
and your fight for right.

Very sincerely yours,

Marjorie B. Marks
In reply please refer to: 3086

Dear Dr. Marsh:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 15, 1944, concerning the plight of the persecuted minorities 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,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Dr. Herbert E. Marsh,
University of Redlands,
Redlands, California.
The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In view of the tragic need of asylum for the persecuted Jews in Europe, I am writing to most earnestly and respectfully request that you lend every possible effort to any legitimate plan which will help to relieve the misery of these unfortunate and innocent victims of Hitler, and at the same time discharge our own responsibilities as lovers of and believers in democracy.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Herbert E. Marsh

HEM:pd
In reply please refer to: 1108

Dear Mr. Marshall:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 3, 1944, concerning the admission of refugees to this country.

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

Your views on this matter have been noted.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Howard A. Marshall,
248 Covert Street,
Brooklyn 7, New York.

Enclosure.
June 3, 1944

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

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I am most heartened to hear that you are making plans to create concentration camps for refugees in the United States. This seems to me an outrageous thing, while millions of Americans are abroad in the service of this nation to save the world from modern ideas. Most of these refugees are situated in countries close by Russia. Why is not thought given to locating them in Russia? While there is much room and so much work to be done, if these people are brought here I doubt if the work ever leaves. The time arrives for their deportation, and in many cases along with the inhumanity of their deportation, I further believe that their very violation of the laws would itself lead to fast repayment of whatever they are too important to the future welfare of the United States of America.

With sincere good wishes for your future good health and success.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

[Address]
April 21, 1944

Hon. Ralph Gamble
House Office Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Gamble:

Subject: Free Ports for Refugees

The press this week carried reports that the War Refugee Board is considering Free Ports for Refugees.

We protest against this action as it will permit undesirable people to enter the county. There is bound to be laxity in the handling of this system and many foreigners who have no other means of getting into the United States would use this as a lawless method of entry.

Respectfully yours,

Jule F. Marshall

cc Mr. John W. Pehle,
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Washington, D.C.
In reply please refer to: 3039

Dear Mrs. Martin:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 8, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

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

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

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Elsa Martin,
1609 N. Normandia Avenue,
Los Angeles 27, California.

Enclosures.
June 8, 1944.

I wish to add to the thousands of others, urging you, for God’s sake, to harden your heart for the helpless Jewish people, to commend you in your brave and loyal fight against Injustice.

Warmly yours,

Mrs. Elsa Martini
In reply please refer to: 2976

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Matlin:

Thank you for your communication of July 6, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you will be glad to know of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy 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. and Mrs. D. R. Matlin,
5107 Inadale Avenue,
Los Angeles 43, California.

Enclosures.
July 6, 1944

Dear Mrs. Pete,

I urge you to do all within your power to establish free ports for war refugees.

Respectfully,

Mrs. D. R. Matlin
D. R. Matlin
Dear Mr. Mauds:

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. Aylmer H. Mauds,  
9349 Rivershore Drive,  
Niagara Falls, N. Y.

Enclosures.
June 15, 19...n

To the President
The White House, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President,
Refugee Asylum Camps.

We are wholly with you on this subject. Our country is not doing enough for the victims of Nazi terror.

Yours sincerely,

[Signature]

Aylmer H. Maude

9349 Rivershore Drive
Niagara Falls, N.Y.
In reply please refer to: 2001

JUL 27 1944

Dear Miss Maxwell:

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

Miss Ruth Maxwell,
360 E. 50th Street,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
Dear Mr. President:

May I tell you how happy I am that we've decided to open a military camp for these homeless refugees? It's so little to do, and yet it's been so hard getting started. Congratulations, and good wishes for more, more, and more aid.

Ruth Maxwell
Dear Mr. May:

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 13, 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. Frank May,
The J. L. May Company,
111 West Nineteenth Street,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
July 5, 1944

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

Dear Mr. President:

May we congratulate you on the splendid spirit and action you have taken in establishing a free port for refugees.

We earnestly hope that you will be enabled to more generously extend and broaden this work, in order that more refugees may be better enabled to enjoy the ancient and accepted rights which the United States extends to mankind.

When Senate Resolution 297 is presented, we hope it will be approved by the Congress and by our Honorable President.

