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POLISH EMBASSY

31st August, 1940.

Your Excellency,

In the month of May 1940 the Polish Government agreed with the French Government that the stock of gold belonging to the Bank Polski and deposited with the Banque de France would be transported with the assistance of the French Naval Authorities to North America. This stock of gold weighing 56,919 kilos of fine gold was packed in 1208 cases.

According to these arrangements the above mentioned gold was taken charge of on the 11th of June by the French Naval Authorities at Lorient and on the 18th of June this transport of gold, accompanied by Mr. Stefan Michalski, manager of the Bank Polski, left Lorient on board the auxiliary cruiser "Victor Schoelcher". On the 30th of June the Polish Government were informed through the intermediary of His Majesty's Consul General at Dakar that this transport of Polish gold arrived at Dakar on the afternoon of June 28th and that Mr. Michalski approached the French Naval Authorities at Dakar to furnish a vessel in order to transship the gold to America in accordance with the previous arrangements between the Polish and the French Governments. Before answering this request the French Military authorities at Dakar, acting upon instructions of the French Government issued in connection with the events which took place in the Mediterranean on the 4th of July, unloaded the cases containing the Polish gold and sent them inland where they presumably remain.

The Honourable  
Vincent Massey,  
High Commissioner for Canada,  
Canada House,  
S.W.1.