

May 2020

Folder 13 -- Ovidia -- 1934 - 1938

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Comments:

The person in question spells his name Ovadia -- Ismim Barzilay S. Ovadia. All of the correspondence between Mrs. Zlabovsky and the National Council of Jewish Women refers to him as Ovidia.

See also [Neugarten -- Perl](#). The file for *Ovidia* is located in "Additional Files" at the bottom of the page.

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ISMIM BARZILAY S. OVADIA
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

El Paso, Texas 34?
November 8, 1914

To the Honorable Turkish Consul
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Sir:

After much difficulty, I succeeded in answering all the questions on the blanks you sent me. I hope you will find them correct. Having left Turkey when I was just a child, I never studied the Turkish language, and it was for this reason I was compelled to find someone to translate for me.

I am now asking you to please issue to my mother, brother and myself, the necessary passports which will enable us to become recognized as Turkish Citizens, so that we may at some future date be able to return to the Country of our birth.

Should it be impossible for us to secure the necessary Passports, I will appreciate your sending to each of us individually Official Refusals.

Thanking you for your assistance and awaiting your early response, I am

Respectfully yours,

Ismim Barzilay S. Ovadia

National Council of Jewish Women

625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

FROM: Merle Hencch

DATE August 1, 1935

TO: Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
El Paso

SUBJECT: Ovidia

In reply to your letter of July 23rd we had one of our workers visit the Turkish Consul for the purpose of extending the above family's passport. The following is what she reported:

"The Turkish Consul advised that every Turkish citizen must register with his government every year. Before the passport can be extended the three forms which you will find enclosed must be filled in on the typewriter in the Turkish language. In addition to this, six pictures of each member of the family, plus the passport and birth certificates must be mailed back to the Consulates office which is 1775 Broadway from where it will be sent to the Turkish Government."

As far as the cost for the extension that the Consul advised he does not know yet. We will await further word from you before returning the passport.

EG Enc.

August 12, 1935.

Miss Merle Henoch,
625 Madison Ave.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Henoch:-

Re: Ovidia.

I am returning to you the Turkish Blanks. These people do not read or write the Turkish language. While they were born in Turkey, their mother tongue is Spanish. I can find no one who can fill these blanks as per the Turkish Government's demands. Am therefore sending to you the birth certificate and Mr. Ovidia's military record with pictures, and will ask you to try to secure the passport at the earliest possible moment, because we are anxious to enroll the two children into our El Paso Schools this Fall.

Thanking you, and with kindest personal regards, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky, Field Executive.

FZ:LG
(ENCS)

September 19, 1935.

Miss Merle Henoch,
625 Madison Ave.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Henoch:

Re: Ovidia.

Enclosed herewith you will please find pictures for the Ovidia passport.

These people cannot furnish birth certificates, claiming that they were destroyed in a fire. Should there be an difficulty in securing passport because of their failure to present birth certificates, we will have to drop the subject and return the passport without extension.

Would it be possible to get a special rate if the passport is extended, since the El Paso Section will have to pay for this.

Thanking you, I am

Yours very truly,

MRS. FRANK ZLABOVSKY.

FZ:LG
(ENCS)



National Council of Jewish Women

INCORPORATED

625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

TELEPHONE: ELDORADO 5-1035

CABLE ADDRESS: COUNJEW, NEW YORK

President

MRS. ARTHUR BRIN
2566 Lake of Isles Blvd.
Minneapolis, Minn.

Honorary President

MRS. HANNAH G. SOLOMON
951 Hyde Park Blvd.
Chicago, Ill.

First Vice-President

MRS. MAURICE L. GOLDMAN
1155 Park Avenue
New York City

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MRS. JOSEPH M. WELT
631 W. Boston Blvd.
Detroit, Mich.

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MRS. HERMAN B. LEVINE
283 Churchill
West Englewood, N. J.

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MRS. GERSON B. LEVI
919 Hyde Park Blvd.
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Associate Director

CECILIA RAZOVSKY

August 21st, 1935.

Mrs. Frank Zablovsky,
1016 Olive Street,
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Mrs. Zablovsky:

Re: Ovidia

I, myself, went to the Turkish Consul this morning to see what I could do about the renewal of the Ovidia passport. They said that the papers were in perfect order but that it was absolutely essential that the blanks be filled out in Turkish. Knowing that you cannot do that there, I agreed to have it done for \$4.00.

I am enclosing the questions in English. You will please answer them in English and this clerk will then record them in Turkish. Both enclosed sets of questionnaires are to be filled out in triplicate. You, of course, will only fill out the one set in English, that is you will answer the English questions in English. But all other blanks must be signed by Mr. Ovidia. That is the reason that you are getting eight blanks in all. The cross marks the place where he is to sign.

The small questionnaires are regarding births. I know that we have the various birth certificates but apparently this is essential too. Inasmuch as Turkey seems to consider only the father, I presume that he fills these out in his name and signs three blanks. I would suggest, however, that you have another paper filled out answering these for the rest of the family so in case there is an error, we will have the data and will not have to waste time writing again.

As all papers must go to Turkey, there will be a delay in having the passport renewed. I fear, therefore, that the children will not be able to start school in September.

The cost of the passport will be \$8.00 and the translation \$4.00 as stated above.

Sincerely yours,

Merle Henoch

Bureau of International Case Work

MH*HW

October 4, 1935.

Miss Merle Henoch,
625 Madison Ave.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Henoch:-

Re: Ovidia

XXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXX

I am just in receipt of your letter with reference to the above case, and would advise that you return immediately the Turkish Passport without extension, as we cannot afford to spend so much money on same.

Thanking you, I am

Yours very truly,

MRS. FRANK ZLABOVSKY,
BY:

LG:S

National Council of Jewish Women

625 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK CITY

FROM: Merle Henoeh

DATE October 8, 1935

TO: Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
El Paso

SUBJECT: Ovidia

At your request we are returning the Ovidia passport with the various enclosures. It istoo bad that this had to happen but these foreign passportsdo come high.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to be 'M.A.', is written in the right margin of the letter.

MH:G
Enc.

January 6, 1938.

Miss Merle Henoch,
625 Madison Ave.,
New York City, N. Y.

Dear Miss Henoch:-

Re: Ovidia.

In checking back our files, I find that the Passport on the above mentioned case, which was sent to you to present to the Turkish Consul for extension, has never been returned.

Please look into this matter and have it returned to this office immediately together with such documents that accompanied the Passport.

Thanking you, and with Season's Greetings,
I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
Field Executive.

FZ:LG