Programs and Prosperity in Relief, Recovery of Refugees; Other Government Agencies

Foreign Economic Admin
Vol. 1
1. For report enclosed in letter of 4/14/44

2. FOR MATERIAL BE FEA ASSISTANCE BEING ENLISTED BY THE BOARD FOR TRANS-BLOCKADE SHIPMENT DISCUSSIONS

3. FOR MATERIAL BE NEGOTIATIONS LEADING TO THE EVENTUAL GUARANTEE, WITH FEA AND WEA APPROVAL, TO THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT THAT THE S.S. TARI, IF LOST, DURING PROJECTED EVACUATION OPERATIONS, WOULD BE REPLACED BY THEIR GOVERNMENT WITH A COMPATIBLE PASSENGER VESSEL.

SEE: FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION - EXHIBITS

2. COOPERATION WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS: NEUTRAL EUROPEAN (SWITZERLAND)

3. PROGRAMS WITH RESPECT TO RELIEF & RESCUE OF REFUGEES: EVACUATION TO AND THROUGH TURKEY
Crowley Set Forth Foreign Transactions

Cites Figures on Total Disbursements Up to Through March:

(Bureau of Journal of Commerce
WASHINGTON, July 31—Lee T. Crowley, Foreign Economic Administer, today released summary figures covering transactions of the United States Government abroad from July 1, 1945, through March 31, 1946. During the 9 months, according to reasonably complete reports, Government agencies spent $71,997,500,000 abroad and collected $51,071,000,000, excluding purchases and sales of gold. These Government disbursements have amounted to about 60 per cent of total private payments abroad since July 1, 1945.

Through March 31, the Government had furnished $38,997,900,000 worth of lend-lease aid. In addition, $353,000,000 of relief supplies were shipped through March for use abroad, mainly through the United States Army. It is estimated that by March 31, lend-lease had reached 55,000,000,000.

Mr. Crowley also announced that $500,000,000 of United States Government loans and securities made abroad since 1942 were outstanding on March 31. On that date the United States held abroad in liquid market at an estimated cost to troops overseas, greatly reducing the cost of United States troops abroad an average of 60 per cent. In most cases, it was pointed out, United States troops abroad are held in local currencies, and the figures reported represent the dollar costs of these currencies.

Relief Supplies Furnished

Through March 31, the Government furnished abroad on relief supplies $200,000,000 of foodstuffs, clothes and oil. It also furnished nearly $10,000,000 worth of clothing and footwear, $5,000,000 worth of medical supplies, and $3,000,000 worth of coal and petroleum products. Agricultural transportation and industrial equipment comprised most of the total of the $200,000,000 total furnished. The great bulk of these supplies went to Italy, Greece, and France, $100,000,000 of the total was civilian supplies furnished by the War Department, for which bills will be reimbursed to the foreign government concerned. Other United States Government-disposed supplies were furnished abroad through the American Red Cross, the United States Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, the Navy, and the Fare Department.

Relief supplies shipped to Western Europe have been heavily since March 31, Mr. Crowley said, and June 30 figures have been doubled from March 31. However, it was emphasized that, in addition to civil, these figures include water, land,
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
Bureau of Supplies
Washington 25, D. C.

March 12, 1945

In reply refer to SU-920-3F

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer
Executive Director, Ear Refugee Board
Department of Treasury Building
15th St. and Pennsylvania Avenue, NE
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

The Foreign Economic Administration will have for disposal abroad property surplus to its needs and responsibilities.

In order to facilitate the acquisition of such property by other U. S. Government agencies we are considering the practicability of keeping such agencies informed of surplus property located abroad which they may be interested in acquiring. We would like to know whether your agency will have any such interest. If so, please advise the categories of goods in which you are interested and supply us with the name and address of the official who should be dealt with concerning same.

We would appreciate a prompt reply.

Very truly yours,

Jerome Fanciulli
Acting Chief, Disposal Division
Property Disposal Branch

P.S. Kindly see that this information is made available to any others in your Agency who should be informed. J.F.
Mr. Pehle

D. White would like your views on his joining this, in view of questions on finance etc. re War Refugee Board that might be brought up for discussion.

dg
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Mr. David White
Assistant Executive Director
War Refugees Board
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. White:

For some time, speaking for myself, I have felt the need of conversation with others in Washington who have been setting up and supervising civilian offices abroad. Up to now there has been no convenient forum and no stimulus to action.

Now, however, the Washington Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration has asked me to organize a round table on the management of foreign offices. I am writing each of you on the attached list to see if you would be interested in joining such a round table for our mutual benefit. There would be no audience. The members of the round table would choose the subjects to be covered, and I would anticipate that the contributions would be from our experience rather than from any formal preparation of papers.

The typical round table meets at the Brookings Institution for dinner at 6:00 o'clock and adjourns at 9:00 o'clock. Six sessions are planned, spaced about a month apart. The members decide these matters for each round table. It is not necessary for round table participants to be members of the American Society for Public Administration.

Will you please let me know whether you would join such a group. If a sufficient number reply affirmatively, I will make arrangements for the first meeting and will notify you.

Sincerely yours,

James L. McCamy
Executive Director
Bureau of Areas

Attachment

Telephoned 12-2-44 and left message with secretary (McCamy too busy to return call) regretting inability to meet, giving two reasons: (1) specialist set-up and (2) indefinite over Board's continuing life.
Morris Geddes, Director
Division of Foreign Service

Frank Yates, Asst. to Director
of Administrative Dept.

Monnett B. Davis, Deputy Director
Office of the Foreign Service

Harry A. Blundin
Overseas Operations Manager

Myron L. Black, Director
Field Operations Staff

Michael Bondzikov, Deputy Director General
Bureau of Areas

Thomas N. Dinmore, Assistant National
Director, Military and Naval Welfare Service

Austin Thompson, Personnel Administrator
of Service to Armed Forces

David White, Asst. Executive Director

Rose E. Moore, Chief
Technical Collaborations Branch
Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations

Louis Ream, Deputy Director of
Administrative Services

W.S.A.
C.I.A.A.
Department of State
O.W.I.
P.E.A.
U.N.R.R.A.
American Red Cross
American Red Cross
War Refugees Board
Agriculture
O.S.S.
Dear Mr. Crowley:

Thank you for your letter of October 31, 1944, enclosing copies of two letters from Mr. Douglas Oliver and Sir Philip Mitchell respectively concerning the potentiality of the South Pacific area to absorb war refugees.

Sincerely yours,

[Signed] J. W. Fohle
J. W. Fohle
Executive Director

Mr. Leo T. Crowley,
Administrator,
Foreign Economic Administration,
Washington 25, D. C.
OCT 31 1944

Mr. John W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugees Board
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am enclosing a copy each of two interesting and informative letters which we recently received, respectively, from our Deputy Special Representative, Mr. Douglas Oliver, and the British High Commissioner, Sir Philip Mitchell, regarding the potentiality of the South Pacific area to absorb war refugees.

I should be glad to follow up on this correspondence if you so desire.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Leo T. Greely
Administrator

Enclosures
Han. John W. Fehle  
Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Washington, D.C.  

Dear Mr. Fehle:

I am enclosing a copy each of two interesting and informative letters which we recently received, respectively, from our Deputy Special Representative, Mr. Douglas Oliver, and the British High Commissioner, Sir Philip Mitchell, regarding the potentiality of the South Pacific area to absorb war refugees.

We should be glad to follow up on this correspondence if you so desire.

Sincerely yours,

Leo T. Crowley  
Administrator

Enclosures
1 October 1944

Leo T. Crowley, Esq.
Administrator
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Crowley:

In further reply to your letter GO-700 of March 31st, 1944, regarding the potentiality of this area to absorbing war refugees, I am forwarding herewith copy of a letter received from Sir Philip Mitchell, High Commissioner for the British West Pacific. Sir Philip has jurisdiction over Fiji, Tonga, the Gilbert and Ellice Colony, Solomon Islands and the British component of the New Hebrides Condominium.

It is clear from Sir Philip's reply to my inquiry that he is not in favor of permitting an influx of war refugees into British South Pacific possessions. I cannot thoroughly agree with all of his objections, particularly in regard to the adaptability of Europeans to the South Pacific environment. I firmly believe that there exist many opportunities in these islands for persons with technical training in tropical agriculture, in boat building, in sanitary engineering and particularly in tropical medicine, provided such persons are willing to live under pioneering conditions. The climate, though rugged, is no worse than other tropical regions. In fact, in many instances it is salubrious. Tonga and Fiji particularly possess climates in which Europeans thrive. As for disease, neither Tonga nor Fiji has malaria and Sir Philip's reference to leprosy greatly exaggerates the danger of that disease.

On the other hand, there are several real objections to permitting an influx of war refugees into these islands which certainly must have been in the back of Sir Philip's mind but which he did not enumerate. First, Sir Philip's Government is sincerely interested in the welfare of the native people in the Islands over which it has jurisdiction, and there is solid evidence that through economic and political measures the indigenes are being prepared for economic self-sufficiency and a large measure of political autonomy. Except for certain aspects of Fiji life, the Islands are very definitely being saved for the Islanders. A large influx of war refugees not directly concerned with governing or serving the native population would undoubtedly complicate the policy and program of the British Colonial Government. Second, if some higher colonial authority insists upon the colonies absorbing more Europeans, returned soldiers or British nationality would undoubtedly have first consideration.
We agree, therefore, with Sir Phillip's end statement, if not with his specific reasons.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Douglas L. Oliver

Douglas L. Oliver
Deputy Special Representative
FBA, SPA

cc: Ryerson, San Francisco
My dear Oliver:

I am afraid I have been a long time in answering your letter of the 12th June about refugees in the Pacific Islands, but I have had to consult my people scattered over a wide area and it has taken time. I am afraid that the answer must be that, speaking generally, these archipelagos provide no outlet for refugees from Europe. In the case of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Fiji and Tonga we are already faced with an over-population problem of our own, either actual or at any rate not far off and although, of course, individuals might find profitable occupation any large scale immigration would be impossible.

