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

General - S
Folder 1: SA-SH
Respectfully referred to the War Refugee Board for consideration and acknowledgment.

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

JUL 29 8 1944 AM

FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT PRESIDENT
WHITE HOUSE

I APPEAL TO YOU AS THE WORLD'S GREATEST LEADER TO DO ALL WITHIN YOUR POWER TO ESTABLISH RESCUE CAMPS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR JEWISH WAR REFUGEES STOP THESE TEMPORARY HAVENS WILL STOP THE NEEDLESS SLAUGHTERING OF HUMAN BEINGS WHO ARE MADE TO SUFFER FOR CONDITIONS THEY THEMSELVES ARE NOT RESPONSIBLE STOP AS A GREAT HUMANITARIAN I AM SURE YOU WILL NOT LET THIS OPPORTUNITY GO BY

IRVING SACHS

No address

Not listed in St. Louis directory
THE WHITE HOUSE
OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The War Refugee Board,
Washington, D.C.

Miss Hodel
Room 190
Dear Mr. Sandler:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 27, 1944, 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.

Sincerely yours,

(J. W. Fehle)

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Mark Sandler,
39 Stratford Road,
New Rochelle, New York.

Enclosures.
July 27, 1944

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

Dear Mr. President:

Your deep concern with the humanitarian problems created by the war is well known.

Will you, therefore, use your best efforts to have the Free Ports project for sheltering war refugees extended to accommodate greater numbers than presently contemplated.

This country has a heart and a bosom large enough for all of the limited thousands yet able to escape from the tyranny of the war instigated by the Nazi barbarians.

Respectfully,

Mark Sandler
34 Stratford Rd.
New Rochelle, NY
In reply please refer to: 2049

Dear Mr. Santo:

I have 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. R. Santo,
1635 Union Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
War Refugee Bd

I believe it solemn duty of everyone in this country to do more towards rescue of those suffering from Nazi horror.

Congressman Dickstein has right idea in his measure H 576. Won't you give it your earnest & honest best support? Not just handful like the 500 — but 50 times that!

Sincerely

R. Santo
War Refugee Board
Treasury Bldg.
Washington, D.C.
In reply please refer to: 3054

Dear Mr. Sayres:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 16, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you were glad to learn of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 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. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Mr. Alfred M. Sayres,
Executive Secretary,
The Board of Christian Education and Publication,
1505 Race Street,
Philadelphia 2, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.

Hutchison: agr 8-5-44
July 18, 1944

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

Honorable Sir:

Permit me to express the hope that increasing efforts will be expended by our Government in behalf of the refugee peoples from Europe. I am less interested in future retribution against the perpetrators of crimes against the minority peoples of European countries than in the present rescue of those whose lives are still in jeopardy. I believe I express the opinion of an increasing number of my fellow ministers, as well as of laymen in our church, when I say that we should be liberalizing our present immigration regulations with a view to admitting more such refugees into our own borders as well as supporting the plan to admit more of them to Palestine, and encouraging the neutral countries who are affording them asylum.

Accordingly, may I respectfully urge upon you, and to use to the utmost, the leverage of your high office in this worthy cause? I believe that a growing body of American public opinion will support you in every such effort.

Respectfully yours,

Alfred N. Sayres

[Signature]

ANS: VS
In reply please refer to: 907

JUN 19 1944

Dear Miss Schaffer:

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 Rhoda Schaffer,
Gardner Apartments,
50th and Pine Streets,

Enclosures.
Dear Miss Schaffer:

Thank you for your letter of June 2, 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

Miss Rhoda Schaffer,
Gardner Apartments,
50th and Pine Streets,
Dear Sir:  

I urge you to vote for the establishment of "Tree" lots in this country.

In the interest of humanity and because of the democratic principles on which this country was founded, I feel we owe it to these sufferers of Europe to afford them tim-

Jardiney's Apts.
50th Ave. S. W.
July 16
June 2, 1944.
porary asylum until they may be returned to their native lands.

Sincerely,

(Miss) Rhoda Schaffer
Dear Mr. and Mrs. Schats:

I have your communication of July 3, 1944, regarding House Resolution No. 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. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. and Mrs. Schats,
2821 N. 22nd Street,

Enclosures.
July 3, 1944

Dear Sir: - On this day of Independence we want you to know our sons in the service and our selves fully support the H.-Res. 576 for free ports for refugees. Millions are waiting your efforts in that direction.

