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ITEM WITHDRAWAL SHEET
WITHDRAWAL ID 01382

Collection/Series/Folder ID	:	001900348
Reason for Withdrawal	:	DR, Donor restriction
Type of Material	:	MEM, Memo(s)
Creator's Name	:	Jay French
Receiver's Name	:	Bob McDermott
Description	:	re immigration case
Creation Date	:	11/07/1974
Date Withdrawn	:	07/14/1988

*State Dept
Visors*

February 17, 1975

Dear Mike:

Your note of appreciation that Dr. Lincoln has arrived in this country and, by this time, will have started teaching warmed my heart. I am pleased at this result of the very slight efforts on my part and those of Jay French on my staff.

Also, thank you very much for finding and sending me the booklet on the "Tyranny of the Urgent." It provides a lesson many of us can use but especially one who works in the White House where urgency operates in a most tyrannical fashion.

My most affectionate regards to you and Gayle.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Michael Ford
P. O. Box 77
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary
South Hamilton, Massachusetts 01982

PWBuchen:ed



THE WHITE HOUSE

Feb. 13th

Dear Mr. Buckner,

Just a short note to say
"Thank you" to you and your staff for all
the help you were in securing prompt
arrival of Dr. Lincoln to the States.
I believe he arrived in the country Wednesday
and he begins his teaching Friday - a little
late - but much sooner than if he would have
had to go through the extensive check by
the Philadelphia Police Dept. While your
efforts were only known by a few, they are
certainly appreciated by Dr. Lincoln and all
the Gordon-Conwell community.

Your mentioning of that appropriate
phrase "tyranny of the urgent" reminded me of



a short booklet which I had read
a year ago and which I finally dug up
in my mass of books. I just reread it
and it came at a good time as Gayle and I
have been resetting our priorities since
the first of the year. We have been trying to
shore up our spiritual foundations and thus
seek to be more attuned to "the mind of Christ"
in this high speed racetrack culture of ours.
I just pass this booklet on for your interest
as we are finished with it.

Please give our best to Mrs. Bucken
and thank you again so much for your
great help and support to my father.

Warmly,
Mike



Ford,
Michael

1/30/75

Mr. Buchen talked
with Monroe Leigh at
the State Dept.

Told Mike Ford
everything was
all squashed away.



*Send to
Jay's files.*

Thursday 1/30/75

3:15 Jay advises he needs:

Dr. Lincoln's date and place of birth

How long did he live in the U. S. -- dates
Where?

We know he went to school in Philadelphia, but
did he live anywhere else in the U. S.?

If he can get that information, Jay will go back
to the lady and she will see what she can do.

*Dr. Hoolin
Arrived*
Pittaralli (Spec. Asst to the
Director, visas)
632-1978
Monroe Leigh



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10:55

Mr B talked
to Sgt
Mc Dermott



10011
his name
w/c name
Phila. address

Wednesday 1/29/75

5:00 Mike Ford said he got back to Dean Kerr, who tells him that the papers needed for the Consulate in London are papers from the Philadelphia Police Dept. showing he had no police record. Earlier Dr. Lincoln was in the U. S. as a student at Westminster. Once you have been in a country, they have to validate that you had no police record while here. Dean Kerr called the Philadelphia Records Dept. and inquired about the records. They say they have misplaced them.

Dr. Lincoln has requested the papers; they have to have a new set of fingerprints. According to Mike, Philadelphia had lost his request. Dr. Kerr was going ahead to call Dr. Lincoln. Dr. Lincoln needs to forward \$4 to them to get the fingerprint forms to be sent over.

Now this will just drag it on longer.

Mr. Buchen talked with Mike and then asked me to get

Sgt. McDermott
Records Division
Rm. 154

(215) MU. 6-3147

(If not there, he will talk to whoever is on the evening shift.)

Unable to get them to answer, I called the main number (215) MU. 6-1776
They in turn transferred me to MU. 6-3147
and I talked with Mrs. Glass, who was about to leave the office (hours are until 5 p. m.).

She indicated that all the requests routinely go through her desk. That's why they transferred me to her. (215) MU. 6-2291

She checked and said she had mailed out the forms to Dr. Lincoln today.

WE WILL CALL SGT. McDERMOTT ON THURSDAY

Miss Corrigan



Wednesday 1/29/75

12:35 Jane took a message from Mike Ford.

