May 2020

**Folder 4 -- Kaimski, Elfriede -- 1938 - 1940**

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Comments:
Contains a handwritten letter in Yiddish.
See also Kagan -- Kaiser. The file for Kaimski is located in "Additional Files" at the bottom of the page.

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January 24, 1930.

Mrs. S. Wodowsky,
Grajewo, Lomza, Poland.

Dear Mrs. Wodowsky:

Your letter with reference to the child named Fifi was referred to me by Mr. Kubby. He asked me to assist him in having this child come to El Paso, Texas and make her home with his family.

It will be necessary that you furnish me with the following information:

Her full name, and that of her parents
Where the child was born, and when?
Are her parents alive, and where are they at the present time?
Has this child, or her parents, been registered at any Consulate in Germany or Poland for entry into the United States?
Have you consulted any Organization with reference to this child entry into the U.S.?

Upon receipt of this information, I will be in position to assist Mr. Kubby in his desire to have this child come and make her home with him.

Awaiting your reply, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
March 2, 1939

Mr. B. Meinran,
2966 West Street,
Weirton, West Va.

Dear Mr. Meinran,

We seek information with reference to the following:

Elfriede Kaimski, born August 11, 1926 in Dresden, Germany.

A letter to Mr. Maurice Kubby from Poland where this girl is now residing with relatives, states that she is to come into the United States through some Organization, and that you have arranged for her entry.

Mr. Kubby wishes to offer a home to this relative, and we would like to help him in this humanitarian effort.

Would you please be kind enough to inform me what information you have available as to what Organization is assisting and what has been done up to the present time.

Thanking you for your prompt reply, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
Field Executive.
July 29, 1939.

Miss Cecelia Razovsky,
165 West 46th Street,
New York City, N.Y.

Dear Miss Razovsky:

Mr. Maurice Kubby of El Paso, Texas, has asked me to assist him in bringing his niece, born in Germany and now living in Poland, to make her home with him and his family. He claims that this child is registered with our Organization. Her name is Elfriede Kaimeski, born August 11, 1926 in Dresden, Germany. Her present address is Mrs. S. Wodowsky, Grajewo, Lomza, Poland. Mr. Kubby is willing to adopt this child and is financially able to give her the best care and attention.

I would like to know if this child is registered, and if so, when can Mr. Kubby expect her to come to the United States.

Thanking you for your usual prompt reply, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
Field Executive.

FZ:LG
August 10, 1939

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

re: Elfriede Kaimski

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

This is in reply to your inquiry of July 29th, which traveled quite a bit until it reached this department to which it belongs. We have of course, known about Elfriede Kaimski and have a family here in the United States waiting for her; they have been waiting since last August, and will have to wait until this child's registration number comes up in the regular turn of events.

You know, of course, that the offer of adoption does not alter the status at all. Adoption across the ocean is not feasible and the child could not by such an action come here as an American citizen. Furthermore, this is an only child of a widowed mother and if she should now agree to have the child adopted, she is only yielding to pressure, and this sad situation of hers should not be used to make her surrender her child for adoption. Our plans always took a later reunion with her mother into consideration, but the plans were nevertheless for her placement in a good home. It is, however, possible to alter plans, if we can get a recognized agency to investigate the foster home and after placement, supervise the child. We can probably work this out, when the time comes, and will therefore communicate with you later on about this part of the problem.

We know that you will explain to the people in your city why it is impossible under the present Immigration Law to have this child come here before her turn comes on the regulation procedure. This is of course specially unfortunate for all those children who are in the Polish border land, but there is no way out, until her number comes up. If the people in your city would explain matters to the mother or to whoever corresponded with them about the child, it would help to reduce the confusion in the minds of the poor people abroad who do not understand
To: Mrs. Zlabovsky  

August 10, 1939

the Immigration Law and its restrictions and who do not realize why the U.S.A. is not able to help in the same manner in which England, France and other continental countries can help.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

Lotte Marcuse
Director of Placements

IM: HK
August 29, 1939

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

re: Elfriede Kaimski

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Although we do not know just when Elfriede is due here and although we really had plans for her, I thought it would be well to know for our record or perhaps for possibility of other plans, what you know about this uncle of the child's. Since the mother's maiden name is Seligsohn, I assume that he is related by marriage, only. Will you let me know how? Since when has he been in the USA? Has he given an affidavit for the mother or does he intend to do so? I do not know whether she registered with the American Consul, but I am certain that she ought to come out, too, and since Elfriede is an only child, she would want to live not too far from her.