The Schatz Family
28217 2 1/2 St.
Phila 32 - Pa.
TO:

Secretary Morgenthau

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

[Signature]

Miss Hodel - 190

J. W. Pehle
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
Dear Miss Schenken:

Thank you for your letter of June 29, 1944, concerning the establishment of 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. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Pearl B. Schenken,
381 So. Third Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

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

Sir:

We, as representative Americans, urge you to approve and adopt the proposed plan to establish a system of free ports which will afford temporary refuge for the victims of Nazi terrorism.

It is inconceivable that any country would refuse to admit these sufferers, who, through no fault of their own, are undergoing this inhuman persecution. America, the world's greatest democracy, now fighting a war for lasting peace and freedom from racial, religious and other discriminations, should be the first to take this step so that other countries may learn and follow her example.

We strongly urge that this proposal be approved and adopted at once so that the admission of these people may be begun immediately and in our example, followed by all our allied countries.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]

[Address]

[Date]
Mr. John W. Pehle
Executive Director of the
War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.
In reply please refer to: 1170

Dear Mr. Scher:

Thank you for your communication 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. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. David E. Scher,
922 - 44th Street,
Brooklyn 19, New York.

Enclosures.
John W. Peck
War Refugee Bd.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

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

Truly yours,

Dwight D. Eisenhower
In reply please refer to: 822

Dear Mrs. Scherer:

Thank you for your letter of May 24, 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

Mrs. Mildred Scharer,
118 South 56th Street,
Philadelphia 31, Pennsylvania.

Free Ports
118 South 56th St.
Philadelphia, May 27, 1944

John McPheie,
Executive Director,
U.N. Refugee Board.

Dear Sir,

I hope that you will support the Free Press for Refugees and the relief effort to protect the non-Jewish refugees in the occupied countries of Europe until such a time when they will be able to find freedom and live like human beings without fear and persecution.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Mildred Schererr.
Mr. John W. Phelps
Executive Director
Van Refuge Blvd
Washington 25
D.C.
In reply please refer to: 1155

Dear Mr. Schevman:

Thank you for your communication 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. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Mr. Joseph Schevman,
4701 Fifteenth Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
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 accomplished.

Joseph Scherman

June 9, 1944
Dear Mrs. Schermerhorn:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of July 15, 1944, concerning the establishment of the War Refugee Board and urging action to save the Jewish people of Europe.

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

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

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

I assure you that the Board is doing everything in its power to achieve its humanitarian objectives, knowing that the measure of its success will be the number of lives saved.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mrs. W. D. Schermerhorn,
2128 Maple Avenue,
Evanston, Illinois.

RBH_tchison:agr 7-25-44
2128 Maple Ave.
Elmwood Park, Ill.
July 15, 1944.
The Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House, Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am interested to learn that you have set up a War Refugee Board and am hoping that now many more Jewish refugees may be given homes here in U.S.A.

I understand that thousands fewer immigrants were admitted in the year ending July 1942 than were permitted, also that the National Democratic and Republican Clubs and the A.F. of L. have declared themselves in favor of temporary asylum outside the quota.

Please help save the Jewish people who are left before it is too late.

Sincerely,
(Mrs. H. D.) May D. Schermoshorn
In reply please refer to: 2606

Dear Mrs. Schinasi:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 25, 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. Laurette Schinasi,
Gray Rock Park,
c/o Mrs. Barkentin,
Pertchester, New York.

Enclosures.
The President,  
Washington, D.C.  

My dear Mr. President:  

I am so deeply interested and feel so deeply for the suffering people of Europe that I am writing you to ask that you do all in your power to establish a system of free ports which will give war refugees temporary asylum.

I am, dear Mr. President  

Yours faithfully,  

([Mrs.] Isadore Schinasi)
Dear Mr. and Mrs. Schlesinger:

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. I. Schlesinger,
178 Ocean Parkway,
Brooklyn 18, New York.

Enclosures.
178 Ocean Pkwy.
Bklyn., 13, N.Y.
June 6th, 1933

John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Wash., D.C.

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.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Mr. & Mrs. J. Schlesinger
178 Ocean Pkwy
Brooklyn, N.Y.
June 6th, 1944

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

Honorable 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.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Mr. and Mrs. Schlieper
In reply please
refer to: 985

Dear Mr. Schneck:

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. Max Schneck,
5821 - 15th Avenue,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
June 7, 1944

Dear Mr. Fehle:

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.

