MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

In January of 1944, President Roosevelt established the War Refugee Board, consisting of the Secretary of State, the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of War, for the purpose of taking all possible measures to rescue the persecuted peoples of Europe who were in eminent danger of death at the hands of the Nazis. With a small staff in Washington and representatives in strategic neutral countries, the War Refugee Board carried on the emergency job of rescue and relief. Although it is impossible to measure the success of the Board in terms of exact statistics, I am convinced that many thousands of lives were saved as a result of its work.

The task assigned to the War Refugee Board is now practically completed. There is left, however, the great problem of resettlement of hundreds of thousands of persons who are unwilling to return to their homelands. The Intergovernmental Committee on Refugees was authorized to arrange for the rehabilitation and resettlement of such displaced persons. However, if the Inter-Governmental Committee is to do a successful job, the full force and weight of the United States Government must be placed behind its activities.