

Requests for Specific Aid: Lustig, Bela

000887

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



In reply refer to
VD 811.111 Lustig, Bela

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

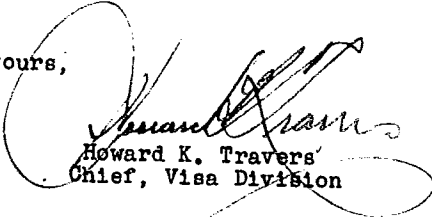
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April 29, 1944

My dear Mr. Pehle:

Mr. George Warren referred to me the attached letter dated April 7, 1944 from Miss Helen R. Bryan, Executive Secretary, Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, concerning the visa case of Mr. Bela Lustig. In returning the letter to you I attach a copy of the Department's communication to Miss Bryan stating that upon receipt of certain desired information Mr. Lustig's case will be considered under the Interdepartmental Visa Procedure.

Sincerely yours,


Howard K. Travers
Chief, Visa Division

Enclosures:

1. From Miss Bryan,
April 7, 1944.
2. To Miss Bryan.

Mr. John W. Pehle,
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Executive Office of the President.



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ENCLOSURE

TO

Letter drafted ..

ADDRESSED TO

1. From Miss Bryan,
April 7, 1944.
2. To Miss Bryan.

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25, D. C.

In reply refer to
VD 811.111 Lustig, Bela

Apr 14, 1944

My dear Miss Bryan:

I refer to your letter of April 7, 1944 to Mr. Pehle which has been brought to the attention of this Department concerning your interest in the desire of Mr. James Lustig to assist his brother, Mr. Bela Lustig, to obtain a transit certificate permitting him to proceed to Mexico by way of the United States.

An application for an immigration visa was submitted to the Department some months ago on behalf of Mr. Bela Lustig. After consideration by the Interdepartmental Visa Review Committees and the Board of Appeals, the conclusion was reached that a favorable recommendation for the issuance of the visa was not warranted at the time. The case is now eligible under the regulations for reconsideration and the Department will be glad to have the case presented to the Interdepartmental Visa Committee upon receipt of a letter in duplicate from the previous sponsors in the case, Mr. James Lustig and Mr. Henry Wetstein, expressing their continued interest in sponsoring the application and setting forth the extent to which any changes may have occurred in their own circumstances or those of the applicant.

If it is desired to have Mr. Lustig proceed through the United States in transit to Mexico the letters from the sponsors should so indicate and evidence should be submitted to indicate that Mr. Lustig will be permitted to enter Mexico.

Sincerely yours,

Howard K. Travers
Chief, Visa Division

Miss Helen R. Bryan,
Executive Secretary,
Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee,
192 Lexington Avenue,
New York 16, New York.

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JOINT ANTI-FASCIST REFUGEE COMMITTEE

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Author

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Actress

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Pres. Emeritus, Mt. Holyoke College

DR. MAX YERGAN
Council on African Affairs

And others

April 7, 1944

Mr. J. W. Pehle, Acting Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Executive Office of the President,
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Pehle:

I was sorry not to see you when I was in Washington on Wednesday but it was a pleasure for me to meet Mrs. Holan.

Would your Board be in a position to help us on the following case? Mr. Bela Lustig, a Hungarian by birth and a member of the International Brigades in Spain has been confined to prisons in Spain until very recently. The American Friends Service Committee, National Refugee Service and the Joint Distribution Committee have been interested in securing not only financial assistance but transportation for Mr. Lustig. Mr. James Lustig, brother of Mr. Bela Lustig, is a District Organizer of District 4 of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America.

The American Friends Service Committee has just informed us that a United States visa application for Mr. Bela Lustig had been refused. Mr. James Lustig is most anxious to effect his brother's exit from Spain in whatever way is the most effective. He informs us that before going into Spain his brother, Bela Lustig, had been living in France for a number of years and is not sure whether Mr. Bela Lustig secured French citizenship while in France or was granted Spanish citizenship during his service in the Spanish war. He may still have his Hungarian citizenship.

Mr. Bela Lustig's address is c/o Filo, Plaza San Diego No. 2, Madrid, Spain.

I trust most sincerely that there is some way whereby the War Refugee Board can assist Mr. Bela Lustig. It would be most helpful if these steps could be taken promptly and he could be brought out of Spain. The most helpful thing would be to secure a transit visa for him from Lisbon via the United States to Mexico.

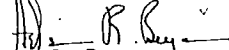
We have written our office in Mexico asking for a Mexican visa for him but possibly your contacts in Mexico could

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expedite securing of this visa.

Sincerely yours,


Helen R. Bryan
Executive Secretary

HRB:fo
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