Thanking you, I am

very truly yours,

Max Schneck

5821 - 15th Ave.

Bklyn, NY
June 7, 1944

Dear Mr. President:

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.

Thanking you, I am

Very Sincerely,

Max Schneck
5821 - 15th Ave.
Brooklyn, NY
In reply please refer to: 3246

SEP 2 1944

Dear Mr. Schoenfeld:

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

I assure you that the War Refugee Board is doing everything in its power to rescue the victims of enemy persecution and to find havens of refuge for them where they can remain in safety until the end of the war. In this connection, you will be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Leo Schoenfeld,
9 Lewis Arcade,
Huntington, West Virginia.

Enclosures.
August 3, 1944

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

Excellency:

Our great nation is now engaged in a conflict with two governments responsible for the persecution and enslavement of many peoples. Not only are we fighting so that our way of life may be secured; we are fighting to redeem and ensure the liberty of the oppressed.

The people living in these conquered countries, will, when Victory has been achieved, be the basis for their nations' reconstruction. In view of this, would it not be wise to establish free ports now for these refugees, offer them comfort and security within the borders of our land until such time as their own countries will be rehabilitated.

I respectfully submit the above proposal for your consideration, and asks that you do all within your power to further it.

Respectfully yours,

Leo Schoenfeld

LS/RL
MAY 23 1944

In reply please refer to: 758

Dear Miss Schonberg:

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

Miss Selma Schonberg,
Roosevelt Apartments,
23rd. and Walnut Street,

Free Ports
Dear Sir:

Today, when providing a haven for poor souls fleeing from Nazi and Fascist terrorism in Europe, would be about the most humane and philanthropic act a nation could perform, especially a democratic nation.

I make my humble appeal to you, Honorable Mr. Biddle, for it is within your power to push every measure to make this dream come true for so many, right here in
W. R. B.
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans. ______
No. Ans. Req. ______
Initial ______
Date ______

To:

Please - with your help - may the "Free Port Resolution" become an act.

Thanking you. I am,

Sincerely,

Selma Schonberg
In reply please refer to: 2917

Jul 24 1944

Dear Mr. Schreiber:

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.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Louis J. Schreiber,
A. H. Schreiber Co.,
10 West 33rd. Street,
New York, New York.

Enclosures.
June 29, 1944

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

Dear President Roosevelt:

We greatly appreciate your efforts in establishing a free port of shelter for 1,000 refugees from war-torn Europe. However, many tens of thousands of unfortunate people are still seeking relief from Nazi and Fascist terror.

Won't you, therefore, please continue to use your good efforts to open many more such open ports, so that these people may at least have a temporary place of refuge?

Yours very truly,

Louis J. Schreiber

LJS:TD
In reply please refer to: 1423

JUN 24 1944

Dear Mr. Schreiber:

Thank you for your letter 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,

(Signed) J. W. Fohle

J. W. Fohle
Executive Director

Mr. Max Schreiber
5420 Wyndale Avenue,
Philadelphia 31, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.

Free Ports
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.

Yours truly,

Max Schreiber
Max Schreiber
5420 Wyndale Avenue
Philadelphia 31, Pa.

President F. D. Roosevelt
White House
Wash. D.C.

Dear President F. D. Roosevelt

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

Max Schreiber.
In reply please refer to 1987

Dear Miss Schryver:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

[Signed] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Florence Schryver,
1458 Berseau Avenue,
Chicago 13, Illinois.

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

My dear Mr. President:

As you and your administration stand for humanity and brotherhood, I write to urge that you use to its fullest extent your influence to promote the world's support for the War Refugee Board and the National Committee against Nazi Persecution and Extermination of the Jews, that doors here and in allied countries may be opened to victims of Nazi persecution.

Hopefully yours,

Florence Schrier
In reply please refer to: 1150

Dear Mr. Schudler:

Thank you for your communication 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. Mannie Schudler,
50 Ocean Parkway,
Brooklyn 18, New York.

Enclosures.
June 9, 1944.

Dear Sir:

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

Very truly yours,

M. Schudler
50 Ocean Parkway
Brooklyn 18, N.Y.
In reply please
refer to: 1050

JUN 17 1944

Dear Miss Schwartz:

The President has referred to me your communication 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

Miss Bertha Schwartz,
458 Sheffield Avenue,
Brooklyn 7, New York.