Respectfully yours,
The J.L. May Co.

FM:LL

Frank May
In reply please refer to: 1427

Dear Mrs. Mayer:

Thank you for your letters of June 14, 1944, to the President and to me, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

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

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

Sincerely yours,

[signed] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. David Mayer,
117 West Third Street,
Frankfort, Kentucky.

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

Dear Sir:

In view of the tragic plight of refugees due to Nazi oppression, we plead with you to intercede on behalf of the establishment of Refugee Rescue Camps, otherwise referred to as "Free Ports" in the United States in which refugees would be given a haven for the duration.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. David Mayer
Mr. John W. Pehle,
Executive Director War Refugees Board
Washington, D. C.
President of the United States

June 14, 1944

117 West Third St.
Frankfort, Ky.

Dear Mr. President:

In view of the tragic plight of refugees due to Nazi oppression, we plead with you to intercede on behalf of the establishment of Refugee Rescue Camps, otherwise referred to as "Free Ports" in the United States in which refugees would be given a haven for the duration.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. David Mayer
In reply please
refer to: 888

Dear Miss Mayer:

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 Miriam Mayer,
41 West 72nd Street,

Enclosures.
Dear Miss Mayer:

Thank you for your letter of May 28, 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 Miriam Mayer,
41 West 72nd Street,
I was much interested in your plan to keep all Jews at Felix Holt rather in the United States for fear of Refugees. It will be a great humanitarian act and taken will establish a precedent for other neutral nations a proud to think we with all the peoples of the world.

I trust that any efforts will be made to complete this plan at an early date as this is all the greater need it is a very important one. Thanking you for your efforts in behalf of these people.

Sincerely,

(Thm) Herman Magen 41 Wall St. NYC
$7

John W. Pelle
National Refugee Board

Treasurer Dept. 81
In reply please refer to: 3158

AUG 12 1944

Dear Mrs. Hayes:

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

I am sure you were glad to learn of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. 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

Mrs. W. M. Hayes,
711 North Signal Street,
Ojai, California.

Enclosures.

Hutchison: agr 8-7-44
MRS. W. M. MAYES
711 North Signal Street
Ojai, California

The President of the United States,

Dear Mr. President,

I must earnestly urge that "Free Ports" and rescue camps be set up to save the Jewish People of Europe before it is too late.

Yours truly,

Catherine L. Mayes
In reply please refer to: 1185

Dear Mrs. Mayper:

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. Alexander A. Mayper,
Olcott Hotel,
27 West 72nd Street,

Enclosures.
MRS. ALEXANDER A. MAYPER
OLCOTT HOTEL
NEW YORK 23, N. Y.

June 6, 1944

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

My dear Mr. President:

I read with great interest recently a notice saying you favor the establishment of Refugee Ports. It is what I would expect of you, for as much as I respect your many great gifts as a leader, I also admire your great and understanding heart. I therefore respectfully beg of you,
Mr. President, even in these days when so many burdens rest on your shoulders, to make these Pats a reality soon.

If we delay a year or two years, who knows?—There may be the need, then, for Refugee Pats.

Very respectfully,

Hilda E. Mayper

(Mrs. Alexander A. Mayper)
In reply please refer to: 765

MAY 23 1944

Dear Mrs. Maser:

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

Your interest in this problem is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

[Signature] J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mrs. R. Maser,
6313 North 13th Street,

Free Ports
Philadelphia

My dear Mr. Pehl,

I hope you will appeal your power to further the establishment of a free port for refugees. Truly,

Mr. R. Mayer
6213 N. 13th St.
John W. Peake
Executive Director War Refugee Board
Washington D.C.
Dear Mrs. McArthur:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 25, 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, 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. Erna McArthur,
2474 Cherrmoya Avenue,
Hollywood, California.

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

Dear Mr. President:

I would ask you most urgently to establish Refuge Camps for persecuted Jews and others without delay. This great example would induce allied and neutral governments to do likewise.

In the final analysis, everybody in the world is responsible for the fate of these victims; and the attitude towards it will reflect the sincerity with which the moral issues of this war are confronted.

Respectfully

Anna McArthur
In reply please refer to: 1690

JUN 24 1944

Dear Mr. McCombs:

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. N. D. McCombs,
Superintendent of Schools,
Des Moines Public Schools,
629 Third Street,
Des Moines 9, Iowa.

