

Requests for Specific Aid; Koblitz, Milton S.

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MAR 3 - 1945

Dear Mr. Koblitz:

This will acknowledge receipt of your letter of February 28, 1945, concerning the case of Mrs. Herta Meyer, who is presently residing in Mexico.

As pointed out in my earlier letter, it is the Board's task to rescue those persons in enemy territory, who, as the victims of enemy persecution, are in imminent danger of death. Since Mrs. Meyer is safe in a friendly country, her case does not come within the jurisdiction of the Board, and there is no way in which the Board could assist in this problem.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director

Mr. Milton S. Koblitz,  
Attorney and Counsellor at Law,  
611 Estrellita Way, Bel-Air,  
Los Angeles 24, California.

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MILTON S. KOBLITZ  
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LOS ANGELES 24, CALIFORNIA  
ARIZONA 95077

Feb. 23th 1945

Person P  
Hon. Gen. William O'Dwyer, Executive Director,  
WAR REFUGEE BOARD, Washington, D.C.

Dear General O'Dwyer- RE VDSII.III Herta Meyer  
IVRC Pocket No. 20,732.

I thank you for your gracious letter of February 21st- and I notice that the Hon. Clare Luce, U.C. is endeavoring to implement your purpose thru Congressional Action. While I know nothing about the merits of her BILL in Congress I do realize that you will be up against at the hands of stratified State Department personnel-who seem devil bent on a return to status quo and stantibus rebus "ways of diplomacy" which bar any innovations and rely on the strangulation of delay to "solve all issues". At the door of the State Dept. dilatory conduct of affairs at Versailles and in Washington may be seen the blood stains of thousands of victims.

May I call your attention to a specific case of a refugee from bloody Germany-the above alien- an aged widow whom with her husband got an emergency visa to Mexico-where the husband languished and just died leaving the desolate widow Herta Meyer, whose daughter resides in Los Angeles and is an American citizen as also is her husband, head of an essential war industry-. The daughter is Mrs. Marian J. Knox, 240 So. Oakhurst Dr. Beverly Hills, Cal. at whose instance and without charge of any kind I arranged for an application for an immigration visa for the mother-the case was heard under the above caption Nov. 30th after months of delay and after another three months the visa was rejected with permission to file again in six months-which with delays means another year before results- and meanwhile we have little hope this WAR REFUGEE will be alive. Surely no question of national security is involved here- surely I have a right to suspect intolerance and prejudice somewhere. I realize the pervuew of your office may exclude interference here but may I ask of you to use that office to get at the facts of this case. I personally cannot buck the State Department-after a year as Sec. State the great Commoner William J. Bryan, gave up in disgust- and I anticipate our splendid Mr. Stettinius will also succumb leaving the reins for the careerist diplomat the Hon. Jos. C. Grew to assume- with his THIRTY LONG years of stratification and "status quo" as the protector of foreign affairs. Please write me night letter collect whether you can be of any help in this tragic situation.

Sincerely yours

Milton S. KoblitZ  
(Milton S. KoblitZ)

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FEB 21 1945

Dear Mr. Koblitz:

Thank you for your letter of February 7, 1945, concerning my recent appointment as Executive Director of the War Refugee Board.

I wish to assure you that the Board is doing and will continue to do everything in its power to rescue the victims of enemy persecution who are in imminent danger of death and to give them all possible relief and assistance consistent with the successful prosecution of the war.

Your concern and interest in matters pertaining to refugees are appreciated.

Very truly yours,

WILLIAM O'DWYER

William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director

Mr. Milton S. Koblitz,  
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Box 4216 Village Station,  
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This letter is PERSONAL

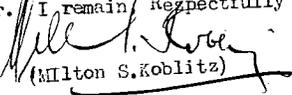
Trig. Gen. William O'DWYER,  
Executive Director, WAR REFUGEE BOARD, WASHINGTON, D.C.

Dear Mr. O'DWYER-

I have read with considerable interest an account in the P.M. Feb. 1st-edition-about your program as head of the War REFUGEE BOARD. It is a source of genuine satisfaction to at long last know that your appointment means that our President's purposes with regard to the problem of War Refugees will be carried out.

After ten years of gruelling experience- always without fees or any compensation-in refugee work before the Immigration and State Departments I can testify that your every effort will be sabotaged by the State Department acting as the Agency for our President and CONTRARY to his expressed aims and wishes in this field.

To find substantiation in my charges please have a survey made of evidence heard before the Interdepartmental Review Committees of the Visa Section. You need not read all cases-simply select a few at random. You will learn how the President's plans are being frustrated. A large number of cases are Jewish refugees-cases in which any suspicion of security can be eliminated per se and yet parents are denied re-union with their children over here and visa ~~visa~~ because the majority of these committees are anti-Jewish and have racist intolérances that make them unfit to sit in judgement. I'll send you names of parents -aged Jews-langushing in England, Mexico and elsewhere denied admission to join their Children here permanently-just because they are Jews and to the members of these committees (other than State and Immigration members) a Jew is a symptom of danger to national security if admitted. Phone Hon. Emanuel Celler and he will support my charges and without reservation. I'll be happy to come to Washington or New York at my own expense and without the slightest obligation to discuss this matter with you. Please do not give this letter the usual departmental "brush off". I am a member of the bars of the U.S. Supreme Court, Ohio (1907), California (1904), Maryland and Virginia-I am entitled to have you listen to me in so far as it must effect your duties. Please wire me night letter collect your reaction to my letter. I remain, Respectfully

  
(Milton S. Koblitz)

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