

Projects and Documents
File

Administrative Matters: Personnel

Stewart, Ward

AUG 30 1944

Dear Ward:

I want to thank you personally for the exceptional assistance you have given me during the three years of our association, as well as to confirm the value of your outstanding service to the War Refugee Board and Foreign Funds Control of the Treasury Department. I feel you have been largely responsible for the outstanding record for administrative efficiency and excellence of these agencies.

You entered Foreign Funds Control a month before Pearl Harbor when both the agency's program and administrative affairs were in a critical stage. As the Control's first Executive Officer and after August, 1942, as Assistant Director (Administrative Services Division), you skillfully planned and carried out an administrative program that did much to put the Control on its feet as a mature and effective agency. Your part in establishing a functional organizational pattern, in building a sound and progressive personnel program, in revising confused procedures and in setting up a strong budget system did much to make the Control equal to the wartime job that was thrust upon it. I think the granting of bureau status to Foreign Funds Control by the Secretary of the Treasury can be attributed to a considerable extent to your planning.

Many specific examples of your work might be cited. I recall the early conference-lecture series you inaugurated and the Victory Council for employee participation you encouraged as excellent examples of the intelligent personnel policy you fostered. Such volume jobs as handling the hundreds of thousands of applications and licenses that flooded Foreign Funds were greatly facilitated by procedures developed under your supervision. During the chaotic aftermath of Pearl Harbor, you ably represented the Treasury Department in the Japanese evacuation from the Pacific coast. At San Francisco you assisted in coordinating the multitude of Foreign Funds Control activities incident to transplanting more than 110,000 people and safeguarding their properties.

Also under your direction as Head of the Statistics and Reporting Division, Foreign Funds Control carried out the gigantic task of the Census of Foreign-Owned Property in the United States and, later, the Census of American-Owned Property Abroad. The value of your part in these censuses, the first of their kind taken in the United States, becomes more and more evident in the light of their growing usefulness to this Government's wartime and peace-table activities.

When, in January of this year, the President conceived the idea of the War Refugee Board to aid the rescue of Europe's oppressed, it was natural for me to call upon you for assistance in planning the agency under Executive Order No. 9417. Fittingly, you then were made responsible, as Assistant Executive Director, for implementing the extraordinary powers of the Order with suitable administrative machinery. What you have been able to contribute in the intervening months to this most significant and humane program should be a source of distinct satisfaction to you. Your associates have held your work and personal enthusiasm in high esteem.

As I have told you before, we all regret exceedingly that your services with the Board must be discontinued. We wish you all success in your new duties as a commissioned officer of the United States Naval Reserve.

Very truly yours,

(Sd) John

J. W. Pehle,
Executive Director

The entire Foreign Funds Control program was planned and carried out in a very short period of time, both the agency's program and administrative affairs were at a critical stage. As the Control's first Director, you were in the field from August, 1942, as Assistant Director (Administrative Services) and you skillfully planned and carried out an administrative program that was such to put the Control on its feet as a functional organization. Your part in establishing a functional organization, in revising confused procedures and in setting up a strong budget system did much to make the Control ready to the wartime job that was thrust upon it. I think the granting of honor status to Foreign Funds Control by the Secretary of the Treasury can be attributed to a considerable extent to your planning.

Lt. Ward Stewart
726 South Royal Street
Alexandria, Virginia

Many specific examples of your work might be cited. I recall the only conference-lecture series you inaugurated and the Victory Bondall participation you encouraged as excellent examples of the kind of policy you followed. Your value also as handling the Control's operations of applications and increases that flooded Foreign Funds were greatly enhanced by procedures developed under your supervision. During the summer aftermath of Pearl Harbor, you also represented the Treasury Department in the summer session. At San Francisco you assisted in coordinating the withdrawal of Foreign Funds Control activities incident to transplanting some 110,000 people and safeguarding their properties, and in the Pacific you directed the work you played in planning direction to the banking operations of that area as a major goal.

