

BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICES

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BRITAIN'S 'FREE PORT' FOR REFUGEES

The report that the U. S. Administration is considering establishing a system of "free ports" in the U. S. A. for the admission of war refugees, who would be otherwise barred from entrance by immigration laws, suggests a plan almost identical to that put into operation by the British Government in 1939 at the famous "Richborough Camp" for refugees.

This camp, a few miles from the port of Dover, was established by voluntary refugee organizations in Britain, to rescue thousands of Germans and Austrians who were being held in Nazi concentration camps while awaiting their turn under the U. S. immigration laws, a wait of about two years.

The British Government allowed these transmigrants to enter the British camp, without giving them any status in Britain, in addition to the thousands admitted under normal visas. "Richborough" represented salvation to the poor refugees who had no friends to give financial guarantees for them. Many of these refugees are today in the United States; the remainder are playing their part in the British war effort.

At the same time, it is interesting to recall the statement of Mr. Peake (Under Secretary for Home Affairs) on May 19, 1943, that "no refugee who reaches Britain without a visa has been turned back", and that "many thousands of refugees from enemy-occupied countries have arrived, and are still arriving without visas."

Britain's record as a refuge for the victims of the Nazis is one that should not be allowed to become forgotten. It is particularly notable when the size of the island, and the wartime conditions are remembered - stringent restrictions in food and clothing, overcrowding with Allied troops, and total preoccupation with the prosecution of the war. Despite these conditions, Britain admitted some 60,000 non-British refugees between May 1940 and April 1943, since when, according to announcement made last December, they were still being admitted at an average rate of 800 a month.

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AN AGENCY OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

FLASH!

"THE ROAD TO PARIS".....filmed under fire.....the
gigantic Allied master-plan which trapped the Germans.

Rocket-shooting Typhoon tank-busters in
action.....Allied armor smashing through.....Paris
locked in bitter struggle as the French Forces of the
Interior strike out.....de Gaulle's triumphant entry.

16mm. sound - 14 mins. - price \$13.50 - rental .50¢

Telephone Executive 8525

or

write Film Officer
British Information Services
1336 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington 5, D.C.

for a booking, giving alternative show dates. All

bookings accepted in the order received.

Suggestion: To round out your program, consult our new list.

Washington Office, 1336 New York Ave., N. W., Washington 5, D. C., Telephone: EX. 8525
Chicago 1, 360 N. Michigan Ave., Tel.: Andover 1733; New York 20, N. Y., 30 Rockefeller Plaza, Tel.: Circle 6-5100
San Francisco 11, 260 California St., Telephone: Sutter 6634

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Telephone
EXECUTIVE 8525

Reference for reply

BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICES

1336 NEW YORK AVENUE, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

February 15, 1944

Mr. John W. Paley
Acting Executive Director
President's War Refugee Board
Room 233
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Paley:

This letter will confirm our telephone conversation at which time I extended our invitation to such members of your organization as might be interested in going next Friday evening at 8.30 p.m. to the Department of Agriculture auditorium, South Building, 14th & Independence to hear Dr. Walter Maclay and see the film "Psychiatry In Action".

Dr. Walter Maclay who is largely responsible for the making of the film came to this country at the invitation of the American Psychiatric Association. I enclose a description of the film.

It would be most helpful to learn after the show what those members of your staff who may be able to attend think of the film. It has been very highly praised by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation and by the Veterans Administration Rehabilitation Division Director.

Sincerely yours,

Nevilo Gardiner

Nevilo Gardiner
Film Officer

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P.S. Any member of your staff may bring one other person with them.

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BRITISH INFORMATION SERVICES

AN AGENCY OF THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT

January, 1944

PSYCHIATRY IN ACTION

This film breaks entirely new ground in the medical field, and shows a particularly interesting aspect of British war-time organisation.

The British Ministry of Health has found that the best way in which to tackle many of the problems which arise in war-time medicine is to set up special centres where teams of experienced workers are concentrated to deal with particular injuries or diseases. Among these special centres are seven devoted to the cure of Neuroses. This film was shot at a neurosis centre, which was one of the first to be set up.

The film is unique from two points of view. First, it gives a picture of an entirely new type of hospital and second, this is the first time that an attempt has been made to show in the film medium the whole working and organisation of any kind of hospital.

The film starts by introducing Britain at war and states briefly the reasons for the setting up of the special centres under the Emergency Medical Service of the Ministry of Health.

Then after a view of the various buildings and departments of the hospital, which is situated in the grounds of a large school from which the pupils have been evacuated, the Medical Superintendent gives an introduction to the work that is being done there.

NEW YORK	30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA	Circle 6-5100
WASHINGTON, D. C.	1336 NEW YORK AVENUE, N. W.	Executive 8525
CHICAGO	360 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE	Andover 1733
SAN FRANCISCO	260 CALIFORNIA STREET	Sutter 6634

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We pass on to the hospital itself. To the Admission House where all cases spend their first twenty-four hours. Then we follow the patients into the units where they spend the rest of their stay in hospital. Here we are introduced to some of the doctors in charge of the units, and see them at work planning the investigation and treatment of the patients under their care.

There are sequences devoted to some of the methods of psychological testing which may be used, to the special treatments which may be required, and to the group talks and lectures.

We pass next to the physical rehabilitation of the patients, and to the occupational therapy which plays a large part in their cure. Here we see how the nursing staff and the instructors in the various classes assist the doctors in treatment. Next we see some of the ways in which the normal interests of the patients are revived by means of lectures, discussions, competitive games, and A.R.P.

Then we see how, when the day is over, the patients relax in games of their own choice, and we get a view of a popular feature, the weekly dance, which the patients themselves organise. Finally, the film takes us back to the Medical Superintendent, who explains that the cure of a case cannot end at the hospital; in most cases the patients cannot just go back to the same conditions from which they came without danger of a relapse. The disposal of cases is therefore very important and we see how the War Office and the Ministry of Labor co-operate with the Hospital in the after care of Service and Civilian cases.

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