

Henry Morgenthau Jr Papers

Box 129

Immigration Cases 1936-1937

IMMIGRATION CASES

Ernst Seligmann  
and Margot Kaufmann

CROSS REFERENCE SHEET

NAME OR SUBJECT

KAUFFMANN, Isidor

REGARDING

LD 12/1/37 to Secy  
forwarded to Secy by Sara Dukore  
of Nat'l Council of Jewish  
Women - LD 12/29/37  
ack 1/3/38  
affidavits for his daughter  
Margot - and her fiance  
ack 1/5/38 to Kauffmann  
Ernst Seligmann

SEE

HMSR folder - LD 9/28/38 to HMSr

NAME OR SUBJECT

(new ltr of 9/15/38 from Isidor Kauffmann)  
(this time re affidavit for his daughter onl

IMMIGRATION & ENTRY CASES

Mrs. Eva Strauss

November 18, 1937.

Dear Mrs. Strauss:

On behalf of the Secretary I am acknowledging your letter which has just recently reached his office.

We all feel a great deal of interest in the situation which you describe, but I am sure you will realize how impossible it would be for Mr. Morgenthau to help in the many cases of this kind that come to his attention.

The affidavit you ask in order to enable you to bring your family to this country is one which demands a sweeping guarantee of support, which is necessary in order to guard against the members of the family becoming public charges. You can readily see how impossible it would be for Mr. Morgenthau to give such a guarantee for a family with whom he is not acquainted.

With the hope that you may be able to work out your problem in some way,

Sincerely yours,

H. S. Klots,  
Private Secretary.

Mrs. Eva Strauss,  
Backerweg 54,  
Frankfurt on the Main,  
Germany.

GKF/abs

cc to HF 11/24

HS &

Answer "relation"  
Send to D & M sr

or usual letter?



MRS. FORBUSH  
ROOM 470

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE November 11, 1937

TO Mrs. G. E. Forbush

FROM Mr. Marks

There is returned herewith the translation in German from  
Mrs. Eva Strauss, nee Morgenthau forwarded by your memorandum of Novem-  
ber 2, 1937.

*km*

Enclosures

Frankfurt on the Main  
October 19, 1937.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Please pardon me if I take the liberty of claiming your precious attention for a moment.

I am a Mrs. Strauss, née Morgenthau, and a native of Höchst in Odenwald.

I have found out that between your personality and myself there is a distant degree of relationship.

My late father originated from Georgenhausen by Darmstadt and had been raised at Höchst in Odenwald. I assume that your degree of kinship overlaps with ours.

As I have no relations whatsoever in America and should like very much to emigrate, I appeal to you, Honorable Mr. Secretary, to kindly send me a subsidy for this purpose.

My husband is a butcher by profession and has been active by himself for eleven years in New York. I have three healthy well-developed children, two sons and one daughter in the ages of from 28 to 32.

My sons have been trained in the tailoring trade as well as the commercial business and can show testimonials with distinction.

I should be eternally indebted to you if you would help me and my family to emigrate.

Most respectfully yours,

/S/ Mrs. Eva Strauss, née Morgenthau,  
Frankfurt on the Main  
Bäckerweg 54

J.P.S.  
Translated by Mr. Schwartz  
Transcribed by: smh  
November 10, 1937

IMMIGRATION cases

Lore Kling and  
Sigmund Seligmann

November 11, 1937.

Dear Miss Kling:

This will acknowledge your letter of October 17th, addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury.

While we sympathize with your desire, and that of your fiance, to come to this country, I am afraid there is nothing Mr. Morgenthau can do to help you. As you say, the Government requires a guarantee of support in the case of all immigrants, and you can well understand that it is impossible for Mr. Morgenthau to comply with a requirement of this sort in the case of someone with whom he is not acquainted. He has many such requests from Germany, and elsewhere, and in order to be fair to all, must treat them all alike.

We hope that you may be able to find some close relative or friend who knows your character and ability, and who is able to give the necessary guarantee of support required by the immigration authorities.

Sincerely yours,

H. S. Klotz,  
Private Secretary.

Miss Lore Kling,  
Ludwigshafen a/Rh.  
Ludwigstrasse 30a,  
Germany.

P.S. As requested, we return herewith the photographs enclosed with your letter.

cc in HMER file

GXF/abs

cc to 47 11-16

HENRY MORGENTHAU  
1133 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

November 4, 1937.

Mrs. Henrietta S. Klotz  
U. S. Treasury Department  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Klotz:

I am quite positive that Mr. Seligmann and Mr. Kling are not related to us in any way, and you can so write them.

As to Mr. Rubel of Cincinnati, Ohio, kindly inform him that we have had all the information that he sent you about our family in our "Family Tree" for many years, and that we are not interested in retaining the documents he sent you.

I have had a letter from some one else a short time ago, in which he sent me a good deal of the information. Evidently some of these immigrants are put to all sorts of devices to secure help; but I am not interested in this, and I have no doubt that Henry is not either. I am therefore returning to you the information, photographs and pamphlets that he sent us.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

*H. Morgenthau*

Copy

November 2, 1937.

Dear Mr. Morgenthau:

I am enclosing another letter from a German who claims relationship to the Morgenthau family. You probably do not know the writer, but I should like to have you advise me about the answer we should make. Of course we shall return the pictures when we acknowledge the letter.

