December 27, 1940

Ambassador George S. Messersmith,
United States Embassy,
Havana, Cuba.

My dear Friend:

I am sorry to trouble you again, but I would like
to tell you about Mrs. Lilli Wendel and her second son,
Helmut, the sister and nephew of Mr. Jean Ehrlich, one of
the Directors of Sofina, whom you may recall having met
last year.

Mrs. Wendel managed to leave Brussels recently,
after having lived there a little over a year following
her departure from Germany. She is now in Havana.

James tells me you were good enough to help her
eldest son, Hans, in procuring a student visa to this
country a little over a year ago.

Mrs. Wendel has applied for an immigration visa
to the United States on the German quota. I understand
that the Consul General requires an affidavit of character
from Berlin and Brussels. Granted she could eventually get
such an affidavit, which I rather doubt, it would take a
very long time indeed.

As I have known Mrs. Wendel personally for a
great many years, and as she was a school friend of my
wife, I can personally vouch for her.

I understand that the acceptance of this affi-
davit rests entirely on the discretion of the Consul
General, and would greatly appreciate it if you would
inform him that I am willing to furnish such an affidavit,
and furthermore guarantee all necessary financial assistance.

Would you be good enough to also ascertain from
him how matters stand at the moment regarding the granting
of a visa?

I am very much afraid that it will not be possible
for me to leave New-York in January. However, I hope that
I will be able to take a vacation in February. Just now I
have many difficult matters which need my attention, and
cannot let you know if I can accept your kind invitation to
stay with you. However, I hope very much to see you down
there before very long.
Ambassador George S. Messersmith, -2- December 27, 1940.

I hope that by now your slight indisposition is over, and that you are again in good health.

I have made a note of the procedure to follow in forwarding confidential mail.

Trusting that I am not putting you to too much inconvenience regarding Mrs. Wendel's matter, and with best wishes to you and Mrs. Messersmith for the coming year,

Yours very sincerely,

DHN:MG  
D. N. Heineman.

P.S. For your information, Mrs. Wendel's address is: Hotel Trotcha, Vedado, Havana.