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WORLD JEWISH CONGRESS

Geneva, December 30, 1955

Dr. Maurice L. Perlzweig
World Jewish Congress
New York

Dear Maurice,

I have just received the enclosed letter of Mr. Tamir, the lawyer of Malkiel Gruenwald in the Kastner case. I suppose you have received a similar enquiry.

It is, of course, clear that Kastner never got any authority from me nor you nor from the Agency to intervene on our behalf for Becher. As far as I know he has even admitted during the trial, when Dobkin or somebody else denied that the Agency had given any authority, that his statement had not been correct. The matter has not been pursued further as far as the role of the Congress is concerned.

However, as this is a trial of a most political character, I wonder whether we should make any statements at all. I certainly do not want to be called in as a witness against Kastner. I think that we should adopt the same attitude in this matter and I would therefore ask you to let me know your opinion.

I am sending copy of this to Alex as well as to Dr. Tartakower as they may have both something to say on this whole affair.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

/s/

Gerhart M. Riegner