Letter dated February 9, 1940 from Munich To the American Consulate in Stuttgart #4038

On January 24, 1940 I and my child Ernst received visa #4038 and #4039. My children, Susi, born on May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1929, and Josef born on July 28, 1930 are in France at this time. I kindly request that you transfer their affidavits to the respective Consulate in Paris, with the kind request that you authorize the Consul to see to it that the children will receive their visas as soon as possible. Respectfully, Anna Hilsenrath

### **SWORN DECLARATION**

Being aware of the meaning of a Sworn Statement, I hereby certify that the references to the German Restitution authorities are as follows:

- 1. I am the business man Israel Hilsenrath born on August 24, 1902 in Dzurow, Poland, as a Polish Citizen. My parents were of total Jewish descent. I myself have always been a member of the Jewish religion.
- 2. About 1921 I came to Germany, where I first lived in Essen where I was employed in a department store. About 1922 I established residence in Kreuznach, where I stayed until September 1939. There I had a textile products retail business at Sabinen Street #30 or #31. My private address during the last years before my emigration was Gymnanial at the Jewish Congregation.
- 3. In the year 1927 I married Miss Hanna Drimmer in Kaden, Chekeslovakia, who then lived with me in Kreuznach. The result of this marriage was three children all of whom were born in Kreuznach. a) The daughter Susan, born on July 27, 1927, who married Mr. Irving Warsinger, an American Citizen, on December 25, 1949 and is now living at 4203 4<sup>th</sup> Street, SE, Washngton, D.C. b) a son Josef, born on June 27, 1928 and c) a son Ernst born on January 2, 1938. The two sons and my wife are living with me at 4200 H Street, NW, Washington, DC
- 4. On September 28<sup>th</sup> 1939 I emigrated to America, and In February 1940 my wife and my son, Ernst, arrived as immigrants in the United States, and in September 1941 my other children arrived in America. During this time of our separation, (1939 until February 1940) my wife and my son Ernst lived in Kreuznach, Gymnasial Str., while my other children were in France from 1939 until their arrival in the USA. In 1945, I and later my wife, were naturalized.
- 5. It is no longer possible to state what my earnings were in my business in Kreuznach. It may have been between 4 and 5000 Marks annually.
- 6. When Hitler took power I had to display the well known Jewish sign in the window of my store. In the year 1936, at the time of the Special Actions, an SS man came into the store, in which my wife also worked, insulted us and came towards me with a chair. My wife broke down and fainted. If I was not with here from this moment on my wife who was constantly living in fear that I or one of the children would be arrested, or abducted or killed, suffered from the deepest depressions, and cried continuously. I immediately took her to Dr. Kollman for treatment, whose diagnosis was persecution mania. Somewhat later my wife was coming home from the movies

at the Kreuz Street, when she was insulted and threatened until again she broke down and fainted. As she was supposed to pick me up from the store after the movie, and it became much to late, I went towards the movie and found her standing on the street crying. A few people on the street told me what had happened and that the SA men also wanted to abduct her, and she screamed loudly. Since that time, my wife hardly slept and started to talk and say that they had wanted to take the children away from her. In addition, there was also the economic uncertainty, and the boycott soon made the business unprofitable. Because of this, in 1936 I had to close the business and from then on I had to peddle my textile items. The years 1937 and 1938, already prior to November 10, things became so bad with my wife that I had to commit her to a Nerve Institution in Frankfurt, where she stayed for about 4 months. There she was afraid of being arrested, and because of this I had her discharged and took her home and a few days later I had her admitted in the Dr. Jacob's Nerve Clinic in Segen near Koblenz. There she stayed between 7 and 9 months. The prospect of emigration seemed to bring about an improvement and I brought her home in about October 1938. On November 10, 1938, stones were thrown through the window of our residence, and all of our furniture was destroyed, four well furnished rooms and kitchen, and this again brought on the fears. The hopes for emigration kept her upright, in addition she was really improved because in the Summer of 1939 two children had left for France. It also helped that my wife was distracted by the birth of the youngest child.

- 7. After the immigration to the USA my wife at first improved until the fear for her two children that had not emigrated brought on a relapse. She was treated by Dr. Goldenberg and again she had to enter a Nerve Hospital, Shepherd-Pratt, Baltimore-Towsend, where she stayed about 8 months. She then came home again for about a year as I was unable to earn the cost of hospitalization. She then received shock treatments and continuously went to St. Elizabeth Hospital and stayed home. And for the last two to three years she is now she has been hospitalized with schizophrenia at St. Elizabeth Hospital.
- 8. Before the persecution in Germany my wife never showed any signs of nerve or mental illness. Also, there are no reasons for such an illness since we are in America. Here I have a Delicatessen Store, and since we are here have never had any needs or suffered.
- 9. Since my daughter got married, and it was she who took care of the housekeeping, I had to employ household help, as my wife, even when she was not hospitalized, could not take care of the house because of her illness. It cost \$18.00 per week plus food.

## A CERTIFIED TRANSLATION FROM POLISH

City Administration of Kolomy ja. Phone #18 Post office Savings Account #503.606 #N.B.P inf.1116/38 Kolomy ja. on December 16, 1938 J. Confirmation. On the base of results of the carried out requests, I certify herewith that Srul Mates two named signers, Hilsenrath, living in Bad Kreuznach German Reich, is identical with Srul Mates to named

signers Hildenrath, is the same person. I am issuing this confirmation from the presentation from the Consular Administration of the City Administration of Kolomy ja. City President J. Sanojca eh/ Jozef Sanojca.

The correctness of this translation of the presented Polish original I am herewith confirming this because of my position as Court translator for the German Language. Kolomy ja December 19, 1938

### IDENTIFICATION FOR EMIGRATION

Valid until July 15, 1939 Name: Susi Hilsenrath Occupation: Student

Date of Birth: May 27, 1929 Place of Birth: Bad Kreuznach

Town of Residence: Bad Kreuznach, Gymnasial St. 11

Stature: Medium Hair: dark blond Eyes: Gray

Special Marks: None Citizenship: Polish

It is certified herewith that the person identified by photo signed personally, below. Bad

Kreuznach, March 21, 1939

The Mayor as local police authority.

