

KRES-KROT

Krier



AMERICAN RED CROSS

General Headquarters
APO 633, U. S. Army

8 November 1943

Dr. Hubert Krier
4 Heydnstrasse
Wiesbaden, Germany

Dear Dr. Krier:

It was indeed a pleasure to receive your communication of October 21 with which you sent us the copies of letters which had been written by Americans whom you had befriended. It is gratifying to know that Mr. de Janahl and Mr. Schwertzen, both of whom have left our organization, were helpful in guiding you to the proper channel to accomplish your desire.

We are returning to you the documents and thank you in behalf of all those whom you befriended and offered a helping hand at a time when your own safety would be endangered by so doing. May the blessings that you rightfully deserve, because of your humanitarian behavior, be yours.

Again thanking you and wishing you well, we are

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lawrence Vagnozzi".

Lawrence Vagnozzi
Assistant to Deputy Commissioner

RG

Attach.

suffering. On behalf of the countless number of Allied prisoners whom he helped directly and indirectly and who perhaps are no longer able to voice their gratitude as I can voice mine, I thank you for your generous interest in securing official recognition of his work. If I can be of any further service, I shall be most happy to hear from you.

Respectfully yours,

Incl 1- carbon copy
of letter.

/s/ Alfred D. Sensenbach
/t/ ALFRED D. SENSENBACH
1st Lt, MAC, Reserve
O-1546224

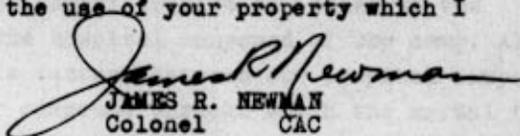
1st Ind.

Director, OMG for Greater Hesse, APO 633, US Army, 12 Sept 46

TO: Dr. Hubert Krier, 4 Haydnstreet, Wiesbaden

It is with pleasure that I forward on to you a copy of the letter I have just received from Lt Sensenbach. The letter is self-explanatory.

As Director of the Office of Military Government for Greater Hesse I desire to personally thank you for your efforts on behalf of captured American soldiers during the recent war. It is my desire that you be given every possible consideration in your dealing with the Military Government which I head. I am setting the example that I expect my subordinates to follow by being as considerate with you as possible in the use of your property which I now occupy.


JAMES R. NEWMAN
Colonel CAC
Director

C o p y .

1821 W. Cedar Street
Allentown, Pennsylvania
3 September 1946

Colonel James R. Newman, CAC
Director, Office of Military Government
for Greater Hesse
APO 633, Wiesbaden, Germany

Dear Sir:

A few days ago in a letter from my friend of prisoner-of-war days, Dr. Hubert Krier, I received the enclosed copy of a letter from you requesting information concerning Dr. Krier's activities among American prisoners-of-war. I regret that your original letter never reached me, probably because the address was not entirely correct, but I am most happy to be able to furnish you now with those details which I can recall in order to further your interest in recognition for a dangerous humanitarian service on Dr. Krier's part.

I first met Dr. Krier while I was interned in Stalag VI-G at Hardthohe, Düisdorf, Bonn-am-Rhein. He was then serving as an English interpreter between the German authorities in the camp and the Allied prisoners. Because I was an MAC officer and spoke some German, I was acting as an interpreter and administrative assistant to the American doctor in the hospital compound of the camp. Although there was very little contact between our hospital compound and the larger outer compound through which the normal flow of prisoners passed, I frequently got to talk with Dr. Krier because he would come over to talk to the doctor and myself under the guise of official business. Our conversations became very free, and through them I became convinced of his sincerity, his liberal views and his genuinely humane spirit. As conditions in the camp became worse during the

winter months of 1944-45, his visits became more frequent, for he brought to us for treatment more and more American prisoners who were wounded or ill and had been neglected or denied attention by the German authorities. To him many Americans owe their lives, for without his help they probably would have died of infection or disease without even the most meager medical attention being made available to them. I recall particularly one case where an American prisoner was discovered to be of Jewish ancestry. The Germans placed him in solitary confinement and refused him all privileges and medical attention, in spite of the fact that he was suffering from both trenchfoot and dysentery. Dr. Krier learned of this prisoner, and under the pretext of official questioning he visited the boy almost every day, smuggling food and captured American magazines to him. Finally Dr. Krier arranged for the American doctor and myself to see this prisoner in his cell, to treat him with what limited supplies we had, and finally arranged for his transfer to our hospital compound, where we took charge of him.

