

May 22, 1951.

Rev. Marcus A. Spencer, B.D.,
St. John's Presbyterian Church, Kensington,
11, Addison Gardens,
London, W. 11,
England.

Dear Reverend:

Enclosed you will find my check for \$25.00, as a very modest contribution on my part to the memorial you are erecting to Gil Winant in London. I think it is a wonderful thing you are undertaking, and only wish that I were in a position to lend more than token support.

My very best wishes to your undertaking.

Sincerely yours,

Winfield W. Riefler.

Enclosure
WWR:cls

ST. JOHN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, KENSINGTON
SCARSDALE VILLAS, ALLEN STREET, W.8

REV. MARCUS A. SPENCER, B.D., MINISTER

PARK 9832

PLEASE REPLY TO 14, ADDISON GARDENS,
LONDON, W.14

Winfield W. Riefler, Ph.D.,
Federal Reserve Building,
WASHINGTON, D.C. U.S.A.

19th March, 1951.

Dear Dr. Riefler,

JOHN G. WINANT HOUSE.

An American resident of London all through the war, I have undertaken to raise the sum of \$5600 from Americans only, in order to erect a MEMORIAL to our late Ambassador in Poplar High Street, E.14. It will consist of a block of 12 small apartments to house old people and newly-weds, the two classes hardest hit by the desperate housing shortage. (The rest of the total cost of \$45,000 will be borrowed from the State and repaid out of rents over 60 years.) It will be a modest but practical reminder of Anglo-American friendship in the East End to correspond to the British statue to President Roosevelt in the West End.

The Fund was generously started a year ago by a personal cheque for £100 from Gilbert H. Carr, Treasurer of our American Society. Donations have come in from Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, General George C. Marshall, old General Charles G. Dawes, the Hon. Lewis W. Douglas, the Hon. Walter S. Gifford, the Hon. David Bruce, members of our American colony in Britain as well as Princeton classmates of Gil and of my own. The sum in hand is \$3900, leaving \$1700 still to be found.

The land has been acquired, building is well above ground, and we would like to present WINANT HOUSE to the British at the start of the Festival of Britain. Its location is not far from the State's large Model Housing Scheme in the same borough. The essence of the gift is that it be a friendly gesture of American goodwill at a time of national celebration. Our new Ambassador writes "I am delighted to make my token subscription to Winant House, and I am enclosing my personal cheque. I hope that the sum which you have in mind will be raised in the near future and that the flats will soon be occupied by people who will receive the greatest benefit from them". Mrs. Roosevelt expressed her "keen interest". General Marshall says "I appreciate your telling me of the plan to erect a memorial to the late John Gilbert Winant, and I think those who were responsible for the final decision on the type of memorial should be commended. I am glad to do what I can towards memorializing a great American".

I venture to ask you for a subscription because you knew my friend, Gil Winant, personally and the way he was loved by the British for his understanding and helpfulness in their dire need. He shared their perils. He was a friend of the poor. Where better could a debt of gratitude to him be honored than in a badly blitzed area near the docks? And how better than in helping London to rebuild?

*Yours sincerely,
MARCUS A. SPENCER*

Photograph of plaque inclosed

WINANT HOUSE

A TRIBUTE TO LONDONERS' COURAGE

A REMINDER OF TWO COUNTRIES'
NEVER ENDING NEED OF ONE ANOTHER

A MEMORIAL TO JOHN GILBERT WINANT
A GREAT AMBASSADOR AT THE COURT OF ST. JAMES'S
TRUE FRIEND OF BOTH PEOPLES

BUILT FOR THE FESTIVAL OF BRITAIN 1951
BY THE GIFTS OF AMERICANS

HARRY MONCRIEFF FRIBEL & PARTNERS CO-OPERATIVE PLANNING LTD. 736 SOUTH SILEM, CLAPHAM COMMON, LONDON S.W.4 DWG NO. 44/18

For information only. NOT FOR PUBLICATION.

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EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON 25

OFFICE OF THE CHAIRMAN

October 25, 1951

CABLE ADDRESS
"EXIMBANK"

Personal and Confidential


Mr. Winfield W. Riefler
Assistant to the Chairman
Board of Governors
Federal Reserve System
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Mr. Riefler:

I am sure you will be glad to know that the Loyalty Review Board of the United States has sent us the notification which constitutes final clearance of Mr. Rifat Tirana from the imputations regarding his loyalty to the United States that have been cast upon him. The action of the Review Board relates to the findings of the Loyalty Board of the Export-Import Bank clearing Mr. Tirana of any suspicion regarding his loyalty to the United States which may have been created by the allegations of which Mr. Tirana has been the victim.