Extended to August 31, 1939

Control #24/39

## IDENTIFICATION FOR EMIGRATION

Valid until July 15, 1939 Name: Josef Hilsenrath Occupation: Student

Date of Birth: July 28, 1930 Place of Birth: Bad Kreuznach

Town of Residence: Bad Kreuznach, Gymnasial St. 11

Stature: Medium Hair: Blond Eyes: Brown

Special Marks: None Citizenship: Polish

It is certified herewith that the person identified by photo signed personally, below. Bad

Kreuznach, March 21, 1939

The Mayor as local police authority

Extended to August 31, 1939

Control #23/39

Tuesday, August 5, 1941

My dear parents and Bubi:

I have to give you some very sad news, it is as follows: We were entered into a transport and were already to leave last Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>. You can imagine how happy we were. The nicest thing for us now is to come to you. I jumped around all day, everyone thought I was mad. All of a sudden, Saturday afternoon, we were all lying in bed when there was a call that Feuer and Hilsenrath are not leaving. Oh how did I feel. Not to be able to come to you is the worst that can happen on earth. I was not jumping and dancing any more. I now also want to tell you why we could not go. It is like this: No children are allowed to go that have parents in America because there will be a special transport for them, and I think it will go soon. I am now taking the opportunity to write to you through a girl that will be on the transport. This letter should arrive earlier. I will also send you an air mail letter this week because Sabine and I are allowed to write an air mail letter every three weeks. But now we want to write together, but I will still write to you every week. I think we are more diligent in writing because for almost three months we have not had any news from you. What is the matter? Don't you write? Do you get all our letters? If I would count the letters that I have already written to you, I would be sick, and you, you almost never write. I am always jealous when the other children get mail from their parents. Feuers get much more than we do. Please write us the address of the relatives that are near us. I ask you about this in every letter We and they would be very happy to receive mail from each other and they know about us don't they? Yes, what is with Mrs. Feuer? Mr. Feuer writes to the people that run the home, that Mrs. Feuer is sick, and if the children do not come soon, it will get worse. Is that true? or does he doe this so that his children can come earlier. Dear Papa you promised to send us a picture of you and your car. We have not received it until now. Have you already sent it? We would be very happy if we would get it soon. How are you doing? You have really not written about this to us. Do you dear Papa have to work so hard? and do you dear Mutti do you still have so much house work? and Bubi also makes a lot of work for you. When I am with you I will help you a lot, dear Muttichen, then you can rest a little. Next time please write more in detail how you are, and how you feel, how things are with you and whether you like it there. I cannot imagine how things are with you and how you live. . You really cannot say that we do not write detailed and long letters, that Papa like so much Are you still earning Papa? Do you work every day? Mutti says that you have to work very hard, I cannot imagine this well, you drive in the car all day. Now I am closing my letter with the hope that we will receive a very detailed letter from

you soon.

Many sincere regards and many kisses are sent by your daughter Susi.

Dear parents and Bubi:

As Susi wrote to you, we did not leave with the transport and I am very sorry. I would be overjoyed if we could go. But we could not go because you are in America. The transport was only for the children that have no one in France or in America, but the told us our papers are ready. The local director is looking after us very well here. How are you? We are well. How is the dear golden Bubichen? Is he doing well? Why do you write so little? We write to you every week. We have not had any mail from you since

June every week. Why does this happen? We are worried about you. I am going to write you a few lines in French "Dear Parents, I am writing you a few words in French. How are you? I am very well. How is little Bubi? He will be a big boy soon. I Hope you answer soon. I end my letter and embrace you your Josef" I wrote the few sentences to you in French. You wrote that Erna is nearby here. Where is she now? Please give regards to all relatives and acquaintances from us. Please tell Dr. Jacobs that he should also write to us. Every three weeks we can send you an airmail letter, and we hope that you will get it. We are learning Hebrew and I know it quite well already. Did you hear from Marcelle? Please write at once. We are thinking that we could leave daily, hopefully it will happen soon. I am closing my letter, many regards and millions of kisses, Your Josef.

Letter dated February 25, 1940

Dear Papa:

we received your dear letter with thanks and it made us very happy. We are thanking the Lord that we are in our other home. Things here are much better than with Mr. Zelitzky. We have received no news from Mutti. Please write to her our address and tell her that she should write to us immediately. I am well and I also hope this from you. I eat and sleep well here. We do not sleep on straw any more, we are sleeping in nice beds. We have not heard anything from aunt Else and aunt Erna. The good Lord should help us to get together soon. I say my prayers every day. We have very nice weather now. We have received your letter of February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1940. Tell uncle Josef that he should also write to us. Regards to Dr. Jacobs and Kanns. Tell Ludwig he should write to me onces. Did you see Strausss already. If you see them, give them my regards, primarily to Helmut. Many regards and kisses, your dear boy Josef, Bubi.

Reply at once. #474 Chateau des Moralles or Brevut-Vernet Allier

Letter dated January 16<sup>th</sup>, 1941

My dear parents and Bubi:

Once again I am writing to you and still now answer. I very much wonder that you do not get out letters because we have already written 7 or 8 times. Susi wants to make a small beret and she does not want to write. She says we should wait until we have an answer. Dear parents do not worry, next week she will already write. In one or two month we will come to America with a transport. How is dear Bubi doing? Is he doing well? How are you doing my dears? Hopefully well, which we can also tell from us. I am closing my letter, many regards and millions of kisses your Josef.

PS Please answer at once. Address for Susi and Josef Hilsenrath, Chateau de Morelles, at Brevut - Vernet, Allier, France.

Letter from Le Guichret, November 10, 1939 Dear, good Papa:

With great happiness and many thanks we received your letter. From dear Mutti, and aunt Erna we have not heard anything yet. Health wise we are doing well, which I also hope from you. I am already together with Bubi for quite a while. We are really well taken care of here, but we do not get much to eat. I will write to you now what we do all day. We get in the morning at 7:30 then we go to the kitchen to wash. Then we get a cup of milk, ¾ water and ¼ milk and one piece of white bread. Then I and Ruth have to make the beds. When we are finished we are bored until noon. We almost always get a little bit of noodles and something, and I am still hungry. The people that are here are very bad and stingy. The children here have to do everything, and despite this they get paid a lot of money. Now I get to know how good you were to me. You have often told me that we would think of you often and how good the parents are, if you are far away. I often think of it. It is high time that we get together. Our mattresses are of straw and I sleep on such a bed, that I cannot move, and Bubi sleeps on the floor. Many regards and kisses your Susi

I have received my clothing yet. Please do not send us any money because it is taken away from us. Please send us a few dollars because I have no shoes to wear. Not many, many \$5. at the most. Madam Zelitzky, Passage du Buisson de Guichet, Poir Arsonay, Seine-et-Oise.

Dear Mr. Hilsenrath:

I also permit myself to write a few words. I am together with Susi since I left. We understand each other very well and I also understand myself well with Bubi. Hopefully your children and wife will come over there soon. Do you do any work there? Do you know perfect English? Did you speak to my parents again since I left? Hopefully you are doing well health wise, which I can also report from myself. I send you many regards, Ruth Landsberg

Letter dated Paris, December 25, 1939

Dear Iso:

I am sending you two letters, one from dear Susi and one from me, which she wrote from my place here. We are very glad that we could write without control from the lady of the home in which they find themselves which they wanted themselves. I have brought the children here because there is a medical examination here which is necessary if you want the children in another home. I have tried my utmost to get the children there where they would have much better than where my brother and his children are. Where they are going is a strictly orthodox home where the children will also be spiritually educated. The children look very well, and Susi, especially, is almost a complete lady. The children are learning very well and speak French well already.

