

SECTION "CORRESPONDENCE" -  
RELATING TO INDIVIDUAL ACCOUNTS

WRB: Liquidating Correspondence

000001

Liquidation  
of War Refugee Board

JAN 5 1946

Dear Rabbi Schonfeld:

Reference is made to your letter of January 2, 1946,  
addressed to the War Refugee Board.

As you undoubtedly know, the War Refugee Board was  
terminated by Executive Order on September 15, 1945. Its  
affairs are being liquidated by this office which has no  
information concerning the whereabouts of Leo Topor who  
has been reported to have survived the Nazi persecutions.

It is suggested that you may wish to contact one of  
the agencies on the enclosed list which are members of  
the Central Location Index. I regret that this office is  
unable to give you any further advice on the matter.

Very truly yours,

*Orvis A. Schmidt*

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Rabbi Dr. S. Schonfeld,  
Vaad Hahatzala Emergency Committee,  
132 Nassau Street,  
New York 7, N. Y.

Enclosure.

*FS*  
FH:hd 1/5/46

ועד ההצלה  
**VAAH HAHATZALA**

(EMERGENCY COMMITTEE)

132 NASSAU STREET

(ROOM 810)

NEW YORK 7, N. Y.

PHONE RECTOR 2-4235

The War Refugee Board  
Washington D. C.

January 2, 1946

Dear Sirs:

Recently the press published a picture of Jewish Refugee Children rescued by your Department. Among them was one of Leo Topor described as follows:

" Orphaned by Nazi brutality (but saved by underground agents, the War Refugee Board and Christian friends) untold numbers of children such as these found shelter in homes after Pope Pius instructed bishops and priests to give all assistance possible to refugees. Parents of all three are listed as missing. Cheerful looking LEO TOPOR (1), left, was sheltered by a Paris family. His father, Samuel, a Polish mechanic, arrested in Paris on Aug. 20, 1941, was "deported" to a death camp from Compiègne on June 5, 1942....."

One of our friends thinks the boy may be a relative and we should be deeply grateful if you would please supply us with additional information, especially as to his present whereabouts.

Kindly reply to Mrs. Gotthold, 15A West 73rd St. New York, N. Y.

Yours faithfully

*Shimon Schonfeld*

Rabbi Dr. S. Schonfeld.

To utilize the possibilities for rescue of European Jewry where the  
Vaad Hahatzala program is especially needed.

Liquidation  
of War Refugee Board

JAN 5 1946

Dear Mr. Mathews:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 31, 1945, concerning the rules for admission to practise before the War Refugee Board.

The War Refugee Board was terminated by Executive Order on September 15, 1945. Accordingly, it is impossible to reply to your request.

Very truly yours,

*Orvis A. Schmidt*

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Mr. T. Odon Mathews,  
Public Relations Advisor,  
1616 Eye Street, N. W.,  
Washington 6, D. C.

*DW*  
FH:hd 1/5/46

TELEPHONE NATIONAL 1607

T. O'DON MATHEWS  
PUBLIC RELATIONS ADVISOR  
1616 EYE STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

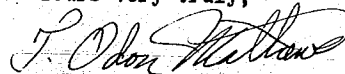
December 31, 1945

Chief Clerk  
War Refugee Board  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Please mail to me the rules for admission to  
practise before the War Refugee Board.

Yours very truly,



T. Odon Mathews

TOM/lp

000005

Liquidation  
of War Refugee Board

JAN 2 1946

Dear Mr. Gurin:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of December 24,  
1945, requesting reports issued by the War Refugee Board.

As you may know, this Board was terminated by Execu-  
tive Order on September 15, 1945, and this office is  
liquidating its affairs. The only official report of the  
Board was the final report of its Executive Director, copy  
of which is enclosed. In addition, you may be interested  
in the enclosed copy of the report on conditions at  
Auschwitz and Birkenau which was released by the Board in  
November 1944.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Orvis A. Schmidt

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Mr. Arnold Gurin,  
Director of Budget Research,  
Council of Jewish Federations  
and Welfare Funds, Inc.,  
165 West 46th Street,  
New York 19, N. Y.

Enclosures.

FH:hd 1/2/46

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

To:

(1) *Miss Lill*

(2)

(3)

J. W. Pehle  
Assistant to the Secretary

10-1-38  
10-1-38  
10-1-38

(1)  
(2)

9/2

Mr. D. W. Bell	Mr. Gamble
Mr. Bartelt	Mr. Ooe
Mr. Gaston	Mr. Haas
Mr. White	Mr. Pehls
Mr. O'Connell	

\*\*\*\*

Mr. Birgfeld	Mr. Mack
Mr. Blough	Mr. Maxwell
Mr. Brennan	Mr. McDonald
Mr. Broughton	Mr. Nunan
Mr. Coyne	Mrs. Ross
Miss Cullen	Mr. Schmidt
Miss Diamond	Mr. Schoeneman
Mr. Dietrich	Mr. Shaeffer
Mr. Hall	Mr. Upham
Mr. Hanna	Mr. Wales
Mr. Julian	Mr. Frank J. Wilson
Mr. Kilby	Mr. Woodson
Mr. Lynch	

000000



Devi. 17. 67.

70  
71  
72  
73  
74  
75  
76  
77  
78  
79  
80  
81  
82  
83  
84  
85  
86  
87  
88  
89  
90  
91  
92  
93  
94  
95  
96  
97  
98  
99  
100  
101  
102  
103  
104  
105  
106  
107  
108  
109  
110  
111  
112  
113  
114  
115  
116  
117  
118  
119  
120  
121  
122  
123  
124  
125  
126  
127  
128  
129  
130  
131  
132  
133  
134  
135  
136  
137  
138  
139  
140  
141  
142  
143  
144  
145  
146  
147  
148  
149  
150  
151  
152  
153  
154  
155  
156  
157  
158  
159  
160  
161  
162  
163  
164  
165  
166  
167  
168  
169  
170  
171  
172  
173  
174  
175  
176  
177  
178  
179  
180  
181  
182  
183  
184  
185  
186  
187  
188  
189  
190  
191  
192  
193  
194  
195  
196  
197  
198  
199  
200  
201  
202  
203  
204  
205  
206  
207  
208  
209  
210  
211  
212  
213  
214  
215  
216  
217  
218  
219  
220  
221  
222  
223  
224  
225  
226  
227  
228  
229  
230  
231  
232  
233  
234  
235  
236  
237  
238  
239  
240  
241  
242  
243  
244  
245  
246  
247  
248  
249  
250  
251  
252  
253  
254  
255  
256  
257  
258  
259  
260  
261  
262  
263  
264  
265  
266  
267  
268  
269  
270  
271  
272  
273  
274  
275  
276  
277  
278  
279  
280  
281  
282  
283  
284  
285  
286  
287  
288  
289  
290  
291  
292  
293  
294  
295  
296  
297  
298  
299  
300  
301  
302  
303  
304  
305  
306  
307  
308  
309  
310  
311  
312  
313  
314  
315  
316  
317  
318  
319  
320  
321  
322  
323  
324  
325  
326  
327  
328  
329  
330  
331  
332  
333  
334  
335  
336  
337  
338  
339  
340  
341  
342  
343  
344  
345  
346  
347  
348  
349  
350  
351  
352  
353  
354  
355  
356  
357  
358  
359  
360  
361  
362  
363  
364  
365  
366  
367  
368  
369  
370  
371  
372  
373  
374  
375  
376  
377  
378  
379  
380  
381  
382  
383  
384  
385  
386  
387  
388  
389  
390  
391  
392  
393  
394  
395  
396  
397  
398  
399  
400  
401  
402  
403  
404  
405  
406  
407  
408  
409  
410  
411  
412  
413  
414  
415  
416  
417  
418  
419  
420  
421  
422  
423  
424  
425  
426  
427  
428  
429  
430  
431  
432  
433  
434  
435  
436  
437  
438  
439  
440  
441  
442  
443  
444  
445  
446  
447  
448  
449  
450  
451  
452  
453  
454  
455  
456  
457  
458  
459  
460  
461  
462  
463  
464  
465  
466  
467  
468  
469  
470  
471  
472  
473  
474  
475  
476  
477  
478  
479  
480  
481  
482  
483  
484  
485  
486  
487  
488  
489  
490  
491  
492  
493  
494  
495  
496  
497  
498  
499  
500  
501  
502  
503  
504  
505  
506  
507  
508  
509  
510  
511  
512  
513  
514  
515  
516  
517  
518  
519  
520  
521  
522  
523  
524  
525  
526  
527  
528  
529  
530  
531  
532  
533  
534  
535  
536  
537  
538  
539  
540  
541  
542  
543  
544  
545  
546  
547  
548  
549  
550  
551  
552  
553  
554  
555  
556  
557  
558  
559  
560  
561  
562  
563  
564  
565  
566  
567  
568  
569  
570  
571  
572  
573  
574  
575  
576  
577  
578  
579  
580  
581  
582  
583  
584  
585  
586  
587  
588  
589  
590  
591  
592  
593  
594  
595  
596  
597  
598  
599  
600  
601  
602  
603  
604  
605  
606  
607  
608  
609  
610  
611  
612  
613  
614  
615  
616  
617  
618  
619  
620  
621  
622  
623  
624  
625  
626  
627  
628  
629  
630  
631  
632  
633  
634  
635  
636  
637  
638  
639  
640  
641  
642  
643  
644  
645  
646  
647  
648  
649  
650  
651  
652  
653  
654  
655  
656  
657  
658  
659  
660  
661  
662  
663  
664  
665  
666  
667  
668  
669  
670  
671  
672  
673  
674  
675  
676  
677  
678  
679  
680  
681  
682  
683  
684  
685  
686  
687  
688  
689  
690  
691  
692  
693  
694  
695  
696  
697  
698  
699  
700  
701  
702  
703  
704  
705  
706  
707  
708  
709  
710  
711  
712  
713  
714  
715  
716  
717  
718  
719  
720  
721  
722  
723  
724  
725  
726  
727  
728  
729  
730  
731  
732  
733  
734  
735  
736  
737  
738  
739  
740  
741  
742  
743  
744  
745  
746  
747  
748  
749  
750  
751  
752  
753  
754  
755  
756  
757  
758  
759  
760  
761  
762  
763  
764  
765  
766  
767  
768  
769  
770  
771  
772  
773  
774  
775  
776  
777  
778  
779  
780  
781  
782  
783  
784  
785  
786  
787  
788  
789  
790  
791  
792  
793  
794  
795  
796  
797  
798  
799  
800  
801  
802  
803  
804  
805  
806  
807  
808  
809  
810  
811  
812  
813  
814  
815  
816  
817  
818  
819  
820  
821  
822  
823  
824  
825  
826  
827  
828  
829  
830  
831  
832  
833  
834  
835  
836  
837  
838  
839  
840  
841  
842  
843  
844  
845  
846  
847  
848  
849  
850  
851  
852  
853  
854  
855  
856  
857  
858  
859  
860  
861  
862  
863  
864  
865  
866  
867  
868  
869  
870  
871  
872  
873  
874  
875  
876  
877  
878  
879  
880  
881  
882  
883  
884  
885  
886  
887  
888  
889  
890  
891  
892  
893  
894