In theory at least the same does not apply either to the Condominium of the New Hebrides or the Solomon Islands, but there are, as you know, other serious obstacles. In the first place you would have to find Jewish refugees (almost entirely town people) who would be willing to isolate themselves in a malarial and totally undeveloped archipelago in a remote corner of the Pacific and you would then have to find an economic basis for their existence, that is to say a market for tropical products, and how difficult it is to do that I think you know, and finally you would have to solve the very serious health problems which would be involved particularly malaria and leprosy; the latter disease is caught surprisingly easily by Europeans in the Pacific and since it is a dirt disease people from Polish ghettos would have to be regarded as likely to catch it.

I do not say therefore that it would be impossible to settle some thousands of refugees in the Solomons, given sufficient capital and technical skill in overcoming malaria and the like, but I do say that any such project would contain so many difficulties that I could not advise any one to undertake it. An infinitesimal and barely perceptible adjustment of the immigration quotas into the United States will absorb ten times the number of refugees who could ever be accommodated in these Pacific Islands whatever any one did.

There is another aspect of the matter. If we may assume that the United Nations will succeed in establishing in Europe tolerant Governments from which it will not be necessary for anyone to take refuge, it is as certain as anything can be that practically all these refugees will wish to return to their own homes, and in view of the immense casualties which have occurred and the still greater casualties direct and indirect which must ensue before the war is over it can hardly be doubted that there will be plenty of room for them. My personal belief is that all these refugee organisations will end by falling down for lack of refugees and that always provided that persecution ceases, even the Palestine problem will end by being solved by the return of Palestine Jews to their European homes.

Yours sincerely,

/s/ F. Mitchell
Mr. Ward Stewart  
Assistant Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Room 190  
Treasury Building  
15th & Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Stewart:

Attached is a copy of Budget-Treasury Regulation No. 4 relating to Reports on Cash Transactions Abroad. It will be noted that this Regulation requires reports to be submitted to the Clearing Office for Foreign Transactions and Reports of the Foreign Economic Administration and to the Treasury Department.

It is requested that you distribute copies of this Regulation to those sections of your agency which will be required to report in accordance with it. Please call Mr. Edward J. Good, Executive 7030, Extension 2757 for the additional copies which you need as well as the supply of forms referred to in paragraph 19 of the Regulation.

Reference is made to the last sentence of paragraph 20 of the Regulation which is quoted as follows: "Special arrangements will be made by the Clearing Office for Foreign Transactions and Reports with each agency to furnish similar information, in so far as practicable, for the fiscal years 1941 to 1944 inclusive." It is requested that you furnish separate reports for each of the fiscal years 1941 to 1944 inclusive in the same manner and classifications required by the attached Regulation. If the reports for those fiscal years cannot be furnished to the Clearing Office by December 1, 1944, you should consult with it immediately regarding the date or dates on which such information can be furnished as well as any questions or problems which you may have in submitting the information under the classifications required.

In case of the above or other questions regarding the requirements of the Regulation, please consult with Mr. H. F. Shenbarger, Deputy Director of the Clearing Office. He can be reached on Executive 7030 (FEA), Extension 2746.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Homer Jones  
Director
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
CLEARING OFFICE FOR FOREIGN TRANSACTIONS AND REPORTS
WASHINGTON, D.C.

TO HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS, INDEPENDENT ESTABLISHMENTS,
AGENCIES, AND GOVERNMENT CORPORATIONS CONCERNED:

Subject: Budget-Treasury Regulation No. 4

Several agencies have submitted Reports of Cash Transactions Abroad to the Clearing Office for Foreign Transactions and Reports covering transactions during the second quarter of fiscal year 1945 only, rather than cumulative transactions during the period July 1, through December 31, 1944.

Your attention is directed to paragraph 20 of Budget-Treasury Regulation No. 4, dated September 15, 1944, in which it is stated that Reports of Cash Transactions Abroad shall be compiled quarterly for the periods ending September 30, December 31, March 31 and June 30, and that amounts contained in the reports should be cumulative from the beginning of each fiscal year (July 1) irrespective of the fiscal years for which appropriations were made. The reports for the first quarter of the fiscal year will, of course, cover the period July 1 through September 30; reports for the second quarter will cover the period July 1 through December 31; reports for the third quarter will cover the period July 1 through March 31; and the reports for the fourth quarter will cover cumulative transactions for the entire fiscal year.

Reference is also made to the last sentence of paragraph 20 of the Regulation which is quoted as follows: "Special arrangements will be made by the Clearing Office for Foreign Transactions and Reports with each agency to furnish such information, insofar as practicable, for the fiscal years 1941 to 1944, inclusive. Reports submitted for past fiscal years should be prepared separately for each of the fiscal years 1941 to 1944."

Respectfully,

Henry Jones
Director
Mr. Laxford

Lawrence S. Laxford

Oct. 17, 1944

The F.R.A. is a consolidation, affected by Executive Order No. 9389 of September 20, 1942 (8 F.R. 1338), of the Office of Economic Warfare, the Office of lend-Lease Administration, the Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations, and the Office of Foreign Economic Coordination, the last two offices being divisions of the State Department. The Executive Order did not define the functions of the new agency, but merely transferred the duties of the consolidated agencies to it. Certain aspects of the work of the War Food Administration and the Commodity Credit Corporation were later transferred to F.R.A. by Executive Order No. 9385 of October 6, 1943 (8 F.R. 13783).

The Office of Economic Warfare* had its origin in the Economic Defense Board, which was established by Executive Order No. 8659 of July 30, 1941 (8 F.R. 3826). The Board's functions were (1) to advise the President as to economic defense measures which should be taken; (2) to coordinate the policies and activities of the departments and agencies in matters relating to economic defense; (3) to develop economic defense plans for coordinated action by the departments and agencies concerned; (4) to conduct investigations and advise the President as to the relationship of economic defense measures to post-war economic reconstruction and on the steps to be taken to protect the trade position of the United States and to exploit the establishment of sound, peace-time international economic relationships; and (5) to review proposed and existing legislation relating to or affecting economic defense and, with the approval of the President, to recommend additional legislation. By the terms of the Order, the administration of the various activities relating to economic defense were to remain with the several departments and agencies charged therewith, although such administration was required to conform to policies approved by the Board. The term "economic defense" was defined to mean

* O.R.W. is the only one of the consolidated agencies whose functions might constitutionally have included the subject of our inquiry. As to the functions of the lend-Lease Administration, see 52 Stat. 81, as amended, Executive Order 8453 of May 9, 1941 (8 F.R. 501) and Executive Order 9206 of October 20, 1943 (8 F.R. 13783). As to the functions of the Office of Foreign Economic Coordination, see the President's letter of March 30, 1943.
exclusive buying, transactions in foreign exchange, and foreign-owned or foreign-controlled property, international investments, and extensions of credit, shipping and transportation of goods among countries, the international aspects of patents, international communications pertaining to commerce, and other foreign economic matters.

Functions in addition to those above described, but apparently not relevant to the subject of our inquiry, were assigned to the Economic Defense Board by Executive Order No. 8500 of September 13, 1941 (6 F.R. 4723), Executive Order No. 8926 of October 20, 1941 (6 F.R. 5519), Executive Order No. 8940 of November 29, 1941 (6 F.R. 5809), and Executive Order No. 9128 of April 12, 1942 (7 F.R. 2803).

By Executive Order No. 8922 of December 17, 1941 (6 F.R. 6830), the name of the Economic Defense Board was changed to the Board of Economic Warfare, but its functions were in no way altered. By Executive Order No. 9261 of July 17, 1942 (6 F.R. 9552), the Board of Economic Warfare was abolished and the Office of Economic Warfare was created to exercise its functions, powers, and duties.

Under date of September 25, the Administrator of the F.E.A. transmitted a report to Congress on the first year of its operations. On page 10 of such report, in a section called "Outlook After Victory in Europe", the Administrator said:

"In the period which will follow the defeat of Germany and precede the defeat of Japan, the program of the Foreign Economic Administration will be adjusted in line with these basic policies:

1. The Foreign Economic Administration will continue working with the State and War Departments on the studies, based on F.E.A.'s information and experience in war-time economic analysis, as to what steps should be taken from the economic standpoint to control effectively Germany's future capacity to make war."

This statement seems to have been foreseen by a "Statement of General Economic Programs and Policies" issued by the Director of the Office of Economic Warfare on August 25, 1943 (6 F.R. 11770). In that latter statement, it was said that among the O.N.R. economic programs and policies approved by

* (continued)

* to Governor Lehman, VIII Department of State Bulletin, 286. As to the function of the Office of Foreign Economic Coordination, see State Department Order No. 1166, Id. 579.
the War Mobilization Committee was the following:

"to *** work with other interested agencies in the handling of economic problems in reoccupied or liberated areas". 

