

October 9, 1995

H.E. Dr. Peter A. Schweizer,
The Ambassador of Switzerland,
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Your Excellency,

Perhaps, it is fitting to begin with Shelly's "The Flight of Love",

When the lamp is shattered,

The light in the dust lies dead...

When the cloud is scattered,

The rainbow's glory is shed

When the lute is broken,

Sweet tones are remembered not,

When the lips have spoken

Loved accents are soon forgot.

Let me assure you, your Excellency, that we have not forgotten that you were the best Ambassador friend of EHRCO. Nor have we forgotten that you provided us with moral support earlier. We shall remain grateful for that.

It is perhaps because of your close association with EHRCO that the most opportune moment was seized to test the strength of that bond. It is now a matter of record that the bond was weak and, therefore, could not weather the storm. What exactly had been saved because of our mutual sentiments, not to talk of commitments to principles, we feel Your Excellency is in a better position to judge. There is no doubt that your Excellency felt the loss of the equivalent of \$10,000.00. Your attempt to make us pay for that loss in terms of our honor as a people, our human dignity and our commitment to principles, Your Excellency must now realize, offended us deeply. In the words of Shakespeare: For sweetest things turn to sourest by their deeds.

Rest assured, Your Excellency, we are not poor in spirit. We are sorry that it took so much time to return your money. But we hope Your Excellency understands that condemnation came simultaneously with the illegal blocking of EHRCO's bank account. We are glad, however, that the Ethiopian people came to EHRCO's rescue and to enable it to pay you back the full amount. Please find the check enclosed herewith.

Wishing you all the best, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Mesfin Wolde-Mariam

Chairman, EHRCO