

Requests for Specific Aid: BERMAN, ADELE (MRS.)

000194

AUG 1 1944

Dear Mr. Loomis:

Your attention is called to my letter of February 25, 1944 in response to your letters of February 7 and February 16, 1944 in which you requested the assistance of the War Refugee Board in obtaining the removal of Mrs. Adele Bermann from a concentration camp near Marseille, France.

From your letters it appears that the issuance of a visa permitting Mrs. Bermann to enter the United States may have been authorized after July 1, 1941. If such a visa was authorized, I would appreciate your furnishing us with the following additional information:

1. The date of authorization of the issuance of such visa by the Department of State;
2. The reference or file number assigned to the visa or to its correspondence with you by the Department of State.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Oliver M. Loomis, Esq.
416-417 Odd Fellows Building.
South Bend 8, Indiana

Copy to: Mrs. Sargoy

^{m.d.}
MSargoy:dh 7/27/44

L.S.L. JEL -

000195

FEB 25 1944

In reply please
refer to: 182

Dear Mr. Loomis:

I have your letter of February 16, 1944, further concerning the case of Mrs. Adele Bermann. Your letter of February 8, 1944, to Dr. Kathryn McHale, relative to the same problem, has also been referred to this office.

You have, no doubt, by now received our reply to your letter of February 7, 1944, to this Board concerning the possibility of rescuing Mrs. Bermann from a concentration camp near Marseille.

As pointed out in our reply, the task of the Board is so great that, of necessity, it cannot deal with problems limited to seeking out and rescuing specific individuals.

It is hoped that the list of private organizations contained in our letter of February 16, 1944, will be of help to you and Mrs. Schuman in this problem.

Very truly yours,

Yours truly,
J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Oliver M. Loomis,
Loomis and Hartzler,
416-417 Odd Fellows Building,
South Bend 8, Indiana.

RBHutchinson:agr 2-25-44

000196

OLIVER M. LOOMIS
NORMAN J. HARTZER

LAW OFFICES OF
LOOMIS AND HARTZER
416-417 ODD FELLOWS BUILDING
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

8
February 16, 1944

181
FILING AUTHORITY
TO: Mail & Files
ANS.
NO ANSW. REQ.
INDEXED
DATE 2/16/44

John Fenle, Esq.
Executive Director
War Refugee Board
Executive Office of the President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Fenle:

I addressed you a letter, a copy of which I enclose, on February 7, 1944, in the interest of Mrs. Adele Bermann, 82, before you had established your offices in the Executive Office of the President.

I likewise wish to supplement the facts in my former letter to include the fact that Mrs. Bermann, on the occasion we last heard from her through the International Red Cross, was confined in a concentration camp at de Noe, Bar. 82. For your information, we are likewise enclosing a copy of that letter.

It is to be hoped that no further investigation of this subject will be required and something may be done to relieve her situation in the near future.

Yours very sincerely,


Oliver M. Loomis

O.L./js
Encls. 2

000197

OLIVER M. LOOMIS
NORMAN J. HARTZER

LAW OFFICES OF
LOOMIS AND HARTZER
416-417 ODD FELLOWS BUILDING
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

8

February 7, 1944

Joan W. Pehle, Esq.
War Refugee Board
Office of Secretary
Treasury Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Pehle:

I notice in a story in the "Star" Saturday night, that you are resigning your position to head up a War Refugee Board, and I am hastening to write to you about a most urgent case.

Mrs. Adele Bertram, 82, is a subject of Austria, and is at the present time incarcerated in a concentration camp near Marseille. Her daughter is Mrs. Melita Shuman, 2203 1/2 Miami Street, South Bend, Indiana, who, with her husband, is a Jewish refugee, and have applied for their citizenship papers some 3 1/2 years ago.

Mrs. Shuman made an application for a visa for her mother and brother, Alexander. The case was fully investigated by representatives of the State Department, F. B. I. and a representative of the United National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and Mrs. Shuman was informed that if her mother was able to apply to an American Consulate, she would be granted a visa; but of course under the circumstances she has been wholly unable to make such an application.

I am informed that for reasons best known to themselves the Germans are permitting Jewish refugees now in concentration camps, to make applications for visas for deportation to the United States, and if this is true I should very greatly appreciate your advice as to the modus operandi under which her release and subsequent deportation might be arranged.

Thanking you for your prompt advice, I am

Most sincerely yours,

Oliver M. Loomis

O:ML/js

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AMERICAN RED CROSS
National Headquarters
Washington 13, D. C.

Dec 10 Recd

International Red Cross Committee
Geneva, Switzerland

December 8, 1943

Mrs. Leota Koehler
Home Service Secretary
St. Joseph County Red Cross Ch.
620 West Washington Avenue
South Bend, Indiana

Re: Bermann, Jacob & Alexander
France

Inq: Shuman, Molitta
2208 1/2 Miami S. E.
South Bend, Indiana

My dear Mrs. Koehler:

We have received a letter from the International Red Cross Committee dated September 23, 1943 containing the following report on your inquiry dated June 4, 1943:

"Mr. Alexander Bermann

...has left Marseille for the Camp de Milles, then he has been transported to Camp de Drancy from which he has been taken on September 7th 1942 to an unknown destination, according to information received from our correspondent in France.

His mother, Mrs. Adele Bergmann, who is living at the Camp de Noe, Bar. 82, is well, but also without news of her son Alexander and of Mandi and Fritz. She sends hearty greetings."

