

PPF 2748
Celler, Emanuel

August 6, 1935.

P. P. E.
2748

Dear Mennie:

It was good of you to write me
in explanation of the statements you made
in your New York address last Tuesday.
Everything is all right. It is another
case of water over the dam -- a closed
incident insofar as I am concerned.

Very sincerely yours,

Honorable Emanuel Celler, *
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

dj

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EMANUEL CELLER
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WASHINGTON

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.

Washington, August 1, 1935

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Franklin:-

I regret indeed any embarrassment that may have been caused you at your press conference yesterday, Wednesday, as a result of my speech in New York the night before at an anti-Nazi rally.

I want to assure you that I was most careful in my remarks at this meeting. I clearly indicated the required limitations of the Presidential office in matters of this sort, and that it would be most impolitic for any President to accede to the extreme wishes of many of those who deplore the Nazi atrocities. Nevertheless, I stated "upon my own authority" and without in the slightest degree implying that I was either quoting you or the State Department or anyone in connection with the Administration, that I knew that you were doing everything in your power upon lofty humanitarian grounds, not only to protect the interests of American citizens in Germany of Jewish or Catholic origin, but that you deeply sympathized with the aims and the aspirations of all those who believe in religious liberty.

I furthermore stated in the same manner and without committing you in the slightest degree that I was confident that you had used the indirect means well known in diplomacy to call Germany to task for its denial of the right of religious freedom to Jews and Catholics; that I felt sure that when Schacht was here you must have spoken to him along these lines, and that you must have interviewed the German ambassador for this same purpose, and remonstrated with both of them and deplored the bad effects that the German attacks upon defenseless minorities were having in this country. I indicated that this indirect diplomatic technique which is not usually made public has often been resorted to by Presidents before. I urged them to have the greatest confidence in you and that I felt you would leave no stone unturned within the limitations of your office to assuage these Hitler wrongdoings.

*Admitted
8-16
JF*

*JAC
P. 16*

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt

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I furthermore stated that it was reasonable to infer from the letter which I had received from Mr. Phillips, Under Secretary of State, that the Administration deeply sympathized with the purposes of the protest meeting.

My genuine fondness for you personally and my admiration for your high ideals and fine work you are doing, prompts me to write to you. I hope that you were not in any way rendered uncomfortable at the aforesaid press conference. If there is anything I can do to help in this situation, command me.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Emanuel", written over a diagonal line that extends from the top right towards the bottom left.

Emanuel Celler

EC/r