

BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS

**NOTE ON GOLD OPERATIONS INVOLVING
THE BANK FOR INTERNATIONAL SETTLEMENTS
AND THE GERMAN REICHSBANK,
1ST SEPTEMBER 1939 - 8TH MAY 1945**

**Basle
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Note on gold operations involving the Bank for International Settlements and the German Reichsbank, 1st September 1939 - 8th May 1945

1. SCOPE OF THE REPORT AND OVERVIEW

1.1 Scope of this report

This report gives an account of the gold transactions undertaken by the German Reichsbank ("Reichsbank") with the Bank for International Settlements ("BIS") during the Second World War (1st September 1939 - 8th May 1945). It therefore also covers the purchases and sales of gold between the BIS and the Reichsbank during that period. Non-gold transactions, such as foreign exchange operations, carried out between the BIS and the Reichsbank are not dealt with in this report. All facts and figures given are drawn from the BIS's own archives.

1.2 Summary of gold transactions for the account of the Reichsbank and structure of the report

Table 1 on page 3 summarises all gold transactions carried out on the gold accounts which the Reichsbank maintained with the BIS during the Second World War. The credit side (gold coming in) and the debit side (gold going out) both add up to 21,472 kilogrammes fine gold. However, of this amount only **13,542 kilogrammes fine gold** was received in new deposits from the Reichsbank.

The credit side also includes:

- gold that was already held by the BIS for the Reichsbank before the war (1,862 kg.f. gold);
- gold credited to the Reichsbank account with the BIS by other central banks (88 kg.f. gold);
- gold sold to the Reichsbank by the BIS (5,480 kg.f. gold);
- gold exchanged with the BIS between depositories (500 kg.f. gold).

As further explained in Section 5 of this report, of the 13,542 kilogrammes fine gold referred to above, 3,740 kilogrammes was, after the war, identified as having been looted by the Germans from European central banks and was consequently restituted by the BIS to the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold.

As for the total of 21,472 kilogrammes fine gold debited from the Reichsbank's gold accounts with the BIS:

- 9,142 kilogrammes was sold to the BIS (of which 7,792 kg. was in respect of interest payments due to the BIS),
- a further 6,018 kilogrammes was transferred on the instructions of the Reichsbank to other central banks in respect of postal and railway payments,
- 503 kilogrammes was exchanged with the BIS between depositories, and
- the remaining amount of 5,809 kilogrammes was withdrawn by the Reichsbank and delivered to its order.

The transactions summarised in Table 1 are described in detail in Sections 2 and 3 of this report. *Section 2* deals with the gold credited to the Reichsbank accounts held with the BIS and *Section 3* deals with the gold debited from these same accounts.

Regarding gold held on Sight Account, there is not necessarily a link between the individual gold bars delivered by the Reichsbank and those used by the BIS in carrying out banking instructions from the Reichsbank. This means that some of the gold bars delivered by the Reichsbank were afterwards used by the BIS in gold transactions with other central banks. Shortly after the war, the BIS undertook an analysis in which the destination of the actual bars making up the 13,542 kilogrammes of gold received from the Reichsbank was examined. The results of this analysis are summarised in *Section 4*.

Finally, *Section 5* deals with the postwar investigation into looted monetary gold which led to the restitution by the BIS to the Tripartite Commission on the Restitution of Monetary Gold of 3,740 kilogrammes fine gold, as mentioned earlier.

Table 1 : SUMMARY OF REICHSBANK GOLD TRANSACTIONS CARRIED OUT WITH OR THROUGH THE BIS, 1.09.1939-8.05.1945

I- GOLD IN FOR REICHSBANK		(kg. fine gold)	II- GOLD OUT FOR REICHSBANK		(kg. fine gold)
1- Opening balance 1.09.1939			1- Interest payments to BIS		
Berne n°10 : 144 bars	1,802.08784		Earmarked Account	608.32518	
Postal Payments Account	59.61508		Sight Account	5,658.50235	
			Konstanz depot	1,525.62030	
TOTAL		1,861.70292	TOTAL		7,792.44783
2- New gold deposited by Reichsbank			2- Postal payments from Reichsbank		
Sight Account (Berne)	9,746.99376		to Hungarian Nat. Bank	979.05427	
Earmarked Account (Berne)	2,269.60486		to Slovakian Nat. Bank	185.76982	
Held in Konstanz	1,525.62030		to National Bank of Belgium	86.24148	
			to Norges Bank	43.97594	
TOTAL		13,542.21892	to Danmarks Nat. Bank	36.53594	
3- Postal payments received for Reichsbank			to Finlands Nat. Bank	12.48174	
from Danmarks Nat. Bank	37.26711		to Sveriges Riksbank	9.50632	
from Finlands Bank	16.24362		to Eesti Pank	7.36702	
from Norges Bank	16.04635		to Nat. Bank of Argentina	1.12973	
from Hungarian Nat. Bank	14.52091		TOTAL		1,362.06226
from Eesti Pank	4.42013				
from Nat. Bank of Argentina	0.01452		3- Payments to Yugoslav Railway Administration		4,655.83657
TOTAL		88.51264	4- Gold sold by Reichsbank to BIS		1,350.00000
4- Gold sold by BIS to Reichsbank			5- Withdrawn by Reichsbank		
Sold in October 1939	2,006.95686		Transported to Berlin	2,006.95686	
Sold in January 1940	2,002.77164		Transferred to RB a/c at Swiss NB	1,802.08784	
Sold in Jan. 1940 - Jan. 1941	1,470.00000		Held at disposal RB at Sveriges RB	2,000.00169	
TOTAL		5,479.72850	TOTAL		5,809.04639
5- Gold exchanged for 502.65145 kg.fine		499.88150	6- Gold exchanged for 499.8815 kg.fine		502.65145
			Difference (rounding)		-0.00002
TOTAL		21,472.04448	TOTAL		21,472.04448
			Closing balance 8.05.1945		0.00000

