

JOINT ANTI-FASCIST Refugee Committee

700900

DIVISION OF
PRESS INTELLIGENCE
O.W.I.
Tempo V Bldg.

PH. _____

SY. *VM*

Daily News
Los Angeles, Calif.
185

DATE JAN 21 1945

★ Virginia Wright

Drama Editor

Anyone unlucky enough to miss Paul Robeson's performance of "Othello" at the Elstmore will have an opportunity to hear him speak next Sunday night at the Ambassador dinner held in tribute to the French and Spanish Maquis.

Robeson will be accompanied on the speakers' platform by John Garfield, Mayor Bowron, Col. Evans Carlson of Raider fame, Albert Dekker and Andre David, French journalist.

Proceeds from this event sponsored by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, will be divided between the Edward K. Barsky hospital in the outskirts of Mexico City, and Spanish refugees inside France.

The Barsky hospital in Mexico is one of the many projects supported by this committee which, since its inception on Mar. 11, 1942, has contributed 91 cents out of every dollar raised for the relief and rehabilitation of anti-fascist refugees. And in the two years from 1942 to 1944 the committee raised \$295,297.04.

In accordance with the wishes of the President's War Relief Control Board this committee was formed by an amalgamation of the United American Aid Committee, the American Committee to save refugees and the Exiled Writers Committee. Among its national sponsors are such representatives of the motion picture industry as director Julien Duvivier, actors Philip Merivale, Paul Robeson and Dame May Whitty and screenwriter Dalton Trumbo.

Roosevelt statement

The activities of the committee are in exact line with President Roosevelt's statement of Mar. 24, 1944, when he stressed the determination of the United States to "persevere in its efforts to rescue the victims of brutality of the Nazis and the Japs. We shall find havens of refuge for them, and we shall find the means for their maintenance and support until the tyrant is driven from their homelands and they may return."

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Specifically, the committee supports:

1—A rest home at Cuernavaca for convalescent refugees. (Mexico has welcomed several thousand Central Europeans as well as some 12,000 Spanish republicans.)

2—Scholarships for refugee children at the Luis Vives institute.

3—The Edward Barsky hospital and an outpatient clinic in Mexico City.

4—Rehabilitation program which provides the means for refugees to learn a trade or profession in Mexico.

5—Rehabilitation program for refugees in four of the major cities of North Africa. Through the cooperation of the state department and the treasury department the committee sends \$5000 a month to agencies in North Africa.

6—Aid to International Volunteers incarcerated in Spain; medical care and transportation funds for refugees in Portugal and Switzerland.

7—Legal services in the United States, through cooperation of department of immigration, to prevent deportation of Spanish republicans to Axis dominated countries.

Anna Seghers

The countless victims of the Nazis rescued by the joint anti-Fascist committee have an eloquent spokesman in Anna Seghers, author of "The Seventh Cross," who would not be alive and in Mexico today, with her family had it not been for the efforts of this group.

In addition to her gratitude to the Mexican government Miss Seghers writes "I am certain that many of us would have fallen by the way if not for the added brotherly support extended to us by the joint anti-Fascist refugee committee.

"I give the most credit to this committee not because it brought us over to America but because it helped us begin life anew. No type of care, no matter how unique, was beyond the realm of this committee. In essence I might say that the committee not only saved us from fascism, but helped us become strong again for the fight against fascism."

There are now between 80,000 and 100,000 Spanish refugees in France. Some 50,000 of them joined the Maquis, helped liberate France and won the praise of General DeGaulle.

It is to aid these Spanish republicans in France and to contribute to the support of the hospital in Mexico that men like Mayor Bowron and Paul Robeson, John Garfield and Colonel Carlson, Albert Dekker and Andre David have accepted the invitation to speak at the Ambassador next Sunday night.

MAY 20 1944

Dear Miss Bryan:

I have your letter of May 13, 1944,
concerning your Treasury license for remittances
to North Africa.

