File under Furnas Then Souvenir file

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

November 26, 1956

Dear Dr. Furnas:

The President wants to draft Tracy Voorhoes for the next six to twelve weeks to coordinate the various spontaneous efforts now being made to provide for the Hungarian refugees, especially for those to whom the United States will be giving asylum. In short, he wants Tracy to be something like a guardian of these people until long-range plans can be worked out through the Red Cross or otherwise. Tracy is willing to work wherever we ask him to, but he tells me that he has a commitment to you to act as adviser on foreign research and military development and that he has already postponed this once with your approval to assist on the recent campaign.

As the work which he has undertaken to do for you is of a long-range nature while what we need him for is definitely urgent and temporary, I want to ask you to release him for the present emergency and also to permit him to the extent that may be necessary to use his office and facilities in the Pentagon to meet this unexpected problem, in the solution of which the United States must not fail.

Sincerely,

SHERMAN ADAMS

The Honorable Clifford C. Furnas
Assistant Secretary of Defense
for Research and Development
The Pentagon
Washington, D. C.

File

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

November 29, 1956

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees:

By direction of the President, you are hereby appointed as a Consultant, without compensation, in the Executive Office of the President, Special Projects, and are authorized, with the approval of The Assistant to the President, to engage the services of personnel necessary to assist you in carrying out your assignment.

In this capacity you will be paid actual and necessary travel expenses in accordance with Standardized Government Travel Regulations, and a per diem of $15.00 in lieu of subsistence while serving in this capacity away from your home in Brooklyn, New York.

DEC 3 1956

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR LOGISTICS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

Army

30 November 1956

Dear Tracy:

It is wonderful to have you back in harness again, especially in an operation which requires the tremendous capacity to get things done that you alone possess.

This is my last day in the office. I will be back from Viet Nam--Formosa--Korea--Japan on the 21st of December, and it was my preparation for this trip that prevented my attending the meeting with you yesterday.

I have instructed my people that what you want I also want. I am sure they will do their level best to accomplish whatever tasks you set them.

With complete confidence that you will pass whatever miracles are necessary to accomplish your task, and with regret that I cannot be with you in its early stages,

Sincerely,

Carter

CARTER B. MAGRUDER
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees crossed
Office, Secretary of Defense
Washington 25, D.C.

Edward Harriman

STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY

AVERELL HARRIMAN
GOVERNOR

December 6, 1956

Dear Tracy:

I was glad to read of your activities as co-ordinator of the Hungarian Refugee Program. I know it means that this very important job will be well done.

I send you my best wishes and my assurances that if there is anything I can do to help, I'll be delighted. Don't hesitate to call on me.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Averell

Dr. Tracy S. Voorhees
184 Columbia Heights
Brooklyn 2, New York

Law Offices of

Donovan Leisure Newton & Irvine

Two Wall Street

New York 5, N. Y.

WILLIAM J. DONOVAN
GEORGE S. LEISURE
CARL ELBRIDGE NEWTON
RALSTONE R. IRVINE
THOMAS J. Mc FADDEN
OTTO C. DOERING, JR.
DAVID TEITELBAUM
FRANCIS A. BRICK, JR.
GRANVILLE WHITTLESEY, JR.
CARBERY O'SHEA
JAMES R. WITHROW, JR.
MALCOLM FOOSHEE
BRECK P. Mc ALLISTER
JAMES V. HAYES
ROY W. Mc DONALD
RICHARD P. HEPPNER
THEODORE S. HOPE, JR.
WALTER R. MANSFIELD
GEORGE A. WOOD
RICHARD Y. HOLCOMB
GEORGE A. BIRRELL

WASHINGTON OFFICE
CAFRITZ BUILDING
1625 EYE STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

CABLE ADDRESS: DONLARD, NEW YORK

December 7th 1956

Mr. Tracy Voorhees
Metropolitan Club
Washington, D. C.

Dear Tracy:

This morning I was unable to reach you. Particularly, I wanted to tell you how well you marshalled the various agencies, brought together the groups who were eager to help, and, most of all, your skill and courtesy in gradually importing authority to the several vice chairmen. They should aid you greatly. All of this means unity and success.

You know I wish you all good luck in this task, as in all others.

Sincerely yours,

Bill Donovan

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 29, 1956

MEMORANDUM FOR TRACY VOORHEES

To be sure, the expression of gratitude could never be as clever as the presentation, but I am nonetheless appreciative of your remembering me as you did at Christmastime in the 'finest of spirits'. It was good of you to do this, and I want to thank you for contributing to my pleasure as you have. I am most grateful to you.

Best wishes to you for the happiest of New Years!

Max Rabb

Copy

JAN. 7 1957

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mr. Voorhees:

Mrs. Eisenhower was most appreciative of your thought in sending the greeting from the President which is being given to Hungarian refugees.

She had not seen it and was deeply touched by the message. For your information, it has been placed in her special scrapbook.

Mary Jane McCaffree

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR LOGISTICS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

9 January 1957

Dear Tracy:

I have your note and a copy of the letter that you had The President sign to General Taylor, thanking the Army for its efforts in Project MERCY on behalf of the Hungarian Refugees.

We in the Army deeply appreciate your unfailing efforts to see to it that everyone except yourself receives the full credit for the things that you do.

Sincerely,

CARTER B. MAGRUDER
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army
Acting Vice Chief of Staff

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
Office, Secretary of Defense
Washington 25, D. C.

[Precedes two attachments]

From: **TRACY S. VOORHEES**

To: GENERAL MAGRUDER

You can well imagine how gratified I am about the attached letter, and the feeling of the President which underlies it.

COPY

January 1, 1957

Dear Max:

Many times since the task of caring for the Hungarian refugees began, I have had reports about the really fine job the Army is doing in carrying out its part. The latest reports have come from the Vice President and Tracy Voorhees.

The favorable comment has to do not only with the efficiency and cooperation that have been demonstrated in making ready to house the large numbers of refugees comfortably, give them excellent food, and provide medical care to them, but also -- what I particularly comment -- with the warmth of spirit with which all this is being carried out.

I need not tell you how gratifying these reports are to me. I would be grateful if you would mention my appreciation to Secretary Brucker also.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

SIGNED
Dwight D. Eisenhower

General Maxwell D. Taylor
Chief of Staff, United States Army
Washington, D. C.