Thus, without making any definite plans at this moment, will you let us have the information on this family, adding data on the family composition, their financial status, etc.

Thanking you for your help,

Sincerely yours,

Lotte Marcuse
Director of Placements
September 2, 1939.

Miss Lotte Marcuse,
165 West 46th Street,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Marcuse:  

Re: Elfrieda Kaimski

Replying to yours of August 29th, I contacted Mr. Kubby. His relationship to this child is that of first cousin, (his mother's brother's daughter). It seems that the change in name is due to the difference of spelling. Mr. Kubby's name was, Kubjenski. He was born in Omaha, Nebraska, September 2, 1895, and had his name changed to Kubby in the Courts of Nebraska in 1915.

Mr. Kubby does not know if Elfrieda's mother is registered with any of the American Consuls. He is ready and able to sign any affidavit necessary for the child and mother. I can assure you the child will have all the comforts of a home and educational advantages should she be admitted into the United States to make her home with the Kubby family.

Please advise me if you need any further information. Thanking you for your interest in this case, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsy,
Field Executive.

FZ:LG
September 5, 1939

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

re: Elfrieda Kaimski

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Thanks for your letter of September 2nd. The war, of course, has made it very improbable, if not altogether impossible, for us to help any of these children to come here.

Sincerely yours,

Lotte Marcuse
Director of Placements
Dr. Emma S. Schreiber,
1819 Broadway,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Dr. Schreiber:

In compliance with your instructions with reference to sending money abroad, I am attaching hereto Cashier’s Check for $20.00. This money is to be sent to:

F. Wodowski,
Grajewo, Loms, Poland.

and was given to our Organization by Maurice Kubby of this City, who is a cousin to the above mentioned Mr. Wodowski.

Thanking you to forward this as quickly as possible, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
Field Executive.
January 12, 1940.

Miss Lotte Marcuse,
Director of Placements,
165 West 46th Street,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Marcuse:  Re: Elfriede Kaimski

Please advise me at your earliest convenience whether or not you have any further correspondence in regard to the above mentioned child.

Thanking you for your usual prompt reply, I am

Sincerely yours,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
Field Executive.

FZ:LG
January 15, 1940.

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
Field Executive
National Council of Jewish Women
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Since we last corresponded, we have come to appreciate the fact that there is very little that the American Consulate at Warsaw can do at the present time because of the damage done to its office records and files.

Just where this little girl may be at the present time we do not know. We hope very much that eventually the Red Cross in Geneva will be able to identify the present residences of some of these unfortunate people. Should Mr. Kubby have heard from the family, will you advise us? We would then have a clue to give to the Red Cross in their searches.

Sincerely yours,

Lotte Marcuse,
Director of Placements.

LM:GB
FROM: Sara Dukore

TO: Mrs. Frank Zlabovksy
Field Executive
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

DATE: January 17, 1940

SUBJECT: WODOWSKI, F.
Grajewo, Lomza, Poland

We received your letter of January 12th with enclosed check of $20.00 in behalf of the above client in Lomza.

We regret to inform you that Lomza is in that territory now occupied by Soviet Russia and that therefore, the Hias Immigrant Bank will not undertake to transmit money.

Money destined to Russian occupied territory (formerly Poland) is not received by the individual abroad, but is instead appropriated by the Russian authorities. The recipient will only receive an exchange of five rubles per dollar, which is a most unequitable return of the money when you consider that a loaf of bread may sometimes be purchased for twenty rubels.

If the relative in your city is still desirous of sending this money to his relative, it can be sent via the Amalgamated Bank, as the Hias Immigrant Bank will not transmit to this territory.

We are therefore returning your $20.00 check, as the relative in your city may care to transmit direct through some local bank in view of the above information.

If you have occasion to write to us again on the same case, please give the complete name of the client abroad. Please try to give us a better address for this client, as the information submitted to date would indicate that client resides in Russian territory. If a more accurate address is given, we may determine that client resides in German occupied territory.
April 6, 1940

AIRMAl

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

re: Elfriede Kaimski

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

It now looks as if Elfriede might really be coming and there is reason to hope that she will be with us before long.

