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8-23-1941

### Henri Temianka correspondence, Gurs

Henri Temianka

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Henri Temianka correspondence, Gurs

HENRI TEMIANKA,  
34 Edwards Avenue,  
Sausalito, Calif.

August 23, 1941

Mr. William May Garland,  
1200 W.M. Garland Building,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

Dear Mr. Garland,

My mother and father, according to a cable just received, are in the concentration camp at Gurs, Unoccupied France. They were trying to reach Spain, on the strength of the Cuban visas and sailing reservations from Bilbao which I had recently obtained for them.

You have been more than generous in your response to my earlier appeal to you some months ago, and I would not approach you again were it not for the extreme gravity of the present situation of my parents.

When you wrote in my behalf to M. Francois Pietri, French Ambassador to Spain, he replied expressing his interest in the case, but added that on account of my parents' Polish nationality he would have to await a favorable occasion before intervening in their favor. The explanation for this is that my parents were then in Belgium and consequently under German rule.

The situation, as far as M. Pietri is concerned, would now appear to be entirely different. My parents are now in the unoccupied part of France which M. Pietri represents, and they wish to reach Spain, the country to which he is accredited. He might feel that at this time he would be able to effect an official proceeding in their favor.

If you think it would be possible for you to cable to M. Pietri, advising him of this new situation and appealing for his help, I should be more grateful to you than I can say. More than likely all that my parents need is an exit permit from the Vichy Government, possibly also a Spanish (transit) visa. A word from a man like M. Pietri might clear their status immediately.

Please let me be responsible for any expenses for cabling etc.

Hoping that you will find it possible to help me,

Yours gratefully,