In his recent letter to P.E.A.'s Administrator with respect to the functions of P.E.A., the President, as reported in the New York Herald Tribune on September 20th, said in part:

"7. Control of the war-making power of Germany. You have been making studies from the economic standpoint of what should be done after the surrender of Germany to control its power and capacity to make war in the future. This work must be accelerated and, under the guidance of the Department of State, you should furnish assistance in work and, when requested to do so, in personnel by making available specialists to work with the military authorities, the foreign service and such other American agencies and officials as participate with the United Nations in seeing to it that Germany does not become a menace again to succeeding generations".
F. E. A. Asked to Plan Curbs On Germany

Roosevelt Tells Crowley to Speed Search for Trade Controls After the War

Cabinet Committee Will Meet No More

End of Sessions Believed to Imply Morgenthau's Program Is Scrapped

By Samuel W. Bell
WASHINGTON, Sept. 29—President Roosevelt called on the Foreign Economic Administration today to accelerate its search for possible economic controls to be applied to Germany and to plan for measures against the country after the war. The calls were made in the Cabinet room, where he has been reviewing the Morgenthau program, as he has been reviewing the war, for months. The program, now official, has been under consideration for months.

Senator Metes Statement
In the meantime, Senator Metes, speaking in the Senate, pointed out that the Morgenthau plan might be applied to other countries, including Germany, in view of the fact that the country is in a state of transition.

Constitutional War Objectives
The President stated that the constitutional war objectives were still valid. He said that the government must not be allowed to interfere with the economic control, but must be allowed to enforce the laws and regulations. He added that the government must not be allowed to interfere with the economic control, but must be allowed to enforce the laws and regulations.

International Trade
The President said that the government must not be allowed to interfere with the economic control, but must be allowed to enforce the laws and regulations. He added that the government must not be allowed to interfere with the economic control, but must be allowed to enforce the laws and regulations.

 militaristic elements in Germany were placed under control, the President said, and the economic control was placed under the control of the government. He added that the government must not be allowed to interfere with the economic control, but must be allowed to enforce the laws and regulations.

Strategic and Critical Materials
The President said that the government must not be allowed to interfere with the economic control, but must be allowed to enforce the laws and regulations. He added that the government must not be allowed to interfere with the economic control, but must be allowed to enforce the laws and regulations.

Preventive Buying
The President said that the government must not be allowed to interfere with the economic control, but must be allowed to enforce the laws and regulations. He added that the government must not be allowed to interfere with the economic control, but must be allowed to enforce the laws and regulations.
NEW YORK

Arorld Tribune

SEP 30 1944

1. Economic warfare. The Foreign Economic Administration should continue to take all necessary steps to prevent Japan from setting up any economic organization under which any part of the world might be controlled by Japan. This work must be supported by the United States. The Foreign Economic Administration should continue to take all necessary steps to prevent Japan from setting up any economic organization under which any part of the world might be controlled by Japan. This work must be supported by the United States.

2. Land lease. Land lease supplies should be continued to be furnished to whatever amount is necessary for the effective prosecution of the war. We have fought war on a combined basis, with our allies, with a success which is being fully demonstrated to the world by the battles of Europe and the Far East. Until the complete defeat of both Japan and Germany, the flow of supplies to these nations should be continued. As you have done, the United Nations should continue to take all necessary steps to see that the Allied powers act in concert with the United Nations in the prosecution of the war.

3. Surplus properties. As you have done, the United States should continue to take all necessary steps to see that the surplus stocks of the United States are used in the prosecution of the war. This work must be supported by the United States.

4. Germany's war-making power. You have been making strides from the economic standpoint of what should be done after the surrender of Germany or control of power and capacity for aggression in the future. This work must be supported by the United States.

5. Reconstruction and future foreign trade. It is in the national interest of the United States, as well as the joint interest of the United States and other peace-loving nations, that the destruction and devastation of war be repaired and that the foundations for a secure peace be laid. I understand that you are also preparing to submit your recommendation for the joint statement of the United States and other peace-loving nations. This work must be supported by the United States.
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 29, 1944

The President has addressed the following letter to
Honorable Leo T. Crowley, Administrator of the Foreign Economic
Administration:

"In accordance with our discussions, the following are
the major policies which should be put into effect by the Foreign
Economic Administration within the scope of its present functions
and responsibilities when the military resistance of Nazi Germany
is overcome:

1. Export Control. With a view to encouraging priv-
ate trade without interfering with the successful prosecution
of the war against Japan, the FEA should relax controls over
exports to the fullest extent compatible with our continuing war
objectives, particularly that of defeating Japan as quickly and
effectively as possible.

International trade on as full and free a basis as
possible is necessary not only as a sound economic foundation
for the future peace, but it is also necessary in order that we
may have fuller production and employment at home. Private indus-
try and private trade can, I am sure, produce a high level of
international trade, and the Government should assist to the
extent necessary to achieve this objective by returning interna-
tional commerce to private lunes as rapidly as possible.

2. Strategic and Critical Raw Materials. In view of
the curtailment which is to be made in our war production after
the German phase of the war, the Foreign Economic Administra-
tion should consult with the appropriate supply agencies with a view
to making an appropriate cut in its foreign procurement program
for strategic and critical materials needed in the prosecution
of the war.

The adjustment to this reduced program should be made
in such a way as to prevent undue and unnecessary financial
losses to American taxpayers, to best preserve our foreign rela-
tions and to strengthen the foundation for a high level of
international trade in the future.

3. Preclusive Buying. The Foreign Economic Adminis-
tration has been buying abroad materials needed by the Axis to
produce munitions and other war materials in order to prevent our
enemies from getting them. I understand that the peak of this
program is already passed as a result of the victories which have
been won by the United Nations. The Foreign Economic Administra-
tion should continue to take all necessary steps to prevent Japan
from getting strategic and critical materials for the war program, but it should limit its preclusive purchasing program
to achieving that end, observing, of course, any existing commit-
ments.

4. Economic Tariffs. The Foreign Economic Administra-
tion's studies of the enemy's war potential and other phases of
economic warfare should be reduced and focused on the war against
Japan. This work should be carried on as it has in the past, in
close integration with our armed forces.

5. Lease-Lease. Lease-Lease supplies should continue to
be furnished in whatever amounts are necessary for the most effective
prosecution of the war. We have waged war on a combined basis
with our Allies with a success which is being amply demonstrated every
day on the battlefields of Europe and the Far East. Until the com-
plete defeat of both Japan and Germany, the flow of Lease-Lease aid
should be continued in the amounts necessary to enable the combined
strength of all the United Nations to defeat our common enemies as

(OVER)
quickly as possible and with the least loss of life. The amount and nature of the aid necessary after the defeat of Germany is closely tied up with the strategic plans for the Pacific war, and the programs for reconstruction and for reconversion of industry to civilian needs which we and our Allies work out on a basis of mutual understanding. The Foreign Economic Administration should aid in carrying out this policy to the fullest extent.

6. Surplus Property. As you have done in the past, you should continue to take every reasonable measure to see to it that no unnecessary surpluses develop out of procurement by the Foreign Economic Administration for Lend-Lease, UNRRA or other purposes. In connection with procurement or production for Lend-Lease or relief and rehabilitation purposes, you should continue to investigate and take up supplies of other Government agencies which are or may be surplus.

7. Control of the War-Making Power of Germany. You have been making studies from the economic standpoint of what should be done after the surrender of Germany to control its power and capacity to make war in the future. This work must be accelerated, and under the guidance of the Department of State you should furnish assistance in work and when requested to do so in personnel by making available specialists to work with the military authorities, the Foreign Service, and such other American agencies and officials as participate with the United Nations in seeing to it that Germany does not become a menace again to succeeding generations.

8. Reconstruction and Future Foreign Trade. It is in the national interest of the United States, as well as the joint interest of the United States and the other peace-loving nations, that the destruction and devastation of war be repaired and that the foundations for a secure peace be laid. I understand that you are also preparing to submit for my consideration major proposals along these lines. In varying degrees, every worker, every farmer and every industry in the United States has a stake in the production and flow of manufactured goods, agricultural products and other supplies to all the other countries of the world. To produce the largest amount of useful goods and services at home, we should export and import as much as possible.

Any marked improvement in the economic well-being of the United States will not only improve the economic well-being of the other peace-loving peoples of the world, but will also aid materially in the building of a durable peace.

With this objective in mind, you should continue to take such action as is necessary or desirable in accordance with the powers delegated to the Foreign Economic Administration and in conformity with the foreign policy of the United States as defined by the Secretary of State.
Dear Oscar:

I am sending you herewith the third supplement for "War Refugee Board - Projects and Documents".

Included with the material is a set of instructions indicating the order in which the new material is to be inserted and which of the old material is to be deleted.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mr. Oscar Cox,
General Counsel
1007 Temporary Bldg.,
Foreign Economic Administration,
Washington 25, D.C.

Enclosures.
JUL 5 1944

Dear Oscar:

I am sending you herewith the second supplement for "War Refugees Board - Projects and Documents".

Included with the material is a set of instructions indicating the order in which the new material is to be inserted and which of the old material is to be deleted.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Mr. Oscar Cox,
General Counsel,
Foreign Economic Administration,
1207 Temporary "T",
Washington 25, D. C.

Enclosures.

[Signature]
Dear Mr. Hyatt:

This is in response to your letter of June 22 concerning the Clearing Office for Foreign Accounts and Reports.

The War Refugee Board will, of course, be glad to cooperate fully with your office in carrying out the program described by the President's letter of April 7. As explained in Mr. Stewart's discussion with Mr. Maxwell on June 12, however, the War Refugee Board program is of such recent origin and involves such small amounts of expenditure that the usual categories of information are not particularly meaningful. Thus the only foreign expenditures of the Board to date have been the purely administrative expenditures of two special attachés abroad and these expenditures were made after March 31, 1944, are not covered by any formal reporting system, and amount to only a few thousand dollars at the most. Consequently the answers to the five specific requests in your letter must be uniformly "none." The matter is further complicated by the fact that these small expenditures abroad for administrative needs the majority are made directly by the respective embassies on instructions from the State Department, with the understanding that reimbursement to the State Department will be made later by the War Refugee Board if requested. Consequently the exact status of these expenditures at the present time would be very difficult to determine.