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

Dear Mr. President:

The War Refugee Board, an agency of our government, has been attempting to find ways and means of dealing with the problem of refugees who have been forced to seek shelter from wide areas of our war-torn world. The plan which you now have under consideration for the establishment of refugee rescue camps, so-called "Free ports," for the admission of refugees to the United States, is rapidly gaining popular support. Among its most ardent supporters are leading legislators and the plan has also been approved by both the C.I.O. and the A.F. of L, as well as by the delegates attending the conference of the International Labor Office in Philadelphia.

Up to the present time the burden has been carried, for the most part, by neutral countries where persons seeking sanctuary from Nazi and Nazi-dominated countries have sought shelter. Some of this burden must be removed and it seems imperative for the United States to establish refugee rescue camps which will provide a temporary haven for such persons.

No legal obstacles are anticipated since the camps would be established to serve only as a temporary asylum and persons would not be admitted to the United States for permanent residence outside of the regular immigration procedure. By assuming an active part in the rescue of such persons the United States might be instrumental in inducing other democratic nations to establish similar camps.

I beseech your careful consideration of the plan to establish refugee rescue camps within our boundaries. It is hoped that you may give the plan your whole-hearted support.

Cordially,

N. J. McCombs
Superintendent of Schools
In reply please refer to: 1995

JUL 15 1944

My dear Dr. McCormack:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 10, 1944, expressing your desire to do everything possible to assure the success of the Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario.

On behalf of the War Refugee Board, I wish to thank you for the fine spirit of cooperation and interest evidenced in this humanitarian undertaking.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Dr. Frank M. McCormack,
148 West Fifth Street,
Oswego, New York.
June 15, 1944

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

Sir:

Relative to the re-opening of Fort Ontario at Oswego, New York, for the housing of European war refugees, please be advised that I desire to do everything possible to assure the success of this venture. I feel that I bespeak the sentiments of the citizens of Oswego when I tell you that they are proud of the responsibility that will be theirs in fulfilling your high hopes for success in the undertaking.

I am a member of the Democratic State Committee for Oswego County and will be very happy to serve you in any way you may choose to command me.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Frank M. McCormack, D.D.S.

148 West Fifth Street
In reply please refer to: 785

Dear Mr. McDonald:

Thank you for your letter of May 12, 1944, and its enclosures, concerning temporary havens for refugees. Your letter of the same date to the President has also been referred to me.

Your cooperation and interest are much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

[Signed] J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. James G. McDonald,
Chairman,
President's Advisory Committee
on Political Refugees,
122 East 22nd Street,
The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

The President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees
has noted with great interest the recent discussions of the so-called
"Free Port Plan" for the relief of refugees. It is the Committee's
understanding that under this plan relief centers would be established
in the United States for the maintenance and care, under proper safe-
guards, for the duration of the war of persons in danger of extermin-
ation by Hitler and who may be able to reach this country.

The Committee recently met with John W. Peble, Executive
Director of the War Refugee Board and reviewed with him current efforts
to rescue refugees from Axis-occupied Europe.

It is the considered judgment of the Committee that this
Government would make an important contribution by announcing to the
world at this time that it will receive into the United States, on a
temporary basis, Hitler's intended victims. In our view, not only would
this constitute a great forward step in our Government's program of
giving aid to refugees, but would be likely to stimulate other countries
to expand their efforts in similar directions. It would, moreover,
demonstrate to our people and to all peoples, that even in a period of
war crisis, a democracy is prepared to adopt concrete and effective
measures to aid the victims of the ruthless dictatorship which it is
fighting.

Respectfully yours,

James G. McDonald
Chairman
Mr. John W. Penle
War Refugee Board
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Penle:

Here is a copy of the letter as it has gone to the President.

As you will see from the attached copy of a letter to Mr. Stettinius, I have also sent a copy of the President's letter to the Under Secretary. I have done this following our regular policy of sending to the Under Secretary copies of all our communications.

Miss Clark, at the above address, will be able to let you know where I am at any time during my next week's trip to the Middle West.