2. GOLD CREDITED TO THE REICHSBANK ACCOUNTS WITH THE BIS

2.1 Opening balance on 1st September 1939

Throughout the 1930s the Reichsbank had held several gold accounts with the BIS at various depositories (Amsterdam, Berne, Brussels, London and Paris), but most of these had been emptied before the end of August 1939. The balances on these accounts were either sold, exchanged or - most frequently - sent to the Reichsbankhauptkasse in Berlin.¹ Consequently, at the time of the outbreak of the Second World War, the only gold accounts the Reichsbank still held with the BIS were a number of earmarked gold accounts held in Berne (accounts n° 5, 7, 10 and 11) and a gold sight account used for the transfer of international postal payments held in London.

The situation on these gold accounts on 1st September 1939 was as follows:

- *Earmarked Gold Accounts n° 5, 7 and 11* held at Berne (Swiss National Bank): empty.
- *Earmarked Gold Account n° 10* held at Berne (Swiss National Bank): 144 gold bars, representing 1,802.08784 kg. fine gold.
- *Gold Sight Account* used for international postal payments held at London (Bank of England): 59.61508 kg. fine gold.

Thus, the amount of gold held by the Reichsbank with the BIS on 1st September 1939 totalled: **1,861.70292 kg. fine gold** (Table 1, category I, 1).

2.2 New gold deposited with the BIS by the Reichsbank during the war

During the war, the Reichsbank frequently deposited new gold with the BIS. Until August 1940 this was done either on one of the Reichsbank's Earmarked Gold Accounts (n° 7 and 11) or on its Gold Sight Account with the BIS, all held at the Swiss National Bank in Berne (in October 1939 the Reichsbank's Gold Sight Account loco London had been transferred to Berne). From September 1940 onwards all gold newly deposited with the BIS by the Reichsbank was directly credited to the Reichsbank Gold Sight Account, loco Berne. All Reichsbank gold newly deposited with the BIS was first sent by the Reichsbank to its own gold account held with the Swiss National Bank in Berne and from there, on the orders of the Reichsbank, transferred to the aforementioned Reichsbank gold accounts held with the BIS (also held at the Swiss National Bank in Berne).

Between 1st September 1939 until 8th May 1945, new Reichsbank gold deposits with the BIS loco Berne amounted to **12,016.59862 kg. fine gold**. The details of the individual gold transfers can be found in Appendix 1.

¹ On 22nd March 1939 the Czechoslovakian gold held under earmark with the BIS loco London (23.1 tonnes or 1,845 bars) had been transferred to the earmarked gold account which the German Reichsbank held with the BIS in London. This transfer was carried out by order of the Czechoslovakian National Bank after Prague had been occupied by the Germans. By the end of March 1939 the German Reichsbank had already emptied its earmarked gold account held with the BIS in London.

Apart from the deposits in Berne, the BIS received, during the war, one further deposit of new gold from the Reichsbank: on 12th April 1945 the Reichsbank placed **1,525.62030 kg. fine gold** at the disposal of the BIS at the Reichsbanknebenstelle in Konstanz (Germany), close to the Swiss-German border. This gold, consisting of 34 gold bars (417.98290 kg. fine) and 31 cases of gold coins (1,107.63740 kg. fine), was intended as an advance settlement of interest payments due by Germany to the BIS in the course of 1945. At this late stage of the war, the physical transport of this gold from Germany to Switzerland was refused by the Swiss authorities. Consequently, this gold was held under earmark in name of the BIS at the Reichsbanknebenstelle in Konstanz and remained blocked there until after the war.

The amount of gold newly deposited by the Reichsbank with the BIS during the war thus totalled: **13,542.21892 kg. fine gold** (Table 1, category I, 2).

2.3 International postal payments received on behalf of the Reichsbank

In the 1930s the BIS had inaugurated a system of international postal payments for the account of the member states of the World Postal Union through gold sight accounts held with the BIS by their respective central banks. The Reichsbank also participated in this settlements system. For this purpose the Reichsbank held a Gold Sight Account with the BIS loco London (Bank of England), which on 1st September 1939 showed a positive balance of 59.61508 kg. fine gold (see Section 2.1). On 14th October 1939 this Gold Sight Account was transferred from London to Berne (Swiss National Bank).² From that date onwards, all further transactions for the account of the Reichsbank in respect of international postal payments were settled through the Reichsbank's Gold Sight Account held with the BIS loco Berne.

Between September 1939 and May 1945 the Reichsbank's Gold Sight Account for international postal settlements was credited with gold transfers from the central banks of Argentina, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Hungary and Norway. These transfers in favour of the Reichsbank, totalling **88.51264 kg. fine gold**, took place between October 1939 and June 1940. The individual transactions are listed in Appendix 2 and a summary by counterpart is given in Table 1 (category I, 3).

² The underlying beneficial owner of this Gold Sight Account would have been unknown to the Bank of England at the time this transfer was effected.

