

1st January, 1949.

[1.1.49]

Mr. Abba Schwartz,
1822 Jefferson Place,
N.W. Washington 6 D.C.

Dear Abba,

Further to my letter of the 12th of December re Swiss-Polish Agreement, I have to tell you that things have developed in a rather quick way but I am unable to judge if the developments are proceeding in a good or bad direction in respect of the Reparation Fund negotiations with Switzerland.

It seems that the signal to attack Switzerland was given with the article of Michael Hoffmann in the New York Times of the 7th of December. I did not see the article, but correspondents of Israeli papers transmitted the contents to their papers and it is now more than a week that the papers are giving a lot of attention to that matter and the Swiss got as much as they deserve.

A few days ago I spoke to Mr. Linton who told me that he, too, got busy and it is quite possible that part of the press action here is to put on his credit. He prepared a short memorandum and intended to see the Swiss Consul, but I have not heard if that conversation took place and what results it brought, probably not more than the promise of the Consul to transmit the memorandum to his Government.

In the meantime some developments took place in Geneva mainly by the joint action of Mr. Isenbergh and Mr. James Rice. I am sending you herewith copies of two reports which I received from Jimmy and copy of a note which Mr. Kingsley has sent to Mr. Zutter of the Swiss Foreign Office. I don't know if Isenbergh informed Rubin about this part of the affair. If not, please keep this information confidential because I would not like to disturb my relations with Jimmy who proved to be a very useful source of information for me. I am not happy about the whole tenor of Mr. Kingsley's note to Mr. Zutter. It is somehow clumsily formulated and does not make an impression. The draft note of Isenbergh and Rice would have been better.

I am worried about your silence in respect of the note to the Swiss and I am also wondering if there is any progress in Italy. By the way, how far has the Diamond affair developed.

ארכיון הציוני המרכזי

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You will understand that it is more than personal curiosity if I ask all these questions, but the Agency is so short of money that a week does not pass without the Treasurers asking me if I have got anything to report, and in that respect I depend entirely on you, so please don't hesitate and send some good news as soon as possible.

Here in Israel this Sunday is an ordinary working day, but you in Washington have probably celebrated the New Year, so take my best wishes for this occasion and let it be a good and successful year for you and Rubin.

Kind regards,

S. Adler-Rudel.

/tl

מרכז המחקר והמידע

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