

Socket, Friedrich W.

000354

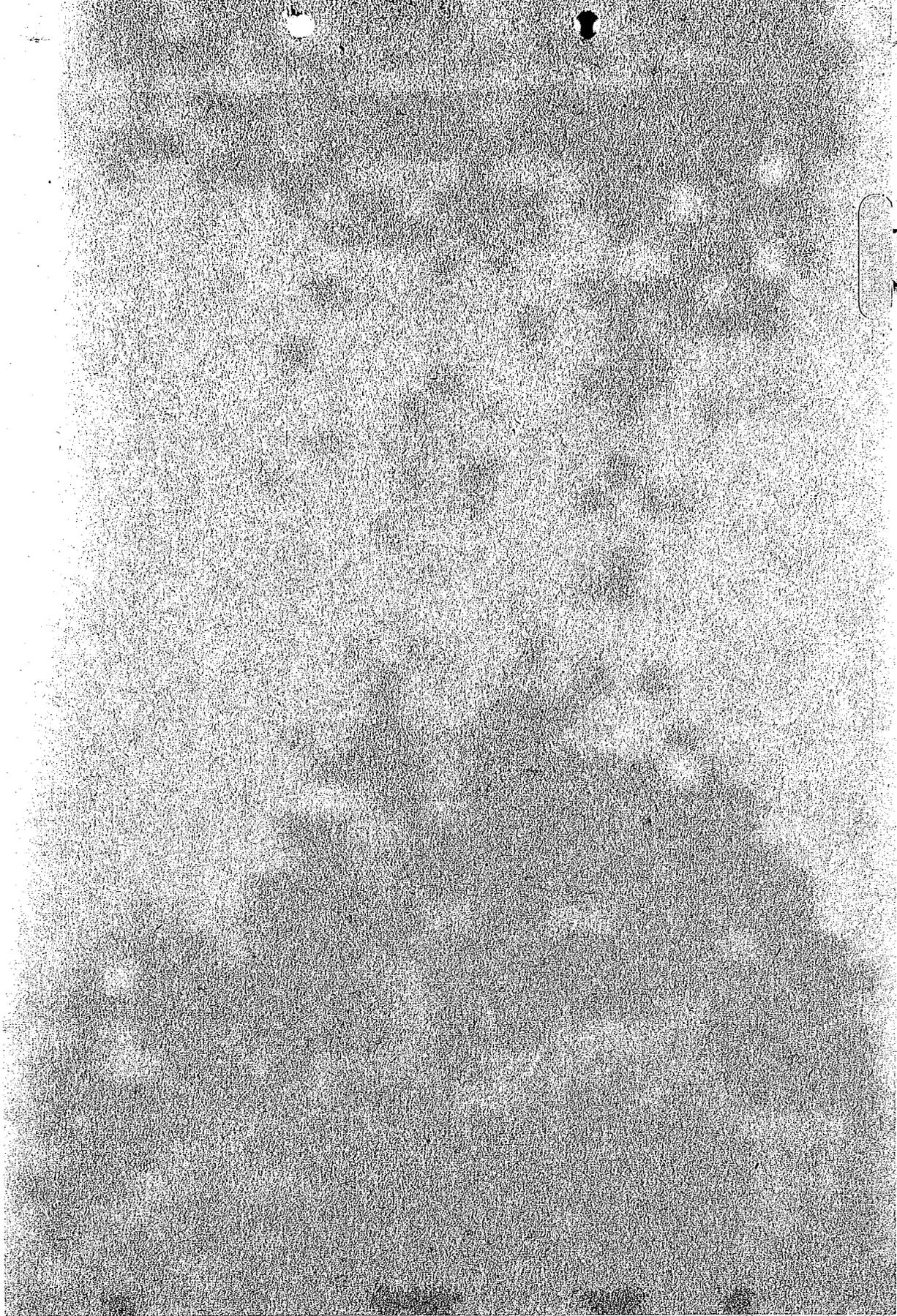
SECKEL, FRIEDRICH W.

~~SECRET~~

1. GENERAL
2. LETTERS OF INTRODUCTION GIVEN TO MR. HIRSCHMANN BY SUBJECT

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By R. H. Parks Date SEP 27 1972

000360



000361

OFFICE OF
I. A. HIRSCHMANN

June 10, 1944

To: Mr. John W. Pehle

Mr. Hirschmann dashed this off
just before he left and asked
me to be sure that it got to you.

Sincerely

Robert E. Vranich

Secretary

4400362

BLOOMINGDALE'S
NEW YORK
22 N.Y.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES

June 10, 1944

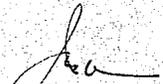
Mr. John W. Pehle
War Refugee Board
Treasury Building
Washington, D.C.

Dear John:

I have found Mr. Seckel, whom you referred to me, to be a man of apparent valuable connections and background in the Balkan situation. He has given me some information and letters of introduction to people that might result in some important steps.

