

SCHERER, EMANUEL

000831

In reply please  
refer to: 482

APR 22 1944

Dear Mr. Scherer:

Your telegram of March 20, 1944, to the President, concerning the plight of Jews in Poland, has been referred to me.

There is enclosed for your information a copy of Executive Order No. 9417, issued by the President on January 22, 1944, creating the War Refugee Board and outlining its duties and authority. The policy of this Government, with respect to the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death, is stated in the Preamble.

Also enclosed is a copy of the President's Statement of March 24, 1944, in which he has called upon all freedom-loving people to rally to this righteous undertaking in the name of justice and humanity. The programs for accomplishing the task which has been assigned to the War Refugee Board include the utilization of all possible means to combat Nazi measures for the persecution and extermination of minority peoples.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Mr. Emanuel Scherer,  
National Council of Poland,  
Stratton House,  
London, England.

Enclosures.

EBT RBH  
RBHutchison:EBTowler:agr 4-19-44 JBT

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*[Handwritten initials]*  
~~*[Handwritten signature]*~~

March 20, 1944  
- 20 -

respectfully referred to the  
Secretary of State.

*[Handwritten initials]*

*Edwin H. Watson*  
EDWIN H. WATSON  
Major General, U.S. Army  
Secretary to the President

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The White House  
Washington

MAR 20 10 29 AM 1944

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Ans.  
No. Ans. Req.  
Initial  
Date

1WN AB 339/335 VIA RCA

LONDON 19 NPT

NLT THE PRESIDENT:

I FEEL THAT IT IS MY DUTY TO PASS ON TO YOU THIS SOS CALL SENT OUT FROM THE SECRET HEADQUARTERS OF THE JEWISH UNDERGROUND LABOR MOVEMENT SOMEWHERE IN POLAND LIVES MUST BE SAVED BEFORE ITS TOO LATE. THE JEWS OF POLAND GO DOWN FIGHTING. HEROIC ARMED RESISTANCE OF THE GHETTOES OF WARSAW BIALYSTOK GENERAL STRIKE OF 150,000 JEWISH WORKERS BEHIND GHETTO WALLS OF LODZ ARMED REVOLTS EVEN IN HORRIBLE GAS CHAMBER INFERNOS OF DEATH CAMPS TREBLINKA SOBIBOR DAILY ACTIVITIES AND UNBREAKABLE DETERMINATION OF JEWISH UNDERGROUND LABOUR MOVEMENT TO FIGHT NAZIS UNTIL THE LAST BREATH STRENGTHEN THEIR DEMAND THAT THE WORLD DEMOCRACIES DO REALLY THEIR UTMOST TO SAVE THE LIVES OF

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2/1WN LONDON.

THE REMNANTS OF THE JEWISH PEOPLE UNDER NAZI OCCUPATION. WE WELCOME WARMLY THE WAR REFUGEE BOARD CREATED BY YOU MR. PRESIDENT. THE VALUABLE RESCUE WORK IT CAN DO IS OF GREATEST IMPORTANCE. UNFORTUNATELY THE BULK OF THE TORTURED JEWISH POPULATION IN POLAND WILL NOT BE ABLE TO ESCAPE NAZI HANGMEN AND CANNOT BENEFIT FROM REFUGEE HELP. THE ONLY WAY TO KEEP REMNANTS OF THE JEWS ALIVE IS TO STOP NAZI MURDERERS. TO FIND MEANS AND WAYS AT THIS ZERO HOUR I BEG TO SUBMIT TO YOU MR. PRESIDENT THIS SUGGESTION ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE I REPRESENT TO BREATHE A SPECIAL INTERALLIED BODY A COMMITTEE TO STOP MASS MURDER AND SAVE HUMAN LIVES UNDER NAZI OCCUPATION. SUCH A COMMITTEE GIVEN HIGH STATUS WORKING IN CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH ALLIED MILITARY COMMAND SHOULD EXPLORE AND APPLY EXTRA-ORDINARY MEASURES TO HAMPER THE EXTERMINATION OF ANY PEOPLE JEWS OR NONJEWS. THE CORRESPONSIBILITY

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FOR OUR FATE RESTS ON WORLD DEMOCRACIES THESE ARE THE WORDS  
COMING FROM THE GEHENNA OF JEWISH MARTYRDOM AND DEATH IN POLAND  
STOP MR. PRESIDENT YOU HAVE CALLED THIS WAR A WAR FOR SURVIVAL.  
LET IT BE ALSO THE WAR FOR SURVIVAL OF JEW UNDER NAZI OPPRESSION.

EMANUEL SCHERER MEMBER NATIONAL COUNCIL  
OF POLAND STRATTON HOUSE LONDON.

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