He wanted you to know that it isn't necessary at this time for you to call Dr. Lincoln.

Mike is leaving at 1:30 this afternoon to come to Washington and will be in touch when he gets here.



Tuesday 1/28/75

5:10 Jay advises that Edward Kennedy's office made a similar inquiry about the status of Dr. Lincoln's request for a visa. Under the circumstances, Immigration people send a cable to the consulate to check on the status.

*Andrew T
Westminster
Theological
Seminary*

The cable arrived today with the status. The Consulate has notified Dr. Lincoln that he needs to produce certain materials and come to the Consulate for a meeting with officials. As soon as Dr. Lincoln gets those papers together, he can request a meeting and, as soon as the meeting is scheduled, they will push the papers through and get him on his way. (Will assign a visa number to him and he's free to depart.)

How long it will take to get the papers together is something we wouldn't know and how long before they can schedule a meeting. Jay has only talked with people "down the line" so if we want any more definite information, he feels the inquiry should be made to the Director.

Feb. 3 was the date the course was to start.

6:30 I called Mike Ford to ask if he could get us the full address and phone number of Dr. Lincoln so you might call him tomorrow to be sure he is aware of the procedures.

Mike doesn't have it -- but is sure Dr. Kerr (of Gordon Cronwell Theological Seminary) would have the phone numbers since he has talked with him on at least two occasions, he thinks.

Mike has an exam tomorrow morning from 9 to 11 or 11:30 and will get the information and call us -- so we can get in touch with Dr. Lincoln. (Will probably be after noon before he can call us.)

\$4.00

*Philiz. Police
Sgt McDermott
Records M*



*MU 6-3147
Rm 154*

4:50 Jay to
check & call

Mr. Buchen
wants to talk to Mike



Tuesday 1/28/75

2:25 Mike Ford called Dorothy Downton, who referred him to us.

*Southern
Hamilton,
Mass.*

He advises that his school, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, is to have a visiting professor to come from England to teach a course in the next term.

Dr. Andrew Trevor Lincoln (who has been at Cambridge) filed his petition for a visa on September 4, 1974. He has 6th preference. Apparently all the forms and things needing to be filled out have been taken care of. They have gotten a clearance or authorization through the Justice Department. (Verification in Justice has been cleared and passed upon) Now the petition is at the U. S. Consulate in London waiting to be acted upon there.

There seems to be no reason for holding -- as everything seemed to be in order.

Mike had talked with Dr. Kerr, Dean of the Faculty at Gordon Conwell, and said he would check with us to see if it would be appropriate for us to intervene.

They had hoped he would be here next week to start his tenure at the school.

We can call Mike through Signal.



June 5, 1975

Mr. Philip Buchen
Legal Counsel to President Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Phil:

A close friend of mine has asked me to help him and his daughter and future son-in-law. His name is Alex Lewis and he lives at 980 Princeton Boulevard, S. E.

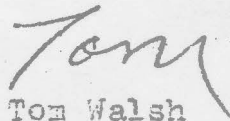
His daughter Janet Lewis is engaged to a young man from Israel, Yair Nabet, who has a visitor's permit expiring July 1.

Alex has made himself responsible for Yair's financial support while he is here in the States, and Janet would like to have her fiance see many other areas of the United States while he is here, as they will be living in Israel after their marriage.

I surely would appreciate it if you could contact the State Department and ask if such an extension could be granted.

I feel that President Jerry with his trip to Europe is really carrying the ball.

Always your friend,



Tom Walsh
314 Lakewood Drive, S. E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*State
Dept
Visas*

June 10, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

PHILIP W. BUCHEN

FROM:

JAY T. FRENCH *Jay*

In response to the letter from Tom Walsh of Grand Rapids, I contacted the Visa office at the Department of State to determine whether the term of a visitor's visa may be extended beyond its original expiration date (in this case July 1, 1975).

Presently, it is the policy of the Immigration and Naturalization Service not to extend the term of visitors' visas. Despite this policy, however, the Visa office states that it is possible to obtain oral permission from the nearest district office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service to remain in the United States for a brief period (several weeks) beyond the expiration date of the visitor's visa. Therefore, I suggest that Tom Walsh inform his friend, Alex Lewis, that the future son-in-law should contact the nearest district office in Detroit (313-226-3250) to discuss his circumstances and request such permission.

