

OF 133a Box 2
Immigration
Misc. 1939-1941

133-A

March 13, 1940

My dear Mr. Ziu:

My mother has brought to my personal attention your letter of February 22, 1940 concerning your desire to have your fiancée, Miss Urania L. Shandro, join you in this country from Albania as soon as possible.

I wish that I could be of assistance to you in this matter. However, there appears to be no way under our immigration laws by which the issuance of an immigration visa to your fiancée may be expedited since applicants for visas must be considered strictly in turn. I am informed, however, that if you should find it possible to proceed abroad to be married you could take advantage of the provision of our immigration laws which permits an American citizen to file a petition with the Department of Labor to obtain non-quota status for his alien wife. I regret that I am unable to be of greater assistance to you.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Franklin D. Roosevelt

Mr. Kostaq Dh. Ziu ×
~~1726 North Bodine Street~~
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

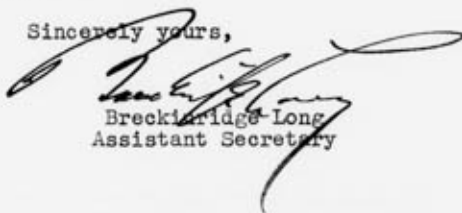
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 12, 1940

My dear General Watson:

In compliance with the memorandum from the President dated March 11, 1940 I am enclosing a letter drafted for his signature addressed to Mr. Kostaq Dh. Ziu.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Breckinridge Long". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title of the signatory.

Breckinridge Long
Assistant Secretary

Brigadier General Edwin M. Watson
The White House

133-A
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 11, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. BRECKINRIDGE LONG *x20*

FOR PREPARATION OF REPLY
FOR MY SIGNATURE.

F. D. R.

Memorandum for the President from the Secretary of Labor, 3/9/40 (copy in our files) returning correspondence which the President sent to the Secretary with his memorandum of 3/7/40, from Kostaq Dh. Ziu.

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

March 8, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM THE SECRETARY OF LABOR

The attached correspondence, addressed to Mrs. Sara Delano Roosevelt by Kostaq Dh. Ziu, is a matter coming within the province of the State Department since it involves the issuance of a visa to a person resident in Albania.

The correspondence from the State Department addressed to Mr. Ziu indicates that this young man wishes to marry a girl resident in Albania. The State Department indicates that the Albanian quota is mortgaged for several years and suggests that since Mr. Ziu is an American citizen that he go to Albania and marry the girl and then petition to bring her in as the wife of an American citizen. If he carried out this suggestion of the State Department the Labor Department would then be concerned with the petition for preference in bringing in the wife of an American citizen. Since he apparently has not as yet carried out this suggestion, it is not a matter in which this Department has any discretion or control.

Walter P. Reuther

Enclosures

RECEIVED
MARCH 11 9 11 AM '40
THE WHITE HOUSE

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

133-A

March 7, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF LABOR ^{x15}

Will you let me have
a memorandum on this?

F. D. R.

xpp78
Letter from Kostaq Dh. Ziu, 177 N. Bodine St.,
Philadelphia, Pa., 7777770 to Mrs. Sarah
Delano Roosevelt, with enclosed letter of same
date to the President, in further reference
to his request that his fiancée, Miss Urenia L.
Chandro, now in Albania, be permitted to
come to the U.S. Attached is his letter of
5/10/39 to the President, letter which he
received from the State Dept., 6/3/39 and
letter which he received from Morris W. Hughes,
American Consul in Albania, 6/22/39, regarding
the case.

x15-10
x576-A.

1728 N. Bodine St.
Phila. Penna.
February 22, 1940.

Mrs. Sarah Delano Roosevelt,
Hyde Park, New York,
New York.

Dear Madam:

I am writing this to you as the mother of our great President to appeal to your mother heart and that you will see that your son gets it. If I write to the President his secretary gets it and refers it to the State Department and we are defeated already because they can only act through the regular channels as their letters indicate. But if the good kind President would know our case I have faith he would help us. So I beg of you to read this letter and give it to your son. Abraham Lincoln saved the life of a young boy who slept on sentinel duty when he knew the case and all great men have been likewise and I am sure President Roosevelt will help us when he knows.