Sincerely yours,

  
H. S. Klotz,  
Private Secretary.

Mr. Henry Morgenthau,  
1133 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

Enclosure.

Letter dated October 17, 1937, from Miss Lore Kling,  
Ludwigshafen a/Rh. (Germany), Ludwigstrasse 30a.

GEF/dbs

cc to HF 11/3  
cc in HMSr file

Lore Kling

Ludwigshafen, 17. oct. 1937.

Werner Seligmann

Ludwigshafen a/Rh.  
Ludwigstrasse 30a.

*Private and confidential*

Dear Sir,

The U.S. Govt. requires for all those intending to immigrate from foreign countries that substantial bail should come forward from blood-relations, residing in the States and in a position to warrant their carrying out the obligations they have entered into, in case of need. We are also desirous to seek a new working-field and searching amongst the members of my family for any ancestors, who may live in the U.S.A. I came across the name of Morgenthau the same as your Honor bears and which was also the family-name of an aunt of my mother namely of Lina Morgenthau who had died in 1890 and who had been married to Heinrich Morgenthau, residing at the time of his life at Ludwigshafen o/Rh.

And luckily enough I can establish another tie with the family of Morgenthau, through my now intended and betrothed, whose name is: Werner Seligmann, born 20. XII. 1909 at Speyer (Palatinate).

His father Sigmund Seligmann (still alive), is the nephew of the late Mr. Isaac Morgenthau (born 19. III. 1848) and his wife Henrietta Morgenthau, born Seligmann, both buried at Speyer o/Rh.

Mr. Werner Seligmann is an active young man now employed in his father's business at Speyer after having served a 3 years apprenticeship in a banking concern and then completing his commercial education as a clerk for one year and a half at Paris.

Myself I am a children's nurse (approved by public exam.) and am working as such in a crèche (Kindergarten) since 1929. I also am a perfect housekeeper and know how to conduct an household besides having the thorough knowledge of Ladies-dress-making and am versed also in artistic handicraft.

We both, Mr. Werner Seligmann and I should like, as I said before, to emigrate as a married couple.

Perhaps you will be able to understand our present position and will lend us your kind assistance to do so by standing bail for us and help us therewith, to build up through diligence and industry our future fortune.

Please let us know soon your good intentions and receive our heartfelt thanks in advance.

Yours very truly!

*Loew Kling*

To His Excellency  
The Minister of Finance  
M o r g e n t h a u Esq.  
W a s h i n g t o n  
-----  
U.S. of America

*We beg to enclose our both photos.*



TREASURY DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY  
WASHINGTON

October 22, 1937.

Dear Mr. Morgenthau:

We have another letter from Germany claiming relationship with your family, and I am enclosing a copy herewith. Feeling that the name probably means nothing to you, I have prepared a letter regretting that we cannot be of assistance. However, I wanted to be sure that this was all right. I am therefore sending both the letter from Mr. Ernst Meisel and my reply. If the reply seems adequate to you, would you be so good as to mail it?

I hope that you are well and enjoying these lovely fall days.

Sincerely yours,

H. S. Klotz,  
Private Secretary.

Mr. Henry Morgenthau,  
1133 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

Enclosures.

OVER

October 25, 1937.

My dear Mrs. Klotz:

Your reply to Mr. Meisel .  
was absolutely all right, and I have mailed  
it to him.

With kindest regards,

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "A. Meisel". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned below the typed name "Yours sincerely,".

OCT 26 1937

October 21, 1937.

Dear Mr. Meisel:

On behalf of the Secretary I am acknowledging your letter asking his assistance in bringing your family to this country.

I am very sorry to tell you that there is nothing Mr. Morgenthau can do for you. In order to help you to obtain a visa to enter the United States he would have to give a personal guarantee of support. I am sure you can understand that he receives many requests and that it is utterly impossible for him to give such guarantees for persons with whom he is not acquainted. In order to be fair to all, he must therefore refuse all individual requests, and contribute what he can through organizations equipped to investigate and to help the most needy cases.

With the hope that someone who knows you and your family may be able to assist you in your need,

Sincerely yours,

H. S. Klotz,  
Private Secretary.

Mr. Ernst Meisel,  
Frankenthal, Pfalz,  
Speyera Str. 48.  
Germany.

GNP/ads

Frankenthal, September 19, 1937.

Mr. Henry Morgenthau  
Washington  
U. S. A.

Hon. Mr. Morgenthau:

I turn to you in a matter very serious and very important to me and my family.

My mother, the widow Lina Meisel of this place, is the cousin of Miss Bertha Hirsch of Heppenheim, Bergstrasse, who is cousin to your father.

Inasmuch as we have no other, nearer relatives in America I venture to address myself to you, Hon. Mr. Morgenthau, because at the present time the Jewish people in general, and particularly relatives, even distant ones, must reach out a helping hand to each other.

My mother, Meisel, widow, 70 years of age,  
my sister, Meisel, Anna 33 years of age, and  
myself, Meisel, Ernst 37 years of age, support ourselves in a pitiful manner. We possess only one house in which we carry on a small provision trade. The majority of the members of our congregation have emigrated or intend to do so. We remain here without existence or means of existence.