By far the most dangerous of Dr. Krier's efforts to help American prisoners of which I have personal knowledge was his report of the atrocities at Gerolstein. Because I am still under oath to the War Crimes Commission on the details of this affair, I can merely say that in our hospital at Bonn we received the beaten, starving and dying victims of what was the most terrible barbarity in my experience as a prisoner. Although I cannot relate more of the details of the atrocities themselves which occurred at Gerolstein during and immediately following the "Battle of the Bulge", I can tell you of the work Dr. Krier did to stop such treatment of our prisoners. He was somehow connected with interrogation of prisoners and with some authority to whom he made a full report of the terrible condition in which prisoners were arriving from Gerolstein. On the surface the report seemed to be a complaint because the men were arriving in a dazed and unconscious condition which made interrogation impossible.

However, I am convinced that the real motive on his part in writing this report was that he genuinely shared the pity, the horror and the vehement outrage felt by every prisoner in Germany who came to know of this treatment. Among us prisoners the word "Gerolstein" became a word of infamy paralleled by only one other, "Pearl Harbor". In those tragic days Dr. Krier's was the only voice of courageous protest which was heard, and to us he became a close, trusted friend.

In this account I have spoken chiefly about this man's helping other prisoners, but the time also came when I was to appreciate personally his considerate interest in us who were technically his enemies. From 4 February until 8 March 1945 I was interned in the Stalag at Limburg, Germany. By coincidence Dr. Krier had been transferred there some weeks before, and upon my arrival I was fortunate enough to meet him again. During that month he visited me regularly, brought me captured books and magazines, purchased insecticide for me, and at night he would come down to my compound to take me for walks inside the camp ~~to~~ to pass on to me the latest news broadcasts. In addition to all these things, when the camp was being evacuated in the face of the advancing Allied armies he personally arranged for me to be left there until the last possible moment in order that my chances for being recaptured might be greater. Although I was finally evacuated from the camp before the Americans overran Limburg, I owe to Dr. Krier a tremendous debt of gratitude. At that time my own deprivation and psychic tension were at their greatest, and the value of his help to me, all at his own risk and without promise of any possible gain for himself, was inestimable.

I have tried here to recall all the relevant facts in that strange friendship behind barbed wire between captive and captor. I cannot stress too strongly my appreciation of Dr. Krier's humane regard for Allied prisoners and of his courage in doing his best to alleviate their hardships and their

**OFFICE OF MILITARY GOVERNMENT
FOR GREATER HESSE**

APO 633
Wiesbaden
21 Mar 46

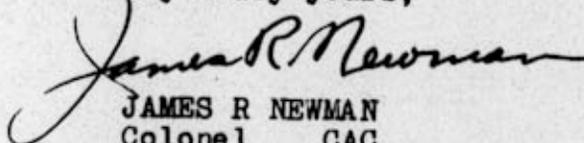
Dr Herbert Krier
Haydnstr 4
Wiesbaden

Dear Dr Krier:

Attached hereto is a copy of a letter I have received from Mr Richard Ryan in New York City. His letter concerning you is self-explanatory. There is no doubt in my mind but that you did everything you could to make life bearable for American soldiers and officers with whom you came in contact in German prison camps. It is my opinion that you went far beyond the call of duty as recognized by principles of humanity to render service.

If and when I receive replies from other former officers and soldiers of the American Army that you befriended I will forward to you copies of the letters in order that you may use them to prove to any American Military Government authorities the stand taken by you to render service to captured soldiers.

