Berlin, Germany, December 14, 1932.

Dear Louis:

I have just received your note of December 13 and I am sending you herewith a copy of a telegram received from the Secretary, telling about his statement before the press conference on Saturday morning, December 10. I have not seen the full text of his statement to the press, but I have a private telegram saying that his statement was most satisfactory and complete. I am also sending you a copy of the press release of the American organizations here in Berlin to which is appended a copy of the telegram which they sent to the Secretary. I also have a private telegram this morning telling me that in the Herald-Tribune of yesterday morning, Lippmann made a statement prominently displayed, in which he makes the amende honorable. I think the wires have been kept hot by various people and the whole situation has nicely cleared up, but I shudder to think what would have been the result if I had been less able to defend myself or if I did not have so many and such generous friends. Unless the proper steps had been taken this incident might have gone far to wreck the results of nineteen years hard, and I hope faithful, effort.

I can't go into the details because I have too much to do. Einstein conducted his application for a visa with the press for at least three days before he ever applied. I had to go to Breslau to inspect the Consulate there under specific instructions, and before leaving I discussed
case with Geist should Einstein apply in my absence,
and when he did apply he was treated with every con­
sideration and practically every single statement
made in the press with regard to the case so far as
we are concerned, was without a single particle of
truth. He applied on Monday morning for a visa
and it was given to him on Tuesday morning and he
was treated with every consideration by Geist and
none of the foolish questions, etc., were asked.
He was asked about his connection with certain
organizations because this had to be done in view
of the objections which had been raised to his entry.
It was much better for him and everybody else to get
that cleared up here rather than for us to hand him
a visa on a golden platter and then have him subjected
to all sorts of difficulties and probably exclusion
on arrival at an American port where it is not quite
likely that he would have received as unbiased and as
intelligent treatment from immigration officers as he
received here from us. Very confidentially, the
trouble arose of course out of the fuss at home, but
particularly through Mrs. Einstein who is one of the
best publicity agents any husband ever had and who
is, to put it kindly, a most curious person. The
second difficulty arose through Geist's inability
to talk to the press regarding the case even for
background purposes, for as you know, we had to
communicate with the Department in Einstein's case
before granting the visa. You got a copy of the
circular telegram which we sent out regarding the
case. The newspaper men here got sore for no reason
at all and their stories were too one-sided. Now
they feel pretty sorry for themselves and some of
them are in danger of losing their heads, but I can
afford to be and will be generous. But it has
taught the newspaper men here a very good lesson.
They will be a bit more careful about what they say
with regard to our Government officials abroad for
a while and in that respect the incident has been a
benefit to the whole Foreign Service. If I could
make a public statement certain people would be
held up to ridicule which they may deserve, but I
am not interested in that sort of thing and now
that I am personally cleared and that the office
and
and the Service are cleared, I don't intend to do anything further. Of course Lippmann was the worst offender of all, and I am glad that he has had to come across, but you can imagine that this was not so easy as having to retract is bound to hurt him and his supposed infallibility, a good deal. It, however, had to come up to him from sources that he could not ignore. Everybody has been awfully good and I appreciate the way in which my friends in Europe and at home came to the rescue.

Marion and I are going to stay here for Christmas as we can't afford any useless luxuries, but we are going to do some of our winter entertaining at that time to help to make it merry for some of our lonesome friends here. I have no news of any particular interest now but as soon as I have will let you know and hope you will do the same when you know of anything interesting from home. My best wishes to you and Grace for a very happy Christmas and for a New Year filled with all manner of good things.

Faithfully yours,

Enclosures:
Copy of telegram from Secretary;
" " press release with telegram.