

Requests for Aid to Jews - General: GISH, M. S.

000490

In reply please
refer to: 1161

JUN 21 1944

Dear Mr. Gish:

The President has referred to me your
letter of June 5, 1944, concerning Jewish refugees.

The War Refugee Board is doing everything
in its power to rescue the victims of enemy oppression
who are in imminent danger of death, and to provide
havens of refuge for those who are enabled to escape
from enemy territory. In this connection, you may be
interested in the attached copies of the President's
recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador
Murphy in Algiers concerning the establishment of an
Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New
York, and his memorandum to the heads of the agencies
concerned with the execution of the plan.

Your interest in the fate of refugees and
the problem of finding places of asylum for them is
appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Morris S. Gish,
1745 President Street,
Brooklyn 13, New York.

Attachments.

EBT
EBTowler:agr 6-20-44

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W. R. B. _____
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No. Ans. Req. _____
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Date _____

Handwritten: 2 ✓
Handwritten: W. R. B. Gish

MORRIS S. GISH
1745 PRESIDENT ST., ZONE 15
BROOKLYN, NEW YORK

June 5th., 1944

Franklin Delano Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

My dear Mr. President:

Handwritten: William V. Barrett

Secretary to the President

I wish to take this opportunity to commend you upon your action in establishing a War Refugee Board.

This act is an excellent one, but I do not believe that this Board in itself is the solution to the whole problem. The situation of the poor unfortunate Jews who are still alive in Europe is very grave and prompt effective action is necessary to rescue them.

Some countries have welcomed limited amount of Jews, while others have clearly indicated their objections, even to temporary admission. It seems that the only solution would be to open up the doors of Palestine as a haven of refuge for those Jews who can manage to escape the claws of the Tyrant Hitler and his cohorts.

I firmly believe that the doors of Palestine should be opened to these Jews. Human lives are at stake and I rightfully believe that England should show herself to be humanitarian and practical by making good the Balfour Declaration or at least by opening up the doors of Palestine again in order to save the surviving Jews of Europe from annihilation at the hands of the Nazi hordes.

With many thanks for your kind consideration, I remain

Respectfully yours
Handwritten: M. S. Gish

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