

FULLER, W. D.

000132

SEP 14 1945

Dear Mr. Fuller:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 11, 1945, concerning your desire to obtain certain information with respect to refugees in this country.

Since the War Refugee Board is not in a position to furnish you with the information you request, I suggest that you write to the Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel  
Assistant Executive  
Director

Mr. W. D. Fuller  
5550 Ridge Avenue  
Philadelphia 28,  
Pennsylvania.

EBTowler 9-14-45

000133

5550 Ridge Avenue  
Philadelphia, 28, Pa.  
September 11, 1945

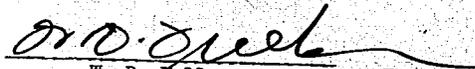
Mr. J. W. Pehle, Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Sometime ago I had correspondence with you relative to the policies to be followed in connection with refugees located within the country. I am quite interested in ascertaining the total number of refugees received by this country, how many of them have become citizens and how many will be returned to their native land and within what period of time.

If you are not in a position to furnish me with this information, I would appreciate it very much if you would advise me to whom I might write to secure this data.

Very truly yours,

  
W. D. Fuller

WDF:LHA

100134

JUL 4 1944

In reply please refer to: 979

Dear Mr. Fuller:

I have your letter of June 6, 1944, requesting information concerning plans to give temporary asylum in the United States to refugees.

As announced in a press release on June 9, 1944, an Emergency Refugee Shelter is being established at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, to care for approximately 1,000 refugees who have fled from their homelands to Southern Italy. These people will be 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. The persons given asylum in the emergency shelter will be largely women and children, and they will be placed in the camp under appropriate security restrictions where they will remain until they will be returned to their homes at the end of the war.

While the War Refugee Board is charged with the over-all responsibility for the project, the Army will take the necessary security precautions and the actual administration of the camp will be in the hands of the War Relocation Authority. Until the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration is in a position to assume the financial responsibilities involved, the Bureau of the Budget is to make arrangements for financing the project, using available funds of the War Department, the War Relocation Authority, the War Refugee Board, and the Federal War Relief Appropriation, and, if necessary, drawing upon the President's Emergency Fund.

In this connection, I am sure you will be interested in the enclosed copies of the President's message to Congress of June 18, 1944, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers, and his memorandum to the heads of the agencies concerned with the execution of the plan.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

*Original signed by  
Mr. Pehle*

*Cleared  
with Mr. Bess  
JAF*

Mr. W. D. Fuller,  
5550 Ridge Avenue,  
Philadelphia 28, Pennsylvania.

*EST*  
EFTowler:agr 6-30-44

100135

W. R. G. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Filing Authority \_\_\_\_\_  
 To: Files \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ans. 7/14/44 \_\_\_\_\_  
 No. Ans. Req. \_\_\_\_\_  
 In: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_

5550 Ridge Avenue  
 Philadelphia 28, Pa.

June 6, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Executive Director  
 War Refugee Board  
 Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

While you did not know a short time ago what the policy would be in regard to War refugees, Sunday newspapers carried statements from the Office of the President and yourself to the effect that plans are now under way to bring in a number of War refugees to this country to be located in former Army training centers.

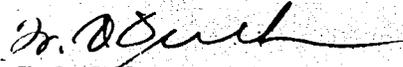
I am not heartless, nor am I unsympathetic, having gone through the last War and knowing what misery War presents. However, I am deeply concerned as to the social, political and economic situation of this country in bringing in untold numbers of refugees who, in my opinion, will never return from whence they came, adding to problems which the future will find very difficult to solve.

Will you please advise who is going to have supervision of these refugees, your office, the Immigration Bureau, or the Army or Navy? Who is going to be responsible for their maintenance, and who is going to see that they are returned from whence they came?

In my opinion there is a tremendous organized effort on behalf of various groups being brought to this country which the general public are not familiar with, and in my own opinion the American people are being taken for a grand and glorious ride with which you may not be in full accord.

Will you please let me know who is to have ultimate jurisdiction over the War refugees coming to this country?

Very truly yours,

  
 W. D. Miller

000136

PRECEDENT

APR 18 1944

Dear Mr. Fuller:

I have your recent letters inquiring as to the policy of the War Refugee Board with respect to the question of bringing refugees to this country, either on a temporary or permanent basis.

I am enclosing for your information copies of the Executive Order establishing the Board, the White House press release of the same date, and the statement on Nazi atrocities issued by the President on March 24, 1944.

The duties and authority of the Board are defined in the Order, 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.

While the Board is making every effort to achieve the great humanitarian objectives for which it was created and is exploring various avenues for the solution of the problems with which it is faced, no decision has yet been reached as to whether the programs developed by the Board shall include a project for temporary havens of refuge in the United States. The question of admitting refugees on a permanent basis is, of course, subject to existing immigration laws, the administration of which is not within the jurisdiction of the Board.

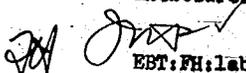
Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Mr. W. D. Fuller,  
5550 Ridge Avenue,  
Philadelphia 28, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.

  
EBT:PH:lab 4/14/44

000137

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Mr. Fuller:

I have your recent letters in which you have inquired concerning the policy of the War Refugee Board with respect to the question of bringing refugees to this country, either on a temporary or permanent basis.

I am enclosing for your information copies of the Executive Order establishing the Board, the White House press release of the same date, and the statement on Nazi atrocities issued by the President on March 24, 1944.

You will note that the Board has been assigned the great task of effecting the speedy rescue and relief of the victims of enemy persecution. To this end, the Board has already initiated many measures which, if fully implemented, may result in the saving of many lives. The one basic obstacle to all of the Board's efforts, however, is the fact that the United Nations have not been prepared to supply even temporary havens of refuge for substantial numbers of the persecuted peoples who may be enabled to escape from enemy and enemy-occupied territories.