I have been advised by the Treasury
Department that License No. NY 573269 was renewed
on May 16, 1944, under No. NY 615247, authorizing
remittances of \$5,000 per month to North Africa
for a period of six months.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Helen R. Bryan,
Executive Secretary,
Joint Anti-Nazi Refugee
Committee,
192 Lexington Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

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EBTowler:agr 5-18-44

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JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE

192 LEXINGTON AVENUE • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. MURRAY HILL 3-0180

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Author

JULIEN DUVIVIER

Motion Picture Director

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Author

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Author

DAME MAY WHITTY

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Pres. Emeritus, Mt. Holyoke College

DR. MAX YERGAN

Council on African Affairs

and others

May 13, 1944

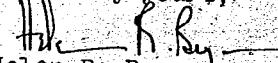
Miss Hodal,
Executive Office of the President,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Miss Hodal:

Mr. Lesser has suggested that I write you with regard to the license for which we have applied to the Treasury Department to send \$5000 a month to North Africa.

Beginning with November 1943, the Committee under license NY 573269-R sent \$5000 a month to Mr. Kendall Kimberland in Algiers. In March 1944, the Committee applied to the Treasury Department for an extension of this permit and I have discussed the matter with Mr. Brunot of the President's War Relief Control Board and Mr. Lesser. Although Mr. Brunot after having checked with UNRRA and having determined that it was advisable to continue sending these funds to North Africa and having written the Treasury Department to this effect, we still have no word with regard to our license. I will appreciate it very much if you will take up this matter of the Committee's receiving this license with the proper person in the Treasury Department at your earliest possible convenience.

Sincerely yours,


Helen R. Bryan

Executive Secretary

HRB:fc
uopwa/16

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PRESIDENT'S WAR RELIEF CONTROL BOARD REG. NO. 539

000904

JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE

192 LEXINGTON AVENUE • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-0180

Jee

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DAME MAY WHITTY
Actress

DR. MARY E. WOOLLEY
Pres. Emeritus, Mt. Holyoke College

DR. MAX YERGAN
*Council on African Affairs
and others*

April 29, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle,
Executive Office of the President,
War Refugee Board,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Pehle:

Thank you for your letter of April 28th.

I will be very glad to meet Mr. Lawrence S. Lesser in New York City on Wednesday, May 3rd. It would be advisable for him to telephone Miss Bryan, Murray Hill 3-0180 about 9:30 A.M. to make the arrangements for the meeting.

Sincerely yours,

Edward K. Barsky
Edward K. Barsky, M.D.
Chairman

EKB:fc
uo wa/16

PRESIDENT'S WAR RELIEF CONTROL BOARD REG. NO. 539

000905

APR 28 1944

Dear Dr. Barsky:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 20, 1944.

Lawrence S. Lesser, assistant executive director of the Board, will be in New York on Wednesday, May 3, and I have asked him to meet with you and your associates while in New York. He will telephone your office on or about 9:30 a.m. May 3 to arrange a convenient time and place.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle.

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Edward K. Barsky, M.D.,
Chairman, Joint Anti-Fascist
Refugee Committee
192 Lexington Avenue
New York 16, N. Y.

Lesser
LSLesser:als 4/28/44

300906

MR. LESSER:

4/27/44

Please call me.

J. W. Pehle

200907

JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE

192 LEXINGTON AVENUE • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3 To: 8 Piles

W. R. B.
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No. Ans. Req.
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Pres. Emeritus, Mt. Holyoke College

DR. MAX YERGAN
Council on African Affairs
and others

April 20, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle,
Office of the President,
War Refugee Board,
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Pehle:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 14th in answer to the memorandum which was sent you by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee.

I think it is of the utmost importance for either myself or Miss Bryan to have an appointment with you at your earliest convenience. Mrs. Pierre Coty, who is particularly concerned with the rescue of Spanish Republicans from France, would like to accompany Miss Bryan or myself. Will you, therefore, be so good as to indicate what day next week would be possible for this appointment and we would appreciate having it after 1 o'clock as this facilitates our travel from New York to Washington.

Sincerely yours,

Edward K. Barsky
Edward K. Barsky, M.D.
Chairman

EKB:fc
uopwa/16

000908

JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE

192 LEXINGTON AVENUE • NEW YORK 16, N.Y. • MURRAY HILL 3-0180

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National Honorary Chairman

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National Treasurer

HELEN R. BRYAN
National Executive Secretary

April 11, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Acting Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Executive Office of the President,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Pehle:

I should like to refer to the memorandum sent to you from the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee under date of March 17, 1944. As you are aware, one of the projects suggested in this memorandum had to do with the transportation of Spaniards from France to North Africa. From what we can learn, the situation of Republican Spaniards in France is a most serious one.

