My dear Mr. Lesser:

Mr. George Warren has referred to me the enclosed communications dated April 24 and April 27, 1944, addressed to you by Mr. Varian Fry, concerning the case of Mr. Richard Moering.

I may assure you the visa application filed on behalf of Mr. Moering received careful consideration by the Interdepartmental Visa Committees and by the Board of Appeals. The conclusion was reached however that a favorable recommendation for the issuance of a visa to Mr. Moering was not warranted at the time. The regulations provide that the conclusions reached in a case considered by the Interdepartmental Committees and by the Board of Appeals, but not the reasons therefor, may be furnished to the interested persons. Mr. Moering's case will however be eligible for reconsideration at any time after a lapse of a period of six months after the date of the previous opinion of the Board. The case will therefore be eligible for reconsideration on August 17, 1944. If the interested persons desire to have Mr. Moering's case considered at that time, it is suggested that the sponsors in the case send a statement in duplicate to the Department early in August setting forth what if any change has occurred in their circumstances or those of the applicant and stating that they continue to desire to sponsor his admission into the United States.

Mr. Fry

Mr. S. H. Lesser,
War Refugee Board,
Main Treasury Building,
Washington 25, D. C.
Mr. Fry may be assured that every consideration will be accorded to an application which may be submitted for reconsideration of Mr. Moering's case.

Sincerely yours,

Howard K. Travers
Chief, Visa Division

Enclosures:

Communications returned.
April 27th, 1944

Mr. J. E. Lesser
War Refugees Board
Main Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Lesser:

Here is a copy of the affidavit submitted in behalf of Richard Moering, and the letter from the Department of State stating that "the issuance of a visa is not warranted at this time."

I am sending these papers along because you may be able to see at a glance why the visa was rejected. I can't.

Please return the papers when you have finished with them.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Vlan Fy
Executive Secretary

A biographical statement is also enclosed.
Mr. S. R. Lesser
Refugee Board
Main Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Lesser:

I learned the other day about a visa case which makes me think that the State Department and the other agencies concerned with the issuing of United States visas have not changed very much, in spite of the President’s new refugee policy.

The case is that of Richard Moering, a German refugee poet, and never a Communist. Mr. Moering was caught in France when the Germans completed the occupation, but by some miracle he had managed to escape over the Pyrenees and to reach Madrid, where he has for some time been working with Mr. Blickenstaff. His visa application was submitted last year. His guarantors were Robert Neinberg, a wealthy New York architect and no means a Communist or fellow traveler, and a physician friend from Hartford, Connecticut, also a man of considerable means, and no more friendly to the Communist Party than Mr. Neinberg. Mr. Kurt Wolf, the publisher of the Pantheon Books, acted as character reference, and attended the hearing.

In spite of these excellent qualifications (the fact that Moering has been selected by Blickenstaff to work for him), being, I’m sure, the best recommendation of all), Mr. Moering’s application was rejected without explanation last month. Under the existing rules, no appeal can be made for six months.

Isn’t there something you can do about cases like this? Unless there is, I am afraid that much of your work is doomed to failure.

Sincerely yours,

Varian Fry

April 24th, 1944
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Visa Division
Form to be filed with the Department of State on behalf of Visa Applicant and members of immediate family group desiring to come to the United States. (See accompanying sheet of instructions.)

NOTE—ATTENTION IS CALLED TO THE PENAL PROVISIONS OF SECTION 22(c) OF THE IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1924, WHICH READS AS FOLLOWS:
"Whoever knowingly makes under oath any false statement in any application, affidavit, or other document required by the immigration laws or regulations prescribed thereunder, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than $10,000, or imprisoned for not more than 6 years, or both."

Part B
BIOGRAPHICAL DATA CONCERNING ALIEN VISA APPLICANT

1. Name of applicant and of accompanying relatives: * Check (V) at extreme left of names in group covered by this Part B.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Marital status</th>
<th>Marriage</th>
<th>Present address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(4)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* S (single); M (married); W (widowed); D (divorced).

Additional data on those listed above. Be careful to give information on lines with same number as preceding name of person to whom it refers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date of birth</th>
<th>Place of birth</th>
<th>Citizenship (If states give last citizenship)</th>
<th>How acquired</th>
<th>Date of entry (If not in U.S.)</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/4/1924</td>
<td>Hamburg, Germany</td>
<td>Stateless, former German</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>(4)</td>
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<tr>
<td>(5)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* State whether nationality was acquired by birth, marriage, naturalization, or derivatively (through parent's naturalization).

2. Information concerning Affiants and their references:

PART B
AFFIANT

Name: Kurt Wolff
Address: 41 Washington Square, New York
Citizenship: Stateless, former German
Length of residence in U.S.: 5 yrs.