I am checking the validity and possibilities involved in these when I arrive in Ankara. His suggestions may be invaluable in dealing with certain individuals in enemy territory, and his connections based on former large business operations and possibilities of exchange of connections for the future may be important in steps which we can make, connected with the War Refugee Board program. If this is verified by me, I may ask you by telegram to send him to Ankara. I do hope that this might be possible in the event that the situation would seem to warrant such a step, and you may be assured that I would not make such a request unless it seemed urgent and of concrete value.

Cordially yours


I. A. Hirschmann

iah:ama

000363

June 9, 1944

Mr. I.A. Hirschmann
Bloomingdale's
New York 22, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Hirschmann:

Following I would like to outline my ideas on helping the victims of the Nazis in Europe. I start with Turkey:

In Turkey you undoubtedly know that there is plenty of opposition by influential people against the problem you are handling, especially the new Ankara crowd.

I am leaving out of this letter all official government contacts because I think the best way to approach those people is your own personality qualified as a member of the staff of the American Embassy, which has all the necessary power behind it, especially the very influential and able Ambassador Steinhardt. From my knowledge of this country I can advise you never to threaten the Turks, because with threats you will always have a bad reaction. A Turk does not believe in threats. He believes only in action.

As far as introductions are concerned, I met strong opposition by the tobacco officers which has nothing to do with any racial prejudices but with the policy of the companies. I got a letter of introduction for you from the President of the American Tobacco Company of the Orient which is the purchasing company for American Tobacco, Pall Mall, Philip Morris, Stephano. There is one obstacle in bringing the pressure to bear on the American Tobacco Companies, and I've got to draw your attention to it, (off the record). The American outfits have their own tax fight with the Turkish government and a fight on the rate of exchange. Nevertheless, you will find that Mr. English, to whom the letter is addressed, will be very helpful. I think you should invite him to come to Ankara where they go quite frequently for their own problems. They have very efficient Turkish lawyers at their side in Ankara.

I hope when I hand you this letter I will get an introduction from Mr. Garoy (Liggett & Meyers, Chesterfield), to his chief buyer in Turkey. If the fight with the American Tobacco crowd had not taken so much of my time I would have already been down to Winston-Salem to get you an introduction to the third and last purchasing outfit in Turkey. It is Glenn Company, buyers for Reynolds (Gamel). If you wish, I am still willing to go to Winston-Salem and will send you the letter of introduction through the Refugee Board provided I will be able to persuade the people to give it.

Regarding further letters of introduction, I hand you my own introduction to Nemli Zade Mitat Bey. He is an old friend of mine though I have never done business with him. He is the leading Turkish tobacco man, very wealthy and influential.

*Subsequent files re: Turkey
from WKB 6/11/44*

page two

8.9.44

Mr. I. A. Hirschman...

He used to be President of the Chamber of Commerce in Istanbul. I will try to obtain a letter from Mr. Schnur who used to be his largest customer. He owes his great success to Mr. Schnur. I am sure he will advise you in many problems. As far as I know he is buying for the British, and you can contact through him Mr. Brinn, the chief buyer of the British. (Off the record, I think Mr. Brinn is not very favorably inclined toward refugee problems.)

Mr. former manager, Mr. Saltiel, you have met at Baker. You know the Turkish Jews in general have no power, but they can always give you valuable hints. If you need any help from him you can mention my name. It won't harm you.

There is another outfit which can be of assistance to you. It is a Swiss Jewish firm, Spierer. They are the largest private dealers in Turkish tobacco in the world, doing a tremendous amount of business with the United States. I give you my own letter of introduction which will be very helpful. Through those people you will contact a Jewish lawyer, Cohn, who is now called Tokinalp. He knows the ins and outs of Ankara and is very valuable.

My own lawyer is at present not reliable because he is working too much with the Nazis, so I am leaving him out.

Very high in Ankara are Mr. and Mrs. Owen. He is a Standard Oil top man in the Near East. She is a member of the first twenty Turkish families in Ankara. They are favorably inclined toward refugees. I know they were on good terms with the Kemal Pasha crowd. I don't know how they are with Ismet Ononu and the present Prime Minister. Unless I can get some definite word how their relationships are I hesitate to ask her for introductions because it can be very harmful not to use them even if her family is at present in disgrace.

If you find that Sela Edin Bey Cam, former President of the Turkish National Bank, is in favor, you can just approach him and I am sure that if you mention my name and remind him that I made all the clearing agreements with him for the Austrian monopoly, he will help you. The same applies to Abdul Halik Bey. He used to be President of the Parliament. He is a very old man, old Turkish school, favorably inclined toward refugees. If he should have forgotten my name because he is getting very old, tell him that I am the Austrian monopoly purchasing company's manager and former partner of Mr. Wicks de Zsolnay.

I hesitate to give you any introductions without knowing exactly the present political situation in Ankara, but I can advise you to choose a firm, after close investigation of the present conditions, with enough pull to find out what commercial ways there are to get the Turkish government favorably inclined

page three

8.9.44

Mr. I. A. Hirschmann

toward your problems. If you would find that Mr. Dorman is one of the men who could do something, I will send over to you a letter of introduction by their firm in this country.

