

L. SCHIFF.

TELEGRAMS: SCHIFF SHELL HELSINKI.  
TELEPHONE: 20 861, (PRIVATE 38 817).

HEIKINKATU 1,  
HELSINKI.

October 20th, 1939.

Personal.

Risto Ryti, Esq.,  
Governor of the Bank of Finland,  
Helsinki.

Dear Mr. Ryti,

With reference to our conversation of today I take pleasure in sending you, for your own information, two documents which, I think, might be of some interest to you. One is a copy from our files of a letter to London dated the 10th instant and concerning remittances; the other one is a personal letter just received from our friends in Oslo concerning storage or transshipments of benzine for Finland. Minister von Fieandt has arranged for a meeting for 11 o'clock tomorrow for discussing the supply questions and I am going then to take up also this matter. You will oblige by returning to me the enclosures.

Yours very sincerely,

*L. Schiff*

2 Enclosures



G U A R A N T E E .

The undersigned bank hereby guarantees prompt payment net cash by cable transfer to the Bank of The Manhattan Company, 40 Wall Street, New York, for account of Kristiansands og Oplands Privatbank to the credit of Falconbridge Nikkelverk, Kristiansand, in dollars against shipping documents for about 1000 kilos Nickel in cut-up cathodes "Falconbridge" brand, bought by Oy Telko Ab, Helsingfors, at USA cents 40 per lb cif Helsingfors or Åbo.

It is also guaranteed that the extra expenses which arise through the despatch of the lot by rail from Kristiansand to Stockholm and further by vessel to Helsingfors or Åbo instead of by the ordinary sea route, will be paid on presentation of the documents.

Helsingfors, October 23rd 1939



Copy.

Shell

Norsk-Engelsk Mineralolie Aktieselskab

Oslo 19.10.1939

Personal.

L. Schiff, Esq.,

O/Y Shell A/B.,

Helsingfors.

Dear Mr. Schiff,

I write to you because I have had several calls from our Government's Supply Department demanding details of our stock arrangements for Finland, and the reason why this is done.

I much regret to have to inform you that the Government is not at all satisfied with this state of things, because they are now in for a scheme whereby certain minimum reserve stocks should be secured for our country to meet emergencies.

The size of these reserve stocks of benzine is so high that the present tankage facilities are insufficient. The Government has therefore been negotiating with the oil companies and it is no doubt that they will demand an increase of the present bulk stocks so as to accommodate at least a reserve stock equivalent to 3 months trade plus the ordinary working stocks. In order to push this matter, the Government have chartered hitherto three tank vessels for benzine, and these have recently arrived in Norway. The problem is now, however, that no spare bulk storage is available for two of these three cargoes, and the Government has consequently cast their eyes on whatever bulk storage which might be free. It is understandable therefore that they are not happy about our arrangement providing you with tank storage ashore, whilst the Government's own stocks must be stored in tank vessels. I give you all these details because I fear that in a very short while our company will be requested to put all free tankage capacities at the disposal of our Government. I may add that it was not without difficulty that I obtained the export license for the benzine by m.v. "SAN-



Blad Nr. 2. Fra Norsk Engelsk Mineralolie Aktieselskab

Til: L. Schiff, Esq.,  
Helsingfors.

Oslo den 19.10.1939

DANGER" & Seierstad.

As you will be aware there remain still at Oslo about 1.000 tons benzine for your account, and the m.v. "SEIRSTAD" is unloading today further 2.000 tons benzine for Finland. The transhipments to Finland have not been effected so quickly as I anticipated, and I now learn that both the m.v. "TRIPP" and the m.v. "MYLLA" are loading at Standard's installation for Finland. For the reasons outlined above I think it is essential that you hurry up the transhipments to Finland from our installations, and in the same connection I must ask for your reply as to what arrangements you have been able to make to fetch the 1.000 tons Aviation Spirit alongside the m.v. "GRENA" which is expected to Oslo about the 10th November. I have tried in vain to procure any outside tonnage for such transport, and I would therefore once more ask you to consider seriously to send the m.v. "SIGRID" to take this consignment.