In response to your request, Mr. Ward Stewart, Assistant Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, will serve as the liaison officer with your office. Mr. Stewart can be reached at Room 120, Main Treasury Building, telephone extension 5677-8 on the Treasury switchboard. Within the general limitations described above, Mr. Stewart will be glad to cooperate with your office in every way possible.

Attached for your information is a copy of the Executive Order establishing the War Refugee Board.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Roger Hyatt, Director
Clearing Office for Foreign Accounts and Reports
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington, D.C.
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

CLEARING OFFICE FOR FOREIGN ACCOUNTS AND REPORTS

JUN 22 1944

Dear Mr. Pehle:

During the latter part of 1943, a preliminary survey was made covering the foreign activities of various agencies by an Interdepartmental Committee which culminated in the Committee's Report, "Recording and Reporting of Land-Lease Transactions and Government Expenditures Abroad," submitted to the Senate Appropriations Committee on March 11, 1944, by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget.

The Interdepartmental Committee recommended:

"(1) That early action be taken in designating an agency as a clearing house for all records and reports concerning international transactions, and

(2) That each agency involved in international transactions designate a liaison officer for contact with the clearing house."

With respect to the first recommendation, the President directed a letter to the Administrator of the Foreign Economic Administration on April 7, 1944, requesting him to establish, in collaboration with other agencies involved, such a clearing house in the Foreign Economic Administration. The clearing house has been established and is to be known as the "Clearing Office for Foreign Accounts and Reports." In order that the "Clearing Office may perform the functions set forth in the President's letter it is essential that all agencies having transactions in foreign countries designate a liaison officer to the Clearing Office, as recommended by the Interdepartmental Committee. May we ask you to name such liaison officer? It would be appreciated if, when advising us of the person assigned, his official title, address, room and telephone number be given. It would be helpful if you could make the designation suggested as soon as may be possible. It would be appreciated if you would also include a brief but concise paragraph describing the type of foreign activity conducted by your agency.
In order to carry out the President's instructions, it will be necessary for the Clearing Office to make certain surveys of reporting forms and procedures covering foreign activities. As you are aware, Mr. Ward Stewart of your office was interviewed on June 12 by R. H. Maxwell, Assistant Commissioner of Accounts, Treasury, serving in the capacity of representative of the Clearing Office. In addition to the information provided him, your agency can assist materially by making available through the designated liaison officer the following items as soon as possible.

(a) Classifications used in developing accounting and reporting information covering foreign and Lend-Lease transactions, if any, specifically, country, commodity, character or purpose, and objective classifications and codes.

(b) Copy of each report for the period July 1, 1943, to March 31, 1944, received from or covering financial transactions of each foreign office or activity showing current and cumulative figures, if possible.

(c) Copy of each agency financial report, for the same period covering Lend-Lease or other foreign activity showing current and cumulative figures, if possible.

(d) Copy of each agency statistical report for the same period covering Lend-Lease or other foreign activity showing current and cumulative figures, if possible.

(e) Copies of any procedures or other exhibits which would be helpful or useful to the Clearing Office in developing overall reporting.

For your information, there is attached a copy of the President's letter of April 7. Your cooperation in facilitating the work of the Clearing Office will be appreciated. For your convenience the afore-mentioned material should be sent to Room 1011, Ge-S-Light Building, 11th and H Streets, N. W. For information, please call PX-Extension 2746.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Roger Hyatt
Director

Attachment
Attention: Mr. Ward Stewart

Attached you will find the copy of the letter from the President referred to in Mr. Nyatta letter of June 22, 1944 to Mr. Pohle.
April 7, 1944

Mr. Dear Mr. Crowley:

In line with recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Committee to study RECORDING AND REPORTING OF Land-\(\ldots\) Transactions and Government Expenditures Abroad, it is essential that we proceed promptly to the establishment of a clearing house for such reporting.

I suggest to you to establish, in collaboration with the other agencies involved, such a clearing house in the Foreign Economic Administration under a director appointed by you. It would seem advisable to establish an advisory inter-departmental committee to assist the director, which committee might among others include representatives of the Department of State, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Commerce, the Bureau of the Budget and the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs.

The functions of the clearing house would include the following:

1. To develop, in cooperation with the other agencies concerned, such forms and procedures as will ensure the necessary information on our transactions relative to foreign areas,

2. Where more than one agency is involved, to collaborate with the agencies of whom information is requested in furnishing such information within, of course, the limits of security requirements.

Information to be covered by this arrangement should include, particularly, transactions on account of inter-American aid, relief in liberated areas, procurement abroad, loans and financial aid, and all other Government outlays and expenditures abroad and receipts from abroad, and also inventory information concerning military and non-military installations, improvements, and stocks abroad.
The clearing house should serve as a medium for interagency collaboration. Its establishment does not involve any transfer of the responsibilities of other agencies to the Foreign Economic Administration. It does not, for example, modify agency powers and duties under the Federal Reports Act or Executive Order 6512 as amended. The facilities established by Executive Order 6512 should be utilized whenever appropriate in collecting information on cash disbursements, receipts and other related financial transactions abroad.

I am convinced that this arrangement can be of great value in the development of the comprehensive and consistent reports on foreign transactions so essential to the planning and operations of our Government in the future.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Franklin D. Roosevelt

Honorable Leo F. Crowley
Administrator
Foreign Economic Administration
JUN 27 1944

My dear Mr. Crowley:

Thank you for your letter of June 21, 1944, enclosing copies of reports from your field offices in Peru, New Zealand, the Belgian Congo and Brazil, concerning the situation for refugees in those areas.

Sincerely yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Honorable Leo F. Crowley,
Administrator,
Foreign Economic Administration,
Washington 25, D. C.
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

JUN 21 1944

Mr. J. T. Pehle,
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I am enclosing, for your information, one copy each of the replies which we have received from our field offices in Peru, New Zealand, the Belgian Congo and Brazil relative to the situation for refugees in their respective areas.

I hope these reports will be helpful. We will continue to forward them as they are received from other countries.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]
Leo F. Crowley
Administrator

Enclosures 4
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Mr. J. W. Feible
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Feible:

I am enclosing, for your information, one copy each of the replies which we have received from our field offices in Peru, New Zealand, the Belgian Congo and Brazil relative to the situation for refugees in their respective areas.

I hope these reports will be helpful. We will continue to forward them as they are received from other countries.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Leo T. Cressley
Administrator

Enclosures 4
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION

MEMORANDUM

May 9, 1944

TO: War Refugee Board

FROM: Foreign Economic Administration
Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

SUBJECT: Refugees in Brazil.

Brazil is a country which is expanding economically and in population. It has in the past built up its industry and its agriculture, particularly in the rich São Paulo area, on the basis of immigrant labor, primarily Italian. There is much thought and discussion now being given to the possibilities of postwar immigration into Brazil, with estimates and recommendations to permit as many as five million to enter in the period after the war.

Present immigration regulations, which were enacted in 1941, forbid the entry of all immigrants save those who qualify under one of the following three headings:

1. Agricultural laborers.
2. Industrial technicians.
3. Those who have cash in the amount of $20,000.00 for investment in Brazilian industry.

This legislation was apparently designed to stop the influx of Jewish refugees from Nazi oppression, who generally do not fall within any of these three groups. From 1940 onwards it was administratively impossible for any appreciable number of refugees to enter Brazil.

Between 1933 and 1939 approximately 25,000 Jewish immigrants entered Brazil. Of these about 17,000 came from Germany and Austria. Immigration was highest in 1936 and 1939, the years which immediately followed periods of greatest Nazi savagery.

CONDITIONS OF REFUGEES

The refugees within Brazil no longer have grave economic difficulties. The primary problem is one of misemployment, since there are a number of professions which are barred to all foreign-born in Brazil. In both Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo the refugees have achieved a small margin of economic stability. In São Paulo a large number of them have established small industries and factories in a number of fields, and there are several examples of larger industrial enterprises. In Rio de Janeiro, which is not primarily an industrial city, most of the refugees have entered various branches of commerce. This has in some instances given rise to a certain resentment on the part of Brazilians, which the fifth column has been quick to exploit. Admittedly the competition of the small refugee operating on very limited capital is severe. The one business in which the refugees have caused least resentment has been the diamond cutting trade, which the refugees created and largely dominate.

The condition of the German Jewish refugees upon the outbreak of the war deteriorated markedly, particularly in a juridical sense, since German refugees are legally classified as enemy aliens. Austrian refugees who entered with Austrian passports, that is, before 1938, are definitively treated as Austrians and not as enemy aliens; however, as recently as last month the government made it clear that all persons who entered Brazil on German passports (as the Austrian
refugees did in 1939) are considered as Germans, and hence enemy aliens. There is no difference in legal treatment as between bona fide refugees and the German enemy national. A further anomaly is that the Nazi government has "revoked" the citizenship of all Jews, so that while the Spanish Embassy in Rio gives diplomatic protection to the Nazis, the Jews are completely isolated. Italian residents of Brazil are also classified as enemy aliens and, like the German refugees, subjected to all of the legislation for the control of movements, etc. of enemy aliens. It was only due to the energetic intervention of our Ambassador that drastic and severe measures were not taken against the refugees in the earlier days of the war. Our Embassy has constantly done all within its power to ameliorate the situation of the refugees.