Cordially yours,

(signed) James G. McDonald
May 12, 1944

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

The President's Advisory Committee on Political Refugees has noted with great interest the recent discussions of the so-called "Free Port Plan" for the relief of refugees. It is the Committee's understanding that under this plan relief centers would be established in the United States for the maintenance and care, under proper safeguards, for the duration of the war of persons in danger of extermination by Hitler and who may be able to reach this country.

The Committee recently met with John W. Penle, Executive Director of the War Refugees Board and reviewed with him current efforts to rescue refugees from Axis-occupied Europe.

It is the considered judgment of the Committee that this Government would make an important contribution by announcing to the world at this time that it will receive into the United States, on a temporary basis, Hitler's intended victims. In our view, not only would this constitute a great forward step in our Government's program of giving aid to refugees, but would be likely to stimulate other countries to expand their efforts in similar directions. It would, moreover, demonstrate to our people and to all peoples, that even in a period of war crisis, a democracy is prepared to adopt concrete and effective measures to aid the victims of the ruthless dictatorship which it is fighting.

Respectfully yours,

James G. McDonald
Chairman
May 12, 1944

Honorable Edward R. Stettinius
The Under Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Stettinius:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter which I have mailed today to the President.

I should like to add that everything I hear from interested individuals or organizations about the work of the War Refugee Board and Mr. Penle, its director, is very complimentary.

We are all proud of your success in your initial trip abroad as Under Secretary.

Sincerely yours,

James G. McDonald
NEW YORK NY MAY 12 1944 1137A

JOHN W. PEHLE

WAR REFUGEE BOARD

PLEASE WIRE TO WHAT PERSONS I SHOULD ADDRESS LETTER OF PRESIDENTS’ ADVISORY COMMITTEE SUPPORTING FREE PORT REFUGEE PROGRAM

JAMES G. MCDONALD 22 EAST 38 ST.

Mr. McDonald advised by phone 3/12/44
Dear Miss Stone:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Minna A. Stone,
Chairman, Resolution Committee,
McKinley Avenue Temple Sisterhood,
179 - 23rd Street, N. W.,
Canton, Ohio.

Enclosures.
To the Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt,
President of the United States:

WHEREAS, we, the McKinley Avenue Temple Sisterhood, are
deeply conscious of the tragic plight of European Jewry, and
WHEREAS, we are cognizant of the urgency of the need for crea-
tion of Free Ports for refugees,
THEREFORE, BY RESOLUTION OF OUR ASSEMBLY, WE BESEECH YOU,
Mr. President, TO IMMEDIATELY ESTABLISH FREE PORTS FOR
REFUGEES.

Respectfully submitted,

McKinley Avenue Temple Sisterhood

By
Chairman, Resolution Committee.
Dear Mr. Meinberger:

The President has referred to me your letter of August 2, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

I am sure you were glad to learn of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, where approximately 1,000 refugees, who had fled from their homelands to Southern Italy, are being cared for until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war. Copies of his message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 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 until the end of the war. In this connection, you will be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

Very truly yours,

[Signed] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Ford Meinberger,
Betty Gay Shop,
941 Third Avenue,
Huntington, West Virginia.

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

Dear Mr. President:

We recommend that Free Ports be established for entrance of Refugees advocated by the War Refugee Board. This great nation "conceived in liberty" has been peculiarly sensitive to the "cry of its brother's blood" wherever and whenever he has 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 a triditional haven of those who have been robbed of these possessions.

We commend the President of the United States for his outstanding leadership and vision, manifested in championing the cause of the afflicted not only by words but by forthright deeds.

We agree that America can do no less for these, our allies and fellow-foes of Naziism, than we do four our enemies who as prisoners of war are provided with temporary sojourn and security.

We appeal to the conscience of America to respond immediately to this suggestion of the War Refugee Board.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]
In reply please refer to: 826

MAY 31 1944

Dear Mrs. Melin:

Thank you for your communication 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. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Henry Melin
4501 N. Lawndale Avenue,
Chicago 25, Illinois.

Free Verse
To: Mr. John N. Pahl

May 22, 44

I endorse the plan for a fire post in the U.S. to save the lives of innocent victims of Nazi terrorism.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Henry Melin

4501 W. Laramie Ave.

Chicago (25) Ill.
In reply please
refer to: 877

Dear Mr. Mellman:

Since my reply to your recent telegram to the
President 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. S. Mellman,
5768 Westminster,
St. Louis, Missouri.

