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RXNS287 93 3 EXTRA=BR PALMBEACH FLO VIA WASHINGTON DC 14

LAWRENCE CLAYTON=

WALDORF ASTORIA HOTEL =

*MARIO DIDNT SEEM TO LIKE WHAT DELANO STATED THE SECRETARY WOULD LIKELY SAY WHEN HE IS ASKED ABOUT OUR ANNOUNCEMENT MAY I SAY THROUGH YOU TO MARRINER THAT ALL I EXPECT IS FOR THE SECRETARY TO TREAT US AS IT IS CUSTOMARY FOR THE COMPTROLLER TO TREAT OTHER INSTITUTIONS UNDER HIS SUPERVISION. IF THIS TREATMENT ISNT ACCORDED US THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR FOLLOW WILL VERY DEFINITELY BE HIS. THANK YOU LARRY AND ALSO MARRINER FOR ALL THAT YOU'VE BOTH DONE TO BRING THE

A SETTLEMENT= PE SUGGESTIONS FRO A P TONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis

c o p

BANK OF AMERICA N.T.& S.A.

L. M. Giannini President San Francisco, California April 1, 1940

Mr. Marriner S. Eccles, Chairman, Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, Washington, D. C.

Dear Marriner:

You were very nice indeed to send me your letter of March 22, and I appreciate the thoughtfulness that prompted it.

Despite the unpleasant circumstances under which the conferences in Washington were held, I enjoyed them because they renewed again my confidence in some of the persons responsible for administering our important governmental activities. As a result of the conferences I feel that I came to know you and John McKee better and to appreciate the breadth and soundness of your views and the fact that no personalities entered into the formation of your opinions and the rendering of your judgments. I know that both of you did very constructive work in bringing about a solution of the perplexing problem that had developed. I know, too, that Larry Clayton and Ira Clerk had much to do in this matter in a constructive way.

With you express to Larry and John, and accept for yourself, my sincere appreciation and kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Mario

--President---

Mr. A. P. Giannini The Breakers Palm Beach, Florida

Dear A. P.:

Your wire of March 14 arrived here a few hours after I had left with Marriner for New York. Meanwhile I have checked carefully into the matters contained therein and believe that there is no basis for the concern you feel as a result of what Mario told you of his telephone conversation with Delano last week just prior to Mario's announcement of the agreement. In fact, Marriner took occasion to discuss with the Secretary the matter of the announcement and what attitude the Treasury should take toward it. One of the arguments Marriner made was that the publishing of the statement by the bank would relieve the Treasury and the Comptroller's office of the necessity of making any comment whatever to the press. The Secretary seemed to be in agreement with this point so that I doubt that you will have any expressions from this place which might embarrass the further performance of the terms of the agreement.

It was a great relief to me when you folks decided that it was good strategy to go ahead with the program respecting the bank without conditioning it upon a settlement with the SEC. Even though there may be further issues in that direction which cannot be resolved to your entire satisfaction, certainly the SEC cases are greatly deflated by the settlement with the bank. It seems reasonable to me, therefore, to expect the various issues with the SEC will come to a conclusion with a constantly diminishing amount of public interest therein.

When you start west from Florida I trust you will be able to come by Washington as Marriner and I would both be glad to see you.

With best personal wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

P.S. I thought you would be interested in the enclosed copy of a letter to Mario which I prepared for Marriner's signature. LC/fgr