

SECRET

16 November 1954
New York

As regards the question concerning the recent trip to London, I can now tell you about the letter which was waiting for me from London with new guesses on the purpose of this trip. The Londoners were surprised by the sudden arrival of the American guest, as he had been expected two weeks later for the birthday of the old gentleman. There are various guesses, as nothing official has been announced regarding the purpose of the trip. The first guess is that the matter of Z.'s successor was discussed and that R. Kampus, Charge d'Affaires in Spain, has been chosen. That could not be true, as Z. and K. do not get along well. Besides, Z. would consider any talk about his possible successor as a sign of his expected death. He is always telling people that he is feeling younger and better than ever before. It may be that this is so. I also received a letter today from Z. He only mentions that he had a visitor from our country in the last few days.

Another topic of discussion is connected with the recognition of sovereignty of the Bonn Government, and in that connection the matter of a possible Latvian representative.

Zarins does not like Liepins, but he can not ignore him. Therefore it seems that L. is to be appointed, if there is such a possibility. And he can not do anything bad. The money is in Washington. Those who do not obey may have their credit cut a little bit, and those who obey will maybe get a little more. That is the way good parents always handle their obedient and their disobedient children.

However, the real reason is probably the question of next year's budget. The late Feldmanis did not agree with London in this respect. In London the request was made for \$10,000 for building repairs, but F. refused to ask for credit from the State Department. At least that is what he told me about this conflict. I am convinced that the people in Washington now will be more obedient and therefore the budget should be a good one. And you can not draw up a budget by mail, especially when there is not much time. Kindly destroy this letter after reading it, or else return it to me. That would be best.

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