I am sure you know of M. Pierre Cot, an official representative of the Free French Committee. At the present time, he is in the Soviet Union as an official representative of the Free French Committee. As you know, he was Minister of Aviation of France in the Popular Front Government and during the Spanish struggle did everything to assist the Spanish Loyalists.

On Friday of last week, I had lunch with Mrs. Pierre Cot who took an active interest also in the Spanish Loyalists. Mrs. Cot has certain suggestions with regard to the rescuing of Spanish Republicans from France which she and I would like to discuss with you. Mrs. Cot and I would come to Washington any day next week which would suit your convenience but it would be more convenient if we could see you at 1:00 P.M. or later.

In discussing the work of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee with Mr. Brunot, he indicated that the War Refugee Board was interested in the project of rescuing the Spanish Republicans from France as suggested in our memorandum to you. I would be very happy if Mr. Brunot could be present when Mrs. Cot and I discuss this matter with you.

I will appreciate hearing from you as to what day next week will be convenient for you to receive Mrs. Cot and myself.

Sincerely yours,

H. R. Bryan
Helen R. Bryan
Executive Secretary

HRB:fc
uopwa/16

PRESIDENT'S WAR RELIEF CONTROL BOARD REG. NO. 539

2009009

APR 14 1944

Attention: Mr. Edward K. Barsky

Gentlemen:

Thank you very much for your letter of March 17, 1944, enclosing a memorandum embodying proposals for aiding Spanish Republican refugees and members of the International Brigade in Switzerland, France, and Spain. It is receiving our careful consideration.

With respect to the proposals made for Switzerland, and especially point one on page one of the memorandum enclosed with your letter, it is suggested that the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee communicate with the appropriate relief agencies and other groups wishing to send funds to Switzerland for the aid of Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders in Switzerland and suggest to them that application be made to the appropriate Federal Reserve Bank for a license authorizing the transmission of the needed funds. As you know, a number of such applications have been approved in the past. A recent illustration is License No. Boston 16576 which authorized, among other things, the remittance of funds to Switzerland for this purpose.

The Treasury Department, through the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, also issued License No. NY 608719, authorizing the International Refugee and Relief Committee to remit the Swiss franc equivalent of \$7500 monthly for a period of 6 months to the International Red Cross, Geneva, for transmittal to the Service Sociale d'Aide aux Emigrants to be used for the relief of Spanish Refugees in camps in southern France. It is recommended that you ascertain whether this license accomplishes any or all of the objectives discussed in point seven on page two of the memorandum referred to above and advise this office of your views with respect to this matter.

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In connection with your suggestion that a commission be established in Switzerland for the purpose of investigating refugee conditions and devising means for assisting refugees, you will be glad to know that a similar step has already been taken. There has recently been formed in Switzerland a Swiss Refugee Advisory Commission under the chairmanship of a Swiss official and composed of representatives of governmental, military and civilian agencies charged with refugee problems, representatives of 30 or more refugee and relief societies, and several members of the Swiss Parliament. The agencies include the Swiss Red Cross, the International Red Cross Committee, religious groups, etc. The Commission is to coordinate refugee work, submit recommendations to competent authorities and deal with general aspects of the treatment of refugees in Switzerland.

We are continuing to study the other parts of your memorandum, particularly in connection with other aspects of our program.

Please feel free to communicate with us at any time.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J.W. Pehle
J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Joint Anti Fascist Refugee Committee
192 Lexington Avenue
New York 16, New York

J. W. Pehle
Murphy:dh 3/29/44

000911

strictly
confidential
despite
any per
missive
language

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
WAR REFUGEE BOARD

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE March 22, 1944

TO : Mr. J. B. Friedman

FROM: J. H. Murphy

Re: Spanish Republican refugees and members of the International-
al Brigade; Proposals of Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee

The attached memo seems to indicate the following problems.

1. There are a number of Spanish Republican refugees and former members of the International Brigade who escaped from France to Switzerland, where most of them are presently interned. The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee indicates the desirability of our providing facilities for relief agencies to send funds to individuals or organizations in Switzerland for aid to these refugees. We have issued several licenses relating to this and similar matters. It would seem advisable to suggest to the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee that it tell the interested organizations to make application to Foreign Funds Control for an appropriate license in the event the existing ones are inadequate.

The Committee also recommends that an approach be made to the Swiss with a view to their doing all that is possible to foster the admission to Switzerland of Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders who escape from French concentration camps. It would seem that this might be the subject for inquiry to Bern.