COPY

THE REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

Two Park Avenue,
New York 16, New York,
January 10, 1957.

Dear Tracy:

Just a note to tell you how much my wife and I enjoyed our visit to the Hungarian Refugee Center on Monday. You can be proud of your staff -- both military and civilian and of the refugees themselves. We were tremendously impressed with everything we saw.

I have already referred to the Center in a speech to the General Assembly and believe there may be some visitors from the United Nations.

It is a great operation and you can be proud of it.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Cabot L.

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.

The Honorable
Tracy Voorhees,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
WASHINGTON

January 23, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Thanks ever so much for the Outline of Organization and Work of the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief.

I am delighted to know that of the 22,000 who have arrived at Kilmer, 17,440 have departed for settlement, leaving less than 5,000 at the present time to be supported by the Treasury. This is a great accomplishment and I compliment you on it.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

George Humphrey

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
Executive Office of the President
Washington 25, D.C.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF FOR LOGISTICS
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

26 January 1957

Dear Tracy:

Thank you for sending me an outline of the organization and work of your committee for Hungarian refugee relief.

We in the Army are deeply indebted to you for the outstanding work you have done in this area and for the generous acknowledgement you have made of such assistance as the Army has been able to give you.

Sincerely,

CARTER B. MAGRUDER
Lieutenant General, U.S. Army
Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees, Chairman
The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief
The White House
Washington, D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington

February 4, 1947

Dear Cabot:

Your letter to me written after your trip to Kilmer gave me great pleasure and encouragement.

I was also very glad to learn of your television appearance in which you complimented the work at Kilmer. Thank you very much for your interest and for your generous comments.

I do think that it has been possible in the last two months to inject a real warmth of spirit toward the refugees, as well as to establish a good organizational setup, at Kilmer.

The following figures as of midnight February 3 may interest you:

Total arrivals	24,287
Total departures for resettlement under sponsorship of voluntary agencies	21,778
Total remaining at Kilmer	2,509

Our problem there is, I think, solved. There are bigger problems ahead which are not part of my responsibilities, but I do think that they have a bearing on your work as our representative to the United Nations, and I would greatly value the opportunity of talking with you about them.

I thought that you might be interested in a progress report which I made to the President as well as in a report of a survey made by Mr. Hallam Tuck and General Carl A. Hardigg of Hungarian refugee relief problems in Austria. I am forwarding these to you separately.

Please do not trouble to acknowledge this note or the reports.

Yours faithfully,

SIGNED

Tracy S. Voorhees

The Honorable Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.
The Representative of the USA to the United Nations
2 Park Avenue
New York 16, N.Y.

2/5/56 orig + 2 cop. to W.H. for distribution

[precedes reproduction of Lodge's letter]

25

THE REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

Two Park Avenue,
New York 16, New York,
January 10, 1957.

Dear Tracy:

Just a note to tell you how much my wife and I enjoyed our visit to the Hungarian Refugee Center on Monday. You can be proud of your staff -- both military and civilian and of the refugees themselves. We were tremendously impressed with everything we saw.

I have already referred to the Center in a speech to the General Assembly and believe there may be some visitors from the United Nations.

It is a great operation and you can be proud of it.

With warmest regards,

Sincerely yours,

Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr.

The Honorable
Tracy Voorhees,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

MSV file

SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

FEB 8 1957

Dear Tracy:

Despite your note to the contrary, I must insist on acknowledging your outline of the splendid and heartwarming accomplishments of the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief.

Please accept my heartiest congratulations for the outstanding manner in which you are handling a very difficult job.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,

Wilber.

Wilber M. Brucker
Secretary of the Army

Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees

The White House

Ltr to President
Crossed under TSV

February 17, 1957

Dear Sherman:

Herewith is a letter to the President terminating by March 1st -- subject of course to his wish and yours -- my temporary post in the White House.

While I had some anxious days and nights about the problem during the great influx of refugees last December, I really enjoyed tackling the task, and it is a deep satisfaction to me that the emergency phase of it for which I was called has been met.

As an invaluable byproduct, I have been more than amply repaid for my work by the friendships formed and friendships deepened with you and others of the White House staff who have so generously and unreservedly helped me.

I shall submit separately a list of the persons -- and corporations -- who have contributed outstandingly to this work and to whose efforts the successful outcome has been so largely due.

With warm regards,

Yours faithfully,

Tracy S. Voorhees

Honorable Sherman Adams
The White House

[enclosure in letter of February 17, 1957]

February 27, 1957

Dear Mr. President:

Last November you asked me to act as your representative in connection with Hungarian refugee relief activities to assure full co-ordination of the work of the various voluntary and Government agencies, and to set up the requisite machinery for this purpose. The understanding was that this assignment was for temporary emergency purposes only. My responsibilities were defined as relating to the movement of refugees to this country and their reception and resettlement, not to the separate problems existing in Austria.

On my recommendation you appointed the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief as the machinery for the co-ordination of the work of the voluntary agencies generally and of their work with the Government agencies at the Joyce Kilmer Reception Center. To date 27,373 refugees have been received. More than 94% of these have already left Kilmer for resettlement under the sponsorship of responsible religious and other voluntary agencies. The President's Committee has assisted these agencies to the full extent possible, but the major credit for success in this resettlement work belongs to the voluntary agencies themselves and to the warm hearted action of the people of America.

As the above figures indicate, the emergency phase of your refugee program has now been met. The President's Committee has a useful continuing function for a reasonable further interval and will remain active while this need exists. The co-ordination of the work of the various Government departments and agencies in Washington has been effected through an informal group with which I have met at frequent intervals. This work has also now become routine. We are, I believe, now adequately organized to move to the U.S., to receive and to resettle on a routine basis any presently foreseeable number of Hungarian refugees who may be permitted to come.

For the above reasons I shall, subject to your approval, terminate my duties in the White House this week, but shall continue to serve as Chairman of the President's Committee. The Committee will later make its own report to you.

It has been for me a unique privilege to have been able to serve as your representative in this cause in which I so deeply believe and under the inspiration of your leadership.

With my gratitude,

Yours faithfully,

Tracy S. Voorhees

The President

The White House

THE WHITE HOUSE
FEB 27 4 55 PM '57
RECEIVED

STATE OF NEW YORK
EXECUTIVE CHAMBER
ALBANY

AVERELL HARRIMAN
GOVERNOR

February 26, 1957

My dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your letter of February 11 regarding the Hungarian Refugee Program and particularly the kind comment in your postscript.