The children did not have it so well because we did not know this beforehand, and it is mainly your own fault. Namely because at that time you requested the return of !000 Franks, I had to spend a lot of cash for your children despite the fact that you got it back, I had did the same as you and I immediately requested the sum back for your children. I had already spent 2000 Francs in cash for your children. There was some money left

from another child so that I could get Susi in with the other girl and further would not have any more cash expenses worth mentioning, as this was also promised, but sadly, I was misled, and there I stood with the children and had to break my head about what to do with the children. So I immediately called all homes in the Paris surroundings, which also cost me a lot of money, and then finally, I was able to bring the children into a home for the time being. Then after 8 to 14 days the home was closed, and to whom do you bring the children, of course to the one that brought them, and that was I, and there I again stood and had to break my head again, until I was finally able to bring them to the "Assistance Medicale". Of course, I had to go everywhere with the children myself, to the examinations, to the homes, here and outside, and of course had to pay. What difficulties, excitement, loss of time, that was connected with this, only a fraction of this can be described. And then I had daily complaints from Mrs. Heilbronn, why I did not finally get Bobi into a home, because he had made a bed totally unusable, everything was rotten because of his constant bed wetting. Finally I still gave her some money, and again, of course, from my own pocket. This affair occupied me so completely that I was not able of thinking to earn anything. Until the accommodation of your children with the Assistance, I had already spent \$12.00. The loss of earnings and other expenses that arose out of this I will never request from you as a relative, even because of this, I could not work for several weeks, but the cash outlay, I have to please request that you return it because I saved it from my own mouth.

### FOR THE BIRTHDAY CHILD

Dear Papa

I wish you everything good for your birthday and that you will soon have your dear ones with you. I hope that you are happy with the few flowers. When I am with you I will make you something very pretty, because I learned how to do this. I wish you all the good and that you should live long. Regards and kisses from your Susi.

Letter from Camp de Gurs, Basses Pyrenees Hot M. Bar. 23 My dear family Hilsenrath:

Now I have a great request for you. I received your address from my relatives so that we should find ourselves again. G'd willing you would be kind enough, if one or the other wrote, to forward the information to an organization like Hicien, or the Joint, or wait until we can give you our address, and also we would be very grateful if you could call the attention to a Jewish Aid organization about our unhappy situation. We do not know how long we will stay here. Should we have to leave here, we will inform you of our new address at once. In the hope to hear something good from you soon, the good Lord willing, I want to close now. All of you please have sincere regards from family Heilbronn

Letter, Gurs, July 14, 1940 Dear Honorable Family Hilsenrath: Before everything, how are you and how are the dear children? You do not really have to worry because of them, because children were evacuated in time.

Sadly, I cannot report anything good about myself and my family. Both daughters and I are interned in a womens' camp for two months already. We are a distance from our residence and existence in Paris, and we are sitting at the Spanish border and may be will have to leave everything for a second time. In addition I have become quite ill here, without any means, but this could be overcome if we did not have such huge worries about our family, because we have not heard from my brother and two sisters with children for weeks, and also from my son we have not heard anything for three weeks. We are all very unhappy.

Letter no date - first two pages missing

Railroad Station? with the first transport to the following address the train left in a lucky hour.

Chateau de Morelles

a Brout-Vernet (Attlier)

write to the name of the children at the above address. You do not need a number and it will probably arrive.

In any case, I now hope to get regular mail from you, and I will be in such a situation to be able to report of the well being of your children, as I gave them all instructions as how I will be able to find out about their well being. Now, as far as our correspondence with you is concerned, I can let you know that I have been able to keep you up to date until September, and I have informed you right away, as usual, where your children are housed. Besides the letter of January 21, I have received one single letter from you since September in which you asked me where the children are housed. As I received your letter I had already informed Knoll and you of the address, but despite this I have not received any more mail from you since I informed you of where the children are housed, but as the saying goes, what has happened is past, but the most important thing is that you convinced me through this letter that even though I thought badly of you, this letter was like a band aid on a wound for me. Not even a consoling word because the troubles and expenses I had with your children, makes it possible for you to put yourself in my situation. Now I want to write to you that you can feel 1

00% calm about your children because the Kayamoja Susi and Josef look great, despite everything, they are picture pretty and very smart children. They already speak French very well. Since I complained about several things during the last times, things have improved, even as far as food is concerned.

I cannot hide to inform you that your willingness to obtain affidavits for me and to reimburse me for all the things I that I did, surprised me pleasantly, especially since the times are not so good. I understand to value this very well and thank you for your good intentions. But I will not accept the amount for the loss of earnings as I consider it as a big (Mitzvah) good deed, and if I would receive the loss of earnings from you, the Mitzvah would be greatly reduced. I kept a small record of the loss of earnings, but do not have the intention to ask you for one cent of it, only, if G'd forbid, I would be in great

need. Thank G'd I earn my daily bread at this time, and hope that it continues, although I have to ask you to please send me the money for the up front cash which I spent, as I need it urgently. In the mean time I have spent \$3.00 for your children, so that now you would have to give me \$10. yet. You should send me the amount in a (?) letter, but you first have to inquire whether this is permitted in this case, if not, then send it to me in a registered letter. Please acknowledge this letter, as I urgently need it. Since the war I am not able to earn almost a single penny, so you can understand how I have to live now. Now there are new expenses for me, but they are not so very large since the good and lucky accommodations for the best housing of your children, who hopefully will stay until you will be able to have them come to the USA. This information is from the authorities, where the children will then be able to stay permanently, where you, the children and I will finally be able to be satisfied.

Now I want to come back to the fact that you are the main guilty one. If you had written to me directly, instead of the Heilbrons and others, you would have found out already how your children are doing, whether it is good or bad, because then, at least I would have had your address, and at the same time would have had the opportunity to clear you up about everything and I would have been able to visit your children, but since I did not received a single line from you for four months, and did not have your address, and in addition, did not receive any reply to the three letters that I wrote to your children, (the letters were kept there so that the children would not have to ask for stamps), I seriously aggravated myself about you and your children. I told myself that I had done my duty, so I was able to leave, they are doing well, for what do they need Hermann? I paid money, made efforts, and had disappointment on top of it, for what did they need me? In spite of this I did my duty as a relative and human being, by occasionally asking how the children were doing, and was satisfied when the answer was "good", what else was there to know? Now, a short while ago, I found out through a secret letter from the children, that they are not doing so well. So I immediately took care of everything that was necessary, drove around from one place to another until I was finally able to find the best place for your children. At the same time I immediately drove out to the children and hope to be able to bring them to this location very shortly. They have already been examined by them. I am doing the best for children that I am able to do, and am spending new cash money, loss of time, and effort, and hope that when I do all of this that you will not let me down, and at once send me a letter with the money that I have advanced. If you should not be able to send any cash letters from there, I beg you that you send at least part of the money in a registered letter, but only in dollars. Tomorrow I have to drive to the children again to bring them here, and also return them there, and I have to do this two or three times again, and I hope that everything will work out well and that we will be 100% satisfied. Now, how are you doing there? What are you doing? Where are you working now? How is the general situation there? How is Rabbi Dr. Jakobs and family? How are things with your uncle? With whom are you, with your uncle or by yourself? What do you hear from your wife and child? What do you hear from your loved ones from Kolomea? I have not heard from my dear ones in Kolomea since the beginning of September, and this worries me very much. May be you know something about them, and please write the truth to me at once. If not, please write immediately to Kolomea and ask how my dear mother, Malka Hilsenrath, and my three brothers, Benno, Samuel and Pincas, as well as

my three sisters, Frieda, Anna and Schlima Feuer are doing. My mother was still living in 4 Szkapawa ulica 4 in Kolomea. I already thank you in advance. Is Somer of Epinal in France over there already? Did he return the 1000 Francs already, and how are they doing? Oscar and Jeanette are still in England, and the children are here for the time being. Otherwise I am not doing especially well, it is a hard fight to earn something. Besides this, most likely I will go into military service. As I am expecting a reply to this by return mail, as well as the requested amount, I am remain with best regards your H. Feuer.