My heart felt thanks for your kindness,

Kostaq Dh. Ziu.

Kostaq Dh. Ziu

1728 N. Bodine St.,
Philadelphia, Pa..
February 22, 1940.

President of the United States,
Franklin Delano Roosevelt,
Hyde Park, New York, N. Y.

Your Excellency,

In this second request I am enclosing a copy of my first request dated May 18, 1939 of which I quote the first few lines to your Excellency. "There are four of us which happiness depends on our Lord and your Excellency. This may sound as foolish to any one to bother your Excellency, in begging you to make us four our happiness to come to, but I, as a Christian am convinced through the Bible when I read that Saint Paul tells us that the foolishness of this world is wisdom with God, also our Lord himself tells us that "if we ask in the name of our Lord we shall receive, and if we knock it shall be opened."

The officers in charge have received your Excellency's letter and have answered me. Also the American Consul to Albania have answered me of which you will find both of these answers enclosed. Both of these officers have done their duty but I have lost not hope in God and in your Excellency to make my happiness come to. And this time I come to you as like one beggar in my old country which he told me when I ask him, "Sir, this is the second time I'm seeing you at this door knocking for a piece of bread." Then he answered me, "Son, if yesterday when you saw me at this door if the master or his mother was home my knocking would have been answered". So I this time come to you, your Excellency, through your mother, which she, being your mother, she is not only going to give you this letter,

... .. also urge you to help me, to make our hope come to, because she knows you better than any one in the world. In my first plea with your Excellency was the cause of the financial difficulty, but this time it is the war, which it is impossible to get permission to go over and come back with a wife.

Your Excellency will read from the answer from the American Consul in Albania, the Legation's waiting list contains the names of 40 non-preference applicants who have been considered eligible for immigration visas and so on, but I have hope in your Excellency, all I can hope and say that you can add one more and have 41 and possible that she may come soon as there is a chance, now while the way is open.

You will understand that my fiancee this coming May will be two years registered as a prospective immigrant to this country. I don't know what the case may be of those who are registered for this country ahead of my fiancee, but one thing I am sure, that even the first one on the list for over here, if he knew our case, he would volunteer his turn for my fiancee to be the first one. Then he gladly would wait two more years for his turn, because all our people (Albanians) consider the engagement and marriage a most sacred obligation.

I do not know how big a crime or sin your Excellency ^{may} _{commit} by disobeying the law of man, but on this I am sure that you are obeying the law of God. I am convinced in this through the Bible, which tells us in Proverbs "There is no man that doeth good and sinneth not".

I have not much schooling. All I had was half of ~~grammar~~ school, and have read and keep reading the Bible and study a little religion through books, so I do not know a better way to address my plea to your Excellency. All I did was in the beginning to pray to our Lord that he may teach me how to address your Excellency. And second I pray that He may bright you through His grace to understand and to believe me, that the happiness of us four it is in your kind heart and in your deeds to humanity, which speak themselves ever since I know you these seven years. I repeat again in this pleading that, far be it from me to flatter you, and far be it from me to want to set a precedent and advertize our happiness which you made possible. Our Bible teaches us in Proveros 27:21 "He that blesseth his friend with a loud voice, rising early in the morning, it shall be counted a curse to him", but in our prayers you will be in every minute of our life. The hope I have in your Excellency, I am more sure than death itself, that no death will approach me before you answer me, that you will do this for us that by the time you notify the American Consul in Albania to call my fiancee for a visa, I in meantime will send the affidavit of support to her, that she will have it when she gets called to the legation. That on account of the war no time will be lost in her coming to this country. If I knew that our engagement would come this way I would not have started it, but now that I have promised her my conscience is bothering me, and our only hope is on your helping us. Otherwise I don't know what will happen to my life. Many times I pray to God that He take my life and she can be free, but this way being alive I can not tell her its impossible. Your

EXCELLENCY believe me, in your heart that I am not threatening my life to you. I know your time is valuable, even each minute, and maybe I wrote too much even now, but also I'm convinced that you want nothing better in your life than how to help the helpless, for which our Lord himself came. Our Bible tells us "Love thy neighbor as thyself." I am convinced that you and I will agree who is our neighbor. I say that my neighbor is not the one that lives next door to me, but the one which I can be help to his need.

