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January 3, 1945

MEMORANDIA FOR THE VILLE

Fellowing Colemel Catting's conversation with Mr. Poble on January R, Liouiseant Steekhausen, U.S.M., called on me to discouse a proposed cable to the Commending Generals of the Burepean, Mediterraneen and Middle Rest Theaters of Operation. The following were the main points in the draft presented by Mr. Stockhausen;

- All refugees from Axis territory to be screened at the first possible opportunity for counter-intelligence and to prevent enemy agents from coming through;
- The most convenient military agency is to be used to conduct the interregation of the refugees along their route of travel or at their destination;
- 3. Reference is made to the Executive Order establishing the War Refugee Board and charging it with the responsibility of developing plans for rescue of victims of enemy oppression and to find temporary havens for such persons;
- 4. Theater Commanders are advised that the local representative of the War Refugee Board will be requested to inform the Theater Commanders whenever refugees are released from Axis territory within their respective commands;
- Reference is made to the fact that 1300 refugees are now in Switzerland awaiting further transportation.

After a general discussion with Mr. Stockhausen of our principal remaining operations and a statement of the facts as far as we know them concerning possible movement of refugees from Switzerland, Mr. Stockhausen advised me that he felt he should discuss the matter in more detail with Colonel Outting and that he would inform us of any action that might be taken with respect to the proposed cable. It is contemplated that the War Refugee Board will issue an appropriate instruction to its representatives if the above-mentioned cable is dispatched to the Theater Commanders.

F. Hodel

My dear Mr. McCloy:

This is to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of March 3, 1944, advising that a message concerning the establishment and responsibilities of the War Refuges Board has been dispatched to the appropriate Theater Commanders and that the Navy Department has taken action to inform the U. S. Navy Commander concerned.

Very truly yours,

(Bigned) J. W. Pohle

J. W. Pehle Acting Executive Director

Honorable John J. McCloy,
Assistant Secretary of War.

BET:FH:hd 3/7/44

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WAR DEPARTMENT WASHINGTON

3 March 1944

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WAR DEPARTMENT WASHINGTON

a Maron 1944

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