MR. TOLSON  
 MR. BOARDMAN  
 MR. BELMONT  
 MR. CLEGG  
 MR. GLAVIN  
 MR. LADD  
 MR. NICHOLS  
 MR. ROSEN  
 MR. TRACY  
 MR. HARBO  
 MR. MOHR  
 MR. WINTERROWD  
 MR. WATKINS  
 MR. GANDY

FBI  
 WASH. D. C. COMM-FBI  
 AT: MILWAU  
 AT: CLEVELAND  
 AT: DETROIT  
 AT: D. M.

100-100000  
 100-100000  
 100-100000  
 100-100000

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

94

December 27, 1945

Respectfully referred to the Treasury Department for consideration and acknowledgment.

WILLIAM D. HASSETT  
Secretary to the President

00000

62

COUNCIL OF JEWISH FEDERATIONS AND WELFARE FUNDS, INC.

OFFICERS

President SIDNEY HOLLANDER, Baltimore  
Chairman of the Board WILLIAM J. SHRODER, Cincinnati  
Vice-Presidents STANLEY C. MYERS, Miami  
WILLIAM ROSENWALD, Greenwich  
SAMUEL S. SCHNEIERSON, New York  
DAVID M. WATCHMAKER, Boston

Secretary ELIAS MAYER, Chicago  
Treasurer IRA M. YOUNKER, New York

Executive Director H. L. LURIE  
Field Service Director PHILIP BERNSTEIN

National Office: 165 West 46 Street, New York 19, N. Y.

December 24th  
19 45

*T. L. Lurie*

Executive Office of the President  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We are at present engaged in a study of the activities of Jewish voluntary agencies in the fields of rescue, relief and rehabilitation work overseas. For background purposes it would be very useful to us to have the reports issued by the War Refugee Board.

Would you please be good enough to send us one copy of each report that is available?

Thank you very much for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

*Arnold Gurin*

ARNOLD GURIN  
Director of Budget Research

ag:hsm

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

December 14, 1945.

Dear Miss Miller:

Reference is made to your letter of December 12 addressed to the War Refugee Board. This is to advise you that the War Refugee Board was terminated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

It is suggested that you may wish to refer your problem to the National Refugee Service, 139 Centre Street, New York, New York.

Very truly yours,

*FB/0a sly 7H*  
Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Miss Regina Miller  
2310 Creston Avenue  
New York 53, New York

FHodel:gmb 12-14-45

...al elisee Bortz  
...ingston of

2310 Creston Avenue  
New York 53, N.Y.  
December 12, 1945

Dear Sirs,

Several weeks ago I learned through the newspaper that my niece Ruth Wachner (1934 Labor Supervision C. A. P. D. 758, U. S. Army) who is now working for the Red Cross in Heidelberg, Germany was looking for me. She is a young girl of eighteen who has suffered greatly at the hands of the Nazis.

Her father and brother were gassed and her mother was shot leaving her no kin except my family and myself. For that reason I will do anything in my power to take her over. I am well able to support her financially and would be

000012

willing to adopt her. I would  
appreciate it if you would let  
me know the legal procedure  
involved in this and if it is  
in your power to help me.

Thanking you for your  
kindness

I remain

Sincerely,  
Regina Miller

P.S. She was born in Germany  
but is a Polish citizen

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

December 14, 1945.

Dear Mr. Funk:

Reference is made to your letter of December 11 addressed to Mr. John W. Pehle, Executive Director, War Refugee Board, with respect to a report of the activities of the Board for inclusion in the forthcoming issue of your Year Book.

The War Refugee Board was terminated by Executive Order on September 15, 1945 and this office is presently liquidating its affairs.

In view of the termination of the Board it is proposed that no material be submitted for inclusion in your 1945 Year Book. However, for your information there is enclosed a copy of the Final Summary Report of the Executive Director of the Board, which has been released to the public and which may contain material of interest to you.

Very truly yours,

1902 S H  
Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Mr. Charles Earle Funk  
Editor  
The New International Year Book  
354 Fourth Avenue  
New York 10, New York

FHodel:gmb 12-14-45

11-11-45

THE NEW INTERNATIONAL YEAR BOOK

EDITORIAL OFFICE

FUNK & WAGNALLS COMPANY, PUBLISHERS  
354 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 10  
TELEPHONE: LEXINGTON 2-7850

CHARLES EARLE FUNK, LITT.D., EDITOR

December 11, 1945

Mr. John W. Pehle, Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Department of the Treasury Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

May I again ask your cooperation in preparing a brief report of the activities and findings of your office during 1945 for inclusion in the forthcoming issue of The New International Year Book?

Enclosed is a copy of the material which we printed in the previous volume, covering the year 1944. We will assume, unless we hear from you to the contrary, that the space will be approximately the same.

Our deadline is not until January third, but our work will be greatly facilitated if we can arrange to send your article to the printer during December. You will have ample opportunity to revise the proofs during January in order to insure the completeness of the material up to the end of the year.

The authoritative coverage of governmental material has become an outstanding feature of the Year Book and we shall, therefore, greatly appreciate your continued assistance.

Cordially yours,

*Charles E. Funk*

CEF:RF  
Enclosure

000015

Article .....

Copy for THE NEW INTERNATIONAL YEAR BOOK

Author .....

Sheet .....

Set margins for PICA type  
Set margins for ELITE type

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

WAR REFUGEE BOARD. On Jan. 22, 1944, President Roosevelt by Executive Order set up the War Refugee Board, consisting of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of War. They were directed to take action for the immediate rescue from the Nazis of as many as possible of the persecuted minorities of Europe—racial, religious or political—all civilian victims of enemy savagery. The Board was established in the Executive Office of the President, John W. Pehle, Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury and Director of Foreign Funds Control, was given leave of absence to serve as Executive Director.

As set out in the Executive Order, the Functions of the Board include 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 Board was directed to cooperate with all public agencies and with established private organizations dealing with refugee problems.

Early in February, 1944, the Board solicited the written suggestions of all interested private agencies concerning the measures they believed the Board could take to rescue and otherwise bring relief to Jews and other victims of enemy persecution, and it asked the private agencies to advise it of the measures they were equipped to take to lend assistance in the Board's work. Throughout its existence the Board has directed its efforts toward channeling, stimulating, and expediting the work of other established operating groups, both public and private.