I would like to point out that there is extraordinary merit in this case. By virtue of the fact that the young man is marrying an American girl, he could request a change in his status to that of a permanent immigrant which would permit him to remain in this country indefinitely. While I understand that he does not wish to reside in the United States, the possibility that he could do so argues in favor of an oral grant of extension.

Would you like me to call Tom Walsh, or prepare a letter to him for your signature?

Attachment

*Called him
6/11/75
P.*



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

6/10/75

Mr. Buchen said to ask
Jay to handle this --
but not to use any pressure.

*copy sent to
Jay*

June 5, 1975

Mr. Philip Buchen
Legal Counsel to President Ford
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Phil:

A close friend of mine has asked me to help him and his daughter and future son-in-law. His name is Alex Lewis and he lives at 980 Princeton Boulevard, S. E.

His daughter Janet Lewis is engaged to a young man from Israel, Yair Nabet, who has a visitor's permit expiring July 1.

Alex has made himself responsible for Yair's financial support while he is here in the States, and Janet would like to have her fiance see many other areas of the United States while he is here, as they will be living in Israel after their marriage.

I surely would appreciate it if you could contact the State Department and ask if such an extension could be granted.

I feel that President Jerry with his trip to Europe is really carrying the ball.

Always your friend,

Tom

Tom Walsh
314 Lakewood Drive, S. E.
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49506



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date August 20, 1975

TO: Phil Buchen

FROM: BARRY ROTH

ACTION:

Approval/Signature

Comments/Recommendations

X

For Your Information

REMARKS:

I checked with Greg Lebedev at State regarding the status of scholar Joseph Needham's visa application to the United States in order to accept a lecture invitation. Greg advises that Needham did file an application in Vancouver, Canada, several months ago, but when it was turned down on the basis of his Communist background, he abandoned the application. Were he to reapply, it would be reconsidered, although Greg cannot now predict what the results would be. As the application has been abandoned, it does not seem likely at this point that this will become a "cause celebre."

Barry



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 23, 1975

Dear Dr. Minnhaar:

Enclosed is a copy of a memorandum prepared for me which covers the situation of your continued residence in the United States. Luis Tomatis had written to me on this subject and this letter is being sent in response to his inquiry.

I wish you success in following the recommended course of action, and send you my best wishes.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen

Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Dr. Guillermo Minnhaar
20855 Lahser Road
Apt. 402
Southfield, Michigan

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Luis Tomatis

*Minnhaar,
Guillermo*



Mr.
 Phillip Bochen
 The White House
 Washington, D.C.

G. Rapids
 April 7, 1975

Dear Phil;

By the fact of your presence there I have become a Washington watcher and every time your name appears I feel part of the administration. As you remember Gretchen brother came back to the States and started to work at William Beaumont Hospital in Southfield, Michigan June 1st last year under "visitor exchange visa". Realizing that he will like to remain in the States he initiated the change to permanent visa in the American Consulate in Br. Ar. about 1 month ago.

To start his second year of residence, "The Educational Commission for foreign medical Graduates" 3624 Market St. - Philadelphia - Penn-19104 according a new disposition of the State Department starting July 1st 1975, request to send a letter stating that he has not initiated transitation for permanent visa. If so as is his case they will not fill the form DS P66 and deny sponsorship for renewal of the "visitor exchange visa".



He is very worried about the whole affair because despite multiple inquiries neither the Commission nor the Immigration department seems to give any alternative.

Remembering your offer, long time ago, is that I bother you to see if something can be done, either to expedite the permanent resident visa before July, or to find if some body there knows the interpretation of this new and disconcerting disposition.

His complete name is; Guillermo Minnhoeer M.D.
20355 Lahser Road - Apt. 402 - Southfield, Michigan
and his EVFNG certificate # 110-738-2.

Tell Bonnie that we are anxious to hear about your experiences at the coronation. Teo and Sila plan to come for a month around September and very likely will like to arrange to see you both.

Please I apologize for your time and patience spent in this matter.

With warmest regards

~~Wm. Hornsby~~



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 5, 1975

*file copy
waited 7/13
State Dept
Visas*

Dear Dr. Minnhaar:

Recently Luis Tomatis wrote to advise me of the status of your application for an immigrant visa. It is my understanding that the American Vice Consul in Argentina has informed you that an immigrant visa cannot be issued to you until your priority date, May 12, 1975, is at the top of the list of applicants.