There are four distinctive, different ways to handle your problem in Turkey:

1. Trying to find out what they want in return. Perhaps a hospital or school building or something of that nature. You have got to get away from the demanding end and you have got to operate as a man who does something for Turkey too. You should not hesitate to give a promise for after the war.
2. With this same method you can operate in the different provinces of Turkey. If you get one or the other Vali to listen to you and you make him a present of something for his province, the other Vali will get jealous and will offer you his help. The Valis have always had enormous influence in Ankara.
3. The third method is to try to get a deal through which is helpful for Turkish interests on one side, but where a real Turkish firm gets the profit - so that you will be assured of getting things done in return.
4. Throwing in in a very nice and decent way, without threat, the influence of the Tobacco people.

There are, of course, some other ways; creating a committee in favor of the refugees with some influential Turkish women; trying to interest some young Turkish lawyers by giving them jobs.

So far, I have explained what could be done, according to my own opinion, in Turkey itself. Now I want to inform you what you probably could get in Turkey as approach to the European countries. I think that in the short time which we have got before us you cannot save a lot of people by pulling them out of the countries where they are, but you should do everything to protect them while they are in those countries. In that respect I draw your attention to Mr. Hans Weidman, Manager of the Deutsches Bank in Istanbul, as a man who is anti-Nazi, helped a lot of refugees, and can be approached. If I would be over there and permitted to do so, I would find a way to meet him. He travels back and forth and has his contacts in Bulgaria.

The second enemy approach is through the Austrian officers of my former company; some of them are anti-Nazi and favorably inclined. If handled in the right way they can be of great assistance.

page four
6.9.44
Mr. I. A. Hirschman.

Third approach to Mr. Wuleff number one Bulgarian Nazi in Plovdiv. This man has always been the buyer of the British American Tobacco Company in Bulgaria. He is very close to Mr. Brinn whom you can contact through any American Tobacco man or Mr. Nemli Zade Mitat Bey. Another contact you get through Mr. Asseoff who gives his letter of introduction to the representative of the Bulgarian Church in Istanbul and to the Bulgarian Minister in Ankara. I am sure if you have the right contacts and somebody who knows conditions in the German Embassy you can threaten some people and obtain their cooperation by offering refuge for after the war. You will find a man in Turkey very suitable for contacts. He is Mr. Jenke, brother-in-law of Ribbentrop and close to Papen.

Now I hand you the Bulgarian problem. For Bulgaria I am giving you some letters addressed to Bulgarians there which I ask you to use only after all formalities have been accomplished which are necessary according to the law in this country for correspondence with the enemy. My letter to Mr. Riascoff in the German language you will read, and if you agree, send it off. I think it is the right way to handle this problem. Mr. Riascoff is the number one German agent in Bulgaria. He is the man behind the scenes who advises the German government in all their problems and has the power to shift every Minister to his own liking. I have created this man, he has been on my Board, and I am sure that he is not aware of the fact that he became a criminal and that he is responsible by mis-using his power by not preventing the Bulgarian government and Army from killing off and mishandling Greeks, Serbs and Jews.

The second letter is to Mr. Boziloff, former Prime Minister, a man always in power with the Germans. He used to be a very good friend of mine. I made a lot of deals with him. As far as his attitude is concerned I suppose he is not aware of the fact that he is guilty and will be extradited.

Third person, Mr. Staroff. I give you a letter of introduction to him. Mr. Staroff has been my manager in Bulgaria, was the first to betray me, even before my Austrian and German employees. He is a small man but he can be threatened very easily. If he understands that Germany has lost the war he will try to do everything to save his skin. He will expect that I shall return to my job and a second thought will be, besides saving his life to save his job. I daresay I will never employ him again if I have any power.

Fourth introduction. Mr. Lipovanski, member of Parliament. Cousin of my wife. Favorably inclined toward Jews. Not very honest. Can be bought. His last speech in the Parliament in 1939 in favor of the Jews was aimed at me. At that time I was Chief Buyer in the French monopoly and he wanted to make a deal with me. This speaks for itself. Came to Vienna to save

page five

8.9.44

Mr. I. A. Hirschmann

my wife and me from the Nazis. He was never favorably looked upon by my wife, but should be used.

For your guidance I would like to tell you that we are all puzzled about the new Bulgarian government which might change several times before you arrive. But the men in this government are not killers; mostly business men and I do not expect that they will abuse their power against the Jews. If I would be there I would find other contacts in Bulgaria, especially I am sure that some organization could be established around the border by cooperation through my two former purchasing organizations at the borders, Bulgaria at one side and Turkey at the other side, and Greece. There are some men especially suitable for this job. I have the right approach because some of my former Turkish employees in Bulgaria have been transferred from Bulgaria to Turkey.

To obtain results in Bulgaria the attitude has to be 100% different from Turkey. A Bulgarian only listens to power and threats. He has no consideration for anybody who treats him like a gentleman. In order to put the necessary pressure on leading Bulgarians you have to arrange with the Greeks in Cairo and the Russians in Ankara that a list be published in underground newspapers distributed in Bulgaria, with the names of important Bulgarian people who are guilty of crimes against minorities. Do not forget to include important people who sat back and didn't do anything to prevent the crimes.

