

Requests for Specific Aid: COHN, SIGMUND A.

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JUN 1 - 1945

Dear Mr. Cohn:

I have your letter of May 27, 1945, concerning your desire to locate your parents who were reported some time ago to be inmates of the concentration camp of Theresienstadt, and on whose behalf a petition for the issuance of immigration visas has been approved.

I regret that the War Refugee Board has not yet received information concerning the individual detainees at this camp and is not able to undertake inquiries of this nature concerning specific persons. It is my understanding that, because of the very limited facilities for communicating with certain newly liberated areas, the International Red Cross is the most satisfactory channel for obtaining information concerning the whereabouts and welfare of friends and relatives in Europe. I therefore suggest that you ask your local Red Cross chapter to help you to send a message through the International Red Cross seeking to ascertain your parents' present whereabouts.

With respect to the Board's special visa program, the principal aim of this procedure was to afford close relatives of citizens or resident aliens of the United States likely to be victims of enemy persecution such protection as might result from the knowledge of German authorities that American consuls were authorized to issue United States immigration visas to them and that they were eligible for exchange. The capitulation of the German armies and the resultant disappearance of enemy control in European areas have removed the need for the protection which this program sought to obtain for detainees in the hands of the Germans. In the future these cases should be handled under the regular immigration procedure.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Sigmund A. Cohn,
1695 S. Lumpkin Street,
Athens, Georgia.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA
SCHOOL OF LAW
ATHENS, GEORGIA /

Sigmund A. Cohn
1695 S. Lumpkin St.

May 27, 1945.

War Refugee Board
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

With form letter of February 21 the U.S. Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization Service, has informed me that my Petition (No. V 318475) for Issuance of Immigration Visa for my parents, Mr. Georg Cohn and Mrs. Sophie Hamburger Cohn in Theresienstadt, Czecho-Slovakia, Hauptstr. 22/13, has been approved and forwarded to the Department of State.

The National Council of Jewish Women, Inc., in New York, which had handled my application, has written me that your office, too, has received appropriate notification from the Department of Justice.

I have not received any further notice from the Council as to whether my parents have been found in Theresienstadt where they had been deported from Breslau, Germany, in 1942.

May I ask you for information as to whether your office has received or is likely to receive news about persons deported to Theresienstadt or whether you advise me to approach the Department of State or any other Agency in this behalf.

Thank you very much.

Sincerely yours,

Sigmund A. Cohn

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