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# War Refugee Board Records, 1944-45

Projects and Documents File:

Administrative Matters: Personnel

O' Dwyer, William (Brig. Gen.)

to

White, David

BOX 61

Thurs: Personnel

O'Dwyer, William  
(Brig. General)

File

February 25, 1945

September 15, 1945.

My dear General:

I cannot end my service with the War Refugee Board without telling you how much it has meant to me to have had the privilege of working with you these past months. It has been an inspiring experience for me and all who were associated with the Board to know you and feel the support of your energy, devotion and forthright leadership in this historic work. You are a fighting humanitarian and your part in the great cause of saving innocent people from Nazi persecution bears clear witness to that fact.

I also want you to know how deeply I appreciate your many personal kindnesses to me and our staff. We shall all regard as highlights in our lives our association with General O'Dwyer.

With best wishes and good luck in the campaign,

Sincerely,

(Signed) Florence Hodal

Brig. General William O'Dwyer,  
449 - 79th Street,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

~~W~~

O'Dwyer

RE

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MEMORANDUM

February 29, 1944

When I called McCloy today about another matter he mentioned that he did not like the idea of our taking O'Dwyer away from War. I told McCloy that I had done nothing further about getting O'Dwyer after I had told him I would not. McCloy said that Secretary Morgenthau must have told the White House he wanted O'Dwyer because the White House sent a note to War asking them to release O'Dwyer. I assured McCloy that the Secretary had had nothing to do with the matter and that he didn't even know anything about it. I again assured McCloy that I had done nothing further after talking to him and that someone else must have asked for O'Dwyer's release. McCloy then said he was convinced I had nothing to do with it, but that he was sorry to lose O'Dwyer.

*J. Paul*

PROCEEDING FILE

(copy destroyed)

TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

To Mr. Pehle

File  
7H  
Harris  
just

Date February 17, 1944

TO Mr. Pehle  
FROM Mr. Gaston

17 February 1944

Official File Copy

Subject: War Refugee Board Shipping Adviser

I called Basil Harris this morning and gave him an idea of what we wanted. He said it would require some thought and looking around since practically all the qualified men who were not in the Services were now being occupied, but he will try to suggest a name to us and will let me know shortly.

Memorandum to Mr. John J. McCloy

Colonel William O'Dwyer of the Army Air Forces is doing work of a highly important character. He works on investigating the irregularities and suspected frauds in the course of purchasing aircraft and other materiel. A good deal of his work has to do with cases brought to our notice by the FBI, the Truman Committee and other Congressional Committees. He is extremely capable. If we were deprived of his services I am sure that our ability to carry on this activity would be impaired.

We should tell Mr. Pehle that Colonel O'Dwyer cannot be spared.

Robert P. Patterson  
Under Secretary of War

RPP.h

Official File Copy  
File

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

Hand  
JWP  
DATE February 14, 1944.

TO Mr. Pehle

FROM Mr. Gaston

Subject: War Refugee Board Shipping Adviser

I called Basil Harris this morning and gave him an idea of what we wanted. He said it would require some thought and looking around since practically all the qualified men who were not in the Services were very busily occupied, but he will try to suggest a name to us and will let me know shortly.

WBS