

May 2020

Folder 51 -- Hoffman -- 1940

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"Folder 51 -- Hoffman -- 1940" (2020). *MS 508, Box 2, Elegante-Jacobowitz*. 40.
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Mrs. E. R. Russell,
163 - 1st St. - Los Angeles
San Francisco, Calif.

Sunday April 21, 1940

Dearest Aimee.-

Boy! how I hated to learn that you were on your way back to El Paso and I didnt get a glimpse of you If I had not felt so rotten I would have hopped a bus and going down for a few days, But with such lame hands I thught I'd better stay at home.

But if you get out again this summer as Estelle hoped that you will I am going to see you whether or no.

Now I want to ask you a favor. Will you please give me any information that you may haven about the following matters.-

Is there any organization in the City of Mexico that helps Jewish refugees, on the order of the Council perhaps.

Is there any possibility that a woman could get work in a private home there, and do you know anything about the passport situation.

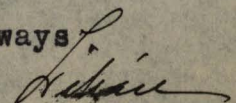
This is why. We have a friend here a refugee whose sister and brother in law want to get into Mexico at once. They have a son in Bogota who can help a lotle and I presume the brother here can do the rest. Their papers have been approved and a passport will be issued for one year at the end of this time they must leave again. The man owned one of the Johan Maria Farina perfume factories which of course was taken away from him. He has been allowed permission to go in business in Mexico with a Mexican which whom he formerly had dealings to manufacture essential oils for perfumes. just that and nothing more. His wife who is as most of the G rman woman are an excellent cook and housekeeper wondered if she might be able to get work of that sort. They have to put up fifteen hndred pesos to enter the countryDont know whether this is returned to them when they have to leave or whather it is kept by the Mexican gorvernment. And also wanted to know if there is such a possibility as the pass port being extended in view of his being in business with a native Mexican?

Hate to bother you with all this but know of no one else who might have the information and I would like to be of some assatance to Dr Hoffman if I can. He and his wife and two children managed to get outafter some very unpleasant experiences. They are lovely people and are naturally concerned about their family which seems to be scattered thru many countries from Australia to South America.

Excuse errors but am writing with one hand done up in a splint trying to see whether rest will do anything for the arthritis, and the other h nd so darn stiff and sore that I can hardly write.

Bet your family was delighted to hav you home again. Give each of them my love and keep a large share for yourself from

always



April 24, 1940.

Mrs. E. R. Russell,
163 18th Avenue,
San Francisco, California.

Dear Mrs. Russell:

Your letter of the 21st was referred to me by Aimee for reply.

I am somewhat confused about the case you mention, but will answer your questions to the best of my ability.

There is no Organization in Mexico helping Refugees, but after they arrive in Mexico City, there is an Organization who gives them a helping hand.

It will be impossible for the woman to seek any kind of work while in Mexico. There is a definite law on this.

The 1500 Pesos is a bond that is returnable upon their departure from the Country.

You state that their papers have been approved and a Passport will be issued for one year. What they need is a Visa to enter Mexico and a Passport from the Government where they now reside. Before a Visa is granted for entry into Mexico, they must deposit 20,000 Pesos in the Bank to assure their maintainance while in that Country. This is also returnable. They must have documents from the Country of their birth guaranteeing a privilege of return to that Country at the expiration of their stay in Mexico. It is possible that they know all these laws, but if not, I am in contact with a lawyer in Mexico City who is influential in helping the Refugees enter that Country, and will be glad to advise you further in this case. It will entail the expense of not less than \$200 for his fee and other espenses.

Hoping this is the information desired, and that your health has improved, I am

Sincerely,