Requests for Specific Aid: Spelling, Morris
Dear Miss Shotten:

Reference is made to my letter of April 6, 1945, requesting that an inquiry concerning the whereabouts and welfare of Mrs. Bronia Sperling and her daughter, Ernestina, whose last-known address was c/o Gas, Sulechow Post Komzyzow, near Krakow, Poland, be forwarded through facilities available to you.

I have just been informed that Mr. Morris Sperling has recently received a report from one of the welfare agencies that as of March 1944 a Mr. David Sperling and family were alive and residing at Holz Street 22, Lods, Poland. It is believed that this Mr. David Sperling may be Mr. Morris Sperling's father.

It will be appreciated if you can ascertain for us whether this Mr. David Sperling is still alive, and if so, whether he has any information concerning Mrs. Bronia Sperling and Ernestina, the wife and daughter of Mr. Morris Sperling.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer
William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Miss Margaret Shotten
Chief, Inquiry Unit
American National Red Cross
Washington, D.C.
JUN 9 - 1945

My dear Mr. Bloom:

I have your letter of June 5, 1945, with further reference to the problem of locating Mrs. Bronia Sperling and Ernestina Sperling, the wife and daughter of Mr. Morris Sperling of New York City.

There is enclosed a copy of my letter of today transmitting to the American Red Cross the additional information given in your letter and requesting that a supplemental inquiry be sent on the basis of this information.

I regret that we have not as yet received a reply to the original inquiry sent through Red Cross channels concerning these people. Immediately upon receipt of any report in this connection, it will be forwarded to you. In the meantime, Mr. Sperling may wish to try to communicate directly with Mr. David Sperling at the Lodz address. I am informed that, except for the provinces of Pomorze and Katowice, postal facilities are now available to Poland.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer
William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Honorable Sol Bloom
House of Representatives

Enclosure
My dear General O'Dwyer:

Reference is made to your letters to me of April 7th and April 18th, 1945 in regard to the efforts made to locate Mrs. Bronia Sperling and Ernestina Sperling, the wife and daughter of Mr. Morris Sperling of New York City.

Mr. Sperling informs me that he has received a report from one of the welfare agencies that as of March 1944, a Mr. David Sperling and family were alive and residing at Holz Street 22, Lodz, Poland. This Mr. David Sperling may be Mr. Morris Sperling's father.

Would it be possible for your Board to institute an inquiry as to whether this Mr. David Sperling is still alive and if so, whether he has any information concerning his wife and daughter? Also kindly advise me whether you have received any further report in this case since communicating with me on April 18th.

With many thanks for your kind attention to this matter, I remain

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Brigadier General William O'Dwyer,
Executive Director,
War Refugee Board,
Department of the Treasury Building,
Washington, D. C.

SB:Dv
My dear Mr. Bloom:

Since my letter of April 6, 1945, concerning efforts to locate Mrs. Bronia Sperling and Ernestina Sperling, the wife and daughter of Mr. Morris Sperling of New York City, I have been informed by the Apostolic Delegation in Washington of a report from the Vatican that communications with Poland have been severed for the time being.

While there is no indication as to when communications may be resumed, assurance was given that if conditions change the request for a report on the whereabouts and welfare of these persons will be forwarded to the Holy See.

The Board has received no reply from the American National Red Cross. Any information received will be forwarded to you promptly.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Honorable Sol Bloom,
House of Representatives.
My dear Mr. Bloom:

Since my letter of April 6, 1945, concerning efforts to locate Mrs. Bronia Sperling and Ernestina Sperling, the wife and daughter of Mr. Morris Sperling of New York City, I have been informed by the Apostolic Delegation in Washington of a report from the Vatican that communications with Poland have been severed for the time being.

While there is no indication as to when communications may be resumed, assurance was given that if conditions change the request for a report on the whereabouts and welfare of these persons will be forwarded to the Holy See. Any further information received will be forwarded to you promptly.

Sincerely yours,

William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director

Honorable Sol Bloom,  
House of Representatives.
General William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
War Refugees Board
Washington 26, D.C.