Also under your direction as Head of the Statistics and Reporting Division, Foreign Funds Control carried out the gigantic task of the Census of Foreign-Owned Property in the United States and, later, the Census of American-Owned Property Abroad. The value of your part in these censuses, the first of their kind taken in the United States, became more and more evident in the light of their growing usefulness to this country's wartime and peace-time activities.

JWA -

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

WAR REFUGEE BOARD

WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

My dear Lieutenant Stewart:

I want to thank you personally for the exceptional assistance you have given me during the three years of our association, as well as to confirm the value of your outstanding service to the War Refugee Board and Foreign Funds Control of the Treasury Department. ~~As my immediate and principal assistant in both organizations,~~ I feel you have been largely responsible for the outstanding record of ~~these agencies~~ for administrative efficiency and excellence *of these agencies*.

You entered Foreign Funds Control a month before Pearl Harbor when both the agency's program and administrative affairs were in a critical stage. As the Control's first Executive Officer and after August, 1942, as Assistant Director (Administrative Services Division), you skillfully planned and carried out an administrative program that did much to put the Control on its feet as a mature and effective agency. Your part in establishing a functional organizational pattern, in building a sound and progressive personnel program, in revising confused procedures and in setting up a strong budget system did much to make the Control equal to the wartime job that was thrust upon it. I think the granting of bureau status to Foreign Funds Control by the Secretary of the Treasury can be attributed to a considerable extent to your planning.

Many specific examples of your work might be cited. I recall the early conference-lecture series you inaugurated and the Victory Council for employee participation you encouraged as excellent examples of the intelligent personnel policy you fostered. Such volume jobs as handling the hundreds of thousands of applications and licenses that flooded Foreign Funds were greatly facilitated by procedures developed under your supervision. During the chaotic aftermath of Pearl Harbor, you ably represented the Treasury Department in the Japanese evacuation. At San Francisco you assisted in coordinating the multitude of Foreign Funds Control activities incident to transplanting more than 110,000 people and safeguarding their properties, and in the Pacific Northwest the role you played in giving direction to the banking operations of that area was a major one.

Also under your direction as Head of the Statistics and Reporting Division, Foreign Funds Control carried out the gigantic task of the Census of Foreign-Owned Property in the United States and, later, the Census of American-Owned Property Abroad. The value of your part in these censuses, the first of their kind taken in the United States, becomes more and more evident in the light of their growing usefulness to this Government's wartime and peace-table activities.

When, in January of this year, the President conceived the idea of the War Refugee Board to aid the rescue of Europe's oppressed, it was natural for me to call upon you for assistance in planning the agency under Executive Order No. 9417. Fittingly, you then were made responsible, as Assistant Executive Director, for implementing the extraordinary powers of the Order with suitable administrative machinery. What you have been able to contribute in the intervening months to this most significant and humane program should be a source of distinct satisfaction to you. Your associates have held your work and personal enthusiasm in high esteem.

As I have told you before, we all regret exceedingly that your services with the Board must be discontinued. We wish you all success in your new duties as a commissioned officer of the United States Navy *Reserve*.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle,
Executive Officer *Stewart*

Lt. Ward Stewart
726 South Royal Street
Alexandria, Virginia

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

August 12, 1944.

Dear John,

As you know, I have been called up for active duty in the United States Naval Reserve and have been ordered to report Monday morning, August 14. Under these circumstances I have requested military furlough status from my position as Assistant Executive Director, War Refugee Board, to become effective at the expiration of my accrued annual leave.

It is with sincere regret that I leave the Treasury Department and the War Refugee Board at this time and I am looking forward to a renewal of our association at some future date. Please accept and convey to the other staff members of the Board my best wishes for continued success in carrying out the urgent tasks that lie ahead.

Yours very truly,

Ward Stewart

Assistant Executive Director.

Mr. J. W. Pehle,
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board.