

Levi Pennington

People

8-9-1965

Pennington to Mr. & Mrs. Djordje Zikvu, August 9, 1965

Levi T. Pennington

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August 9, 1965.

Mr. and Mrs. Djordje Zivku,
AAI Camp Capua,
Caserta.

Dear Friends:--

You will be interested to know that the Refugee Committee of the Newberg Friends Church, of which I am chairman, yesterday agreed to sponsor you for resettlement in the United States, and we shall be interested to know from time to time of the progress of your plans to come to this country, and to this Pacific coast state.

We have learned something about you through the American Friends Service Committee, and you may wish to know something about us who are seeking to help you to get here and to get established in the new surroundings here.

You may know something about the Friends Church, quite commonly called the Quakers. This church, of which all the members of our committee are members, has many enterprises in many parts of the world through which we try to show our love to God and our love to man in service of many different kinds, one of which is the help we give to those who have been compelled to leave the place that was once their home and come to another land.

Our committee have had the privilege of helping a number of persons before we decided that we could undertake to help you. Our first enterprise of this kind was the help of a German family whose former home was in Bessarabia, from which they had been forced to move, with the loss of all their farm and property except what they could carry. They lived in Austria, Poland, East Germany and in West Germany, where they lived for seven years, father and mother and three teen-age children, ~~for seven years~~. The parents are now living on a farm of their own, two of the three children are married and have homes of their own, and we are glad indeed that we were able to help them.

When this family was settled and doing well, we sponsored a man and his wife from Czecho-Slovakia, and they are now living in Ohio, more than 2000 miles from here, and doing well.

Next we sponsored a Dutch-Indonesian family of four, father and mother and two sons, one four years old and the other one year old. They are now living near Portland, both parents employed, and all going well with them.

Then we sponsored a Dutch-Indonesian unmarried young man, who went to school for a time here, and is now back in Holland and married to a Dutch young woman who was sponsored by some friends living near Newberg, and they are to be back here before this month ends. Both of them have jobs awaiting them.

And now we are looking forward to having you with us,

we hope soon, though it sometimes takes months and months to get all done that has to be done before you can come to America.

Our information is that you speak only the Serbo/croat language, and none of our committee can speak that tongue. If there is any chance for you to learn any English before you come, that would be helpful both to you and to us. But if you can't get any English before you get here, we'll get along somehow. And you'll learn our tongue, as the Vosslers did and others whom we have become our friends and neighbors, as we hope some day you will be.

With best wishes all the time, and the hope that it may not be long till we can meet you face to face,

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington,
Chairman Refugee Committee,
Newberg Monthly Meeting, Friends Church.

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