From the beginning evacuation and relief operations have assumed a position of major importance on the Board's agenda. To facilitate these operations the Board appointed special representatives in strategic spots in Europe where evacuation was possible. Those representatives were: Ira Hirschmann and Herbert Katzki, Turkey; Roswell McClelland, Switzerland; Robert C. Dexter, Portugal; Iver C. Olsen, Sweden; Leonard Ackermann, Italy and the Mediterranean area.

USE A SEPARATE SHEET FOR TABLES

000011



Article .....

Copy for THE NEW INTERNATIONAL YEAR BOOK

Author .....

Sheet .....

Set margins for PICA type

Set margins for ELITE type

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

With the cooperation of neutral countries, the Board has participated in the rescue of thousands of refugees from the Balkans across the Black Sea to Palestine; in the rescue of many children and other refugees from Belgium, Holland, and France who were brought to Switzerland and over the Pyrenees to Spain and Portugal; in the rescue of many victims of Nazi persecution in Norway and the Baltics who found sanctuary in Sweden and in the rescue of thousands from Hungary, Czechoslo-

vakia, and Northern Italy to Switzerland. As a direct result of the Board's efforts over 40,000 refugees were brought back from Transnistria to Rumania; additional evacuations were effected from Yugoslavia to Italy. Aid also was brought to several hundred Sephardic Jews and Portuguese Jews in German-occupied territory through the cooperation of the Spanish and Portuguese Governments, which were persuaded to recognize responsibility for these exiles of 450 years' standing.

With the cooperation of other American republics, the Board has taken effective measures to safeguard the lives of thousands of persons in enemy Europe who had secured passports and other documents issued in the names of Latin-American countries. In conjunction with the State Department, programs have been set in operation to facilitate the rescue of husbands, wives, children, and parents of American citizens and the wives and children of aliens resident in this country. A similar program has been devised for the protection of those to whom American immigration visas had been issued after July 1, 1941, but who, because of war conditions, were unable to come to this country.

President Roosevelt charged the Board with over-all responsibility for bringing nearly 1,000 refugees from Italy and establishing them for the duration of the war in an Emergency Refugee Shelter at Fort Ontario, an abandoned Army camp near Oswego, New York. The Board has also supported other countries in setting up refugee camps in Africa.

With the cooperation of the American and International Red Cross, the Board has carried on a program for the shipment of hundreds of thousands of food packages from the United States for delivery to civilians interned in Nazi concentration camps. The Board has also facilitated and sponsored large-scale feeding programs financed by private American relief organizations. These programs involve the purchase of food in neutral countries for delivery by the International Red Cross to internees in concentration camps.

USE A SEPARATE SHEET FOR TABLES

Article .....

Copy for THE NEW INTERNATIONAL YEAR BOOK

Author .....

Sheet .....

← Set margins for PICA type →  
← Set margins for ELITE type →

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25

On Nov. 26, 1944, the Board released to the press two eye-witness accounts of events which occurred in Auschwitz and Birkenau, two notorious Nazi extermination camps in southwestern Poland. It made these reports public in the firm conviction that they should be read and understood by all Americans. See REFUGES.

J. W. PEHLE.

Second only in importance to evacuation operations has been the Board's psychological warfare work. In this area it has worked hand in hand with the Office of War Information. President Roosevelt's warning of March 24 to Germany and her satellites of the consequences of further persecutions of the Jews was given wide coverage in the press and radio around the world, particularly in German-controlled Europe. Listeners to secret radios in Europe also heard statements of warning and protest against the persecution of the Jews from Secretary Hull, the House Foreign Affairs Committee, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Archbishop Francis J. Spellman, and Governor Dewey. As the Nazi program of deportation and extermination of Jews got under way in Hungary in March, 1944, the Office of War Information beamed its "Voice of America" steadily at Hungary in Hungarian-language shortwave broadcasts. At the same time leaflets were dropped warning the Hungarians of retribution for their inhuman conduct. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's statement of Nov. 7, 1944, urging Germans not to obey orders to molest, harm, or persecute men in concentration camps or forced labor battalions was widely publicized in the press and radio overseas.

Although there is no accurate measure of the effectiveness of the various psychological warfare efforts, the Board has in its possession reports that indicate that the deterrent effects of the repeated warnings have been considerable.

USE A SEPARATE SHEET FOR TABLES

000013

Law School of Harvard University  
Cambridge 38, Mass.

LIBRARY  
LANGDELL HALL

December 6, 1945

Brigadier General William O'Dwyer  
4415 Treasury Building  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We have in this library a copy  
of No. 19 of the War Refugee Board Press  
Releases.

Would it be possible for you to  
send us all the Releases before No. 19?

We would be grateful if you could  
comply with our request.

Yours very truly,

*Arthur C. Pulling*  
Arthur C. Pulling  
Director

ACP:ehs

000019

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

December 4, 1945.

Dear Mr. Pulling:

Reference is made to your letter of December 1 requesting copies of all of the War Refugee Board press releases.

I regret to have to advise you that copies of these releases are no longer available. As you know, the War Refugee Board was terminated on September 15, 1945.

Very truly yours,

19/025

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Mr. Arthur C. Pulling  
Director  
Law School of Harvard University  
Cambridge 38, Massachusetts

FHodel:gmb 12-4-45

000020

Law School of Harvard University  
Cambridge 38, Mass.

LIBRARY  
LANGDELL HALL

December 1, 1945

War Refugee Board  
Executive Office of the President  
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

We have in this library a copy  
of your Press Release No. 19.

Would it be possible for you to  
send us all the Releases before No. 19 and  
Release No. 20 to date? We would also like  
to have the name of this library placed on  
your mailing list for all future Releases.

We would be grateful if you could  
comply with our request.

Yours very truly,

*Arthur C. Pulling*  
Arthur C. Pulling  
Director

ACP:ehs

000021

Law School of Harvard University  
Cambridge 38, Mass.

LIBRARY  
LANGDELL HALL

November 26, 1945

Mr. Orvis A. Schmidt, Director  
Treasury Department  
Foreign Funds Control  
Liquidation of War Refugee Board  
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Thank you for your letter of November 15, 1945.

We appreciate your kindness in sending this library a complimentary copy of "Final Summary Report of the Executive Director, War Refugee Board", September 15, 1945.

I am sure that we will find this report of interest and value in the library.

Yours very truly,

*Arthur C. Pulling*  
Arthur C. Pulling  
Director

amb

000022

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

NOV 15 1945

Dear Mr. Pulling:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of November 5, 1945, addressed to the War Refugee Board. The Board was terminated by Executive Order on September 15, 1945, and this office is handling the liquidation of its affairs.

The only public report of the Board is the enclosed final summary report of the Executive Director.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Orvis A. Schmidt

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Mr. Arthur C. Pulling, Director,  
Library, Langdell Hall,  
Law School of Harvard University,  
Cambridge 38, Mass.

Enclosure.

FD:hd 11/13/45

to establish  
the position of

LIBRARY  
LANGDELL HALL

War Refugee Board  
Room 2426  
Department of the Treasury Building  
Washington, D. C.

Would it be possible for you to send this library complimentary copies of all your publications and reports?

We would appreciate it very much if you could comply with our request.

Arthur C. Pulling  
Director

ACP:ehs

000024



Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

December 5, 1945.

Dear Sirs:

Reference is made to your communication of November  
28, 1945.

I regret to advise you that press releases of the  
War Refugee Board are no longer available. As you know, the  
Board was terminated on September 15, 1945.

Very truly yours,

*Orvis A. Schmidt*  
(7H)  
Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Documents Division  
University of California Library  
Berkeley 4, California

FHodel:gmb 12-5-45

000025

100-27221  
U.S. War Refugee Board  
Washington, D.C.

We shall be grateful if you will send the publication noted below which we need to complete our file. *If you cannot supply, will you kindly inform us?*

Please address: **DOCUMENTS**  
**DIVISION** THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LIBRARY, 4  
BERKELEY 4, CALIFORNIA.  
November 28, 1945

U.S. War Refugee Board.

Release nos. 17 and 18.

G3-10m-11,43(5744)

000026

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

December 5, 1945.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

There is forwarded to you herewith for  
appropriate reply a letter addressed to the President  
by Vesta Shumaker concerning the refugees at Fort  
Ontario.

Very truly yours,

*Orvis A. Schmidt*  
7H

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure

FHodel:gmb 12-5-45

000021

RECEIVED  
BY MISS SHUMAKER  
SUBSTITUTE LABY & J  
WORE IN FORM  
12 OCT 1945 SECRETARY

Asst. Sec. for Public Affairs  
Immigration & Naturalization

C  
O  
P  
Y

Nov. 29th, 1945

1419 E. Elm. St.

Coshocton, Ohio

President Harry Truman  
White House

Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

We are concerned about the Refugees at Fort Ontario in N. Y. Could you please give these 1000 people American citizenship. We feel they are the type of people who would make valuable citizens. Sending them back to Europe would work a needless hardship. America has not done her share of taking in refugees, and this would be a kind gesture which we can afford.