I left out an introduction to Mr. Janschouloff, second in command in the Bulgarian Army. If I would be over there I could probably establish contacts because he is married to a first cousin of my wife. You have another approach to the Bulgarian Regency, and the Regent Cyril. You could obtain cooperation from a lot of people if you would work on a problem to save the king, with his mother. If this is an advisable step from the general political aspect, it has to be considered before going to work on it.

The Bulgarian Minister in Madrid Mr. Draganoff and his wife are sure to cooperate; when Minister in Berlin protected especially my wife when she was arrested by the Gestapo. I am sure that mentioning my name is sufficient to secure cooperation. There is another important figure in London, the former Bulgarian Ambassador, who sided in with England from the very start. His name is Mentshiloff. If he appears somewhere on the way you can mention my name to him, I am sure he will do everything. But if you feel that you don't get all the cooperation I can send over a letter from a very close friend of his. X Be careful that Riascoff and Boziloff are not left out. If you want us to, we are going to work out a list of those people. This might be very helpful in bartering lives and protecting Bulgarian future refugees against the victims which we want to protect now.

of a list of Extradition

11 11 3 16 11

page six
8.9.44
Mr. I. A. Hirschmann

Names should be published also by radio stations. As far as I understand, some of the top Bulgarians and Germans tried to obtain refuge in Turkey. You have to do everything to fight those possibilities if given without your consent.

There are two more possibilities in Bulgaria. First is Knothe and his half-brother Peters. Both are top Nazis. I saved the first one from bankruptcy by getting him in the year 1924 the agency of Skoda in Czechoslovakia. International man. He knows certainly that the war is lost and is looking around for his own protection. So is his brother Peters. He is an agent of the Gestapo and is a Colonel in the German Army. They are familiar figures in Bulgaria and after they operated in France after the Occupation they are sure to appear now in Bulgaria in high positions. I am sure that if I were in Turkey I could contact them and get them to cooperate to protect Jews in Bulgaria. Of course, always in the event that I were permitted by American authorities to do so.

Two other powerful figures are the two Buchner brothers. They are powerful Gestapo people, both of them. Mr. Hector Buchner came into Greece as the head of the Gestapo when the German troops entered Salonika in the first tank. The other Buchner is in Bulgaria. The partner of their firm in this country is Mr. Hallas. This outfit sold the tobacco in this country which they originally seized from the Jewish firms in Europe. I can probably get an introduction from Mr. Hallas, who is a Hungarian Jew by birth, to them. This introduction will be very powerful because I am sure that they have close financial contacts between them. Mr. Hallas is now an American citizen.

As far as Rumania is concerned, I am not informed, but eventually if you ask me to I can talk with Mr. Otto Stern, who has been President of the Shell outfit in Rumania, and was very powerful. We are old school mates, and he is in this country.

Hungary is one of the most difficult problems to handle. Besides the usual channels, I think I could get some little cooperation from Hungarians in Turkey, especially if there are any monopoly officers in Turkey. But I see only one very efficient way of protecting the Jews in Hungary itself. The only way to do something efficiently, according to my way of thinking, is to approach Otto of Hapsburg. I have reason to believe that he will use his influence with a great many Hungarian, Austrian and Czechoslovakian government officials. To bring about some contact he should make a speech on a record and have some leaflets printed with his name. I am aware of the opposition but this has nothing to do with future political developments and is purely an expeditive method. I know that the Hungarian Department of the OWI and the Austrian Department, and some men in the State Department will be highly opposed to this method so I do not dare to do the next step without knowing officially that I have obtained the consent and that this method will be used. I think I can get an offer from Otto to help without his being solicited to help by any government agency.

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8.9.44

Mr. I. A. Hirschman

After finishing this report I want to draw your attention to the fact that any success which you obtain in refugee questions is a political success. Any contact which you make with important people will help the war effort in general. Through the invasion and a lot of other events, political developments move fast. The influential people change their posts very quickly and a great knowledge is necessary to keep pace with this.

Do not overlook your Russian contacts in Ankara. They are very helpful because the Turkish diplomacy moves very fast. A threat of the Russians' is very efficient, but you have got something else to accomplish with the Russians. You have got to arrange for protection of refugees from the troops moving in. You will find a lot of trouble if the troops move in to protect concentration camps and to arrange matters in such a way that the oppressed people are not mistaken for German nationals. And on the other hand you will find a good many German Nazis trying to pose as victims even wearing the Star of David, and by those methods they will give rise to a lot of suspicion against the victims. Especially the Russian soldier if he moves in is not going to know who is who if no precautions have been made ahead of time.

I am sorry it has been decided that I cannot accompany you on your important mission. Nevertheless I am at all times at your disposal to cooperate with you from this country. Anything I can do I shall be only too glad to do, and that means if conditions change you can ask my advice, new introductions, etc. I'll always find a way to approach anybody in the countries in question either directly or indirectly.

