

Requests for Specific Aid: GELBERMAN, Joseph (TEC 5)

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SEP 1 1944

Dear Lt. Wright:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 8, 1944 on behalf of Corporal Joseph Gelberman.

Please be assured that the War Refugee Board is doing, and will continue to do, everything within its power to protect the lives of victims of Nazi persecution in Hungary and elsewhere. The Board cannot, however, for practical reasons, undertake the rescue or special protection of specific individuals.

With respect to Corporal Gelberman's wife and daughter, however, I suggest that as an American citizen he promptly file with the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department of Justice at Philadelphia, Pa., a petition to establish their status as persons entitled to nonquota immigration visas to the United States as the wife and unmarried child, under 21 years of age, of a citizen of the United States. It is suggested that when Corporal Gelberman files the petition he advise the Immigration and Naturalization Service that he is doing so at the suggestion of the War Refugee Board. Enclosed you will find a proper form of such petition.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Lt. Leroy E. Wright,
1st. Lt. Ch. C.,
Regimental Chaplain,
Second Regiment - 3860th Unit
Army Service Forces Training Center,
Camp Claiborne, Louisiana.

Enclosure.

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SECOND REGIMENT - 3860TH UNIT
Army Service Forces Training Center
Camp Claiborne, Louisiana

W. R. B.
Filing Authority
To: Files
Ans.
No. Ans. Req.
Initial
Date

OFFICE OF THE CHAPLAIN

8 August 1944

Honorable John W. Pehle
Executive Director
War Refugee Board

RE: Tec 5 JOSEPH GELBERMAN-32781134
Co. B, 4th Bn., 2nd Regt.

Dear Sir:

Tec 5 Joseph Gelberman; Ordained 1935 in Budapest, Hungary; Hebrew Rabbi; arrived 15 August 1939 in U.S.A.; New York Residence: 1828 Longfellow Avenue, Bronx, N.Y.; Former Rabbi of the New Light Temple of New York City; became a citizen 8 September 1933 in Little Rock, Ark; Volunteered in Army of United States and for past 17 months has served as Chaplain's Assistant caring for the Hebrew Faith, Camp Claiborne, Louisiana.

His wife's name is Yolan Stecher Gelberman, residing at Sarospatak, Zemplen, Megye. Kossuth Street. Hungary; born 28 July 1911. One daughter, Judith Gelberman born 21 May 1937 in Budapest, Hungary; staying with her Mother at the above mentioned address.

I have in my hands a copy of "The Wisconsin Jewish Chronicle", Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 4 August 1944; 4th Col. Page 1, which prompts this letter.

It is the desire of Tec 5 Joseph Gelberman (Rabbi) that necessary steps be taken to secure the custody of his wife and daughter.

Cprporal Joseph Gelberman is my Assistant working with the Hebrew men of Camp Claiborne, Louisiana and I hereby seek your assistance in his behalf, the custody of his wife and child.

Sincerely Yours,

Enc: 1 Copy Wis.J.C.
(4-8-44)

Leroy E. Wright
LEROY E. WRIGHT
1st Lt. Ch. C.,
Regimental Chaplain

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REFUGEE BOARD PLANS RESCUE OF JEWISH CHILDREN

U. S., Britain Receive Offer of Admiral Horthy to Free Some Jews

Washington — (WNS) — John W. Pehle, executive director of the War Refugee Board, announced here that he was making plans to secure havens for all the Jewish children in Hungary who can be rescued under the terms of Regent Nicholas Horthy's recent offer to the International Red Cross. Mr. Pehle made the disclosure following the receipt by the War Refugee Board of Regent Horthy's communication to the Red Cross offering to release all Jewish children under the age of ten who can secure visas to reception countries, and all Jews in Hungary holding entrance visas to Palestine.

Horthy made the offer to the International Red Cross in Geneva. The Red Cross transmitted the note to its representatives here, who in turn forwarded it to George L. Warren, the State Department's liaison officer with the War Refugee Board.

Hungary Reported Halting Deportation of Jews

Berne — (WNS) — The deportation of Hungarian Jews to concentration and death camps in Poland has been stopped, according to reports reaching here from Budapest and other sources.

Whether the deportation was stopped because of transport difficulties or fear caused by Secretary Hull's threat of punishment is not known here. In some circles here the belief is prevalent that the order suspending the deportation of Jews has been influenced by a member of the administrative protests which the pro-Nazi Hungarian Premier Sztojay has lately been receiving from the heads of various religious denominations in Hungary and elsewhere. These circles believe that the indignation in Catholic and Protestant circles in Hungary over the government's policy toward the Jews has been so deep, that it even frightened the dominating officials.

In some quarters here it is believed that Regent Horthy's offer to release Jewish children under the age of ten is only temporary, and that unless action is taken to transfer them to the reception countries the offer will be withdrawn. A similar view is taken in these circles on the suspension of deportations.

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