Sincerely,

/s/ Vesta Shumaker

000026

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

November 16, 1945

My dear Mr. Keator:

Reference is made to your letter of November 10 addressed to Mr. John W. Pehle, Executive Director, War Refugee Board. This Board was terminated by Executive Order of President Truman on September 15, 1945, and its affairs are presently being liquidated by this office.

In view of the foregoing it is suggested that you may wish to communicate with the Department of State concerning your program for Jewish refugees.

Very truly yours,

*Orvis A. Schmidt*

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Mr. Edward O. Keator  
108 Five Oaks Avenue  
Dayton 5, Ohio

*SK*  
FHodel:gmb 11-16-45

000024

IN CONNECTION WITH

NEWSWEEK, SEPTEMBER 25, 1944

But last week some 2,500 top-flight chemists, astronomers, physicists, geographers, and anthropologists (instead of the usual prewar 6,000) managed to get to Cleveland for the AAAS's 111th session. They of course gave away no secrets, but they did make clear science's high role in making the peace for man in the mass and achieving individual security.

**Geographic Juggles:** From Isaiah Bowman, the great geographer, political scientist, president of The Johns Hopkins University, and aide to the American delegation at Dumbarton Oaks came a message: push-pooling some of the large talk about shifting huge populations from overcrowded lands. Some of his points: **1** Capricious population shifts "would be the highest folly." Such mistakes, dating back to the Roman conquest, could not now be erased by "lighthearted talk about the rearrangement of the population of the world."

For example, said Bowman, take the idea of moving India's annual increase of 5,000,000 into the lush Amazon Basin. Transportation alone would be an impossible task. The bewildered Indians would not know how to make a living in the strange new country, so unlike their own in ideals, historic background, culture, family life, and religion. And Brazilians would scarcely welcome the prospect of having a new Indian Empire suddenly dumped among them.

**U. S. Futures:** Another geographer, Dr. William J. Berry of Western Michigan College of Education, offered the association a prediction: The United States with its resources could support a population of 551,000,000—more than four times the present population—without reduction in living standards.

Berry built up his prediction by analogy. He noted that in climate, soil, mineral resources, and other factors, the American corn belt compared with the western Po Basin in Italy. But the corn-belt density of population is only about 50 persons to a square mile; in Lombardy and Piedmont of the Po Basin it is 455—nearly ten times as great.

Similarly, the flood plain and delta of the lower Mississippi Valley compares with the alluvial land of the lower Yangtze Valley. Along this part of the Mississippi, the population density averages less than 40 to a square mile; that of the lower Yangtze, no less than 1,788. By a patchwork of such comparisons, covering the continental United States, Berry came to his conclusion that this country could comfortably support half a billion persons.

## STRIP MINING IN ENGLAND

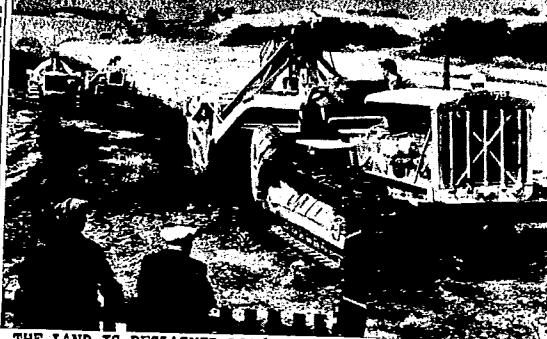
## FARM...

## COAL MINE...

## FARM AGAIN

September, 1944 • COAL AGE

(IN AMERICA. IT'S FARM...COAL MINE...DESERT!)



**THE LAND IS RECLAIMED 100% BUT AT UNNECESSARY EXPENSE.**

**B**ecause all available fuel is needed to keep war industries humming and home fires burning, this scene has become typical in wartime England.

Big "Caterpillar" Diesel Tractors and scrapers strip the topsoil from farmlands in the West Riding of Yorkshire, and pile it carefully aside. Then the subsoil is removed, laying bare the seams of coal beneath. Sometimes 60 feet of earth must be dug away to reach the black deposit. Then the tractors, equipped with bulldozers, clean the face of the coal. Power shovels load it into wagons, pulled by "Caterpillar" Diesels.

In this way, Britain has tapped sizeable new reserves of fuel. A million tons were strip-mined by a single firm in twelve months. But the story doesn't end there. When the coal has been removed, the same husky machines haul the earth back into place—subsoil first, then topsoil—and level it off. Once more it is farmland, ready for seeding.

On home fronts and fighting fronts, "Caterpillar" Diesel equipment has done valiant service in this war. With the coming of peace it will be ready to tackle the even tougher jobs of world reconstruction.

**CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO., PEORIA, ILL.**

CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO., PEORIA, ILL.  
F AMERICAN "DEMOCRACY":

NOTE: IMPROVED STRIP MINING METHODS HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED WHICH NOT ONLY AUTOMATICALLY RECLAIM THE LAND 100% FOR CULTIVATION AS A ROUTINE PRACTICE IN THE STRIPPING OPERATION, BUT WHICH ARE MUCH MORE ECONOMICALLY SOUND THAN THE ILLUSTRATED AND DESCRIBED METHOD OR ANY EITHER THE ABOVE SHOVEL AND DRILL METHOD OR THE CONVENTIONAL UNDERGROUND METHOD. IMPROVED METHODS ARE NOW BEING BOYCOTTED IN AMERICA WHERE AT LEAST POWER EXCAVATORS ARE ENGAGED IN RE-LAND COVERING COAL AND OTHER MINERALS, AND ALL DESTROYING THE LAND UNNECESSARILY, -MANY OF THE LARGER MACHINES AS MUCH AS 150 ACRES EACH, ANNUALLY.

**STRIP MINING EXPERT**

**CENTRAL INDIANA COAL CO.**

R. H. SHERWOOD, PRESIDENT  
B. E. LUNDGREN, V. PRES. & TREAS.  
E. A. LUNDGREN, SEC.  
WM. H. STEWART, CLERK

**AMBER JACKET SIX**  
1016 MERCHANTS BANK BUILDING  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

MINES  
UNION, INDIANA  
MORGAN, R. R.  
C. & ST. P. R. R.

May 20, 1927.

Mr. E. O. Keator,  
108 Five Oaks Avenue,  
Dayton, Ohio.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of May 16th has been received by me and read with great interest. It is very evident that you are familiar with dirt moving and the problems of the strip industry.

What how to get your ideas across, which is one of the questions you ask. I really do not know. Anything distinctly new is pretty hard to plant. Maybe the best way to do would be to drop over and see me some time and let me get your views first-hand. I will be glad to have a talk with you. If you should plan to come to Indianapolis please arrange an appointment beforehand, because I am very apt to be away.

Very truly yours,

*R. H. Sherwood*  
President.

RHS:KM

**CENTRAL INDIANA COAL CO.**

R. H. SHERWOOD, PRESIDENT  
B. E. LUNDGREN, V. PRES. & TREAS.  
E. A. LUNDGREN, SEC.  
WM. H. STEWART, CLERK

**AMBER JACKET SIX**  
1016 MERCHANTS BANK BUILDING  
INDIANAPOLIS, IND.

MINES  
UNION, INDIANA  
MORGAN, R. R.  
C. & ST. P. R. R.

February 12, 1928.

Mr. Edward O. Keator,  
108 Five Oaks Avenue,  
Dayton, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Keator:

I have your letter of February 10th. I am sorry to say that it would be utterly impossible for me to attempt any such radical innovation as you suggest. In the first place, I do not have the money; in the second place, I would not want to take such a venture due to the chaotic condition of the coal business at the present time. It would mean scrapping too much expensive machinery.

Very truly yours,

*R. H. Sherwood*  
President.

RHS:KL

ATOR

Haulage

Dayton 5, Ohio

ard,

## CHRISTIAN COUNCIL FOR PALESTINE AID

World Conference Asks Action  
With British on Immigration  
—Wagner Hits Barriers

WASHINGTON, Nov. 2.—A demand that the United States share with Great Britain the responsibility for immediate transportation to and settlement in Palestine of 100,000 displaced Jews in Europe features the closing session today of the International Christian Conference for Palestine.

Other demands embodied in a resolution adopted at the closing session called for the removal of emigration restrictions against Jews wishing to move to Palestine, repeal of anti-Jewish land laws in Palestine and prompt provision of transportation and other facilities for a Jewish emigration movement to the motherland.

At a final dinner that filled the presidential and congressional rooms of the Statler Hotel tonight, Senator Robert F. Wagner, Democrat, of New York, chairman of the conference, told the gathering that as a member of the upper legislative body, "I regard Palestine as a testing ground of British good faith."