Enclosures.
June 6, 1944

Dear Mr. President,

We urge you to open Free Ports in the United States now.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
In reply please refer to: 3014

Dear Mrs. Schwartz:

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.

Your support for this program and your interest in measures for saving the lives of the victims of enemy oppression are deeply appreciated.

I assure you that the War Refugee Board is doing everything in its power to rescue these persecuted people and to find havens of refuge for them where they can remain in safety and be cared for until they can be returned to their 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

Mrs. Joseph L. Schwartz,
6639 University Drive,
St. Louis 5, Missouri.
President Franklin D. Roosevelt,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear President,

I wrote to you a short time ago, concerning the "Jewish Refugee" problem. I received reply (No. 2608) from the War Refugee Board, writing...
that one thousand refugees will be admitted to the U.S.

Can't we do better than that? In the face of the numbers being murdered, that is such a small percentage. Can't our allies help, too? I appreciate your
kindness in answering and hope that we can give more of these unfortunate victims a temporary haven.

Respectfully yours,

(mrs.) Evelyn H. Schwartz

July 13, 1944
Dear Mrs. Schwartz:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 22, 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. Joseph L. Schwartz,
6639 University Drive,
St. Louis 5, Missouri.

Enclosures.
President F. D. Roosevelt,

To The White House,

Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am asking you, please, if it is humanly possible, "To Establish Free Ports" for the Jews of Europe here in our country.
I am sure these Jews of Europe could be useful in the U.S., especially now, in view of the shortage of workers, after the war some adjustment could be made if necessary.

For Humanity's sake please do something about these "Free Ports" respect yours
June 22, 1944 (Mrs.) Evelyn Schwartz
Dear Mr. Schwartzberg:

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.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Sidney Schwartzberg,
2232 Woodlawn Avenue,
Niagara Falls, New York.

Enclosures.
2232 Woodlawn Av.
Niagara Falls, N.Y.
June 14, 1944

President Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear President,

Your creation of a refugee asylum camp is a step in the right direction. Perhaps the next steps will come easier. I hope that you will see fit to fight for these refugees—secure in the knowledge that you are backed by the mass of the people. And that instead of 1000, 100,000 or more could be saved.

Respectfully yours,

Sidney Schwartz
My dear Mr. Mayor:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 15, 1944, concerning temporary havens in the United States for refugees. I wish also to thank you for your telegram of June 16, 1944, to the President and to me regarding the same matter.

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. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Honorable Cornelius D. Scully,
Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh,
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.
June 15, 1944

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

My dear Mr. President:

I have been asked to write you in
the matter of the creation of "free ports" for
refugees in this country, and to respectfully
urge that this plan be developed. We are very
much in favor of these ports, and trust that we
might be able to provide a haven for the unfortunate.

Sincerely yours,

Mayor
City of Pittsburgh
Mrs. George Seaman

BOX 466
BEACON
N. Y.

August 21, 1944

Mr. President
Honored Sir:

An apology is due you and is hereby offered for my telegram of July 31st, relative to the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

A letter from Mr. J. W. Pehle, Executive Director of the War Refugee Board has explained fully about the action taken by you on June 12th.

How the news of this eluded me I cannot imagine for I have been advocating the establishment of such camps ever since the war broke out in Europe and have written many letters to influential persons, urging such action.

The telegram was sent in response to an urgent appeal from Mrs. Frances Gunther, Chairman of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, 25 West 45th Street, New York, an organization to which I have, from time to time, sent minuscule contributions.

I am sending Mr. Pehle's letter to Mrs. Gunther together with the data of action taken. I feel
that you are carrying far too heavy a burden to be annoyed in this manner.

I am thankful for what you have done and pray that many more of these unhappy peoples may be rescued in time.

May I add my note of thankfulness that you are at the helm. May you remain there and be daily given "the spirit of counsel and ghostly strength" which you so greatly need for this great task.

With sincerest respect,

Ismingerde Van Horne Seaman

The President
Washington
Mrs. George Seaman
Box 466
Beacon
N. Y.
August 21, 1944

Mr. J.W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am deeply indebted to you for your letter of August 12th explaining so fully the situation in regard to refugees.

I feel that a very sincere apology is due The President for my ignorance in not knowing and in so harassing one who is carrying so great a load.