With life long respect and gratitude, I am your humble servant.

Kostaq Dh. Ziu.

Kostaq Dh. Ziu

Kostaq Ziu,
1728 N. Bodine St.
Philadelphia, Pa..

take this to F. D. R.



REGISTERED

266090

Return Receipt Requested
Fee Paid

Mrs. Sarah Delano Roosevelt,

~~Hyde Park, New York,~~

~~New York.~~

*47 East 65 St.
New York N. Y.*

118 E. Phila. St.
York, Pa.
May 18, 1939.

The President of The United States,
Franklin Delano Roosevelt,
White House, Washington, D. C.

Your Excellency,

There are four of us which happiness depends on our Lord and your Excellency. This may sound as foolish to anyone to bother your Excellency in begging you to make us four our happiness to come to.

But I, as a Christian am convinced through the Bible when I read that Saint Paul tells us the foolishness of this world is wisdom with God, so our Lord Himself tells us that if we ask in the name of our Lord we receive. So having faith in the word of our Bible I am fully convinced that your Excellency will not call this foolishness, but will help me.

But now before I tell my problem to your Excellency I will begin a little with my story which will bring my problem to your Excellency. In 1920 I came in this country with my mother and three sisters and I behaved up to now as a good citizen and still living with my mother. Up to last year last March, I wanted to get married and so I became engaged with a girl in my old country Albania and I sent her the affidavit of support that she may go to the American legation in Albania and obtain a quota visa to come to this country and marry me. So she went to the American legation last May, 1938 and she was registered there for a quota but the American Consul told her that we will not promise you and tell you when your visa will come. It may be between six months and five years that you will wait but you write to your fiance that he may come here and get married and go together to the U. S. A. on none quota visa.

Now your Excellency comes my problem, that I up till now I have a home well fit to live in and all paid and I will have about \$800 saved until September. Then if I go to Albania to marry and come here it will not be enough for the expenses besides the three to four months time that I will loose from my work. Then when I come here I will be without a penny in my pocket and with no work to begin my new life. To get work again is not so easy as when you have a job and leave it, but if she comes here on a quota this beginning of July it will cost me only \$300 for her expenses, so this way with the help of your Excellency to make it possible for that she may come on a quota by herself until to September I will have a good beginning in my new life with \$500 to begin and with a job.

Your Excellency in the beginning of this request of my letter I mentioned the happiness of four of us, the first two are my fiancee and myself which we figure the hours to be as long as days, even September seems to us like ages, then to tell your Excellency how long it may seem you have experienced it yourself. The other two are our two mothers which according to their belief or Christian religion they believe that their duty to our Lord

it then is performed when their children are gone in the Lord's way that is when their children all got married. And I am fully convinced that your Excellency as a parent yourself have this belief. Being that we two are their last children they will be the happiest ones to see that their duty is performed when they see that their children got married with your help. Now in their few days of their life they will bless your Excellency with all their heart and pray to God that he may bless you and repay you. As for us two we will not forget you in our prayers that our Lord will bless you for our happiness, which you are the only one which made it possible.

Your Excellency I have faith and all the hope of my heart that you can help us to bring us this happiness by writing to the American Consul in Albania to give a visa to my fiancée this coming July. My fiancée's name and address is Miss Urania L. Shandro, No. 16 Ne Rruga 825, Ne Lagjen Uzgur, Berat, Albania.

Your Excellency I don't need to flatter you for your good work that you are doing for humanity knowing that you are a good Christian and believer in the Bible. I convince myself, and I say to myself that I will beg the President of the country in the name of the Lord, which it is sufficient to tell your Excellency what God wants us to do to help if it is possible, in the name of our Lord.

Your Excellency this is my problem and you are the only one that can make this happiness to come to. I put it in a long story being that I want you to understand my problem and that God our Lord may grant you His blessing to understand me and to grant me this happiness which without your help, it is impossible and our life will be ruined.

