SCHAEFFER, JUDA (MR.)

000271

D R A F T

Dear Mr. Schaffer:

This is in reply to your letter of October 4. I am sure that the International Refugee Service and the Jewish Social Service Association have done, and are doing, whatever they can to assist you. I regret that there is no further action which I am in a position to take in this matter.

Very truly yours,

JWPehle:lhh 10-19-44

308228

Oct. 19, 1944

Mrs. Klotz

J. W. Pehle

I am returning to you herewith the personal letter received by Mrs. Morgenthau from Mr. Juda Schaffer, together with a suggested reply.

I checked this matter with the Joint Distribution Committee in New York who reported as follows: Juda Schaffer is 57 years old. He arrived in the United States on September 5, 1939, and has been supported practically continuously since by the International Refugee Service and by the Jewish Social Service Association. Medical reports indicate that he could do light work, which he has been offered, but he apparently takes the position that he is not in condition to do any work and insists on receiving aid, pointing to the sufferings which he underwent at the concentration camp at Dachau.

In any event, the arrangement in all such cases is for the National Refugee Service to turn refugee cases over to a local organization, in this case the Jewish Social Service Association, at the end of four years, which was done in December 1943. At the end of the fifth year the Jewish Social Service Association turns all such cases over to the local public authorities. Many of the refugees, of course, prefer to continue as beneficiaries of the private philanthropies. There is nothing to indicate that this is an exceptional case.

(Signed J. W. Pehle

Attachment

JWPehle:lhh 10-19-44

008029

COPY

531 West 179 Street
New York 33, New York
October 4, 1944

Dear Mrs. Morgenthau,

I am writing to you to ask a big favor. Nobody can help me but you.

I am a refugee who was held in a concentration camp by Hitler for one year. As a result of being hung up on a tree, my left hand is crippled. I've visited quite a number of doctors and have found no cure. This handicap prevents me from working. From 1940 the National Refugee Service at 139 Centre St. New York City has been aiding me. Since September 28th of this year, they referred me to the Jewish Social Service Association, Inc. at 1910 Arthur Ave., Bronx, New York. They in turn wish to give my case over to the City Relief. However, I do not want to be a burden to the City. I am here alone - my wife and children were left in a ghetto in Europe -- I have nobody here. Please intercede for me with the Jewish Social Service Association, Inc. - that they give me aid - otherwise I don't know what to do with myself.

I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your kindness. May God bless you and yours.

Respectfully yours,
Mr. Juda Schaffer
531 West 179 Street
New York 33, New York

P.S. Please, I beg of you, let me know soon whether I can expect aid.

000030