In my letter to you last April, I noted that Paul Cook, Director of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, Department of State, had indicated that your permanent status very likely would be approved before your visitor's visa expires in July 1976. However, Mr. Cook now indicates that he was not aware of the length of the list of applicants in Argentina when he provided that information.

By law, foreign nationals from western hemispheric countries are admitted to the United States for permanent residence on a numerical basis. Presently, Argentineans with a priority date of April 15, 1973, are being granted immigrant visas. The impact of this law in your case is that when your visitor's visa expires in July 1976, you may be required to return to Argentina and wait until your priority date is at the top of the list of applicants. The Department of State estimates that it may take from six months to one and a half years after your return for this to occur.

Further, in addition to the above waiting period, there may be another time requirement which could apply in your case. If the exchange visitors program in which you are now participating was financed by U.S. or Argentina Government funds, or if the Argentina Government includes your professional skills on a list of "critical skills", you may be required to remain in Argentina for a period of two years after your return. This period of time is exclusive of the waiting period for priority dates. You should



know that the Department of State does not believe the two-year period applies in your case. However, I strongly urge you to verify this belief through the American Vice Consul in Buenos Aires.

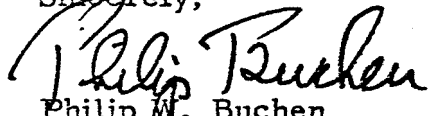
On the assumption that the two-year waiting period does not apply (or is waived), and on the assumption that your visitor's visa will not be renewed for an additional year in July 1976, let me offer two courses of action which you might consider in order to remain in the United States after expiration of your visa in July until your priority date is called.

First, it is my understanding that you may apply to the nearest regional office of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) for permission to remain in the United States after your visa expires on a "voluntary departure status." Second, if you are employed by a hospital or similar public medical institution, the hospital may petition INS to alter your visitor's visa to an H-1 visa which is provided to persons of "distinguished merit and ability" when the service of such persons is required by the petitioning institution. However, I must caution that both these courses of action are subject to the discretion of the regional director of INS.

In considering any course of action, you might wish to consult a private attorney who is experienced in this field of law.

I hope that the information provided in this letter will be helpful to you and that you will be successful in obtaining permission to remain in the United States while your permanent visa is processed. Enclosed for your files is the form notice you received from the American Vice Consul in Buenos Aires.

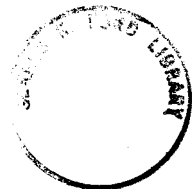
Sincerely,


Philip J. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Dr. Guillermo Minnhaar,
Apt. 402
20855 Lahser Road
Southfield, Michigan

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Luis Tomatis





EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Buenos Aires, Argentina

12 de mayo de 1975.

FECHA DE PRIORIDAD

Ministerio occidental

Limitación Numérica

Preferencia

Señor / Señora: Guillermo Teodoro Minnhaar.

Se hace referencia a su reciente consulta acerca de su trámite de visa de inmigrante. Rogamos leer cuidadosamente él o los párrafos marcados más abajo. Despreocúpese de cualquier párrafo no tildado.

Aunque esta oficina ha recibido evidencias satisfactorias que le habilitan para ser registrado como inmigrante, se le anticipa un tiempo de espera indefinido antes de que pueda darse futura consideración a su solicitud. Esto se debe a que hay más solicitantes que números de visas disponibles bajo la limitación numérica que determina la ley. Actualmente los números de visa de su categoría están:

Agotados

Accesibles sólo a personas con fechas de preferencia antes del 1º de enero de 1975.

Tal como se indicó más arriba, los números de visa para la categoría no preferencial están agotados. Sin embargo, sería conveniente que su futuro empleador en los Estados Unidos llenara una petición a su favor (Formulario I-140) en la oficina del Servicio de Inmigración y Naturalización más cercana, a fin de conferirle la categoría de sexta preferencia. Por lo tanto, hemos devuelto su certificación de trabajo a su futuro empleador con una nota al respecto. Si bien la aprobación de una petición de sexta preferencia posiblemente acelere la consideración de su solicitud, debe tenerse en cuenta que la aprobación de dicha petición no asegura la disponibilidad inmediata de un número de visa.

En cuanto sea posible continuar con la consideración de su solicitud, esta oficina le informará inmediatamente. Mientras tanto, deseamos establecer un registro de usted y de todos los miembros de su familia que han de acompañarle a los Estados Unidos. Para hacerlo necesitamos de su cooperación en completar y devolver **INMEDIATAMENTE** a esta oficina el formulario DSP-70 adjunto (Datos Biográficos Para Uso de Visa).