Shortly after coming into office I enlarged and strengthened the Governor's Committee on Refugees. This committee has successfully stimulated the resettlement of about 47,000 persons (approximately 30%) of those who entered the United States under the Refugee Relief Act of 1953.

Immediately upon the rebellion in Hungary the New York State Committee organized a comprehensive program geared to help settle Hungarian refugees. Since the arrival of the first group of escapees at Camp Kilmer we have aided 7,440 Hungarians to settle in the State of New York. This number is 31% of the total that have thus far been resettled in the United States. I think you will also be interested in noting that the State of New York has placed 175 of these escapees as psychiatric assistants and maintenance workers in several of our State institutions where positions could not otherwise be filled.

It was like old days again to work with Tracey Voorhees and Joe Collins. They both have given splendid cooperation in helping to move the Refugees, particularly during the hectic initial period.

The work of General Sydney Wooten in preparing Camp Kilmer for the sudden influx of escapees showed fine planning and thorough execution of a most difficult problem.

I want to assure you that the New York Committee will continue to operate as long as people are permitted to seek refuge in the United States. The many thousands of freedom-seekers who still await an opportunity to come to this country, as well as a great majority of American citizens are depending upon you to energetically pursue your program to help these refugees fulfill their dreams of liberty.

Sincerely,

Averell Harriman

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 27, 1957

Dear Mr. President:

Last November you asked me to act as your representative in connection with Hungarian refugee relief activities to assure full co-ordination of the work of the various voluntary and Government agencies, and to set up the requisite machinery for this purpose. The understanding was that this assignment was for temporary emergency purposes only. My responsibilities were defined as relating to the movement of refugees to this country and their reception and resettlement, not to the separate problems existing in Austria.

On my recommendation you appointed the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief as the machinery for the co-ordination of the work of the voluntary agencies generally and of their work with the Government agencies at the Joyce Kilmer Reception Center. To date 27,373 refugees have been received. More than 9½% of these have already left Kilmer for resettlement under the sponsorship of responsible religious and other voluntary agencies. The President's Committee has assisted these agencies to the full extent possible, but the major credit for success in this resettlement work belongs to the voluntary agencies themselves and to the warmhearted action of the people of America.

As the above figures indicate, the emergency phase of your refugee program has now been met. The President's Committee has a useful continuing function for a reasonable further interval and will remain active while this need exists. The co-ordination of the work of the various Government departments and agencies in Washington has been effected through an informal group with which I have met at frequent intervals. This work has also now become routine. We are, I believe, now adequately organized to move to the U.S., to receive and to resettle on a routine basis any presently foreseeable number of Hungarian refugees who may be permitted to come.

For the above reasons I shall, subject to your approval, terminate my duties in the White House this week, but shall continue to serve as Chairman of the President's Committee. The Committee will later make its own report to you.

It has been for me a unique privilege to have been able to serve as your representative in this cause in which I so deeply believe and under the inspiration of your leadership.

With my gratitude,

Yours faithfully,

SIGNED

Tracy S. Voorhees

The President

The White House

COBX

February 27, 1957

Dear Mr. President:

Last November you asked me to act as your representative in connection with Hungarian refugee relief activities to assure full co-ordination of the work of the various voluntary and Government agencies, and to set up the requisite machinery for this purpose. The understanding was that this assignment was for temporary emergency purposes only. My responsibilities were defined as relating to the movement of refugees to this country and their reception and resettlement, not to the separate problems existing in Austria.

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It has been for me a unique privilege to have been able to serve as your representative in this cause in which I so deeply believe and under the inspiration of your leadership.

With my gratitude,

Yours faithfully,

Tracy S. Voorhees

The President

The White House

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 28, 1957

Dear Tracy:

I have your letter of the twenty-fifth and am deeply gratified by the accomplishments you reported in regard to resettlement of Hungarian refugees in this country.

As you pointed out, the success of this program is truly the product of the warmhearted actions of the American people as a whole and of the religious and other voluntary agencies in particular. Their immediate and generous response to this urgent need has been of inestimable value.

I am delighted to know that almost all of these refugees have now gone on from Camp Kilmer to other parts of our land. Thanks to the highly cooperative spirit that has characterized this effort, the remaining elements of the resettlement program will, I am confident, be accomplished without difficulty. I look forward with great interest to the report that you indicated will be made later by the Committee.

As you conclude your immediate responsibilities here, I want to express my sincere appreciation of your large and effective contribution to the success of this program. I know that the coordinating mission you agreed to undertake last November was not an easy one, and I am grateful to you for devoting your time and ability so completely to its successful outcome.

With warm regard,

Sincerely,

Dwight D. Eisenhower

The Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees
The White House

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 1, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Because of a trip out of town, I will not have the opportunity to tell you goodbye in person, but I do want to express my congratulations on the grand job you have done in dealing with the tragic problem of assistance to the people of Hungary. Those of us who remain behind to continue the work certainly will miss your splendid help.

It has been most gratifying to have had the privilege of working with you, even though briefly.

With best wishes for your continued success,

Sincerely,

Bob

Robert S. McCollum
Deputy Administrator
Office of Refugee and Migration Affairs

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees, Chairman,
President's Committee for
Hungarian Refugee Relief,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Send to my Mother

Columbia University
in the City of New York
SCHOOL OF LAW

421 West 117th Street
March 5, 1957

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
20 Exchange Place
New York, New York

Dear Tracy,

I must send you just a line to tell you what a sense of satisfaction many people had when you took on the job of dealing with the Hungarian refugees. You brought order out of chaos and have added another wonderful record to your many services.

Sincerely yours,

Philip C. Jessup

PCJ/ma

THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE FOR HUNGARIAN REFUGEE RELIEF

March 12, 1957

Dear Mr. Graham:

Your lead editorial on Sunday about American action for Hungarian refugees is the most constructive and helpful piece of writing on this matter that has come to my attention. Most of the time we all keep our minds so largely on things which are going wrong that it is unusual to stop and take a look at something which has gone right. The latter is what your editorial does so well.

Nobody knew, when it was decided to take in these large numbers of refugees, how they would be accepted by America. The fact that they have been absorbed so readily is indeed an inspiring indication that our country is not lost in materialism but retains, when it understands the facts, a high measure of idealism.

