Requests for Specific Aid: Basch, Hedi
Dear Mrs. Basch:

I have your letter of February 1, 1944, requesting the assistance of the War Refugee Board to enable your parents to escape from Nazi persecution.

I think you will understand that the task of the Board is so great that, of necessity, it cannot deal with problems limited to seeking out and rescuing specific individuals. I assure you we are doing everything in our power to rescue and save the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death.

Persons in the United States seeking assistance for the rescue of specific individuals are being referred to private organizations, which I am advised are in a position to be of some help in cases of this kind. It is suggested that you may wish to refer your problem to the Australian Jewish Welfare Society, 146 Darlinghurst Road, Sydney, Australia.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Hedi Basch,
26 Katandra Road,
Ormond S. E. 9 Vic.,
Australia.
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

In reply please refer to: 646

Dear Mrs. Basch:

I have your letter of February 1, 1944, requesting the assistance of the War Refugees Board to enable your parents to escape from Nazi persecution.

I think you will understand that the task of the Board is so great that, of necessity, it cannot deal with each and every case but must, of necessity, limit itself to the rescue of specific individuals. As a result, of course, only everything in our power to rescue and save the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death.

Persons in the United States seeking assistance for the rescue of specific individuals are being referred to private organizations. I am enclosing a list of several organizations which I have advised may be in a position to be of help in cases of this kind. And it is suggested that you may wish to refer your problem to one of these agencies.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

J. W. Pohle
Acting Executive Director

Mrs. Hadi Basch,
26 Katandra Road,
Ormond S. E. 9 Vic.,
Australia.

Enclosure.

000168
Dear Sir,

The attached newspaper chipping appeared in the Melbourne "Sun" of the 24th January. The establishment of a Car refugee Board is of vital interest to me, being myself a refugee from Nazi Hell (Austria) and having my parents still in German hands. News of the formation of your board seemed like a miracle to me after years of despair.

I was fortunate in being able to come to Australia but was unable to bring my parents. The last letter I had from them dated November 1942, was from Oslo, Norway, Holbergsgate 21, Gamlehamet, the names being: My father: Friedrich Weiner, my mother: Ida Weiner.

I cannot express in words what it would mean to me to have them here, but even if this were impossible, it would be a tremendous relief for me just to know they were out of reach of Nazi persecution.

I beg of you with all my heart to give this letter your most earnest consideration and to give me all the assistance that lies in your power.

I trust not to have applied to you in vain and remain,

yours faithfully

Hedi Basch
The Secretary

War refugee Board

Department of State

Washington D.C.

U.S.A.
Heli Basch 26, Katandra Road
Ormond S.E. 9, Vic.
Australia.
Big U.S. Refugee Aid Board Formed

WASHINGTON, Sunday, AAP.—President Roosevelt has established a War Refugee Board, composed of the Secretary of State (Mr. Cordell Hull), the Secretary of the Treasury (Mr. Morgenthau), and the Secretary of War (Mr. Stimson), "to take immediate action for the rescue of as many as possible of the persecuted racial, religious, and political minorities in Europe."

The board will develop plans for transportation, maintenance, relief, and the establishment of temporary havens.

President Roosevelt said he expected the co-operation of all the United Nations and other foreign Governments.

He stressed the urgent need for immediate action to forestall the Nazi plan to exterminate all Jews and other persecuted minorities.

A United Press message states that negotiations for the release of refugees in occupied countries will presumably be conducted through Swiss and other neutrals, and relief handled by the International Red Cross.
DATE: 3/18/44

TO: WR

FROM: Subject, signed by name

SUMMARY: Lot. 3162, 2/1/44, ras Request for aid in getting relatives from under the Nazi rule

FILED: BASCH, REDI

REMARKS:

FOREIGN FUNDS CONTROL

CORRESPONDENCE REFERENCE FORM