

Requests for Specific Aid: GORSON, FRED

000527

JUN 7 - 1945

Dear Mr. Gerson:

Since we wrote to you on May 22, 1945, in reply to your letter of May 16 concerning your desire to locate your parents, we have received copies of your correspondence with the Immigration and Naturalization Service, from which it appears that your parents are Dutch nationals.

That being the case, I suggest that you may wish to write to the Netherlands Embassy in Washington, explaining that you desire to communicate with and assist your parents and requesting that you be informed at the appropriate time of any steps you may be able to take to that end.

Very truly yours,

William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director

Mr. Fred Gerson,  
Akron Hardware Company,  
36-16-18 Thirty-Third Street,  
Long Island City 1, New York.

EBT:inp 6/6/45

BT

000528

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



OFFICE OF THE  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Fred Gerson  
Akron Hardware Company  
36-16-18 Thirty-Third Street  
Long Island City 1, New York

Dear Mr. Gerson:

The Immigration and Naturalization Service has referred your letter of May 7, 1945, to this office, in which you express your anxiety concerning the welfare and whereabouts of your parents, Gustav and Berta Simon Gerson, whom you understand to have recently been liberated by Allied military forces in Germany.

As you are no doubt aware, considerable time is expected to elapse before the Allied authorities, both military and civil, will be able to complete the immense task of obtaining and compiling information on each of the millions of displaced persons in Germany and areas formerly occupied by Germany. It is not now feasible to transmit either messages or relief shipments to them. However, you may be assured that the Allied authorities are fully cognizant of the anxiety felt by relatives and friends regarding such persons, and that all possible steps are being taken to provide the aid and care so urgently needed at this time.

In the meantime, since you state that your parents are Dutch nationals, it is suggested that you communicate with the Netherlands Embassy in Washington, explaining that you desire to communicate with and assist them and requesting that you be informed at the appropriate time of any steps you may be able to take to that effect.

Very truly yours,

William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director

000529

MAY 22 1945

Dear Mr. Gerson:

I have your letter of May 16, 1945, requesting the assistance of the War Refugee Board in locating your parents.

I am sorry that the Board cannot undertake to handle inquiries concerning specific individuals. 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 learn the whereabouts of your parents.

For your information, the principal aim of the Board's special visa program 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 be afforded by 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.

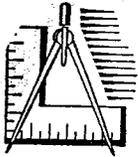
Very truly yours,

Florence Hodel  
Acting Executive Director

Mr. Fred Gerson,  
Akron Hardware Company,  
36-62 37th Street,  
Long Island City 1, N. Y.

RBH:FH:hd 5/21/45

000530



# AKRON HARDWARE COMPANY

MANUFACTURERS OF

*Builders' and Cabinet Hardware*

PRECISION MADE  
HARDWARE  
PRICED RIGHT

36-16-18 THIRTY-THIRD STREET

LONG ISLAND CITY 1, N. Y.

IRONSIDES 6-3448-49

May 18, 1945

Brigadier General William O'Dayer,  
Lieutenant Director  
War Refugee Board  
Washington, D. C.

Re: File Number V-813289  
Fred Gerson  
V/B&PAU

Dear Sir:

This refers to letter received today from  
the Department of Justice, Immigration and Naturalization  
Service, Philadelphia, file reference as above, copy of  
which has been forwarded to your office.

I would appreciate it very much if you  
could assist me in locating my parents.

Thank you in advance for your further advice.

Very truly yours,

Fred Gerson

FG:fjj

*Let from file "Insurance + Reservoir"  
of U.S. VWS as - 2-R  
+ dated 10/25/44*

000531

[General [unclear], specifically, Fred Gerson]

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
IMMIGRATION AND NATURALIZATION SERVICE  
FRANKLIN TRUST BUILDING  
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

May 15, 1945

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO

AND REFER TO THIS FILE NO.

V-313289  
Fred Gerson  
V/P&FXU

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear General O'Dwyer:

Further reference is made to a communication of this Service addressed to the War Refugee Board on October 25, 1944, in connection with a petition for issuance of immigration visas executed by Mr. Fred Gerson, 92-05 Whitney Avenue, Elmhurst, New York, in behalf of his parents Gustav and Berta Simon Gerson, which was approved and forwarded to the Department of State, Washington, D. C. on October 26, 1944.

Attached is copy of petitioner's letter of May 7, 1945, requesting assistance in locating his parents, whose last known address was Deltastraat 15, Amsterdam Zuid, Holland. A copy of reply by this office is also attached, which is self-explanatory.

Sincerely yours,

*Joseph Savoretti*

Joseph Savoretti  
Assistant Commissioner

Enclosures



000532

May 15, 1945

V-313289  
Fred Gerson  
V/P&PXU

Brig. Gen. William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director  
War Refugee Board  
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear General O'Dwyer:

Further reference is made to a communication of this Service addressed to the War Refugee Board on October 25, 1944, in connection with a petition for issuance of immigration visas executed by Mr. Fred Gerson, 92-05 Whitney Avenue, Elmhurst, New York, in behalf of his parents Gustav and Berta Simon Gerson, which was approved and forwarded to the Department of State, Washington, D. C. on October 26, 1944.

Attached is copy of petitioner's letter of May 7, 1945 requesting assistance in locating his parents, whose last known address was Deltastraat 15, Amsterdam Zuid, Holland. A copy of reply by this office is also attached, which is self-explanatory.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Savoretti  
Assistant Commissioner

Enclosures

000533

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AKRON HARDWARE COMPANY  
36-16-18 Thirth-Third Street  
Long Island City, N.Y.

May 7, 1945

Special Assistant to  
Attorney General in Charge  
Immigration and Naturalizayion Service  
Philadelphia 2, Penna.

File No. V-313289  
Fred Gerson  
V/P&PXU

Gentlemen:

reference is made to the above-mentioned file number  
concerning the writer's parents.

You advised under date of October 25, 1944 that the  
petition was approved for them to come to the United States as  
soon as they could present themselves at an American consulate.  
As you know, the former residence of the writer's parents,  
Gustav Gerson and Berta Simon Gerson was Deltastraat 15,  
Amsterdam Zuid, Holland.

Since Holland is now liberated, I wonder whether the  
Department of Justice has any means whatsoever in assisting  
me to locate my parents.

Your early attention will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

(sgd) Fred Gerson

Fred Gerson

FG:fjj

000534

(copy)

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May 15, 1945

V-313289  
Fred Gerson  
V/P&PXU

Mr. Fred Gerson  
Akron Hardware Company  
36-16-18 Thirty-Third Street  
Long Island City 1, New York

My dear Mr. Gerson:

Reference is made to your letter of May 7, 1945, concerning the whereabouts of your parents Gustav and Berta Simon Gerson, last known to have resided at Deltastraat 15, Amsterdam Zuid, Holland, in connection with your petition for issuance of immigration visas in their behalf, which was approved and forwarded to the Department of State and a copy of the letter of transmittal dated October 25, 1944 forwarded to the War Refugee Board, Washington, D. C.

This Service has no facilities to assist in locating your parents. It can only be suggested that you communicate with Brigadier General William O'Dwyer, Executive Director, War Refugee Board, Washington, D. C. for further information, or with the American Red Cross.

It is assumed that you have executed and filed with the Department of State Forms BC, required under existing regulations. If not, these forms may be obtained by writing to the Visa Division, Department of State, Washington, D. C.

A copy of this letter is being forwarded to the War Refugee Board, Washington, D. C., together with a copy of your letter under acknowledgment.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Savoretti  
Assistant Commissioner

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