

7 October 1948

Dear Nathan,

My daughter-in-law brought some further clarifications. That much cash evidently comes from the darling having unlawfully sold the two mortgage certificates. My daughter-in-law was somewhat chastened and now thanks heaven for the existence of our corporation, Meili likewise. To the latter we must write very clearly, because due to overwork he easily jumbles everything up. We must write him that the discovered sum of money is partly property of the corporation, partly my personal property. The curious thing is that it is still not known who has the mortgage certificates. This is somewhat understandable because the person concerned surely suspects or knows that embezzled money is involved. In any case, one can find out to whom the interest is being paid. The question is whether one should insist on the return of the mortgages and pay back the money or whether one should reach agreement with the man on the basis of accomplished facts. I consider the former more suitable because that way fewer legal complications are to be feared in what is in any case a very tricky situation.

No institution takes anyone for an indefinite period on the basis of a cash payment under the present insecure conditions. In these circumstances I believe that a sum deposited in a Zurich bank, resp., the mortgages, would still be the best security for Tedel. I still consider it safer than a deposit in the USA.

[TLS. On embossed letterhead: "A. Einstein, 112, Mercer Street, Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A."]

The main thing is that we must officially make our claims as soon as possible, as otherwise our demands may no longer have legal efficacy. A telegram?

Cordial regards,

Yours,

A. E.

Albert Einstein.

[Verso.]