2.4 Gold sold by the BIS to the Reichsbank

On the following occasions the BIS sold gold to the Reichsbank:

(a) 1,012.74215 kg. fine gold on 21.10.1939 and 994.21471 kg. fine gold on 26.10.1939. In all **2,006.95686 kg. fine gold** (163 gold bars) was sold to the Reichsbank against SFr 9,982,442.86. On 6th November 1939 these 163 gold bars were transported on the instruction of the Reichsbank from Berne (Swiss National Bank) to Berlin (Reichsbankhauptkasse).

(b) Gold sale from the BIS to the Reichsbank of:

<u>Date of transaction</u>	<u>Number of bars</u>	<u>Weight (kg.f. gold)</u>	<u>Location</u>
3.01.1940	42	502.65145	Berne
6.01.1940	7	86.35300	Stockholm
6.01.1940	73	913.88819	Stockholm
10.01.1940	40	499.87900	Stockholm
<u>Total:</u>	162	2,002.77164	

The 42 gold bars sold to the Reichsbank on 3.01.1940 loco Berne referred to above were exchanged, on 3.02.1940, by the Reichsbank with the BIS against 40 gold bars loco Stockholm (499.88150 kg. fine; see Table 1, categories I, 5 and II, 6). The difference in weight was settled in Swiss francs. This left the Reichsbank with 160 gold bars (**2,000.00169 kg. fine gold**) held with the BIS in Stockholm. On 29th May 1940 these 160 bars were transferred on instruction of the Reichsbank by the BIS to Sveriges Riksbank, Stockholm, to be held at the disposal of the Reichsbank.

(c) From January 1940 to January 1941, the BIS sold to the Reichsbank a total of **1,470 kg. fine gold**, loco Berne, against Swiss francs:

<u>Date of transaction</u>	<u>Weight (kg. fine gold)</u>
24.01.1940	30
5.02.1940	10
12.02.1940	30
10.12.1940	200
27.12.1940	500
17.01.1941	500
22.01.1941	200
<u>Total:</u>	1,470

Thus, during the Second World War, the BIS sold an overall total of **5,479.72850 kg. fine gold** to the Reichsbank (see Table 1, category I, 4).

2.5 Summary: total amount of gold credited to the Reichsbank accounts with the BIS

Between 1st September 1939 and 8th May 1945, the following amounts of gold were credited to the gold accounts the Reichsbank held with the BIS:

2.1 Opening balance at 1st September 1939	1,861.70292 kg. fine gold
2.2 New gold deposited by the Reichsbank	13,542.21892 kg. fine gold
2.3 Postal payments to the Reichsbank	88.51264 kg. fine gold
2.4 Gold sold by the BIS to the Reichsbank	5,479.72850 kg. fine gold
Gold exchanged with BIS: Berne-Stockholm	499.88150 kg. fine gold
Total =	<hr/> 21,472.04448 kg. fine gold

3. GOLD DEBITED FROM THE REICHSBANK ACCOUNTS WITH THE BIS

3.1 Interest payments in gold on pre-war BIS investments in Germany

From the early 1930s, the BIS had made substantial investments on the German market. These investments were to be considered as a counterpart to the German liabilities under the Young Plan for the final settlement of reparations ensuing from the First World War, adopted at the second Hague Conference of January 1930. On 31st August 1939, on the eve of the Second World War, these investments - mainly in German Treasury Bills and short-term bonds issued by the Reichspost and the Reichsbahn - amounted to 294 million Swiss gold francs. Until March 1940 the interest due on these investments was settled by the Reichsbank through monthly payments in Swiss francs to the BIS.

During the war some of these interest payments were settled in gold (from March to June 1940; in October 1941; and all payments between January 1943 and March 1945). The Reichsbank sold the appropriate amount of gold to the BIS and the countervalue in Swiss francs or Reichsmarks, instead of being paid out to the Reichsbank, constituted the monthly interest payments due by the Reichsbank on the BIS investments in Germany. Thus, in effect, the Reichsbank settled these interest payments in gold. Between 1st September 1939 and 8th May 1945, interest payments to the BIS settled by the Reichsbank in gold, through its gold accounts held with the BIS loco Berne, amounted to 6,266.82753 kg. fine gold. The details of individual transactions can be found in Appendix 3.

As mentioned in Section 2.2 of this report, a further 1,525.62030 kg. fine gold was transferred to the BIS by the Reichsbank on 12th April 1945 as an advance settlement of the interest payments due in 1945 and held in the Reichsbank depot at Konstanz until after the war. This brings interest payments paid in gold by the Reichsbank to the BIS during the war to a total of **7,792.44783 kg. fine gold** (Table 1, category II, 1).

3.2 International postal payments paid for the account of the Reichsbank

As explained in Section 2.3 of this report, the Reichsbank participated in the system for international postal payments operated through the BIS. From October 1939 to January 1945, the Reichsbank's Gold Sight Account held with the BIS was debited, with an overall amount of **1,362.06226 kg. fine gold**, for postal payments in gold to the central banks of Argentina, Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Finland, Norway, Slovakia and Sweden. Over 70% of the total amount was transferred to the Hungarian National Bank in favour of the Hungarian Postal Service. The individual transactions are listed in Appendix 2 and a summary by counterpart is given in Table 1 (category II, 2).

3.3 Payments in gold to the Yugoslav Railway Administration

Apart from the international postal payments, but following the same procedure, a total of **4,655.83657 kg. fine gold** was transferred from the Reichsbank's Gold Sight Account with the BIS to the National Bank of Yugoslavia in favour of the Yugoslav Railway Administration. These transactions were carried out between June 1940 and March 1941. The individual transactions are listed in Appendix 4 (see also Table 1, category II, 3).