### "Infamy of Repudiation"

Senator Wagner said all Americans paid generous tribute to Great Britain for her fortitude and steadfastness in standing alone against the Nazi hordes.

"But the failure of the British since the war's end to repudiate the Chamberlain White Paper has shocked American public opinion," he said. "It has fanned the flames of cynicism and disillusionment that have followed every other war."

Recalling the Chamberlain White Paper of 1939 setting aside the Balfour Declaration, Senator Wagner said that "the infamy of that repudiation now hangs over the foreign policy of the Attlee government of 1945."

Dr. Daniel Marsh, president of Boston University, said that as a Christian and an American he favored unrestricted Jewish colonization of Palestine.

Other speakers included Senator Owen Brewster, Republican, of Maine; William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor; Senator Gabriel Gonzales Videla of Chile; Mrs. Lorna Wingate, delegate from Great Britain; Dr. Daniel Poling, editor of the Christian Herald, and Senator Arthur W. Roebuck, delegate from Canada.

### TEXT OF RESOLUTION

The resolution adopted at the closing business session today read as follows:

(1) The facts with regard to the displaced Jews in Europe are established so that further commissions of inquiry are unnecessary and obstructive. More delaying with the problem of the rescue of these unfortunate people is intolerable to Christian men and women.

(2) To abandon the Jewish victims of Nazi crimes because of any threat would destroy the confidence of common people in the ability of Allied statesmen to honor their high profession.

(3) Fifty-two countries forming the League of Nations promised the Jews of the world a national

## If European Jews Can't Return To Palestine, America Has Many Places For Good Citizens

BY PHILIP WYLIE

NEW YORK, Nov. 3.—Many Americans of every political viewpoint and economic status are bitter about the refusal of the British to allow the Jewish people to return to Palestine.

The motive of these Americans is decency: a promise should be kept; condemning the Jews to live where they have been hunted like animals is vicious; if man does not immediately cease his inhumanity to man, the human race will not last out the century, etc. Moreover, as every American knows, these Jewish people who were permitted to settle in Palestine turned in an astonishing record. They were tolerant. They made friends with the Arabs in the area. They brought prosperity to those Arabs. They also brought education to them. The Jews built beautiful, modern cities. They set up hydroelectric plants and irrigation systems which supplied power to the region and which reclaimed vast areas of land that had been barren for a thousand years. They proved themselves fine farmers, teachers, governors—superb citizens, in short.

Obviously, if all the nobly-motivated Americans find that the British continue to refuse to let the Jews go home, it will be incumbent upon them to do something. Otherwise, their idealism will have been pure blubber-mouth. What they logically ought to do is to try to get these valuable people brought to America: everything these Jews have shown themselves able to accomplish is desperately needed here. The one arguable point would be, who most needs people of such demonstrated abilities?

Nevada, for instance? That's a desert region with plenty of room. It is badly in need of modern cities and irrigation. Possibly, also, it needs moral tone, in view of its legalized gambling, prostitution, its divorce mill, etc. And the natives need education. The Ute Indians, I mean.

Texas? Here, again, dust-bowl-tamers would be useful. Furthermore, Texans are constantly pointing out the ambitiousness of their state, the vacant spaces in it, and the general bigness—particularly of Texan hearts.

home in Palestine and the implementation of this pledge is now a world responsibility.

(4) This international Christian conference for Palestine in general assembly in Washington demands as the only just and practicable solution of the Jewish problem:

### Land Law Repeal Urged

(a) The immediate removal of emigration restrictions against all Jews who wish to emigrate to Palestine.

(b) The immediate repeal of anti-Jewish land laws in Palestine.

(c) The provision at once of the necessary transportation and other facilities for a Jewish emigration movement to Palestine.

(d) In conformity with the Balfour Declaration and in accordance with the responsibilities bestowed upon Great Britain by the Palestine mandate and in per-

What about Georgia? Georgian land desperately needs reclamation. Georgia is making a splendid struggle to emerge from its ignorance, its brutality and its bigotry. A hundred thousand new citizens, say, who were wealth-creating and tolerance-teaching, would swiftly push Georgia into the list of top, progressive states.

An interesting candidate would be Massachusetts. This state was a birthplace of tolerance and enlightenment. It is now slipping backward so fast that one wonders why it doesn't simply requisition many thousand people of such proven quality.

There are many blighted areas.

Gentiles who feel that segregation is necessary are at liberty, of course, to continue segregating themselves in their so-called "restricted" clubs, societies, hotels, apartment houses and so on. These voluntary gentile ghettos dot the land and anybody who is not a Jew can get into them. Just anybody. I am a gentile so I know.

I do admit, of course, that Palestine may be a pawn province in the Arab-wooding intrigue and that the Arabs may be a pawn people in the oil well schemes of our great humanitarian statesmen and industrialists. From this we might deduce that the petroleum business is not controlled by Jews. In fact, we might deduce that the Jews don't control anything because all they have been able to do for the last decade is get murdered by the millions. Poor evidence of the "secret power" which anti-Semites attribute to them! Indeed, this proves once again that all anti-Semites are crazy people.

But this is a crazy world. It's got everything but principles. It works for everybody except people. Some of the Americans, for instance, who like to blame Britain for not letting the remaining Jews go home, wouldn't live in the same block with Einstein. Think of that! And think of the pathetic plight of our oil magnates, should they hear some day that in about 20 minutes they will be on the receiving end of a test demonstration launched by competitors who own uranium mines!

of the convention of 1924 between Great Britain and the United States, we request the immediate transportation and the settlement in Palestine of the 100,000 Jews now in Europe who are the object of intercession by President Truman to the Government of Great Britain and that the United States express its willingness to share with Great Britain the obligations involved. (e) We demand of the organization of the United Nations that Palestine, the historic motherland of the Jewish people, become as soon as possible a Jewish democratic state. This conference calls for the immediate and active cooperation of the governments of all nations by direct action and within the United Nations Organization in making effective the resolution of this conference, the purpose of which is to rescue the Jewish people from their tragic plight.



R

Dayton 5, Ohio

**SUBJECT**  
**LAND FOR JEWISH REFUGEES**

between the Arabs and Jews  
to settle in Palestine, I  
I can readily understand  
I am strongly opposed to em-  
controversies, and inasmuch  
than we need, I see no reason  
to do so and can supply  
tle here in America.

head, I specialize in that  
own as excavation and haulage,  
r many years of experience,  
nce in strip mining operations.  
explain briefly the process.  
other minerals and metals  
veral methods are employed,  
th pictured and described  
ractors and scrapers, then  
ks that haul it away. That  
merican equipment in England.

re land is so plentiful that  
nce acreage under production  
permanently destroyed by  
top soil is first removed,  
r the coal is removed. The  
rst cost, but not necessarily  
methods that are much more  
ethods that destroy the land  
d. Of course I brought these  
overnment authorities but  
creating scarcities to hold  
co-operation. The Ohio  
ou can see from Lt. Governor  
the strip mine operators  
by a handful of the largest  
ing any changes tending to  
ve basis with them, and so  
However, after reading Philip  
entitled "If European Jews  
Many Places for Good Citizens"  
er.

## Ohio Senate Columbus

PAUL M. HERBERT  
Lieutenant Governor of Ohio  
State House  
Columbus, Ohio

July 28, 1944

Mr. Edward J. Keator,  
138 Five Kings Avenue,  
Dayton 5, Ohio.

Dear Mr. Keator:

I was deeply interested in your letter of  
July 15th and its enclosures.

I have personally given considerable thought  
and study to the ravages produced by strip-mining  
operations. I am quite confident that one of the  
recommendations that our Post War Program Commission  
will make to the next Legislature will be legislation  
to save the top-soil and restore it, as nearly as  
possible, to its original state after the strip-mining  
operation is completed.

You have made a very intensive study of this  
whole serious problem, and can do a great deal to bring  
to the attention of the public the urgent need for a  
corrective program.

With best wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

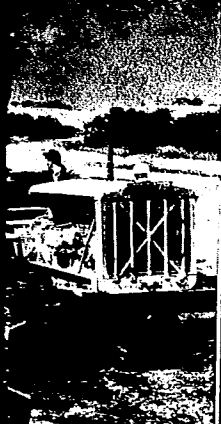
*Paul M. Herbert*  
PAUL M. HERBERT  
Lieutenant Governor

PMH:N

Mr. Keator's home is in the city of...

GLAND  
E...  
AIN  
AGE

MINE...DESERT!



UNNECESSARY EXPENSE!  
E.O.K.

