July 29, 1943

A-L/B - Mr. Brandt:

Will you not be kind enough to have a reply drafted, for Mr. Welles' signature, to the attached letter from Miss Thompson.

U:ALC:IJ
June 21, 1943

VD - Mr. Travers:

What is the present status of this case?

Please draft a reply which I can send to Mrs. Roosevelt.

U: SW: IJ
June 8, 1943

SD:

Please draft some letter for me to send to Miss Thompson with regard to the attached communication.
May 21, 1943

VD
Mr. Travers:

Please draft some
reply for my signature.

U:SW:DMK
Mrs. Roosevelt, 5-3-43

Telegram from Mrs. Rosalia Biedrom
826 Clinton St., Buffalo, N.Y., 5-2-43

Re releasing Polish children from Russia
Malvina C. Thompson, 5-1-43
Letter from Dra. Flora Margarita Ramirez Sala de Subirats
s/c calle 17 No. 104 (altos) Vedado, 4-24
February 19, 1943

Dear Eleanor:

Our plans for relief to Norway and to Belgium, which the President has approved and which Governor Lehman and I have gone into in some detail, are being held up owing to the unwillingness of the British Government to agree to the proposals formulated.

We intend to take the matter up with Mr. Eden when he reaches Washington.

I suppose it would be better, at this stage, for you not to make it known to Mr. Grosjean that it is the unwillingness of the British Government which is holding up this relief work in order that no appearance of controversy between the two Governments be created. Perhaps it might be better for you merely to say that these plans are under the immediate consideration of the British and American Governments and that it is our hope that they can soon be carried out.

Believe me

Yours very sincerely,

Encs.

Mrs. Roosevelt,

The White House.

U:SW:DMK
Memorandum for Mr. Welles

Dear Sumner:

In connection with the statement made by Mr. Grosjean in the second paragraph of his letter attached, will you let me know what Great Britain's attitude is?

Will you return the correspondence, as it has not been acknowledged?

E.R.
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Since December 31st when you granted me the honour
of describing to you the tragic state which the scarcity
of food creates in occupied countries, I have often been
thinking of the sympathy you showed towards this desperate
situation. To come to the rescue of these famished, tor-
tured peoples and especially the children, is, I realize,
a complicated problem, but I feel confident that if you
set your heart to this question, as you so frequently do,
in bringing aid and comfort to unfortunate ones, something
could be accomplished to help the small Democracies along
the same lines and with similar guarantees as the relief
now extended to Greece.

Your spontaneous declaration that you would bring to
the knowledge of the President the statement I made that
with the authorization of the British Administration, as-
sistance is being extended from Lisbon to Belgium, led me
to hope that action from her would no longer be delayed.
Time is pressing, the ravages of illnesses, particularly
tuberculosis, are spreading with a ghastly swiftness; the
enclosed chart speaks for itself.

Would you allow me now to respectfully offer a sugges-
tion? On February 20th a mass meeting on "Europe's
children -- must they starve?" will be held at Carnegie
Hall, sponsored by numerous people, and particularly
representatives of the principal creeds. (A notice with
reference to this meeting is attached). In view of your
compassion for the suffering of these stricken Europeans,
would you not be good enough to express your altruistic
feelings to assist them, in a message to the President
of this meeting, the Reverend Joseph R. Sizoo, at Carnegie
Hall. Such a humanitarian action would, I am convinced,
help considerably.

Permit me, in advance, to renew my profound gratitude,
and believe

Very respectfully yours,

PAUL GROSJEAN

President, Brussels Committee
February 11, 1943

Dear Eleanor:

In accordance with the request contained therein, I am sending you herewith a copy of a letter sent to me under date of February 10 by Rabbi Yolles.

Believe me

Sincerely yours,

Enc.

Mrs. Roosevelt,
The White House.

U:SW:DMK
January 22, 1943

Dear Eleanor:

I have received this morning your letter of January 21 with regard to George Wenzel and I have also received Miss Thompson's letter with regard to the same case.

I shall, of course, be very glad indeed to see Mr. Wenzel and if you will have word sent to him, he can arrange directly with my office for an appointment as soon as he desires.

Needless to say, I shall give his case the most sympathetic consideration in view of what you have written me.

Believe me

Yours very sincerely,

Mrs. Roosevelt,
The White House.
Dear Sumner:

I am asking again, though the State Department refused it last year, for reconsideration of George Wenzel's admission into this country as a citizen.

I quite understand their refusal because when Mr. Wenzel appeared with his brother-in-law, Mr. Eliot Pratt, he had been here some time as a student, and his stay had been extended.

He is perfectly all right as far as I know, but he has two brothers in the German army and undoubtedly the Department felt that was dangerous. He has not heard from his brothers since the war began and he hasn't heard from his mother.

Both Mr. Wenzel and Mrs. Pratt are ardent anti-nazis and all he wants now is to take the steps which will permit him to get into our Army.

I hope you will see him and talk to him because the quicker his case receives consideration the better. You can make up your mind as to his sincerity. I have seen him a good deal lately and feel he will make a good citizen, and I think it is a mistake to turn away young people of this kind. He will have to leave the country and I have no idea where he could go and he certainly
can't go back to Germany and I hope you will agree with me that his situation should be considered on its merits.

Will you be good enough to let me know what you can do and if and when you are willing to see him?

Very cordially yours,

[Signature]

Theodore Roosevelt
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 19, 1943.

My dear Mr. Welles:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed copy of a letter concerning Mr. George Wenzel. She is interested in this case and wonders if you have any suggestions.

Very sincerely yours,

Melvina C. Thompson
Secretary to Mrs. Roosevelt.

Hon. Sumner Welles
Under Secretary of State
State Department
Washington, D. C.
January 12, 1943

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I am glad to have your two notes concerning Mr. George Wenzel, and I have carefully examined the file in relation to his case.

The record shows that Mr. Wenzel was admitted to the United States on December 13, 1938 as a visitor for a period of six months. His time has been extended to February 23, 1943. You may recall that I advised you on October 28, 1942 that this action had been taken and the passport requirement in his case waived.

I note that Mr. Wenzel is extremely desirous of becoming a citizen of the United States. In order for him to realize this desire, it is necessary under the law that he obtain admission to the country for permanent residence. He cannot proceed to citizenship on the basis of his admission as a visitor.

Apparenty Mr. Wenzel understands this for he made application for a visa to the State Department with a view to departing to Canada to obtain the visa and re-admission to the United States for permanent residence. Our record shows that his application, after being denied by the Visa Review Committee, was reviewed by the Board of Immigration Appeals which affirmed the denial order. I note that Mr. Wenzel and his brother-in-law, Mr. Elliot D. Pratt, personally appeared before the Review Committee on July 17, 1942.

As you know, the matter of issuing immigration visas is one entirely within the jurisdiction of the State
Department. It is therefore not possible for this Service to take any action at this time in connection with Mr. Wenzel's desire to obtain permanent admission. It might be advisable for Mr. Wenzel to seek a reconsideration by the State Department of his application for an immigration visa.

I regret that more favorable response cannot be made in Mr. Wenzel's case, and I hope that, if I can be of any further assistance to you in this matter, you will not hesitate to call on me.

Sincerely yours,

Earl G. Harrison
COMMISSIONER
January 21, 1943

VD - Mr. Travers:

Please draft some reply for my signature.

U:SW:PHH