

INCOMING AIRGRAM

ADE Mr Bellquist

DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF COMMUNICATIONS AND RECORDS TELEGRAPH BRANCH

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To ADE, Mr Bellquist
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CONFIDENTIAL
AIRGRAM

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FROM

REXKJAVIK

June 16, 1947

Rec'd. July 1, 1947
2:47 PM

Secretary of State,
Washington, D. C.

A-133 June 16, 1947.

In discussing the recent announcement by Halldor Kiljan LAXNESS, that he would give his State Artists-Award for the current year as a prize for the best essay on "The Surrender of Sovereign Rights in the Fall of 1946" (Legation's Airgram A-130 June 12), the Minister for Foreign Affairs said that he would very much like to know the amount Mr. Laxness has received in royalties from the publisher in the United States of his book, "Independent People", which, as mentioned in the airgram under reference, was a Book of the Month Club selection in 1946. Mr. Benediktsson said he was particularly desirous of being informed of the average monthly remittances Mr. Laxness has received thus far in 1947. These data, he stated, would be most useful to the Government in its efforts to identify the principal contributors to the Icelandic Communist Party. Considering the reasons for the Foreign Minister's request, it is respectfully recommended that the Legation be furnished with any information the Department may be able to obtain on the subject.

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OCT 10 - 1947

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