PART C
AFFIANT

Name: Walter Grossmann
Address: 413 Main Street, East Hartford, Conn.
Citizenship: German, former German
Length of residence in U.S.: 5 yrs.

3. Purpose of the alien(s) in entering the United States (check one of the following):
(a) Permanent resident
(b) Temporary visitor
(c) Temporary visitor on pleasure
(d) Transient in third country
(e) Non-degree student

Explain fully if purpose of entry is other than for permanent residence.

4. Consulate at which interview is to be made:

**000 187**
Dr. Kurt Wilm, 41 Washington Square, New York

4. Country at which application is to be made:
(a) Permanent resident
(b) Temporary resident
(c) Nonresident student

5. What has been done toward arranging travel?
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE AS SOON AS VISA IS GRANTED

6. Close relatives in the United States, including spouse, parents, children, brothers, sisters, if not included in listing at top of Part B. If deceased so indicate in column for address. (If there are no close relatives, so indicate.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Citizenship</th>
<th>Length of residence in U.S.</th>
<th>Indicate whether citizen (C) or first papers (FP)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

7. Close relatives in countries other than the United States, including spouse, parents, children, brothers, sisters, if not included in listing at top of Part B. If deceased so indicate in column for address. (If there are no close relatives, so indicate.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Names</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>City and country in which residing</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

8. Educational background. (List schools and universities attended, degrees taken, and general field of study as far as known to applicant.)

VISA APPLICANT
Lyman Allyn High School, Switzerland
University of Hamburg, Ph.D. degree in Law.

VISA APPLICANT
Spouse

9. Occupational experience. (List names and addresses of employers and positions held, with dates, commencing not later than 1940 and bringing up to the present time.)

VISA APPLICANT
Writer, editor for S. Fischer Verlag, Berlin;
Atlantic Verlag, Berlin, 1/1/40-10/10/40 collaborator of the Minister de l'Information, Paris; from May 1940-Nov. 1942 served first as Privatdozent in the 100th Regiment d'Infanterie Coloniale (volunteer foreign labor corps, later as travelling stranger in Albi, France, by order of the French government, to work for the TDA and as private agent, leader of foreign workers in France."

VISA APPLICANT
Spouse

10. Activities and affiliations: Give names of organizations, political parties, groups, and societies in countries other than the United States, with the exception of political parties and labor unions in the United States, of which visa applicant is (are) or ever has (been) been affiliated in any way. Give dates and state whether applicant was officer, if so whether or not paid. Detailed information concerning each affiliation should be furnished on separate sheets.

VISA APPLICANT
Spouse
11. Has visa applicant(s) membership in the following political organizations? (Answer YES or NO.)
   (a) Communist... NO
   (b) Anarchist... NO
   (c) Any group advocating violent overthrow of government... NO
   If answer is affirmative, explain fully:
   Visa applicant
   Spouse
   (Whether or not spouse is accompanying)

12. Have visa applicant(s), to your knowledge, ever been convicted of any offense, political or otherwise? Yes □ No □
   (If answer is "Yes," give date, place, and nature of offense and sentence.)
   Visa applicant
   Spouse
   (Whether or not spouse is accompanying)

13. Military training and experience of visa applicant. State countries with which visa applicant has served in military or naval forces, and give rank. If visa applicant has not served, answer NONE.

14. Previous marriage of visa applicant or/spouse. If no previous marriage, state NONE.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of former spouse</th>
<th>If living, city and country of residence</th>
<th>How terminated (Whether by death or divorce)</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Country</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of visa applicant:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of spouse:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

15. Places of previous residence (city and country), giving approximate dates since age of 14 years.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>For U.S. addresses</th>
<th>Dates</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of visa applicant:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Of spouse:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

16. What professional or vocational field of activity does (do) the alien(s) plan to follow if admitted into the United States?
   Visa applicant
   Spouse
   (Whether or not spouse is accompanying)

17. Where does (do) the applicant(s) plan to reside if admitted into the United States?

18. What is the source of the foregoing information?
   (State whether from personal knowledge, statements made by visa applicant(s), or from other sources.)

19. AFFIDAVIT TO BE EXECUTED BY PERSON OTHER THAN VISA APPLICANT FILLING OUT PART B (If Part B is filled out by Visa Applicant himself, the alternate affidavit below should be executed)

STATE OF
CITY OF
COUNTY OF

On this day of , 19, by , being duly sworn according to law, depose and say as follows:

20. That I was born on (Month, day, and year) at (City or town) in (Country).

21. That I am a citizen (or subject) of .

22. That I was lawfully admitted into the United States for permanent residence on (Date) on the (Name of vessel or vehicle) of (Part of entry) at (City or town) in (State) on the (Name of vessel or vehicle) of (Part of entry) at (City or town) in (State) on the (Name of vessel or vehicle) of (Part of entry) at (City or town) in (State). Before the (Date) of (City) in (State).