I have already personally brought this editorial to the attention of the U.S. Information Agency as I think the Agency can use it around the world in ways beyond the ordinary routine. Also, I am having copies made to send to a large number of people who have been working on the resettlement of the refugees, and have talked with our public information people about arrangements for much wider distribution of it. I am also enclosing it with a personal letter to the President.

As one who has had some responsibility for these matters, I am deeply indebted to the Washington Post for its most helpful and constructive action.

The real problem before us now is to get adequate legislation passed to stabilize the position of the refugees and to give the President clear authority to act swiftly should another crisis -- and therefore opportunity for the free world -- present itself. If the Washington Post with its great influence should get vigorously behind the necessity for prompt legislation at least dealing with the refugee problem and later giving us a more constructive immigration law consistent with the spirit of America, I think that this would present another big field for constructive service by the Post.

As to the Hungarian refugees, you might be interested in the following figures as of midnight March 11:

Received at Joyce Kilmer Reception Center:	29,076
Left Kilmer for resettlement under the sponsorship of religious and voluntary agencies:	27,848
Remaining at Kilmer:	1,228

Sincerely yours,

SIGNED

Tracy S. Voorhees

also filed

Mr. Philip L. Graham
President and Publisher
The Washington Post and Times Herald
1515 L Street, N.W.
Washington 5, D. C.

cc: Mr. Carroll Kilpatrick

The Washington Post
AND
Times Herald
1515 L STREET, N.W. WASHINGTON 5, D.C. REPUBLIC 7-1234

PHILIP L. GRAHAM
PUBLISHER

March 14, 1957

Dear Mr. Voorhees:

Thank you for that thoughtful letter.

The editorial on Hungarian refugees was an expression of our editor's and I think the public's gratitude for a job well done.

Like you, we are very sure that something must be done to clarify the refugees' status and to make our immigration laws more sensible. It is our intention to press toward these goals.

Sincerely,

Philip L. Graham

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees,
Chairman,
The President's Committee for
Hungarian Refugee Relief,
1413 K Street, N.W.,
Washington 5, D.C.

It was good to see you at the Gridiron evening. And I want to say personally how much I appreciate your public spirit in taking on this job.

PL

THE WASHINGTON POST AND TIMES HERALD
Sunday, March 17, 1957

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

* * * * * *

"90-Day Wonder"

Your lead editorial on Sunday, March 10, about American action for Hungarian refugees is the most constructive and helpful piece of writing on this matter that has come to my attention. Most of the time we all keep our minds so largely on things which are going wrong that it is unusual to stop and take a look at something which has gone right. The latter is what your editorial does so well.

Nobody knew, when it was decided to take in these large numbers of refugees, how they would be accepted by America. The fact that they have been absorbed so readily is indeed an inspiring indication that our country is not lost in materialism but retains, when it understands the facts, a high measure of idealism.

I am having copies made to send to a large number of people who have been working on the resettlement of refugees.

As one who has had some responsibility for these matters, I am deeply indebted to The Washington Post for its most helpful and constructive action.

The real problem before us now is to get adequate legislation passed to stabilize the position of the refugees and to give the President clear authority to act swiftly should another crisis -- and therefore opportunity for the free world -- present itself.

As to the Hungarian refugees, you might be interested in the following figures as of midnight March 14: These, it seems to me, are completely convincing proof that what your editorial said about the action of the American people is the simple truth.

Received at Joyce Kilmer Reception Center, 29,434; left Kilmer for resettlement under the sponsorship of religious and voluntary agencies, 28,248; remaining at Kilmer, 1,186.

TRACY S. VOORHEES
Chairman, The President's Committee
for Hungarian Refugee Relief

United States Senate

MEMORANDUM

March 23, 1957

I have been holding these clippings for a long time Tracy - I want you to know that I think you have done a good job.

Congratulations and best wishes,

Estes Kefauver

Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees
Office of the Secretary of Defense
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

[Accompanied by New York Times and Washington Star clippings of Nov. 30, 1956]

Metropolitan Club
Washington 6, D.C.

April 9, 1957

Dear Max:

The most valuable possession I have is the President's photograph with the wonderful inscription on it. I know how much I am indebted to you for this, and I shall not soon forget it. Enclosed is copy of letter I have written to the President.

With warm regards,

Yours faithfully,

Mr. M. M. Rabb
The White House
Washington, D.C.

[Enclosure in letter of April 9, 1957, to M. Rabb]

Metropolitan Club
Washington, D. C.

April 9, 1957

Dear Mr. President:

When the generous gift of your photograph with its even more generous inscription reached me, I was on the point of leaving for Europe on some work for the Department of Defense. Accordingly, I deferred until my return the pleasure of thanking you. I am indeed most grateful, and this photograph will be a cherished possession, not only for me, but thereafter for my family. For whatever I did for the Hungarian refugees, I feel that I have been several times overpaid - the photograph being the final overpayment.

With sincerest appreciation,

Yours faithfully,

SIGNED

Tracy S. Voorhees

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

THE ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

April 10, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Many thanks for your letter of the ninth.

I am glad to have your report on the Hungarian Refugee program, and to know that we can call on you for assistance in the future.

Kind regards.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees
Defense Advisor to
the Chief USRO
Washington 25, D. C.

THE ROCKEFELLER FOUNDATION
49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK 20

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

April 16, 1957

Dear Tracy:

I have never become expert in replying to friends who say thanks so generously to The Rockefeller Foundation. After all, supplying funds for first class enterprises is our business.

As a citizen, I should like to express appreciation to you for your tremendous job as Chairman of the President's Committee. We here at the Foundation reacted almost at once to the distressing needs generated by events in Hungary, and we had some anxious moments during the early period because we saw too little effort to deal with what was certain to be a major problem. I felt much better about it when I heard that you had accepted the chairmanship of the Committee because I recall the perfectly magnificent job you did as a trouble shooter in the Pentagon, notably on finding foodstuffs for the occupied areas.

We have taken on what will amount to a commitment of several million dollars, before we are through, on the Hungarian refugee side. I say this because we knew when we undertook responsibility for several hundred students in Austria that this would involve support for a decreasing number over a period of several years.

With personal esteem and best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Dean Rusk

Dean Rusk

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees, Chairman
The President's Committee
for Hungarian Refugee Relief
1413 K Street N.W.
Washington 5, D. C.

