

N. Poppe  
UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF FAR EASTERN AND  
SLAVIC LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE  
SEATTLE 5, WASHINGTON

November 11th 1949.

Dear Mr. Offie,

I thank you very much for your letter of November 3rd. It is very kind of you that you do not insist upon the article you have asked me to write but now I have decided to try to write it though there is little material here. If you do not mind I shall write only what I myself know and I hope you will find there something of practical interest. The matter is that I do not like not keeping my promises and I am used to fulfil what I promise. I am very satisfied that there are some indications that my opinions seem to be shared by certain people. I mean the news concerning a treaty with Japan. On the other hand I am unhappy that my predictions are usually more or less true.

I thank you very much for your promise of help in bringing my sons to this country and I am afraid I must ask you to undertake something in order to settle this question. The matter is that I can support them and I send them money every month as their earnings are quite insufficient. I even asked them to leave their work and to start learning at a university as what they earn is so little that there would be no difference if they did not work at all. But this is impossible as the Labor Ministry tells them that people who have come to Great Britain as workers must work but not learn. On the other hand, the British willingly take their dollars. My boys spend there more dollars than many tourists do. Nevertheless they do not enjoy any rights and are wasting their time. Their sojourn in Great Britain has become charity for the British but unfortunately a very expensive and unprofitable for themselves.

As now their papers are perfectly all right and the British have written to me that everything is now up to me I am asking you to undertake something. First, I even do not know what I must do. Must I undertake anything, for instance

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Must I send an affidavit? It is extremely difficult to get any information here. Nobody knows anything. They tell me, sometimes, that maybe the boys can not come at all as there is no quota as I myself have not come on a DP visa but on a special visa, and so on. But if I have not come on a DP visa why had I to undergo all those IRO procedures in Frankfurt? At any rate I am asking you to push this through the official channels and, perhaps, you can persuade your friends to do something, be it something unusual, as my case too, was not a usual one and, besides, I guess this favor can be done to me as I certainly am more useful to the United States as many other DPs. Besides, I very well know that even people who are not DPs, who are old emigrants from Russia and who always lived in Western Germany have succeeded in coming to this country as they have friends in the IRO and the Tolstoy organization which - I do not know - is a very versatile organization. Life could be very happy for me in this country if I could have my boys here, let them study, and live together with them instead of sending all my earnings to them for nothing.

Very sincerely yours,

*N. Poppe*

**SECRET**

*J. H. K.*

ATTENTION : Mr. Assistant Director for Policy and Coordination  
Mr. Assistant Director for Operations

14 November 1949

Immigration to US of Dr. Nicholas H. POPPE's Two Sons.

1. Several times during the past few months Dr. Poppe, who is now a contact of this Office under exploitation with continuing requirements, has asked for our advice and aid in bringing his sons to this country. Upon each occasion, he informed us that US Government representatives had promised to effect the entry of his sons, Nicholas and Valery Poppe (Keres) as expeditiously as possible. In order to clarify the exact nature of these promises, and to ascertain whether or not they constitute a commitment, we asked Dr. Poppe to write an account of all statements made to him, both in Germany and in the US, concerning this subject. Attached is a copy of Dr. Poppe's account, from which we infer interest in the case on the part of your Office.

2. This Office feels that the statements made to Dr. Poppe while he was in Germany place the US Government under a commitment to bring his sons to the US with as little delay as possible. Presumably it will entail considerable effort on the part of the General Counsel's Office to effect the sons' entry with any speed, since they will have to be reinstated as Displaced Persons immediately. We have made inquiries as to other methods of bringing them to the US, but the only practical solution appears to be their immediate reinstatement with CIA assistance as Displaced Persons under IRO jurisdiction in Germany and subsequent entry into the US under the DP Act.

3. We believe that the efforts necessarily entailed in bringing the boys to the US is justified, primarily because of the statements made to Dr. Poppe in Germany, and secondarily because Dr. Poppe's value as a continuing contact will be impaired by failure on our part to fulfill what he considers an official commitment to him by officials of the US Government. This is aside from any possible effect on the overall interests of the Defector Program which might result from failure to act in the case.

4. The General Counsel's Office will not, under established procedures, take action in this case unless provided with statements of interest and recommendation from all the parties concerned. Since time is of the essence in effecting the entry of Dr. Poppe's sons to the US, we would appreciate a prompt expression of your concurrence with this Division in recommending to the Office of the General Counsel that appropriate action be initiated.

*Not sent - rewritten by [unclear]  
See next enclosure [unclear]*

cc: [unclear] Job [unclear] Office

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