Sincerely yours,

(Signed)

(Miss) Annie H. Lockett
Chief, Inquiry Unit
Home Service

000199

In reply please
refer to: 182

Dear Mrs. Brunauer:

Reference is made to your letter of February 16, 1944, enclosing a letter to Dr. McHale from Mr. Oliver M. Loomis, on behalf of Mrs. Adele Bernann, now in a Jewish concentration camp near Marseille, France.

On February 7, 1944, Mr. Loomis wrote to the Board concerning the possibility of rescuing Mrs. Bernann from this camp. In our reply we pointed out to Mr. Loomis that the task of the Board is so great that, of necessity, it cannot deal with problems limited to seeking out and rescuing specific individuals. We suggested to Mr. Loomis that he refer this case to one of several private organizations which might be in a position to be of assistance to him.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Fehle

J. W. Fehle
Acting Executive Director

Mrs. Esther Caukin Brunauer,
Associate in International Education,
American Association of University
Women,
1834 "I" Street, N. W.,
Washington 6, D. C.

EBT

RH JH
RBHutchinson:agr 2-24-44

000200



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
 NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 1634 I STREET, N.W.
 WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

February 16, 1944

182
 PRINTED IN U.S.A.
 TO: MAIL & FILES
 ANSWERED
 NO ANSW. REQ.
 INITIAL
 DATE 2/25/44
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Mr. John Pehle, Executive Director
 War Refugee Board
 Executive Office of the President
 Washington, D. C.

I am forwarding to you a letter which was received recently by Dr. Kathryn McHale, General Director of the American Association of University Women.

We know that the War Refugee Board has only recently been set up, and that it may well be too early to handle individual cases. Nevertheless, we would appreciate it if you would communicate with Mr. Loomis directly so that he will know how to advise Mr. and Mrs. Shuman to proceed in order to try to rescue Mrs. Shuman's mother.

Would it be too much trouble to let us have a carbon of your reply to Mr. Loomis? In that way, we shall have the information here also, and will not need to trouble you again for a similar inquiry.

Sincerely yours,

Esther Caukin Brunauer

Esther Caukin Brunauer
 Associate in
 International Education

000201

OLIVER M. LOOMIS
NORMAN J. HARTZER

LAW OFFICES OF
LOOMIS AND HARTZER
416-417 OGD FELLOWS BUILDING
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

8

February 8, 1944

Dr. Katherine McHale
Broadmoore Apartments
Connecticut Avenue, NW
Washington, D. C.

Dear Doctor McHale:

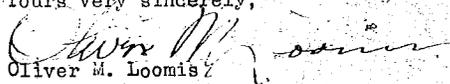
In Washington last week I did my best to contact you for the purpose of soliciting your assistance for a Mrs. Adele Bermann, now in a Jewish concentration camp near Marseille, in occupied France.

Mrs. Bermann is 82 years of age. Her daughter, Mrs. Melita Shuman, and her husband entered the United States as Jewish refugees some four years ago and immediately made application for citizenship. They live in South Bend, have a splendid business and are well able to care for this aged mother should she be permitted to come into this country.

Mrs. Shuman was called to Washington after an investigation had been made of her application for assistance from the War Emergency Administration. She was interrogated by representatives of the State Department, the F. B. I. and the United National Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, and at that time was assured that if her mother presented herself to an American Consulate, she would be granted a visa for entrance to the United States. However, since she is in a concentration camp, it is impossible for her to go to an American Consul. I have been informed that in recent months many Jewish citizens of Austria have been released for deportation to the United States, and if this is true I should like very much to know the modus operandi, and the proper persons to contact to be of help to this lady.

I shall appreciate it very much indeed if you are able to do anything for her.

Yours very sincerely,


Oliver M. Loomis

OML/js

000202

FEB 16 1944

In reply please
refer to: 60

Dear Mr. Loomis:

Reference is made to your letter of February 7, 1944, requesting the assistance of the War Refugee Board in saving certain members of the family of Mrs. Melita Shuman, 2208¹/₂ Miami Street, South Bend, Indiana, who are in a concentration camp near Marseille, from Nazi persecution.

I think that you will understand that the task of the Board is so great that, of necessity, it will have to confine itself to projects involving the relief or rescue of groups of persons and that it cannot deal with problems limited to seeking out and rescuing any specific individuals. I suggest that you may wish to refer your problem to a private organization. The following are some of the organizations which I am advised may be in a position to be of help to you:

Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant
Aid Society, (HIAS)

425 Lafayette Street,
New York, New York.

American Friends Service
Committee

20 South 12th Street,
Philadelphia, Pa.

Unitarian Friends Service
Committee

25 Beacon Street,
Boston 8, Mass.

The American Committee for
Christian Refugees

297 Fourth Avenue,
New York, New York.

War Relief Services - National
Catholic Welfare Conference

Empire State Building
350 Fifth Avenue,
New York, New York.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Oliver M. Loomis,
Loomis and Hartsler,
416-417 Odd Fellows Building,
South Bend, Indiana.
RBH Hutchison: 2/15/44 J.W.P.

000203

OLIVER M. LOOMIS
NORMAN J. HARTZER

LAW OFFICES OF
LOOMIS AND HARTZER
416-417 ODD FELLOWS BUILDING
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

8
February 7, 1944

FILING AUTHORITY
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War Refugee Board
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I am informed that for reasons best known to themselves the Germans are permitting Jewish refugees now in concentration camps, to make applications for visas for deportation to the United States, and if this is true I should very greatly appreciate your advice as to the modus operandi under which her release and subsequent deportation might be arranged.

Thanking you for your prompt advice, I am

Most sincerely yours,
Oliver M. Loomis
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OML/js