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FOREIGN DOCUMENTS DIVISION
Denver, June 23, 1963

Dear 🗍

Since my"mission" in Denver is completed and I shall possibly be here only a few more days, I would like to write you about recent events here and about my plans for the future.

As you probably know, a "Track Clinic" for foreign athletes took place in Fort Collins, Colo., from 2 to 7 June. The participants arrived at the Denver airport from east and west, from north and south, and were welcomed by Mr. LOVE, Governor of Colorado; then everyone proceeded to the Colorado State University at Fort Collins. Some of the athletes got lost and were found only after a few days because of misunderstandings and possibly because of a less than perfect erganization. One athlete from Chile and Salvador had been left to his own devices at some airport, without any money, food, or a place to sleep. When I met them at the airport at 3 a.m., they were completely exhausted and in a sad state. I took them home, gave them to eat, and they slept for 12 hours. This had happened because some Southern Airlines had not accepted the airplane tickets sent by the State Department. Another group of some African athletes had been lost for 2 days, on the way from Oregon.

About the "Track Clinic" itself I can say only a few, not very complimentary words:

- 1. The classes and the rest of the organization took place like in the Army; the athletes kept going all week like "wound-up clocks", a sergeant gave orders, using a whistle, like in a dog-training school!
- 2. Many of the athletes had a very poor knowledge of English, especially those from South and Central America; they got nothing out of the lectures, since there was no Spanish-English interpreter.

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- 3. Two representatives of "South Africa" had been invited as coaches and lecturers; they were excellent persons, but the African athletes, especially those of the colored race, did not like them since the relations between South Africa and the other new African countries are rather tense.
- 4. Some of the invited athletes received offers to study at several US universities, with full scholarships; however, the attitude of Sports International Inc. was completely opposed. Some of the coaches from US universities were received in a very unfriendly manner and in one case even rudely, and were even forced to leave.
- 5. In many universities foreign athletes had not received the necessary ceaching attention and they had not made any progress or acquired any technical skill in their specialties.
- 6. In some cases there was not enough to eat, as only two meals a day were provided.
- 7. In speaking with representatives of many countries, I gained the impression that this project had not been very well organized and the general impression was as follows: The US Government had invited these young men as guests, and if an invited guest is not given the necessary attention, such as insufficient food in some cases, or insufficient attention on the sports ground, people begin to wonder why they were ever invited!
- 8. Personally, I believe that it would be to the benefit of the US to invite such athletes if things were better planned and the organization were headed by persons with more experience in international matters, or at least if such persons were invited as consultants; in that case there

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would be no misunderstandings and surprises, or bad memories of the 3-month visit in the United States. After all, the purpose of such a project was to strengthen international relations between athletes.

Personally, I did everything I could so that my two athletes from Morecce would feel at home, or better; both in their living quarters and on the sports field. The University of Denver had promised, but did not help with room and board, so that I had to look for private accommodations for the two men, which I was able to find.

They made some progress on the sports fields and on one occasion Mr. BUSHAIB won 2d place in the 220-yard dash -- 20/3, for which he received the special appreciation of the Moroccan Government. His best time for this distance in Morocco had been 21.4.

It is not quite clear to me how it happened, but I received an offer as "Olympic Track Coach" from the International Sports Inc. to go to Morocco, which Offer I accepted; however, I have not yet received a final answer, either from Morocco, or from International Sports and the State Department.

As I understand; 1. the State Department is unable to pay my salary, since I am not a US citizen; 2. the Moroccan government would have to pay my salary; max 3. the Moroccan government has asked for a track coach through International Sports Inc. and the State Department; this coach would be (a) the Morocco Olympic Coach for the Olympic Games

in Tekyo and would train young track coaches among the Moroccans, and
(b) would give advice on how to improve track activities in that
African country.

4. International Sports and the State Department have premised to provide the Moroccan Government with all the necessary track equipment.

5. According to what I heard, the Moroccan Ambassador in Washington, D.C., has said that if the Americans would not send a capable coach, they would be forced to find a coach among the Russians. So it is, in a sense, a market competition, as it happened in India where the Russians won out, and where several Russian and Hungarian track coaches are now employed.