In this way, Britain has tapped new reserves of fuel. A million acres were strip-mined by a single twelve months. But the story ends there. When the coal is removed, the same husky tractor hauls the earth back into subsoil first, then topsoil—put it off. Once more it is farm-ready for seeding.  
Home fronts and fighting "Caterpillar" Diesel equipment done valiant service in this with the coming of peace it ready to tackle the even jobs of world reconstruction.  
CATERPILLAR TRACTOR CO., PEORIA, ILL.  
CAN "DEMOCRACY":  
HAVE BEEN DEVELOPED IN THE LAND 100% FOR STRIPPING OPERATION, THAN EITHER THE ABOVE STRIPPING WITH GIANT MACHINERY. UNFORTUNATELY, BOYCOTTED IN AMERICA AND ARE ENGAGED IN REPAIRS AND ALL DESTROYING THE LARGER MACHINES AS MUCH AS MUCH  
E. O. KEATOR  
STRIP MINING EXPERT

EDWARD O. KEATOR

Consulting Engineer

Excavation      Haulage  
108 Five Oaks Avenue      Dayton 5, Ohio

Telephone FUllton 6054

11/10/45

Mr. John W. Pehle,  
Executive Director, War Refugee Board,  
Care The United States Treasury,  
Washington, D. C.

SUBJECT

RECLAIMED STRIP MINE LAND FOR JEWISH REFUGEES

Dear sir:

Regarding the current trouble between the Arabs and Jews in connection with the latter's moves to settle in Palestine, I have no desire to debate the issues but I can readily understand the viewpoints of both sides. However, I am strongly opposed to embroiling America in any more outside controversies, and inasmuch as we have more land here in America than we need, I see no reason for not inviting all Jews who desire to do so and can supply certificates of good character, to settle here in America.

As you can see from my letterhead, I specialize in that class of construction work commonly known as excavation and haulage, and in this capacity I developed, after many years of experience, improved methods of tremendous importance in strip mining operations. Do you know what strip mining is? I'll explain briefly the process. It applies to the recovery of coal and other minerals and metals lying within 70 feet of the surface. Several methods are employed, and the method on the left hand herewith pictured and described consists in uncovering the coal with tractors and scrapers, then excavating it and loading it into trucks that haul it away. That is the way it is now being done with American equipment in England.

Here in the United States where land is so plentiful that the Government has taken a hand to reduce acreage under production in order to hold up prices, the land is permanently destroyed by strip mining, whereas, in England, the top soil is first removed, stored and then put back in place after the coal is removed. The British method is more expensive in first cost, but not necessarily because I developed improved stripping methods that are much more economical than the current American methods that destroy the land and that automatically reclaim the land. Of course I brought these improvements to the attention of the Government authorities but since they are currently interested in creating scarcities to hold up prices, I was unable to secure their co-operation. The Ohio State authorities are interested, as you can see from Lt. Governor Herbert's letter also on the left, but the strip mine operators have a powerful organization controlled by a handful of the largest operators, and they are opposed to making any changes tending to place the small operators on a competitive basis with them, and so far, I have been unable to get action. However, after reading Philip Wylie's article of Nov. 3 on the right entitled "If European Jews Can't Return to Palestine, America Has Many Places for Good Citizens" I decided to write you. Hence this letter.

# CHRISTIAN COUNCIL FOR PALESTINE A

World Conference Asks Act With British on Immigration —Wagner Hits Barriers  
Special to The New York Times, 11  
WASHINGTON, Nov. 2—A demand that the United States stand with Great Britain the responsibility for immediate transportation and settlement in Palestine of 1,000 displaced Jews in Europe features the closing session today the International Christian Conference for Palestine.  
Other demands embodied in the resolution adopted at the closing session called for the removal of immigration restrictions against

PAUL M. HERBERT  
GOVERNOR OF OHIO  
STATE HOUSE  
COLUMBUS, OHIO

Mr. Herbert  
108th  
Dayton  
Dear Sir  
July 1  
and state  
operating  
recommen  
will be  
to save  
possible  
operati  
whole s  
to the  
correct

END

Located in various States, but mostly in the Middle West, there are more than 1,000 strip coal mines alone in current operation, some of the largest of which EACH destroy ANNUALLY as much as 150 acres of land much of which is capable of producing 100 ~~xx~~ bushels of corn per acre. Of course the coal operators are doing everything in their power to belittle the importance of this destruction, but unbiased experts say that with the strip minable depth constantly increasing as machinery is improved, it is quite likely that in due time strip mining can be practiced economically to a depth of 150 feet; and at this depth, as much as 25,000,000 acres of arable land will be eventually destroyed, more than the entire tillable area of Palestine! So you can readily understand how this destruction fits into the "economy of scarcity" practiced by the New Deal.

On the right hand herewith are copies of two letters, -first and last, -out of a correspondence extending, with conferences, over a period of 7 months, with the Central Indiana Coal Co., one of the largest strip mine operators. You can see from the letter of May 20, 1937, this operator recognized my familiarity with the strip miners' problems. And you can see from his letter of Feb. 12, 1938, that he did not want to introduce improvements that would make his expensive machinery obsolete. Actually, that was not his reason for declining finally to co-operate with me, and, as a matter of fact, my improvements do not make current equipment in the stripping obsolete because it is not the stripping industry but the underground, or shaft, mining that dictates the price of coal. Only about 10% of all coal is now mined by the stripping method. However, my methods place the small operators on a much better competitive basis than now, and it might be that here is an opportunity for the American Jewish Societies to make a deal with the Government to allow them to buy up all strip mine wastelands now idle and non productive and start reclaiming them for Jewish refugees to settle on. This is an eminently practical proposition and there is little doubt that if the Jewish Societies seriously undertook to reclaim this land, -they could arrange with State and Federal authorities to make American citizenship for refugees placed on it contingent on their staying on the land. Well, there isn't the slightest doubt about the fertility of the reclaimed land, so there need be no fear of their abandoning it.

The various locations named by Philip Wylie, -such as Nevada, and the Texas dust bowl haven't enough water to grow crops regularly, but he also mentions Georgia which does have possibilities. However, there is no land in the world better situated for farming or better supplied with water than the middle west where strip mining is carried on. The Jewish Societies have their experts who are well able to look into this proposition from beginning to end, and I would be very glad to meet with them and discuss the various angles in connection with the reclamation of strip mine land. I am certain too, that you can secure the ready co-operation of the Governors of all the States involved. I have no regular fee for this kind of consultation service, and you would be under no obligation to me unless we entered into a written agreement. Let me hear from you.

Sincerely yours

E. O. Keator

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

My dear Mr. Secretary:

There is forwarded to you herewith for  
appropriate reply a letter addressed to the President  
by Charles Braun concerning his relatives at the  
Emergency Refugee Shelter in Oswego, New York.

Very truly yours,

*Orvis A. Schmidt*  
# *Orvis A.* (74)  
Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

The Honorable

The Secretary of the Interior

Enclosure

JW-  
FHodel:gmb 11-16-45

TO COLLECTOR  
17500  
35000

TO COLLECTOR  
17500  
35000

TO COLLECTOR  
17500  
35000

TO COLLECTOR  
17500  
35000

TO COLLECTOR  
17500  
35000

TO COLLECTOR  
17500  
35000

TO COLLECTOR  
17500  
35000

TO COLLECTOR  
17500  
35000

1999

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

NOV 2 1945

Dear Mr. Greenbaum:

Reference is made to your letter of October 31, 1945, addressed to the War Refugee Board. This is to advise you that the War Refugee Board was terminated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

It is suggested that you refer your problem to one of the member agencies of the Central Location Index, the names and addresses of which appear on the enclosed list.

Very truly yours,

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Nathaniel Greenbaum, Esq.,  
Counselor at Law,  
66 Court Street,  
Brooklyn, N. Y.

Enclosure.

*Ja*  
FH:hd 11/2/45

October 31, 1945

Gentlemen:

Thanking you in advance for any courtesies you  
may extend, I remain

Nathaniel Greenham

NATHANIEL GREENBAUM

NG/fd

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

OCT 22 1945

Dear Mr. Wells:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 17, 1945, addressed to the War Refugee Board. This is to advise you that the War Refugee Board was terminated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

It is suggested that you contact one of the agencies on the enclosed list for assistance concerning immigration to this country of your sister and her son.

Very truly yours,

*Orvis A. Schmidt*

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Mr. Egon F. Wells,  
44-15 43rd Avenue,  
Long Island City, N.Y.

Enclosure.

*FAH*  
FAH:hd 10/22/45

000040



to not be supplied  
bracket every year

OF THE UNITED STATES

HOME OFFICE NEW YORK, N.Y.

THOMAS I. PARKINSON, PRESIDENT

AGENCY AT

October 17, 1945

Executive Office of the  
War Refugee Board  
Washington, (25) D. C.

Attention: Office of the Executive Director

Gentlemen:

Referring to your letter from September of 1944 in which you stated that my sister and her son, ALICE BOLGAR and MICHAEL BOLGAR were in the category of people you have under your special protection. I would like to inform you that I received a cable from them that they are living at their old address 32/5 Damjanich Ucoa, Budapest VII.

