



The American CHESS Foundation

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Executive Director

December 11, 1961

Mrs. Jacqueline Piatigorsky
400 South Bundy Drive
Los Angeles 49, California

Dear Mrs. Piatigorsky:

I regret more than I can tell you that you did not find it possible to arrange to have me see you again before you left New York City. I hope that if your travel plans in the immediate plans ahead include a stay here, you will advise me in advance and make it possible for us to have another talk.

Unless you tell me otherwise, I feel duty-bound to resume correspondence with you in regard to both of the suggestions that I made when I saw you here; with particular emphasis on one of them.

As to the first of these proposals: that a Piatigorsky Chess Fund be endowed over a period of years by yourself with possibly the participation of your friends, I can do no more than merely remind you of the proposal and ask you to permit me to develop some of the details with you if the subject is not fully foreclosed.

On the second proposal: that there be organized in Los Angeles and in that general area of California, a small committee of outstanding people interested in Chess who would be affiliated with the Foundation here, -- on that subject, I feel I have every justification in exploring it more intensively with you. For the idea of having in several major cities a small, select group of selfless people interested in Chess (either because they are chessplayers themselves or see its national and international values) who are above mass membership and demagogue pressures, can infuse the ACF with a new vitality and set the groundwork for a procedure that could provide American Chess with its basic needs for the near and foreseeable future.

Mrs. Jacqueline Piatigorsky

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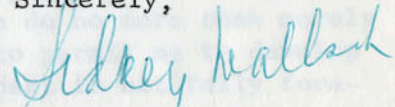
Nor is the effort one that would be difficult of achievement. I am sure that upon diligent inquiry, you, with some close associates, could locate ten or twelve people from the academic, art, business and professional worlds in and around Los Angeles who are themselves in a position to be generous donors (particularly to a tax-exempt Foundation) or who are of sufficient prominence so that they could persuade others of standing to extend their generosity to Chess. Such a group could set itself a reasonable goal to raise funds for the Foundation's broad purposes nationally and internationally, with an agreed-upon proportion of what it raises, allocated for chess projects and activities within the area represented by the committee.

I am not for a moment suggesting that to assemble such a group, to get them to accept the responsibility and to have them work things out, would be easy. But I sincerely believe that it can be done and even more, that only as such a procedure is acted upon in Los Angeles and elsewhere in the country, can American Chess be helped in a steady and dignified way, with independence from self-seekers and demagogues in the chess world.

I apologize for the length of this letter but I feel that the total picture should be before you and that the prospects are so challenging and attractive that the proposal merits your most careful and, I hope, sympathetic consideration and decision.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Sidney Wallach

SW:gp