The Jewish refugees are particularly unhappy and humiliated at being treated in the same manner as the Nazis. What is equally important, however, is that the refugees are subjected to economic reprisals by the Brazilian government in the same manner as other enemy nationals. This takes the form of a capital levy which up until recently was automatically deducted not only from capital but from all income which passed through banks. This measure has recently been intensified. The funds of the refugees so taxed have been largely built up within Brazil itself. The refugees fear that, particularly as the war ends, the Brazilian government might compensate itself for all acts of war committed against it by the German government by taking confiscatory measures against all enemy nationals; since the refugees completely lack diplomatic protection, even to the extent that the enemy aliens are so protected, the refugees fear that such measures may be disproportionately severe in their case.

In addition to this problem, there is the question of permanent legal status. Ten years of residence in Brazil are required before citizenship is granted. Practically none of the refugees, therefore, have had time to become citizens. In the meantime--in 1941--the government suspended the further naturalization of all Germans, which, of course, included the refugees. Furthermore, about 25% of these have only temporary right to remain in Brazil, possessing what is known as a "precarious" visa. This group fears possible deportation from Brazil at the end of the war, since the Brazilian government has done nothing to indicate that these four or five thousand persons are welcome to remain in the country. Under these conditions, both financial and juridical, it is possible that upon the completion of the war there might begin a refugee movement from Brazil itself which would create a problem for the United Nations.

POSTWAR IMMIGRATION TO BRAZIL

As pointed out above, Brazilian government policy at this time limits immigration to persons who are either agricultural workers, industrial technicians, or capitalists with money to invest. Since comparatively few of the Jewish population of Europe who will be seeking to migrate in the postwar period will fall within these brackets, it does not seem likely that under present conditions Brazil will offer much of a solution for their case. There is, however, wide discussion of the problem of postwar immigration and talk of bringing in large numbers of workers, particularly to work in the coffee fazendas of São Paulo, due to the recent flight of labor in the area. Unless this policy also changes it is not likely that large numbers of immigrants will be attracted to Brazil. Brazilian authorities are, however, in contact with United Nations authorities in Washington on this matter.
Under the circumstances outlined herein Brazil cannot be considered as a likely country in which to resettle any significant number of refugees in the coming period unless policy changes. The mere fact that Brazil is the only member of the United Nations which treats refugees from Nazi persecution in the same manner as it treats normal enemy aliens indicates this to be true. However, if the government attitude were to change, Brazil could absorb numbers of immigrants of all kinds. In the very work of opening up the interior, not only agricultural workers but also professional men, merchants, etc., will be needed. Existing discriminatory legislation against foreigners in general, and refugees in particular, will have to be changed before Brazil can provide a home for dislocated populations. A first step to improve the situation would be to effect a legal separation of refugees already here from enemy aliens. While this is entirely an internal problem of the Brazilian government, it nevertheless has aspects which are of concern to the War Refugee Board. Brazil is one of the few members of the United Nations which does offer possibilities in terms of large scale resettlement. Unless the legislative and juridical treatment of immigrants changes Brazil will probably not be a positive factor in the solution of the refugee question. It is in this sense that the War Refugee Board has a legitimate interest in the problem.
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
OF THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA
LIMA - PERU

In reply refer to
6-WHL-139
F-Peru-1389
April 27, 1944

Mr. Leo T. Crowley
Administrator
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington, D. C. (25)

Dear Mr. Crowley:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of March 31, 1944, GC-702; GC, W-Peru-1389, concerned with the instruction that we should do everything possible consistent with the successful prosecution of the Foreign Economic Administration program in this area to effectuate the policy of our Government to take all measures within its power to rescue the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death and otherwise to afford such victims all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war.

No direct representative of the War Refugee Board has to our knowledge been appointed to serve in Peru. The Embassy has transmitted the following listed despatches on the subject in reply to the Department's Circular Airgrams of January 28, 1944, and February 20, 1944:

No. 9017 - February 11, 1944
Subject: Peruvian attitude toward rescue and relief of the Jews of Europe and other victims of enemy persecution.

No. 9203 - March 10, 1944
Subject: Oral expression of view by a Foreign Office official concerning admissibility into Peru of war refugees.

No. 9243 - March 16, 1944
Subject: Expression of view concerning attitude in South Peru regarding war refugees.

No. 174 - April 26, 1944
Subject: Post-war political problems; immigration into Peru.
Mr. Leo T. Crowley

The contents of the first three dispatches enumerated above would indicate that apparently very little assistance could be expected from Peru in the problem of relieving the Jews and other victims of persecution in Europe.

However, in the dispatch of April 26, 1944, reference is made to a United Press news article from Philadelphia, which quotes Mr. Stoll, representative of Peru at the International Labor Office conference, as saying that Peru could absorb about three and a half million immigrants; and that there would be no objection to the entry of professional men and technicians. However, Mr. Vidal, the other Peruvian representative at the conference, is quoted as observing, with reference to Mr. Stoll’s statements, that Peru does not desire immigrants who would "squeeze" the country; and he emphasized that the fact that Peru is not prepared to receive large numbers of immigrants at one time but only over a long period and according to the economic development of the country.

As the Embassy has reported, it seems likely that Peru will have a restrictive immigration policy after the war, that there are not opportunities in the country at present for any substantial number of desirable immigrants, and that there is at least latent hostility toward Jewish immigration.

We shall continue to work closely with the Embassy in the endeavor to fulfill your instructions to report directly to the War Refugee Board through PEA channels any further information of interest that may come to our attention.

Very truly yours

(Signed) Warren G. Libbey
Special Representative

VIA DIPLOMATIC/TOUCH

2499751
Mr. Leo T. Crowley  
Administrator,  
Foreign Economic Administration  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear Mr. Crowley:

I am in receipt of your letter GC-700; OSC dated March 31, 1944 on United States Government Policy in respect to the rescue and relief of European Jews and other victims of enemy persecution.

We will do all in our power, consistent with the successful prosecution of the Foreign Economic Administration's program in the New Zealand area to effectuate this policy.

To date the War Refugee Board has not appointed a representative to this area. Should one be appointed he will receive our complete cooperation.

We are informed by the State Department here that they have already submitted to the State Department in Washington, a comprehensive report covering the first four of the five points mentioned in the last part of your letter, namely:

1. Condition of refugees now in New Zealand
2. Economic capacity of New Zealand for future absorption of refugees.
3. New Zealand's preference for refugees possessed of certain skills and from particular trades.
4. Shipping conditions for the transportation of refugees.
5. Recommendations as to what the Foreign Economic Administration can do to effectuate with all possible speed the rescue and relief of victims of enemy oppression.

This report, we are informed, is available to you.

In respect to your last point, recommendations on the assistance the Foreign Economic Administration can render, we will be glad to pass on any recommendations which may have merit.

Sincerely yours,

No. 353271  
(Signed) WALTER C. TRAGLE, JR.
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
of the
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

In reply refer to:
Pe-belgian Congo #306

Special Representative's
Office - Leopoldville -
Belgian Congo

April 24, 1944

Mr. Leo T. Crowley, Administrator
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

We are in receipt of your letter re-belgian Congo #306 of
March 31, 1944 on the subject of refugees and other victims
of enemy persecution.

The relief problem in Belgian Congo is confined almost solely
to some 3700 Greeks, who are housed in 10 camps scattered
throughout the more healthful eastern part of the Congo.
These camps were set up by the Congo Government at the request
of the British authorities since July, 1943, after the
retreat from Cyrenaica. Approximately 15 per cent of the
refugees are men (mostly old or now unfit for military
service, following the Albanian campaign); another 45 per
cent are women, while the remaining 40 per cent are children.
Although arriving with virtually no tangible possessions,
these refugees have been well cared for.

The American Consulate at Leopoldville has made several com-
plete reports on this refugee problem within the colony. For
further data thereon, we refer you to their latest dispatch
#504 of February 19, 1944, entitled "Inspection of Greek
Refugee Camp at Elisabethville."

We believe that the Consulate has and will continue to give
any necessary interim reports on this situation. Of course,
in accordance with your suggestion, this Mission shall be
pleased to render any assistance in this problem should the
occasion arise in the future.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) THOS. N. GREER, JR.

Mr. Harold Dienes
Northern European Division
Thos. N. Greer, Jr.
Liberated Areas Branch
Bureau of Areas
Acting Special Representative.
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

June 3, 1944

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Thank you very much for your letter of May 31st, enclosing supplemental material for the first volume of "War Refugee Board - Projects and Documents", together with an additional binder and set of instructions indicating the order in which the new material is to be inserted and which of the original material is to be deleted.

Sincerely yours,

Oscar Cox
General Counsel

Mr. J. W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Washington 25, D. C.
May 21, 1944

Dear Mr. Cox:

I am sending you herewith supplemental material for the first volume of "War Refugees Board - Projects and Documents" which was forwarded to you with my letter of May 3, 1944.

I am also sending an additional binder and a set of instructions indicating the order in which the new material is to be inserted and which of the original material is to be deleted.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Oscar Cox,
General Counsel,
1087 Temporary "A"
Foreign Economic Administration.

Enclosure.
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE GENERAL COUNSEL
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MAY 2, 1946

Mr. J. W. Fehle
Executive Director
War Refugees Board
Executive Office of the President
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Fehle:

I want to thank you for sending me a copy of the book your office has prepared on the work of the War Refugees Board. Because of my special interest in the work you are doing, I doubly appreciate having a copy of this material and being put on your list for supplemental material and revisions.