3.4 Gold sold by the Reichsbank to the BIS

On 8th November 1941 and 13th January 1942 the Reichsbank sold to the BIS respectively 300 and 1,050 kg. fine gold, taken from its Gold Sight Account, against SFr 6,627,000. As a result of these two sales the Reichsbank's Gold Sight Account held with the BIS loco Berne was debited with **1,350 kg. fine gold** (Table 1, category II, 4). This gold was subsequently sold by the BIS to the central banks of Rumania and Bulgaria.

3.5 Gold withdrawn by the Reichsbank from its gold accounts with the BIS

On three separate occasions the Reichsbank withdrew an overall total of **5,809.04639 kg. fine gold** from its accounts held with the BIS (Table 1, category II, 5):

(a) transport of 2,006.95686 kg. fine gold bought from the BIS from Berne to Berlin on 6.11.1939 (see also Section 2.4a).

(b) transfer of 1,802.08784 kg. fine gold held on Earmarked Gold Account n° 10 with the BIS in Berne to the Reichsbank's own gold account with the Swiss National Bank in Berne on 4.05.1940 (see also Section 2.1).

(c) transfer of 2,000.00169 kg. fine gold bought from the BIS to Sveriges Riksbank, Stockholm, on 29.05.1940, to be held at the disposal of the Reichsbank (see also Section 2.4b).

3.6 Summary: total amount of gold debited from the Reichsbank accounts with the BIS

Between 1st September 1939 and 8th May 1945, the following amounts of gold were debited from the Reichsbank gold accounts held with the BIS:

3.1 Interest payments due by Germany to BIS	7,792.44783 kg. fine gold
3.2 Postal payments by the Reichsbank	1,362.06226 kg. fine gold
3.3 Payments to the Yugoslav Railway Admin.	4,655.83657 kg. fine gold
3.4 Gold sold by the Reichsbank to the BIS	1,350.00000 kg. fine gold
3.5 Gold withdrawn by the Reichsbank	5,809.04639 kg. fine gold
Gold exchanged with BIS: Berne-Stockholm	502.65145 kg. fine gold
Total =	<hr/> 21,472.04450 kg. fine gold

4. POSTWAR INVESTIGATION INTO THE WHEREABOUTS OF THE GOLD BARS DEPOSITED BY THE REICHSBANK WITH THE BIS DURING THE WAR

As explained in Section 2.2, from 1st September 1939 to 8th May 1945 the BIS received from the Reichsbank 12,016.59862 kg. fine gold in new deposits, while another 1,525.62030 kg. fine gold was held under earmark for the BIS in Konstanz as from 12th April 1945. Thus, in all **13,542.21892 kg. fine gold** was delivered by the Reichsbank to the BIS.

As also explained in Section 1.2, there is not necessarily a link between the individual gold bars delivered by the Reichsbank and those used by the BIS in carrying out banking instructions from the Reichsbank. Shortly after the war, an analysis was undertaken by the BIS which showed how each individual gold bar received from the Reichsbank during the war had been utilised by the BIS. This analysis, found in the BIS archives, shows the next physical destination of each gold bar, after it had left the BIS gold depot at the Swiss National Bank in Berne (or, in the case of the Konstanz gold, the Reichsbank depot in Konstanz). The relevant transactions are listed in Appendix 5.

These transactions can be summarised as follows (situation on 1.02.1947):

3,893.26170 kg. fine gold (incl. the gold blocked in Konstanz) was still in possession of the BIS

3,893.46171 kg. fine gold had been transferred by the BIS to the National Bank of Rumania

3,138.28017 kg. fine gold had been transferred by the BIS to the National Bank of Yugoslavia

1,118.55459 kg. fine gold had been transferred by the BIS to the National Bank of Bulgaria

799.27177 kg. fine gold had been transferred by the BIS to the National Bank of Portugal

699.38898 kg. fine gold had been transferred by the BIS to the Swiss National Bank

13,542.21892 kg. fine gold

The 3,893 kg. fine gold still in the possession of the BIS at the end of the Second World War is dealt with in the next Section.

5. THE TRIPARTITE GOLD COMMISSION AND THE RESTITUTION OF LOOTED GOLD BY THE BIS

After the war the BIS opened its books to the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold (France, the United Kingdom and the United States), set up by the Paris Reparations Conference of December 1945. The origin of the 13,542.21892 kg. fine gold which the Reichsbank had delivered to the BIS during the war was examined in detail on the basis of records including Reichsbank and Prussian Mint documents captured by the Allied occupation forces in Germany. This examination showed that the BIS received a total of 3,738.48557 kg. fine gold that had been looted by the Germans from the central banks of the Netherlands (2,093.86258 kg. fine gold), Belgium (1,607.38516 kg. fine gold) and Italy (37.23783 kg. fine gold) and of which a substantial part had been resmelted and stamped with pre-war dates at the Prussian Mint.

The BIS agreed to restitute the rounded figure of 3,740 kg. fine gold to the allied gold pool created by the Paris Reparations Agreement of 14th January 1946. This was officially confirmed by an exchange of letters between the BIS and representatives of the governments of France, the United Kingdom and the United States on 13th May 1948 in Washington (see: BIS, *18th Annual Report*, Basle, 14th June 1948, pp. 11-13). This "Washington Agreement" stated: *"The three Governments, acting in their own behalf and in behalf of all of the other governments signatory to the Paris Reparations Agreement of 14th January 1946, and of the banks of issue of the signatory Governments, agree that, in accepting delivery of such amount of gold [the agreed 3,740 kg. fine gold], they waive all claims against the Bank for International Settlements with regard to looted gold transferred to it by Germany"*.

