

OF 534  
Normano, Dr. J. F.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 10th, 1933.

Dear Boss:-

Will you please read the attached letter prepared for me by the State Department?  
x 20

Do you think it is wise to sign this letter? They may publish it, and it says that we are sending a Jew back to be judged in the German Courts and the Courts of Germany are giving the Jews justice.

Before signing it, I would like to have you say it is O.K. on account of this possible danger.

L.H.

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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 13, 1933.

In re-writing, we have  
omitted the last paragraph  
of the suggested draft.

M.C.L.

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July 13, 1933.

My dear Mr. Luce:

*J. F. Normano*

I have received your letter of June fifth, 1933, in which you quoted a telegram addressed to you by Mrs. Berta Normano, protesting against the extradition of her husband to Germany.

I am advised that the Secretary of State, to whom authority is given by Statute to act in such matters, sent to the German Ambassador a warrant for the surrender of Normano because the record of proceedings had before the extradition commissioner in this case clearly made out a prima facie case of guilt on the charges upon which his extradition was sought, namely, forgery and obtaining money by false pretenses.

I am further advised that before acting the Secretary of State carefully considered the allegation made by Normano's attorneys that since he is a Jew he would not be given a fair trial in Germany and that the Secretary of State was unable to ascertain that any instance had occurred of a denial of justice to a Jew in the German courts, and that no such instance was called to his attention by Normano's attorneys. However, before sending the warrant to the Embassy the Department of State received from the German Ambassador assurances that Normano would be accorded a fair trial in the German courts and that his rights would not in any wise be prejudiced on the ground of his race and in the note with which the warrant was transmitted to the German Ambassador, the Department of State called his attention to the allegation mentioned and requested him to inform his Government thereof and to express to that Government the hope of the Government of the United States that the trial of Normano would be conducted entirely without prejudice on account of his race.

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



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to  
Le 211.62 Lewin, Isaak/

June 29, 1933

My dear Mr. Howe:

In accordance with your memorandum of June 26, 1933, I have had the attached letter prepared for your signature, in reply to Representative Luce's letter of June 5, 1933 regarding the Normano case.

Mr. Luce's letter is returned herewith.

Sincerely yours,

Enclosures:

Mr. Luce's letter to  
Mr. Howe and  
Draft letter to Mr.  
Luce.

The Honorable

Louis W. Howe,

Secretary to the President,

The White House.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 29, 1933

My dear Mr. Luce:

I have received your letter of June 5, 1933, in which you quoted a telegram addressed to you by Mrs. Berta Normano, protesting against the extradition of her husband to Germany.

I am advised that the Secretary of State, to whom authority is given by Statute to act in such matters, sent to the German Ambassador a warrant for the surrender of Normano because the record of proceedings had before the extradition commissioner in this case clearly made out a prima facie case of guilt on the charges upon which his extradition was sought, namely, forgery and obtaining money by false pretenses.

I am further advised that before acting the Secretary of State carefully considered the allegation made by Normano's attorneys that since he is a Jew he would not be given a fair trial in Germany and that the Secretary of State was unable to ascertain that any instance had occurred of a denial of justice to a Jew in the German courts, and that no such instance was called to his attention by Normano's attorneys. However, before sending the warrant to the Embassy the Department of State received from the German Ambassador assurances that Normano would be accorded a fair

trial

The Honorable  
Robert Luce,  
House of Representatives.

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trial in the German courts and that his rights would not in any wise be prejudiced on the ground of his race and in the note with which the warrant was transmitted to the German Ambassador, the Department of State called his attention to the allegation mentioned and requested him to inform his Government thereof and to express to that Government the hope of the Government of the United States that the trial of Normano would be conducted entirely without prejudice on account of his race.

With respect to Mrs. Normano's request that an effort be made to obtain from the German Government the withdrawal of its request for Normano's extradition, it may be said that the matter of possible withdrawal of this request was taken up with the Ambassador prior to the transmission to him of the warrant of surrender and after communication with his Government the Ambassador advised the Department of State that his Government positively refused to withdraw the request.