2. The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has indicated the desirability of doing everything we can to aid the Spanish Republican refugees and members of the International Brigade who still remain in France in concentration camps, prisons, or labor gangs. Among other things, the Committee proposes furnishing food and clothing through the Swedes or the International Red Cross; the investigation of conditions by the same groups; and doing whatever is possible to get the remaining International Brigaders out of France, such as for example, securing permission from the occupying forces through the Swedish Government, followed by the United States lending its support to securing transit visas from the Spanish and Portuguese in order that the refugees may get either to Mexico or, perhaps, North Africa, if they could be useful there. In this connection it was also suggested that transportation be obtained through the Swedes.

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The Committee also proposed that funds be made available in Switzerland so that the International Red Cross, the Unitarian Service Committee and the Swiss Red Cross may send aid to France for the Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders who are interned there. It might be noted that on February 19, 1944, License No. NY 608719 was issued to the International Refugee and Relief Committee authorizing it to remit \$7500 monthly over a period of six months to the International Red Cross which in turn would transmit the funds to the Service Sociale d'Aide aux Emigrants for the relief of Spanish refugees in camps in southern France. Whether this license is presently broad enough to cover the proposal of the Committee is a matter which could probably be ascertained by inquiry.

3. The Joint Anti-Fascist Committee also proposes to make an investigation of conditions of the Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders in Spain. It urges the extension of relief to them.

I have attached a proposed letter of inquiry directed to the Joint Anti-Fascist Committee and a proposed cable to Switzerland.

J.A.C.

No attachment
received in
W.D.
file

000913

March 22, 1944

Mr. J. B. Friedman

J. H. Murphy

Re: Spanish Republican refugees and members of the International-
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JAM

JHMurphy:dh 3/22/44

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JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE

192 LEXINGTON AVENUE • NEW YORK 16, N.Y.

MURRAY HILL 3-01

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Author

DAME MAY WHITTY
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Pres. Emeritus, Mt. Holyoke College

DR. MAX YERGAN
*Council on African Affairs
 and others*

March 17, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Acting Executive Director,
 War Refugee Board,
 Executive Office of the President,
 Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Pehle:

I am enclosing a memorandum to the War Refugee Board regarding the proposals for facilitating aid to the Spanish Republican refugees and members of the International Brigades.

If there are any questions regarding this memorandum and its proposals, I will be most happy to come to Washington to discuss them with you in greater detail.

Sincerely yours,

Edward K. Barsky
 Edward K. Barsky, M.D.
 National Chairman

EKB:fc
 uopwa/16
 enc

300916

TO: WAR REFUGEE BOARD

FROM: JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE

RE: PROPOSALS FOR FACILITATING AID TO SPANISH REPUBLICAN
REFUGEES AND MEMBERS OF THE INTERNATIONAL BRIGADES
IN SWITZERLAND, FRANCE AND SPAIN.

SWITZERLAND

Hundreds of Spanish Republican refugees and former members of the International Brigades who escaped from France after the total occupation of that country by German troops are to be found in Switzerland. After their arrival in Switzerland, they encountered the greatest difficulty in establishing themselves legally and in finding work. Many of them were arrested by the Swiss Police and returned to France where the German authorities either had them executed or sentenced to long terms in prison.

The majority of those Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders in Switzerland are at present in internment camps as it is difficult to send them aid because of technicalities involved in transmitting funds to them or to the existing relief organizations operating in Switzerland at the present time.

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee proposes that the following steps be taken to help the Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders in Switzerland:

1. That the War Refugee Board provide facilities for private relief agencies to send funds to individuals and organizations in Switzerland for aid to the Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders.
2. That the War Refugee Board set up a Commission in Switzerland composed of United Nations representatives as well as British and American relief agencies whose purpose it will be to investigate conditions and devise means for getting

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the necessary food and clothing to the Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders in the internment camps.

3. That the Commission propose to the Swiss Government that the Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders escaping from French concentration camps be permitted to enter Switzerland to be cared for by the above-mentioned Commission.
4. That the Commission participate in the administration of the internment camps.
5. That the Commission arrange with the United States and Swiss Governments to establish convalescent homes and infirmaries to look after the medical needs of the Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders in Switzerland.
6. That the Commission set up by the War Refugee Board make arrangements for Spanish Republican families to live together and obtain work for them.
7. That funds be made available in Switzerland so that the International Red Cross, the Unitarian Service Committee and the Swiss Red Cross may send aid to France for the Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders interned there.
8. Transfer Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders to North Africa so that they may contribute their skills and services to the Allied cause. Transportation can be arranged through the Swiss Airlines.

