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From: E. Shahaf
Chess editor

משרד ראשי

רחוב החבצלת 9
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י ר ו ש ל י מ

סניפים

רחוב נחלת בנימין 52
ת.ד. 1125. טלפון 4251
ת א ב י ב

רחוב ח'יט 1
ת.ד. 66. טלפון 4594
ה פ י ה

26th September, 1966

Mrs. Jacqueline Piatigorsky
400 South Bund Drive
Santa Monica, Calif.,

Home address: 113 Ben Yehuda Rd.,
Tel Aviv, Israel.

telephone: 226198

Dear Mrs. Piatigorsky:

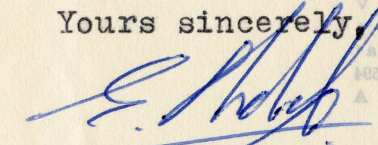
Some time ago I have written you, in the name of the Israel Chess Federation, a letter suggesting that you consider the idea of heading the eventual Fund for Israel Chess in the U.S. Since I have now taken a different position at the Federation, as administrator of the Youth Committee (on top of my previous duty as editor of "Shahmat", the official monthly of the Federation), and I had no information to the effect that a reply has been received to the above mentioned letter, I am taking the liberty of addressing you privately on the above matter.

I have read with great admiration about the colossal work you have put in for the Santa Monica event. The chess world is indeed indebted to you and your eminent husband for making possible one of the greatest chess tournaments of all times. I could not help thinking though that had Israel only a small fraction of the means devoted to this event, it could long produce more than one player of no lesser magnitude than the participants at Santa Monica. Chess has been always considered a "Jewish" game, and indeed it was (and still is) where the proper conditions prevailed for the development of Grandmasters and world champions. We do not lack the talent, but we do lack the necessary conditions to enable our youngsters to reach the heights they reach in other countries which are in a position to provide for such needs. Would it not be a noble cause to bring the chess youth of this country to the foremost position they can occupy in the chess world? The revival of the Ancient game in the Jewish Homeland would mean not only that this country could eventually challenge the Russian supremacy, but, what is more important, serve as a guiding light to the all the Asian countries, especially those considered as the cradle of the Royal Game. We have been always "exporting" know-how from Zion, and it is in the domain of chess that we can easily assume a leading role in the world.

If the idea appeals to you, and if you consider that you could be of assistance to us in implementing it, it will do me a great honour indeed if you will care to express your opinion about it. Since this letter is strictly a personal one, your reply will be treated in the same way, meaning that no part of this correspondence will be used for publicity and the rules governing "off the record" matters will be fully observed.

Looking forward to your esteemed reply, and wishing you and your husband many more productive years in the service of music and chess,
I remain, Dear Mrs. Piatigorsky,

Yours sincerely,


(E. Shahaf)

25th September, 1966

Enclosed please find a small piece from the Post and a small piece from the conclusion of the tournament.

Mrs. Jacqueline Piatigorsky
400 South Bond Drive
Santa Monica, Calif.
Dear Mrs. Piatigorsky:

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