

CHICAGO RECREATION COMMISSION

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In reply please  
refer to: 143

FEB 19 1944

My dear Mr. Secretary:

Thank you for your letter of February 8, 1944,  
and its enclosures, transmitting a copy of a letter from  
Dr. Philip L. Soman, Chairman of the Chicago Recreation  
Commission.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Poble

J. W. Poble  
Acting Executive Director

The Honorable Henry L. Stimson,  
Secretary of War.

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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FEB 8 1944

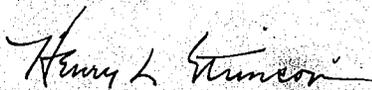
Special Order 21  
May 1942

Mr. John Pehle,  
Assistant to the Secretary,  
Treasury Department,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am pleased to inclose a copy of a letter dated January 31, 1944, from Dr. Philip L. Seman, Chairman of the Chicago Recreation Commission, suggesting the appointment of Major Irving Salomon as Director of the War Refugee Board. For your information, I also inclose a copy of my reply to Dr. Seman. Will you kindly bring this matter to the attention of the Board when it next discusses the appointment of a Director.

Sincerely yours,



Secretary of War.

Incls.-  
Ltr. fr Dr. Seman;  
Ltr. to Dr. Seman.

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FEB 8 - 1944

Dr. Philip L. Seman,  
Chairman, Chicago Recreation Commission,  
1630 Burnham Building,  
160 N. LaSalle Street,  
Chicago 1, Illinois.

Dear Dr. Seman:

Thank you for your letter of January 31, 1944, in which you suggest the name of Major Irving Salomon as Director of the War Refugee Board.

At the present time the work of the War Refugee Board is still in the formative stage. One matter of primary importance is the appointment of a Director to assist the Board in the accomplishment of the purpose for which it was appointed. I am pleased to hand your letter to Mr. John Pehle, Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury, who is temporarily assisting the Board as Acting Director. Major Salomon's name will be submitted at the time the members of the Board meet to discuss the appointment of a Director, and you may be sure that your suggestion will receive every consideration.

Sincerely yours,

(Sgd.) HENRY L. STIMSON

Secretary of War.

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CHICAGO RECREATION COMMISSION

CITY OF CHICAGO (1)

Hon. Edward J. Kelly, Mayor

1630 Burnham Building, 160 N. LaSalle Street  
Randolph 8000 -- Extension 351

L. Seman

January 31, 1944

Honorable Henry Lewis Stimson  
Secretary of War  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I was very much interested in the announcement made by President Roosevelt on the formation of a War Refugee Board, the object of which is to attempt the rescue of the victims of enemy oppression, who are in imminent danger of death, and that the Board consists of your good self, Secretary Morgenthau and Secretary Hull. I understand further that you are empowered to appoint a war-time Executive Director to administer the Refugee Assistance program.

If you intend, as Secretary of War, to appoint any military representative either to this Board, or to work with it, I would like to take the liberty of mentioning that I know a man who seems to be unusually qualified to participate in this work. Moreover, he is already located in the War Department in Washington.

I have known this gentleman for over thirty years. He has been a member of the Board of one of the largest community centers in the United States, of which I have the privilege of heading, in the capacity of General Director. He has also been on the board of several outstanding philanthropic organizations, such as the United Charities, one of the most important of its kind in the country. I have known him as a successful business man, and as far as I know, he is still the head of a substantial manufacturing concern (probably the third largest of its kind in the United States.) He has traveled considerably in Europe and in South America. I believe that at the present time he is a Major in the War Department. His name is Major Irving Salomon.

I don't know if he would be interested in changing his present work. I write you, Mr. Secretary, only because of my extreme interest in the project and because I feel that Major Salomon possesses so many fine qualities that fit him for this type of work. I would be happy to give you further information, should you desire, about Major Salomon, but I presume that you have other means of finding out about him.

I hope you will pardon my presumption in calling Major Salomon to your attention. I justify it only because of my interest in the project, and because I know that he will give most faithful and intelligent service.

Yours very truly,

s/ PHILIP L. SEMAN  
Philip L. Seman  
Chairman

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