Adjuntos:

1. DSP-70
2. ~~FS-497~~

Vice Cónsul de los
Estados Unidos de América



Letter DSL-869A
10/69

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 5, 1975

mailed 9/13

Tomatis

Dear Dr. Minnhaar:

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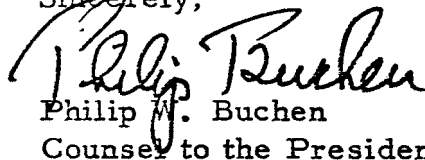
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Sincerely,


Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Dr. Guillermo Minnhaar
Apt. 402
20855 Lahser Road
Southfield, Michigan

Enclosure

cc: Dr. Luis Tomatis



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
Buenos Aires, Argentina

12 de mayo de 1975.

FECHA DE PRIORIDAD

Hemisferio occidental

Limitación Numérica

Preferencia

Señor / Señora: Guillermo Teodoro Minhaar.

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Adjuntos:

1. DSP-70
2. ~~FS-497~~

Vice Cónsul de los
Estados Unidos de América

Letter DSL-869A
10/69

State

Wednesday 9/10/75

7:40 I reached Mrs. Halper at home and told her of our efforts and Mr. Shelby's efforts to reach Mr. Halper -- but we were getting a recording saying it was an incorrect number.

(213) 983-1228

Assured her of our efforts, and suggested he call Mr. Shelby tomorrow or me and I would get word to them.



State

Wednesday 9/10/75

10:45 Don Halper (an attorney in Los Angeles) (213) 983-1228
called again concerning his client who is
to be deported.

H. P. said he had talked with Mrs. Durst 376-8337
at Immigration and Naturalization Service
and she would have someone call Mr. Halper.

Mr. Halper is at a phone booth in the court house (213) 925-9151
and I advised that Stewart Shelby would be calling
him right away. Mr. Shelby's number is 376-8413

They were unable to reach him; a recording suggesting
we had reached a wrong number, etc.
I called the first number and there was no answer.
At today's number I finally got through and there was no answer --
so he probably felt we had not tried to reach him.



Tuesday 9/9/75

State
Dept.

9:40 Don Halper (an attorney in Los Angeles)
called for a client who the government is
supposed to deport.

(213) 983-1228

His client was born in the Philippines and is
a Canadian citizen. She is specially trained nurse
certified in the State of California as a specialist
in cardiac and cardiac arrest. He had letters from
doctors about the need for her services.

He feels something should be done to help in this
situation.

H. P. will call Mr. Halper -- after checking into
the matter.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 13, 1976

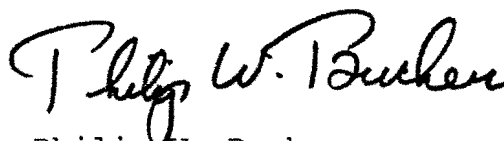
State
(Dunn)
Law of the Sea
file

Dear Mr. Secretary:

The Counsel's Office has reviewed the material you sent to me on Puerto Rico's requests in regard to the Law of the Sea Conference and treaty.

After consultation with the Domestic Council, it is the Counsel's Office view that the issues raised by Puerto Rico should be responded to by the State Department. Thus, I am returning to you Governor Hernandez-Colon's letter and your draft response to him. The draft response appears appropriate.

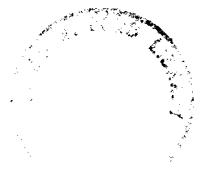
Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

The Honorable Henry A. Kissinger
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C. 20520

Enclosures



INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Department of English

BALLANTINE HALL

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47401

10/9
sent to
Bobbe

Oct. 4, 1976

TEL. NO. 812-337-8224



Previous letter
9/27 sent to
Bobbe 10/1

Mr. Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President
The White House

Dear Mr. Buchen:

I am sorry to trouble you again so soon, but I have just learned that my Romanian fiancee's petition to marry me has been denied by the Romanian Council of State.

I had asked you to write directly to Ambassador Harry Barnes in Bucharest, and while that still might do some good, I'm afraid these new circumstances make things more desperate. I frankly don't know what to do. The Embassy staff is of course asking for reconsideration, and trying to find out reasons for the refusal. But I continue to believe that only high-level intervention will get a favorable decision and keep the case from dragging on for many more months.

