

Requests for Aid to Jews - General: RYTHEK, EDITH M.
(MRS. F.F.)

000542

In reply please
refer to: 2834

JUL 4 1944

Dear Mrs. Ryther:

President Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of June 24, 1944, concerning the establishment of the War Refugee Board and requesting immediate action to help the persecuted minorities of 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 enabled 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,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Emergency Refugee Shelter

Mrs. F. F. Ryther,
318 N. Maple Avenue,
Oak Park, Illinois.

EBT

BBH Hutchison:agr *JH* 7-1-44

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Oak Park Ill. June 24, 44

3 3-4 Maple Cir.
Franklin D. Roosevelt
Washington, D.C.

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U.S. AIR MAIL
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Date
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Dear Mr. President:

In regard to the setting
up of a War Refugee Board, I am
writing to urge your immediate
action toward actual help for the
unhappy minorities of Europe,
particularly the Jews whose martyr-
dom has already exceeded that of any
thing ever known, even in those days
of what we are pleased to call the
dark ages.

Sincerely yours,
Edith M. Rycher
(Mrs. F.)

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