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THE FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF THE MILITARY ATTACHE
AMERICAN EMBASSY

Baghdad, Iraq
14 Feb 1949

Mr. Alex (Aleksei) Kurgvel
Essex Camp, Artillery Barracks
(23) Lingen-Ems, Germany, Br. Z.

Dear Mr. Kurgvel:

I was very much pleased to receive your nice letter a short time ago and to learn that you and your family are at least safe in Germany. I of course remember both you and your wife very well, and our friendship in Tallinn.

I presume that you are in the British Zone.

I have discussed your problem with one of our Consuls and he gave me the following advice:

If you desire to emigrate to the US you should get in touch with one of the American Consulates in Germany, which are located in the following cities: Berlin, Bremen, Bremerhaven, Frankfurt on the Main, Hamburg, Munich, and Stuttgart; or else get in touch with one of the roving American teams which are questioning DPs with an idea of their emigration to the US under the DP Act. It is believed that it would be much easier to go to the US under DP Act than under the Estonian quota which, in all probability, has long since been filled.

I should, of course, be glad to vouch for you and your family, as I am willing to state that both of you had an excellent reputation when I knew you in Tallinn.

It also might be possible to emigrate to Canada, which also has received a number of DPs from the Baltic States. The Canadian authorities, of course, could give you information about this matter: I unfortunately do not have any such information and can not obtain it here as there is no Canadian representative in Baghdad.

The only Estonian friend of ours whom I have seen in recent years is the former Mrs. Mollerson, who is now married to Mr. Harry R. Stritman, a member of the American Embassy in Rome. The only American officer whom I know well in Frankfurt is Colonel Robert A. Snow, the Deputy Director of Intelligence, as we served together in the War Department before World War II.

With all best wishes for both of you, I am,
Sincerely yours,

(Signature)
W.E. SHIPP
Colonel, GSC
Military Attache

Certified true copy:
Lingen/Ems,
12 June 1949

A. Kurgvel
A. Kurgvel

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