6. As I heard from the Moroccan athletes who were in my care this spring, Morocco had asked for a track coach from the US several years ago, and one had been sent there. He stayed in Casa Blanca for several menths and did not establish any contacts with the Moroccan sports authorities; he was seen only once at a sports contest and then he returned to the US, without having done any work. Therefore, the Moroccan government is cautious with regard to US track coaches and they will make their final decision after the return of the Moroccan athletes to Morocco, as they may want to hear their opinions about me as a person.

So I am now waiting for this answer. Would you, and your organization, be interested in my trip to Morocco? If so, you might get in touch with Mr. David DICHTER, Secretary General of Sports International Inc., 3033 Cambridge Place N.W., Washington, D. C., Phone 387-2785.

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In the event my trip to Morocco is postponed, or if nothing should come of it, my plans for the future would be to move as soon as possible to Los Angeles and look for work there, since I would be unable to support a family without any income; at present I have no income or savings of any kind. My son Jurisleft yesterday for his place of employment: Johns-Manville Research Center, Manville, N.J., Phone RA-29000. He will start working on 1 July and will continue his studies in September.

The son of one of my friends arrived today from Caracas, Venezuela, and told me about the latest events in Caracas. As far as he knows and according to what people say, speedboats sent by Castro arrive almost every night at the shores of Venezuela, unleading partisans and modern weapens to arm the local Communists. The present government is said to be very inactive in opposing the bands of Communists. Although the newspapers do publish articles against Communists and against Castro, nothing is actually done about it. The people are beginning to lose confidence in the firm attitude of the US, and the general feeling is that US foreign policy is directly or indirectly supporting Communist influence in this hemisphere. When I asked, why he thought so, he replied that the US government was trying to arrest and isolate the heroic men who had been attempting to land on Castro's island and organize a resistance movement. When I asked what the future prespectswere in Venezuela, he said that as long as Castro remains in power in Cuba and continues to operate and infiltrate Venezuela, as at present, Venezuela might be in the hands of Communists in about a year's time.

The people's respect for the US, and confidence in US help in combating Communist bands in Venezuela, was diminishing daily. Communist leaders were represented in the Venezuela Parliament, who give orders to the bands on their activities, but only the "little fellows" who have no general importance or influence are opposed.

Finally, I would like to say that US track team is leaving for Mescow around 15 July. I have some good friends among the athletes, as well as among the coaches. Would it be desirable to try to establish centact with \Box through them ?

In the event my trip to Morocco should take place, I would have to stop in Washington, D.C., on the way, in which case it might be interesting to meet personally and talk about the past and the future.

Sincerely yours,

/signed/ Edg. Laipenieks.

COLORADO SEMINARY

Department of Physical Education and Athletics University Park, Denver 10, Colorado

Dencer, June 23, 1963

Hear Larry,

Ta kā mana misija" Denwerā beigusos uce ispējams šeit luīšu uel "tikai fāris duiuas grilar Firms uel upraastit par federam notikumoine seet uur pan maneim nakotnes planeim.

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Haus Olels Jusis naker alphaeira uz same donla metu: JOHNS-14ANVILLE, RESEARCH CENTER MANVILLE, N.J. PHONE RA-29000 Vinj saks stadot or 1. juliju un tempinos savas Hudijas septembos

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uniparejas nopines un espardo.

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tiesi vær netersi allolitot komunistu uspa: du stut fuslocé. Loca jactoja, copor vies to domot, obliste sexojoia: vanouiges vives, Kons mègina izenties Castro sola un sabotet Kommenter ie vorter ten un organizet protestil , Castro, U.S. Valdéla mègices novirt une ifolét. Kord jærtøju, kordes ir nokotus igneopes Venequelo, abbilde sægoba: renner Carto falis pe vavas Kuha un titosàs un inflite. bres Venequelo, no poilair, vashit gado) laira Venezuela bies romunstu rora, gly? va Kuta. M.S. respects un tanta polonita uy M.S. foligika apaanot komunista bacada, Veuguelo a ratre doine poslintimotes, tebister for celauremein U.S. cetodes e.f.c. Vulquelas paslamenté séjet netion cet komunistre vadoni, nas dod mojumes, no davit bace don, let apaonot te act tracin mape garine", kome mar

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