In our need I turn to you, Hon. Mr. Morgenthau, relying on the distant relationship connecting our family with yours by way of the Hirsch family.

You are a nobleman, well known and very much respected by the whole world, a statesman of high rank and merits, a great man in a great country, and we are-----only very plain and poor people.

For you it will be a small matter to help us but for us it will be, no more and no less than---a possibility to live.

Kindly grant authority for us to come to the U. S. A. Hon. Mr. Morgenthau, in order that we may there continue to earn our living by honest work like we have done here until recently.

Please be kind enough to inform us whether you will help us.

I await your advice and sign

Address: Ernst Meisel  
Frankenthal, Pfalz  
Speyera Str. 48.

Very devotedly  
(Signed) Ernst Meisel

Translation by:  
M. Schwinghammer.

3/26/37

Miss Chauncey:

Should a reply be sent  
to Mrs. Suckman?

mas

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be "mas", is written over the typed name "mas". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned to the right of the typed text.

Immigration Cases  
Mrs. S. Suckman  
(grandson)

March 1, 1937.

Dear Mr. Backer:

Thank you for your letter of February 25th.

I should like very much to have you make the investigation in Poland in any way that seems wise to you. I would prefer, however, that you write to Mrs. Suckman as I do not wish to have her know that I have initiated the inquiry. All the information I had was contained in the letter I sent on to you and I can realize that you would need more before you took any further steps.

Sincerely,

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

Mr. George Backer, Chairman,  
The American Jewish Joint  
Distribution Committee,  
Room 620 - 100 East 42nd Street,  
New York, New York.

GEF/dbs

Copy to H J

18 + Mr. W. K. W.  
W. R. Fordy Mr.

MRS. FORBUSH  
ROOM 470

1937

GREATER NEW YORK FUND OF  
THE AMERICAN JEWISH JOINT DISTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

PAUL BAERWALD  
HENRY ITTLESON  
HON. HERBERT H. LEHMAN  
FELIX M. WARBURG  
Honorary Chairmen

GEORGE BACKER  
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JAMES N. ROSENBERG  
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DAVID L. PODELL  
Associate Chairman

Room 420  
100 EAST 42nd STREET  
NEW YORK CITY  
•  
LExington 2-8240

February 25th, 1937

Hon. Henry Morgenthau, Jr.  
2201 R Street  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Secretary:

If you will grant us permission, we will write to Mrs. Suckman and get from her the details which we must have before we can make an investigation in Poland.

If you would rather do this yourself, we would like the name of her grandson, where he is living at present, and any other details which may be of help to us in looking into his case.

We shall be happy, of course, to deal with Mrs. Suckman directly, but do not want to do so before seeking your approval.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

*George Backer*  
George Backer  
Chairman

GB:AL

Followup if answer isn't received  
from Mr. Backer by 3/8/37 - ?

*I would not  
follow up*

February 23, 1937.

Dear Mr. Backer:

I am enclosing a copy of a letter which I have received from Mrs. S. Suckman of 1532 South Spaulding Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

I would appreciate it if you would have your agent in Poland investigate the matter and let me know whether the case is a worth while one. This would seem to me to be the first step, but if you have any other suggestions to make, I should be very glad to hear from you in the matter.

Sincerely,

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

Mr. George Backer, Chairman,  
American-Jewish Joint Distribution  
Committee, Incorporated,  
Room 620 - 100 East 42nd Street,  
New York, New York.

Enclosure.

GEF/dbs

Joint  
To ~~Jewish~~ Distribution Committee

Will they have their agent investigate this case in Poland  
and advise HM, Jr if it is a worthwhile one. Have they any  
suggestions on how to handle this?

for HM, Jr's signature

Today.

Feb. 15, 1937.

*JAC  
Suckman  
Chicago  
Ill.*

Mr. Morganthau  
Secy of Treasury

Dear Mr. Morganthau,

I am addressing this letter to you because I know that you will help me when you have read my plea.

I have a 14 year old grandson in persecuted Poland, who is both motherless and fatherless, his father died 10 years ago and mother died 6 years ago. My father (his great-grandfather) who is 90 years old has taken care of him until now, as he being the only relative he has there, but as you know, a man that old cannot do much for himself let alone doing for a growing boy.

We have supported them for over ten years, even when his mother (my daughter) was still living, but support isn't enough, he needs a home and if not a mother's at least the next best, a grandmother's care.

My plea is can I bring him here to America.

My husband is in business for 18 years and we own our home, my two sons are also in business, my two daughters are married to men who hold good positions, so I know he will never be in want or become a public charge.

We are all citizens and voters, and have kept good reputations and are respectable people.

Please, Mr. Morganthau, I know this is out of your Jurisdiction, but please see what you can do for me and I will be eternally grateful to you.

I do not have to describe the persecution of the Jews in Poland, but this child's letters brings it forcefully home to us, his letters are pitiful and heartbreaking, as though he is raising his hands to a mother who is watching him from heaven but cannot help him.

If you can and will help me bring this child here where he will have all the essentials a child should have, please let me know as soon as possible.

I hope I have not bothered you too much but, I know (if you are not a grandfather yet you hope to be some day) that you will put yourself in a broken hearted grandmother's place and know the anguish I am enduring,

Thanks again for your interest  
Forever in your debt,  
Mrs. S. Suckman  
1532 So. Spaulding Ave.  
Chicago, Ill.

