

Requests for Aid to Jews - General: Ketchum, Wm. H. (Mas.)

In reply please
refer to: 3031

JUL 31 1944

Dear Mrs. Ketchum:

The President has referred to me your letter of July 16, 1944, requesting immediate action by the War Refugee Board to save the Jewish people of Europe.

Inasmuch as Representative Kean has written to us in your behalf concerning the same subject, I am sure his letter to you will give you an idea of the work we are doing and the measures we have taken to rescue and save as many of the victims of Nazi oppression as possible.

Your interest in the work of the Board and in the fate of these victims of enemy persecution is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. William H. Ketchum,
181 Summit Avenue,
Upper Montclair, New Jersey.

JW *RJH*
RBHatchison:agr 7-26-44

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MRS. WILLIAM H. KETCHUM
181 SUMMIT AVENUE
UPPER MONTCLAIR, N. J.

W. R. B. _____
Filing Authority
July 10, 1944
Ans. _____
No. Ans. Req. _____
Initial _____
Date _____

W.H.K.
181 Summit Ave
Upper Montclair, N.J.

The Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washington, D.C.

William H. Ketchum
Secretary to the President

Dear Mr. President:- In view of
the continuing terrible persecution of
European Jews, I earnestly desire
some immediate and effective ac-
tion by the War Refugee Board.

Respectfully
Yours sincerely
Irene Mitchell
(Mrs. W. H.)

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In reply please
refer to: 3022

JUL 26 1944

My dear Mr. Kaant:

I have your letter of July 18, 1944, with which you enclosed a letter addressed to you by Mrs. William H. Ketchum, of Upper Montclair, New Jersey.

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 who are in imminent danger of death, and to afford them all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war. I assure you that the Board is doing everything in its power to achieve the humanitarian objective for which it was created.

Since its creation, 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 induce the satellite countries to desist from cooperating with the Nazi policy of persecution and extermination of minority peoples. Established private organizations engaged in refugee and relief activities are cooperating with the Board in the development and execution of its programs and are rendering a valuable service. The measures adopted by the Board are being expedited by special representatives which it has stationed in strategic countries.

Press releases, from time to time, give the highlights of what we are doing. I am sure Mrs. Ketchum will appreciate that the nature of our task is such that a detailed account of the work cannot be given. The important thing is that people whose lives are in danger are escaping from enemy-controlled territory, those who are brought out are being cared for, and places of asylum are being found for them where they can remain in safety until the time comes when they may be returned to their homes.

In connection with the problem of finding places of asylum for those who are enabled to escape from enemy-controlled areas, I am sure Mrs. Ketchum will be interested in the President's recent action establishing an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York. Copies of his recent message to Congress, his cablegram to Ambassador Murphy in Algiers

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and his memorandum to the heads of the agencies concerned with the execution of the project are enclosed. Also enclosed is Mrs. Ketchum's letter of July 16 to you.

Mrs. Ketchum's concern for the fate of these unfortunate people is appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Honorable Robert W. Kean,
House of Representatives.

Enclosures.

*Original signed by
Mr. Pehle*

RBH JPA
RBHutson:agr 7-25-44

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ROBERT W. KEAN
12TH DIST. NEW JERSEY

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D. C.

3022

MEMBER OF
COMMITTEE ON BANKING AND CURRENCY

W. R. B. _____

Filing Authority

To: Files

Ans. _____

July 18 1944 Ans. Req. _____

Initial _____

Date _____

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I enclose herewith a letter from one of my constituents, Mrs. William H. Ketchum, of Montclair, N. J., which is self-explanatory.

I will appreciate it if you will write me such a letter as I may send to her bearing upon the activities of your Board.

Thanking you for your courtesy, I remain,

Very truly yours,



John W. Pehle, Esq., Exec. Dir.
War Refugee Board,
Treasury Department,
City.

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O
P
Y

Mrs. William H. Ketchum
181 Summit Avenue
Upper Montclair, N. J.

July 16, 1944

Hon. Robt. W. Kean,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

In view of the continuing persecution of
European Jews, I earnestly desire some efficient
action by the War Refugee Board.

Very truly

/s/ Edna W. Ketchum

(Mrs. Wm. H.)

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