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Bank, as well as the members of the Loyalty Board of the Export-Import Bank, for which you contributed an affidavit on Mr. Tirana's behalf, I should like to express our gratitude for the service that you rendered in such a public-spirited manner in helping to clear this matter up.

Sincerely,


Herbert E. Gaston
Chairman

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March 16, 1951.

SPECIAL DELIVERY

Mr. Rifat Tirana,
3500 - 35th Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Rifat:

Enclosed is my affidavit. Be of good heart. I have great faith in you. Right should prevail.

As ever,

Winfield W. Riefler.

Enclosure - *(Original & 2 carbons were sent to Mr. Tirana)*

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March 14, 1951.

1. My name is Winfield William Riefler, an American citizen, living at 5415 - 28th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.
2. The title of my present position is Assistant to the Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System. The title, I think, adequately describes my functions.
3. My biographical background is as follows:

Born February 9, 1897, Buffalo, New York; son of Philip D. and Clara (Gartner) R.; married Dorothy Miles Brown, December 5, 1924; children—David Winfield, Donald Brown. A.B., Amherst College, 1921; Ph.D., Brookings Graduate School, 1927; Dr. Humane Letters (Honorary), Amherst College, 1944.

Business or Professional Career:

- 1921-23: Foreign Trade Officer, Dept. of Commerce, Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- 1923-33: Division of Research and Statistics, Federal Reserve Board. 1930-32: Executive Secretary Committee on Bank Reserves.
- 1933-35: Chairman, Central Statistical Board.
1933-34: Economic Adviser to Executive Council.
1934-35: Economic Adviser to National Emergency Council.
- Since 1935: Professor, School of Economics and Politics of Institute for Advanced Study, Princeton, N. J.
- 1939: Assistant to Secretary of the Treasury.
- 1942-44: On leave of absence to act as Minister to London (Special Assistant to the Ambassador) in charge of Economic Warfare.
- Since 1948: Assistant to the Chairman, Board of Governors (May 10) of the Federal Reserve System.
- Trustee, Institute for Advanced Study, 1936-41.
Director, National Bureau of Economic Research, 1936-42, 1945-48.
Special Adviser, U. S. Dept. of Treasury, 1937.
Alternate Member Finance Committee, League of Nations, 1937-46.
Director, Foreign Policy Association, 1938-40.
Director, Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 1941-42.

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-2-

Chairman, League of Nations Delegation on Economic
Depressions, 1945.
Chairman, Social Science Research Council Com. on Social
and Economic Aspects of Atomic Energy, 1945.
Director, Council on Foreign Relations, 1945-50.
Chairman, Twentieth Century Fund Com. on Foreign Economic
Relations, 1946.
Consultant, U. S. Select Committee on Foreign Aid, 1947.
Member, U. N. Subcommission on Employment and Economic
Stability, 1947-50.
Member, Business Advisory Council, 1947- .
Trustee, Foreign Service Educational Foundation, 1948- .

4. My first recollection of Rifat Tirana is a visit to his office in Geneva, I think, in June or July of 1936. He was then an economist, specializing in problems of money and credit on the economic staff of the League of Nations. On the boat going over to Europe on that trip, I had happened to be seated at the same table with Mr. William English Walling, the father-in-law of Mr. Tirana. After we had made each other's acquaintance, Mr. Walling told me that he planned on this trip to visit his daughter and his new son-in-law, a young Albanian economist. I left the ship in England, and Mr. Walling went on to the continent. I made it a point to look up Tirana when I arrived at Geneva and visited various economists there. When I entered his office, he recognized me immediately and said that he had met me some years earlier in Washington, a contact which I do not recall. I read later in the paper that Mr. Walling died suddenly in Europe, I believe, before he reached Geneva. This event fixed the episode on my mind vividly.

I found Tirana and his wife not only personally most charming but also intellectually congenial. His work in money and credit for the League paralleled much of the work that I had specialized on for the Federal Reserve Board in Washington. Professionally we had much in common.

The subsequent year, 1937, I was appointed Substitute member of the Finance Committee of the League of Nations (later Alternate member), a position which I held until the Committee was abolished after World War II. It entailed two visits to Geneva in 1937, one in the spring and one in the autumn, two similar visits in 1938, and one final visit in June and July 1939. Tirana was on the staff of the League during all these visits, except the last. It was the staff that worked closely with the Finance Committee, and I saw a great deal of him during the one to two weeks that I spent in Geneva on each of these trips.