The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief

HEAD OFFICE:
1413 K STREET NW., WASHINGTON 5, D. C. (ROOM 502)
EXECUTIVE 3-3111, EXT. 632

BRANCH OFFICE:
JOYCE KILMER RECEPTION CENTER, KILMER, N. J.
KILMER 5-7200, EXT. 321

LEWIS W. DOUGLAS, HONORARY CHAIRMAN
TRACY S. VOORHEES, CHAIRMAN
J. LAWTON COLLINS, VICE CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTOR

VICE CHAIRMEN:
WILLIAM HALLAM TUCK (VIENNA)
LEO C. BEEBE (CAMP KILMER)

ALFRED M. GRUENTHER
LEWIS M. HOSKINS
MRS. JOHN C. HUGHES
JOHN A KROUT
MOSES A. LEAVITT
GEORGE MEANY
MSGR. EDWARD E. SWANSTROM
CHARLES P. TAFT
R. NORRIS WILSON

WILLIAM J DONOVAN
COUNSEL

April 23, 1957

Mrs. John C. Hughes
63 East 74th Street
New York, New York

Dear Mardi:

The other night I saw John at the Council on Foreign Relations where Tom Wailes, just back from Hungary, gave a most interesting talk.

As I think you know, I went last month to France, Germany and Holland on a mission for the Department of Defense in connection with European military research and development. Since returning home, we have been working intensely on the report of the mission, and this has just been finished. It is, therefore, only now that I have time to tell you how deeply I appreciated your vigorous and successful efforts to obtain the more than $75,000 contribution from FIRST AID FOR HUNGARY for scholarship funds. Your letter telling me of the final success in this was written just after I left for Europe, and I received it on my return. The funds for these scholarships represent the most acute unfilled need which the President's Committee has in order to complete successfully its job for the refugees. No member of our Committee has made a more vital contribution to our work than you have in obtaining this very generous contribution from First Aid for Hungary.

As matters now stand, I think we can already count on between $125,000 and $135,000 including the First Aid for Hungary gift. However, we need from $150,000 to $175,000 more and I am working on this.

I have had replies from a substantial number of members of the President's Committee approving the proposal in my recent letter to dissolve the Committee on May 15. I hope that you also approve of this.

With appreciation,

Yours faithfully,

Tracy S. Voorhees

30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York 20, N.Y.

Room 5600

April 25, 1957

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
The Metropolitan Club
Washington, D. C.

Dear Tracy:

I was glad to hear from you although it was not necessary for you to acknowledge my letter.

Fortunately, I think the criticism as to the refugees has now died down, and the impression of clumsy handling of the situation has been composed. It seems to be still up to Congress.

I was very much disappointed we could not lure you out to the country for lunch Saturday, but we will try again.

With all best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Ted

Theodore C. Streibert

TCS/ab

US ARMY REFUGEE RECEPTION CENTER
Headquarters Camp Kilmer, New Jersey

13 May 1957

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
Chairman
The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief
1413 K Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Voorhees:

The enclosed Certificate was designed and used for recognizing the work of officers and enlisted men of Kilmer Reception Center in Operation "MERCY". However, you have been so especially kind and helpful to us that I want to send you the enclosed as a small token of our appreciation and gratitude.

Your performance as Chairman of The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief has been outstanding and an inspiration to all of us. It has been an honor and pleasure to work for you.

With all best wishes, I remain,

Most respectfully,

Sidney C. Wooten

SIDNEY C. WOOTEN
Brig Gen USA
Commanding

1 Encl: a/s

P.S. Your many personal kindnesses to me will never be forgotten
SCW

[enclosure in letter of 13 May 1957]

UNITED STATES ARMY
HEADQUARTERS
Kilmer Reception Center
Hungarian Relief Program
1956 – 1957

ISTEN HOZTA AMERIKABA
WELCOME TO AMERICA

Certificate of Achievement

Awarded to: MR. TRACY S. VOORHEES

FOR EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE OF DUTY IN SUPPORT OF "OPERATION MERCY". YOUR UNTIRING EFFORTS AND HUMANITARIAN INTEREST TOWARD THE HEALTH AND WELFARE OF THESE FREEDOM LOVING PEOPLE IS A CREDIT TO YOU AS WELL AS THE MILITARY SERVICE.

Sidney C. Wooten
SIDNEY C WOOTEN
BRIGADIER GENERAL
COMMANDING

The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief

HEAD OFFICE:
1413 K STREET NW., WASHINGTON 5, D. C. (ROOM 502)
EXECUTIVE 3-3111, EXT. 632

BRANCH OFFICE:
JOYCE KILMER RECEPTION CENTER, KILMER, N. J.
KILMER 5-7200, EXT. 321

LEWIS W. DOUGLAS, HONORARY CHAIRMAN
TRACY S. VOORHEES, CHAIRMAN
J. LAWTON COLLINS, VICE CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTOR

VICE CHAIRMEN:
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MRS. JOHN C. HUGHES
JOHN A. KROUT
MOSES A. LEAVITT
GEORGE MEANY
MSGR. EDWARD E. SWANSTROM
CHARLES P. TAFT
R. NORRIS WILSON

WILLIAM J DONOVAN
COUNSEL

May 13, 1957

Secretary to
Mr. Turner Catledge
The New York Times
229 West 43d Street
New York 36, N.Y.

Dear Madam:

When I wrote Mr. Catledge on May 8, I did not know -- although I should have known -- that he was abroad. Supplementing that letter, I enclose -- on a confidential basis until released by the White House -- the final form of the report to the President by our Committee. This, I anticipate, will probably be released by the President immediately following the Committee's meeting with him tomorrow morning, May 14, at 10:00 o'clock, accompanied by whatever press statement of his own the President may decide to make.

I am also sending a copy of this to Mr. Reston.

Sincerely yours,

Tracy S. Voorhees

Encl.

ekt

The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief

HEAD OFFICE:
1413 K STREET NW., WASHINGTON 5, D. C. (ROOM 502)
EXECUTIVE 3-3111, EXT. 632

BRANCH OFFICE:
JOYCE KILMER RECEPTION CENTER, KILMER, N. J.
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GEORGE MEANY
MSGR. EDWARD E. SWANSTROM
CHARLES P. TAFT
R. NORRIS WILSON

WILLIAM J DONOVAN
COUNSEL

May 13, 1957

Mr. James B. Reston
The New York Times Bureau
1701 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Scotty:

Supplementing my letter of May 8, I enclose -- on a confidential basis until released by the White House -- the final form of the report of our Committee to the President. This, I anticipate, will probably be released by the President immediately following the Committee's meeting with him tomorrow, May 14, at 10:00 o'clock, accompanied by whatever press statement of his own the President may decide to make.

