

NEW INTERNATIONAL YEAR BOOK

000667

# Memorandum

FROM THE  
FUNK & WAGNALLS  
NEW INTERNATIONAL ENCYCLOPEDIA  
NEW INTERNATIONAL YEAR BOOK  
EDITORIAL DEPARTMENT

January 12, 1945

Here is an explanation of our proof deadline. Galley proofs should be corrected and received in our office by the following dates:

A-D -- Jan. 23  
E-L -- Feb. 6  
M-Q -- Feb. 15  
R-Z -- Mar. 2

Any important additions or deletions may be made on the enclosed Galley proofs provided they are received by the above dates. After those dates corrections are made on page proofs and the total space may not be altered.

MAMIE HARMON

FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY  
354-360 FOURTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

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*Checked and  
returned 1/23/45  
EAS*

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JAN 5 1945

Dear Miss Harmon:

I have your letter of December 19, 1944, requesting pictures to illustrate the article on the War Refugee Board and a definition of the term "extermination camp" as used in the article.

While the Board has no pictures available, I can direct you to several picture sources. Acme Newspictures has a photograph of the Board members -- Secretary Hull, Secretary Morgenthau, and Secretary Stimson -- taken in Washington on March 21, 1944. The Associated Press has pictures of the refugees who came to Fort Ontario. PM has published a number of pictures of Nazi death camps.

The term "extermination camp" is a vivid designation for Nazi concentration camps where large-scale executions of civilian prisoners and internees are systematically conducted. Its application denotes a death center, or a combination forced labor camp and death center, which is equipped with gas chambers and crematoria or otherwise especially designed for mass murders, and to which persons arrested by the Germans are deported. So far as is known, the largest and most infamous of these camps were established in Poland, and the modus operandi is graphically portrayed in the eye-witness reports on Auschwitz and Birkenau referred to in the last paragraph of the article on the War Refugee Board.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Miss Mamie Harmon, Associate Editor,  
The New International Year Book,  
Funk and Wagnalls Company,  
354 Fourth Avenue,  
New York 10, New York.

EBTowlerwinp 1/4/45

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December 28, 1944

Miss Hodel

From Mrs. Mannon

I suggest that the following be substituted for the second paragraph:

H2 { While the Board has no pictures available, I can direct you to several picture sources. Acme Newspictures has a photograph of the Board members -- Secretary Hull, Secretary Morgenthau, and Secretary Stimson -- taken in Washington on March 21, 1944. The Associated Press has pictures of the refugees who came to Fort Ontario. PM has published a number of pictures of Nazi death camps.

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I would delete the last paragraph, since I don't think those drawings would be very good illustrations of the article I prepared.

I would, of course, not have the letter signed by Mr. Fehle, since that precludes sending a photograph of him, which they might very well like to have.

000670

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



OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Miss Harmon:

I have your letter of December 19, 1944, requesting pictures to illustrate the article on the War Refugee Board and a definition of the term "extermination camp" as used in the article.

*Substitution* While the Board has no pictures available, I suggest that you may be able to obtain some material for this purpose from Life Magazine. The August 21 issue of Life carried photographs of some of the refugees who were taken to the Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York.

The term "extermination camp" was engendered as a vivid designation for Nazi concentration camps where large-scale executions of civilian prisoners and internees are systematically conducted. Its application denotes a death center, or a combination forced labor camp and death center, which is equipped with gas chambers and crematoria or otherwise especially designed for mass murders, and to which persons arrested by the Germans on political, religious, or racial grounds are deported. So far as is known, the largest and most infamous of these camps were established in Poland, and the modus operandi is graphically portrayed in the eye-witness reports on Auschwitz and Birkenau referred to in the last paragraph of the article on the War Refugee Board.

Incidentally, these reports contain rough drawings of the ground plans of the camps and crematoria which may be found suitable for illustration purposes. A copy of the document is enclosed.

Sincerely yours,

J. R. Fehle  
Executive Director

Miss Mamie Harmon, Associate Editor,  
The New International Year Book,  
Funk and Wagnalls Company,  
354 Fourth Avenue,  
New York 10, N. Y.

Enclosure

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Funk & Wagnalls Company



354 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

Editorial Rooms of The New International Year Book

CHARLES EARLE FUNK, LITT.D., Editor

RONALD STUART KAIN, A.M., MAMIE HARMON, A.M., Associate Editors

December 19, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle, Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Department of the Treasury Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Do you have any pictures or can you suggest any sources  
for illustrating your article on the War Refugee Board?

We note the use in your article of the term "Extermination  
Camp", which we think would be useful in our Glossary.  
Will you please be kind enough to tell us exactly what is  
meant by the term?