After the signing of the Washington Agreement on 13th May 1948, the 1,525.62030 kg. fine gold, which had remained blocked at the former Reichsbank depot in Konstanz until 31st March 1948 when it had been transferred to the gold depot of the Banque de France in Strasbourg, was finally released to the BIS. On this occasion, both the American and the French authorities reconfirmed that they had no further claims to make with regard to the Konstanz gold (letter E. Monick, Governor of the Banque de France, to the BIS, dated 9.06.1948: *"Les autorités américaines m'ont fait savoir qu'elles n'ont plus aucune question à soulever au sujet de l'or demeuré bloqué à Constance"*).

On 24th June 1948 the BIS restituted 3,740 kg. fine gold to the Tripartite Gold Commission in London, as agreed in the Washington Agreement of 13th May 1948. These 3,740 kilogrammes were partly taken from the gold delivered by the Reichsbank during the war which still remained in the possession of the BIS. In fact, the BIS still held 3,893.26170 kg. fine gold from the Reichsbank (see Section 4):

2,367.64140 kg. fine gold (198 gold bars) in Berne

417.98290 kg. fine gold (34 gold bars) forming part of the Konstanz gold, now in Strasbourg

1,107.63740 kg. fine gold (31 cases of gold coins) part of the Konstanz gold, now in Strasbourg

3,893.26170 kg. fine gold

Of this total amount, the 232 gold bars (2,785.62430 kg. fine gold) were restituted to the Tripartite Commission for the Restitution of Monetary Gold on 24th June 1948. In addition to this, another 954.37570 kg. fine gold was taken from the BIS gold deposit with the Bank of England to constitute the total of 3,740 kg. fine gold agreed upon in the Washington Agreement.

The 1,107.63740 kg. fine gold in coins (part of the Konstanz gold) was sold by the BIS on 13th and 30th September 1948 on the private market. These coins were exchanged by the Banque de France against gold bars "good delivery", which were placed at the disposal of the BIS's counterpart in this transaction.

Thus, by 1st October 1948 none of the 13,542.21892 kg. fine gold delivered by the Reichsbank to the BIS during the Second World War remained physically in the possession of the BIS.

pc/12may1997

APPENDIX 1 - NEW GOLD DEPOSITED WITH THE BIS BY THE REICHSBANK
1st September 1939 - 8th May 1945

<i>Date of transfer from Reichsbank account with the Swiss NB</i>	<i>Number of gold bars</i>	<i>Year marked on gold bars</i>	<i>Total fine weight (in kg.)</i>	<i>Transferred to Reichsbank account with BIS</i>
1940				
14.02.40	8	-	99.99598	Earmarked a/c n°11, Berne
13.03.40	16	-	200.35846	Earmarked a/c n°11, Berne
8.05.40	29	-	362.15400	Earmarked a/c n°11, Berne
31.05.40	29	-	361.60955	Earmarked a/c n°11, Berne
3.06.40	13	-	153.11862	Earmarked a/c n°11, Berne
5.06.40	9	-	102.22300	Earmarked a/c n°11, Berne
11.06.40	9	-	105.90315	Earmarked a/c n°11, Berne
21.06.40	9	-	104.82178	Earmarked a/c n°11, Berne
2.07.40	22	-	256.89348	Earmarked a/c n°11, Berne
28.08.40	42	-	522.52684	Earmarked a/c n°7, Berne
3.09.40	51	-	632.52581	Gold Sight Account, Berne
17.09.40	8	-	101.08917	Gold Sight Account, Berne
3.10.40	52	-	647.80605	Gold Sight Account, Berne
18.11.40	28	-	349.67896	Gold Sight Account, Berne
3.12.40	11	-	133.68221	Gold Sight Account, Berne
1941				
26.02.41	40	-	502.55386	Gold Sight Account, Berne
29.10.41	41	-	505.64831	Gold Sight Account, Berne
24.11.41	26	-	299.31073	Gold Sight Account, Berne
1942				
12.01.42	51	-	600.46252	Gold Sight Account, Berne
19.01.42	41	-	499.22946	Gold Sight Account, Berne
1943				
13.01.43	8	1932	101.68082	Gold Sight Account, Berne
25.01.43	42	-	501.26170	Gold Sight Account, Berne
9.03.43	42	1942	499.96467	Gold Sight Account, Berne
26.05.43	17	1942	200.01858	Gold Sight Account, Berne
28.06.43	17	1942	200.86829	Gold Sight Account, Berne
2.08.43	16	1937	200.40179	Gold Sight Account, Berne
28.08.43	16	1938	201.35418	Gold Sight Account, Berne
1.10.43	16	1938	200.86941	Gold Sight Account, Berne
27.10.43	16	1938	199.98718	Gold Sight Account, Berne
3.12.43	16	-	201.38051	Gold Sight Account, Berne
30.12.43	16	1939/1934	199.30678	Gold Sight Account, Berne