Letter from Paris dated February 21, 1940

# Very Honorable Mr. Dr. Jakobi

I am enclosing this letter for you and your family in a letter to Mr. Hilsenrath, with the kind request that you will excuse that I am not writing to you directly, but as Mr. Hilsenrath wrote to me that he lives very close to you and that he is with you very often, so in any case I hope that you will receive this letter as quickly as if were by direct mail. Honorable Mr. Doctor!

Above everything, I hope that you are doing well, and that you and your dear family are healthy. What gives by you? Do you already have some kind of occupation or job? How do you like it there? do you have any relatives or acquaintances there? What are your children doing there? Are they attending any school there?

From me, I can inform you that I work with cloth materials and am fighting very hard to earn my daily bread, but I am satisfied, because it is impossible to go hungry in Paris. One thing I can assure you, I remained an observant Jew, possibly much more so than I used to be. even though it is harder here to be strictly observant, but I have decided, no matter where my destiny will take me, to be strictly observant.

I have registered voluntarily here for military duty, but I have not been called until now. Otherwise I am doing fairly well.

Hoping to hear a reply from you soon, I remain with best regards to you and your family, all the best wishes, your H. Feuer.

# Letter - no date - first pages missing

As far as the affidavit for me is concerned, I want to let you know that my quota number at the earliest will come up in a few months, so even if I had the affidavit at this moment, it will not be able to do much for me. Anyhow, please let me know from whom I should be able to receive an affidavit from you, and what something like that would cost, or whether you can get one for me without spending money. Will this affidavit be from a relative? I wrote to Somers, but have had no reply until now. I do not believe that you will get back one cent from the thousand Francs, for the time being, because if they should be in a camp, they will keep the money for themselves. If at the time you had left the 1000 Francs with me, your two children would have been better taken care of, and you would have saved some aggravation in advance. The money that you would have left with me would have been available to you at any time, and you would not have to send

me any now, but as I said "what is past, is past", and sadly there is nothing that can be changed now. It goes without saying, that as long as the children are in France, I will see to it that the best is being done for them.

What exactly if Form 575 which you sent to the Consulate in Paris? How far is your dear wife with her emigration? She has the same quota like you, why could she not leave yet? I have already been registered in Stuttgart since August of '38 and the quota number (Polish 1024), I am a traveling salesman in cloth materials and I almost only contact Jews, but it really is not that simple, but even though one takes care of oneself. I have been registered as volunteer at the army, but until now have not been called. I know that I am not able to, but I registered anyway, and in spite of this I was accepted. I have not heard anything from my relatives since the beginning of September and really do not know what happened there. I am wishing you very good business results and physical health, and may the good Lord help that you wife and children will be with you and that you have health and income. For the time being, I have firmly decided to emigrate to the USA as soon as possible. Please give best regards to Family Dr. Jakobs, and give them this letter.

I only finished this letter today, February 21. I am only mailing the letter to your children today, as sorry that I forgot to give them their letter yesterday. Otherwise how are things with you? How are you spending your time there, especially you? How are things there in general? What kind of a profession is good there? Do you speak English well already? Do you have any work at your relatives in reference to be able to get an affidavit?

I hope that the dear children of the dear uncle will leave for England soon and h ope that together with their parents will be able to emigrate to USA.

So far, everything is still in the best of order here in Paris, the business life continues, only that it is a little dark at night. I beg that you always write very detailed letters please, like your last letter, and give me detailed letters about your well being, besides this, I had to wait quite a while before I received a detailed letter from you, so that I knew very little about you and your family, and this interests me very much.

In the expectation of a return mail reply, and the sending of the balance amount, I remain with sincere regards and kisses for you, your well wishing Herman.

Post card from Holland, dated March 22, 1940 My good friend:

I hope that you have received my mail in the meantime, my children also forwarded it. I am happy to know that you are healthy. May the good Lord help that you will be together with your family soon. I am here since last week on Hachscharah. Together we are 30 people and am endlessly happy to be together with other people. Can you understand this? One feels alive again - it is too nice. Please write to me again soon, we want to remain connected. Many dear regards, your Else

## Dear Papa:

We are sitting here with Herman in his room and writing a letter to you. The dear Herman came to get us. We took money and wrote to him that we are not doing well and he immediately made efforts for us on our behalf. We came here for examination. We will be in a better home in a few days. I am very surprised that you are not looking out for us. Herman asks why you do not reach him directly. He had also written to us and Madam Zelynsky did not give them to us. He wanted to visit us for a long time but he did not have a chance.

Many regards and kisses are sent to you by your Susi

Letter - dated April 10, 1940

My hotly beloved parents:

Today I received your dear letter and I want to answer it right away. You cannot imagine what pleasure this made for us, as we were reading the letter. I was shivering and my heart was beating hard. I am already crazy the whole day. Do you believe I would forget you for one second? I do not sleep many a night because of you. I would love to see you and I hope that we will see each other soon. May be you can send me a picture. Mama photographed us and I would like to take a picture and send it to you. Don't send me any money, because here we do not need any. Both of us speak French perfectly, but it is a little hard for us to write. English we do not learn because I have forgotten everything that I have learned, but do not worry about us, we are doing well. Why do you write to everyone to send us packages? We are doing well and it is not necessary. I hear from uncle Herman almost every week. Can I write to your parents dear Papa? are they still at the same place where they used to be? I really would very much like to write to them. I have no letters from uncle Josef. We received money with thanks. I hope that you are right that I could be with you on my 11<sup>th</sup> birthday, that would really be a joy. The Madam Zelynsky did not write the mail for me. I wrote often, but she did not reply to me. We also once received a package from a lady in Switzerland. Who was the lady? but we only got a bar from it. Dear Mutti, a few weeks ago I wrote a letter to you in Germany. The town here is very small. I an very sorry that you sent me the socks once because there was not left much for me, but I have enough until we get together again. I close my letter as I have to go down.

Many regards and kisses are sent by your Susi who will never forget you.