The situation as I see it is this: Congress has adjourned without voting on Romania's MFN treaty one way or the other, which means that it will be continued automatically by executive order. A senior U.S. official at the Embassy in Bucharest told me that the Romanians were sure MFN was "in the bag" for them for this year, and they wouldn't be likely to grant any favors they didn't feel they had to. Apparently he was right. Meanwhile, everybody is busy getting re-elected. It is easy to see that it could be next spring or summer before anyone turns their attention back to Romania, when the MFN again comes up for renewal, or in preparation for the Belgrade conference reviewing the Helsinki agreement.

In the meantime, my fiancee and I must wait, and more important, so must my two small sons, who could be spared some of the pain of being without a maternal figure in their home.

Personal considerations aside, I am pleading for some special consideration because my situation exactly fits the one described by Congressman Jonathan Bingham in his testimony on the MFN treaty before the Ways and Means Committee. Namely, I have made and will continue to make significant contributions to Romania, and in an era of closer relations between Romania and America, people who have done this should be entitled to both favorable and special consideration in their marriage applications. (I was Fulbright lecturer in 1974-75, I am a resource person on Romania for the Council on International Education, and my fiancee will study and teach Romanian when she comes here.)

Therefore, I earnestly ask you or the President to use some aspect of the influence of the executive office to get the Romanian government to reverse its terrible, destructive decision against me, my fiancee, and my children.

Sincerely, *KR Johnston* Kenneth R. Johnston / Professor of Eng

P.S. Her name: Ileana Marina Zaritopol.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1976

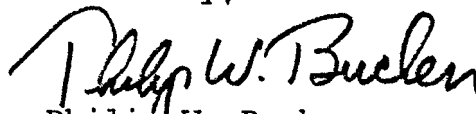
Dear Mr. Johnston:

Thank you for your letter of September 3 concerning your fiancée, Miss Ileana Marina Zarifopol, and your efforts to secure a marriage permit from the Romanian Council of State.

In response to your request, I have confirmed with the Department of State that steps are being taken in support of Miss Zarifopol's application. The consular staff of the Embassy in Bucharest is well aware of your fiancée's case and is making a continuing effort on her behalf. The Embassy has intervened with the Romanian Government on several occasions, reminding them that the case continues to hold the interest of a number of members of Congress.

I am advised by the Department that unfortunately a delay of eight months or more is, in fact, not uncommon before the Romanian Government will issue approval for a marriage between a Romanian citizen and an American. However, I am also assured that persistence through the channels already being used to press for a favorable decision on your behalf normally leads to approval. I have urged the State Department to continue pursuing the matter until you and your fiancée obtain the approval you seek.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Mr. Kenneth R. Johnston
Professor of English
Associate Dean
College of Arts & Sciences
Indiana University
Bloomington, Indiana 47401



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1976

MEMO FOR: PHIL BUCHEN
FROM: BOBBIE KILBERG

Bobbie

On September 8, you asked me to handle a letter to you from Kenneth Johnston. I did so and received the attached memo from Jeanne Davis today. Luraner has typed the NSC suggested draft response in final form, and I recommend you sign it. (Tub A)

Attachments

*Signed
P.*



MEMORANDUM

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

NSC# 5036

(Correspondence Referral)

Date: September 22, 1976

TO: BOBBI GREENE KILBERG

FROM: JEANNE W. DAVIS *JWD*

for
REFERENCE

To: Philip Buchen Date: September 3, 1976
Kenneth R. Johnston, Associate Dean, College of
From: Arts and Sciences, Indiana University

Subject:

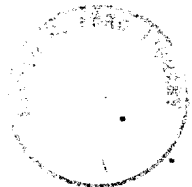
Writes to ask that Mr. Buchen have the President intercede with Romanian officials to obtain permission for Mr. Johnston to marry a Romanian citizen.

Comment:

This is in response to your memorandum to Bud McFarlane of September 8, 1976.

A draft reply is attached at Tab A. The incoming letter is attached at Tab B.

Attachments



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 8, 1976

*copy up
done 502*

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BUD MCFARLANE

FROM:

BOBBIE GREENE KILBERG

Bobbie

Attached is a letter which Phil Buchen received from Kenneth Johnston, a professor of English at Indiana University. Johnston is seeking permission from the Rumanian Council of State to marry his fiance and to have her emigrate from Rumania to the United States. What if anything could we properly do on Mr. Johnston's behalf?