It may be added that the matter of Normano's extradition has already been brought to the attention of the President and it is understood that he will consider the matter upon his return to Washington. In any event, since the case is now before the courts upon a petition for a writ of habeas corpus, the hearing for which is set for July 7, 1933, it seems clear that the matter of the execution of the warrant must await the termination of the proceedings in court.

Sincerely yours,

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ROBERT LUCE  
9TH DIST. MASSACHUSETTS

ROBERT H. KEMPTON  
SECRETARY

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House of Representatives U.S.  
Washington, D.C.

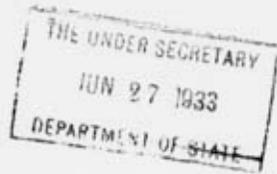


June 5, 1933.

Mr. Louis W. Howe,  
Secretary to the President,  
White House,  
Washington, D.C.

*Adopted 7/13/33*  
JUN 29 1933

My dear Mr. Secretary:-



I have received the following  
telegram from Mrs. Berta Normano, which I am  
transmitting for consideration:

"Referring to your speech in Congress  
beg to inform you that Department of State approved  
extradition to Germany of Normano of Harvard  
University who is of Jewish faith Stop Information  
about the case and statements describing husbands  
importance as a scholar can be obtained from his  
counsel H.T. Austern Union Trust Building Washington  
or A.K. Cohen Tremont Bldg. Boston Stop It is in  
Presidential power to recall the warrant which has  
been issued Stop French Foreign Office refused to  
extradite a Jew to Germany under present conditions  
Stop Beg personal approach of the President by Members  
of Congress and eventually parallel negotiations with  
German Ambassador to withdraw the request Stop Hearing  
on habeas corpus before Judge Lowell arranged Stop  
You can communicate with me in care of A.K. Cohen,  
Tremont Bldg. Boston Stop Would prefer to avoid  
publicity at present."

Yours very truly,

*Robert Luce*

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PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE TO AVOID  
PAYMENT OF POSTAGE: \$300

Phillips Cect. SoB  
x10

sent Radio E.D.S.  
10/15/44  
6/23/33

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Please defer execution of  
warrant in extradition case of  
Joao Frederico Normans  
to Germany until my <sup>#</sup> return.  
The sole problem seems to be advisability  
of submitting a few to German  
jurisdiction at the time.  
Please have precedents looked up

FR

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

U.S.S. Indianapolis  
July 3, 1933.

Memo for Mr. Phillips: X 20

Re. Joao Frederico Normano  
- extradition proceedings  
- Germany.

Take this up with me at your  
leisure.

F D R

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July 14, 1933.

State Department for reply.

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Letter from Alfred M. Cohen, President,  
B'nai B'rith, <sup>^</sup> July 7, 1933.  
Electric Bldg.  
Cincinnati, Ohio.

Protests against the extradition of J. F. Normano, a Jew,  
to Germany for trial because no Jew in the present state of  
mind of the German People can be assured of a fair trial.

X76-C  
X198-a

December 8, 1933

My dear Mr. Secretary:

When Jimmie Roosevelt was here yesterday, he had the enclosed letter and asked me what to do about it. I told him I would send it to you and ask you if you would send me a little personal memorandum which I can forward him in regard to it.

Very sincerely yours,

M. A. LEHAND  
Private Secretary

Honorable William Phillips,  
Acting Secretary of State,  
Washington, D. C.

mwd

Enclosure

Letter to James Roosevelt from A. E. Cohen, Boston, Mass., dated 12-4-33, enclosing proposed draft of letter for Mr. Phillips to send to Mr. Thompson, Counsel for Dr. J. F. Normano (otherwise known as Isaac Lewin) re Dr. Normano's application for discharge from custody.

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File

Dec. 15, 1933.

Encloses letter to James Roosevelt from  
Vinton Chapin which was sent to M. A. Le Hand  
at the request of Mr. Phillips, State Dept.  
Regard to-- the Normano case.  
Letter dated DEC. 13, 1933.