Requests for Specific Aid: Vigliante, Ernest N.
Dear Judge Cariello:

I have your letter of March 20 and its enclosure concerning the case of Mrs. Anna Vigilante Roccatagliata.

Since matters of immigration are not within the jurisdiction of the War Refugee Board, I am sorry that we are not able to be of direct assistance to Mr. Vigilante in his efforts to arrange to bring his sister and her family to this country. While I am not informed as to the immigration facilities available at the present time, it is my understanding that the best procedure for him to follow in this matter is to seek the assistance of a private organization. I am enclosing a list of agencies which I am informed are qualified to assist in problems of this nature, and I suggest that he present his case to any one of them for such help or information as they may be able to give him.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

William O'Dwyer
Executive Director

Honorable Mario J. Cariello
Judge of the Municipal Court of
the City of New York
1015 - 49th Avenue
Long Island City, New York

Enclosure
Judge,

I have not seen you for some time. I have been following your activities with great interest and hope the letter finds you well.

One of our local vigilantes asked me to try to help his Vigilante. He is trying to bring his wife over here. The enclosed memorandum explains his situation. I assure you, thought that we, the Vigilante Board, are only interested in the protection of our Committee, I hope you will see fit to grant the request.

With kind regards,

[Signature]
March 6th, 1945

Dear Judge Ceriello:

In reference to our conversation last Wednesday at the home of the Rev. Degenhardt, I am submitting for your information the following:

My sister is the daughter of Sebastiano and Josephine Vegliante. She was born in 1906, and to the best of my knowledge the town of her birth was Bellona, Province of Naples, Italy. At the age of two she came to the United States with her parents, and remained in the United States until 1922. She was graduated from a Syracuse, N.Y. grammar school, and also attended Syracuse High School. My father and mother returned to Italy in 1922 in order to make a property settlement on an estate that was willed to my father. My sister was brought back to Italy by them, at that time.

My sister Anna Vegliante, while in Italy, met and married Pasquale Roccatagliata. There were three children as the result of this marriage. They are Irma, age 15; Rita, age 11; and Edward Roccatagliata, age 9. My sister's husband died in 1938 due to natural causes.

She had always dwelt in that part of Italy, which has been destroyed since the time of the American occupation. As a result of the properties from which she had derived her income for the support of herself and her children, are now obliterated, making her totally dependent upon whatever monies received from myself, my sister and my brother, all of whom dwell in New York State.

Time and again my sister has written of the terrific hardships which she and her children must undergo, and has begged us, if at all possible, to deliver her from the veritable hell she is now suffering. My brother, sister, and myself are well able and willing to take care of my sister and her children and can guarantee that financially they will not become public charges.
I have two places of business. The one is the Vigilant Watch Hospital and Sales located at 33-02 Ditmars Boulevard, Astoria. The other is at 116-32 Newburg Street, St Albans, Long Island. I was born at Saratoga County, on the town of Mechanicville, March 12th, 1910. I am married and the father of a son and a daughter. I own my own home, which is a one family dwelling, consisting of six rooms, two baths, and a finished basement, located at 20-06 43rd Street Long Island City.

My brother, Nicholas, also has two places of business at which he conducts watch and jewelry repairing and sales of the same. The one is at the corner of 128-02 Liberty Avenue, Richmond Hill, and the other is at 228-13 Linden Blvd. and 236th Street, Cambria Heights, New York. He owns his own home, consisting of 15 rooms, Dauntless Estates Duph B'way, Valley Stream, in the township of Mineola, Long Island. He is married and has two children.

My sister, Zilla, is married to Sabia W. Pace, who is a civil engineer, having been graduated from Columbia University. My brother-in-law is employed by the Western Electric Company. At the present time is living in an apartment, located at 307-East 221st Street, the Bronx. They are contemplating purchasing their own home in the near future. There are three children.

The aforementioned information attests to the fact that we are not only able to care for our sister and her children, financially, but also are able to provide them with more than suitable, dwelling quarters.

From the beginning of the American occupation of Italy, my sister volunteered her services to the American Military government, and was accepted to work for the civil officers in charge, and also by Lieutenant Colonel Cornwell, of the infantry of the United States Army. She has been commended very highly by the Colonel for her fine work and cooperation.

My sister's present address is Anna Vegliante Ferma Santa Maria in Capua Vetere, Provinte of Naples, Italy.

In thankful appreciation for your consideration, I am

Respectfully,

(Signed) Ernest N. Vigliante