*(another copy made & sent with letter dated 2/23/37-cha)*

IMMIGRATION & ENTRY CASES

Son of Prof. A. Cohen

March 24, 1937.

Dear Professor Cohen:

This will acknowledge your letter of March 12th addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury.

While we are sorry to know of the difficulties your son has experienced in finding employment in Germany, I am afraid Mr. Morgenthau could not be of any help. The affidavit which is required of any immigrant to the United States is one which guarantees complete support so that the immigrant would never become a public charge. You can readily understand that it would be impossible for Mr. Morgenthau to comply with a request for such a guarantee.

I hope that you may find someone who is acquainted with your son and is able to assume the required responsibility.

Sincerely yours,

Private Secretary.

Prof. Dr. A. Cohen,  
Munich 25,  
Alfred-Schmidt-Str. 36/0,  
Germany.

PROF. DR. A. COHEN

MÜNCHEN 25. DEN 12. III. 1937.  
ALFRED-SCHMIDT-STR. 36/2

To the Honourable  
Henry M o r g e n t h a u ,  
Secretary of State  
Washington

Honourable Sir,

First of all I must beg your pardon for addressing myself to you though I am a perfect stranger to you. But, your reputation as a noble, generous and upright man encourages me to do so.

During 27 years I was Professor of Political Economy at the Technische Hochschule in Munich up to 4 years ago. My lectures were always very well attended and the students most grateful for the instructions they received from me. For sure it was not by any fault of mine, that I did not become Ordentlicher Professor, but only Ausserordentlicher. By the revolution of 1933 I lost my position, which was a hard blow to me. I was 69 then; had lost by the inflation nearly all I had and there was my wife and two children to look after. My son had just passed his Abitur; I had promised to him, that he can choose his profession for himself; so he entered a special college for book trade, where he stayed for a year. After that time he was apprenticed to a Jewish bookseller's, where he's just finishing his apprenticeship. As jewish booksellers cannot carry on their trade anymore, my son loses every chance to find work here in Germany. So he would like to go abroad; but unfortunately I have neither the means nor the connections to help him in this respect. My son would like to immigrate to the States, but there is nobody, who could give the "Affidavit". He's willing to do any kind of work, commercial work preferred of course, for he speaks and corresponds in English fairly well.

Having heard so much of you, your great kindness, your good jewish heart and your readiness to assist those of our people in need, I take the liberty to come to you with the request to give me some good advice, so I can look forward with more hope to the future of my children.

Very respectfully

yours

*Arthur Cohen.*

②

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

1937 MAR 23. PM 3 36

OFFICE  
SECRETARY OF TREASURY

4-1

IMMIGRATION & ENTRY CASES

RAPPAPORT, Sigmund

March 8, 1937.

Dear Mr. Kastor:

On behalf of the Secretary I am acknowledging your letter of March 3rd, telling us about the two members of your family who wish to come to the United States.

Inasmuch as this matter comes entirely under the jurisdiction of the State Department, Mr. Morgenthau suggests that you write directly to the Secretary of State about it. He feels sure that your statement will be given every attention.

Sincerely yours,

✓  
Private Secretary.

Mr. Adolph Kastor,  
245 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

ADOLPH KASTOR  
245 FIFTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK

March 3, 1937

Honorable Henry Morgenthau, Jr.  
Secretary of Treasury  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

You will pardon me for troubling you with the following matter, but being a life long friend of your father's, I am taking the liberty of writing you on this subject:

A son of a cousin of ours, Mr. Sigmund Rappaport of Vienna, Austria asked recently for an affidavit in order to come to the United States. He is 33 years of age.

My brother Sigmund, 70 years of age and I, 80 years of age sent two affidavits to the American Consul at Vienna, but they refused to give him a Visa, because of our age.

I can assure you that this young man will not become a charge to the United States. I have sent the Consul letters from my banks and furthermore, I am the President of the Camillus Cutlery Company (although not active) and the Vice-President of Adolph Kastor & Bros., Inc.

If I or my brother are not here to defray any expense that may occur while the young man is here, my heirs will fully be able both financially and materially to take care of him. The young man speaks German, English and French.

If it is within your power to notify the American Consul at Vienna to extend the proper Visa, I would be very thankful to you. However, if you desire me to address the Secretary of State, Cordell Hull, kindly let me know.

Thanking you for giving this matter your attention,  
I am

Sincerely yours

AK:MH



ELWILL FARM  
BEDFORD MASSACHUSETTS

February 14, 1937.

My dear Mrs. Klotz,

May I thank you again for the kind information you gave Mrs. Hockett. I followed your advice and wrote to the Department of State. I had an answer signed by Mr. John Farr Simmons, that no such sum is required (\$2000 per person) and that he will communicate with the Consul in Zurich regarding my friends. - Although I know that it may lead to no solution, I think it is the best we could do for the present. If we do get the case straightened out it is due to your showing me the way.

I thank you! Very sincerely  
Marie Meyers.

IMMIGRATION & ENTRY CASES

MEYJES, Marie

January 19, 1937.

Dear Mrs. Hockett:

On behalf of the Secretary I am acknowledging your letter of January 10th, which tells of the difficulties being experienced by the young couple in which your friend is interested.

