

Wa - Wag

Wagner, A.

[Handwritten initials]

August H. Wagner

~~1016 N. Edgemont~~ 1016 N. Edgemont

Hollywood 27, California
27,

November 30th, 1946.

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Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Apartment 15-AA
29 Washington Square, West
New York 11, New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

You are very kind to have exerted effort in behalf of my friend Miss Ling-fu Yang...when time presses so against your efforts to help shape the New World of the Future.

I am enclosing for your information...though I do not wish to burden you with it...a letter to Mr. Ugo Carusi, giving additional light on Miss Yang's involved position. It may not alter her status...but it may...and I am hoping it will.

Again thanking you for your kindness,

Sincerely,

August H. Wagner
August H. Wagner.

Her immigration status was... could have received... safe and intact... and she could have received continued extensions of stay under this 'coverage' - Had she not desired to serve a nation which had befriended her, - and offered to forsake her 'studies', to 'teach' the Chinese language to the U. S. Army Officers at the Presidio of Monterey... and by thus rendering us a 'service', she lost her 'student' status... and became a foreigner 'gainfully employed' in the U.S... though in Miss Yang's instance, her 'employment' was not one for 'her gain'... but 'ours'! She is financially well off, and does not need to work for a living... having valuable and extensive property holdings in China, and owning a couple houses and an experimental farm (where she has been conducting research in food development) in Monterey. So, 'service', not 'recognition', prompted her to teach. And now our felt laws measure her status as one for deportation. This is indeed ironic!

August H. Wagner

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Hollywood, California

27,

November 30th, 1946.

Mr. Ugo Carusi, Commissioner
U. S. Dept. of Justice
Franklin Trust Building
Philadelphia 2, Pa.

Dear Mr. Carusi:

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt has forwarded to me your letter of Nov. 20th, in which you write of my friend Miss Ling-fu Yang.

In light of the information you detail in your letter, I should like to contribute a few additional facts and thoughts not mentioned there, which might bear on a change in this eminent Chinese woman's status.

Miss Ling-fu Yang does not wish to return to China at this time. Her country is in the midst of a Civil War. It is ravaged with hunger, stricken with poverty and rent with confusion. And though Miss Yang is a talented, educated woman, and has much to contribute to her people, the primitive conditions that exist in China today, fills her with despair and frustrates her desire to be of assistance.

When the nation stabilizes its activities and unites opposable political interests into a common acceptable and popular social program, Miss Yang earnestly desires to go home and assist her people in the arts and sciences in which she has become proficient. But she feels that the time is not now. And would like to stay here...increasing her knowledge and widening her experience in agricultural planning and food research...until China emerges from its present unrest and conflict into the full stature of a nation united and organized and able to take its place proudly amongst the Family of Nations.

Her immigration status as a 'student' would have remained safe and intact - and she could have received continued extensions of stay under this 'coverage' - had she not desired to serve a nation which had befriended her, - and offered to forsake her 'studies', to 'teach' the Chinese language to the U. S. Army Officers at the Presidio of Monterey. And by thus rendering us a 'service', she lost her 'student' status...and became a foreigner 'gainfully employed' in the U.S...though in Miss Yang's instance, her 'employment' was not one for 'her gain',...but 'ours'! She is financially well off, and does not need to work for a living... having valuable and extensive property holdings in China, and owning a couple houses and an experimental farm (where she has been conducting research in food development) in Monterey. So, 'service', not 'recompense', prompted her to teach. And now our fair laws measure her status as one for deportation. This is indeed ironical!

Indeed Miss Yang's position is one of an immigrant, stretching out a temporary status for nine years, four months,..and suggesting a permanent residence. And who can blame her. For that has been the length of time China has been fighting,..first the invading Japanese armies, and now the conflicting ideologies struggling for power and position in the New China.

Miss Yang has escaped nine years and four months of turmoil and strife, in which she could have contributed little of constructive use...by being with us. Why send her back now...to a war-torn country...still at war,..when, by extending her visa for one more year, she could return then to a land peaceful for the first time in ten years, and help nurse her people and nation back to health, security and happiness.

I believe the Commanding Officer of the Presidio of Monterey wrote your office a letter in behalf of Miss Yang. I believe also the date you mention in your letter to Mrs. Roosevelt, June 24, 1946, is a termination date, after two years of 'employment' at the Presidio, rather than a starting one.

In her struggle to remain in the United States until the clouds of war had moved from her country, I believe Miss Yang went to Vancouver, B.C., earlier this year to be listed on the Canadian citizenship entry quota into the U.S. This is, I believe, scheduled to become effective in 1948. So, her problem is to somehow forestall the deportation order, if possible, until her 'permanent resident' status becomes effective in 1948.

Miss Yang is living at present in semi-retirement in Carmel. Her existence there is a desirable one to her friends and neighbors...and a credit to the community. She is economically independent...and needs not work to support herself. She lives frugally and unobtrusively...and contributes, rather than drains, from the resources of our national wealth.

I don't know if any of this information will do her any good, but I am writing these facts at random so you can fit them together where they belong if they belong in a place that can alter her position.

Thanking you in advance for your careful and just consideration of this matter, I am,

Sincerely yours,

August H. Wagner
August H. Wagner.

Re: File No.: A-5551057

P.S.: Perhaps 'Published Regulations (Title B, Code of Federal Regulations Section 165.13)' do not apply to Miss Yang's case as she wishes neither to be 'employed' ...or to remain in the U.S. permanently or indefinitely.

A.H.W.