

Albert Einstein Never Forgot his Fellow Jews

April 26, 1933

Einstein left his home in Berlin in December 1932 to spend a few months at the California Institute of Technology. While he was in the US, the Nazis seized power, which led to Einstein announcing that he would not return to Germany. The Nazis then had this property confiscated and storm troopers raided his Berlin apartment five times in two days. They came up empty handed, outwitted by his stepdaughter Margot, who had smuggled his most important papers to the French embassy in Berlin. Einstein returned from America to Antwerp and Holland. On March 29, 1933, the day after his boat docked, Einstein resigned from the Prussian Academy. Bernhard Rust, the Nazi minister representing the Prussian Academy, demanded that other members denounce Einstein as a traitor. Einstein was declared an enemy of the state in Nazi Germany and had his property confiscated. He then wrote this letter in support of freedom and tolerance, which said in part:

“Without an atmosphere of intellectual freedom and tolerance, none of us can imagine a life which would be worth living.”

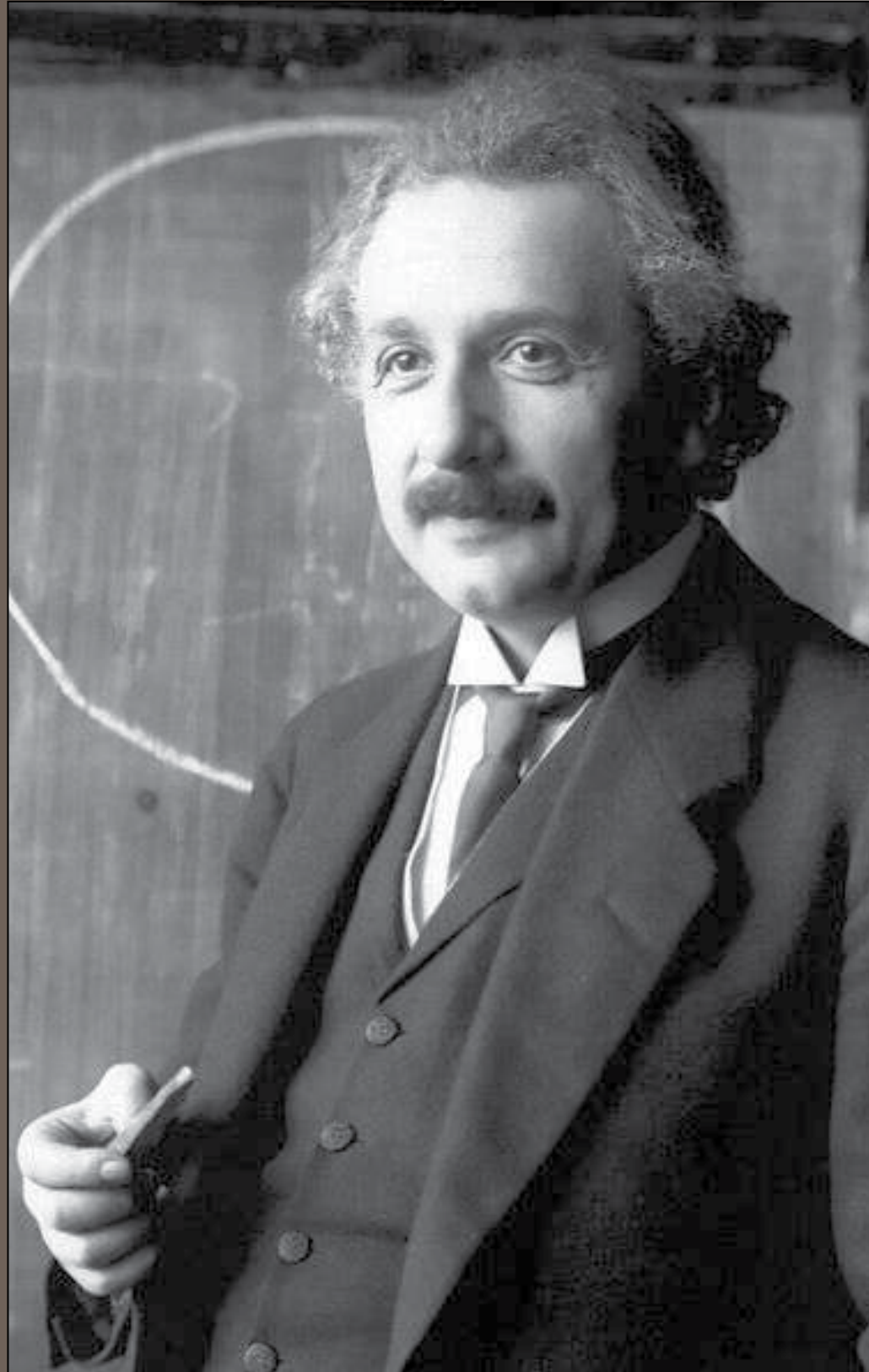
When he returned to the US, he continued his solidarity with his fellow Jews.

July 28, 1933, London

Dear Mr. Ettliger:

...I had extensive conversations there with the most prominent people, for Mr. Locker-Lampson who's guest I was, has introduced in the House of Commons a bill that aims at providing for expatriated Jews Palestinian passports and thereby securing British proaction for them... Are you aware of the fact that the well-known German- Jewish attorneys, Apfel and Werhauer, have founded a sort of institute for the investigation and amelioration of the damages resulting from statelessness? I'll send you a copy of a letter that explains everything you need to know. I think you ought to have a talk with Mr. Apfel sometime... in England and France, people are quite well-informed about German reparations for war. However, they are all too anxiously endeavoring to avoid a conflict that will force them to interceded—quite unjustifiably in my opinion...

My sincere greetings,
Albert Einstein



Einstein Letter in Support of Jewish Refugees

ALBERT EINSTEIN,
12 MERCER STREET,
PRINCETON,
NEW JERSEY, U.S.A.

June 10, 1939

Mr. Isidore Zelniker,
Cameo Hat Co.,
65, W. 39th St.,
New York, N. Y.

My dear Mr. Zelniker:

May I offer my sincere congratulations to you on the splendid work you have undertaken on behalf of the refugees during Dedication Week.

The power of resistance which has enabled the Jewish people to survive for thousands of years has been based to a large extent on traditions of mutual helpfulness. In these years of affliction our readiness to help one another is being put to an especially severe test. May we stand this test as well as did our fathers before us.

We have no other means of self-defense than our solidarity and our knowledge that the cause for which we are suffering is a momentous and sacred cause.

It must be a source of deep gratification to you to be making so important a contribution toward rescuing our persecuted fellow-Jews from their calamitous peril and leading them toward a better future.

Sincerely yours,

A. Einstein
Albert Einstein

AE:vl

**“There are two ways to live your life.
One is as though nothing is a miracle.
The other is as though everything is a miracle.”**

- Albert Einstein