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Authority NND 760050
By SL NARA Date 2/4/97

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125

Stockholm March 16 - 1948
F/A

APR 8 1948

AMERICAN EMBASSY
Stockholm, Sweden, March 16, 1948.

No. 125

RESTRICTED

Subject: Transmittal of Note Concerning Transfer of
7,155.32664 Kilograms of Fine Gold to the
Account of the Tripartite Commission for
the Restitution of Monetary Gold with the
Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

SAFEHAVEN

Recd.
Mar. 24

ACTION
OFD

INFO The Honorable
OCD The Secretary of State,
FC Washington.
FR
DCR
EUR

Sir:

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I have the honor to refer to the Department's telegram
No. 134 of March 2, 1948, repeated to Brussels as No. 300,
and this Embassy's telegram No. 343 of March 16, 1948,
repeated to Brussels as No. 4, concerning the transmittal
of a note to the Swedish Government in connection with
the transfer of 7,155.32664 kilograms of fine gold to the
account of the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution
of Monetary Gold with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

CIA
TREAS
FRB

There is enclosed herewith a copy of Note No. 58 which
was delivered to the Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs on
March 15, 1948. Notes along similar lines were delivered
by the British and the French Embassies on the same date.

Respectfully yours,

For the Ambassador:

Hugh S. Curring, Jr.
Counselor of Embassy

Enclosures:

1. Copy of Note No. 58,
March 15, 1948, from
American Embassy
Stockholm to Royal
Ministry for Foreign
Affairs.

Original and Hectograph
transmitted to Department
March 16, 1948.
File No. 851
kDorhauser:ech

Copy to: American Embassy, Brussels
for Dorr.

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Authority NND 760050

By SL NARA Date 2/14/97

APR 8 1948

Despatch No. 1 to Despatch No. 125 of March 16, 1948 from the American Embassy at Stockholm, entitled "Transmittal of Note regarding Transfer of 7,155.32664 Kilograms of Fine Gold to the account of the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York."

RESTRICTED

American Embassy,
Stockholm.

The Embassy of the United States of America presents its compliments to the Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs and, on instructions, has the honor to refer to the exchange of letters on German assets in Sweden, concluded on July 18, 1946, between the Government of Sweden and the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom, and France.

It will be recalled that in paragraphs 4a and 4b of the basic letter of the Washington Agreement, the Government of Sweden, in pursuance of its policy to restitute looted property, agreed to effect restitution to the Allies of all gold acquired by Sweden and proved to have been taken by the Germans from occupied countries, including any such gold transferred by the Swedish Riksbank to third countries. On the basis of evidence available at the time of the Washington discussions, which was to be the subject of further checking, a statement of assumption was included in the exchange of letters that the Swedish Government would restitute 7,155.32664 kilograms of fine gold corresponding to the quantity of gold deriving from the Bank of Belgium which was acquired by the Swedish Riksbank.

It is the understanding of the United States Government, that although the identification of the 7,155.32664 kilograms of fine gold has definitely been established, the Swedish Government is at present studying the question of whether such gold may be legally defined as loot and therefore subject to restitution.

It is the opinion of the United States Government that the language of paragraphs 4a and 4b of the basic letter exchanged on July 18, 1946, clearly resolves the question of restitution of the so-called Belgian gold leaving in abeyance only the matter of its technical identification. Accordingly, it is understood that such gold has now been properly identified on the basis of evidence presented by the Allies, it is the view of the United States Government that the exchange of letters referred to above requires the Swedish Government to effect the prompt transfer of the gold in question to the Allies. It would therefore be greatly appreciated if the Government of Sweden would now transfer the 7,155.32664 kilograms of fine gold to the account of the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York.

March 15, 1948,

The Royal Ministry for Foreign Affairs
Stockholm.

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