In scanning through the compilation, I have found it extremely comprehensive in its analysis. I look forward with considerable interest to receiving the supplemental material as the program of the Board progresses.

Sincerely yours,

Oscar Cox
General Counsel
DMH-668
This telegram must be paraphrased before being communicated to anyone other than a Government agency. (BR)

Cairo
Dated May 13, 1944
Rec'd 4:35 p.m.

Secretary of State,
Washington.

1237, May 13, 1 p.m.

TO GEORGE WASHINGTON FROM LANDIS

In view of assent by Russians you are authorized to sell to Joint Jewish Distribution Committee goods requested by them for shipment to Polish refugees. After this disposal send fast bag of all remaining stores.

Repeated to Department as No. 1257.

JACOBS

BR
WSB
May 9, 1944

Dear Mr. Cox:

I am sending you with this letter a volume recently prepared for use by the staff of the War Refugees Board. Supplemental material and revisions will be sent to you from time to time.

This book presents an outline of the work the Board is doing with an analysis and copies of important cables exchanged with our missions and representatives abroad. I believe it gives a good, over-all picture of the programs developed by the Board and the various projects already initiated or under consideration.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Oscar Cox,
General Counsel,
Foreign Economic Administration,
Washington, D. C.
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE
May 2, 1944

TO: Messrs. Friedman and Mann

FROM: Mr. Marks

Re: Conference to be held in Mr. Friedman’s office at 10 A.M. on
May 3, 1944, with representatives of Foreign Economic Administra-
tion.

The Foreign Economic Administration representatives who will be
present at this conference are Messrs. J. E. Harris, Jr., Chief of the Near
East Section, and Carl Austrian, Chief of the Foreign Economic Adminis-
tration Mission in Turkey, who has just returned to the United States in the past week.

The purpose of the conference is to canvass the possibility of obtaining
railroad rolling stock to be sold or leased to the Turkish Government.
Cable No. 657 dated April 12, 1944, from Ambassador Steinhardt indicates that
the Turkish Government is resentful of the pressure imposed upon the Government
to permit refugees to cross Turkey by rail from Bulgaria to a point in
which Turkish railroad facilities are already desperately overcrowded. In an interview
with Ambassador Steinhardt the Foreign Minister of Turkey opaquely referred
to the fact that although aware of the acute shortage of Turkish rolling stock
neither the British nor the American Government had offered to make available
to the Turkish Government locomotives or railroad cars for the movement of
refugees across Turkey.

The following is the daily capacity of the railroad line from
Haydarpaşa, a suburb of Istanbul, to Aleppo, Syria, according to a memorandum
dated April 15, 1944, from Mr. Harris to Mr. Zarky:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Connections</th>
<th>Trains per Day</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haydarpaşa</td>
<td>Emirşehir</td>
<td>11 trains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emirşehir</td>
<td>Afyonkarahisar</td>
<td>20 trains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afyonkarahisar</td>
<td>Konya</td>
<td>12 trains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Konya</td>
<td>Adana</td>
<td>12 trains</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adana</td>
<td>Aleppo</td>
<td>9 trains</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An examination of these figures makes it clear that even a slight in-
crease in the railroad rolling stock available to the Turkish Government would
expand greatly the carrying capacity of the Istanbul - Aleppo line. Thus the
carrying capacity of the line could perhaps be increased by 10% if sufficient
equipment for one extra train per day were made available for the run between
Adana and Aleppo. If this were done it is extremely likely that the Turkish
Government would consent to permit many more refugees to cross Turkey by rail than
is now possible, and in this way the refugee railroad bottleneck at Istanbul
would be overcome.
One question that should be clarified is the exact meaning of the term "capacity" as used in Mr. Harris' memorandum to Mr. Zarif. It may be presumed that the term refers to railroad rolling stock available in Turkey. If so, does the Turkish Government require one or more railroad engines in addition to cars in order to increase the capacity of the Istanbul - Aleppo line or would the engines already in use be able to draw several more cars?
May 2, 1944

Nessau, Friedman and Kuhn

Dr. Marks

Re: Conference to be held in Mr. Friedman's office at 10 A.M. on May 3, 1944, with representatives of Foreign Economic Administration.

The Foreign Economic Administration representatives who will be present at the conference are: Nessau, J. E. Harris, Jr., Chief of the Near East Section, and Carl Austrian, Chief of the Foreign Economic Administration Mission in Turkey, who has just returned to the United States in the last week.

The purpose of the conference is to canvass the possibility of obtaining railroad rolling stock to be sold or loaned to the Turkish Government. Cables No. 257 dated April 12, 1944, from Ambassador Steinhardt indicate that the Turkish Government is resentful of the pressure imposed upon the Government to permit refugees to cross Turkey by rail from Bulgaria to Syria at a time when Turkish railroad facilities are already desperately overtaxed. In an interview with Ambassador Steinhardt the Foreign Minister of Turkey caustically referred to the fact that although aware of the acute shortage of Turkish rolling stock, neither the British nor the American Government had offered to make available to the Turkish Government locomotives or railroad cars for the movement of refugees across Turkey.

The following is the daily capacity of the railroad line from Haydarpasa, a suburb of Istanbul, to Aleppo, Syria, according to a memorandum dated April 12, 1944, from Mr. Harris to Mr. Marks:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Station</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th>Trains each way</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Haydarpasa</td>
<td>Esikhahir</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esikhahir</td>
<td>Afyonkarahisar</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afyonkarahisar</td>
<td>Konya</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Konya</td>
<td>Adana</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adana</td>
<td>Aleppo</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An examination of these figures makes it clear that even a slight increase in the railroad rolling stock available to the Turkish Government would expand greatly the carrying capacity of the Istanbul - Aleppo line. Thus the carrying capacity of the line could perhaps be increased by 12% if sufficient equipment for one extra train per day were made available for the run between Adana and Aleppo. If this were done it is extremely likely that the Turkish Government would consent to permit many more refugees to cross Turkey by rail than is now possible, and in this way the refugee railroad bottleneck at Istanbul would be overcome.
One question that should be clarified is the exact meaning of the term "capacity" as used in Mr. Harris' memorandum to Mr. Earle. It may be presumed that the term refers to railroad rolling stock available in Turkey. If so, does the Turkish Government require one or more railroad engines in addition to cars in order to increase the capacity of the Istanbul - Aleppo line or would the engines already in use be able to draw several more cars?
May 8, 1944

To: Mr. Parks

Re: Conference with Carl Austrian, Head of the liaison in Turkey concerning possibility of land-lease railroad rolling stock to Turkey.

After your telephone conversation with Mr. Friedmann yesterday in which you stated that you preferred not to see Mr. Austrian, I made arrangements for a meeting to be held in Mr. Friedmann's office. Today I received a telephone call from J. L. Harris, Jr., Chief of the Near East section of PA. Mr. Harris stated that Mr. Austrian specifically expressed a desire to speak with you concerning the above matter. Mr. Austrian asked Harris to pass on the message that he worked with Mr. Friedmann in Turkey and is therefore familiar with our problem.

I advised Mr. Harris that I would clear the matter with you and would let him know whether you would be able to see Mr. Austrian tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. when the meeting is scheduled. I premise that if this hour is not convenient with you, another hour would be agreeable to Austrian.
May 2, 1944

TO: Mr. Peble

FROM: Mr. Marcus

Re: Conference with Carl Austrian, head of FEA mission in Turkey concerning possibility of lend-lease railroad rolling stock to Turkey.

After your telephone conversation with Mr. Friedman yesterday in which you stated that you preferred not to see Mr. Austrian, I made arrangements for a meeting to be held in Mr. Friedman’s office. Today I received a phone call from J. E. Harris, Jr., Chief of the Near East Section of FEA. Mr. Harris stated that Mr. Austrian specifically expressed a desire to speak with you concerning the above matter. Mr. Austrian asked Harris to pass on the message that he worked with Mr. Hirschmann in Turkey and is therefore familiar with our problems.

I advised Mr. Harris that I would clear the matter with you and would let him know whether you would be free to see Mr. Austrian tomorrow at 10:00 a.m. when the meeting is scheduled. I presume that if this hour is not convenient with you, another hour would be agreeable to Austrian.
MEMORANDUM

TO:  Mr. John Pohle  
     Executive Director, War Refugees Board  
     Room 268, 1/2 Treasury Building  
     Washington, D. C.

FROM:  "From:"  

SUBJECT:  C. O. Ceyman  
          Project Control Section, FEA

DATE:  April 14, 1945

Dr. D. Lickin of Foreign Economic Administration has asked us to send you FEA Report 552, "Key Loans, Debts and Remittances Issued by the Axis in Occupied Greece."
MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

April 14, 1944

At Mr. Fehlau's request, I telephoned John Ferguson (FRA, Extension 609) concerning certain FRA's supplies which are available for refugees in Egypt and elsewhere. Mr. Ferguson explained that FRA recently had certain stocks of clothing in Iran, originally destined for Polish refugees in Russia. Because of certain opposition of the Russian Government, the delivery of the supplies was held up and Mr. Landis in Cairo authorized the diversion of 20 tons of these supplies to Egypt for the use of refugees in the MERA camps in that country. FRA is concerned over payment for the supplies and suggests that either the War Refugee Board or some private organizations might be interested in acquiring them for distribution among the refugees in Egypt.

Mr. Ferguson also mentioned certain FRA stocks of clothing located in Algiers. A portion of these will be used at the Fehlau's camp while some have been authorized to be diverted to Cairo for use in the MERA camps. With respect to the latter, the same problem of payment arises as mentioned above with respect to the stocks in Iran.

