

Requests for Specific Aid: THEWETT, ALFRED

000286

APR 6 - 1945

Dear Mr. Thewett:

Mrs. Roosevelt has referred to me your letter of March 23, 1945, concerning your desire to obtain transportation from England to this country for your wife, who is in possession of a United States visa. From the information given in your letter, it appears that everything necessary to arrange for your wife's entry to this country has been done and that the only remaining obstacle to her early departure is the matter of securing passage.

I am sorry that there is no action which the War Refugee Board can take to assist you in this matter. While I am not informed as to what assistance private organizations may be able to give in problems of this nature under the difficulties of war-time transportation, I suggest that you make inquiry of any one of the agencies named in the enclosed list.

Very truly yours,

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

Mr. Alfred Thewett,
Fort Ontario,
Oswego, New York.

Enclosure.

EBT
EBT:inp 4/2/45

000287

Alfred Thewett

Fort Ontario

Oswego, N.Y.

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
White House
Washington, D.C.

MAR 28 1940

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Since it is known to me that you, Mrs. Roosevelt, take an active interest in all those who come to you with worthy requests, I venture to ask your help in the following matter:

In the year 1938 my wife left our hometown, Vienna, and went to England. I hoped that it would be possible for me to join her shortly. Because at that time my affidavit was not sufficient, I could not prove to the English authorities that I intended to go to America eventually. Therefore, the English authorities did not grant me a visitor's permit. As the given political situation in Austria made it impossible for me to stay any longer in that country, I decided to go to Italy. Through the great kindness of Mr. Roosevelt, I was permitted to come to this country and am now in Fort Ontario, Oswego, N.Y..

My wife has been in London for more than 6 years. An American friend has given her an affidavit and since November, 1944 she has all her papers ready to come to this country. Her trunks are packed and she is awaiting transportation. So far she has been waiting in vain. Her sister who is married and lives in New York as well as myself are eagerly expecting her arrival. It seems to take such a long time. My wife seems to have reached the limit of her nervous energy. Even though she continues with her work, I fear that after all these years of waiting, this final waiting period will be too much for her and that she may get seriously ill.

Mrs. Roosevelt I am sure that you understand what it means for husband and wife to be separated for more than 6 years. I am constantly worrying that the German rocket bombs may harm her. As she is so luckily in possession of an U.S. visa, she could so easily escape the danger. I know that some people have succeeded lately in leaving England. They have found peace and safety in this country.

My request is the following: Mrs. Roosevelt will you please do everything possible to help my wife get a boat ticket as soon as possible, so that she can join me in this country? She is Austrian, has registered with the consul and all her papers are satisfactory.

000288

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt

-2-

March 23, 1945

Let me express my deepest gratitude and the hope
that my request was not in vain.

Respectfully yours,

Alfred Thewett

Personal data: Angele Thewett, born Kanive, Vienna 4/17/11
6 St. Mark's Crescent, London, N.W.1.
Name of Affiant: Mr. F.G. Kovacs, manufacturer, 71 Smull Ave.,
Caldwell, N.J.

000289

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 31, 1945.

My dear General O'Dwyer:

Mrs. Roosevelt has asked me to send you the enclosed letter from Mr. Alfred Thewett, Fort Ontario, Oswego, New York, for whatever action you may deem advisable.

Very sincerely yours,

Melvin C. Thompson
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt.

Brig. General William O'Dwyer
War Refugee Board
2426 Treasury Building
Washington, D. C.

000290