<i>Date of transfer from Reichsbank account with the Swiss NB</i>	<i>Number of gold bars</i>	<i>Year marked on gold bars</i>	<i>Total fine weight (in kg.)</i>	<i>Transferred to Reichsbank account with BIS</i>
1944				
21.01.44	16	1934	200.05514	Gold Sight Account, Berne
25.02.44	16	1935	200.21623	Gold Sight Account, Berne
22.03.44	17	1936	205.19445	Gold Sight Account, Berne
22.04.44	17	1935	199.26853	Gold Sight Account, Berne
15.05.44	17	1935	200.07709	Gold Sight Account, Berne
1.06.44	17	1935	199.75432	Gold Sight Account, Berne
23.06.44	17	1935	203.85329	Gold Sight Account, Berne
10.08.44	13	1935	152.50887	Gold Sight Account, Berne
12.10.44	17	1935/1937	203.55377	Gold Sight Account, Berne
6.11.44	16	1937	198.91580	Gold Sight Account, Berne
12.12.44	17	1937	201.95198	Gold Sight Account, Berne
22.12.44	50	1937	602.56330	Gold Sight Account, Berne
Total deposited in Berne:	987		12,016.59862	
1945				
12.04.45	34	-	417.98290	Reichsbank a/c Konstanz
12.04.45	gold coins	-	1,107.63740	Reichsbank a/c Konstanz
Total deposited in Konstanz:			1,525.62030	
Overall total:			13,542.21892	

- = no information available

**APPENDIX 2 - INTERNATIONAL POSTAL SETTLEMENTS: RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR
THE ACCOUNT OF THE REICHSBANK, 1st September 1939 - 8th May 1945**

<i>Date of transaction</i>	<i>Counterpart</i>	<i>Postal receipts Reichsbank Gold Sight A/c credited (kg.f. gold)</i>	<i>Postal payments Reichsbank Gold Sight A/c debited (kg.f. gold)</i>
1939			
3.10.39	National Bank of Belgium		4.96501
5.10.39	Finlands National Bank		6.29108
14.10.39	Danmarks National Bank	14.15865	
18.10.39	Danmarks National Bank		9.00290
18.10.39	Norges Bank		22.82691
4.12.39	Danmarks National Bank	13.43510	
7.12.39	Eesti Pank		1.30424
12.12.39	Danmarks National Bank		0.77500
12.12.39	Norges Bank		0.24244
12.12.39	National Bank of Argentina		1.12973
18.12.39	National Bank of Belgium		19.88744
Total 1939:		27.59375	66.42475
1940			
24.01.40	Norges Bank		20.90659
24.01.40	Danmarks National Bank		26.75804
5.02.40	Finlands National Bank		6.19066
12.02.40	National Bank of Belgium		27.76466
13.03.40	Norges Bank	16.04635	
26.03.40	Danmarks National Bank	9.67336	
1.04.40	Eesti Pank	2.38293	
1.04.40	Eesti Pank	2.03720	
7.05.40	National Bank of Belgium		33.62437
9.05.40	National Bank of Argentina	0.01452	
14.05.40	Finlands National Bank	14.11741	
14.05.40	Hungarian National Bank	14.52091	
10.06.40	Finlands National Bank	2.12621	
16.07.40	Eesti Pank		6.05625
18.11.40	Eesti Pank		0.00653
Total 1940:		60.91889	121.30710
1942			
26.05.42	Hungarian National Bank		282.02496
6.08.42	Slovakian National Bank		45.34750
14.09.42	Slovakian National Bank		11.15855
10.12.42	Hungarian National Bank		190.42982
Total 1942:			528.96083

<i>Date of transaction</i>	<i>Counterpart</i>	<i>Postal receipts Reichsbank Gold Sight A/c credited (kg.f. gold)</i>	<i>Postal payments Reichsbank Gold Sight A/c debited (kg.f. gold)</i>
1943			
14.01.43	Hungarian National Bank		45.21272
22.03.43	Hungarian National Bank		28.55329
9.04.43	Slovakian National Bank		19.25909
19.05.43	Hungarian National Bank		15.41932
28.05.43	Hungarian National Bank		34.93249
18.06.43	Hungarian National Bank		45.94372
29.06.43	Slovakian National Bank		6.99492
30.07.43	Hungarian National Bank		44.45230
1.11.43	Hungarian National Bank		38.28180
13.12.43	Slovakian National Bank		6.35237
Total 1943:			285.40202
1944			
4.03.44	Hungarian National Bank		46.56688
7.03.44	Hungarian National Bank		35.67119
19.05.44	Hungarian National Bank		45.78092
22.05.44	Slovakian National Bank		23.93708
5.06.44	Hungarian National Bank		36.57635
17.07.44	Hungarian National Bank		46.04904
16.08.44	Hungarian National Bank		35.61573
28.09.44	Slovakian National Bank		18.53218
28.09.44	Sveriges Riksbank		1.62260
31.10.44	Slovakian National Bank		5.92626
3.11.44	Sveriges Riksbank		7.88372
4.12.44	Hungarian National Bank		7.54374
Total 1944:			311.70569
1945			
26.01.45	Slovakian National Bank		48.26187
Total 1945:			48.26187
Overall total:		88.51264	1,362.06226

Summary by Counterpart

Hungarian National Bank	14.52091	979.05427
Slovakian National Bank		185.76982
National Bank of Belgium		86.24148
Norges Bank	16.04635	43.97594
Danmarks National Bank	37.26711	36.53594
Finlands National Bank	16.24362	12.48174
Sveriges Riksbank		9.50632
Eesti Pank	4.42013	7.36702
National Bank of Argentina	0.01452	1.12973
	88.51264	1,362.06226

**APPENDIX 3 - INTEREST PAYMENTS IN GOLD MADE BY THE REICHSBANK ON PRE-WAR
BIS INVESTMENTS IN GERMANY, 1st September 1939 - 8th May 1945**