I am also sending a copy of this to Mr. Catledge's secretary.

Yours faithfully,

Tracy S. Voorhees

1 Encl.

[First of four letters stapled together]

The New York Times
WASHINGTON BUREAU
1701 K STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON, D. C.

May 9, 1957

Tracy S. Voorhees, Esq.,
Metropolitan Club
Washington, D.C

Dear Tracy,

It was very thoughtful of you to send along that advance copy of your report. We will take care of it, of course, when it is released.

Meanwhile, let me say to you how much I appreciate your friendly note about the Pulitzer Prize.

Yours sincerely,

Scotty

[Second of four letters stapled together]

Metropolitan Club
Washington, D.C.

May 8, 1957

Dear Scotty:

Congratulations on your Pulitzer prize. Surely no one could question that this was earned.

I have for a long time made it a practice to read every one of your byline stories so that I know how great a contribution you are making, both to the highest standards of journalism, and to a better awareness on the part of our country and official Washington of the grave problems before us, of our weaknesses and of what needs to be done.

Please do not trouble to acknowledge this note.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. James B. Reston
The New York Times Bureau
1701 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

[Third of four letters stapled together]

ext

May 8, 1957

Mr. James B. Reston
The New York Times Bureau
1701 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Scotty:

I enclose a copy of a letter which I have written today to Mr. Catledge. Also enclosed is a copy of the proposed Committee report I referred to. For the reasons stated in the letter to Mr. Catledge, I am sending this to you on a confidential basis. I thought I should send it to you as the release will presumably be from the White House and therefore initially a matter for the Washington Bureau.

Please do not trouble to acknowledge this note. I will pass on later any further word.

Yours faithfully,

Tracy S. Voorhees

2 Encls.
As stated

[Fourth of four letters stapled together]

COPY COPY COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 14, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Although I know the deep satisfaction you feel in the accomplishments of the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief far outweighs any words of gratitude that I can summon, I nonetheless want once more to thank you personally for undertaking -- and carrying through to conclusion so successfully -- an extremely delicate and complicated assignment. The American people, as well as the refugees who have been resettled here, are greatly indebted to you.

I have written notes to all the members of the Committee who served with you, as well as the suggested letters to Tom Watson and Henry Ford. I also sent a letter to Secretary Brucker, asking him to pass along my congratulations to the Army and to General Wooten.

Once again, my personal thanks and, as always, my warm regard,

Sincerely,

/s/ Dwight D. Eisenhower

The Honorable Tracy Voorhees
Room 2B938
The Pentagon
Washington, D. C.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 15, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Thanks very much for bringing me a copy of your Committee's final report on Hungarian Refugee Relief. It is inspiring to read what you've accomplished. Congratulations on a great job well done!

With warm personal regards -- and please keep me informed of your future plans as I want to stay in close contact with you.

Sincerely yours,

Jerry

Wilton B. Persons
The Deputy Assistant to the President

The Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees
Defense Advisor to the Chief, U.S.R.O.
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

STEPTOE & JOHNSON

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

CLARKSBURG, W. VA.
UNION BANK BUILDING

CHARLESTON, W. VA.
KANAWHA VALLEY BUILDING

WASHINGTON, D. C.
SHOREHAM BUILDING

PHILIP P. STEPTOE (1877-1944)
LOUIS A. JOHNSON
LEO P. CAULFIELD
JAMES M. GUIHER
STANLEY C. MORRIS, SR.
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KINGSLEY R. SMITH
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HENRY C. IKENBERRY, JR.

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LAIDLER B. MACKALL
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CHARLES B. GATES, JR.
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STANLEY C. MORRIS, JR.
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WILLIS O. SHAY
GEORGE B. MICKUM, III
CARL F. STUCKY, JR.
RICHARD P. TAYLOR
JOHN E. NOLAN
CHARLES G. WILLIAMSON, JR.
DAVID HUME

WASHINGTON, D.C.

PERSONAL

May 16, 1957

Dear Tracy,

I appreciate your sending me that personal note, along with your report to the President on the Hungarian Refugee Relief Committee. You have done a grand job! More power to you always!

Let's get together soon, - there's much to discuss.

With kindest personal regards, believe me,

Sincerely yours,

Louis

Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees
Department of Defense - Rm 3-D-1049
Washington 25, D. C.

PHILIP J. McCOOK
ATTORNEY AND COUNSELLOR AT LAW
15 WILLIAM STREET
WHITEHALL 4-4580
NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

May 16, 1957

Gen. Tracy S. Vorhees, Chairman
President's Committee for Hungarian
Refugee Relief,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tracy:

Thanks very much for your excellent report, ~~and~~ in character and keeping with your whole record; proud to know you.

Always sincerely and gratefully yours,

Phil McCook

McC:HR

DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

May 17, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Your note of May 14 with which you were kind enough to enclose the Report of The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief together with the White House statement reminds me again to extend warmest congratulations to you on a superb job well done. Naturally when you undertook it I expected that that would be the result, and I congratulate you.

One of these days we must get together and have a chin. It has been too long. I hope you and your family are in excellent form.

Yours sincerely,

Robert Murphy

The Honorable
Tracy S. Voorhees,
The President's Committee for
Hungarian Refugee Relief,
1413 K Street, N.W.,
Washington 5, D.C.

Dwight, Royall, Harris, Koegel & Caskey

One Hundred Broadway

New York 5, N.Y.

RICHARD E. DWIGHT
1899-1951

KENNETH C. ROYALL
RALPH S. HARRIS
OTTO E. KOEGEL
JOHN F. CASKEY
FRANK C. FISHER
FREDERICK W. R. PRIDE
BRUCE R. TUTTLE
WILLIAM W. OWENS
JOHN A. WELLS
JOHN R. McCULLOUGH
FREDERICK W. P. LORENZEN
ANDREW E. STEWART
HARRY J. McINTYRE
CHARLES V. PARSELL
H. BLACKMER JOHNSON
LAUSON H. STONE
CAESAR L. PITASSY
RALPH D. PITTMAN
H. ALLEN LOCHNER
LOREN C. BERRY
CHARLES F. YOUNG
EUGENE L. BONDY, JR.