23. That my (wife/husband) was born on (Date) at (City) in (State).

24. That I have followed the occupation(s) of (Name(s) of employer)

25. That during the past 10 years
21. That 

22. That I was naturalized as 

23. That my (wife) 

24. That my occupation is 

25. That I have never been 

26. That during the past 10 years I have resided at the following places previous to my present residence: 

Street 

City

State

27. That I have never been convicted on criminal charges nor are there any criminal charges filed against me before any court or tribunal except as follows (if no exceptions, so state): 

28. That I believe in the democratic form of government of the United States under the Constitution thereof.

29. That there are attached hereto letters of reference from two reputable American citizens who can certify to my good standing and character.

(Or your official position)

30. That I have known the applicant(s) 

31. That all statements made herein by me are true to the best of my knowledge and belief.

To be signed by person who fills in this form other than the affiant himself.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . ...
That I

1. That I was born on
2. That I am a citizen (or subject) of
3. That I was lawfully admitted into the United States for permanent residence
4. That I declared my intention to become an American citizen before the
5. That my (husband)
6. That my occupation is

That my business address is

That during the past 10 years I have resided at the following places previous to my present residence:

That I have never been convicted of

That I am a member of or am affiliated with

That I have been and am (not) now

That I believe in the democratic form of government of the United States under the Constitution thereof.

That my draft classification is

That there are attached hereto letters of reference from two reputable American citizens who can certify to my good standing and character.

That I wish to act as sponsor for the following alien(s) who desire(s) to come to the United States:
13. That I wish to act as sponsor for the following alien(s) who desire(s) to come to the United States:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relationship to Alien</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Marital Status</th>
<th>Citizenship Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Richard Roeing</td>
<td>xxxxx</td>
<td>xxxxx</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>German</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Jones</td>
<td>xxxxx</td>
<td>xxxxx</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Spanish</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Smith</td>
<td>xxxxx</td>
<td>xxxxx</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>M</td>
<td>American</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

14. That I have known the alien(s) above named for __________ years.

15. That I am convinced that the visa applicant(s) named above is (are) friendly to the United States and well disposed toward the order and happiness of its people, and that I (he/she) am (are) going to the United States for a lawful purpose and will not engage in any activity contrary to the public safety of the United States.

16. That I am willing to assume responsibility for the alien(s) above named as sponsor(s) for the visa applicant(s) named above is (are) not possessed of adequate private resources or are assured of support from other sources.

17. That I am acting as financial sponsor(s) of the visa applicant(s) because I am (are) not possessed of adequate private resources or are assured of support from other sources.

18. That I have never before been a sponsor.

19. That my annual income is $2500. (In 1942, but more this year)

20. That in addition to my income I have the following resources:

- Life Insurance $10,000.

21. That evidence of my income and resources is attached hereto as follows:

- Income Tax Return 1942, Lassen State Mutual Life Insurance Corp.

22. That I have never been a sponsor.

23. That the following persons are dependent upon me for their sole or principal means of support:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Relationship</th>
<th>Age</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Hedwig H. Grossmann</td>
<td>wife</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael H. Grossmann</td>
<td>son</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

24. That since July 1, 1941, I have previously executed affidavits or promises of support in the United States in behalf of the alien(s) named below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Relationship, if any, to sponsor</th>
<th>Indicate date of arrival in U.S.</th>
<th>Nationality</th>
<th>Indicate whether wholly or partially dependent on sponsor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

25. That I have not promised any of the aliens above mentioned any employment in the United States except for: __________.

26. That I have read and verified the accuracy of the foregoing statements, which I believe to be correct; and that I hereby affix my signature and swear to this instrument without any mental reservation whatever.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25 day of August in the year 1942.

Witnessed without objection: ____________ [Signature of witness]

(Signature of sponsor) ____________ [Signature of sponsor]

Witnesses: ____________ [Signature of witnesses]
Part C (Second Sponsor)

State or City: New York

County or City: New York

1. That I was born on Dec 18, 1901 at New York City, N. Y., America.

2. That I am a citizen of the United States?

3. That I was lawfully admitted into the United States for permanent residence on __________________ at __________________, U. S. A.

4. That I was naturalized on __________________, as an American citizen on __________________, as a citizen of __________________ at __________________, U. S. A.

5. That my (wife's) husband was born __________________ at __________________.

6. That my occupation is __________________ (If employed, give name of employer). That during the past 10 years I have followed the occupation(s) of __________________ (If employed, give name of employer(s) during past 10 years).

