Requests for Specific Aid: Chekkassy, Shuwa
Dear Mr. Cherkassky:

I have your letter of December 18, 1944, concerning your desire to bring your aunt to this country from Finland, or, as an alternative, to arrange for her to go to Sweden for the duration of the war.

Since the War Refugee Board was established solely to rescue and bring relief to persons in enemy territory who are the victims of enemy oppression and in imminent danger of death, we are not in a position to be of assistance to you in this problem.

However, while I am informed that there are at present no United States visa issuing offices in Finland, I suggest that you write to the Visa Division of the Department of State for information as to the procedure to be followed in this matter at such time as facilities for immigration from Finland are re-established. In the meantime, if your aunt is in need of financial assistance, you may wish to apply to the Foreign Funds Control Division of the Treasury Department for a license to remit funds to her.

I regret that I have no information concerning the possibility of arranging for her temporary entry into Sweden.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. Shura Cherkassky
1418 1/2 North Sierra Bonita Avenue
Hollywood 46, California
Dear Sirs,

Sometime ago I have written you about the same thing I am to write in this letter, but since that time situation has changed, as Finland is not considered an enemy Country anymore. I would appreciate very much your attention and prompt reply. I am enclosing a self-staged, addressed envelope.

I have an aunt who is living in Finland. She is about 69 years old, born in Russia, she has no nationality as she has a "Nansen" (passport without a Country) passport. She has been living in Finland since 1922. Her name and address is: Madame Maria Franz, Vanhain Katu, As Skaala, Finland. My Mother and I are very anxious to bring her over here as soon as possible. Will you be kind enough to say which proceedings we must take about it? An affidavit, or a guarantee? Is there an American Consul in Helsinki? Please give all the information possible. If it is absolutely out of the question before the war is over, could we arrange to have her go to Sweden for duration which is a neutral Country? We are absolutely puzzled and are at a loss to know what to do, and your answer and advise will be greatly appreciated.

Thanking you very much in advance,

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

1418 1/2 North Sierra Bonita Avenue, Hollywood, 46, California.

December 18th 1944
Shura Cherkassky,
1419 1/2 North Sierra Bonita Avenue,
Hollywood, 46, California.

Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.