Mr. McCormack will look into the question and discuss the matter with various private organizations interested in relief to the refugees in the camps in Egypt. He will also contact Mr. Ferguson's man at FRA who is familiar with all the details concerning the supplies in question.

F. Rodel
MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES

April 14, 1944

At Mr. Fehle's request, I telephoned John Ferguson (FRA, Extension 609) concerning certain FRA supplies which are available for refugees in Egypt and elsewhere. Mr. Ferguson explained that FRA recently had certain stocks of clothing in Iran, originally destined for Polish refugees in Russia. Because of certain opposition of the Russian Government, the delivery of the supplies was held up and Mr. Landis in Cairo authorized the diversion of 20 tons of these supplies to Egypt for the use of refugees in the MRRRA camps in that country. FRA is concerned over payment for the supplies and suggests that either the War Refugee Board or some private organizations might be interested in acquiring them for distribution among the refugees in Egypt.

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Mr. McCormack will look into the question and discuss the matter with various private organizations interested in relief to the refugees in the camps in Egypt. He will also contact Mr. Ferguson's man at FRA who is familiar with all the details concerning the supplies in question.

F. Hodel

Philab 4/14/44
Dear Mr. Stone:

I have received your letter of March 25, 1944, referring to a letter from Mr. C. F. Thorold of the British Embassy to Mr. Charles Taft of the Department of State, concerning the transfer of 700,000 to the International Red Cross for the purchase of food supplies in Hungary and Romania for distribution to Jews in enemy territory.

Since receiving your letter, I have conferred with Mr. Oscar Cox and other members of your staff concerning the position of the American Board on these matters. I am sure that as a result of our meeting any misunderstanding which may have existed has been cleared up, and that arrangements have now been made for a satisfactory working out of our mutual problems.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle

J.W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. William T. Stone,  
Director,  
Special Branch,  
Foreign Economic Administration,  
Washington 25, D.C.

APR 11 1944

Phila 4/10/44
Mr. John W. Fehlq
Acting Director
War Refugee Board
Treasury Department
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Fehlq:

We have received from Mr. G. F. Thorold of the British Embassy a copy of his letter dated February 29 to Mr. Charles Faft, Department of State, concerning the transfer of $100,000 to the International Red Cross for the purchase of supplies in Hungary and Romania to be dispatched to Jews in enemy territory.

As we have had no previous information concerning this scheme, and as the use of dollar funds for this purpose would seem to run counter to certain of the economic warfare policies established by the British and our Governments, we should appreciate receiving from you full particulars regarding what transfers of this kind have actually been made, and also what other similar proposals are being considered at the present time.

Sincerely yours,

William T. Stone
Director
Special Areas Branch
Refugee Service Administration

American Girl

CAMPANOGA (CAMPXG),
K-56 71

FROM CROSBY AND RATHON, FRs FOR FREDONIA.

Procurement has been arranged for blankets required to
convert your tent into a shelter. Priorities prevent shipment
by plane. Support emergency needs purchased with camp funds.

An opened and brought over with the refugees. These blankets
are available also in Eugene and Medford. Your request is
will be sent from best.

Do you still need sewing machines or will those you have
acquired be sufficient? If not sufficient, addle minimum
requirements.

Hull

PORTLAND

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April 10, 1944

Mr. Leo F. Crowley, Administrator
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Crowley:

We have received your letter GC-700-O30, W-Bolivia 1729, of March 31, with reference to action for the immediate rescue and relief of the Jews of Europe and other victims of enemy persecution. Inasmuch as we know of no representative of the War Refugee Board having been appointed in Bolivia, we will direct our reports through FEA channels as specified in your letter.

I will, in this letter, attempt to give you something in the way of background which may be of interest to the Board and at the same time give you what information we have with reference to future possibilities. I can by no means give you a full picture but I can give you a statement of general information which I believe will be incontrovertible.

Bolivia was probably regarded as the most undesirable country in South America for the refugees due to Bolivia's difficulty in transportation and communication and undeveloped commerce. Also, this was probably due to Bolivia's geographical conditions and the fact that the principal cities and principal part of its population is located on the Altiplano in an undesirable climate and altitude. At any rate, the refugees who left Europe in the earlier periods of persecution went to the other countries. Those were the refugees who were able financially to leave Europe sooner and their financial condition was a good index of their abilities. After the other countries had closed, or substantially closed, immigration to these refugees, those who were just able to get out of Europe alive, without funds, and who had lacked financial stability in comparison with the others and as a consequence lacked technical trades and experience came to Bolivia as it was the only place in South America open to them at this late date. Of course, I
am giving you general statements and there are many notable exceptions. However, the doctors and lawyers from Europe have for the most part been unable to secure licenses to practice in Bolivia.

These refugees were required to scrape together what money they could in order to pay for visas and passports, and it is reported that much of this money went to individual members of former Bolivian governments. Many of these visas and passports were issued as agricultural permits, the recipient of which was supposed to have been skilled or experienced in agriculture. However, for the most part they had not even seen a farm. Most of the refugees, of which our best estimate is between 5,000 and 10,000, live in cities, mainly concentrated in La Paz.

As a result of their having to pay such sums for their entrance visas and passports and their not having been skilled in agriculture, and as a result of the fact that most of them settled in the cities and entered into competition with Bolivian merchants, and shopkeepers, as a result of Nazi propaganda against them when they first arrived, and as a result of the fact that these immigrants were more aggressive and industrious than the average Bolivian shopkeeper and merchant, there has been considerable improper, but natural, resentment.

You know, of course, that a very small minority of Bolivians is engaged in commercial pursuits or any other pursuit which contributes to the economic life of the country. Although the portion of refugees here is small in comparison with the entire population of Bolivia, it is, therefore, large in comparison with the portion of the Bolivian population engaged in commercial and industrial pursuits.

Although we have not, of course, been able to talk with the present Bolivian government, due to non-recognition, about its attitude toward receiving additional refugees, nevertheless we do understand from unofficial sources that Villaseñor, the President of the Junta, has stated that he would welcome the opportunity of working out some plan or arrangement for the admission of refugees into Bolivia to strengthen the population and industry of the country. However, he has stated, according to these unofficial sources, that in order for the entrance of these refugees to be of help to Bolivia and in order not to incur further resentment in Bolivia, they should be refugees with agricultural experience or technical training and skills so that they could do the work which Bolivians cannot do and which is needed in Bolivia. I trust that whenever the situation with reference to recognition will permit, we will be able to work out something to contribute at least a small part to the success of the work of the War Refugee Board here in Bolivia, if it is then your desire that we do so.
While I express no opinion on the matter, it is the opinion of many well-informed Americans here in Bolivia that the possible salvation of Bolivia as a country to a great degree depends upon the immigration of peoples with the background such as would be furnished by a great many European refugees. Bolivia as you know, has great expanses of undeveloped and highly fertile agricultural regions, with a majority of the population living on the comparatively unfertile altiplano.

I should be glad to receive instructions from you of any special plan or procedure you would like us to work on at such time as you may consider it proper.

Sincerely,

(Signed)

Sproesser Wynn
Assistant Special Representative
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
of the United States of America

Office of the Special Representative
American Embassy
Santiago, Chile

April 21, 1944

In reply refer to:
F-Chile No. 1369

Subject: Rescue and Relief
of European victims of enemy persecution (F-Chile-1491)

Mr. Leo T. Crowley
Administrator
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Crowley:

Receipt is acknowledged of the above numbered letter dated
March 31, 1944, advising as to the policy of our Government
in connection with the action to be taken for the rescue and
relief of European Jews and other victims of enemy persecution.

I have discussed the matter with the Embassy and I find that
the War Refugee Board has made no appointment in this area for
carrying out its functions. This country on the west coast of
South America is so far removed from the present conflict, and
shipping is so limited and uncertain, that the problem has not
been recently presented to the Government of Chile so far as I
have been able to ascertain.

In cooperation with interested officers of the Embassy, I shall
make a study of the matters suggested in your letter and trans-
mit all available information to the War Refugee Board through
the administration.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed)

Sam D. M. Low
Special Representative

Copied: ref
4/20/44
Mr. Leo T. Crowley, Administrator
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Crowley:

I have received your letter No. 3469, reference GC-700; O30, dated March 31, 1944, with regard to provision for aid to Axis victims.

Referring particularly to your antepenultimate paragraph and after discussion with the Ambassador, I find that substantially the information which is outlined as of interest in connection with refugees in Mexico is being made available in reports to the State Department; and it is therefore assumed that this satisfies the purposes intended. However, the Ambassador did state that he would be quite willing to arrange that an extra copy of such reports would be forwarded direct to you should you so desire.

The supervision here of refugee requirements is believed to be conducted efficiently by the Embassy staff, and I am given an opportunity to participate in the discussion and solution of such problems as arise. You may be confident that the policy of our government in respect to persecuted minorities will be carefully observed and have every assurance that the function as now organized is adequate.

Very truly yours,

(signed)
Floyd D. Ransom.

FLOYD D. RANSON
Special Representative
Foreign Economic Administration
Office of Imports
April 17, 1944

Via Diplomatic Pouch

In reply refer to:
F-MEXICO-No. 3088

copied:ref
4/22/44
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR
WASHINGTON, D.C.

