

June 2020

Folder 24 -- Tatalias, Matheos -- 1931 -1932

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Contains a handwritten letter in English.

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

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El Paso, Texas, October
22, 1931

To The American Consul
Athens , Greece.

Dear Sir:-

Would you kindly take under consideration the case of my parents, Mr and Mrs Matheos Tatalias, who were married in the town of Norwich, County of New London, State of Connecticut, on the 31st of January, 1915, by a Greek Minister and the license of said marriage in my possession.

home
I would most respectfully request that you would permit my parents to enter the U.S. I am now 16 years and am making my temporarily with Mr. and Mrs. Steve Montreal, 817 North El Paso, Street, El Paso, Texas. I am so anxious for my parents to be admitted into the U.S. as I desire to go to school and the facilities of school in Juarez, Mexico where my parents are residing at present, are not sufficient for my demands.

I am an American born in 1916 and as such I appeal to you to permit my parents to come back and re-establish their former residents. I was born in Lowell, Mass. We went to ~~France~~ and owing to my father being drafted in the Grecian army were unable to return in the specified time.

Yours very respectfully,

May 23, 1932.

American Consul
Athens Greece.

Re; Matheos and Elpiniki Tatalias
Mary Tatalias

Dear Sir;

We are asking for your consideration in the above case. The American Consul in Juarez, Mexico has given these people favorable recognition and we are appealing to you to grant these people the first available numbers so that they can be re-admitted into the United States and reunite them with their relatives and friends.

Mr. Tatalias came to the United States in 1906. He was legally admitted at the port of New York and immediately went to Clinton, Mass. where he maintained a candy kitchen. For three months.

He then went to Norwich, Conn. and married and lived in Norwich for eight years. During that time he was prosperous, owned some property in addition to his home. Their daughter Mary was born to them while in Lowell, Mass.

In 1919 he was called back to Greece to see his sick Mother and to liquidate certain properties that he owned. He was drafted in the Greek army against every protest and was forced to serve. He was also, held a prisoner for several years.

He asked for re-entry into the United States at your office, and he says that he was told to wait six months. Some unwise friends advised him to go to Mexico and after reaching Mexico he found Section 17 would debar him from applying for re-entry into the United States for two years.

2.

These people have been in Mexico since 1928 and we find them upright and honest people and with sufficient means to enable them to sustain themselves without any assistance. The American Consul in Juarez has also examined affidavits from his brother in Mass. and brother in law in El Paso, Texas which would assure them against becoming public charges.

They also have numerous letters from Connecticut and Massachusetts showing that they were industrious and law abiding people during their residence in the United States.

May we ask that you give these people every consideration. Thanking you in advance.

Yours truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky, Field Executive.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AMERICAN CONSULAR SERVICE
Consulate General at Athens, Greece
June 16, 1932.

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky, Field Executive,
National Council of Jewish Women,
Department Service for Foreign Born,
El Paso, Texas.

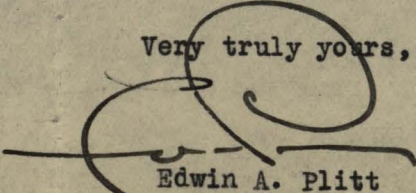
Madam:

In reply to your letter of May 23, 1932, written in behalf of Mr. Matheos and his wife Elpiniki Tatalias who left the United States in 1919 and now desire to return thereto, you are informed that a careful search of the files at this Consulate General fails to disclose that this family has ever applied for visas to return to the United States, although the following is noted in your letter "He asked for reentry into the United States at your office". You further state that "unwise friends advised the family to go to Mexico" from which place they would apply for reentry into the United States.

On February 4, 1932, and again on May 12, 1932, the American Consul at Ciudad, Juarez, requested the allotment of two Greek non-preference quota numbers for this family, stating that they applied for visas at Ciudad, Juarez on January 16, 1932. He was informed in substance, that an allotment of visa numbers for aliens registered in 1932 could not be made, in view of the cases now pending at this Consulate General of persons who were registered prior to 1932. He was further informed that the names of Mr. and Mrs. Tatalias would be recorded and when possible, an allotment would be made covering their visas.

This office is in receipt of a letter from the 13 year old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Tatalias to which a reply seems unnecessary, as you will, no doubt, inform the family of the present status of their case.

Very truly yours,


Edwin A. Plitt
American Consul

American Consul
Athens, Greece.

Dear Mr. Consul:

I am a little girl
~~13~~ years old and my name
is Mary ~~Tatalias~~. I was born
in Lowell, Mass. where my
~~father~~ was in business.

My Grandmother in
Greece was sick and my ~~Daddy~~
took Mother and me back to
Greece to see her. While there
my Daddy had to fight in a
war and we could not ~~return~~ ^{come back}
to Lowell when we were
supposed to.

Now we are living
in Juarez, Mexico and I hate
it here. Juarez is a dirty little
town and I cannot even go
to school because I know English
and in the schools here they
teach only Spanish. It makes me
very sad; and my mother
cries so much because I cannot
learn like other little girls in

The United States ^{at} ~~it is~~ ^{we are unhappy} ~~get~~ ^{being} ~~there~~ ^{is} ~~nothing~~ ^{nothing} for him to do. He ~~wants~~ ^{wants} so much to go back to Lowell with his father. ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~with him.~~

My Daddy and Mother are going to ask you to help them go back to Lowell. I want to go to an American school and learn like my cousins. When they ~~write~~ ^{write} to you won't you please say we may go. your little friend. Mary