

ROBINSON, Leland Rex

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February 16, 1944

LELAND REX ROBINSON  
2 WEST 45TH STREET  
NEW YORK

*Mr. Robinson  
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Mr. J. W. Pehle  
Acting Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Let me acknowledge your communication of February 8th relating to Executive Order No. 9417 setting up the War Refugee Board and asking that the various voluntary agencies concerned with the servicing of refugees submit detailed statements of specific action which they believe the Board should take to carry out its functions.

This letter to you is written in the light of several responsibilities which the undersigned carries in connection with refugee work in the United States and overseas:- (1) as Treasurer of Refugee Relief Trustees, the National War Fund member agency (in which the American Committee for Christian Refugees, the International Rescue and Relief Committee and the Unitarian Service Committee are participating agencies); (2) as President of A.C.C.R. whose responsibilities are mainly in Switzerland, Latin America and in the work of refugee assimilation and relief in the United States; and (3) as Chairman of the Committee on Displaced Persons of the American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service which includes in its membership representation of American voluntary agencies actively at work in the refugee field.

A number of meetings having some importance in joint planning are occurring within the next two or three days, and before formally answering your communication it would be advisable, in my opinion, for our joint planning to proceed a little further. A number of my associates have already been in touch with you personally, and I shall have the benefit of their views at meetings tomorrow and Friday.

In view of the rapidity of these developments, particularly in Washington, but also among the voluntary agencies with headquarters in New York, it occurs to me that I ought to come to Washington to see you in the near future unless you are planning to be in New York next week. Would it be convenient for you to receive me sometime on Friday, February 25th? As soon as I hear from you whether this date is convenient, I will communicate with you further.

Very sincerely yours,

*Leland Rex Robinson*  
Leland Rex Robinson

LRR/P

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