I sent the telegram in response to a request to do so made by Mrs. Frances Gunther, Chairman of the Emergency Committee to Save the Jewish People of Europe, 25 West 45th Street New York. To this group I have sent tiny contributions from time to time. It never occurred to me that they would ask for action on something already done.

That I did not know that this action had been taken humiliates me as I have battled for these oppressed peoples ever since the persecutions
began. My only excuse is that I was visiting my children at an Army Air Base where newspapers were next to impossible to get.

I pray that more and more of all faiths or with none may find refuge here.

I am sending your letter to Mrs. Gunther so that no more such appeals will be sent. The President is carrying much too great a load to be annoyed by unnecessary petitions.

Yours sincerely,

Irmingarde Van Horne Seaman.
Dear Mrs. Seaman:

The President has referred to me your telegram of July 31, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens in the United States for refugees.

I am sure you were glad to learn of the President's action in establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his message to Congress on June 12, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned with the execution of the project are enclosed.

I assure you that the War Refugee Board is doing everything in its power to rescue the victims of enemy persecution and to find havens of refuge for them where they can remain in safety and be cared for until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war. In this connection, you will be interested to know that arrangements have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Irma Garde Van Horne Seaman,
Beacon, New York.

Enclosures.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 1, 1944

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

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

WB2 DL  
JUL 31 11 54 AM 1944  
BEACON NY JUL 31 1944 1105A  

THE PRESIDENT  
THE WHITE HOUSE  

HONORED SIR WITH A HEART FULL OF THANKFULNESS THAT MY  
HUGUENOT AND PILGRIM ANCESTORS FOUND REFUGE HERE I HOPE WE  
WILL GIVE GENEROUS REFUGE TO OPPRESSED JEWS OF EUROPE FOR  
THE SAKE OF THAT ONE JEW WHO IS THE LIGHT OF THE WORLD WITH  
DEEP RESPECT  

IRMINGARDE VAN HORNE SEAMAN
Dear Miss Sears:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of July 31, 1944, concerning the plight of the Jewish people in occupied 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. Arrangements also have been and are being made to provide other facilities to care for refugees in areas nearer to their homelands.

I assure you that the Board is doing everything in its power to achieve its humanitarian objectives, knowing that the measure of its success will be the number of lives saved.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Miss Edna Sears,
35 West 36th Street,
New York, New York.
July 31st 1944

President of the United States
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir;

It is imperative that some measures be taken to rescue the millions of Jews in Europe who are in imminent danger of death at the hands of the Nazis. 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. The pressing need of the War Refugee Board is to provide havens of refuge of those oppressed who can escape this Nazi reign of terror.

I urge you as the great humanitarian you are to take speedy and effective action in connection with this matter.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]

Edna Sears
In reply please refer to: 1159

Dear Mrs. Segal:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 5, 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. Harriet B. Segal,
4762 N. Tenth Street,

Enclosures.
June 5, 1944

W. R. B.

Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans. ____________________
No. Ans. Req. ____________________
Initial ____________________
Date ____________________

President of the United States

Dear Mr. President,

I strongly urge that you support the proposal for the establishment of a "Free Port" in the United States providing a temporary haven for other refugees.

Respectfully yours,

William J. Bullitt
Secretary to the President

4762 M. Twenty Street
Philadla. Pa.
In reply please refer to: 718

MAY 20 1944

Dear Mr. Seligsberg:

Thank you for your letter of May 15, 1944, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees.

Your interest is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pahle

J. W. Pahle
Executive Director

Mr. W. W. Seligsberg,
Seligsberg, Friedmann & Berliner,
29 Broadway,
New York 6, New York.

Free Ports
Hon. John W. Pehle, Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Through the Common Council for American Unity, my attention has been called to your proposed plan for free ports for immigrants. The plan seems to me to be correct and constructive in theory, although I am afraid that the people whom it is most intended to help are mostly beyond help. Nevertheless, I trust that the plan will be pressed for full discussion and that something statutory will eventuate.

Very truly yours

[Signature]

WNS:RL
Mr. Josiah E. DuBois
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Joe:

I found this letter among a couple of hundred others in my mail today. I thought that in some way or other one of your boys might be interested in this man at some time.

Again thanks to you for all the help you and the boys gave me. I shall never forget it.

