Requests for Specific Aid: Economic, Judicial V
Dear Mr. Einhorn:

I have your letter of May 18, 1945, requesting the assistance of the War Refugee Board in locating the Duschnitz family who were last known to be in a civilian internee camp at Wurzach, Post Biberach-Riess, in Wurttemberg, Germany.

I am sorry that the Board is not in a position to handle inquiries of this nature concerning specific individuals, since it was established for the purpose of the rescue and relief of victims of enemy oppression in enemy territory. I suggest, however, that you may wish to ask your local Red Cross chapter to help you to send a message of inquiry through the International Red Cross in an effort to locate these people.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Florence Hodel

Florence Hodel
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Julius V. Einhorn,
41 Park Row,
May 18, 1945

Brig. Gen. William O'Leary
War Refugee Committee
Washington, D.C.

Dear General O'Leary:

I again take the liberty in seeking your assistance. Felix Duschnitz, his wife, Clary Duschnitz and daughter, Larietta, all born in Vienna, have since 1934 resided in Amsterdam, Holland, until invaded by Germany.

Immediately upon the invasion, they were deported to Westerbork, a concentration camp and subsequently transferred to Belzen-Bergen. At the latter place, their status was changed to that of civilian prisoners of war, on the strength of their holding Paraguayan papers and supposedly also Palestinian certificates. They were put on a list of exchange prisoners of war, which was approved by the Nazi authorities. Sometime in the Winter of 1944, they were again transferred to a civilian internee camp at Wurzach, Post Biberach-Ries, in Swillerburg, Germany. Clary Duschnitz had Registration No. 1948.

The last communication received through a friend from Switzerland as to the welfare of this family was in March, 1945.

This letter was taken up by one of the brothers, Mr. Curtis T. Ettinger, a citizen of the United States, a veteran of this war, who was honorably discharged from the Army in 1943, with the Special War Problems Division, Mr. Clattenburg, Jr., and the case is recorded there under No. S.W.R 740,00115 B.W.11-2404. Also, the Apostolic Delegate to the Vatican in Washington was contacted. No specific information has been received from either agency as to the status of this family or their exact whereabouts, although it is believed that they are still in the civilian internee camp in Wurzach.

The Swiss government is prepared to accept this family as soon as transportation could be arranged and in this connection, I urge you to use every effort to get them out of the camp and if at all possible, render aid in bringing them to Switzerland. The immediate family of the internees, all citizens of the United States, Dr. Henry Franklin Ettinger, M.D., of Theresa, N.Y., Carl E. Ettinger of New York City, Curtis T. Ettinger of Elmhurst, L. I., and Eric Dunston of New York City, will guarantee any expenses incurred in this matter.

I greatly appreciate your past courtesies and await your kind response.

Respectfully yours,

Julius V. Einhorn
Dear Mr. Einhorn:

I have your letter of February 21, 1945, concerning the desire of Mr. Joe Foerder, of 385 Fort Washington Avenue, New York City, to locate and rescue his parents, believed to have been deported by the Germans in 1941 to an unknown destination.

For reasons which will be apparent, the War Refugee Board is not in a position to undertake to handle inquiries concerning specific individuals. I can, however, suggest other channels for obtaining information concerning friends and relatives abroad. I am informed that, by writing to the National Refugee Service, 139 Centre Street, New York, New York, an indication of the whereabouts or fate of such persons frequently can be obtained from a central location index where data from various sources are recorded for this purpose.

If the desired information is not of record, a local Red Cross chapter may be able to help an individual to send an inquiry through the facilities of the International Red Cross, or he may go to any Catholic rectory and request the priest to arrange for his message to be sent through the Vatican message service. In the latter procedure, it is my understanding that the request will be directed through the Apostolic Delegate in Washington to the Vatican, and that efforts will then be made through the facilities of the Nunciature and the Catholic clergy where the persons in question formerly resided, in this case apparently Poland, to ascertain their whereabouts and welfare.

Since, on the basis of the information contained in your letter, it does not appear that Mr. Foerder's parents belong to any of the categories for whom special programs as outlined in my letter of February 19 have been developed, there is no specific action which the Board can take in their behalf beyond the general measures which it is pursuing in the interest of the victims of enemy persecution. Please assure Mr. Foerder, however, that the Board is continuing its efforts to save and protect as many of these people as possible, and we sincerely hope that his parents may benefit therefrom.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Mr. William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Mr. Julius V. Einhorn,
41 Park Row,
New York, New York.

EBT:inp 2/27/45
February 21, 1945

Gen. William O'Dwyer
Chairman, Refugee Committee
Washington, D.C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

I want to apologize to you for taking up your time again but unfortunately, I cannot help myself.

Before German occupation of France, I assisted many people in immigration matters and since liberation of the occupied territories, I have been called upon to try to intercede in finding out whether or not the internees, relatives of residents here, are still alive or if there is any chance in getting them to a neutral country.

I truly appreciate the tremendous task that you have before you and I certainly am grateful for your kind cooperation. I trust, however, that if I am called upon to write to you again, that you will bear with me as you have in the past.

I have been requested by Mr. Joe Foerder of 385 Fort Washington Avenue, New York City, a permanent resident of this country, who has already secured his first citizenship papers, to locate and if possible, save his parents whose names and additional data are:

ABRAHAM FOERDER, born 7/17/1869, Gollantsch, Prov. Posen
JENNY FOERDER, born 5/22/1878, Wongrowicz, Prov. Posen

It is believed that they were deported in December, 1941 and their whereabouts are unknown. They may be listed with some refugees committee in Switzerland.