Attachment



INDIANA UNIVERSITY

Department of English

BALLANTINE HALL

BLOOMINGTON, INDIANA 47401

September 3, 1976

TEL. NO. 812-337-8224



Mr. Philip Buchen
Counsel to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Buchen:

I am writing to ask a political favor--something I have never done. Furthermore, I am presuming to write to you on the basis of an extremely remote "connection" between us. Although I'm embarrassed to be doing this, I assure you it is only because it is for me a life-or-death matter.

I am the nephew of George B. Nelson of Grand Rapids. During a recent family reunion when everyone was reminiscing about "who knew Jerry Ford 'way back when," my uncle said he had been in something called the Dutch Tavern Club when plans were being laid for Mr. Ford's first run-for Congress. He mentioned your name, and told about some incident just after the war when you and he were trying to get the O.P.A. to loosen its price controls. I don't know if you recall my uncle, or how much he might have been exaggerating. He later ran unsuccessfully for mayor, and had a son just my age who died of cancer at about age 14; we had been like brothers. Another uncle of mine, Ted Johnston (formerly with Winters & Crampton and the Jarvis Corp.) was also at the reunion, and seemed to recognize what my Uncle George was talking about. Neither of them know I am writing to you. I lived in Grand Rapids from 1943 to 1949 when my late father, Martin M. Johnston, was among other things director of the Central Reformed Church choir and the Schubert Club.

Whatever the status of these unimportant recollections, I am presuming on them to ask you if you could get President Ford to say only the word or two that would be needed to help me get my fiancée out of Eastern Europe.

Since last March she has been trying to get permission from the Romanian Council of State to marry me. The excellent staff of the U.S. Embassy has been doing everything they can to get action on the case, but so far to no avail. Now, as you know, hearings are being held in Congress for the renewal of Romania's MFN treaty with the U.S. I am fearful that once this treaty is renewed the Romanian government will not feel greatly obliged to take any prompt action on pending marriage and emigration cases, but might be content to let them hang until the next treaty-renewal, or until the Belgrade conference on the Helsinki agreement, scheduled for next summer.

I cannot easily face the prospect of waiting so long. I believe

intervention. First, I am older (38) than the normal applicant in this situation. Second, I have two 6-year-old boys by my first marriage. I am caring for them myself, but they sorely need the presence of a stepmother in the home. Third, one of the boys is an adopted bi-racial child, and this raises extra problems that make the establishment of a normal domestic environment crucial. For myself, since I am in love, I suppose I could say, romantically, that I could wait forever; but for my boys I must plead some special consideration.

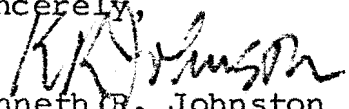
I know very well that it is not usual for the President to intervene on behalf of particular individuals. But I also know that were he to say a single sentence on this matter either to Romanian Ambassador Corneliu Bogdan or to U.S. Ambassador Harry Barnes, the case would be resolved almost immediately, as a presidential or diplomatic courtesy.

Needless to say, there is no particular problem at issue in my fiancée's application. If she lived in a free country we'd have been married long ago. It is simply the policy of the Romanian government to discourage marriages with foreigners by making people wait until they get discouraged. As you might guess from all I have invested in this, we are not about to become discouraged. The U.S. Embassy says 8 months is the "normal" waiting time in these cases. All I am asking, in fact, is assurance of this "normal" treatment: 8 months from March is November, which means I could go to Bucharest to marry her during Thanksgiving vacation. (Then, of course, she has to wait again for permission to emigrate, but this is "only" about two months.)

If you could give some help in this desperate situation, we would be eternally grateful. My fiancée's name is Ileana Marina Zarifopol and her file number at the Romanian Council of State is: II/A 10484 1976. She has already been approved by the U.S. Immigration Service (File No. A22 280 689). Our case is well known by the Embassy staff in Bucharest, and I am personally friendly with Ambassador Barnes. But almost nothing is accomplished in Romania without political influence, and the present case is no exception.

I shook the President's hand during his visit to Bucharest in July of '75, amusing him by saying I was the "Furniture City" delegate. I hope you will not take amiss my efforts to play upon old G.R. memories in hopes of rescuing my ^{wife} from the snarls of Communist bureaucracy.

Sincerely,


Kenneth R. Johnston
Professor of English
Associate Dean, College of Arts & Sciences