Will you please inform me by airmail whether the relatives will still accept her and whether if she does come, it will be alright to send her on any time? -- of course, with advance notice.

Sincerely yours,

Lotte Marcuse
Director of Placements

LM: HK
April 8th, 1940.

Miss Lotte Marcuse,
German-Jewish Children's Aid Inc.
165 West 46th Street,
New York City, New York.

Dear Miss Marcuse: 

In response to your letter of the 6th, I contacted Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Kubby, and they have both informed me that they will be happy to receive Elfriede whenever she comes.

Trusting this is the information desired, I am

Sincerely,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,

LG#3
April 12, 1940

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

re: Elfriede Kaimski

My dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

I think it is very fortunate that Mr. Mandor Schwartz came to New York to meet some of his relatives who came over on the same steamer with Elfriede. We would, of course, not have liked to have her travel so far by herself although she seems to be so very able to take care of herself. Mr. Schwartz said that he was going to leave on Sunday and we will wire you the exact time of his arrival and ask you to be good enough and get in touch with the Rubby family.

Elfriede seems to be lovely girl. I am going to write you more about her.

Sincerely yours,

Lotte Marcuse
Director of Placements
VA 17 25 = EJ NEW YORK NY 15 955A

ELFRIEDE ARRIVING TUESDAY MORNING 8:45AM. TRAVELING SOUTHERN PACIFIC CAR L LOWER ELEVEN MR SCHWARTZ AND HIS NEPHEWS TRAVELING SAME TRAIN. WIRE US SAFE ARRIVAL =

LOTTE MARCUSE.

8:45AM L, l

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE
April 29, 1940

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

It seems that Elfriede assumed her relatives' name; she signed herself as Elfriede Rubby in her "Thank-you" card. I assume that you have seen her and can tell me something about her ability to fit herself into her uncle's home. She seems to have started school; we like to know whether she was placed in any definite grade, in the regulation public school, or where? Has she met any children of her own age outside of Mr. X's home?

I assume that the uncle himself is communicating with the mother abroad, because Elfrieda, most naturally, is anxious about her. The relatives here in New York do their share, I know and have been in touch with her, too. Since mail connections are so very much disturbed right now, I wonder whether her mother will hear from here, of course. Can you talk to Elfrieda easily about all this, or do you have to leave her alone?

Incidentally, if you should meet Mr. Mandor Schwarts who so kindly escorted her, will you express to him again our appreciation of his help to her and to us? I haven't his address but could write him if you send it to me, in case you feel that that would be in order.

Hoping to hear from you soon,

Sincerely yours,

LOTTE MARCUSE
DIRECTOR OF PLACEMENTS.
May 6, 1940.

Miss Lotte Marcuse,
165 West 46th Street,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Marcuse: Re: Elfriede Kajmski-Kubby.

Answering your letter of the 29th ult., I called on Elfriede and found her very happy in her present surroundings. She is attending the Public School and has been placed in the H-6 grade, where she has made many friends. She is living in an neighborhood of wealthy Jewish families and is meeting children of her age, and has not only been accepted but has been invited to a few parties since her arrival.

Mrs. Kubby is doing everything possible to make the girl happy, in fact I think she is over-doing it, but at this stage in the game we would rather leave well enough alone. I have discussed at some length the coming of Elfriede's mother. Mrs. K. is emphatic in her refusal of wanting her to come to El Paso, but she would not like to part with the child. She hopes that when the mother comes to the United States, she will remain in New York and permit them to adopt Elfriede. I have, however, secured from the Ks their willingness to sign an affidavit for the mother if and when necessary. It is Mrs. Kubby's desire that Elfriede use the name of Kubby. Her two children are introducing the child as their sister.

The El Paso Section expressed their thanks to Mr. Schwartz for his kindness to the child. Elfriede apparently became frightened when a airplane flew over the school building, hence the attached article. Thought you might interest you.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
Field Executive.

FZ:LG
(MNC)
National Council of Jewish Women
1016 Olive St.
El Paso, Texas

Maurice Kubby
1620 Texas St.
El Paso, Texas
U. S. A.

Wlodawski Wroclaw
Aaron Tzvi