Whatever you can do in this matter to help locate these people if they are still alive and bring them in to some neutral country will be most humbly appreciated.

Thanking you again for your extreme courtesies, I am

Respectfully yours,

JULIUS V. EINHORN

JVE:M
Mr. Julius V. Einhorn
41 Park Row
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Einhorn:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 15, 1945.

You will have received in the meantime my letter dated February 13 in which the procedures regarding the placing of persons in enemy territory on the lists of internees for exchange are outlined in detail.

The explanations contained in my previous letter apply also to the cases which you bring to the Board's attention in your letter of February 15.

Very truly yours,

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
Mr. Julius V. Einhorn  
Al Park Row  
New York, New York  

Dear Mr. Einhorn:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 14, 1945.

In reply, I wish to state that the only persons who are eligible for exchange against Germans held in the Western Hemisphere are citizens of the United States or other American Republics and, under a special procedure adopted in the interest of victims of enemy persecution, persons who hold the right of admission to one of the American Republics. These persons include holders of valid U.S. or other American immigration visas, persons to whom an American immigration visa has been issued or authorized on or after July 1, 1941, and persons who, being spouses, parents, or minor unmarried children of American citizens, or wives or minor unmarried children of resident aliens in the United States, are entitled to a non-quota or preference-quota immigration visa to this country.

If one or more of the persons named in your letter have been the beneficiaries of an immigration visa issued or authorized on or after July 1, 1941, please inform us of the precise date of such issuance or authorization, and we will undertake the necessary steps after verifying the facts with the Department of State. If one or more of these persons come within the category of persons entitled to non-quota or preference-quota immigration visas, their relatives will have to fill out an appropriate form (I. 133 in the case of a citizen, I. 475 in the case of a resident alien) with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, Department of Justice, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Upon notification by the Department of Justice that the application or petition has been approved by it, the Board will take the necessary steps to put the beneficiaries entitled to it on the list of eligibles for exchange.

Should none of the persons named in your letter belong to any of the above categories, I regret to state that no specific action can be undertaken by the Board on their behalf beyond its general efforts in the interest of the victims of enemy persecution. Please assure Mr. Gallewski, however, that the Board is doing and will continue to do everything in its power to save and protect as many of these people as possible, and we earnestly hope that his relatives may benefit from these general measures.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O’Dwyer  
Executive Director
JULIUS V. EINHORN
41 PARK ROW
NEW YORK

February 15, 1945

Gen. William O'Dwyer
War Refugee Board
Department of State
Washington, D.C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

The people listed below are in concentration camp at Theresienstadt, Germany:

1. Georg Kugdan, born 5/30/1876, Kempen, Poland (Dr. Wurzel's brother-in-law)
2. Gertrud Kugdan, born 10/12/1888, Berlin, Germany (Dr. Wurzel's sister)
3. Betty Unger, nee Kugdan, born 5/7/1880, Kempen (" " cousin)
4. Auguste Collin, nee Kugdan, born 2/22/1883 (" " cousin)
5. Emmy Kauffman, nee Kugdan, born 3/8/1875 Berlin (" " cousin)

Dr. Isidor F. Wurzel of 130 West 42nd St., New York City, relative of these people, is a citizen of the United States and is a foreign law consultant.

I am also writing a letter to the Special War Problems Division asking their aid in placing these people on the next exchange list. I have been told by Dr. Wurzel that a Guatemala visa will in all probability be secured and cabled to the Guatemalan Consul in Switzerland within the next two weeks.

I would therefore appreciate greatly any suggestion or aid that you can render in this matter.

It can be noted that the people in question are all between the ages of sixty and seventy-five and are quite helpless.

Thanking you very much for your past courtesies, I remain

Yours very respectfully,

JULIUS V. EINHORN

Jv: M
February 14, 1945

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer
War Refugee Board
Department of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear General O'Dwyer:

I received a letter from a friend of mine, Mr. Werner Gallewski, concerning his immediate family. I would appreciate very much your exercising every effort in getting these people on the next exchange list.

Mr. Gallewski is a permanent resident of the United States and holds first papers. Herewith are the names of the persons in question:

Mrs. Elizabeth Hager, née Swarsenski, born at Posen, Poland, on February 26, 1883, last regular address at Kaiser-Franz-Grenadier-Platz 3, Berlin, deported to Litzmannstadt (Lodz), Veit-Stoss-Str. 10.

Mr. Markus Cohn, born at Krotoschin, Poland, on November 19, 1869, and his wife, Mrs. Lucie Cohn, née Gallewski née Abraham, born on February 19, 1887, at Berlin, Germany, both last residing at Fasanenstrasse 42, Berlin, deported (probably) Theresienstadt.

Mrs. Erna Ewer, née Abraham, born at Berlin, Germany, on February 11, 1890,

Mr. Julius Tauber, born at Kreuzburg, Upper Silesia, on July 22, 1905, his wife, Ruth Tauber, née Ewer, born at Berlin, on July 20, 1911, their son, Michael Tauber, born at Berlin, on April 25, 1935, all last residing at Kantstrasse 120, Berlin, deported to Reiterstrasse 11, Litzmannstadt (Lodz).

Mr. Alfred Pindikowski, born at Freuss, Eylau, East Prussia, Germany, on May 19, 1880 and his wife, Elsa Pindikowski, née Reichenheim, born at Berlin on February 28, 1892, both last residing at Eichenallee 34, Berlin-Charlottenburg, Germany.

Any action on your part or advice as to what steps to take in order to save these people will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

JULIUS V. EINHORN