On the same occasion I should like<sup>e</sup> to touch the 3.000 tons benzine and 1.000 tons Kerosene which is consigned to you by m.v. "GARONNE" loading at Curacao on the 19th October for Svolveaer, Aalesund and southward.- I am still without your reply as to how you think transport could be effected to Finland for these quantities. If I understood you right last time this question was discussed, you would not be able to receive any quantities in bulk, and in view of what I have maintained in the beginning of this letter, I think it would be as well to reduce your share of the m.v. "GARONNE"s cargo now, as I think we should otherwise encounter difficulties from the Authorities. I should suggest that your portion is reduced to, say, 1.000 tons benzine and 500 tons kerosene, which no doubt will prove sufficient for your requirements in drums for a long period to come. By that time we shall probably have fresh supplies again on our west and north coast, and might be able to store a new small quantity for your account, unless the Authorities should in the meantime have put a definite embargo on all exports of oil products, or have strictly forbidden to use our bulk facilities for



Blad Nr. 3. Fra Norsk Engelsk Mineralolie Aktieselskag  
Til: L. Schiff, Esq., Oslo den 19.10.1939.  
Helsingfors.

other countries' requirements.

I trust that you will appreciate the situation as it actually is, and that I forthwith will continue to do my utmost in order to assist your company within the laws of this country. I shall be glad to have your reactions to this letter at your earliest convenience. As I think it necessary to keep Mr. Quarles au fait with the above, I send a copy of this letter to London.

With kind regards,  
yours sincerely  
/epäselvä nimi/

cc. Mr. Quarles, London  
AA/KK.



Copy.

October 10, 1939.

№ 1/977/39.  
=====

G. de Boer Esq.,  
St. Helens Court,  
Great St. Helens,  
London E.C.3.

Dear Mr. de Boer,

REMITTANCES

I am in possession of your telegram № 119, of the 6th inst.,  
reading:

" oneonenine your sixthreeseven does this mean finnish marks  
no longer free currency and firms or persons possessing  
finnish marks have these blocked stop if so please mail  
full details restrictions in force and date from which  
applicable stop if finnish marks still free kindly act  
upon our oneonefour "

and replied on the 7th inst. as follows:

" sixfourone oneonenine in law finnish currency unrestricted  
but in actual practice finland's bank aswellas other banks  
sell foreign currency only for payment of imports writing. "

As you will have seen from my answer, the Finnish currency  
is free and theoretically there are no official restrictive regu-  
lations which would forbid payments abroad. Also in practice the  
banks have hitherto put the foreign currency at disposal for pay-  
ments of the necessary new import<sup>s</sup> as well as for payments of debts  
due for the earlier imports.

In this way we were able to remit on the 12th ult. and 20th  
ult., against our old debt, \$ 80.000.- and \$ 42.773.66 respective-  
ly, for your account to the Irving Trust Co., and on the 7th inst.  
direct to you £ 829.4.2. We have also remitted for new joint im-



to G. de Boer esq.

№ 1/977/39

10.10.1939.

- 2 -

ports on the 22nd and 29th ult. to the Irving Trust Co. for your account \$ 50.366:61 and \$ 100.536:25 respectively, and through Standard on the 26th ult. \$ 202.634:25 to New Jersey.

Seeing that the country's export is to a great extent impeded under the prevailing war conditions abroad, the imports have also to be adjusted which must be naturally regarded as a fair and necessary measure. The imports are checked by a new ministry now under organisation and called Ministry of Supplies. Licences for the imports necessary are granted by this ministry at their discretion. The control of imports started on the 18th September last. Neither we nor Standard have hitherto had any difficulties in providing import licences. We understand that the banks put the foreign currency continuously at disposal for payments of imports licenced. Mr. R. von Fieandt, director of the Nordiska Föreningsbanken, has been appointed Minister of this new Ministry and it is with him and his Department we have to deal in regard to the new imports.

By the remittance<sup>6</sup>/mentioned above, our old debt to the APC should be practically taken paid in full. As to new payments to the APC, this depends on the extent to which the APC will be able to provide us with products and the extent to which foreign currency will be available for these imports. We may also mention that in agreement with the Finlands Bank, the private banks do not until further put foreign currency at disposal for any other purposes than most necessary imports.

I hope that by this letter we have made the present situation in regard to remitting money abroad clear to you.

Yours very truly,  
(signed) L.Schiff

JB/HP  
cc. 1 L, 1 JB  
1 w.o., 2 f/Secr.



Koska Suomen Pankki tänään on minulle luovuttanut

£ 3.300.--

hl:lleni "HILDA" Leith'issä karttuneita korjaus -  
y.m. kuluja varten, sitoudun täten luovuttamaan  
Suomen Pankille kaikki ulkomaan valuutta, jonka tästä  
päivästä lähtien saan haltuuni, paitsi laivan kustannuk-  
siin välttämättömiä kuluja ulkolaisissa satamissa.

Helsinki, lokakuun 18 p:nä 1939.

*A. F. Honen*

Todistavat

*F. Malin*

*G. Berlin*