Letter dated November 25, 1940

My dear parents:

I am just in Brout-Vernet where I was once before. I have just been in Paris to go to the American Consulate. We will only be able to get our visa when we can show our shop tickets. I hope that you will be able to send us these soon. We would have been with you a while but because something was doubtful it did not take place. Up until now we were well taken care of and you do not have to worry about us. I hope that you are doing well, and I can say the same about us. How is the sweet little Bubi, he is surely speaking well. He will be three years old soon. Are you still living at Dr. Jakobs? Can you speak

English well already? We know French well. We are going to school. Feuers children are also here. Uncle Feuer was very good to us. Did you receive his and our letter? Do you have mail from the other relatives, and where are they? We hear nothing from them. I do not know what to write and close my letter in the hope to see you again soon.

Many regards and thousands of kisses are sent by your Susi

Reverse side of letter:

My heartily loved parents and Bubi:

I want to write to you too. We are now again in the home we were once before. Now we want to go to America as fast as possible. We can come right away when we have our shop tickets. So please send them to us as quickly as possible.

How are you dear parents and Bubi? Hopefully good, what I can also report about myself. Bubi is getting big, he is 3 years old already. Do you hear something from the dear grandparents? Mr. Feuer's children are here with us. Herman Feuer is in Paris and he is very dear to us. We are taken care of very well, so you do not have to worry about us. We know French very well, but we have forgotten English. (I forgot something, our visa is ready at the Consulate, but we do not get it until we get our ship tickets) I am closing my letter now, many regards and millions of kisses, our address Chateau de Morelle, a Brout-Vernet, Atlier, your Joseph

Letter - Wednesday, July 30, 1941

My dear parents and Bubi:

How is it dear parents that for a long time I have not received any mail from you? Do you not write any more? Are you not doing well? or what is the matter? Feuers are getting mail much more often than we. I am really very jealous, as you can say. Do you often get mail from us? We write every week. Today is the last day that we have to go to school because vacation will start tomorrow. We do nothing any more today, just clean up. That is why I have time to write to you. You should see our class, such a mess. The children are sitting and running around everywhere. The teacher is very nice. He does not hit the girls, but because of that he gives punishment work, it just flies about, but not today. It is a real

French school and I have to be careful that they do not see that I write in German. There are a few German girls here from the home, thank G'd one is sitting next to me. I speak French fairly well, but Joseph knows it better than I because he talks more. I spoke French for a while and nobody noticed that I was a foreigner, that is how well I spoke. But because of this I could not speak German well any more, as I did not hear it any more. But now, don't ask, the whole day I babble in German, and my French is not that good any more, but it still goes well. The we learn English and we are pretty far. We also learn Hebrew twice a week. Now during the vacation, we will most likely do this every day. I believe that after the vacation we will not go to school any more and hope that we will be over all hills already. One believes the transports will leave soon. I do not think they will go that fast, may be at the beginning of October. Perhaps, dear parents, it could be possible that we arrive with you before this letter, would that not be nice? Joseph received a telegram and he was very happy with it. It is a shame it arrive two days early. He received very nice things, but he can tell you about this himself. Did you receive your birthday letters with the many flowers, dear Papa? We should be with

you already at your birthday, dear Mutti. That would really be a nice celebration, right? I am happy about it in advance already, I sometimes long for your kitchen, dear Mutti, because it is completely different here in France. Sometimes we fight about whose mother could cook better, but you do not have to think that we do not have enough to eat. If you knew how much I am eating you would get a stomach ache for me. I am closing this letter with the hope that there is a letter from the parents waiting for us at home. You cannot imagine the great pleasure that would be. Many hearty regards and millions of kisses are sent by your daughter Susi

Reverse side of Letter

My dear parents and BubiL

We have not had any mail from you for a long time, and are waiting daily for it. I received kthe telegram with joy and I was very happy with it, and thank you very much for it. Today is the last time we go to school, two months vacation, and in that time we hope to be with you. How are you and also the golden boy doing? hopefully well. How are all our relatives doing? are they doing well? Give our regards to all of them. Dear Papa, say Tehilim that we can come to you dear parents, and hopefully it will be very soon. I spent my birthday very well. I cannot imagine that I am 11 years old already. Please send me a few pictures from you. I can already write a little Hebrew to you, and I have learned many Jewish things. I am closing my letter because I do not know what to write any more. Many regards and millions of kisses from your son Joseph (not Bubi). Please write

Letter - November 10

My dear good Papa:

Today, November 10, we received with pleasure, your dear letter of October 30<sup>th</sup>. I am very glad that I news from you, my dear Papa. I am terribly homesick and would be glad if we could come together again. Hopefully we will be together very soon. Are our papers on the way already? Mada Zelynsky always says we go to school tomorrow and it is not true. We are not learning English. We can already communicate a little with the French children. We are in a home here. There are 12 children. It is very trefe (non-kosher). Sometimes I forget the prayer. The gentleman from here reminds me very often. So far we have not seen any children from Kreuznach. Dear Mutti should also write to us. Hopefully you are doing well, which I can also report from me. Many regards to the family. Kann and Ludwig should also write to me once.

Regards and a kiss to the relatives, many regards and a thousand kisses are sent to you by Bobi

Please do not forget to enclose a reply coupon or we cannot answer you. Now I have to give the money back to the aunt. Here we are not in the Rothschild Home. Please write. Susi

Letter - no date Dear good Mutti: Yesterday I received the suitcase. It cost a lot of money and I do not know who should pay for it. The suitcase is not new any more. It is scratched up all over. Healthwise I am doing well, which I also hope about you, Bubi and all relatives. Did you hear anything from Papa? Please send me two reply coupons so that I can also write to Papa. Did you get your summons already? Do you like it in Gelsenkirchen. Your Susi sends you many regards.

Dear Mutti:

With pleasure we received today. I received the color crayons and the watch. What jacket are you writing about in the letter? I am doing well, which I also hope from you. How is Bubi. Many regards and kisses sends you your Bobi

Wednesday, June 18, 1941

Dear parents and Bubi:

I hope that you received our letter which went through Sabine and Friedel by air mail. But what is the matter that we do not receive any mail from you? Don't you write? Are you not doing well? We are doing well, thank G'd, and we hope and believe that we will come to you soon, because Sabine and Friedel received the wonderful news that they will be leaving soon. Only I am wondering why they did not write this to us as our things are being worked together with their things. Hopefully the day will be there when we see each other again. I cannot imagine this hour. Did you change in looks? Make us happy and send us a picture of yourself. How happy we would be. We received Bubi's picture he looks very pale. Did you receive the pictures that we sent to you? Don't I look quite different? Just now we wrote a composition, the title is "tell about a secret trip". If I would still be in France I would take a French test (one can't tell this word well in French (Certificate) Sabine did it already.

I am closing because school is almost over. Many regards and kisses sends you, your Susi.

My dear parents and Bubi

Today I am again writing you a letter in school. How does that happen that you write to little. Write to us more often. I know nothing new to write to you about. How is the sweet Bubi? is he doing well? His last picture was very nice.(He was very pale) Send us pictures from yourself please. I am very sorry that dear Papa cannot write. I have a tremendous longing for you. It is very hot here. Many regards and kisses from your Bobi Josef.