The regulations governing such cases all come under the jurisdiction of the State Department, and there is a very strict rule that any immigrant must give evidence that he or she will not become a public charge.

When the immigrant, as is the case with the Jews leaving Germany, is unable to bring sufficient funds, affidavits are requested from one or more American citizens, absolutely guaranteeing financial support if need should arise. The exact sum specified by the Consul in Zurich is not one that I have heard mentioned before, and you might ask the State Department whether it is a definite requirement or simply this Consul's interpretation of the regulations.

No matter how appealing the case - and I can assure you that many tragic ones are brought to our attention - there is absolutely no way of having this financial requirement waived, as indeed it is a protection to taxpayers here who might otherwise have these unfortunates thrown on their hands to support.

So far as I know, there is no Society organized to help such cases. If the young couple could in any way secure the financial guarantees that are necessary, we should, of course, be glad to do what we could through the State Department in order to expedite the handling of the applications. I am returning Miss Meyjes' letter as you may want to call it to the attention of others.

We were glad to hear that you had moved into your new home and can well imagine how happy you are there.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Grace W. Hockett,  
Riverhead, R. D.  
Long Island, New York.

Private Secretary.

Enclosure

GSE/30c

O P P O  
Y

get  
LHSK

Riverhead, R.D.  
Long Island.  
Jan. 10, 1937.

Dear Mr. Morgenthau:

I am attaching a personal letter to me which is self-explanatory. Its writer, Miss Meyjes, was a neighbor of ours out here for several years and I can vouch for her integrity.

In order to save time, I am taking the liberty of bringing the matter directly to you, rather than do as she suggests, introduce her and let her present it.

At least it is refreshing to find a non-Jewish German trying to help her Jewish friend!

She is willing to vouch that they will never be a public charge, but I feel sure that she is in no position to put up the \$4000 requested by the American Consul in Zurich. No doubt he is following orders in making such a request, but it makes the situation beyond Miss Meyjes' range.

Is there a Jewish organization in N.Y. or Washington who make it their business to befriend the German refugees? There must be some such possibility, only it has not come to my attention.

Any suggestion or help which you can give will be much appreciated, I am sure.

I realize full well the responsibilities on your shoulders and the demands upon your strength and time -- but I am also aware of your keen interest in human happiness and social welfare.

Therefore I bring to your personal attention this particular case which has all the makings of Broadway drama, if anyone ever wanted to think of it in stage terms. Meanwhile, those two people pin their faith on Miss Meyjes' efforts to get them here where they need not fear persecution.

My husband and I now live in our little new house near the Research Farm. It really is thrilling, with its gadgets and conveniences. I do office work here, with occasional trips to Ithaca for conference.

With best wishes from us both,

Sincerely,

(signed) Grace W. Hockett.

Bedford, Mass.

January, 4, 1937.

My dear Mrs. Hockett:

To day I come to you with a problem that worries me very much. Do you remember that, some years ago, we spoke about the book "Jew Süß"? You told me at the time, how Mr. Morgenthau felt about the eternal injustice done to Jews the world over. At the time Hitler was only beginning to be known--who would have ever dreamed that he would go to such extremes.

About a year ago I received a letter from Switzerland. The brother of my best and oldest friend wrote it. He was a judge of a higher court in Germany highly respected and therefore not thrown out by the Nazis till the Nürnberg edict. He had a splendid war record also. The pathetic thing is, that he was in love with a christian girl who waited for him 10 years. The inflation, and then her peoples objection prevented their marriage, then the law came prohibiting any mixed marriage. Last year they took matters in hand fled to Switzerland hoping to go to England in order to start life anew.

When they wrote to me I tried at once to help them but, was unable to do anything in England so I tried to get them over here. No matter how many affidavits we sent, always some other objection is raised by the american consul in Zürich. The latest is, that the sum of \$2000 is required per person before a visa can be given.

I would never try to help those good people if I would not know them as highly cultured and in every way desirable. They can

stay with me as long as they like and I vouch that they never will become a public charge.

The reason why I write you is: Do you think I could dare to bring the matter before Mr. Morgenthau do you know him well enough to give me an introduction? Or do you by any chance know anybody that has political influence?

Believe me I hate to bother you, but we know each other well enough that there will be no hard feeling if you are unable to do anything.

If you can give me just a straw to cling to I will be most grateful.

With kindest regards to you both,

I am very sincerely yours

*Kevin Kuyper*

1457 BROADWAY  
NEW YORK, N. Y.

RE: VD 811.111 Szwarc, Rywa

June 16, 1936.

Mrs. Henrietta S. Klatz,  
Office of the Secretary,  
Treasury Department,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Klatz:-

Thank you so very much for your letter of June 10th, together with copy of the letter received from the State Department. The suggestions made in the letter of Wilbur J. Carr, Assistant Secretary, will be acted upon promptly. We shall forward same direct to Mr. Carr if this arrangement is satisfactory to you.

The definite willingness and assumption on the part of myself and others to guarantee support and education of the immigrant is, undoubtedly, as definite and as substantial as one could reasonably expect.

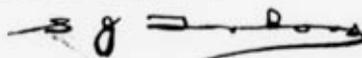
The correspondence, etc. has been extended for a very considerable period. With the financial statements submitted and the letters certifying character, etc., we have hoped for favorable action on the part of the Consul in approving the passport.