Will you please be good enough to let me know if you could do anything to help them as they are in need. Or, if I can do anything please let me also know what I can do to bring them over here and if I can communicate with them through your office.

Very truly yours,

Yours truly,  
 Geo F. Weeks

efw/gkk

000041

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

OCT 22 1945

Dear Corporal Maziarz:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of September 19, 1945, addressed to the War Refugee Board. This is to advise you that the War Refugee Board was terminated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

It is suggested that you contact one of the agencies on the enclosed list for assistance concerning immigration to this country of your wife.

Very truly yours,

*/s/ Orvis A. Schmidt*

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Stephen Maziarz, ASN 31088196,  
Cpl., Btry B, 902nd F.A. Bn.,  
APO 77,  
San Francisco, Cal.

Enclosure.

*OK -*  
W.H.H. 10/22/45

000042

001 5813

Honorable J.W. Pehle,  
Executive Director,  
War Refugee Board,  
Washington, 25, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing again to tell you that I have had word from my brother in Poland and he informed me that my wife and family are alive but have been reduced to utter destitution from the effects of the war. They are still residing in the village of Wala Wadska, Town of Mielec, State of Krakow, Poland. Since the war in this theater is now over too, I expect to be sent home in the near future, but I would like to know if there are any steps I can take out here that would hasten the entry of my wife into our country. Please excuse my undue anxiety, but since I have heard that my wife is alive and living in extreme circumstances I would be most grateful if you can inform me of any necessary formalities I can take care of before I am able to return.

Thanking you again for your sincere consideration and kind cooperation, I remain

Sincerely Yours,

*Stephen Maziarz*

Stephen Maziarz ASN 31088196  
Cpl, Btry B 902nd F A Bn  
APO 77 San Francisco, Calif.

00004

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

OCT 17 1945

Dear Mr. Liskofsky:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of October 11, 1945, concerning your interest in the organization and achievements of the War Refugee Board.

A copy of the final report of the Executive Director of the Board is forwarded to you herewith. It is hoped that this report will be of assistance to you. The records and files of the War Refugee Board have been transferred to the National Archives. The Board was terminated by Executive Order on September 15, 1945, and this office is handling its liquidation.

Very truly yours,

*Orvis A. Schmidt*

Orvis A. Schmidt  
Director

Mr. Sidney Liskofsky,  
199 East 3rd Street,  
New York, N. Y.

Enclosure.

FH:hd 10/17/45

000044

0011

War Refugee Board  
Washington, D.C.  
Dear Sir:  
I am contemplating writing a study concerning the organization and achievements of the War Refugee Board. I would want this to be a thorough and scholarly piece of work, to be incorporated as part of a doctoral dissertation on a related theme. It would not be advisable, however, to begin such a study unless the necessary documents were available to me.

War Refugee Board  
Washington, D.C.

199 East 3rd Street  
New York, N.Y.

October 11, 1945

War Refugee Board  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am contemplating writing a study concerning the organization and achievements of the War Refugee Board. I would want this to be a thorough and scholarly piece of work, to be incorporated as part of a doctoral dissertation on a related theme. It would not be advisable, however, to begin such a study unless the necessary documents were available to me.

I would appreciate your informing me whether, where, and which of your records I could consult. Of course, the more the documents that could be sent to me to keep, the more my work would be facilitated.

Respectfully yours,

*Sidney Liskofsky*  
Sidney Liskofsky

000045

MAX GOTTSCHALK  
President  
JOHN L. BERNSTEIN  
Chairman, Executive Committee  
ABRAHAM HERMAN  
Honorary Secretary  
LOUIS OUNGRE  
Treasurer

MEMBERS:  
ISAAC L. ASOFSKY  
SOLOMON DINGOL  
SAMUEL A. TELSEY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS:  
JAMES BERNSTEIN, *Lisbon*  
EDOUARD OUNGRE, *Buenos Aires*

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:  
ILJA DIJOUR

Affiliated Committees and  
Correspondents:

CANADA  
CUBA  
JAMAICA  
MEXICO  
PANAMA  
ARGENTINA  
BRAZIL  
BOLIVIA  
CHILE  
COLOMBIA  
ECUADOR  
PARAGUAY  
PERU  
URUGUAY  
VENEZUELA  
\*AUSTRIA  
\*BELGIUM  
\*BULGARIA  
\*CZECHOSLOVAKIA  
\*DANZIG  
\*DENMARK  
\*ENGLAND  
\*ESTONIA  
\*FINLAND  
\*FRANCE  
\*GERMANY  
\*GREECE  
\*HOLLAND  
\*HUNGARY  
\*ITALY  
\*LATVIA  
\*LITHUANIA  
\*LUXEMBOURG  
\*POLAND  
\*PORTUGAL  
\*RUMANIA  
\*SPAIN  
\*SWEDEN  
\*SWITZERLAND  
\*TURKEY  
\*YUGOSLAVIA  
\*CHINA  
\*INDIA  
\*IRAN  
\*JAPAN  
\*MANCHURIA  
\*PALESTINE  
\*PHILIPPINE ISLANDS

ALGIERS  
EGYPT  
KENYA  
MOROCCO  
PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA  
TANGIER  
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA  
AUSTRALIA  
NEW ZEALAND  
\*TEMPORARILY CLOSED

## HIAS-ICA EMIGRATION ASSOCIATION, INC. (HICEM)

386 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

CABLE ADDRESS:  
HICEM-NEW YORK  
TELEPHONE:  
MURRAY HILL 3-2845

European Headquarters:  
"HICEM"  
Rua Rodrigo Da Fonseca 49  
LISBON, PORTUGAL

September 27, 1945.

Miss Florence Hodel,  
Assistant Executive Director,  
War Refugee Board,  
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Miss Hodel:

Thank you so much for your  
letter of September 14th enclosing documents  
for us which arrived through the United States  
Consulate General in Istanbul.

Sincerely yours,

*Ilja Dijour*  
Ilja Dijour  
Executive Secretary.

jdB

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

SEP 26 1945

My dear Mr. Secretary:

There is forwarded to you herewith for appropriate  
reply a letter addressed to the President by Leon M.  
Despres.

As you may know, the War Refugee Board was termin-  
ated by Executive Order No. 9614 of September 14, 1945,  
providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

Very truly yours,

*ls/ M. L. Hoffman*

M. L. Hoffman  
Acting Director

The Honorable,

The Secretary of the Interior.

Enclosure.

*22*  
FH:hd 9/26/45

00004

For the following  
in Executive Order No.  
Debbie.  
referred to in the  
order is referred to as  
the order. R. Sec. 1001.

Not for the following  
in Executive Order No.  
Debbie.  
referred to in the  
order is referred to as  
the order. R. Sec. 1001.

Law Offices  
DESPRES AND LANE  
77 West Washington St.  
Chicago 2, Ill.

September 20, 1945.

President Harry S. Truman,  
The White House,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Recently I chanced to spend the night in Oswego, New York, and visited the excellent War Relocation Camp there. I was deeply impressed by the high level of the persons living in the camp. They seemed to be unusually gifted both in their personalities and in their cultural achievements.

I am writing to ask you to do whatever you can to make it possible for these persons to remain in the United States so that their contributions can be added to our society. Although some of them desire to return to Europe, most of them have lost their European connections so that a return to Europe would be almost an act of inhumanity. I believe that a service would be rendered this country by doing everything possible to keep those residents who desire to stay.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Leon M. Despres

000048



Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

SEP 26 1945

Dear Mr. Hebert:

Reference is made to your letter of September 24, 1945, addressed to the War Refugee Board. This Board was terminated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

Your letter has accordingly been referred to Mr. Howard K. Travers, Chief of the Visa Division of the Department of State, for appropriate reply.

Very truly yours,

/s/ M. L. Hoffman

M. L. Hoffman  
Acting Director

Hon. F. Edward Hebert,  
House of Representatives.

FH:hd 9/26/45 74-

00004

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

SEP 26 1945

Dear Mr. Travers:

There is forwarded to you herewith for appropriate  
reply a letter addressed to the War Refugee Board by  
Congressman Hebert who has been advised of this reference.

As you may know, the War Refugee Board was termin-  
ated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614,  
providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

Very truly yours,

/s/ M. L. Hoffman

M. L. Hoffman  
Acting Director

Mr. Howard K. Travers,  
Chief, Visa Division,  
Department of State,  
Room 539-C, Standard Oil Bldg.,  
3rd & Constitution Avenue,  
Washington, D. C.

Enclosure.

74 -  
FH:hd 9/26/45

War Refugee Board  
Department of  
Justice  
Washington, D.C.

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C.