You have to excuse us that I write so little. I know nothing because we write so often and we do not get any letters from you.

Many regards sends you your Friedel

Many regards from your Sabine

Please excuse Bobi and my handwriting, it is terrible he messes up the whole page/.

Letter - St. Affrique, January 29, 1941 My dear sister:

Many, many thanks for your dear letter with which I really was very, very pleased, but most of all with the photo of the little "frosh" he is so golden. He is really an adorable boy, such beautiful eyes! but about you my dear child, you look a little funny, you should get a real nice hair do, but you have not changed otherwise. You will also think that Erna has nothing else in her head than "hair does". I am really glad that you are still doing well, but I really cannot say this about myself. The only improvement that came for me is that it is not so cold any more. Oh, I have lived through a very bad winter. The cold here so bad and they have not had anything like this here for many, many years. I am now here in the middle of France, not too far from Nice, and you know that it is always summer in Nice, and I had lived in an unheated room, and from this I now have a very bad bronchitis. What else can I tell you, only misery. I am so glad that you have been able to send me some money, and I am waiting for it with pain, every day. Oh, my dear child, life is so hard when one is alone, without any help. I really do not know how it will all end. Send the children ship tickets as quickly as possible so that they can get out of France, one does not know what can still come. In any case, they will then be with you. Why doesn't Isi write a few lines to me. I would be so glad if he could also write a few lines. Poor Felix is in a camp here in France already since May of last year and he will not get out until he can emigrate to another country. May be Betty's uncle, who is now in Portugal, can do something for him. Things are very bad for him. Betty has continuously send him packages, otherwise he would have starved already. Betty and I do not understand each other too well. She is a very funny woman, argumentative and jealous and I do not know for what. Uncle Heinrich is also here and Mr. & Mrs. Bidel all do not get along too well. It is sad that people do not understand each other in these times. Every one is nervous and excited, and if I consider what happened to all of us, it is frightful. Everything is spread out and scattered. I also wrote to the children and I hope that I will get an answer soon. My dear child always writes very quickly. Your letter took more than a month, and this was by air mail. The mail is now terribly slow, how is it my child that you do not know English yet? I already speak French so well that they do not believe that I am a foreigner, and I can also write it perfectly. Well this will all come, iust be patient. If you can send me papers, please do it, I will also try to get registered. Are all your things in Holland? That is very bad, because you cannot get them until after the war, and how long that will take, only G'd knows. What does aunt Anna write? how is she doing? does she still have enough to eat? because here one almost has nothing anymore. Here everything is on cards, eggs and butter are almost not known here anymore. I do not know what will happen if this will continue, people will probably starve, and everything is unbelievably expensive. Yes, this time will also have to be overcome. You and Isi were very lucky and left Europe very quickly. When the money comes, and the trip is not too expensive I will see that I can visit the children. I am writing to Aunt Anna via Mr. Frost, who is in Portugal, and it will go quicker than via America that way. Please write to me very soon, I beg you, with many kisses for you and Isi, your Erna

Letter - Thursday, December 19, 1941 My dear good parents and Bubi:

You cannot imagine how happy I am to send you a few lines. we are here were we were once before. We were in Paris to get the visa, but we did not get it yet. We will get the visa when we can show our ship tickets. The Visa is in Paris and we are in where it is not occupied. I hope that you got our air mail letter and hope for a quick answer. How are you? are you doing well? I do not know all the questions I have. How is the dear little Bubi? I am sure he has grown and it has been quite some time that we have not seen each other, and I am longing terribly to see each other again. Do you think that I would forget you for one second? Everything I do is not the same as it was with you. I hope that you are doing well, and I can say the same from us. We know French well land both of us go to school. I forgot much of the German, which you will probably notice in this letter. How are the Dr. Jakobs? are they doing well? give them many regards from me. Here we are together with Grinline and Friedel. Uncle Herman is in Paris and he was very dear and good to us. I have heard that there are children transports that now go to America. What a joy it will be when you one day get a letter from us from New York. Now I want to describe to you a little of what I do all day and how things are here. Many girls sleep together in a dormitory. We get up in the mornings, make our beds, wash and comb our hair, get dressed and have breakfast and then we go to school. Sundays and Thursdays we are free. We come home at noon to eat and then go right back to school. Then, at 4 o'clock we come home from school, we have something to eat and do our homework. Then we amuse ourselves. Sunday and Thursdays we have Hebrew and learn a lot, and on Shabbos we always have a nice celebration. In the evening we eat, and then we go to bed. I am closing my letter because it is evening. Masny regards and kisses your Susi sends you.

Many regards from Sabine and Friedel.

My dear parents and Bubi:

I wrote to you once already by air mail, and I hope that you have received it. How are you? we are doing very well. How is our hotly beloved, sweet Bubi? I hope that he is doing well. We are in a strictly kosher home. Shabbos is always celebrated and there is also a rabbi here. Please send us our ship tickets as quickly as possible. Dear parents also a visa for Hersch Feuer, he was always very good to us and did everything that he could for us, so please send it as quickly as possible.

Many regards and millions of kisses, your Joseph.

Letter - no date

Dear good Mutti

Didn't you get my letter? I am longingly waiting for mail. Please write right away together with Landsbergers. Health wise I am doing well, which I also hope from you dear Mutti and Bubi. What do you hear from dear Papa? Do you have your summons already? Bobi and I can hardly wait for the time that you will come and pick us up. Your Susi sends you many regards and kisses.

Many regards to all relatives and acquaintances. Ruth Landsberger sends you many regards. Hopefully you will be able to pick up your children soon and go to Anerica.

Letter no date

Dear good Mutti:

I learned with joy, from Ruth's parents that Papa is USA. Please send his address at once. When did he leave? and when can you dear Mutti and Bubi leave? I am very homesick and no day passes without my crying for you. Here, where we are, things are not good. We get up in the morning and go to the kitchen right away. We get a little milk while we are standing up, but what kind of milk? it is ¾ water and ¼ milk, and a little piece of white bread, and from this you even get hungrier. Then we sit all morning in a wooden hut where there are two tables, two benches and one stove. We also eat there, our food is bad and we get very little. Our beds are very small and the mattresses are straw. We have a very thin blanket with which we cover ourselves. I cannot sleep all night. I am freezing from night to morning and morning to night. Dear Mutti, when will the time come? Have other Jews emigrated already? What are our relatives doing? Many regards and kisses are sent to you by your Susi

Ruth Lansberg sends you heartiest regards. Hopefully you will be able to pick up your children soon.