Yours sincerely,

*Mamie Harmon*

MH:PJ

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December 12, 1944

Dear Miss Harmon:

Enclosed is an article covering the general set-up and activities of the War Refugee Board during the current calendar year, as you requested for The New International Year Book.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle  
J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Miss Mamie Harmon, Associate Editor  
The New International Year Book  
Funk and Wagnalls Company  
354 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, New York

*Mum*

*JWP*

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## WAR REFUGEE BOARD

On January 22, 1944, President Roosevelt by Executive Order set up the War Refugee Board, consisting of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of War. They were directed to take action for the immediate rescue from the Nazis of as many as possible of the persecuted minorities of Europe — racial, religious or political — all civilian victims of enemy savagery. The Board was established in the Executive Office of the President. John W. Pehle, Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury and Director of Foreign Funds Control, was given leave of absence to serve as Executive Director.

As set out in the Executive Order, the Functions of the Board include development of plans and programs and the inauguration of effective measures for (a) the rescue, transportation, maintenance and relief of the victims of enemy oppression, and (b) the establishment of havens of temporary refuge for such victims. The Board was directed to cooperate with all public agencies and established private organizations dealing with refugee problems.

Early in February, 1944, the Board solicited the written suggestions of all interested private agencies concerning the measures they believed the Board could take to rescue and otherwise bring relief to Jews and other victims of enemy persecution, and it asked the private agencies to advise it of the measures they were equipped to take to lend assistance in the Board's work. Throughout its existence the Board has directed its efforts toward channeling,

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stimulating, and expediting the work of other established operating groups, both public and private.

From the beginning evacuation and relief operations have assumed a position of major importance on the Board's agenda. To facilitate these operations the Board appointed special representatives in strategic spots in Europe where evacuation was possible. Those representatives were: Ira Hirschmann and Herbert Katzki, Turkey; Roswell McClelland, Switzerland; Robert C. Dexter, Portugal; Iver C. Olsen, Sweden; Leonard Ackermann, Italy and the Mediterranean area.

With the cooperation of neutral countries, the Board has participated in the rescue of thousands of refugees from the Balkans across the Black Sea to Palestine; in the rescue of many children and other refugees from Belgium, Holland, and France who were brought to Switzerland and over the Pyrenees to Spain and Portugal; in the rescue of many victims of Nazi persecution in Norway and the Baltics who found sanctuary in Sweden and in the rescue of thousands from Hungary, Czechoslovakia, and Northern Italy to Switzerland. As a direct result of the Board's efforts over 40,000 refugees were brought back from Transnistria to Roumania; additional evacuations were effected from Jugoslavia to Italy. Aid also was brought to several hundred Sephardic Jews and Portuguese Jews in German occupied territory through the cooperation of the Spanish and Portuguese Governments, which were persuaded to recognize responsibility for these exiles of 450 years' standing.

With the cooperation of other American republics, the Board has taken effective measures to safeguard the lives of thousands of persons in enemy Europe who had secured passports and other documents issued

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in the names of Latin-American countries. In conjunction with the State Department, programs have been set in operation to facilitate the rescue of husbands, wives, children, and parents of American citizens and the wives and children of aliens resident in this country. A similar program has been devised for the protection of those to whom American immigration visas had been issued after July 1, 1941, but who, because of war conditions, were unable to come to this country.

President Roosevelt charged the Board with overall responsibility for bringing nearly 1,000 refugees from Italy and establishing them for the duration of the war in an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, an abandoned Army camp near Oswego, New York. The Board has also supported other countries in setting up refugee camps in Africa.

With the cooperation of the American and International Red Cross, the Board has carried on a program for the shipment of hundreds of thousands of food packages from the United States for delivery to civilians interned in Nazi concentration camps. The Board has also facilitated and sponsored large-scale feeding programs financed by private American relief organizations. These programs involve the purchase of food in neutral countries for delivery by the International Red Cross to internees in concentration camps.

Second only in importance to evacuation operations has been the Board's psychological warfare work. In this area it has worked hand-in-hand with the Office of War Information. President Roosevelt's warning of March 24 to Germany and her satellites of the consequences of further persecutions of the Jews was given wide coverage in the press and radio around the world, particularly in German-controlled Europe.

Listeners to secret radios in Europe also heard statements of warning and protest against the persecution of the Jews from Secretary Hull, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, and Governor Dewey. As the Nazi program of deportation and extermination of Jews got under way in Hungary in March, 1944, the Office of War Information beamed its "Voice of America" steadily at Hungary in Hungarian-language short-wave broadcasts. At the same time leaflets were dropped warning the Hungarians of retribution for their inhuman conduct. General Dwight D. Eisenhower's statement of November 7, 1944, urging Germans not to obey orders to molest, harm, or persecute men in concentration camps or forced labor battalions was widely publicized in the press and radio overseas.

Although there is no accurate measure of the effectiveness of the various psychological warfare efforts, the Board has in its possession reports that indicate that the deterrent effects of the repeated warnings have been considerable.

