

ANNEX 1433b.

C.192.1933.I.

FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

GUARD DETACHMENT FOR THE POLISH WAR MATERIAL DEPOT
ON THE WESTERPLATTE QUESTION OF "DIRECT ACTION"

LETTER FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AT DANZIG
TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

[*Translation.*]

Geneva, March 13th, 1933.

With reference to my letter of March 7th regarding the reinforcement of the guard detachment for the Polish war material depot on the Westerplatte, I have the honour to enclose three letters which I have just received from the President of the Senate of the Free City of Danzig concerning this question, and would ask you to communicate them to the Council.

(*Signed*) Helmer ROSTING,
High Commissioner

Appendix I.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG
TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

[*Translation from the German.*]

Geneva, March 13th, 1933.

In view of the renewed Press reports (see *Journal de Genève*, of March 13th) to the effect that revolutionary elements in Danzig are intending to make an attack on the Westerplatte, I have once more hastened to place myself in touch with the Danzig authorities and have again ascertained that there is not the slightest justification for supposing that anyone in Danzig is planning an attempt on the Westerplatte.

At the same time, I was once more able to satisfy myself that complete calm reigns in Danzig, and yesterday (Sunday) passed in the quietest possible manner.

The best evidence of the calmness and reasonableness of the Danzig population is provided by the fact that, in face of the threat to Danzig constituted by the unauthorised landing of Polish troops (and the longer this lasts the greater the indignation in the minds of the Danzig population), it has nevertheless not allowed itself to be carried away into committing any imprudent acts.

(*Signed*) Dr. ZIEHM.

Appendix II.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG
TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

[*Translation from the German.*]

Geneva, March 13th, 1933.

In connection with the question of the strengthening of the Polish guard detachment on the Westerplatte, I have just heard from Danzig that the troops on the Westerplatte are constructing fortifications, setting up barbed-wire entanglements, practising with machine-guns, etc.

We reserve the right to submit in this connection a fresh request in respect of a breach of the provisions of the Danzig Constitution, which forbids the construction of fortifications.

In further support of the Danzig request of March 6th, at present before the Council, for the withdrawal of the reinforcements of the guard detachment, I should like to point out forthwith that these activities must be regarded as a serious breach of the provisions regarding the duties

and purposes of the guard on the Westerplatte; as the latter has simply to confine itself to watching over war material in transit, and may not assume a military character.

(Signed) Dr. ZIEHM.

Appendix III.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF THE FREE CITY OF DANZIG TO THE HIGH COMMISSIONER.

[Translation from the German.]

Geneva, March 13th, 1933.

In connection with the Danzig request for the withdrawal of the reinforcements of the guard detachment on the Westerplatte, which is at present before the Council of the League, I have the honour to inform you that, according to information just received from Danzig, severe damage has also been done to Danzig trade through the non-observance by Poland of the Treaty provisions with regard to the munition basin of the Westerplatte. For over a week past, the basin on the Westerplatte has been uninterruptedly closed to peaceful trade and the prescribed time-limits have not been observed. Although unloadings of ammunition and war material have only taken place at certain hours and are now no longer taking place, the Danzig merchants who, trusting in the observance of the treaties, have stored goods in the sheds on the Westerplatte, or who wish to store goods therein, are unable to gain access to the said goods and sheds. This bears with particular hardness on the seasonal business of the fertiliser trade. Danzig firms, which at present wish to fulfil their contracts for the delivery of fertilisers by a particular date, are prevented from doing so by Poland's action, and their business is thus very seriously affected. All the endeavours of the Danzig delegation on the Harbour Board to secure, by means of representations to the Polish diplomatic representative in Danzig, the evacuation by Poland of at least the northern part of the munitions basin, which is at present not being used, as well as emphatic protests by the President of the Harbour Board, have proved of no avail.

(Signed) Dr. ZIEHM.

ANNEX 1433c.

C.195.1933.I.

FREE CITY OF DANZIG.

GUARD DETACHMENT FOR THE POLISH WAR MATERIAL DEPOT ON THE WESTERPLATTE.

LETTER FROM THE HIGH COMMISSIONER OF THE LEAGUE OF NATIONS AT DANZIG TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL.

[Translation.]

Geneva, March 16th, 1933.

At the Council meeting on March 14th, His Excellency M. Beck, Foreign Minister of Poland, informed the Council that his Government had decided to reduce the guard on the Westerplatte to its normal strength without delay. He also stated that the Polish Government was prepared to get into touch with the High Commissioner immediately to fix the exact date and hour of the execution of the measure it had decided upon, in order to avoid any delay.

As a result of conversations I have had with His Excellency M. Beck and the members of the Polish delegation, I have the honour to request you to notify the Council that M. Beck has informed me that the withdrawal of the effectives in question will be carried out to-day, March 16th, before 10 p.m.

(Signed) Helmer ROSTING,
High Commissioner