Dear Mutti:

Just now Ruth Landsberg received a letter from her parents and heard that dear Papa went to USA. How are you and the dear golden Bubi? hopefully well. When did dear Papa leave for USA? Is he with relatives? Where are you dear Mutti living now? We are in a small home and it is very "trefe" (non kosher). One does not know when it is Shabbos or Friday, the people are very evil and stingy. One gets very little food. I had to sleep on the floor for a while in a hall. There are 13 children here. They cut off all Susi's hair, but she looks very nice that way. I am frightfully home sick. Does the dear Bubi talk a little more? I wish I had the sweet one here. I know a little French. Please write Papa's address to us at once. Please send Papa many regards and kisses from me and he should also write to us. Please write at once. Give ny and Susi's regards to everyone in the house. Many regards and kisses your Bobi.

Letter - February 24, 1941

My dear parents and Bubi:

We received with great pleasure your letter which was in the letter to Miss Cohn. We were tremendously pleased to hear from you, dear parents. We write to you regularly every week, and we only received the second letter from you. Things are very slow with the trip to America. I do not know much about our papers and ship tickets. To whom did you send the ship tickets? To which Consulate did you send a telegram? Dear Papa you write that soon you would pick us up at the airport. We are not coming by airplane. How is the sweet Bubi doing? isn't he golden that he still thinks of me? Are you still with Rabbi Dr. Jakobs? How are they? Please give them many regards from us. We have not received the postage that you wrote about. I do not believe that you can write to uncle Herman, as you cannot write from America to Paris, but you can try to write via another country. I have to close my letter because we have to do homework. Many regards and kisses are sent to you by your Susi.

My beloved parents and Bubi:

We received your letter through Miss Cohn and we were very happy with it. You wrote that you had enclosed a dollar but we have not received it. We received the letter open, without the dollar. The gentleman who takes care of the office said that we would get the dollar back. Herman Feuer lives in Paris and from Paris you cannot write to America, but his address is as follows: 31 rue de Sicile, Paris IV, France. You inquire there how to send the papers to Paris. We are coming with a transport, and this will go directly to New York. We hope that the transport will go soon, but it can take a while yet. It will certainly go faster when we have our ship tickets.

How are you doing, my dear parents? We are doing very well, which I also hope about dear Bubi. Here we learn English and we already know all the school words. We already know French very well. Susi is in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and I am in the 4<sup>th</sup>. I do not know what else to write and I am closing my letter. Many regards and millions of kisses, your Bobi, Joseph.

PS They do not call me Bobi any more, but Joseph. Give our regards to all our relatives. From here - J>S> Hilsenrath, Chateau de Morelles, Burit Vernet, (Allier) France

# Letter - December 7, 1939

### Dear good Mutti:

We received your letter with great pleasure and many thanks. I just came out of school. I am there already for 3 days. I know French already fairly well. It is written completely different than German. I was in the second class, and now I am in the first. I came into the first class because I could not read well. I did not receive the suitcases. I am in school almost all day. We get up in the morning, then we go to eat and then we go to school right away. We come home at noon and eat and go back to school right away. Then we come home around 4 o'clock and do our homework. Then we eat our evening meal and go to bed. This is how all the days pass. Only on Thursday and Sunday we have no school. Bobi will also go in a few days may be. We do not have Erna's address. I am doing well and I hope this also of you, Bubi and all relatives. Where are aunt Adele and uncle Philip going? Is Betty still there? I do not know a word of English any more. Many regards and kisses are sent you by your daughter Susi. Many also to all relatives and acquaintances.

## My dear Mutti and Bubi:

I received your dear letter with pleasure and was very happy with it. Are things in Gelsenkirchen as they were before. Did Papa send you the papers already? We have not heard one word from Erna. We received two letters from you via Miss Wolf. I am very glad that dear Papa is doing well. Do you get mail from him very often, dear Mutt? and what is he writing? We had mail from dear Papa once, and we answered him right away. Dear Mutti, until today we have not received Susi's suitcase. I feel very sad that the dear sweet Bubi is ill, hopefully he is healthy again in the meantime. We also had one card from Heilbronn. They want to come and visit us, but when is uncertain. I am doing ell, which I also hope from you. How are uncle Philip and aunt Adele doing? How far are they with their emigration? Please write to Erna that she should write to us. How is the sweet Bubi doing? Your Bobi sends you many regards and kisses. Ruth Lalndsberg sends you many regards. Many regards R. Wolf.

Letter - November 19, 1939

My dear Mutti and Bubi:

I received you letter with thanks and it gave me tremendous pleasure. Dear Mutti, always send your letters through Miss Wolf, then we always get the letters. Dear Mutti I am surprised that you do not say anything about the fact that we have lice. I am doing well, which I also hope from you and Bubi. What did Sister Superior say about things being so bad with us? What are the things that Erna is supposed to send us? How many weeks will it take yet until you can get us? I can't wait for the time. Who always goes shopping now?

How are things with you and do you like the upstairs apartment? From whom did you get the furniture? How are the dear relatives in America and Germany doing? We have not seen Walter Herschel yet, and it is a good thing that I did not take the game along. Many regards and kisses sends you your Bobi, another kiss to Bubi.

Many regards to all in the house and other acquaintances from me and Susi.

Please also send the mail with Landsberg and that way we get it much earlier.

Dear good Mutti and Bubi:

Yesterday, with thanks an joy we received your letter. I jumped in the air for joy. From dear Papa we received mail once. Papa wrote that you had sent me my clothes, but I have not received them, if you still have them do not send them to me, send them to America, as her they take everything away from us. I think I will be able to get along with what I have. Hopefully it will not take too long. I have not heard from Erna from Brussels. We fairly often go for walks. We have not seen any children from Kreuznach. Herman does not come to visit us. I believe, dear Mutti, that you have a lot of work now. What are you sending away in boxes? Did you not have a lift send ahead? Health wise I am doing well, and I hope the same from you. What does the golden Bubi do? does he still think of us? Does he not look for Papa? I can also knit, and when I come to you I will knit things for Bubi. How many days does a letter take to get to Papa? or do you write by airmail? Is Papa working already? is he now in New York?.

Many sincere regards and thousands of kisses from your Susi

Letter - Thursday, February 27, 1941

My dear parents and Bubi:

We received your dear letter through Miss Cohn and we have already answered through her. We write to you twice every week, but we hear almost nothing from you. Don't you write every week? Health wise we are doing well, which I also hope from you, dear parents and Bubi. We are going to school as usual, and we like it very much. We hope that for Passover or for my birthday, we will be with you. How is the sweet Bubi doing? How does he like America? How are you living in America? I cannot imagine your life. Where are all the relatives? are they doing well? We look quite different than before. I got heavy and big. Friedel and Sabine did not recognize me again. I look so frightful. Bobi is still the same but he also got tall and heavier. I will see to it that I will have a picture taken and then will be able to send it to you. Please send me one I do not have

your pictures any more. I am closing my letter because the page is full and Bobi does not leave me alone. Many regards and kisses send you Susi.

