

Addendum to Item 10: (Genealogical research in the USA and South America)

I'd like to refer to my discourse in Wiesbaden on October 1988 and in La Grange, Texas, on April 1989, and today I want to report again on my successful research work. For my hobby-type research in South America, and especially in Brazil, I have contact with the following organizations and people:

- consulate general of the FRG in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (since February 1987)
- German Club in Rio de Janeiro (since March 1987)
- German newspaper in Sao Paulo (since March 1987)
- Hans-Staden-Institute in Sao Paulo (since March 1987)
- Brasil-Post in Sao Paulo (since April 1987)
- Ancestors data base of the BdF in Bonn, West Germany (since January 1988)
- radio amateur Schlegel from Mörlenbach, West Germany (since March 1988)
- radio amateur "Herbert" from Brusque, Brazil (since March 1988)
- radio station Blumenau, Brazil (since April 1988)
- International Red Cross, Geneva, Switzerland (since September 1988)
- principal Harry Rückert, San Leopoldo, Brazil (since May 1989)
- teacher Friedhold Altmann, Lajeado, R. do Sul, Brazil (since May 1989)

After my return from the US family reunion in May 1989, I finally received mail from our cousin Beatriz Paula Willrich (No. 198 of the old family tree). She wrote because of an advertisement in the German "Brasil-Post." Beatriz is the daughter of the marriage of Albert Willrich (No. 193 - DGB 109, page 595-596) with Elvira de Lopes. Albert Willrich emigrated to Rio de Janeiro prior to World War I as an official of the German overseas bank. In the mean time we have exchanged many letters with Beatriz (unfortunately in Portugese), and she gave me the addresses of 13 Willrichs who are living in Brusque. I wrote to all 13 namesakes and in the meantime I have received 5 replies and 3 partial family trees which go back to the immigrated great-grandfather Gustavo Willrich, born November 3, 1866, who was married with Albertina Jandt, born in Oldenburg, Germany. The father of Gustavo Willrich was supposed to be Johan (?) Willrich. Because of the difficult connections with our line I cannot make progress without further details, and therefore I have contacted cousin Gisela Willrich from Hannover to help me as intermediary to our archives in Pattensen. - Upon recommendation of the former teacher Friedhold Altmann from Lajeado, Brazil, I could come into contact with a German principal, Harry Rückert of Sao Leopoldo/RS., Brazil. From him I could get the address of Guilherme Ludwig, a son of Herta Willrich-Ludwig, Sao Leopoldo (No. 170 - DGB 109, page 631). - The sisters of Herta Willrich-Ludwig are called Hildegard Willrich, born November 27, 1915 (No. 169) and Ilse Willrich, born December 31, 1920 (No. 171). The father of these 3 sisters was called Julius-Christoph August Willrich, born September 10, 1875 (No. 132), who was married to Luise Pechmann in Brazil. Quintessence: Even if the search for blood relatives is difficult at times, in the end a successful clarification of some fate is rewarding, even if the relative is or has been living far away in South America.



Regarding the USA I want to mention that I visited and interviewed many blood relatives in Canada and the USA prior to the family reunion in Texas: Professor Mason Willrich from San Francisco, and his son Stephen Willrich, born March 30, 1963, who became world champion in wind surfing in Hawaii in 1989. I also did many visits in Austin, Texas, with Ron and Agnes Wilkinson and Margaret M. Hankamer. In Houston, Texas, I visited Katharina and Joe Powell, Ann M. Atkinson and daughter Sue Lawson with husband Harry, etc. I want to mention about the US family reunion that this large reunion took place on three days in La Grange with about 200 Willrich descendants. Also a German delegation with 7 relatives of our cousinship was present. I myself participated in this well-organized and impressive family reunion for the forth time now. I collected many facts and new data and had interesting meetings. I won 3 new paying members for our cousinship and received 385 US \$ of outstanding membership fees. All in all this was crowned with success and it was an encouraging proof of our Willrich fellowship that extends across two continents.

Thank you very much.