7. That I have never been convicted on criminal charges nor are there any criminal charges pending against me before any court or tribunal except as follows:

8. That I am a member of or am affiliated with the following parties, associations, societies, and other organizations, except American political parties, trade unions, and religious organizations (if not a member of any, so state):

Architectural League of New York

9. That I have been and am (am not now) an anarchist, communist, member of the Communist Party, affiliated with the Communist Party (If the answer is in the affirmative, give particularity):

10. That I believe in the democratic form of government of the United States under the Constitution thereof.

11. That my draft classification is __________________.

12. That there are attached hereto letters of reference from two reputable American citizens who can certify to my good standing and character.

The original of each letter is attached. Fill in the portion of Item 12, Part B, which concerns you and your reference.

13. That I wish to act as sponsor for the following alien(s) who desire(s) to come to the United States:

Part D

State whether visa applicant is (are) personally known to references:

1. Richard Mooring

2. Hotel Metrodora

3. Gloria del Amador

4. Carlos V. Madrid, Spain

5. Do

* S (single) M (married) W (widowed) D (divorced)
Witnessed the foregoing statements, which I believe to be correct, and that I hereby affix my signature and swear to this instrument without any mental reservation whatsoever.

[Signature]

(Signature of Affiant)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 25th day of August, 1945, in the year 1945.

[Signature]

(Signature of Affiant)

Witnessed without objection:

[Signature]

(Signature of Affiant)

27. Statements corroborating the visa applicant(s) private resources or assurances of support from other sources are not attached hereto as follows:

[Signature]

(Signature of Affiant)
CURRICULUM VITAE

Name: Dr. Richard Moering
Born: 4.2.1894 at Hamburg (Germany)
Father: Dr. Guido Moering, born 12/26/1861 at Hamburg
Barister, living at Hamburg
(Father's grandmother was English. Her maiden name was Lady Stevenreade)
Father's brother is married to a English-born woman. Her maiden-name is MacBride.

From 1903-1911 I visited the "Hanschiatischen Gymnasium des Johanneums, at Hamburg"
" 1911-1912 I went to school at the 'Lyceum Alpinum' in Zuz, Switzerland
" 1912-1913 I studied in Oxford, Lincoln College Turl Street
" 1913-1914 I did my military service in the First Verde-Regiment of Light Artillery at Berlin.
" 1914-1918 officer for the duration of the war.
" 1918-1924 I studied law at different German Universities and became Doctor Juris at Hamburg.
" 1927-1928 I lived in Paris, in order to accomplish my knowledge of the French language and culture.
" 1928-1938 I lived at Berlin, Germany, working as a writer (lyrics, essays) and as lecturer for French, English and American literature, at the S. Fischer Verlag and the Atlantis Verlag (Berlin)
By November 1938 I left Germany and went back to Paris, where I stayed till the German invasion (May 1940)

My reason for leaving Germany was my profound disgust of Nazi meanings and methods.
During the first year of that war, from 1/1/1940 to 5/15/1940 I collaborated at the Ministere d'Informations, Paris, and at 'Radio Paris'. My work has been acknowledged by a letter of Jean Giraudoux, Minister of Information, of which I join a copy. (Copy has not reached us, probably kept by British Censor).

From May 1940-November 1942 I have served first as a 'prestataire' in the 169eme Regiment d'Infanterie Coloniale (volunteer foreign labor corps), later as a travailleur estranger in Albi, Agde, La Grave, St.Lary, Camp de Gurs.

From March 1942-November 1942 I worked under the direction of Mr. Donald Lowrie, leader of the Y.W.C.A.'s in France, as a private secretary of Mlle Marie d'Aubigne, leader of the Protestant work in the Camp of Gurs, and, later, at les aux Bonnes (Basses Pyrenees). In November 1942 I went to Spain, where, at Madrid, I presented myself to the Military Attaches of the Allies, asking for voluntary service in the United Forces.

Signed: Richard Moering
Mr. Kurt Wolff,
41 Washington Square,
New York 12, New York.

Sir:

Reference is made to your interest in the application for a permit to enter the United States in the case of Richard Moering.

This case has been carefully considered by an Interdepartmental Committee, by an Interdepartmental Visa Review Committee and by the Board of Appeals. The conclusion has been reached that a favorable recommendation for the issuance of a visa is not warranted at this time.

The regulations provide that the Board of Appeals may not reconsider any case until after the lapse of a period of six months from the date of the previous opinion of the Board and that only the recommendation of the Committees or Board, without reasons therefor, shall be disclosed.

Very truly yours,

Howard K. Travers
Chief, Visa Division