My dear parents and Bubi:

We write to you every week now, and this week we wrote two times. You dear Papa wrote to us that we do not write too much but we write to you every week. Since May, June we have received two letters from you. When we received the first letter I jumped with joy. Right after it we sent you an airmail letter, hopefully you got it. How are you my dear ones? we are doing very well. We celebrated Chanukah very nicely. The other children played "Snow White". In 15 days it will be Purim and we will play "Joseph" I am Joseph's servant. How is our sweet Bubi, hopefully good. I pray every morning. I am closing my letter. Many regards and millions of kisses, your Joseph Bobi.

Letter - Wednesday, March 5th, 1941

My dear parents and Bubi:

A few days ago we got the pleasant news that in a short time we will come to you and that we will come by airplane. You cannot imagine what a joy this was for us, and I believe that we will get to you before this letter. My thoughts are always with you and I cannot realize my luck. How is the sweet little Bubi doing? and you dear parents? I am already flying, and I have tremendous longing for you. Why do you not write about Dr. Jakobs? I just came from school and I am hurrying up to write a few words to you, but I have to close because we have to go to eat. Many regards and kisses sends you your Susi Look at my handwriting because I have hurt my hand a little bit. Also do not pay attention that we write you so little. Write at once, Susi

My dear parents and Bubi:

On Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, we received the following information: the director of the house called me after the meal and told me that in a few weeks we will leave by airplane. When I hear this I was overjoyed. How are you, we can tell the same from us. How is the dear Bubi? I hope that we will see him soon. I do not know what else to write, so I am closing my letter. Many regards and millions of kisses, your Joseph, Bubi.

Letter - April 4th, 1941

My dear parents and Bubi:

We already have had no news from you for 2 or 3 weeks. We spent the Seder evenings very nicely. The first evening we stayed up until 1:15. I felt a little sick because I am not used to staying up that late any more, but I have been well again right away. The second evening we stayed up until 12:30. A rabbi from Paris gave the Seder. Here the Matzoh are completely different than they were with us, they are round and rectangular, and small like cookies. How are you? and how is the sweet Bubi, hopefully he is doing well. We have mot heard much about our trip, and hope that we can leave soon. My dear ones, please send us a photo of yourselves with the house or with the car. We got the picture of Bubi. I am closing my letter. Many regards and a million kisses your beloved son Bobi Joseph.

Letter - December 27, 1939

Dear good Mutti and Bubi:

We received your letter with great joy. I am always unbelievably happy when I get mail from you. I do not know what is in the suitcase because it is in a room upstairs. Mrs. Zelizky paid the money for it, it cost 71 Franks. Please write to Papa that he does not have to send any money. Madam Zelizky is so good and is not asking for anything. Health wise I am doing fine and I hope the same from you and the dear Bubi and all acquaintances at home. At the moment I am not in school because of the Christmas vacations. Uncle Herman was here last week and may be we will go to a different home. In school we celebrated Christmas and I received a doll. Here you get a report card every month. My report card was very good. I have three times very, very god and one time very good, and all the others were good. I am the 4<sup>th</sup> best in the class. I can speak French very well already. I do not know a word of English any more. Are you learning English? When do you think that you will be able to leave? We look quite well. Many regards and millions of kisses from your Susi.

Dear Mutti and Bubi:

I received your dear letter with pleasure. I am doing well, which I hope from you and Bubi. We have heard anything from Papa yet. Please write him that he should write to us once. Where is the dear Papa? please write us his address. May be we will come into a different home. Uncle Herman visited us once and we were in Paris. He is very surprised that you do not write to him. We had mail once from dear Erna. Heilbronn does not bother about us.

Dear Bobi is making "Motzeh" (blessing) and does not want to write. Now is the 28<sup>th</sup> and Bobi has thought about it. Herman found us to be well. Many regards and kisses are sent to you by Bobi. Many regards to all from me and Susi.

January 8, 1940 - Enclosed is the letter from your children, which I received today. Regards R. Wolf.

Note - no date

My dear Papa

I am writing this letter for your birthday. I hope that we will come to you soon. How are you doing my dear beloved Papa? We will also write something for the dear Mutti. Today I do not know how to write much, and close my letter. Many regards, and millions of kisses from your son, Joseph Bobi.

Letter - March 10, 1941

My dear Iso and Anny

Four days ago I sent you an urgent telegram and today to my greatest shock I received it back with the note "unknown". Dear Betty also wrote an urgent airmail letter to you last week to explain our urgent circumstances. I now have several days of furlough, and for the first time, in over ten months, I am together with wife and child. I have been interned in a camp here in France for over six months and with the help of my uncle David, who is in Portugal, I am in an emigration camp since 4 weeks. In this camp you have to prepare

an emigration from France as quickly as possible, and if you cannot leave within three months I will go back again into the old camp. You cannot imagine what this means for me. For me it means a question of life, and then I am lost. How happy I was when the telegram was sent to you, and I know for sure that you would have helped me right away. Now this valuable time has been lost, and every day is very important. I would like to send another telegram, but I am afraid that it would also come back. This is why I am again sending you this air mail letter with the urgent request that you help me at once out of my desperate situation. My whole life is at stake and all I want is to spend the rest of my life in peace as I am only 33 years old and have a wife and child. Dear Iso and dear Anny, that is why I am begging you with my whole heart and I entreat you to urgently help me and my wife and child. I will reimburse you all expenses, no matter how high, honestly and promptly. I will make available to you all of my assets, sell my last piece of jewelry, my last ring. I will give you everything, only help me, you are the only one that can help me. I have no one I can turn to otherwise. You are the only one who has the ability to act fast, so I have complete and firm confidence that you will not leave me behind. The situation in which I am is extremely urgent, please do no lose one hour, or one minute to take all steps to take all means at your disposal. You have to understand our sad situation, and do not pass over it lightly, because my whole life is at stake. Please send me right away a good, strong affidavit for Betty, child and myself. They have to be accompanied by copies of tax returns which have to be notarized, and then have these tax returns photocopied, and then I will also need a moral affidavit. I hope that you are fully aware which papers, etc. one needs for this. I am saying it again, affidavit, all tax documents and moral affidavit. I am convinced that you are well informed about all of this. I was born in Rosulna, Poland on October 23, 1907, at this time I am stateless, formerly Polish. Betty was born in Rozniatow, Poland on November 16, 1914. Bernie was born in Wiessen, Germany on May 13, 1938. We are stateless, formerly Polish. Believe me I will repay you for everything and I will not owe you anything. This is my miserable and sad situation in which I find myself. Immediately after receipt of this letter send me an acknowledgment by telegraph that you will send me the required affidavits, etc. immediately, because I will need urgent proof that I will be able to emigrate shortly. If I cannot bring any proof of emigration I am lost. Please, my valuable Isis, understand the situation in which I am, and I am appealing to your good heart, to your entire strength and ability for my further future. Hopefully these lines will reach you and I am already waiting with longing and impatience for your favorable reply. In any case, immediately send me a confirmation that the affidavits for me are on the way. This is of the utmost importance to me and this means my entire future to me. Hopefully you understood me well. In the meantime, a thousand regards and kisses to you, Anny and child, your forever grateful cousin Felix. Felix Knoll, Camp de Mille, Group 13, B. du Rh. France