

BALTZER, ALVIN W.

In reply please
refer to: 3375

NOV 17 1944

Dear Mr. Baltzer:

I have your letter of October 25, 1944, requesting information as to the number of refugees who came or were brought to the United States since 1939, and the number from Great Britain and Europe.

In replying to your question it is necessary to distinguish between persons entering this country under the regular immigration procedure and those given temporary asylum in this country as refugees. The former include persons admitted on a permanent basis who acquire the rights and privileges of legal immigrants and persons admitted for limited periods under temporary visas; both of these groups are subject to applicable provisions of our immigration statutes. Information concerning the number of persons so admitted would fall within the jurisdiction of the Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

The only refugees admitted temporarily to the United States outside of the regular immigration procedure are the 982 recently brought to the Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. As indicated in the enclosed documents, these persons, who fled from the occupied countries of Europe to Southern Italy where they constituted a burden to our military forces, were brought to the United States outside of the regular immigration procedure, under arrangements similar to those by which civilian internees from Latin America and prisoners of war have been brought here. These refugees will be cared for in the shelter under appropriate security restrictions until they can be returned to their own countries at the end of the war.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Enclosures.

Mr. Alvin W. Baltzer,
1531 West 11th Street,
Los Angeles 15, California.

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W. R. B.
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Initial
Date

Los Angeles, Calif. Oct 25 1944.

Mr. John W. Pehle, Dir. War Refugee Board, Wash'n DC.

Dear Sir:

Would you please advise me how many Refugees came, or were brought to the United States during 1939, 40, & 1941, and how many from Jan 1942 to the present time, How many of such were from Great Britain, and how many from the Continent.

Yours Truly.,

Alvin W. Baltzer 1531 West 11 st. (15)
Los Angeles, Calif.

Alvin W. Baltzer