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-3-

In the spring of 1939, Tirana came to see me in this country, I believe at my home in Princeton. He told me that he left Geneva as soon as he heard of Mussolini's invasion of Albania, so that the Italians would have no claim on him, and that he planned to live and work in the United States. I think he had already made contact at that time with the Federal Reserve Bank of New York and planned to work with them. I know that I would have helped him locate himself, but, so far as I can recall, my help was not needed.

While I was in Geneva in June and July of that year, I again saw him there on his return to clean up his affairs and move his family to America. Subsequent to that time, I have seen a great deal of him in this country. The Tiranases would visit us when they passed through Princeton. They have visited us at our summer cottage on Cape Cod, and we have visited since my return to Washington in 1948. I have never worked in the same organization with Tirana except as indicated above in connection with my Committee meetings at the League of Nations. I was connected with the Federal Reserve before his connection, and again after he left, but never at the same time.

5. I know of no Communist attitude, leanings, or connections on the part of Tirana. His father-in-law, Mr. Walling, had had many connections with the Russian Revolution of 1905, and reminisced about them in the brief contact I had with him on that trip to Europe in 1936. He was outstandingly vocal in his denunciation of the Bolsheviks, more extremely so than most of us at that time. For the purpose of this affidavit, I have racked my memory in connection with Tirana to recall examples of his attitude with respect to Communism and Russia over these many years of contact. What I recall is a gifted young man, much more concerned than almost anyone I know, over the menace embodied in Hitler and Mussolini. As I personally was one of the early group of Americans who felt that we would have to fight Hitler, this drew me to him. His concern, however, was even greater, if that could be possible, than mine. I feel that history proved us both correct in that attitude. With regard to Russia, I recall that Tirana felt that we should not let dislike or antagonism to Russia endanger the chance of securing Russian aid in the fight with Hitler. This was the considered attitude of many qualified observers at that time, and was proved correct by subsequent developments. The touchstone to me in all these cases of Communist affiliation is whether or not there was a change in attitude during the period of the Hitler-Stalin pact. I noted no change whatever in Tirana's adamant attitude toward Hitler during that period. If there had been, I feel I would have sensed it because I used this test at that time to judge whether people were really with us of the West or were primarily motivated by a feeling for Russia.

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-1-

6. I take my personal citizenship very conscientiously. I know I would have been proud to stand as sponsor for Tirana, if he had asked me, when he applied for American citizenship. I would not have felt this way if I had had any concern as to his loyalty as an American, his belief in American and Anglo-Saxon concepts and democracy, and his belief in the cause of the Western democracies. My whole contact and relationship with him during the period I have known him have given me this view of his character. I have felt, and feel now, that he is a loyal American.

(Signed) Winfield W. Riefler
Winfield W. Riefler

The above statement was subscribed and sworn to by
Winfield W. Riefler before me, Josephine E. Lally,
a Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia, this
16th day of March, 1951.

(Signed) Josephine E. Lally
Notary Public

SEAL

My commission expires September 30, 1951.

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March 15, 1951.

Mr. Riefler:

Following your signature on the document, you can put
the following:

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: ss

The above statement was subscribed and sworn to by
Winfield W. Riefler before me, _____,
a Notary Public in and for the District of Columbia, this
____ day of March, 1951.

(SEAL)

Notary Public

My commission expires _____.

*There is one point I would like to
discuss with you further.*

GOV

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Sent to James H. Rowe Jr -
Investment Pkwy
or R. T. Tiran 3500-35th St NW

OUTLINE OF AFFIDAVIT notarized

1. The name, address, and citizenship of affiant.
2. The present position and functions of affiant.
3. A detailed background, biography, of affiant, giving positions and titles held.
4. How long has affiant known the person, where, and under what circumstances, work or otherwise.
5. Does affiant know of any Communist or anti-Communist attitude, leanings, connections, on the part of the person. If the latter, why does the affiant make the statements, and has the affiant any specific instances about remarks, statements, writings or other, to ~~right~~ ^{offer} in support of this statement.
6. Does the affiant believe that the person is a loyal American, believes in American and Anglo Saxon concepts and democracy, and is otherwise a believer in the cause of the western democracies. If the affiant holds such beliefs, will he ~~right~~ ^{offer} instances, remarks, in as specific content as he can in support of the affiant's statements.