On November 26, 1944, the Board released to the press two eye-witness accounts of events which occurred in Auschwitz and Birkenau, two notorious Nazi extermination camps in southwestern Poland. It made these reports public in the firm conviction that they should be read and understood by all Americans.

*JMM*

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# WAR REFUGEE BOARD

~~Draft for New International Year Book~~

On January 22, 1944, President Roosevelt by Executive Order set up the War Refugee Board consisting of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of War. They were directed to take action for the immediate rescue from the Nazis of as many as possible of the persecuted minorities of Europe -- racial, religious or political -- all civilian victims of enemy savagery. The Board was established in the Executive Office of the President. John W. Pehle, Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury and Director of Foreign Funds Control, was given leave of absence to serve as Executive Director.

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With the cooperation of neutral countries, the Board has participated in the rescue of thousands of refugees from the Balkans across the Black Sea to Palestine; in the rescue of many children and other refugees from Belgium, Holland and France who were brought to Switzerland and over the Pyrenees to Spain and Portugal; in the rescue of many victims of Nazi persecution in Norway and the Baltics who found sanctuary in Sweden and in the rescue of thousands from Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Northern Italy to Switzerland. As a direct result of the Board's efforts over 40,000 refugees were brought back from Transnistria to Roumania; additional evacuations were effected from Jugoslavia to Italy. Aid also was brought to several hundred Sephardic Jews and Portuguese Jews in German occupied territory through the cooperation of the Spanish and Portuguese Governments which were persuaded to recognize responsibility for these exiles of 450 years' standing.

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Listeners to secret radios in Europe also heard statements of warning and protest against the persecution of the Jews from Secretary Hull, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, and Governor Dewey. As the Nazi program of deportation and extermination of Jews got under way in Hungary in March, 1944, the Office of War Information beamed its "Voice of America" steadily at Hungary in Hungarian language short-wave broadcasts. At the same time leaflets were dropped warning the Hungarians of retribution for their inhuman conduct. General Dwight D. Eisenhower's statement of November 7, 1944, urging Germans not to obey orders to molest, harm or persecute men in concentration camps or forced labor battalions was widely publicized in the press and radio overseas.

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Draft for New International Year Book

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*established operating*

stimulating, and expediting the work of other groups, both public and private, ~~rather than attempting to dominate and control the whole field itself.~~

*and relief*

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With the cooperation of other American republics, the Board has taken effective measures to safeguard the lives of thousands of <sup>persons in</sup> refugees <sup>every</sup> who ~~(by one means or another)~~ had secured passports and other documents <sup>Europe</sup> issued in the names of Latin-American countries. In conjunction with the State Department programs have been set in operation to facilitate the rescue of husbands, wives, children and parents of American.

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(The Board has supported other countries in setting up refugee camps in Africa.) <sup>also</sup> President Roosevelt charged <sup>the Board</sup> with overall responsibility for bringing nearly 1,000 refugees from Italy and establishing them for the duration of the war in an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, an abandoned Army camp near Oswego, New York.

*American ans*

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With the cooperation of the International Red Cross, the Board <sup>carried on</sup> has <sup>facilitated and expanded</sup> a program for <sup>the shipment of hundreds of thousands</sup> delivering food packages <sup>from shells</sup> to Nazi concentration camps. <sup>the Board has also facilitated and</sup> <sup>sponsored a large scale feeding program financed by private American</sup> relief.

Second only in importance to evacuation operations has been the Board's psychological warfare work. In this area it has worked hand-in-hand with the Office of War Information. President Roosevelt's warning of March 24 to Germany and her satellites of the consequences of further persecutions of the Jews was given wide coverage in the press and radio around the world, particularly in German-controlled Europe. Listeners to secret radios in Europe also heard statements of warning and protest against the persecution of the Jews from Secretary Hull, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, and Governor Dewey. As the Nazi program of deportation and extermination of Jews got under way in Hungary in March, 1944, the Office of War Information beamed its "Voice of America" steadily at Hungary in Hungarian language short-wave broadcasts. At the same time leaflets were dropped.

*organization  
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involves  
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of food  
and medicine  
for delivery  
by the  
Red Cross  
to intern  
in con-  
centration  
camps*



Funk & Wagnalls Company  354 Fourth Avenue, New York 10, N. Y.

*Editorial Rooms of The New International Year Book*

CHARLES EARLE FUNK, LITT.D., *Editor*

RONALD STUART KAIN, A.M., MAMIE HARMON, A.M., *Associate Editors*

November 29, 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle, Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Department of the Treasury Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

The New International Year Book customarily includes reports on all new and important government agencies, supplied by a suitable person in each agency. May we ask that you assist us by supplying information about the War Refugee Board for the forthcoming annual edition?

Such articles usually run to some 1000 words, covering the general set-up, and activities during the current calendar year. The information is due in this office not later than January 15th. We should greatly appreciate your assistance.

Yours sincerely,

*Mamie Harmon*

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