

VIA AIR MAIL

March 31, 1945.
1402 Glendon St
Los Angeles 24, Calif

Mr. Eccles Chairman
Federal Reserve Board.
Dear Sir:

I wonder if when you were a little boy your mother or father did not teach ^{you} to be careful not to rob or steal property belonging to other people because if you did you would be punished.

In your present high position of power you have proposed to confiscate the profits of free citizens of a free country. The most inalienable right guaranteed us by the Constitution is the pursuit of happiness. I am a veteran of two world wars and I wish to make it very clear to you personally that I did not fight to preserve in Washington a public official who would dare to rob and steal and confiscate my capital gains! You know that England ~~has~~ never had a capital gains tax throughout this war. The men who have fought in war are not coming home to be robbed by the government they

have set up over them you may be quite sure of that Mr. Eccles. If you make any move other than to ABOLISH the Capital Gains tax entirely you are going to be placed in the same category as a robber and a thief.

You people have been in Washington so long you have grown viciously callous to the welfare of those whose servants you are.

You may be surprised to learn that we - the people - set up this government for our own protection and not by the widest stretch of the imagination did we suppose you could descend so low as to propose to rob and steal our private property.

I will be pleased to have your reply to this letter soon,

Very sincerely yours

Robert M. Koeneke

April 3, 1945.

Mr. Robert M. Koeneke,
1402 Glendon Street,
Los Angeles 24, California.

Dear Mr. Koeneke:

On behalf of Mr. Eccles who is on a visit in the West, I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter of March 31. I enclose a copy of an explanatory statement, from which you will see that you are mistaken in believing that the proposal with regard to the capital gains tax would be confiscatory so far as any investor is concerned. I also enclose a copy of a letter received from an army sergeant who has a somewhat different viewpoint from yours.

Sincerely yours,

Elliott Thurston,
Assistant to the Chairman.

Enclosures 2

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