

May 2020

Folder 31 -- Leiter, Bruno -- 1938

Follow this and additional works at: https://scholarworks.utep.edu/box_3

Comments:

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

Recommended Citation

"Folder 31 -- Leiter, Bruno -- 1938" (2020). *MS 508, Box 3, Joel-Milner*. 40.
https://scholarworks.utep.edu/box_3/40

This Case File is brought to you for free and open access by the Fannie Zlabovsky: National Council of Jewish Women Case Files at ScholarWorks@UTEP. It has been accepted for inclusion in MS 508, Box 3, Joel-Milner by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks@UTEP. For more information, please contact lweber@utep.edu.

NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
for AID to REFUGEES and EMIGRANTS COMING from GERMANY

221 WEST 57th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

April 12, 1938

Mrs. I. B. Goodman
905 Baltimore Street
El Paso, Texas

Re: Bruno Leiter

Dear Mrs. Goodman:

I received your letter of April 3 with regard to this young man and with regard to the formation of your new Committee.

I certainly hope your Committee will be willing to function because I know the work is difficult and the cases so complicated that lay people get very confused and worried about how to handle them. I shall write you again in greater detail after Mrs. Goldman returns from her trip at which time we believe it will be advisable for us to write more fully regarding our national policy on immigration questions as they affect your community.

With regard to this particular young man I take it for granted that he is Jewish, although you do not mention this fact. This is one of the cases which is always baffling. Here is a young man who is stateless, who may not return to Germany, who may not remain in Mexico, who may not enter the United States unless someone makes out affidavits and brings him in legally. He may not work in Mexico and he may not remain there. Now, what can be done on such a case?

If he were in New York or in a large city like Chicago or St. Louis, arrangements would be made with a representative of some government of South America to try to get him a visa to Costa Rica or Columbia or Venezuela, and then the community would pay the young man's transportation to the particular country that gives him a visa. That means a very large expense, as you see, and I can well understand that your own community would not be willing to spend so much money on one case. On the other hand, we do not feel that this is for the National Council of Jewish Women; and the National Coordinating Committee would suggest that such^{a case} be the responsibility of the local community where the young man finds himself at this time. It is therefore difficult for me

AFFILIATED ORGANIZATIONS

American Committee for Christian-German Refugees
American Friends Service Committee
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Physicians
Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced German Scholars
Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America
German-Jewish Children's Aid, Inc.

Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society
Hospites
Independent Order of B'nai B'rith
International Migration Service
International Student Service
Musicians Emergency Fund, Inc.
National Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds
National Council of Jewish Women
Zionist Organization of America

April 12, 1938

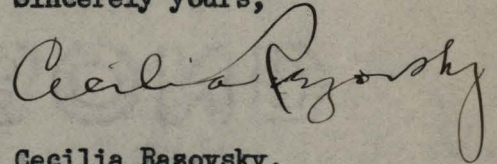
to suggest just what you can do in your community for this young man. I wonder if it were not a good idea to take it up with Rabbi Cohen of Galveston. He has considerable influence with various organizations and he may be able to arrange for this young man to be shipped out of Mexico to some other country that will accept him. I am sending a copy of my letter to Rabbi Cohen, also a copy of your report, to save time, but I urge you to take it up with him to see what he has to suggest in this matter.

Would it be possible to secure document No. 14 to legalize the young man's entry into Mexico? How much does this document cost? Mrs. Zlabovsky is certainly right in preventing the boy from entering the United States illegally.

I shall look up the case to see if there is a record in Wash -
~~ington~~ when I am there this week.

I would like to know if this young man is Jewish and if he has any papers whatsoever.

Sincerely yours,



Cecilia Razovsky,
Executive Director

CR:lb

April 23, 1938.

Miss Cecelia Razovsky,
221 West 57th Street,
New York City, N. Y.

Re: Bruno Leiter
Jewish

Dear Miss Razovsky:

Replying to yours of the 12th inst., to Mrs. I. B. Goodman, I wish to advise you of the disposition of the above case.

When he came to Juarez, Mexico, he was hungry and in rags. Therefore our first move was to feed and clothe him. We then gave him \$25.00 (110 Pesos) and advised him to reach Chihuahua as best he could, since he could not travel by train. He has, since leaving here, succeeded in getting into the Mennonite Colonies in the Southern part of the State.

This boy has no legal documents, and his only hope is to secure the document known as No. 14. This document can be secured in Mexico for a sum of money, about 800 Pesos the equivalent of \$200.00. That was the sum of money I asked for to assist this boy and since I was refused, followed the above course. The aforementioned document is somewhat on the order of our legalization law in the United States. However, Mexico does not have a time limit.