<i>Date of transaction</i>	<i>Number of gold bars</i>	<i>Total fine weight (in kg.)</i>	<i>Countervalue in currency</i>
1940			
13.03.40	8	99.99598	SFr 490,980.26
28.03.40	8	100.30786	SFr 492,511.59
18.04.40	8	100.05060	SFr 491,248.45
15.05.40	8	100.14926	SFr 491,732.87
17.05.40	8	99.88311	SFr 490,426.07
25.05.40	8	99.85880	SFr 490,306.71
5.06.40	9	102.22300	SFr 501,914.93
11.06.40	9	105.90315	SFr 519,984.47
Total 1940:	66	808.37176	
1941			
15.10.41	-	300.00000	SFr 1,473,000
27.10.41	-	300.00000	SFr 1,473,000
Total 1941:		600.00000	
1943			
28.01.43	-	204.29027	RM 579,500
15.02.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.02.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.03.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.03.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.04.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
27.04.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.05.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.05.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.06.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
26.07.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
18.08.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
26.08.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
16.09.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.09.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.10.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.10.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.11.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.11.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.12.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
27.12.43	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
Total 1943:		2,247.19307	

<i>Date of transaction</i>	<i>Number of gold bars</i>	<i>Total fine weight (in kg.)</i>	<i>Countervalue in currency</i>
1944			
15.01.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.01.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.02.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.02.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.03.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.03.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.04.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.04.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
16.05.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
25.05.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
15.06.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
26.06.44	-	102.14514	RM 289,750
17.07.44	-	81.71611	RM 231,800
15.08.44	-	81.71611	RM 231,800
15.09.44	-	81.71611	RM 231,800
14.10.44	-	81.71611	RM 231,800
3.11.44	-	81.71611	RM 231,800
15.11.44	-	163.43221	RM 463,600
15.12.44	-	163.43221	RM 463,600
30.12.44	-	245.14833	RM 695,400
Total 1944:		2,206.33498	
1945			
15.01.45	-	81.71611	RM 231,800
15.02.45	-	204.29027	RM 579,500
31.03.45	-	118.92134	RM 337,338.22
Total 1945:		404.92772	
Overall total:		6,266.82753	

- = no information available

**APPENDIX 4 - REICHSBANK PAYMENTS IN GOLD TO THE YUGOSLAV
RAILWAY ADMINISTRATION, June 1940 - March 1941**

<i>Date of Transaction</i>	<i>Fine weight (in kgs.)</i>
1940	
3.06.40	545.4631
4.07.40	379.1446
30.08.40	502.30774
3.09.40	619.92357
19.09.40	88.31645
3.10.40	649.01403
18.10.40	3.37032
4.11.40	18.80609
18.11.40	335.02939
3.12.40	128.19294
19.12.40	14.48459
total 1940:	3,284.05282
1941	
3.01.41	727.05063
20.01.41	28.84875
3.02.41	216.85303
17.02.41	266.28448
3.03.41	131.74792
18.03.41	0.99894
total 1941:	1,371.78375
overall total:	4,655.83657

APPENDIX 5 - DESTINATION OF THE GOLD NEWLY DEPOSITED WITH THE BIS BY THE REICHSBANK DURING THE SECOND WORLD WAR

<i>Date Gold came into BIS</i>	<i>Date Gold went out from BIS</i>	<i>Number of gold bars</i>	<i>Year marked on bars</i>	<i>Total fine weight (in kgs.)</i>	<i>Destination</i>
1940					
14.02.40	sold on 10.02.1941	8	-	99.99598	NB of Portugal
13.03.40	sold on 10.02.1941	16	-	200.35846	NB of Portugal
8.05.40	sold on 10.02.1941	26	-	324.74215	NB of Portugal
	delivered on 7.06.1940	2	-	24.91349	NB of Yugoslavia
	delivered on 1.10.1940	1	-	12.49836	NB of Yugoslavia
31.05.40	delivered on 7.06.1940	29	-	361.60955	NB of Yugoslavia
3.06.40	delivered on 7.06.1940	13	-	153.11862	NB of Yugoslavia
5.06.40	delivered on 1.10.1940	9	-	102.22300	NB of Yugoslavia
11.06.40	delivered on 1.10.1940	9	-	105.90315	NB of Yugoslavia
21.06.40	delivered on 1.10.1940	9	-	104.82178	NB of Yugoslavia
2.07.40	delivered on 1.10.1940	22	-	256.89348	NB of Yugoslavia
28.08.40	delivered on 20.09.1940	42	-	522.52684	NB of Yugoslavia
3.09.40	delivered on 20.09.1940	39	-	483.73167	NB of Yugoslavia
	delivered on 9.04.1941	1	-	12.12422	Swiss National Bank
	sold on 10.02.1941	11	-	136.66992	NB of Portugal
17.09.40	sold on 10.02.1941	3	-	37.50526	NB of Portugal
	delivered on 15.01.1941	1	-	12.55522	NB of Yugoslavia
	delivered on 9.04.1941	4	-	51.02869	Swiss National Bank
3.10.40	delivered 15.01.1941	15	-	186.73926	NB of Yugoslavia
	delivered 27.01.1941	18	-	224.00635	NB of Yugoslavia
	delivered 29.01.1941	19	-	237.06044	NB of Yugoslavia
18.11.40	delivered 29.01.1941	6	-	74.94151	NB of Yugoslavia
	delivered 8.04.1941	15	-	187.06717	NB of Yugoslavia
	delivered 29.04.1941	7	-	87.67028	NB of Yugoslavia
3.12.40	delivered on 9.04.1941	11	-	133.68221	Swiss National Bank
1941					
26.02.41	delivered on 9.04.1941	40	-	502.55386	Swiss National Bank
29.10.41	sold on 13.01.1942	36	-	444.84091	NB of Bulgaria
	sold on 17.06.1942	2	-	24.26625	NB of Bulgaria
	sold on 4.03.1943	3	-	36.54115	NB of Bulgaria
24.11.41	debited on 25.08.1942	26	-	299.31073	NB of Rumania
1942					
12.01.42	sold on 13.01.1942	51	-	600.46252	NB of Bulgaria
19.01.42	debited on 25.08.1942	41	-	499.22946	NB of Rumania
1943					
13.01.43	sold on 4.03.1943	1	1932	12.44376	NB of Bulgaria
	debited on 22.03.1944	7	1932	89.23706	NB of Rumania
25.01.43	debited on 22.03.1944	42	-	501.26170	NB of Rumania