WASHINGTON OFFICE
1000 VERMONT
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

CABLE ADDRESS
"YORKLAW," NEW YORK
"WALAW," WASHINGTON

May 17, 1957

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
The Metropolitan Club
17th and H Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear Tracy:

It was thoughtful of you to send me your report on Hungarian Refugee Relief. Again my congratulations - this time for such exceptional results in a difficult task.

I hope I will see you soon.

Sincerely,

Kenneth C. Royall

CARDINAL'S RESIDENCE
452 MADISON AVENUE
NEW YORK 22

May 17th, 1957

Dear Mr. Voorhees:

Thank you very much for your thoughtfulness and kindness in writing to me concerning the work of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in association with the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief in the reception and resettlement of so many of these unfortunate people.

I know that Monsignor Swanstrom, Monsignor Wycislo, Mr. Norris and Mr. McLoone will be pleased to learn of your generous appraisal of their work.

With best wishes, I am

Very sincerely yours,

F. Cardinal Spellman

Archbishop of New York

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees, Chairman,
The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief,
1413 K Street, N.W., Room 502,
Washington 5, D.C.

HARRY FLOOD BYRD, VA., CHAIRMAN
ROBERT S. KERR, OKLA.
J. ALLEN FREAR, JR., DEL.
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WILLIAM E. JENNER, IND.
ELIZABETH B. SPRINGER, CHIEF CLERK

United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

May 18, 1957

Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees, Chairman
The President's Committee for Hungarian
Refugee Relief
1413 K Street, N.W.
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Tracy:

I appreciated receiving the Report to the President by The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief.

I am glad to see that you are doing your usual fine job on the tasks assigned you.

Sincerely yours,

Clinton P. Anderson

CPA:d

23 Wall Street
New York 8

R.C. LEFFINGWELL

May 21, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Thanks so much for sending me your Committee's Report on Hungarian Relief. I shall be reading it with great interest. I admire your many public services of which this is not the least.

Yours ever

Russell

The Hon. Tracy Voorhees
184 Columbia Heights
Brooklyn, New York

21 May 1957

Dear Sidney:

It was awfully nice of you to write me as you did in your letter of 13 May and to send me the Kilmer Certificate of Achievement.

I shall value this and keep it as a souvenir of my work, and I greatly appreciate your including me among those who did the work there.

Yours faithfully,

Tracy S. Voorhees

Brig. General Sidney C. Wooten
Headquarters Camp Kilmer
New Jersey

THE REPRESENTATIVE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

Two Park Avenue,
New York 16, New York,
May 22, 1957.

Dear Tracy:

I have just seen your report and the White House release. Please let me thank you as a citizen for all that you did. I shall never forget the visit that I made to Camp Kilmer and the magnificent way in which so many different private and public agencies were working together. It was an inspiration. You have a right to be very proud.

Faithfully yours,

Henry Cabot Lodge

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees,
184 Columbia Heights,
Brooklyn 2, New York.

CARNEGIE INSTITUTION OF WASHINGTON
1530 P STREET, NORTHWEST
WASHINGTON 5, D. C.

May 22, 1957

Mr. Tracy Stebbins Voorhees
The Pentagon

Dear Tracy:

I have just seen a report to the President by your Committee for Hungarian Relief. As one would expect, the report is a superb piece of work, well conceived and magnificently carried out.

I simply want to express my thanks as a citizen that we have upon occasion people of your ability who are willing to undertake such tasks.

Sincerely,

Paul A. Scherer

GEORGE H. WATKINS
5801 ELLIS AVENUE
CHICAGO 37

May 22, 1957

Dear Tracy:

I was very pleased to get the copy of the release from The White House and the final report of The President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief which was enclosed. The report is short and factually impressive. I was even more pleased to get the little note which you penned and attached to the release.

I am bound to say to you, Tracy, that as I read this report I remembered well our long and pleasant conversation in your apartment some years ago when you outlined to me what you wanted to do with your life from that point forward. I am frank to admit, though, that I had some doubt at that time that you would be able to accomplish your plans without unsurmountable frustrations. Following your activities since that time, regrettably from afar, I am convinced that you have followed your plan to the letter. I congratulate you.

Some time ago we published a report on the accomplishments to date in our Campaign at the University of Chicago -- a report which I did not bother to send to you at that time. It occurs to me that you might find it interesting and I enclose a copy.

Though I am always anxious to see you, I assure you that my memories of our association are very green and very, very pleasant. With warm personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,

George

Mr. Tracy Voorhees
The White House
Washington, D. C.

SAMUEL GOLDWYN

May 23, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Thank you for sending me the report of the work done by the Hungarian Refugee Committee.

Judging from what I have read, you and your Committee have done a very fine job. As one who know the great effort that goes into this particular kind of work, I appreciate what you have done.

With kind regards,

Sincerely,

Sam

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
20 Exchange Place
New York, New York

H. STRUVE HENSEL
1700 K STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

CORRESPONDENT FOR
SIMPSON THACHER & BARTLETT
120 BROADWAY
NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

May 23, 1957

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
Room 3D1049
The Pentagon
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Tracy:

Many thanks for the copy of the report of the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief.

It was a real pleasure to read a short and pointed report with respect to a well done job. I wish you could get the Congressional Committees to follow your pattern.

I have been in and out of town a great deal during the past few months, but hope to be in Washington a little more consistently. Let's both make a note on our calendars to see if we can set up a luncheon date.

Sincerely yours,

Struve

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS 14

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

May 24, 1957

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
The President's Committee
for Hungarian Refugee Relief
1413 K Street N.W.
Washington 5, D.C.

Dear Tracy:

You do seem to proceed generously from one hard assignment to another--each well done. I appreciate your knowing how interested I would be to see the Report of the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief.

I have been sorry that our paths haven't crossed lately--and I hope this can be mended before too long.

With every good wish,

Cordially,

Lewis Morrill

J. L. Morrill
President

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MAY 24 1957

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees, Chairman
The President's Committee for
Hungarian Refugee Relief
1413 K Street, N.W., Room 502
Washington 5, D. C.