My dear General O'Dwyer:

I have your letter of April 6th, containing an inquiry about Mrs. Bronie Sviril and her daughter, Ernestine, who are in Poland.

I regret that just in these days we have received word from the Vatican that communications with Poland have been severed for the time, and there is no indication as to when it may be possible to resume them. If conditions change in the future we shall be glad to forward the request to the Holy See.

With sentiments of deep esteem, and every good wish, I remain

Yours very sincerely,

[Signature]

Joseph [Name],
Secretary
Dear Mr. Bloom:

With reference to my letter of March 30, 1945, I enclose for your information copies of our letters to the American National Red Cross and the Vatican Message Service requesting each of those agencies to secure a welfare and whereabouts report on the wife and child of Mr. Morris Sparling, of New York City.

As soon as a report has been secured from either source, it will be immediately forwarded to your office.

Sincerely yours,

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Honorable Sol Bloom,
House of Representatives.
Dear Mr. Bloom:

Attached please find carbon copies of our letters to the American National Red Cross and the Vatican Message Service which have been expeditiously arranged for the purpose of securing a welfare and whereabouts report on the wife and child of Mr. Morris Sperling, of New York City. As soon as a report has been secured from either source, it will be immediately forwarded to your office.

Sincerely yours,

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
Miss Margaret Shotton  
Chief, Inquiry Unit  
American National Red Cross  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Miss Shotton:

It is respectfully requested that a welfare and whereabouts inquiry be forwarded through means at your disposal on behalf of Mrs. Bronia Spierling and her daughter, Ernestina. They were each born in Krakow, Poland, the former on July 19, 1911, and the latter on June 26, 1926. Mr. Spierling, now a United States national and a recently discharged United States serviceman, last heard from his wife in 1941. Her last known address was c/o Gas, Bolechow, Post Krakow, near Krakow, Poland.

Mr. Ryan has informed me that you are now sending inquiries on behalf of persons in Poland to your representative in Moscow for processing. It will be appreciated if you will direct this inquiry to your Mr. Shirk and regard the Far Refugee Board in this instance as the inquirer.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer  
Executive Director

McGormack  4/3/45
APR 6-1945

The Rt. Rev. Msgr. Joseph McShane
Apostolic Delegation
3339 Massachusetts Avenue
Washington, D.C.

By dear Msgr. McShane:

It will be appreciated if you will direct a welfare and whereabouts inquiry concerning Mrs. Bronia Speiling and her daughter, Ernestina. They were each born in Krakow, Poland, the former on July 14, 1921, and the latter on June 26, 1926. Mrs. Speiling, the inquirer, is a United States national and a recently discharged United States serviceman.

The American National Red Cross has been requested to direct a welfare and whereabouts inquiry, but because of the unsatisfactory relationship that exists between the Russian Government and the International Committee of the Red Cross, this formula does not promise to be successful whereas I believe the Vatican Welfare Service has proved itself more successful in such countries as Poland. It will be appreciated if you will regard the War Refugee Board in this instance as the inquirer.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) William O'Dwyer

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

PJMcCormack 4/3/45
March 30, 1945

Hon. Sol Bloom,

House of Representatives.

Dear Mr. Bloom:

I am pleased to acknowledge your letter of March 29, regarding a welfare and whereabouts inquiry on the wife and daughter of Mr. Morris Sportling of New York City.

A member of my staff has talked with your secretary and explained what appears to us to be the best possible source of directing this inquiry, namely the Vatican Message Service. Your secretary indicated that she will obtain additional identifying information on Mrs. Sportling and her daughter and upon receipt of this information, we will direct this inquiry to the Apostolic Delegate's office in Washington.

Sincerely yours,

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director
My dear General O'Dwyer:

One of my constituents, Mr. Morris Sperling of 230 West 97th Street, New York City, an American citizen who was recently honorably discharged from the Army, has asked me to try and obtain information for him concerning the welfare and whereabouts of his wife and daughter, Mrs. Bronia Sperling and Ernestina, born June 26, 1936. When last heard from, their address was c/o Gaa, Sulechow Post Kocmyrzow, near Krakow, Poland.

I should appreciate being advised if it will be possible to institute an inquiry to obtain this information.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

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