

Transcript of a letter

Neckermann Dec. 14, 1938

Mr. Karl Joel

Zurich

Apartment building "Muralto."

I confirm receipt of your letter dated Nov. 24, 1938.

I am unable to comply with your request to receive the statement of account and all documents within 10 days, as I am not authorized to do so by the relevant authorities. However, it may be possible if you come here in person over the next few days.

Regarding the letter dated September 4, 1938, addressed to City Councilor Fritz Tillmann, the contents of which I have now been made aware of, I would like to inform you that all necessary official approvals had already been granted on September 1, 1938, and that the purchase was therefore completely finalized.

The negotiations that became necessary after your flight abroad were initially conducted with Mr. Beifus and Mr. Kaliski, and later with City Councilor Fritz Tillmann, after the aforementioned gentlemen had received the powers of attorney drawn up by you and presented them to the authorities and to me.

The inventory and valuation of the stock was carried out by City Councilor Fritz Tillmann, who had already been named as an expert in the contract on your part, and by your former senior employee to the best of their knowledge and belief and without my involvement.

City Councilor Fritz Tillmann then traveled to Switzerland for a meeting with you and, upon his return, declared that everything had been settled.

If this had not been the case, he would certainly not have made the statement to the authorities, and you would certainly not have paid him the substantial remuneration.

This brought the matter to a legal conclusion, and it is now not possible to reopen negotiations, which I am not entitled to do anyway due to your illegal departure abroad. It is also absurd to first appoint a representative and then, once the matter has been settled, to want to negotiate again yourself.

In this context, I would like to mention that, according to information I have received, you attempted to influence Mr. Wunderlich regarding the valuation of the goods and promised him a large sum of money if he would ensure that the valuation was carried out in your favor.

On this occasion, I refer to my letter to your representative, City Councilor Fritz Tillmann, in which I explained that you not only failed to keep the promise made in front of witnesses to continue operating the business normally and keep it running until the handover, but also caused serious damage by squandering and forcing the sale of marketable goods, by not accepting urgently needed goods, canceling ongoing supply contracts, and allowing quotas vital to the business to expire.

These are actions that seriously jeopardize and endanger the continued existence of a business, especially in view of the fall and Christmas season. The reason for your actions is too obvious to require discussion. It was also not acceptable to artificially simulate a corresponding turnover for months by selling off remnants and clearance sales.

I request that you refrain from further correspondence, as it is not possible to provide information after your illegal departure abroad, not to mention that there is no legal reason to do so after you appointed a representative at the time.

Heil Hitler!

signed Neckermann