

Eleanor Roosevelt Papers 102
Refugee letters
1940 - A

Emergency Rescue Committee
122 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 5-4813

am
8-6

July 30, 1940

Chairman
FRANK KINGDON

Treasurer
JAMES H. CAUSEY

Secretary
MILDRED ADAMS

Miss Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
Hyde Park, New York.

Dear Miss Thompson:

We received from you correspondence in regard to Berthold Jacob about whom Prince Loewenstein was concerned, and Carl Friederick Roetter, whose parents are now in Wisconsin, and who was called to the attention of Breckenridge Long by Mrs. Walter Agard.

Both names have already come into this office. Berthold Jacob is on the list which Thomas Mann handed to us when we first organized the Committee and he is also on the lists of several other organizations concerned with refugee relief. Full data in his case is being prepared for submission to the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees.

As for Carl Friederick Roetter, we find that the American Committee for Christian-German Refugees was active in bringing his father and mother, Dr. and Mrs. Friederick Roetter, to this country and settling them in Wisconsin. We have taken the liberty of consulting them on the case of Carl Friederick Roetter and find that they still consider it part of their active business. As they are one of our cooperating agencies and are fully equipped to handle individual case work, we know that you will understand our feeling that we do not want to cross wires by also taking the case up actively in this office. We shall, however, keep in touch with the American Committee for Christian-German Refugees, and if you wish send you a later report on what is being done.

We would be grateful if you would tell Mrs. Roosevelt how delighted we are that the State Department has consented to let the President's Advisory Committee on Refugees be the channel between refugee organizations like ours and the State Department. We realize that the quick action which has come in this matter is in large part due to her understanding and efforts.

Very sincerely yours,

Mildred Adams

MILDRED ADAMS,
Executive Secretary.

102

August 6, 1940

Dear Miss Adams:

Mrs. Roosevelt read your letter of July 30 and appreciated very much your comments in the last paragraph. She was glad to have the encouraging report on Berthold Jacob and Carl Friederick Roetter.

Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Miss Mildred Adams
Emergency Rescue Committee
122 East 42d Street
New York, N.Y.

am
9-13

Emergency Rescue Committee
122 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

TELEPHONE MURRAY HILL 5-4813

Sept. 9, 1940

- Chairman
Frank Kingdon
- Treasurer
James H. Causey
- Secretary
Mildred Adams
- National Committee
 - Elmer Davis
 - Mrs. Emmons Blaine
 - Dr. Robert Hutchins
 - Mrs. Henry Goddard Leach
 - Dr. William Allen Neilson
 - Dr. Charles Seymour
 - Dr. George Shuster
 - Raymond Gram Swing
 - Dorothy Thompson
 - L. Hollingsworth Wood

Miss Malvina Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Thompson:

This is a late acknowledgement of the telegram addressed to Helen Gahagan from Carey McWilliams, together with covering letter which you sent us on August 28th.

We are writing Miss Gahagan, and enclosing a copy of our letter to her.

In these matters which you are referring to us, we are assuming that you want letters sent to the people who write you. If you would rather have us frame the letter and send it to you for your forwarding, we would be glad to do this if you would let us know.

Mrs. Roosevelt is receiving so many wires of similar import which capitalize on the same well-known names that she might like to know the exact status of these individuals.

"Heinrich Mann" for instance, has had his American visa granted, but according to our latest information, has not yet succeeded in reaching Lisbon where he can take ship. The same thing is true of Lion Feuchtwanger and Franz Werfel. We are in constant touch with their friends and our agent in Europe has orders to watch out for them.

My deep and continuing thanks for your interest and cooperation.

Most sincerely,

Mildred Adams
MILDRED ADAMS
Executive Secretary

Copy for
Mrs. Roosevelt

Emergency Rescue Committee

122 EAST 42nd STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

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Miss Helen Gahagan
7141 Senalda Road
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Miss Gahagan:

We understand, through Mrs. Roosevelt, that you have received a telegram from Carey McWilliams urging you to urge Mrs. Roosevelt to use her influence with the Red Cross and the State Department in the matter of arranging and financing the evacuation of refugees in unoccupied France.

I know that you will be glad to hear that procedures are already under way for doing just this and that the first group of refugees of this type have just arrived in the United States. The State Department is being most cooperative and Mrs. Roosevelt has been a tower of strength.

There are two constant needs in all this work, the one for sponsors to stand back of these people and the other for money with which to pay their transportation. You understand that in every case this must be an individual effort. So far there is no such thing as mass evacuation. Therefore, each application for visa must be made for every individual and money for his transportation be paid individually.

We are in a position to make applications for visas and to assist these people in evacuating them, but we must have the financial cooperation and the personal support of every one who understands how vital to our civilization is this work.

We find that the cases where we can get visas, the cost for transportation amounts to at least \$500 per person and the strain on our funds is terrific.

Thank you most warmly for your interest and for any contribution which you can send us yourself or get for us from your friends.

Very sincerely yours,

MILDRED ADAMS
Executive Secretary

July 20, 1940

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My dear Mr. Arnum:

Mrs. Roosevelt asks me to acknowledge your note and to tell you that it is not possible to get children out of the countries which are occupied by Germany at the present time. The German authorities do not allow them to leave.

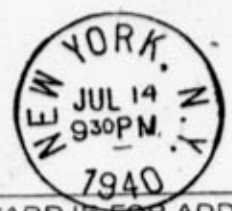
Very sincerely yours,

Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. M. Arnum
25 South Street
New York, New York

DD

Mr. Aronson
25 South St.
N.Y.C.



THIS SIDE OF CARD IS FOR ADDRESS

Mrs. President F. D. Roosevelt

Hyde Park

*Can not
get children
out of the
countries
occupied
by Hitler
N.Y.*

Dear Con. Lady:

New York City July 14-1940

Label
7-20-40

Since it has been made possible for English children to come to America, why not arrange for others really occupied lands, who possibly are in greater danger of famine than the English age. I have 3 small (7-5-3 y.o.) in Norway and have not seen them in years. Please answer me, Truly
M. Arnum, 25 South St.