In reply refer to:
GC-700; GEC
# 346

VIA DIPLOMATIC AIR FORCE
MAR 31 1944

Mr. Brumman MacChesney
Foreign Economic Administration
c/o American Consulate General
Algiers
Algeria

Dear Mr. MacChesney:

The President has instructed the Secretaries of State, Treasury and War to take action for the immediate rescue and relief of the Jews of Europe and other victims of enemy persecution. In an Executive Order issued January 22, 1944, the President declared "It is the policy of this Government to take all measures within its power to rescue the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death and otherwise to afford such victims all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war." The order establishes special governmental machinery for executing this policy. It creates a War Refugees Board consisting of the Secretaries of State, Treasury and War. The Board is charged with direct responsibility to the President in seeing that the announced policy is carried out. The President indicated that while he would look directly to the Board for the execution of this policy, the Board would cooperate with the Inter-governmental Committee, UNRRA, and other interested international organisations. The President stated that he expected the cooperation of all members of the United Nations and other governments in carrying out this difficult but important task. He stated that the existing facilities of the State, Treasury and War Departments would be employed to furnish aid to Axis victims to the fullest extent possible. He stressed that it was urgent that action be taken to forestall the plot of the Axis to exterminate the Jews and other persecuted minorities in Europe.

You should do everything possible consistent with the successful prosecution of the Foreign Economic Administration program in your area to effectuate this policy of this Government. In this connection it
should be noted that the Board has appointed in certain areas representatives having diplomatic status who will bear in those areas the primary responsibility for carrying out the functions of the Board. You should cooperate as fully as possible with the representative of the Board in your area.

Representatives of the Board will be interested, among other things, in the following: Conditions of refugees presently in your area. Such information as you may here or may be able to obtain with respect to the further absorptive capacity of your area from the economic point of view with respect to refugees. In this connection the representative of the Board will be interested in knowing whether your area has a demand for persons of certain particular trades or skills whose introduction into the area might be looked upon with favor by the government of the area although that government might, in general, be opposed to the introduction of refugees as such. You should call to the attention of the Board's representative such shipping conditions as you know to be available and suitable for the transportation of refugees. You should also advise of any recommendations you may have as to what you feel the Foreign Economic Administration can do to facilitate with all possible speed the rescue and relief of victims of enemy oppression.

In the event that no representative of the Board has as yet been appointed you should report directly to the War Refugee Board through Foreign Economic Administration channels such things as have been specified above.

Foreign representatives of the Department of State and all other Government departments have been similarly instructed and you should give them all possible assistance.

Very truly yours,

Leo T. Crowley
Administrator
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

To: Mr. Stewart

100

Please circulate and prepare
draft.

Miss Model should include in
developments.

J.W.C.

From: W.Stew
MAR 31

Dear Mr. Crowley:

Thank you for your letter of March 27 indicating that instructions concerning the work of the War Refugee Board have been sent to the chiefs of the Foreign Economic Administration missions abroad. The development of a satisfactory liaison between the representatives of the War Refugee Board and the representatives of the Foreign Economic Administration should be of considerable assistance in working out solutions for some of our mutual problems.

Mr. Oscar Cox of your staff has informed me that Mr. Hilbert Zarky will serve as liaison officer here in Washington. I am, accordingly, instructing members of the War Refugee Board staff that their contacts with the Foreign Economic Administration should be handled through or cleared with Mr. Zarky.

Your assistance in this connection is very much appreciated.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) J.W. Peale

J. W. Peale
Executive Director

Honorable Leo T. Crowley
Administrator
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington, D. C.
Mr. John W. Fehle
Acting Executive Director
War Refugees Board
Treasury Department
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Fehle:

Your letter of March 14, 1944 suggests that it would be very helpful to the War Refugees Board if instructions were sent to the chiefs of the Foreign Economic Administration missions abroad pointing out to them the importance of the work now being done by the War Refugee Board and requesting that they furnish advice respecting certain facts in their areas.

In accordance with your suggestion, I am sending to the chiefs of all such missions the specific instructions which you incorporated in your letter.

You also state that a closer and more effective relationship between the War Refugees Board and the Foreign Economic Administration could be achieved if some one in the Foreign Economic Administration were to serve as a liaison officer with War Refugee Board. Accordingly, I am asking Mr. Oscar Ock to designate some one in the General Counsel's office to act in that capacity.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]
Leo T. Crowley
Administrator
Mr. John W. Pehle  
Acting Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Treasury Department  
Washington 25, D. C.  

Dear John:  

I have your letter of March 14, and the copy which you enclosed of your letter to Mr. Crowley.  

I think both the suggestions made in your letter are very worthwhile. Mr. Crowley has requested that I tag some one from my office to do the liaison work, and, accordingly, I am asking Milbert Zerby to take this on.  

Sincerely yours,  

Escr. Ges.  

General Counsel
Mr. John W. Pehle  
Acting Executive Director  
War Refugees Board  
Treasury Department  
Washington 25, D. C.  

Dear John;  

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I think both the suggestions made in your letter are very worthwhile, Mr. Crowley has requested that I tag some one from my office to do the liaison work, and, accordingly, I am asking Hilbert Zarky to take this on.  

Sincerely yours,  

[Signature]  

General Counsel
March 14, 1944

Dear Mr. Cox:

The original of the enclosed copy of a letter has been sent to Mr. Crowley. I would appreciate it if you would give this matter a push.

Very truly yours,

/s/ John

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Oscar Cox,
Foreign Economic Administration,
Room 1057, Tempo T Building,
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure

JWP:mgt 3/14/44
Dear Mr. Crochley:

As you may know, the President has established by Executive Order No. 9417 a War Refugee Board instructed to take action for the rescue and relief of the Jews of Europe and other victims of enemy persecution. The functions of the Board include the development of plans and programs and the inauguration of effective measures for (a) the rescue, transportation, maintenance, and relief of the victims of enemy oppression and (b) the establishment of havens of temporary refuge for such victims.

The Executive Order states that it shall be the duty of the heads of all agencies and departments "to supply or obtain for the Board such information and to extend to the Board such ... assistance and facilities as the Board may require in carrying out the provisions of this order." Many of the operations of the Board will, of course, be in fields related to the work of the Foreign Economic Administration.

It is urgently necessary that all United States Government representatives abroad be informed through their agencies how they can assist in the program of the War Refugee Board. In this connection it would be very helpful if instructions along the following lines could be sent to the chiefs of all Foreign Economic Administration missions now abroad.

"The President has instructed the Secretaries of State, Treasury and War to take action for the immediate rescue and relief of the Jews of Europe and other victims of enemy persecution. In an Executive Order issued January 22, 1944, the President declared 'It is the policy of this Government to take all measures within its power to rescue the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death and otherwise to afford such victims all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war.' The order establishes special governmental machinery for executing this policy. It creates a War Refugee Board consisting of the Secretaries of State, Treasury and War. The Board is charged with direct responsibility to the President in seeing that the announced policy is carried out. The President indicated that while he would look directly to
the Board for the execution of this policy, the
Board would cooperate with the Intergovernmental
Committee, UNRRA, and other interested international
organizations. The President stated that he expected
the cooperation of all members of the United Nations
and other governments in carrying out this difficult
but important task. He stated that the existing
facilities of the State, Treasury and War Departments
would be employed to furnish aid to Axis victims to
the fullest extent possible. He stressed that it was
urgent that action be taken to forestall the plot of
the Nazis to exterminate the Jews and other persecuted
minorities in Europe.

You should do everything possible consistent with
the successful prosecution of the Foreign Economic
Administration program in your area to effectuate this
policy of this Government. In this connection it should
be noted that the Board has appointed in certain areas
representatives having diplomatic status who will bear
in these areas the primary responsibility for carrying
out the functions of the Board. You should cooperate
as fully as possible with the representative of the
Board in your area.

Representatives of the Board will be interested,
among other things, in the following: Conditions of
refugees presently in your area. Such information as
you may have or may be able to obtain with respect to
the further absorptive capacity of your area from the
economic point of view with respect to refugees. In
this connection the representative of the Board will be
interested in knowing whether your area has a demand for
persons of certain particular trades or skills whose
introduction into the area might be looked upon with
favor by the government of the area although that govern-
ment might, in general, be opposed to the introduction
of refugees as such. You should call to the attention
of the Board's representative such shipping conditions
as you know to be available and suitable for the trans-
portation of refugees. You should also advise of any
recommendations you may have as to what you feel the
Foreign Economic Administration can do to effectuate
with all possible speed the rescue and relief of victims
of enemy oppression.
In the event that no representative of the Board has as yet been appointed you should report directly to the War Refugee Board through Foreign Economic Administration channels such things as have been specified above.

Foreign representatives of the Department of State and all other Government departments have been similarly instructed and you should give them all possible assistance.

In order to establish a close and effective working relationship between the War Refugee Board and the Foreign Economic Administration, it is requested that a responsible officer of the Foreign Economic Administration be designated as a liaison officer with the War Refugee Board. This liaison officer should be a person who can speak for the Foreign Economic Administration on most matters of mutual interest so that any necessary clearance will proceed easily and quickly. I would appreciate being informed at an early date as to the person who will be serving in this capacity.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) F. W. Peake
J. W. Peake
Acting Executive Director

Honorable Leo T. Crowley
Administrator
Foreign Economic Administration
Washington, D. C.
FOREIGN ECONOMIC ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON D. C.

February 1, 1944

Dear John:

I appreciate very much your memorandum of
February 2nd sending along to me the additional copies
of the contribution release and the one on the War
Refugee Board, as well as copies of the Executive
Order setting up the Board and the White House press
release on it.

When you get a chance, I would like to talk
to you about the contribution situation.

Sincerely,

Oscar Lefkowitz

Mr. John N. Pahl
Assistant to the Secretary
Treasurer Department
Washington, D.C.