He would have no record in Washington because when he landed in New Orleans it was under an assumed name. You mentioned in your letter to Mrs. Goodman that such a case is the responsibility of the local community where the party finds himself. That local community in this case would have been Juarez, Mexico, and we have no one to appeal to in our neighboring City. It is therefore difficult to know just where the assistance for such a case can come. It is not an El Paso case nor as you say a Council case. Also it is baffling because we cannot handle cases of this kind through the Mexican Immigration

Miss Cecelia Razovsky,
No. 2.

nor can he legally enter the United States.

The document No. 14 is usually secured (in cases of this kind) through channels we do not discuss, but when issued they are recognized as legal and enables the person to remain in Mexico. However, he cannot secure Mexican citizenship. There should be a sum of money available for such emergencies.

If I receive any further communication from this young man, will advise you.

Trusting this is the information desired, I am

Yours very truly,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
Field Executive.

FZ:LG
c.c. Rabbi Henry Cohen,
Galveston.

MISS CECELIA RAZOVSKY

April 23, 1938.

April 23, 1938.

Rabbi Henry Cohen,
Galveston, Texas.

Dear Rabbi Cohen:-

Re: Bruno Leiter

Replying to your letter addressed to Mrs. I. B. Goodman, I am enclosing herewith carbon copy of letter sent to Miss Razovsky in reference to the above case.

I would very much appreciate your opinion on cases of this kind, since we have quite a few coming to our Border City and find it so difficult to handle.

Thanking you, and with kindest personal regards to both Mrs. Cohen and yourself, I am

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky.

FZ:LG
(ENC)

ADRIAN F. LEVY, PRESIDENT
S. S. KAY, VICE-PRESIDENT
J. F. SEINSHEIMER, 2ND VICE-PRESIDENT
HYMAN S. BLOCK, TREASURER
JOSEPH COHEN, SECRETARY

Congregation B'nai Israel
Galveston, Texas

RESIDENCE:
RABBI: DR. HENRY COHEN
1920 BROADWAY

OFFICE:
HENRY COHEN COMMUNITY HOUSE
22ND AT AVENUE I

April 26, 1938.

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky,
1016 Olive St.,
El Paso, Tex.

Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

I have yours re Bruno Leiter and I note that he succeeded in getting into the Mennonite Colonies in the southern part of the state. I am under the impression that he will live there safely for a while, at least.

With every good wish, I am

Yours faithfully,

H. Cohen

NATIONAL COORDINATING COMMITTEE
for Aid to REFUGEES and EMIGRANTS COMING from GERMANY

165 WEST 46th STREET
NEW YORK CITY

April 27, 1938

James G. McDonald
Honorary Chairman
Joseph P. Chamberlain
Chairman
William Rosenwald
Vice-Chairman
Paul Felix Warburg
Treasurer
Jacob Billikopf
Honorary Consultant
Resettlement Division
Cecilia Razovsky
Secretary and
Executive Director

Mrs. Frank Zlabovsky
National Council of Jewish Women
1016 Olive Street
El Paso, Texas

Re:- Bruno Leiter

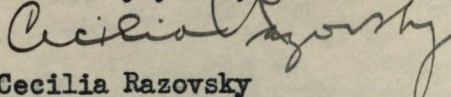
Dear Mrs. Zlabovsky:

Thank you for your full report on Bruno Leiter. While I sympathize most heartily with your efforts to try to legalize this man's residence, I think it is probably inadvisable for an American committee to try to help people legalize their residence in another country by the use of funds; unless this work is done by an Mexican citizen, our American group is likely to be severely criticised.

I am glad that Mr. Leiter is taken care of, at least for the time being.

Again thanking you, I am

Sincerely yours,


Cecilia Razovsky
Executive Director

CR:BH

COOPERATING ORGANIZATIONS

American Committee for Christian-German Refugees
American Friends Service Committee
American Jewish Committee
American Jewish Congress
American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee
Committee for Catholic Refugees from Germany
Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced Foreign Physicians
Emergency Committee in Aid of Displaced German Scholars
Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America
German-Jewish Children's Aid, Inc.

Hebrew Sheltering and Immigrant Aid Society
Hospites
Independent Order of B'nai B'rith
International Migration Service
International Student Service
Musicians Emergency Fund, Inc.
National Council of Jewish Federations and Welfare Funds
National Council of Jewish Women
Zionist Organization of America