When eminent and outstanding citizens like Secretary Morgenthau and others who have vouched for my standing, this, in my opinion, should be considered by the State Department and the Consul.

I do very much appreciate the cooperation of Secretary Morgenthau because I appreciate that my problem is just one more added to many others that are presented to him.

I am hopeful that from now on we shall be able to expedite the completion of the matter to the satisfaction of the State Department and its Consul.

Sincerely yours,



June 10, 1936.

Dear Mr. Tankcoos:

Just after I had written you to be patient, the Department of State sent us a detailed statement in the matter of the case in which you are interested. It seemed to me the wisest thing to do would be simply to send you a copy of the entire letter. You will see that they give definite reasons why they have not asked Miss Szwarc to appear for a hearing, and also suggest what might be done in order to make her application more nearly acceptable.

I hope that this will be helpful in enabling you to prepare the proper documents to support her case.

Sincerely yours,

Private Secretary.

*enclosure sent 6/11/36 JAK.*

Mr. Samuel J. Tankcoos,  
Tankcoos, Smith and Company,  
1457 Broadway,  
New York, New York.

Enclosure.

GEF/dbs

*enc 125 6/12*



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to  
VD 311.111 Szwarc, Rywa

June 9, 1936

My dear Mr. Morgenthau:

I refer to your letter of April 22, 1936, and to my letter of April 29, 1936, concerning the immigration case of Rywa Szwarc.

A report has now been received from the American Consul General at Warsaw stating that the records of his office show that Miss Szwarc is registered as an intending quota immigrant, but that she has not been asked to appear in person at the Consulate General for the purpose of executing her formal visa application because the evidence on file does not establish her admissibility under the public charge provisions of the immigration laws.

The applicant has no personal resources, and expects to make her home with the family of one Samuel J. Tankoos,  
of

The Honorable

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.,

Secretary of the Treasury.

of New York City. She has submitted affidavits executed on her behalf by Samuel and Harry Tankoos and Maurice M. Greenwald, of New York, and a number of letters of recommendation which indicate that the affiants would be financially able to provide for her. They have not stated specifically, however, to what extent they wish severally to assure her maintenance, nor have they submitted proof of their alleged relationship to Miss Szwarc, who claims to be a niece of Samuel Tankoos, while the latter and the other two affiants state that she is a cousin.

In the opinion of the Consul General the evidence which has been presented is not sufficient to establish that the Messrs. Tankoos and Greenwald might be relied upon to support the applicant indefinitely, if financially able to do so, since they are under no direct obligation in this respect and, according to Miss Szwarc, have given her no material assistance in the past. Although Miss Szwarc's father "earns very little" and has six dependents, he has received only \$5 to \$10 a month from the United States, which is said to have been remitted by Samuel Tankoos.

In a letter dated January 29, 1936, Mr. Samuel Tankoos proposed the creation of a fund for Miss Szwarc,

to

to which the Consulate General replied as follows:

"The arrangement which you suggest, whereby a sum of money would be deposited in bank to be paid to Miss Szwarc at the rate of \$10 a week over a limited period, would not constitute an adequate assurance that she would be supported indefinitely, and is therefore unlikely to become a public charge in the United States at any time. A full statement of the Consulate General's reasons for withholding a visa from Miss Szwarc was contained in this office's letter to you dated December 3, 1935".

It may be stated that before an alien may be issued an immigration visa it is necessary that he establish that he is admissible into the United States under the immigration laws, including the provisions of the Act of 1917 relating to persons likely to become a public charge. The law places directly upon American consular officers abroad the responsibility for determining whether visa applicants have met the requirements of the pertinent provisions of the immigration laws. In each case the consular officer gives due consideration to all the evidence presented by an applicant, including evidence which may be furnished by interested persons. The nature of the evidence to be presented is left entirely to the discretion of the interested persons. An intending immigrant is required to show that he will in all probability have a continuing source of support so that he will not be likely to become a public charge. In

cases

cases where an intending immigrant will be dependent for support upon persons who have no direct obligation for his support, more convincing evidence is required than in a case involving a member of the immediate family to establish that he will have a continuing source of support.

The Department suggests that each of the interested persons might wish to execute and forward to Miss Szwarc, for presentation to the Consul General at Warsaw, an affidavit setting forth in detail his income, resources, and sources thereof, as well as his living and other expenses and any obligations he may have, in order to show the margin of income which would be available for Miss Szwarc's support. The affidavit should also show what arrangements have been made to take care of Miss Szwarc and, since the interested persons in the United States are under no legal or moral obligation to support her, or to continue assuming her support for an indefinite period, it is suggested that they recite in their respective affidavits the reasons why they wish to undertake the obligation to support the applicant. The affidavits should also set forth whether they have contributed to Miss Szwarc's support in the past. If

they

they have, there should be attached to the affidavits receipts or other evidence in support of their claims.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mauhart", written in a cursive style.

Assistant Secretary.

June 8, 1936.

Dear Mr. Tankoos:

I just want you to know that I have communicated again with the State Department and they are endeavoring to hasten the report. It may be that it will reach them any day, but if it doesn't do so shortly they will comply with your request that a cable be sent at your expense.

However, we want to avoid this if possible, and we believe that we should have some word within a few days.

