

No. 3149

**BELGIUM
and
SWITZERLAND**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement for the
payment of compensation to individuals and bodies
corporate of Swiss nationality for war damage. Brus-
sels, 5 January 1956**

Official text: French.

Registered by Belgium on 6 February 1956.

**BELGIQUE
et
SUISSE**

**Échange de lettres constituant un arrangement concernant
la réparation des dommages de guerre aux personnes
physiques ou morales de nationalité suisse. Bruxelles,
5 janvier 1956**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 6 février 1956.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3149. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND SWITZERLAND FOR THE PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION TO INDIVIDUALS AND BODIES CORPORATE OF SWISS NATIONALITY FOR WAR DAMAGE. BRUSSELS, 5 JANUARY 1956

I

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
AND EXTERNAL TRADE

No. P.II/R.19.2/55/8590.

Brussels, 5 January 1956

Your Excellency,

In your letter No. G.55.11.4.G. — A/es of 23 June 1954, you gave me the reasons why you considered it desirable for Swiss nationals who were victims of war damage in Belgium to be placed on the same footing as Belgians in respect of compensation for such damage.

In support of your views, you recalled in particular the decision of 1 April 1946, whereby the Federal Council waived reimbursement by Belgium of maintenance and repatriation costs in respect of Belgian civilians who sought refuge in Switzerland during the Second World War.

I have the honour to inform you that the Royal Government, taking into special consideration this generous gesture which Belgium remembers with gratitude and also the multiform assistance which various private Swiss organizations gave to thousands of Belgian prisoners in Germany, has decided to bear the cost of compensation for war damage suffered in Belgium by individuals and bodies corporate of Swiss nationality, to the extent and under the conditions specified below :

(1) The Belgian Government shall grant to Swiss individuals and bodies corporate whose property was destroyed or damaged by warfare on the territory of Belgium, compensation determined in accordance with the laws, as co-ordinated by the Royal Order of 30 January 1954, relating to compensation for war damage to private property.

The amounts of the indemnities and of the maximum restoration loans computed on the basis of the aforesaid laws shall in both cases be reduced by one half.

¹ Came into force on 5 January 1956 by the exchange of the said letters. Is not applicable to the Territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.