

UNITED COMMITTEE OF SOUTH-SLAVIC AMERICANS, INC.

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JUL 29 1944

Dear Reverend Mr. Maletich:

We can readily understand and appreciate your interest in the expected arrival of the 1,000 refugees coming to this country from refugee camps in Italy.

The refugees at the point of debarkation and until they reach Fort Ontario will be the responsibility of the United States Army, and in discussion with representatives of the Army and of the War Relocation Authority, it has been agreed that no visitors can be permitted at the point of debarkation. We regret that we are not in a position to grant your request.

Visitors will be permitted at Fort Ontario, and I suggest that you write to Mr. Dillon Myer, Director of War Relocation Authority, for permission to visit the Shelter. The administration of the Shelter is the responsibility of the War Relocation Authority.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Reverend Mr. Strahinja Maletich
Executive Secretary
The United Committee of
South-Slavic Americans
1010 Park Avenue
New York 28, New York

Copy to: Sines Laughlin

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The United Committee of South-Slavic Americans

1010 PARK AVENUE, NEW YORK 28, N. Y. • BUTTERFIELD 8-8762

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Purposes

1. To promote the dynamic unity of Americans of South-Slavic origin and background behind the United States' and the United Nations' war against the Axis, and behind the postwar plans and operations—the latter particularly as they pertain to the South-Slavic peoples.
2. To speak in the interest of the South-Slavic peoples who, under the Axis which they are fighting, cannot fully speak for themselves to the American people and the rest of the world.

July 24, 1944

Mr. John Pehle,
Acting Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Bldg.
15th & Pennsylvania
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

We are greatly interested in the expected arrival of European refugees from transient refugee camps in Italy among which it is reported there are 365 Yugoslavs.

Mr. Alex Rizov and the writer, as representatives of the United Committee of South-Slavic Americans, are anxious to receive the opportunity to meet the transport when it arrives in Baltimore, we understand. Our purpose would not be to interview these people for publicity purpose, merely to meet them on arrival.

We therefore address you in the hopes that your Board will be kind enough to issue us permission to meet this transport. Your kindness would be very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Strahinja Maletich
Rev. Strahinja Maletich
Executive Secretary

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