Sincerely yours,

Private Secretary.

Mr. Samuel J. Tankoos,  
Tankoos, Smith & Company,  
1457 Broadway,  
New York, New York.

GEF/dbs

Mrs. Fairwell

If no ans. in

the meantime from  
the State Dept,  
please call to  
my attention  
Monday June 8.

MRS. FORBUSH  
ROOM 470

SAMUEL J. TANKOOS

MEMBER OF REAL ESTATE BOARD OF NEW YORK

H. CLAYTON SMITH

TANKOOS, SMITH & CO.

REAL ESTATE  
1457 BROADWAY  
AT 42ND STREET  
WISCONSIN 7-2900

*Mrs F.*

CHAIN STORE SPECIALISTS  
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ROBERT TANKOOS  
S. A. JOSEPH

NEW YORK May 23, 1936.

Mrs. Henrietta S. Klatz,  
Office of the Secretary,  
Treasury Department,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Klatz:-

RE: Rhoda Schwartz  
(Noted in office of the American Consul  
at Warsaw, Poland, as File No. 811.11 -  
Szwarc, Rywa)

Thank you very much for your letter of May 21st.

I hasten to make a correction to prevent questions.  
The communication correspondence has been with the American  
Consul at Warsaw and not Grodno, Poland.

I am hopeful that some favorable report will be received  
reasonably soon.

With renewed thanks, I remain,

Sincerely,

*Samuel J. Tankoos*  
SAMUEL J. TANKOOS.

SJT-H

May 21, 1936.

Dear Mr. Tankoos:

Let me acknowledge your letter of May 18th in the matter of the immigration case in which you are interested.

We have found that it takes a great deal of time to clear these matters through the State Department and that one simply has to be patient with the official procedure. It seems that the Consuls abroad usually have certain days on which they consider this type of business and they do not always reply as quickly as we would think might be possible.

My advice would be to wait until you do hear, even though it might take some weeks longer, and then if the report is not sent or if they inform you of further material you might submit, you could send a cable which would be more helpful than one at this stage of the game.

I note from your most recent letter that the case is in the office of the American Consul at Gredno, Poland. The first letter asked that a report be requested from the Consul at Warsaw. If the matter had to be transferred from one Polish city to the Warsaw headquarters that might also account for the delay.

I will keep in touch with the State Department and let you know the moment we have any word from them.

Sincerely yours,

Private Secretary.

Mr. Samuel J. Tankoos,  
Tankoos, Smith & Company,  
1457 Broadway,  
New York, New York.

GZF/dba

SAMUEL J. TANKOOS

MEMBER OF REAL ESTATE BOARD OF NEW YORK

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ESTATES MANAGED

NEW YORK

May 18, 1936.

Mrs. Henrietta S. Klatz,  
Office of the Secretary,  
Treasury Department,  
Washington, D. C.

Re: Rhoda Schwartz

(Noted in office of the American Consul at  
Grodno, Poland, as File No. 811.11 Szwarc, Rywa)

Dear Mrs. Klatz:-

May I respectfully refer to your letter dated April 27th?

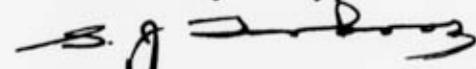
I had hoped that the State Department would secure a prompt and favorable report.

I appreciate the good offices of Mr. Morgenthau, and am very grateful for the same.

If, in your judgment, a cable should be sent to expedite the report or action I should be glad to pay any expense involved.

Will appreciate your advice, and with renewed thanks, remain

Yours very truly,



SAMUEL J. TANKOOS

SJT:C

April 27, 1936.

Dear Mr. Tankoos:

On behalf of the Secretary I am acknowledging your letter of April 22nd. I am sorry not to have written you sooner in the matter.

Mr. Morgenthau was very glad to do what he could on your behalf. As you probably know, the granting of a visa lies entirely within the jurisdiction of the United States Consul at the city where the would-be immigrant makes application. Short of furnishing an actual affidavit of support of the type you yourself furnished, the only thing the Secretary can do is to request a report on the case from the American Consul at Warsaw. Mr. Morgenthau therefore requested such a report through the State Department, and in his letter he spoke of your acquaintance with his father and his belief that you were a responsible citizen, able to keep any agreement you might make.

If, therefore, the material you have submitted is not satisfactory, Mr. Morgenthau will be informed and he will promptly let you know in order that you may be able to comply with the requirements of that particular Consul.

We shall be glad to let you hear from us further as soon as we have word from the State Department.

Sincerely yours,

Private Secretary.

Mr. Samuel J. Tankoos,  
c/o Tankoos, Smith & Company,  
1457 Broadway at 42nd Street,  
New York, New York.

GEF/abs

JRM HZ 4/28/36

SAMUEL J. TANKOOS

MEMBER OF REAL ESTATE BOARD OF NEW YORK

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NEW YORK

April 22, 1936.

Honorable Henry Morgenthau,  
Secretary of the Treasury,  
Washington, D.C.

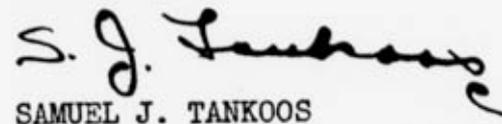
Dear Mr. Secretary Morgenthau:

In connection with letter sent you under date of April 10th,  
may I ask if you have had an opportunity to consider same and  
whether or not you would be interested and willing to intercede  
in the matter?