Enclosures.
In reply please refer to: 877

Dear Mr. Mallman:

President Roosevelt 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. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. S. Mallman,
5768 Westminster,
St. Louis, Missouri.

JUN 5 1944
WB16 DL

ST LOUIS MO 1215P MAY 30 1944

THE PRESIDENT

WHITE HOUSE

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

S MELLMAN 5768 WESTMINSTER

WASHINGTON D'C

RECEIVED
In reply please
refer to: 1005

Dear Mesdames:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Ruth E. Metzgerd,
Mrs. Ethel Metzgerd,
2207 North Broad Street,

Enclosures.
Dear Sir,

We are vitally interested in the establishment of "free ports" in the United States for refugees from enslaved 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.

Yours truly,

(Mrs. Ruth E. Mifflin)
(Mrs. Ethel Mifflin)

2207 N. Broad St.
In reply please refer to: 1003

Dear Mr. Michael:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. I. Michael,
211 North Easton Road,
Glenside, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.
In reply please refer to: 760

MAY 29 1944

Dear Mrs. Miller:

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

Mrs. L. Miller,
Chateau Clillon,
May 17th '43

Mr. John W. Rehle

Please do all you can
to achieve Rest Pots for
Refugees. It is needless
to say how important
the act would be and how
many lives it would save
and rehabilitate.

Very Respectfully,

Mrs. L. Miller

as part of Women's Division
of Anti-Jewish Congress.
Mr. John W. Pehle,
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.
In reply please refer to: 3144

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Miller:

President Roosevelt has referred to me a copy of your telegram of July 27, 1944, concerning the plight of Jewish and other 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 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 is equipped to care for approximately 1,000 refugees until they can be returned to their homelands at the end of the war. You will also be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

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.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Mr. & Mrs. Michael Miller,
884 West End Avenue,
New York, New York.
TELEGRAM

WB34 NL

NEW YORK NY JUL 27 1944

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE

WE CALL UPON YOU AS OUR HUMANITARIAN PRESIDENT AND SPOKESMAN FOR THIS NATION TO HELP SAVE THOSE JEWS OF HUNGARY WHO HAVE TO DATE ESCAPED MURDER BY OUR NAZI ENEMY WE CALL UPON YOU TO SEEK THE AID OF OUR ALLIES IN THIS SAME EFFORT WE ALSO ASK YOUR FULL SUPPORT OF SENATE RESOLUTION 297 TO ESTABLISH RESCUE CAMPS IN OUR AND OTHER COUNTRIES TO ACCOMMODATE STRICKEN REFUGEES FROM ABROAD.

MR AND MRS MICHAEL MILLER 884 WEST END AVE.
Dear Mrs. Millineau:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 8, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

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

Your interest in the fate of these persecuted people is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Ida Millineau,
R. F. D. #1,
Wyckoff, New Jersey.

Enclosures.
The White House
Washington D.C.

Mr. President,

I wish to call your attention to the plight of the Jews in Europe and would point out the urgency of altering our immigration laws to as to give immediate temporary asylum to refugees.

Yours very truly,

(Mrs.) Ada Mills.
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.

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

Louis Hillman
In reply please refer to: 1416

JUN 24 1944

Dear Sergeant Mishkoff:

Thank you for your communication of June 12, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

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

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

Sincerely yours,

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

Sgt. George Mishkoff,
Medical Detachment,
1206 SCSU,
Fort Niagara, New York.

Free Rates
Enclosures.
June 12, 1944

Dear Sir,

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

(Sgt) GEORGE MISHKOFF
Med. Det. 1206 SCSU
Ft. Niagara, N.Y.
In reply please refer to: 960

Dear Mrs. Miskoff:

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. Pahle

J. W. Pahle
Executive Director

Mrs. Miriam G. Miskoff,
5417 12th Avenue,
Brooklyn 19, New York.
June 6, 1944

Dear Mr. Rehbo:

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.

(Mrs) Miriam Driskell
5417 14th Avenue
Brooklyn 19, N.Y.
June 6, 1944

dear sir—

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

(mrs.) miriam broskoff
5417 12th avenue
brooklyn 19, ny.