Therefore, the Board is presently studying all phases of the problem of finding places of refuge for these people, including the possibility of temporary havens in the United States and the other United Nations.

I shall be very glad to discuss our problems with you in more detail at any time you may find it desirable and convenient to do so.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Mr. W. D. Fuller,  
5550 Ridge Avenue,  
Philadelphia 28, Pennsylvania.

Enclosures.

*This copy was  
initials by Mr. Anderson.  
EBP*

000138

446

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

5550 Ridge Avenue  
Philadelphia, 28, Pa.

April 4, 1944

Mr. John Pehle, Acting Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Room No. 2880 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Treasury Building  
Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Sometime ago I made inquiry with reference to the general policy of the War Refugee Board in regard to permitting refugees to enter this country.

The writer is very much interested in this subject, being absolutely opposed to any further entrance of any immigrants, whether they are refugees or not. I believe we have enough social, political and economic problems now without adding to them.

The writer would appreciate very much hearing from you with reference to the specific policy of your Board in this respect. I have been referred to you by Major General J. H. Hilldring, Director, Civil Affairs Division, Washington, D. C. I wrote to you previously, but to date have not received a reply.

Very truly yours,

  
W. D. Fidler

100139

(Who's Who)

271

Walter Deane Fuller

pres. of Curtis Publishing  
Co since 1934, fellow Natl  
Office Management Association,  
vice pres Natl assoc. of  
Manufacturers. Republican,  
Episcopalian, Mason. Member  
Union League club.

000140

274

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

5550 Ridge Avenue  
Philadelphia, 28, Pa.

Mr. John Pehle, Acting Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Room No. 2880 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Treasury Building  
Washington, 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

A short time ago I wrote to the War Department with reference to the specific policies to be set up and followed in connection with the work of the War Refugee Board. I made inquiry as to just what these policies might be, with particular reference to establishing any of the refugees, either temporarily or permanently, in this country.

I am particularly interested in the question of immigration and the number of refugees we already have here, and the effect of such immigration on our political, social and economic system.

Will you please advise me if you have any specific or general policy in this regard, and if it is the intent in any way of the War Refugee Board to bring in refugees to this country, either on a temporary or permanent basis, and whether in small or large numbers.

Very truly yours,

  
W. D. Fuller

000141

W. D. Fuller  
5550 Ridge Avenue  
Philadelphia, 28, Pa.



Mr. John Pehle, Acting Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Room No. 2880 $\frac{1}{2}$ , Treasury Building  
Washington, 25, D. C.

000142

Refer to:  
CAD 383.7

WAR DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
CIVIL AFFAIRS DIVISION  
WASHINGTON 25

*Answers  
received - processed  
with Mr. Pehle 7/9/44  
File JH*

5 February 1944.

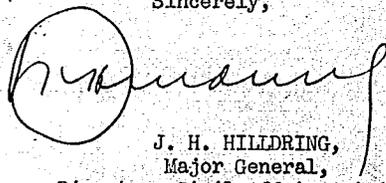
Mr. John Pehle,  
Assistant to the Secretary,  
Treasury Department,  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am inclosing a copy of a letter dated 1 February 1944 from Mr. W. D. Fuller of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, expressing his views on possible methods to be employed by the War Refugee Board in attaining its objectives.

For your information, I also inclose a copy of my reply to Mr. Fuller.

Sincerely,



J. H. HILDRING,  
Major General,  
Director, Civil Affairs Division.

- 2 incls.
- Incl 1 - ltr, 2-1-44,  
fr Mr. Fuller
- Incl 2 - reply 2-5-44  
to Mr. Fuller

5550 Ridge Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pa.

February 1, 1944

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

Sir:

The papers have carried recently articles to the effect that the President has appointed a Committee in the interest of the refugees in Europe, particularly the Jewish refugees. Would it be possible for you to advise the undersigned as to the general policy of this Committee, particularly as to any objective, which may be in view of bringing such refugees to this Country?

While every human being is in sympathy with the seriousness of the situation existing in Europe, and which has existed for some years past, nevertheless we have to be careful that we are not injuring ourselves by attempting to absorb all the refugees in the World in this Country.

In my own mind I am of the definite opinion that we have more than enough refugees in this Country at the present time who can be found in New York and other large cities, and who have been spread throughout the Country. I am of the opinion that we are faced with social, political and economic problems which may be more difficult to solve after this War is over than the War itself, which is definite and concrete. To dilute our population any more is apt to bring about serious consequences when we have no unanimity of opinion in spite of the saturated propaganda that you meet on all sides.

This letter is written with all seriousness, and with a very deep concern as to the future of this Country. I shall await with interest any reply which you may be able to make.

I am, Sir,

Respectfully yours,

signed  
W. D. Fuller

*Encl 1*

000144

Refer to:  
CAD 383.7

5 February 1944.

Mr. W. D. Fuller,  
5550 Ridge Avenue,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Fuller:

Your letter to the Secretary of War dated 1 February 1944 regarding the treatment of refugees from the war stricken areas of Europe has been referred to this Division for reply.

At the present time the work of the War Refugee Board is still in the formative stage. The function of the Board has been generally outlined by the President at the time its members were appointed. No specific policy to implement that function has been agreed upon. I am handing your letter to Mr. John Pehle, Assistant to The Secretary of the Treasury and Acting Executive Director of the Board.

Sincerely,

J. H. HILLDRING,  
Major General,  
Director, Civil Affairs Division

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

*Encl 2*

000145