

April 3, 1940

Mr. Cameron McKenzie  
c/o Friday, Inc.  
114 E. 32 Street  
New York City

Dear Cameron:

I have the State Department angle you wanted on the Bata story. Briefly, this is it:

There were three meetings between Hull and Jan Bata during the time Bata was trying to arrange for permits for Czech workers. On the 29th of Last September, while the Labor Department officials were conferring with the representatives of other government departments interested and with a representative of the shoe workers union, Senator Tydings, whose law firm is retained by Bata, had lunch with Secretary Hull and was promised permission to bring 500 additional Czechs in.

Hull made known his intention of going over the heads of officials of the Immigration Service but immediate pressure from Senator Wagner and Representative Rogers of Massachusetts forced Secretary Perkins to insist upon this permission not being granted. These 500 workers, by the way, were to come in not under the quota.

I assume that you still plan for Dick to be here ~~this~~ weekend and I will have the dates of the various conferences between Bata and Hull, quotes, etc., by then. Will you please let me know if his or your plans change.

Yours truly,

Harold