With life long gratitude I am your humble servant,
Kostaq Dh. Ziu!

Kostaq Dh. Ziu

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



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
VD 811.111 Shandro, Urania L.

June 3, 1939

My dear Mr. Ziu:

Your letter dated May 18, 1939 addressed to the President concerning your desire for the early immigration into the United States of your fiancée, Miss Urania L. Shandro, has been referred to this Department for reply.

As the Consul explained to your fiancée, the only way in which her immigration into this country may be expedited would be in the event you were to proceed abroad and marry her. Then as the alien wife of an American citizen she would be entitled to nonquota or exempt status under the quota and consequently her case could be accorded prompt attention. As the case now stands your fiancée does not appear to be entitled to any preferential status under the Albanian quota which

18

Mr. Kostaq Dh. Ziu,
118 East Philadelphia Street,
York, Pennsylvania.

-2-

is only one hundred annually and against which there is a very heavy registered demand for visas.

In order to ascertain Miss Shandro's position on the quota waiting list and the approximate length of time she may be required to wait before a nonpreference quota number may become available for her use, I am requesting the officer in charge of the Legation at Tirana to furnish you with this information at his earliest convenience.

Although there is nothing which the Department may properly do to expedite the issuance of a visa to Miss Shandro, I wish to assure you that her case is receiving careful consideration and that final action thereon will be taken as promptly as the circumstances permit.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:



A. M. Warren
Chief, Visa Division

In reply refer to:
File No. 811.11
EH



LEGATION OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Tirana, Albania,
June 22, 1939.

Mr. Kostaq Dh. Ziu,
118 East Philadelphia Street,
York, Pennsylvania.


Sir:

The Legation has received an Instruction from the Department of State in Washington requesting it to inform you of the present immigration status of your fiancée, Miss Urania L. Shandro.

Your fiancée registered at this office on May 24, 1938, as a prospective immigrant to the United States. However, the Legation's waiting list contains the names of 40 non-preference applicants who have been considered eligible for immigration visas on preliminary examination of their documents and whose registration dates are prior to that of your fiancée. For several years not more than ten numbers have been available for non-preference applicants during any one quota year. This year the quota was filled entirely by applicants of the preference classes. According to the experience of this office during the past five years it would appear that your fiancée would have to wait four years or more before her turn on the waiting list would be reached.

However, if you should proceed abroad and marry your fiancée, her status would become that of a second preference applicant under the Albanian quota, provided you are a legally admitted alien resident in the United States. In that case a quota number would probably be available for her use during the month of August, 1939, provided her documents and affidavits are in order and she is otherwise eligible for a visa under the Immigration Laws and Regulations.

Very truly yours,


Morris N. Hughes
American Consul.

133-2
RITTER, Louis
New York, N.Y.
5-20-40

Wrote to Miss LeHand enclosing, in answer to her letter of March 15th to him, a copy of a letter addressed to Dr. David Reich, Bronx, N.Y. from Dr. Charles F. Wilinsky, Beth Israel Hospital, Boston, Mass., dated 5-14-40, who will provide for some teaching opportunities for Dr. Reich in the Hospital. This is sent as a result of a memo sent to Mr. Ritter by Miss LeHand from the Visa Division of the State Dept. dated 5-8-40, in which it is stated that apparently the only possibility of securing a permanent visa for Dr. Reich, who is from Czechoslovakia, is for him to secure a teaching offer or professorship in this country. -Suggests that Miss LeHand send him her furs for storage and states that he has received the President's coat and explains that the fitch lining in the coat is dried out in several places. Suggests that this lining be changed to a lighter weight one, which is warmer, and then the fitch lining could be made into a ear robe with a section for the feet. - On May 28th, Miss LeHand sent a memorandum to Mr. Warren, Chief, Visa Division, State Dept. enclosing the above letter addressed to Dr. Reich from Dr. Wilinsky and asking to be advised if this meets the requirements and asking to be advised what Dr. Reich's next move should be. - On May 27th, Miss LeHand wrote to Mr. Ritter stating that she hopes to have a definite answer in regard to Dr. Reich, Mr. Ritter's brother-in-law, soon and advising that she thinks it would be grand if he would fix the President's coat for him. Says - "He is a little nervous about the cost of a new fur lining but I told him he need not be when you were doing it."--Under date of June 12, 1940, Miss LeHand wrote again to Mr. Ritter, based on a report submitted by the State Department, on June 4th, re the above case.

