Requests for Aid to Jews - General: Graebel, Richard Paul (Dr.)
In reply please refer to 1694

Dear Dr. Graebel:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of June 16, 1944, concerning the plight of Jews in Europe.

On January 22, 1944, the President created the War Refugee Board for the purpose of taking all possible measures to rescue and save the victims of enemy oppression and to afford them all possible relief and assistance, consistent with the successful prosecution of the war.

To accomplish the purpose for which it was created, the War Refugee Board has initiated numerous measures to assist persons to escape from enemy and enemy-occupied countries, to find havens of refuge for them, to obtain better treatment for those for whom escape is not possible, and to persuade the satellite countries to desist from cooperating with the Nazi policy of persecution and extermination of minority peoples. The Board has stationed representatives in strategic countries in order to expedite these measures.

In connection with the problem of finding places of asylum for those who are unable to escape from enemy-controlled areas, you will be interested to know that the President has recently taken action to establish an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, which will be equipped to care for approximately 1,000 refugees for the duration of the war or until they can be returned to their homelands.

I assure you that the Board is doing everything in its power to achieve its humanitarian objectives, knowing that the measure of its success will be the number of lives saved.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature] J. W. Pohle

J. W. Pohle
Executive Director

Dr. Richard Paul Graebel, Pastor,
First Presbyterian Church,
Ottumwa, Iowa.
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
OTTUMWA, IOWA

To:
Mr. C. J. Taylor, Treasurer

June 16, 1944

The Honora is Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

MRS. BERTHA E. REEVES, SECRETARY

HONORABLE SIR:

I am one of the millions of Americans who
is deeply troubled by the plight of the Jew in
Europe and over the world.

I beg of you to do all you can as a human
being for this unfortunate religious minority.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Richard Paul Graebel, D.D.

R.D. Jr.