DRAFT - SECRET

I have determined to take certain action which may help in a small way to alleviate the shocking situation which exists today with respect to the Jews now living in camps and Austria in Germany. I am issuing this statement so that neither the motive nor the purpose of my action will be misunderstood.

I wonder how many persons fully realize that there were over six million Jews living in Germany and German-occupied territories prior to the war, and that now there are only slightly over one million left. It is difficult for anyone to grasp the full significance of the murder of over five million human beings. Newspapers are accustomed to speak of mass murder when a half-dozen victims are shot down by a gunman. What shall we call it when whole towns die and the slaughtered are numbered by millions. When I first heard that the Germans had used the flesh of these victims to make soap, I did not believe it. All of these unspeakable atrocities committed against the Jews by the Germans, which many refused to believe at the time, have now been established beyond all question. They are recorded and documented for history. They are dramatically recalled by the huge pile of shoes, many once worn by babies, and by the pits of human ash and human bones. In a general way, I am sure that all of this has been engraved in the hearts and minds of decent people everywhere, but only those who suffered first hand can really understand what all this means.

We cannot bring these five million dead bodies to life, but we can take action - and take it now - to make certain that the over one million European Jews who survived the Nazi terror are given a chance to live. The time for talk has long passed - the time for action is long overdue.

All of the Jews living now in camps in Germany and Austria want to get out. They have no ties in these countries Germany and no desire to go back to the countries in which their families were maimed, tortured, and murdered. We cannot ask that they go back and search through the ashes for some trace of their dear ones.