<i>Date Gold came into BIS</i>	<i>Date Gold went out from BIS</i>	<i>Number of gold bars</i>	<i>Year marked on bars</i>	<i>Total fine weight (in kgs.)</i>	<i>Destination</i>
9.03.43	debited on 22.03.1944	42	1942	499.96467	NB of Rumania
26.05.43	debited on 22.03.1944	17	1942	200.01858	NB of Rumania
28.06.43	debited on 22.03.1944	17	1942	200.86829	NB of Rumania
2.08.43	debited on 22.03.1944	16	1937	200.40179	NB of Rumania
28.08.43	debited on 22.03.1944	16	1938	201.35418	NB of Rumania
1.10.43	earmarked on 17.01.1947	16	1938	200.86941	NB of Rumania
27.10.43	earmarked on 17.01.1947	16	1938	199.98718	NB of Rumania
3.12.43	debited on 22.03.1944	16	-	201.38051	NB of Rumania
30.12.43	debited on 22.03.1944	16	1939/1934	199.30678	NB of Rumania
1944					
21.01.44	debited on 22.03.1944	16	1934	200.05514	NB of Rumania
25.02.44	earmarked on 17.01.1947	16	1935	200.21623	NB of Rumania
22.03.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	17	1936	205.19445	Tripartite Gold Comm.
22.04.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	17	1935	199.26853	Tripartite Gold Comm.
15.05.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	17	1935	200.07709	Tripartite Gold Comm.
1.06.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	17	1935	199.75432	Tripartite Gold Comm.
23.06.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	17	1935	203.85329	Tripartite Gold Comm.
10.08.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	13	1935	152.50887	Tripartite Gold Comm.
12.10.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	17	1935/1937	203.55377	Tripartite Gold Comm.
6.11.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	16	1937	198.91580	Tripartite Gold Comm.
12.12.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	17	1937	201.95198	Tripartite Gold Comm.
22.12.44	delivered on 24.06.1948	50	1937	602.56330	Tripartite Gold Comm.
Total gold deposited in Berne:		987		12,016.59862	
1945					
12.04.45	delivered on 24.06.1948	34	-	417.98290	Tripartite Gold Comm.
12.04.45	sold on 13.09.1948	70,000 coins		500.17147	sold on private market,
	sold on 30.09.1948	85,000 coins		607.46593	exchanged ag. bars by Banque de France
Total gold deposited in Konstanz:				1,525.62030	
Overall total:				13,542.21892	

- = no information available

your reference

our reference

The General Manager
Bank for International Settlements
Central Bahnplatz 2
4041 Basle
Switzerland

PC 205\aaam242k.sam

12 May 1997

Dear Sir

1. You have asked us to review the factual accuracy and completeness of information which you are publishing about certain transactions in gold undertaken by the Bank for International Settlements ("BIS") during the second World War. These transactions are set out in a "Note on Gold Operations involving the Bank for International Settlements and the German Reichsbank, 1st September 1939 - 8th May 1945", prepared by your staff in October 1996 and updated in May 1997.

2. We have not reviewed any other gold transactions, or any currency transactions, undertaken by BIS.

3. The partner responsible for our review is Andrew J Mainz, a partner in the Forensic Accounting department of the United Kingdom firm of Coopers & Lybrand.

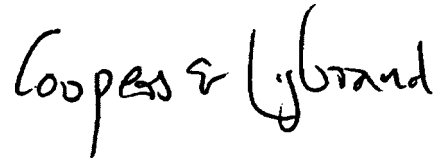
4. Our review of the transactions in gold described in the above-mentioned Note was intended solely to examine the factual information contained therein, without forming or expressing any opinion on the background to these transactions.

5. Our review of the information contained in the Note prepared by BIS has been based on our own, independent investigation of BIS' available records and documents relating to wartime gold transactions involving BIS and the Reichsbank. We requested and were given free access to the books and records of BIS, including its archives, and to its personnel. The Swiss National Bank has provided confirmation of all transactions in which it was involved. We are seeking confirmation of the transactions from the other central banks concerned.

6. We were able to confirm the details of each wartime gold transaction involving BIS and the Reichsbank with the books and records kept by BIS. In the course of our work we noted a small number of minor errors and repetitions in the October 1996 Note which do not affect its overall content and which have been corrected in the updated version dated 12 May 1997. We did not find any other transactions in BIS' books and records which should have been included in the Note prepared by BIS.

7. Based on our review of BIS' records, we confirm that, as shown in the table on page 3 of the Note dated 12 May 1997, BIS received a total of 13.542 metric tonnes of gold from the Reichsbank during the war.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Coopers & Lybrand". The script is cursive and somewhat stylized, with the ampersand being particularly prominent.

Coopers & Lybrand