September 24, 1945

War Refugee Board  
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Mr. Axkin

Dear Sirs:

With further reference to my telephone conversation with you on December 20, 1944, relative to the petition for issuance of immigration visa filed in behalf of Mrs. Elizabeth Wolber, now residing at KolnEhrenfeld, Germany, I would deeply appreciate your advice as to the status of this request at the present time and if it is possible to assist this lady in her request.

The petition was filed by Mrs. Henrietta Wolber Brown, 458 Borckenbraugh Court, New Orleans, Louisiana. Mrs. Brown has sent on to me copy of letter which she received from the Immigration and Naturalization Service, dated October 21, 1944, advising her that visa petition had been approved by them and forwarded to the Department of State together with a copy of the communication of their office to the War Refugee Board advising of the action taken.

I would appreciate your advice in this connection.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ F. Edw. Hebert

00005

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

SEP 24 1945

Dear Mr. Keating:

Reference is made to your letter of September 18, 1945, addressed to the War Refugee Board. This is to advise you that the War Refugee Board was terminated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

It is suggested that you refer your problem to one of the member agencies of the Central Location Index, the names and addresses of which appear on the enclosed list.

Very truly yours,

/s/ M. L. Hoffman

M. L. Hoffman  
Acting Director

John M. Keating, Esq.,  
Giddings, Keating and Reid,  
41 East 42nd Street,  
New York 17, N. Y.

Enclosure.

FH:hd 9/24/45

000052

GIDDINGS, KEATING AND REID

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

41 EAST 42ND STREET  
NEW YORK 17, N.Y.

TELEPHONE VANDERBILT 6-4214  
CABLE ADDRESS: KEGRAM, N.Y.

WASHINGTON ADDRESS  
726 JACKSON PLACE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

JOHN M. KEATING  
GEORGE F. REID  
H. STARR GIDDINGS  
FREDERICK J. WILKENS

September 18th, 1945.

The War Refugee Board  
Treasury Department  
Washington, D. C.

Att: Mr. McCormick  
Re: Wladyslaw, Stefanie and  
Jadwiga Natanson

Dear Sirs:

During the early part of 1945 I was in communication with Mr. Akson of the War Refugee Board, inquiring about the above named persons. Under date of February 7th I received a letter from Florence Hodel, Assistant Executive Director of the War Refugee Board, stating that the people were deported from Vittel with the second transport in May, 1944. From Vittel they were apparently transferred to Drancy, a camp in a suburb of Paris. From information which we have, it appeared that the second transport went east, that is to Poland, but nothing more definite than that could be ascertained.

Will you please advise whether at the present time any further information is available on the possible whereabouts of these refugees.

Very truly yours,

*John M. Keating*

JMK:B

000053

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

SEP 24 1945

Dear Miss Reiman:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of September 18, 1945, addressed to the War Refugee Board. This is to advise you that the War Refugee Board was terminated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

It is suggested that you communicate with the Department of State and the Immigration and Naturalization Commission concerning your study on refugees.

Very truly yours,

*s/ M. L. Hoffman*

M. L. Hoffman  
Acting Director

Miss Eleanor Reiman,  
Smyrna, Delaware.

FH:hd 9/24/45 *74* -

00005

Smyrna, Delawa  
Sept. 18, 1945

Mr. John W. Pehle

War Refugee Board  
Washington D.C.  
Dear sir:

I am working on a project in school concerning refugees. If you would be able to supply me with any material on this subject I should be very grateful. The main questions that I should like to know are: (1) Where are most of the refugees being kept, (2) What will be done with them now that the war has ended, (3) who meets the expenses required to take care of these people, (4) about what are the number of refugees here now and from what countries are they?

I hope that you will be able to help me with the answers to my questions.

Yours truly,  
(Miss.) Eleanor Reiman  
Smyrna Delaware

700055

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

SEP 24 1945

Dear Mrs. Cass:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of September 19, 1945, addressed to the War Refugee Board. This is to advise you that the War Refugee Board was terminated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

It is suggested that you contact one of the agencies on the enclosed list for assistance concerning immigration to this country of your mother and sister.

Very truly yours,

/s/ M. L. Hoffman

M. L. Hoffman  
Acting Director

Mrs. Yolán Cass,  
1576 Pearl Street,  
Denver 5, Colorado.

Enclosure.

FH:hd 9/24/45 74 -

00005



Sept. 19, 1945

Executive Office of the President  
War Refugee Board  
Washington 25, D.C.

Mr. J. W. Pehle  
Executive Director

Dear Mr. Pehle:

Thank you for your encouraging letter of October 19, 1944. On Nov. 7, 1941, my Mother Mrs. Irma Schoen and sister Miss Margit Schoen were issued immigration visas, by an American officer at Budapest, Hungary.

I just received a letter from my mother and sister. They just returned from two different German concentration camps to their old address: Nagyatadi Szabo St. 50 fsz. 2, Budapest, Hungary.

Please advise me, what can we or you do for them and what are the chances about facilitating their early immigration to the U.S.A.

Thank you very much for all the trouble you went into for me.

Yours very truly,

*Mrs. Yolán Cass*

Mrs. Yolán Cass  
1576 Pearl Street  
Denver 5, Colorado

00005

Liquidation of  
War Refugee Board

SEP 24 1945

Dear Mr. Huber:

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter of September 18, 1945, addressed to the War Refugee Board. This is to advise you that the War Refugee Board was terminated on September 14, 1945, by Executive Order No. 9614, providing for its liquidation by the Treasury Department.

It is suggested that you contact one of the agencies on the enclosed list for information and assistance in connection with the immigration of your brother to this country.

Very truly yours,

*M. L. Hoffman*

M. L. Hoffman  
Acting Director

Mr. Joseph Huber,  
900 Riverside Drive,  
New York 32, N. Y.

Enclosure.

74 -  
FH:hd 9/24/45

000058

256 37 1342

THE HOUSE OF BORGES  
MEMBERS OF THE

Sept. 18, 1945

Gentlemen.

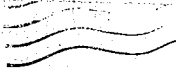
Only a few days ago I received a letter from him, the first since the war had started. It is a tale of horror and suffering, death and destructions. Suffice to say that for 8 months he was an inmate for the notorious Ext~~ermination~~ Camp Oswiescim- Auschwitz, now prominently in the news in connection with the trial of the murderer Kramer of Belzen.

Therefore I ask you for your kind assistance and advise in this matter, i. e. the quickest way to bring my suffering brother out of the hell of Germany to the U.S. to join us, my mather and me. Perhaps you could arrange for an Emergency Visa or other way toshorten the time until he can come to the United States of whom I am proud to be an Citizen.

very truly yours

Joseph Huleen

000059



MR. WILLIAM O'DWYER,

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD, 918 L. B.

WASHINGTON.

U. S. A.

000060

RECEIVED  
REIGN FUNDS CONTROL  
TREASURY

AM 10 10

Mr. William O'Dwyer,  
executive director of the War Refugee Board,  
Washington.

Sir,  
Will you allow me please to call your  
attention to the following:  
It has been disclosed that some 6,000,000 Jews have  
been tortured and killed by the Germans.

Many be some hundred German war criminals  
will be tried and punished.

Germany and the Germans will be helped to  
recover and to rebuild their economy.

What's with those Jews who have been lucky enough  
to save their lives but have lost most of their rela-  
tives and all their properties?! People whose whole  
life-work has been destroyed and who are not  
willing to go back to the place of their disaster  
and misfortune knowing they never could feel  
happy again being forced to live there!

Thus these peoples who in order to escape death -  
had to abandon their countries, their homes and all  
their properties - most of which had been completely  
destroyed or ruined by the Nazis or their satellites -  
are double victims nowadays!

000061

2.

Wouldn't it be more human and just to help these peoples to settle down in some other countries they wish to go to and to help them to start a new modest but secure and decent life, before helping Germany and the German people?!

Surely Germany must be helped on the grounds of international reasons and security - but first help these poor, homeless, lost refugees please! They have been the victims of the Germans almost since 1933. It's time not to keep them waiting any longer. - even in order to safeguard their morale.

What's with compensating these refugees out of the confiscated properties of the German and other nation's war criminals?

Objects of art and great value looted by the Nazis or Fascists and former belonging to very wealthy refugees will be restituted to the latter ones. Right so! - But will those of the refugees, who have not been so wealthy to possess such values before, be helped at all?

May this please not be a cry for help in the desert!

Kill antisemitism and national hatred once for ever!

Or - has it still to stay on as a suitable political weapon?!

000062

Sept 26, 1945

3.

I want to apologise for my incognito, Sir.  
Being one of the refugees concerned I am sorry not  
to dare to mention my name fearing reprisals  
if forced to return to my country.

Full of hope I am applying herewith to the  
generosity of the justice-loving great American  
Nation of the United States.

Yours truly

S. G.

Dari, 26. 9. 45.

000063