Very truly yours,



JAMES R NEWMAN
Colonel CAC
Director

1 Incl

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

Mr Richard Kyan
203 W 67 St
NYC 23 NY.

March 11, 1946

Dear Col. Newman,

Received a letter from you asking for information about a German by the name of Dr. Herbert Freier.

Well I first met him at Stalag XIII A, near Limbourg Her. He had charge of taking in American prisoners to the camp. (As something to do with taking them into the camp. He asked me and another fellow to clean up his room. For that he gave us some bread and cigarette. Before that if someone wanted us to do something they told us to do it or else. I thought that may be was trying to get information out of us but he never tried to make me tell him anything.

He went out of his way many times to help me and everyone else (Americans) when some American soldiers were sick.

Encl # 2

in the same compound that I was in ⁽²⁾
he had them moved to a small room
and had a Dr. look after them. He
almost always saved part of his
food and took it down to the American
compound and gave it to the sick.

He went to town and bought some
louse powder because I had lice and
he wanted me to get rid of them.

I had dysentery practically the
whole time I was a Prisoner. He saw
how sick I was and went to town and
bought me some charcoal and other
ingredients to bind me up.

Whenever I asked him for some salves
and bandages, and other things, that were
taken from the Americans when they were
brought into the camp, he always gave
them to me. Which I gave to the
American Dr. in our compound. Usually
they sent all their first aid equipment to
the German hospital for their own use.

Whenever we were alone and he knew

no other Germans were around he used to tell me how much he hated the army. I asked him if he was a Nazi and he said no he wasn't. Then I asked him why he was in the army, and he said he had no choice.

I gave him my address when he left the camp I was in because I knew sooner or later he would be captured and maybe I could do something to help him.

As far as I know he can be trusted. I know I would trust him.

I hope that this information will help him get rewarded for his assistance. If there is any other way that I can help him please let me know.

Yours truly,
Richard R. Ryan

P.S. I think he came down with yellow jaundice just before he left the camp. I also think that he got it from an American Lt. that he tried to be nice to

Richard Ryan

64702

455 CLAREMONT AVENUE
DECATUR, GA.

March 12 1946

Dear Sir: Regarding your inquiry as to Dr Hries of Weirbaden, I may say that he was an interpreter at our Camp - Stalag VI G - Hardthöhe for about two months. During that time he was very helpful to the Americans imprisoned there, and was of aid to me in securing permission to attend the American wounded in the other compounds. He spoke English well and did try to alleviate the hardships of men held in our Camps. From these contacts with him, I

can vouch that he was a pretty decent sort and think he might be reliable and of value to your ~~department~~ organization

Sincerely

Chester W. Morse M.D.

(Reserve officer 0470292)

Cpt. (M.C.) CHESTER W. MORSE, M.D.
455 Clairmont Avenue, DECATUR Ga.

to:
Colonel JAMES R. NEWMAN
Director of Office of Military Government
for Greater Hesse.

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

Burchday

BEN KRINSKY
REGISTERED ARCHITECT CERT. NO. 884
~~14003 DREXMORE ROAD~~
CLEVELAND, OHIO

MY FRIENDS

(Dedicated to the memory of the man who made these words immortal -
Franklin Delano Roosevelt)

These are your children, white and black,
Struck helpless by a dread attack.
Some rich, some poor, their limbs drawn tight,
Give them a chance to win the fight.

These are your children, look in their eye,
There's a tear in yours, you want to cry.
But save a tear - they're young, they'll fight,
If you will give with all your might.

Their hands outstretched in great appeal,
They need your help - we know you will.
They have been hurt - it's oh so true,
But with your help, they'll fight it through.

And as the twilight hour draws nigh,
You can hear them whisper with a sigh,
"My friends, I only want a chance to play
As your child does each new born day.

"Dear God, as I lay me down to sleep,
I pray my soul you'll always keep.
Give me that helping hand, I pray,
So I can romp, come break of day".

Ben Krinsky
14003 Drexmore Road
Shaker Heights, 20, Ohio

Ben Krinsky