Dear Bowyer,

I duly received your letter of the 19th October enclosing a copy of a despatch from the High Commissioner for Palestine relative to the reception in Palestine of news transmitted from Berlin on the Hell-Schreiber system and offer the following observations thereon for your consideration.

Although paragraph 3 of the despatch indicates that Hell-Schreiber receiving apparatus has been maintained by the German Consul General in Jerusalem since March 1937, it would appear from the letter of the 20th May 1938, from the Reichspostminister in Berlin that reception trials were only being envisaged at the time he wrote. Moreover, the question of dissemination to third parties of any messages which might be received is not raised in that letter, but it is stated that a further communication will be sent if short wave reception should prove to be satisfactory enough for a regular service.

It may be that information had been received prior to the date of the High Commissioner's despatch that successful reception tests had been carried out, but if so it is not quite clear to us why the Postmaster General should be reluctant to undertake "Hell-Schreiber" reception on behalf of the German Consul - assuming that dissemination of the messages outside the Consulate was desired. Although the apparatus is fairly complicated in construction its operation in practice is very simple and in our experience the maintenance required is small. "Hell-Schreiber" reception is carried out in the offices of many Continental news agencies where little technical...

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technical skill is available.

Apart from the desirability of the Palestinian Government being in a position to exercise control over messages received for general distribution, reception by Post Office staff would seem to be essential if a charge based on a rate per word is to be effectively applied.

In the circumstances we would suggest (1) that Dr. Reichart should be allowed to conduct Hell-Schreiber reception tests on the German Consulate premises and (2) that if and when he should be able to demonstrate the possibility of satisfactory reception the Postmaster General should again be asked to consider whether Hell-Schreiber reception could not be conducted under Post Office control on behalf of the German Consulate at a suitable charge per word. It is difficult to suggest what that charge should be; but it should certainly cover the cost involved and might be as high as the traffic will bear.

Three memoranda and a pamphlet (in German) containing information regarding "Hell-Schreiber" apparatus are enclosed for your information.

It may be added that the receiving apparatus detailed in Memorandum I works from the output of a short wave receiver costing £70 to £250 depending on the grade of receiver provided.

I must apologise for the delay in answering your letter, but our technical people have had great difficulty in obtaining the necessary information from Siemens.

Yours sincerely,

E.B. Bowyer, Esq.