

Re Ehrlich by
Return to

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 affidavit 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 give 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 indisposit on 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,

DNH:MC

D. N. Heineman.

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