I wish you in the interest of humanity every success and good luck in your great mission, which I do not doubt will be an unforgettable task in the memories of the people who receive their assistance through you.

Very truly yours

fws:ama

F.W. Seckel

000370

JUN 1 - 1944

Dear Mr. Seckel:

As you know, Mr. Ira Hirschmann, Special Representative of the War Refugee Board at the American Embassy at Ankara, is about to return to his post.

You have suggested that Mr. Hirschmann might receive substantial assistance in his efforts to save the lives of victims of enemy persecution if he were to secure the cooperation of Turkish governmental agencies who have trade relationships with American tobacco concerns. In view of your extensive experience in Turkey and in the tobacco business, we cannot take your suggestion lightly. For this reason, we would appreciate it very much if you would undertake to arrange to secure for Mr. Hirschmann several letters of introduction from American tobacco companies, signed by appropriate persons, addressed to such agencies in Turkey, and requesting that they extend all possible assistance to Mr. Hirschmann.

Very truly yours,

(s) J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. F. W. Seckel
40 Central Park South
New York City

*Handed to
Mr. Seckel*

6/1/44

L.S.L.

LSLesser:als 6/1/44

000371

ad

JUN 1 - 1944

Dear Mr. Seckel:

As you know, Mr. Ira Hirschmann, Special Representative of the War Refugee Board at the American Embassy at Ankara, is about to return to his post.

You have suggested that Mr. Hirschmann might receive substantial assistance in his efforts to save the lives of victims of enemy persecution if he were to secure the cooperation of Turkish governmental agencies who have trade relationships with American tobacco concerns. In view of your extensive experience in Turkey and in the tobacco business, we cannot take your suggestion lightly. For this reason, we would appreciate it very much if you would undertake to arrange to secure for Mr. Hirschmann several letters of introduction from American tobacco companies, signed by appropriate persons, addressed to such agencies in Turkey, and requesting that they extend all possible assistance to Mr. Hirschmann.

Very truly yours,

J. W. Pehle

J. W. Pehle
Executive Director

Mr. F. W. Seckel
40 Central Park South
New York City

*Handed to
Mr. Seckel 6/1/44*

L. S. L.
LSLesser:als 6/1/44

Telegraph to Mr. Hirschmann

1100372

I

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

INTER OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE May 29, 1944.

TO Mr. Lesser
FROM T. H. Ball
Subject Friedrich W. Seckel,
40 Central Park South,
New York City

In accordance with your request of May 25, 1944, we have obtained the following information concerning the subject:

He was born December 17, 1890 at Hamburg, Germany, ^{later} ~~and~~ naturalized as an Austrian citizen. At the beginning of 1939 he and his wife, Angelina, resided in Paris and remained in France until September 17, 1940. In order to escape from France he assumed the name Frantizek Sobota. For the same reason his wife assumed the name Anna Sobota. The subject entered this country on April 28, 1941 on an immigration visa and secured his first citizenship papers on October 20, 1941 in New York City.

The subject is said to have had broad banking experience in Europe. In 1934 he was appointed Consul General by the Austrian Government, in which capacity he negotiated trade and barter agreements with Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey.

In 1942 the subject was an officer and director of Treborn Associates, Inc., a New York corporation

RAB

Mr. Ball

May 25, 1944

L. S. Lesser

I would appreciate any information you can get me from official sources concerning Friedrich W. Seckel, 53 years old, of 50 Central Park South, New York City.

We have the following information which might be checked:

"During the first World War Mr. Seckel was in the German Foreign Service and was active up to 1917 in the commercial affairs of Germany, Switzerland and Bulgaria, particularly in relation to tobacco. In 1920 he established his own firm in Bulgaria, and up to 1927 had had interests in Greece and Turkey where he lived for certain periods of time. In 1927 his firm was taken over by the Bulgarian Tobacco Monopoly. In 1932 he was made honorary Consul General from Austria to Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey. He was naturalized an Austrian citizen in 1936. At the time of the Anschluss he was arrested by the Germans and was forced to sign over all of his property to the Germans. His wife was also arrested in Vienna but due to the intercession of the Bulgarian Government, they were both released and they left Austria illegally and went to Holland and France. Mrs. Seckel is a Bulgarian, non-Jewish. In 1939 when the war broke out, the French Ministry of Economic Warfare employed him, and he likewise was in England where he consulted and advised with the British Ministry of Economic Warfare. In 1940 he came out to Lisbon and in 1941 he emigrated to the United States."

This matter is somewhat urgent.

LSLesserials 5/25/44

LSLesserials 5/25/44

000374

*Immigrant - here - 3 years
1st papers
May 10, 1944*

MEMORANDUM

Tobacco business

TO: Mr. John H. Finkle

FROM: M. A. Leavitt

Re: Friedrich W. Seckel, 40 Central Park South, New York City.