See M. A. LeHAND "R"

not

mpk

LONG, Breckinridge
Assistant Secretary of State
January 30, 1941

Wrote to Gen. Watson re the children of Count and Countess Bninski, Piotr and Joanna Bninski, now in Switzerland, and the difficulties Piotr may be encountering in securing a visa. Submits information received from the U.S. Public Health authorities, which was also sent to Count and Countess Bninski. This information was withheld from Mr. Justice Frankfurter and Mrs. Eliot Dudley, both of whom expressed an interest in the case, as it was felt that it was more properly information that should be submitted only to the parents. Will advise the President as soon as further information is received.

SEE - 4304

133 - A

214

DIXS, Hon. Martin
U. S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
6-1-40

133-A.

Wrote to the President making "an earnest and sincere plea that administrative and legislative action be taken at once with reference to the 'fifth column' in the United States." Wrote at length explaining why "there is imperative need for additional legislation before adjournment" and why the Immigration and deportation laws need to be tightened in many important respects.

Said he has introduced a bill to accomplish this purpose. Referred to Nazi and Communist activities in Mexico. --- The President wrote to Mr. Dies, June 10, 1940 agreeing that "particularly in their present combination the Communist, Fascist, and Nazi activities should not be under-estimated", and saying he is glad that Mr. Dies feels there is no occasion for hysterical alarm and no justification to resort to repressive or undemocratic measures. The President referred to arrangements that have been made to coordinate all investigative activity relating to matters of this kind under the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Dept. of Justice, and said that the F.B.I. together with the intelligence units of the War and Navy Depts. have been engaged for a long period in a closely coordinated program to insure internal security in the event of a national emergency. Also referred to transfer of Bu. of Immigration and Naturalization to the Dept. of Justice. The President concluded by saying "Of course a legislative inquiry can draw inferences on evidence that does not meet the technical requirements of the courts, and hence you may explore into matters beyond the reach of law enforcement. In doing so any information which you may require would be very helpful if turned over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation". --- (The President's letter is as per draft supplied by the Attorney General, June 8 in response to memo of June 5, 1940.)

SEE 1661-A

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MEMORANDUM FOR HON. SUMNER WELLES
Under Secretary of State
July 8, 1940

Mr. Early said: "I am sending you the attached, in accordance with our telephone conversation." He forwarded (as per brief): Letter to President from The Charge d'Affaires of Luxembourg given to Gen. Watson in which he quotes a cable which says: "On behalf of His Royal Highness, the Prince of Luxembourg kindly ask The Charge d'Affaires of Luxembourg to request President Roosevelt to allow twelve members of The Grand Ducal Family, as well as eight members of The Family of Empress Zita to embark on the SS TRENTON sailing next week."

Pres. says "to call Sumner Welles and read him this (enclosure) I think we should do everything we can, as a matter of courtesy, for the Luxembourgs."

SKE - 2547

133

FVS

PRESIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM FOR THE UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE,
12-31-40

133

The President said: "Will you let me have a report on this case?"
President forwarded (as per brief): Statement in re Children of Count and
Countess Konrad Bninski, Witaszyce, pow, Jarocin, Poland. The Children are
Countess Joanna Bninska and Count Piotr Bninski, at present at "Nant" Corsier
sur Vevey, Switzerland. The children wish to secure students' visas in order
to come to the U.S.

SEE 4504

C O P Y

March 8, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR
HON. ADOLF A. BERLE

Will you speak to me
about this?

