

Requests for AIO to Hungary: LEIBENSTEIN, BENNY

000630

JUL 7 1944

In reply please
refer to: 2901

Dear Mr. Leibenstein:

The President has referred to me your letter of June 26, 1944, concerning the plight of the Jewish people in Europe and urging immediate action to help them.

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

Mr. Benny Leibenstein,
1320 S. Troy,
Chicago 23, Illinois.

EAT RBH RBHutchison:agr 7-4-44 JEL ✓

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Mr. [unclear]
[unclear]

RESPECTFULLY REFERRED
FOR ACKNOWLEDGMENT
AND CONSIDERATION

June 26, 1944

2901

William D. Russell
Secretary to the President

W. R. B.
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans. 7/7/44
M. C. [unclear]
Initial
Date

Dear President Roosevelt.

When I came home a few minutes
I read in the paper that 10,000 Jews
killed in Hungary. One's hair just raise after
reading such news not for the first time
but for years in succession. The Jews over
their are just crying for help from U. S.
and a very little help has been given to them
by the government. Please, Mr. President try
at least to send a strong Protest to Nazis
and try to do all in your power for the few
remaining living souls. I feel that there
is alot in your power that can be done and
any human person just runs into tears after
reading this terrible and knowing that you
are living in a democratic country as in the U. S.
and not even a strong cry of protest was raised.
So, Please, again and again you
can help and you must help and I am
sure that you will help in the very very near
future.

A young American
Benny Heibenstein
1320 S. Troy
Chicago 23, Ill.

000632