My dear Mr. Barry:

The Secretary of State has referred to me your letter of March 23, 1944, with a letter of January 28, 1944, addressed to you by Mr. Richard A. Fiesel, President of the Forest Hills Civic Association, Inc., Forest Hills, New York, requesting information concerning the War Refugee Board.

The duties and authority of the Board are defined in Executive Order No. 9417 of January 22, 1944, which declares it to be the policy of this Government to take all measures within its power to rescue the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death, and to afford such victims all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war.

The Board is exercising every effort to achieve the grand humanitarian objectives for which it was created - to explore every avenue for the solution of the problems with which it is faced, to develop and implement every expedient for temporary housing for refugees in the United States, the question of admitting refugees, in permanent basis is not within the jurisdiction of the Board.

I am returning herewith Mr. Fiesel's letter. There are also enclosed copies of Executive Order No. 9417, establishing the Board, the White House Press Release of the same date, the Statement on Nazi Atrocities issued by the President on March 24, 1944, and the Executive Order making the Board permanent which you may wish to forward to Mr. Fiesel.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle

Executive Director

Honorable William M. Barry,

House of Representatives.
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO: WAR REFUGEE BOARD - MR. PEHLE
FROM: WRB - STATE DEPT. - MR. WARREN

DATE: April 17, 1944

SUBJECT:

Attached is a letter from Congressman Barry dated March 23, from the Forest Hills Civic Association, regarding an inquiry for information concerning the War Refugee Board.

Also attached is a copy of an acknowledgment written to Congressman Barry by the Secretary of State.

Attachments:

1- From Congressman Barry, dated March 23, 1944
2- To Congressman Barry
My dear Mr. Barry:

The receipt is acknowledged of your letter of March 23 transmitting an inquiry from Richard A. Fiesel, President of the Forest Hills Civic Association of Forest Hills, New York, for information concerning the War Refugee Board.

I am requesting the Executive Director of the War Refugee Board to communicate direct with you regarding this matter.

Sincerely yours,

The Honorable
William B. Barry,
House of Representatives.
The attached communication is submitted for your consideration, and I ask that the request made therein be complied with, if possible.

If you will advise me of your action in the matter and have the letter returned to me with your reply, I will appreciate it.

1327 House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C.

Reply in duplicate

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
M. C. [District]
THE FOREST HILLS CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.,
Forest Hills, N. Y.

January 28th, 1944

Hon. William B. Barry
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Our Association requests me to write you for any information you may feel at liberty to give regarding the committee recently appointed by President F. D. Roosevelt and headed by Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

We suspect the purpose of this committee is to ease the way toward free entry of refugees into the United States of America and/or entanglements in undesirable and dangerous foreign involvements.

We would also appreciate a copy of the Gildene-Baldwin-Rogers resolution which aims to create a special commission for the rescue of Jewish people in Nazi-occupied Europe.

Respectfully yours,

(Sgd.) Richard A. Fiesel

Richard A. Fiesel, Pres.
67-124 Glade Street
Forest Hills, L. I.
New York