Mr. Seckel is 53 years old, was born in Hamburg and educated in London. During the first World War Mr. Seckel was in the German Foreign Service and was active up to 1917 in the commercial affairs of Germany, Switzerland and Bulgaria, particularly in relation to tobacco. In 1920 he established his own firm in Bulgaria, and up to 1927 had had interests in Greece and Turkey where he lived for certain periods of time. In 1927 his firm was taken over by the Bulgarian Tobacco Monopoly. In 1932 he was made honorary Consul General from Austria to Bulgaria, Greece and Turkey. He was naturalized an Austrian citizen in 1936. At the time of the Anschluss he was arrested by the Germans and was forced to sign over all of his property to the Germans. His wife was also arrested in Vienna but due to the intercession of the Bulgarian Government, they were both released and they left Austria illegally and went to Holland and France. Mrs. Seckel is a Bulgarian, non-Jewish. In 1939 when the war broke out, the French Ministry of Economic Warfare employed him, and he likewise was in England where he consulted and advised with the British Ministry of Economic Warfare. In 1940 he came out to Lisbon and in 1941 he emigrated to the United States.

Mr. Seckel is well-known to our State Department and other branches of the government, as well as to the British authorities. A very thorough checking of him has convinced responsible people that he is honest and reliable. I spoke with him for a short while and was greatly impressed by his knowledge of the situation in the Near East and by the substantial nature of the man's personality. He is well-known to the leading political figures in Turkey, Bulgaria and Greece. His wife is a relative of one of the Ministers of Bulgaria. I believe that it would be very helpful if you had an opportunity to meet with him and form your own judgment.

Maheant

*Sub from Mr. Seckel
file*

000375

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000376

Monsieur Nemli Zade Midhat
Istanbul, Turquie.

000377

F. W. SECKEL
40 Central Park South
New York, N.Y.
U.S.A.

New York, le 8 Juin 1944

Monsieur Nemli Zade Midhat.
Istanbul, Turquie.

Cher Monsieur,

Je me permet d'introduire par la présente
auprès de vous Monsieur Ira Hirschmann qui se rend dans
votre pays comme envoyé spécial du "War Refugee Board"

Il est attaché à l'Ambassade des Etats-Unis
à Ankara.

Le War Refugee Board est un département spécial
des bureaux du Président des Etats-Unis, Monsieur Franklin
D. Roosevelt et se compose de trois Ministres des Etats-Unis
Affaires Etrangères, Guerre et Finance.

Je vous serais très reconnaissant de faciliter
la tâche de Monsieur Hirschmann, qui est de sauver et
protéger les victimes des persecutions des minorités en
Europe.

Après mon arrivée d'Autriche en France en 1938,
je n'ai plus eu le plaisir de vous revoir. J'espère, que
Madame et vous, êtes en parfaite santé.

Tout en vous remerciant à l'avance de tout
ce que vous ferez pour faciliter la mission de Monsieur
Hirschmann, je vous prie de recevoir, cher Monsieur, mes
meilleures salutations.



000378

D. SCHNUR
HOTEL PIERRE
NEW YORK CITY

Son Excellence Rushti Arras
Ankara
Turkey

000379

D. SCHNUR

HOTEL PIERRE
NEW YORK CITY

Le 9 Juin 1944

Son Excellence Rushti Arras
Ankara
Turquie

Excellence,

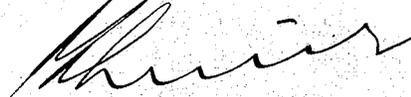
Je me permets par la presente d'introduire aupres
de vous Monsieur IRA HIRSHMAN du War Refugee Board.

Monsieur HIRSHMAN se rendra en Turquie dans l'
interet du War Refugee Board, et je vous serais infiniment
reconnaissant si vous voudrez bien etendre votre
valeurueux appui a son oeuvre de charite.

En vous remerciant d'avance pour tout ce que vous
voudrez bien faire pour aider Mr. HIRSHMAN,

Je vous prie de croire, Excellence, a l'expression
de mes sentiments les meilleurs.

Votre tres devoue



000380

D. SCHNUR
HOTEL PIERRE
NEW YORK CITY

Monsieur Mithat Nemli
Minerva Han
Galata Istanbul
Turkey

000381

D. SCHNUR

HOTEL PIERRE
NEW YORK CITY

Le 9 Juin 1944

Monsieur Mithat Nemli
Minerva Han
Galata Istanbul
Turquie

Mon cher Monsieur Nemli,

Je me permets par la presente d'introduire auprès
de vous Monsieur IRA HIRSHMAN du War Refugee Board.

Monsieur HIRSHMAN se rendra en Turquie dans l'intérêt
du War Refugee Board, et je vous serais infiniment recon-
naissant si vous voudrez bien étendre votre valeureux ap-
pui à son oeuvre de charité.

En vous remerciant d'avance pour tout ce que vous
voudrez bien faire pour aider Mr. HIRSHMAN,

Je vous prie de croire, mon cher Monsieur Mithat, à
l'expression de mes meilleurs sentiments.

Votre dévoué



110382

Messieurs Hermann Spierer & Co.
Istanbul, Turquie.