FRANCE

Thousands of Spanish Republican refugees and members of the International Brigades were trapped in France after the total occupation of that country by Nazi Germany. Information received

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by this Committee is to the effect that members of the International Brigades were taken out by the Gestapo and executed or returned to their native lands for trial.

The Spanish Republican refugees still in France are either in concentration camps, prisons or labor battalions and need outside help. Those escaping from France to Switzerland or through Spain to Portugal notify relief agencies in the United States of the brutal treatment meted out to them and the starvation diets on which they are forced to subsist.

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee suggests the following proposals for aiding the Spanish Republican refugees and members of the International Brigades still remaining in French concentration camps, prisons and labor gangs:

1. That the War Refugee Board contact the Swedish Government and the International Red Cross and urge them to assume the responsibility for getting food and clothing and medical supplies to the Spanish Republican refugees and members of the International Brigades in France.
2. That the War Refugee Board urge the Swedish Government as well as other neutral countries with representatives in France to investigate conditions of the Spanish Republicans and International Brigaders in France.
3. That the War Refugee Board do everything possible to get the remaining International Brigaders out of France. The following procedure may be found a practical one: The Swedish Government could seek permission from the Nazi occupational forces in France for these International Brigaders to leave. The United States Government could then secure transit visas from the Spanish and Portuguese Govern-

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ments so that they may travel through those countries under diplomatic protection to Lisbon where they can secure transportation through the United States to Mexico or any other Latin American country willing to accept them. If the American authorities feel that these men can be of service to the war effort in North Africa, they should be transferred from Lisbon to Casablanca, Algiers or Oran where private relief agencies such as the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee can be of service to them. In order to provide transportation for them, the Swedish Government should be approached for the use of their shipping to either North Africa or the Western Hemisphere.

SPAIN

Approximately 300 to 400 members of the International Brigades are still interned in the concentration camp at Miranda de Ebro, Spain. We feel that the War Refugee Board should seek permission from the Spanish Government for them to be released. During the past year, many of these International Brigaders were released through the efforts of the British Government. After their release from Miranda de Ebro, they were brought to Madrid where they waited for months before leaving for England. During their stay in Madrid, they received help from the British Embassy which gave them funds for their maintenance. However, they did not get the proper diplomatic protection and many of those released suddenly disappeared during the night from their hotel rooms and to this day no one knows of their whereabouts. We believe that the War Refugee Board should urge the American and British authorities in Madrid to intercede in behalf of these men to secure their transfer to Lisbon and eventually to Mexico.

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The War Refugee Board should consider setting up a Commission to investigate conditions in the prisons, concentration camps and labor battalions of Spain.

The War Refugee Board should consider possibilities whereby the British and American diplomatic representatives in Spain as well as the representatives of the international relief organizations in that country could arrange for providing food, clothing and medical supplies to the internees in Miranda de Ebro. Steps should also be taken to secure liberty and asylum for these International Brigaders either in the Western Hemisphere, or wherever the authorities may believe these people can be of greatest value.

Hundreds of thousands of Spanish Republicans are interned in concentration camps, prisons and labor battalions in Spain today. The majority of them are heads of families and as a consequence of their internment their families have no ways or means of obtaining food or clothing.

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee proposes the following measures in order to help these victims of political and religious persecution:

1. That the War Refugee Board urge the British and American Governments and existing relief agencies in Spain to set up a Commission to study conditions of political prisoners in the Spanish prisons and concentration camps.
2. That this same Commission mentioned above also survey the status of the families of political prisoners.
3. That this Commission investigate the possibilities of developing a relief program under Allied supervision in Spain for these men, women and children. Such a program might include plans for:

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- a. Aid to those imprisoned.
- b. Relief for their families.
- c. Proper care for their children and
also for the orphans of those killed
in the war.
- d. Medical care for the families of
political prisoners.

All of these projects are urgently needed to save these victims of fascist oppression. We feel that the funds necessary for these projects can be raised in the United States. The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee is ready to cooperate fully with such a program.

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APR 3 1944

In reply please
refer to: 402

Dear Miss Luscomb:

Your letter of March 23, 1944, to the President, concerning the establishment of the War Refugee Board, has been referred to this office.