Cordially yours

iah:ama

I. A. Hirschmann
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
90 TRINITY PLACE, NEW YORK 6, N. Y.

OFFICE OF THE DEAN

TELEPHONE: RECTOR 2-0881

April 19, 44

Mr. Irwin Hirschman
President
Bloomingdale
New York, N.Y.

My dear Mr. Hirschman:

You are to be congratulated upon your refuge freeport
plan. Free zones have always been the temporary refuge of unsold i.e.
homeless merchandise. Why should they not serve as haven for homeless
souls? If located in this country, UNRRA would save the cost and space
which is needed to feed those poor people.

Until I became a member of the faculty of this college
in 1937, I have served nearly 20 years as port consultant in Europe,
North Africa and Asia minor with headquarters in Hamburg and Switzerland.
All experience on freeports, which I have gathered, is at your
disposal for the great cause.

Good luck to your idea.

Sincerely yours

[Signature]

[Title and affiliation]

[Manuscript approval]
Dear Mr. Server:

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

Mr. Abraham Server,
116 West Girard Avenue,

Enclosures.
In reply please refer to: 1002

JUN 14 1944

Dear Miss Shafner:

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

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

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

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Lucy C. Shafner,
1245 - 50th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

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

1245-50 ft.
Brooklyn N.Y.
6/7/44

Remain as favor of Free Ports for
Refugees and ask you to extend your
good offices and see that this great
project be speedily accomplished.

Shipherd

Lucy E. Shipherd
The case is in your office and should be
for all purposes removed from the

1945.90

Frank
June 6, 1944

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

Esther Shapiro
Bertha Goldfarb
Gertude Shapiro

Free Ports for Refugees
June 6, 1944

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

Gertrude Shapiro
Bertha Goldflower
Gertrude Shapiro
In reply please refer to: 1063

Dear Miss Sherman:

The President has referred to me your communication 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,

[Signature] J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Anna Sherman,
459 East 92nd Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
Dear Mr President,

I urge you to open free ports in the U.S. now.

Sincerely,

Anna Sherman
459 E 92 St.
Bklyn, N.Y.

June 6, 1944
In reply please refer to: 964

Dear Mr. Sherman:

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. Harry Sherman,
1360 - 48th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
June 6, 1944

Dear Sir,

I am in favor of the facts of the facts you mentioned and ask you to please reconsider your good
offices to see if this great progress can be accomplished.

Sincerely yours,

Harry Truman

1360 x x St. 5th Street
Honeorable President. June 6, 1900
Franklin D. Roosevelt:

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

Respectfully yours,
Harry S. Truman
1360, 48 St
Brooklyn, N.Y.
In reply please refer to: 962

Dear Mr. Sherman:

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. Isaac Sherman,
1360 - 48th Street,
Brooklyn 19, New York.

Enclosures.
June 6, 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.

Very truly yours,
Isaac Sherman
1360-48 St.
Brooklyn 19, N.Y.
Honorable President
Franklin D. Roosevelt

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

Respectfully yours,

Pearl & Isaac Sherman
1360-48 St.
Brooklyn 19, N.Y.

June 6, 1944
In reply please refer to: 963.

Dear Mr. Sherman:

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 telegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum of June 8, 1944, to the heads of the agencies concerned in the execution of the project are enclosed.

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

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Joseph Sherman,
1360 - 49th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
June 6, 1944

Dear Sir,

I am in favor of the Port for Refugees and ask you to please extend your good offices to see the project speedily accomplished.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Fine
136 W. 46th St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.
June 3, 1849

Honorable President,

Thomas D. Preston:

I am in favor of the plan for a Federal Republic and ask you to please submit your good offices to see this great project speedily accomplished.

Your truly,

Thomas Young

Handwritten note.
Dear Miss Sherman:

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

Miss Pearl H. Sherman,
1360 - 48th Street,
Brooklyn, New York.

Enclosures.
June 6, 1944

Dear Sir:

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

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

1360-48 St.
Brooklyn, N.Y.
June 6, 1944

Honorable President
Franklin D. Roosevelt

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

Respectfully yours,

Pearl H. Sherman
Brooklyn, N.Y. 1360-48 St.
Dear Mr. Sherwood:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 9, 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. Joseph Sherwood
397 East 158th Street,
Bronx 56, New York.

Enclosure.
June 9th, 1944

Hon Franklin D Roosevelt
White House
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr President,

I just heard on my radio that you have approved bringing 1,000 refugees to this country to be placed in a camp near Oswego, N.Y.