F. D. R.

Memorandum presented by the Acting President of the Republic of Panama, Doctor Augusto S. Boyd, to His Excellency Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America, 2/27/40, dealing with [I] The Immigration Problem, (II) The Colon-Cativa Corridor, (III) The Transisthmian Highway (IV) The Commissaries versus the Colon Commerce (VI) Cattle raising in Panama and beef purchases in the Canal Zone (VII) Equality of treatment between Panamanians and Americans in the Canal Zone and (VIII) The Post-graduate University of Panama.

SEE 110-for first carbon

133-A

WELLES, Sumner
ACTING SECRETARY OF STATE

Washington, D. C.

3-21941

133-A

Wrote a letter to the President urging that all alien visa control be centralized in the Department of State and enclosed copy of a Departmental Order to accomplish this purpose, which Mr. Welles proposes to issue if the President approves. Says that this proposal has been made in view of information received from our officers abroad re the activities of German and Soviet governments in endeavoring to get agents into the U.S. in the guise of visitors, immigrants, etc. Mr. Welles says it is contemplated that the Visa Division of the Dept. of State shall be expanded with a staff to handle these cases, which are to be considered by a committee composed of representatives of the Dept. of State, Dept. of Justice, Military Intelligence Division and the Office of Naval Intelligence. Says the Dept. of Justice, the Army and Navy Depts. and the President's advisory Committee are heartily in support of the proposal. Asks that if proposal meets with his approval, that the President direct allocation of approximately 45,000 feet of office space and also direct the Director of the Budget to approve request for a deficiency appropriation. - - Mr. Welles' letter and copy of proposed Departmental Order were referred to the Director of the Budget for preparation of reply on April 1. Copy of Mr. Welles' letter retained for our files.

GOULTER, Eliot B.
Office of the Secretary of State
April 12, 1940

The President referred to him, for draft of reply, letter from Victor Ridder, no address and undated, with attached memo for the President, asking issuance of a Visitor's visa to enable Dr. Hans Hartmann, of Berlin, Germany, Mr. Ridder's son-in-law, to come to the United States, or issuance of Executive Order therefor. Mr. Ridder directs the Staats Zeitung which was thrown out of Germany about 18 mos. ago. -- Attached is memo from Mr. Early to the President April 10th, transmitting Mr. Ridder's letter which Mr. Early says was handed to him by Al Stedman who represents Mr. Ridder's newspapers in Washington. Mr. Early says this was apparently sent in response to the President's note of April 5th in response to Mr. Ridder's request to see him at Hyde Park. -- In accordance with draft submitted by the State Department April 15th, the President wrote Mr. Ridder, New York, N. Y., on April 15th that he has been informed by the State Department that the Embassy at Berlin reported by telegraph that Dr. Hartmann has applied for a preference quota immigration visa which it is expected will be issued as soon as he presents the usual police certificate from authority at Munich, and that he plans to sail from Portugal.

SHE - PPF 2225

133. A

mpk

DAVIS, Henrietta S.
Frankfort, Kentucky
July 31, 1941

Wrote stating that on March 5, 1941, she sent affidavits of support for her aunt, Mrs. Helen Coetz and her sister, Miss Fannie Pappenheimer, Paul Heyenstr, 18/11 - R, Munich, Germany, together with supporting affidavits to consul at Stuttgart, Germany, who advised papers were acceptable. Passages for these women have been reserved on American Export Lines for Jan. 2, 1941, on SS Excalibur from Lisbon, Portugal. Says since that time consulate has been closed at Stuttgart and has been unable to get information which would lead to passport visas through State Dept. at Washington. Asks to get passports visaed. -- Miss Kettie S. Davis wrote again on August 1, 1941, re this. -- On August 27, 1941, Mr. McIntyre sent a memo to Secretary Long of the State Dept. advising that Mrs. Davis, who is the daughter of a former Jewish merchant, is in comfortable financial shape and is working both with the Red Cross and Bundles for Britain. Asks what he can advise Mrs. Davis. -- Sec. Long replied on August 30, 1941, that there is nothing that can be done at this time with a view to providing these women with visas. Suggests a way by which the visas might be obtained. -- Mr. McIntyre wrote to Mrs. David P. Davis on Sept. 2, 1941, enclosing a copy of Sec. Long's letter for her information.

SEE - 4558

133-A