The interest which you have expressed in the President's new program of help to the persecuted minorities of Europe is greatly appreciated. I assure you that everything in our power will be done to see that effective action is taken to carry out the policy of this Government to save the victims of enemy oppression who are in imminent danger of death.

Your offer of the assistance of your organization in the task before us is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Miss Florence H. Luscomb,
Chairman,
Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee
Committee,
7 Water Street, Room 907,
Boston 9, Massachusetts.

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REHutcheson:agr 4-3-44 JAF -

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M. R. B.

**JOINT ANTI-FASCIST
REFUGEE COMMITTEE**

BOSTON CHAPTER - 7 WATER STREET - Room 907 - BOSTON 9 - TEL. C^o M. R. B. *Regd.*

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W. R. B.
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans.
Initial
Date

M. R. B.

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MRS. DEXTER THURBER

MRS. FRANK WIGGLESWORTH

March 23, 1944

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Roosevelt:

As chairman and representative of the Joint-Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, Boston Chapter, we heartily endorse your plan for the Refugees of Europe and will do everything in our power to assist in any way the carrying out of your plan.

We feel as you do that it is imperative that Hitler be forestalled in his plan for the extermination of minorities, especially the Jewish minorities.

Therefore, Mr. President, we give you our support as an organized committee in Boston for all work that is to be done in Refugee relief rehabilitation and sustenance.

Sincerely yours,
Florence H. Luscomb
Chairman
JOINT ANTI FASCIST
REFUGEE COMMITTEE

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PRESIDENT'S WAR RELIEF CONTROL BOARD REG. NO. 539

000924

575
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WPA
1939

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APR 3 1944

In reply please
refer to: 391

Dear Mrs. Kelvin:

Your letter of March 27, 1944, to the President, concerning the establishment of the War Refugee Board, has been referred to me.

Your interest in this undertaking is greatly appreciated and I assure you that every effort will be made to achieve the humanitarian objectives which prompted the formation of the Board.

Your offer of assistance in this great task is appreciated.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mrs. Gail Kelvin,
Executive Secretary,
Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee
Committee,
7 Water Street, Room 907,
Boston 9, Massachusetts.

EBC R/H Hutchison:agr 4-1-44 *[Signature]*

000926

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 29, 1944

Respectfully referred to the
War Refugee Board for appropriate
acknowledgment.

Attention: Mr. John W. Pehle.

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

AVC

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Mr. Pease

JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE

BOSTON CHAPTER - 7 WATER STREET - Room 907 - BOSTON 9 - TEL. CAPITOL 5-0557
Ansof
 To: *Elles*
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MRS. FRANK WIGGLESWORTH

March 27, 1944

President Franklin Delano Roosevelt
 The White House
 Washington, D. C.

Dear President:

As an individual who is fully cognizant of the urgency for aid to refugees from the countries of Europe which are now being harried by the fascists I am writing concerning your program on the War Refugee Board.

A plan such as you have set up is an imperative need. It is particularly necessary that the minorities of Europe should be aided in their efforts to escape and that places of refuge should be open to them. I have read your plan carefully and I agree whole heartedly with it.

Any support and aid that I can give I will gladly.

Sincerely yours,
Gail Kelvin
 Executive Sec'y

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PRESIDENT'S WAR RELIEF CONTROL BOARD REG. NO. 539

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000929

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FG NEW YORK NY FEB 21 315P

J W PEHLE ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT WAR REFUGEE BOARD
URGENTLY REQUEST AN APPOINTMENT WITH YOU ON THURSDAY THE 24TH
AFTER TWELVE OCLOCK OR SATURDAY THE 26TH. MISS BRYAN WHO
TELEPHONED REGARDING THIS APPOINTMENT THIS MORNING WAS TOLD
BY ONE OF YOUR ASSISTANTS THERE WAS SOME UNCERTAINTY ABOUT
YOUR SEEING ME THURSDAY. THEREFORE I AM WILLING TO COME TO
WASHINGTON ON SATURDAY IF THURSDAY IS IMPOSSIBLE. PLEASE WIRE
TIME AND PLACE OF THIS APPOINTMENT

EDWARD K BARSKY MD NATL CHAIRMAN JOINT ANTI FACIST
REFUGEE COMM 192 LEXINGTON AVE NEW YORK CITY.

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