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Farewell Message from Our Ambassador

On the eve of our departure from New Zealand, back to Switzerland for retirement after a stay of 5½ years, my wife and I would like to send you all out most cordial farewell thoughts.

The time has passed very quickly in this beautiful country, which you have adopted as your second homeland, and we regret having to leave it, even though after having lived abroad for 18 years, we are looking forward very much to going home to our beloved country. We have been extremely happy to have met so many of our compatriots; it was our hope to have known each and every one of you personally but this, unfortunately, was not possible.

On many occasions I have had good reason to feel very touched on hearing of the high regard in which the Swiss in New Zealand are held. While retaining and sharing much of the culture of our homeland, you have obviously become an integral part of the New Zealand way of life, and this, I can assure you, is greatly appreciated by the New Zealand authorities.

A note which has saddened me during my term of office has been the number of deaths among our compatriots, not only the senior members of our communities, but also some of the younger members. Once again, my wife and I offer our most sincere sympathy to those so bereaved.

One thing of which I am proud, is that I had the feeling that you trusted me; but this is based on reciprocity, and I would like it if you could express the same sentiments in this respect to my successor, as you did to me.

In saying goodbye to you all, and thanking you for your valuable co-operation with the Embassy, which has made the execution of my duties not only all the easier, but most enjoyable as well, I would like to add, also in the name of my wife, that it would be a pleasure to see you in Switzerland whenever you visit our homeland.

MAX CORTI

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

from . . .

THE PRESIDENT OF THE SWISS SOCIETY

At this time when the world is in a turmoil, it is hoped that Christmas, the time of the birth of Christ, will bring peace to these unsettled times. On behalf of the Committee and myself may we wish all members a very Happy Christmas and may the New Year bring a brighter future and happiness for all.

A. K. BINDER, President.