Dear Tracy:

Thank you so much for your kind letter of May 14, enclosing a copy of the final report of the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief. I am particularly appreciative of the friendly thoughts you express concerning the cooperation by me, and the entire Immigration and Naturalization Service, in the effectuation of the President's program.

While our own job is far from completed, I know that any success which we have achieved thus far was immeasurably advanced by the wholehearted cooperation which we received from you and your Committee.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

J. M. Swing

Lt. General J. M. Swing, Rtd.
Commissioner

L.W. DOUGLAS
1740 BROADWAY
NEW YORK 19, N.Y.
CABLE ADDRESS: DUGLEWIS, NEW YORK

May 28, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Thank you so much for your telephone call, which came while I was laid up.

I am so sorry that I couldn't make the Committee meeting when the report was made to the President. At any rate, I had a letter from the President, and I am sending you a copy of it, together with a copy of my reply.

In regard to the $1,000 owing to the public relations firm, are you going to talk with Dean Rusk, or do you want me to?

With kindest regards always,

Lew

Mr. Tracy Voorhees, Chairman
President's Committee for Hungarian
Refugee Relief
Room 502, 1413 K Street, N.W.
Washington 5, D. C.

Encs. (2)

[enclosure in L.W. Douglas letter of May 28, 1957]

Copy for Mr. Voorhees

1740 Broadway
New York 19, N.Y.

May 24, 1957

My dear Mr. President:

Please forgive me for my delay in answering your letter of May 14th, in which you refer to the work of the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief.

I fear that I have deceived you - or that if I haven't, somebody else has deceived you for me. The fact of the matter is that I was merely the Honorary Chairman of this Committee, and did practically nothing for the enterprise except to be a nuisance to Tracy Voorhees. All of the credit for the good works of the Committee should go to Tracy, Joe Collins, to the men who ran the center at Kilmer, and to the other members of the Committee.

Tracy was extraordinarily effective, and so was Joe; indeed, everybody who participated in the operation contributed a great deal. I am not entitled to one jot or tittle of the credit - but you should really be proud of the work the Committee did.

I am writing at this length because I want you to fully understand how extraordinarily effective Tracy was, and your thanks to me should be relayed to him.

I look forward to seeing you on Monday. It was so good of you and Mamie to invite Peg and me.

With warmest personal regards,

Ever faithfully yours,

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

DEPUTY UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON

May 28, 1957

Dear Tracy:

I can not let the opportunity pass without expressing to you the tremendous debt of gratitude all of us in the Department of State have for the work you so recently completed. Coming in as you did a few weeks after the start of the emergency and successfully organizing and completing the tremendous job of receiving and resettling over 32,000 Hungarian refugees, it certainly stands as a great personal tribute to you and to the many people who worked under your inspired leadership.

It will never be possible for the full story of the work of your Committee to be translated to the people in the United States or to the people in the free areas of the world, but I assure you that those of us who worked with you fully appreciate the accomplishments attained. I hope you will accept this both as a personal thanks and also express to other members of your Committee and of your staff our feeling of gratitude.

I deeply appreciate your having written and look forward to association with you in other areas of activity.

Sincerely yours,

Loy W. Henderson

The Honorable
Tracy S. Voorhees,
The President's Committee for
Hungarian Refugee Relief,
1413 K Street, N. W.
Washington 5, D. C.

Metropolitan Club
Washington 6, D.C.

May 28, 1957

Dear Chief:

I have your letter of May 23 which I am passing on to Max Rabb who is carrying on whatever remains of my former work in the White House concerning the Hungarian refugees.

I am deeply disturbed that what on the whole was a good record by the United States is being more than a little tarnished by the failure to accept more Hungarian refugees, which would greatly relieve the situation in Austria, both physically and psychologically. Last night I saw Ambassador Thompson, and he apparently feels very strongly that we need to take 4,000 or 5,000 more from Austria.

I am of course also troubled that since your advice as well as mine as to setting up a small organization to handle the resettlement of refugees in other countries was disregarded, and responsibility was really given to the escapee program in the State Department which is inadequate, we are not doing as well as we should with that work. However, I felt that after having left the White House I could hardly decently go back and try to tell them how I think things ought to be done.

Yours faithfully,

Tracy S. Voorhees

Honorable Herbert Hoover
The Towers
The Waldorf Astoria
New York 22, N.Y.

JOSEPH KŐVAGO
FORMER MAYOR OF BUDAPEST
219 Potomac Road
Fairfax
Wilmington 3, Delaware

May 28, 1957

The Honorable Tracy S. Voorhees
Metropolitan Club
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Voorhees:

I have learned through the press that the President's Committee has, unfortunately, been dissolved.

On this occasion I would like to express the thanks of all my compatriots for the great and effective work of the committee under your able leadership.

As I have often told you, I appreciate, as do all my people, the fact that you have been such a strong supporter of our cause. It is our hope that someday we will be able to thank you properly for all your help by inviting you to visit in our free country.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Kővago

Joseph Koevago

JK:jh

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

MAY 2 8 1957

Dear Tracy:

Thank you for your kind note on the termination of the work of the President's Committee for Hungarian Refugee Relief. I cannot let this opportunity pass without indicating that without your personal leadership and drive, particularly during the early days of the special effort for the Hungarian refugees, the program may well have floundered and we would have had difficulties in accomplishing the President's objectives. I believe that this experience with the Hungarian refugee program gives support to the thesis that special emergency programs often require an individual coming from outside the existing government agencies to spear-head the required efforts.

Sincerely yours,

Bob Macy

Robert M. Macy
Chief
International Division

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
Office of the Secretary
of Defense
Department of Defense
Washington 25, D. C.

ROOM 5600
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
NEW YORK 20, N. Y.

May 28, 1957

Dear Tracy:

Thank you so much for your thoughtful note and congratulations on the really superb job you did for the free world.

With very best wishes,

Sincerely,

Nelson A. Rockefeller

Mr. Tracy S. Voorhees
Metropolitan Club
17th and H Street, N. W.
Washington 6, D. C.

CAVE HILL
LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY

June 11. 1957

Dear Tracy.

Thanks so much for sending me a copy of your Report on Hungarian Refugee Relief. I have found it most interesting and informative.—

What new pro-bono-publico task will you undertake now? Whatever it is, I know it will be well done.—

Good luck to you, Tracy,

Sincerely Yours,

Will Clayton.