Vienna, January 25, 1935.

Dear Moffat:

I have a much too long letter going forward to you by this mail, and I feel very guilty in imposing it on you, for I know how much reading you have to do in addition to the other demands on your time. I take this liberty only because I happen to know how helpful certain background may be at times, and whenever I make my letters a burden by their length, I am sure I can depend on our friendship to have you let me know.

I am sending you this additional word to call attention to my confidential despatch No. 300, of January 24, in which I gave a résumé of the Austrian situation as I see it now. I would be glad if you find time to read this, and I can, with safety, tell you that the views expressed therein are in line with those held by my British and Italian colleagues here. While my relations with my French colleague are very good and he is at times quite frank and direct, it is much more difficult to learn what he really thinks. I am inclined, however, to believe that he shares these views of the present state of the situation here.

I may write briefly to Mr. Phillips still this afternoon, but as I am sending our material by the open mail today and as the comment I wish to make is rather confidential, it is probable that I shall wait until we send a pouch next week. I have some interesting information with regard to von Papen, who seems to be getting himself into hotter water all the time. If some of the reports we get here are correct, his colleague in the United States seems to be no less understanding in the comment which he makes.

Cordially and sincerely yours,

J. Pierrepont Moffat, Esq.,
Department of State,
Washington, D. C.