When I heard this it made my blood boil to think we were going to get some more of that same calibre of people in this country that we got a few years ago.

I believe (as do all the people I come in contact with) that these people are the worst type of people that could be admitted to this country and I want to register my violent disapproval to that plan.

I think some thing should be done to americanize those that were admitted a few years ago and not let them be taking over the business of the country as they are doing while our sons and brothers are away fighting for them.

I believe we got our share of them the last time and there is enough of them here now and it would be a good idea to send these now to Africa or somewhere else.

I am a voter in the 1st A.D. Bronx, and a veteran of the last war with two sons going into the service soon.

I have expressed my opinion candidly, I hope you understand, and there are millions more feel as I do.

Sincerely Yours
Joseph Thurwood
397 East 158th Street
Bronx 66 717
In reply please refer to: 711

MAY 20 1944

Dear Mr. Reiss:

Your letter of May 11, 1944, to the President, concerning the establishment of temporary havens for refugees, has been referred to me.

Your interest is much appreciated.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Fehle
Executive Director

Mr. Louis Reiss,
Manager,
Shirt Make-up Union,
161 West 33rd Street,
New York, New York.

[Signature]

FILE: H. E. Hutchison: 5/20/44
President Franklin D. Roosevelt,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

Honorable Sir:

As early as last September, a delegation of American labor, headed by President William Green, of the A. F. of L., and President Philip Murray, of the C.I.O., submitted a memorandum to the State Department, appealing "to our Government and to the governments of the United Nations, to admit to all territories, under their control, Jewish refugees who may succeed in escaping from the Nazi hell."

Today, seven months later, Hitler stands on the brink of disaster. The German legions are in retreat everywhere. But the sufferings and the persecutions of the Fascist victims have not been halted. According to recent reports, the Nazis have, in desperation, intensified their bestial terror. Grave danger threatens millions of people in tortured Europe. Only swift action can save them now. Not words, or even tears, will have the power to restore or save their lives.

We have learned that the War Refugee Board has under serious consideration a plan to establish "free ports" in the United States, where refugees from Hitlerism can find shelter until they are settled in permanent homes. The proposal has been endorsed by leading newspapers throughout the country.

We consider the establishment of "free ports," which would give innocent victims of the raging holocaust, the privilege we now accord Axis prisoners, a most practical and feasible one.
The plan would not only provide temporary human "free port" zones, and safe refuge, and thereby save the lives of innocent people fortunate to escape the claws of the Gestapo, but would also demonstrate most dramatically to the whole world the dogged determination of the American Government and the American people to spare no effort in saving as many of the sufferers as possible.

Moreover, we believe that the adoption and the effectuation of the plan will help stay the brutal Nazi hand and will further encourage the ever-growing resistance to German barbarism.

The plan has our wholehearted support and we respectfully urge its immediate adoption.

Respectfully yours,

Executive Board.

(signed) Louis Reiss
Louis Reiss, Manager.
Dear Mr. Shorr:

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. Sanford S. Shorr,
444 Wood Avenue,
Woonsocket, Rhode Island.

Enclosures.
Dear Mr. President:

I am very pleased, as an American and a veteran of World War II, that you have found a new way to save the victims of Nazi barbarism in Europe. Further efforts in this direction on a larger scale would be forever remembered by these unfortunate souls, and would receive wide support among the American people.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

J. B. Stimson
Dear Mrs. Shulhafer:

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

Mrs. Philip E. Shulhafer,
2636 Dellwood Drive, N. W.
Atlanta, Georgia.

Enclosures.
MRS. PHILIP E. SHULHAFER
2666 DELLWOOD DRIVE, N.W.
ATLANTA, GEORGIA

6-16-44

DESPICUBLY ASKING
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

William J. Donovan
Secretary to the President

Dear Mr. President,

I am taking the liberty

of writing to urge...
carry out and broaden your plans

- to establish safe pets for refugees

- to give deserving of the name

American can rightfully subject

- to such a humanitarian undertaking. In addition to the

thousands of that we could care,

we will by our example encourage

other countries to do likewise.

I wish that I had the gift

of writing adequately for such a

situation, but I know you understand

it much better than any of us

possibly could. Please use your

impossible power, prestige and influence

Respectfully yours.

Hannah G. (Mrs. Philip E.) Shulheffer