I should appreciate your consideration and advice, so that I  
may be guided accordingly.

For the purpose of conserving your time, I enclose a copy of the  
letter referred to.

Sincerely,

  
SAMUEL J. TANKOOS

SJT:C  
Enc.

## TANKOOS, SMITH &amp; CO.

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NEW YORK April 10, 1936

Honorable Henry Morgenthau  
Secretary of the Treasury  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Secretary Morgenthau,

Our office is known to your Father and to many mutual friends in New York City.

I am asking your help on a personal matter that is of considerable importance and I understand from Congressman Dickstein that the matter will have to be taken up with Assistant Secretary of State Wilbur J. Carr or Hon. John Farr Simmons, chief of the visa division.

The point is to have either of these gentlemen or the State Department instruct the United States Consul in Warsaw, Poland that my responsibility and standing is satisfactory, and to request that they be good enough to approve the visa so that the immigrant may leave.

The Polish Consul at New York has written to the American Consul at Warsaw.

Senator Wagner about six months ago did likewise.

Everything seems to be satisfactory to the Consul, excepting that there seems to be great fear on their part that the immigrant will become a public charge.

I can show you from bank statements that this is not the case, and am also willing to provide a Surety Co. bond or any other proper form of security that may be acceptable.

My letter to Congressman Dickstein of April 7th, copy of which I enclose is self-explanatory.

I am sure that a word from you would be productive of the necessary approval and I will be grateful for your help in the matter. I have no desire to impose upon friendship or good nature, but feel that you will consider the facts and help me, if you can.

If additional information is required or desired, would be glad to furnish same.

Many thanks in advance and good wishes for the continued success of your Administration.

Sincerely,

SAMUEL J. TANKOOS

SJT-H  
Encl.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to  
VD 811.111 Szwarc, Rywa

*File*

April 29, 1936

My dear Mr. Morgenthau:

I have your letter of April 22, 1936, addressed to Mr. John Farr Simmons of the Department, concerning the immigration case of Rywa Szwarc.

I am calling upon the Consul at Warsaw for a full report on the case and upon its receipt will advise you further regarding the matter.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

*W. M. Stewart*  
Assistant Secretary.

The Honorable

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.,

Secretary of the Treasury.

April 22, 1936.

Dear Mr. Simmons:

I am coming to you with the request that you ask for a report in the matter of another visa which has been requested this time from the United States Consul at Warsaw, Poland.

Mr. Samuel J. Tankos of New York City writes me that he has forwarded bank statements, affidavits, etc., in order to establish his financial responsibility as a guarantor for the possible support of the would-be immigrant, Rywa Szwarc. He says that he is willing to provide a bond or any other form of security.

My father tells me that he knows Mr. Tankos and feels sure he is a responsible citizen and able to keep any such agreement he may make.

If you would therefore be so good as to ask the Consul at Warsaw whether the material Mr. Tankos has already submitted is satisfactory, or whether he wishes any additional affidavits, etc., I would appreciate being informed of any statement you may be given in reply.

Sincerely,

Henry Morgenthau, Jr.

Mr. John Farr Simmons,  
Chief, Visa Division,  
State Department,  
Washington, D. C.

GSE/dbs

April 17, 1936.

*Letter very Confidential  
- filed by H. S. Klotz in  
case*

Dear Mr. Morgenthau:

Thank you for telling me about Mr. Tankoes, and also for clearing up the status of Mr. Victor Wolf. We are writing him from here.

Of course your son will be very glad to give the autographs you ask for to friends. However, he has been sending a card which also carries the name of the person to whom the autograph is given, and we think this makes it a little more personal and therefore more appealing to the individual. I am enclosing a sample to show you how we make them up.

If you prefer, of course he will write on his calling card, but I thought you might like to send me the names of the two people who want autographs in order that we might prepare them this way.

Sincerely yours,

H. S. Klotz

Mr. Henry Morgenthau,  
1133 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

Enclosure.

GRF/dbs

April 14, 1936.

Dear Mr. Morgenthau:

I am sending you another letter from someone who says he is a relative of the Morgenthau family. Your son thought that you might be able to place this Mr. Wolf.

We also have a letter from a gentleman named Mr. Samuel J. Tankoos who says, "Our office is known to your father and to many mutual friends in New York City".

Mr. Tankoos is having trouble in the matter of an immigration visa in which he is interested. He has already enlisted the help of the Polish Consul in New York City and of Senator Wagner, both of whom have written to the American Consul in Warsaw. He would like to have Mr. Morgenthau add a word through the State Department here. In somewhat similar cases, Mr. Morgenthau has asked for a report through the State Department in Washington, and while that does not put him in the position of actually vouching for the person who is interested in securing the visa, it does indicate to the Consul abroad that he is to some extent interested in the case. He therefore would like to know if you are acquainted with Mr. Tankoos either personally or as regards his business standing.

Sincerely yours,

H. S. Flots

Letter enclosed from

Victor Wolf,  
Sprendlingen,  
Kreis Offenbach, A.M.,  
Dated March 25, 1936.

Mr. Henry Morgenthau,  
1133 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, New York.

Enclosure.

GWF/abs