7 0 0 3 8 3

F. W. SECKEL
40 Central South Park
New York, U.S.A.

June 9, 1944

Messieurs Hermann Spierer & Co.
Istanbul, Turquie,

Chers Messieurs,

Je me permet, par la présente, d'introduire
auprès de vous Monsieur Ira Hirschmann délégué spécial
du "WAR REFUGEE BOARD" .

Le "War Refugee Board" est un département
spécial des bureaux du Président des Etats-Unis et se
compose des ministres des Affaires Etrangères, Guerre et
Finance.

Je vous prie d'assister dans toute la mesure
du possible Monsieur Ira Hirschmann dans sa mission
hautement humanitaire.

Tout en vous remerciant de tout ce que vous
pourrez faire pour faciliter la tâche de Monsieur Ira
Hirschmann, je vous prie de recevoir, chers Messieurs,
mes salutations les plus amicales.



000384

Mr. Marco Riascoff

000385

F. W. SECKEL

June
9th
1944

Sehr geehrter Herr Riaskoff :

Wenn ich Ihnen heute nach langem (aus verstaendlichen Gruenden) Schweigen diesen Brief schreibe, so geschieht dies ausschliesslich in Ihrem Interesse und im Interesse vieler Ihrer Freunde und Angehoerigen.

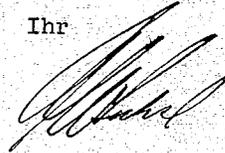
Ich glaube, dass es kaum einen Menschen mit Verstand gibt, der daran zweifeln wuerde, dass Bulgarien sich politisch und militaerisch auf die falsche Seite geschlagen hat. Daran und an den Consequenzen laesst sich heute wenig aendern. Wenn man ueber die Hauptschuldigen spricht, so hoert man immer wieder Ihren Namen. Sie werden geradezu als Drahtzieher bezeichnet. Hierdurch sind Sie direkt und indirekt mitschuldig geworden fuer alle Verbrechen, welche Bulgarien gegen die Minoritaeten und meine Glaubensgenossen begangen hat. Tauschen Sie sich nicht ueber die Consequenzen. Ich habe es am eigenen Leibe erfahren, was es bedeutet vor einem Auslieferungsverfahren zu entfliehen.

Als Freund rate ich Ihnen : Versuchen Sie noch im letzten Augenblick fuer sich und Ihre Freunde gute Taten zu setzen, die Sie in die Wagschale werfen koennen. Aendern Sie soweit es in Ihrer Macht steht Ihren Kurs. Vielleicht kann Ihnen dann noch geholfen werden.

Wenn Sie in dieser Beziehung den Wunsch haben sollten, mitzuhelfen, so koennen Sie sich an den Spezial Delegierten der Amerikanischen Regierung bei der Amerikanischen Botschaft in Ankara wenden und sich auf mich beziehen. Die Adresse ist : Herr Ira Hirschman, U.S.A.Embassy, Ankara, Turkey.

Ich hoffe, dass Sie in dieser Angelegenheit soviel leisten werden, dass ich Ihnen in den kommenden schweren Stunden werde beistehen koennen.

Ihr



700381

Mr. Dobri Bojiloff

000387

F. W. SECKEL

June
9th
1944

Sehr geehrter Herr Bojiloff :

Ich schreibe Ihnen heute um Ihnen die Lage in die Sie Ihr Land und sich selbst gebracht haben, vor Augen zu bringen. Ein Mann von Ihrem Weitblick kann sich der Tatsache nicht verschliessen, dass die Abrechnung fuer alle Handlungen vor der Tuere steht. Wenn Sie sich vielleicht auch keiner direkten Handlung gegenueber Minoritaeten bewusst sind, so haben Sie nach Ansicht aller Kenner als Minister Praesident mitgewirkt. Es ist daher sehr wahrscheinlich, dass Sie zur Rechenschaft gezogen werden

Sollten Sie in Ihren Gedanken nach einem Ausweg fuer sich und Ihre Freunde suchen, so rate ich Ihnen noch im letzten Augenblick zu versuchen gute Taten auf Ihr Credit Conto zu bringen. Dies bedeutet, dass Sie so schnell als moeglich mit Ihrem Einfluss den Minoritaeten und meinen Glaubensgenossen in Bulgarien beistehen.

Wenn Sie in dieser Hinsicht etwas zu tun gedenken, wollen Sie sich bitte an Herrn Ira Hirschman wenden, welcher als Special Delegierter der Amerikanischen Regierung an der Amerikanischen Botschaft in Ankara, Turkey sich mit dieser Angelegenheit befasst.

Versaeumen Sie es nicht und machen Sie es Ihren ehemaligen Freunden nicht zu schwer sich in der kommenden Not fuer Sie einzusetzen.

Ihr



000388

JACQUES H. ASSOFF
40 CENTRAL PARK SOUTH
NEW YORK CITY

Bishop Andrey Velitchky
Bulgarian Exarchat
Istanbul, Turkey

000384

JACQUES H. ASSEOFF

40 CENTRAL PARK SOUTH,
NEW YORK CITY
TELEPHONE
RESIDENCE: PLAZA 8-3247
OFFICE: MURRAY HILL 3-4496

Скъпият Дядо Андрей,

Извѣстно Ви е, какво Президента на С. Щати Ф. Д. Рузвелтъ, загриженъ за съдбата на милионнитѣ бѣжанци, жертви на бушуващата страховтна война, е създаде специаленъ "War Refugee Board" съ задачата да бждатъ спасени колкото се може по вече тия невинно страдащи.

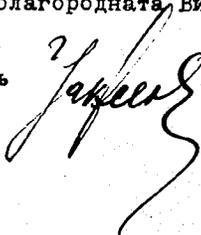
Господинъ Айра Хиршманъ, една проминиентна личностъ на американската общественостъ, ще заминава отново за Близкия Изтокъ, натоваренъ съ благородната мисия, за спасяването и облекчаването съдбата на прѣследванитѣ нещастници.

Познавайки отлично Вашата хуманностъ, благостъ и отзивчивостъ, и като първиятъ прѣдставителъ на Свѣтата Народна Православна Черква, азъ си позволявамъ да Ви прѣпоръчвамъ, най горѣщо Г. Хиршманъ, съ молба да направите всичко зависящо отъ Васъ, за подпомагането на неговитѣ човѣколюбиви усилия.

Като пожелавамъ Вамъ и на благородната Ви майка крѣпко здравѣ и щастие, цѣлувамъ дѣсницата Ви,

Ню-Йоркъ 8. VI 1944 г.

Вашъ



000390

Traduction du Bulgare:

Cher Père André,

Comme vous le savez, le Président des Etats-Unis, Monsieur F.D. Roosevelt, inquiet du sort de millions de réfugiés, victimes de cette terrible guerre, a formé un comité spécial le "WAR REFUGEE Board" dans le but de sauver le plus possible de victimes innocentes

Monsieur Ira Hirschmann une personnalité très en vue de la société américaine, se rend de nouveau dans le proche Orient chargé d'une mission humanitaire, pour sauver et soulager le sort des malheureux persécutés.

Connaissant parfaitement vos sentiments humanitaires, votre bonté et votre empressement à être secourable, et en qualité de premier représentant de la Sainte Eglise Orthodoxe Nationale, je me permet de vous recommander très chaleureusement Monsieur I. Hirschmann: en vous priant de faire tout ce qui est en votre pouvoir pour l'aider dans ses efforts humanitaires.

Tout en vous souhaitant, ainsi qu'à votre très estimée mère, bonne santé et bonheur, je baise respectueusement votre main.

Votre :

000391

GARY TOBACCO COMPANY
630 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Mr. F. A. Turner
Gary Tobacco Company
Istanbul, Turkey

Tahir Kvali Han

000392

GARY TOBACCO COMPANY
INC.

330 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK

June 18, 1944

Mr. F. A. Turner
Gary Tobacco Company
Istanbul, Turkey

Dear Mr. Turner:

This will serve to introduce
Mr. Ima Hincemann, Special Representa-
tive of the War Refugee Board at the
American Embassy in Ankara, Turkey.

Any courtesies and favors ex-
tended to him while on his mission will
be appreciated by us.

Yours very truly,

J. L. Gary

HC

000393

GARY TOBACCO COMPANY
630 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Mr. F. W. Bell
Gary Tobacco Company
Istanbul, Turkey

Zahir Kvali Han

000394

GARY TOBACCO COMPANY
INC.

6350 FIFTH AVENUE

NEW YORK

June 13, 1944

Mr. F. J. Bell
Gary Tobacco Company
Istanbul, Turkey

Dear Mr. Bell:

This will serve to introduce
Mr. Ing Hircansson, Special Representa-
tive of the War Refugee Board at the
American Embassy in Ankara, Turkey.

Any courtesies and favors ex-
tended to him while on his mission will
be appreciated by us.

Yours very truly,

D. L. Gary

HC

000393

JACQUES H. ASSOFF
40 CENTRAL PARK SOUTH
NEW YORK CITY

Monsieur N. Balabanoff
Ministre Plénipotentière de Bulgarie
Ankara, Turquie.

000396

THE AMERICAN TOBACCO COMPANY OF THE ORIENT
INCORPORATED
401 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK, N.Y.

ORIENT 19



Mr. J. M. English, Branch Manager
Izmir Branch
The American Tobacco Company of the Orient
Posta Kutusu 222
Izmir, Turkey

Introducing Mr. Ira Hirshmann

000348



THE AMERICAN TOBACCO COMPANY OF THE ORIENT
INCORPORATED
111 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

June 6, 1944

Mr. J. M. English, Branch Manager
Izmir Branch
The American Tobacco Company
of the Orient
Izmir, Turkey

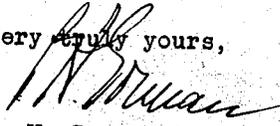
Dear Mr. English:

This will serve to introduce the bearer, Mr. Ira Hirshmann, who is planning to visit Turkey in the near future.

Any courtesies you may show to Mr. Hirshmann during his stay in Turkey will be appreciated.

With kind regards,

Very truly yours,


P. H. Gorman
President

SHB

000399