

1882
Sir Walter Runciman

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

Walter R.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

private
file

[May 4, 1936]

PPF

4322

My dear Mr. Runciman

Col. Murray who has been
visiting us tells me that there
is a chance that you may be

able to leave ~~the~~
~~United States~~ ~~on~~
Sunday ~~the~~ in the
afternoon

I should like to hope
much that you will come
and stay with
~~us~~ me, but only because
I have looked forward to

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY
HYDE PARK, N. Y.



PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

Visiting you for many years,
but also because I should
much like to talk with you
about various things I am doing
in which your experience
would be very valuable. ^{Dear}
It would be great ^{personally} pleasure
to see you.

GENERAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

National Archives and Records Service

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT LIBRARY
HYDE PARK, N. Y.



PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

B. H. Walter R

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

private
file

[May 4, 1936]

PPF

4322

My dear Mr. Runciman

Col. Whiting who has been
visiting us tells me that there
is a chance that you may be

new officer here ~~Washington~~

~~Washington~~ ~~the~~ ~~new officer~~

During the time in the
past

I would like to hope

much that you will come

and stay with
~~us~~ us, not only because

I have looked forward to

Wishing you for many years
but also because I should
much like to talk with you
about various things I am doing
in which your experience
would be very valuable. I am,
I would be glad to have
to see you.

STANLEY HIGH
Nearwater Lane

8. BARTON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1.

30th June, 1936.

My dear Mr. Roosevelt,

I was deeply touched
by the cordiality of
your letter which Arthur
Murray delivered to me
a few days ago. I have
pondered over its
invitation and its kindness

FISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

5th, 1937.

Mr. Walter

requent

don, the

issue a

publish

ary 8th, a

re making

The sea

ty for

and change

t autumn.

r. Runciman

of paying a

olitical

importance /

Marvin H. McIntyre, Esq.,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

impresses me all the
more because you write
to me with your own
hand at a time of
condemned political
pressure.

I can imagine no
greater satisfaction
than to exchange thoughts
with you at this critical

period in the history
of our two countries.
For me to visit
America, however,
before November would
be inconvenient, but
later on, say, at the end
of 1936, I would enjoy
more than I can say
the opportunity of
pleasing your reflections

STANLEY HIGH

— not in a council
chamber, but at your
hospitable table.

I am copying your
example at an early
date and am about to
leave our capital for four
weeks in my schooner.
Believe me to be

Yours very sincerely,

Walter Runciman.
[Runciman]

EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.
1937.

Walter

t

the

a

ish

h, a

ing

ea

change

umn.

nciman

ying a

cal

importance /

Marvin H. McIntyre, Esq.,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

STANLEY HIGH

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

January 6th, 1937.

PPF
4322

Department of State

BUREAU
DIVISION

WE

ENCLOSURE

TO

Letter drafted 1/22

ADDRESSED TO

The President
The White House.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE

1-1033

to the visit of Mr. Walter
country, owing to frequent
being made in London, the
it necessary to issue a
pose therefore to publish
ay morning, January 8th, a
following terms:-
Mrs. Runciman are making
sit to New York. The sea
be an opportunity for
to enjoy a rest and change
particularly difficult autumn.
Whilst in the United States Mr. Runciman
hopes to take an opportunity of paying a
visit to Mr. Roosevelt. No political
importance /

Marvin H. McIntyre, Esq.,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

STANLEY HIGH
Minister of State

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

January 6th, 1937.

PPF
4322

Dear Mr. McIntyre:

With regard to the visit of Mr. Walter Runciman to this country, owing to frequent enquiries which are being made in London, the Foreign Office finds it necessary to issue a statement. They propose therefore to publish in the press of Friday morning, January 8th, a statement in the following terms:-

"Mr. and Mrs. Runciman are making a private visit to New York. The sea crossing will be an opportunity for Mr. Runciman to enjoy a rest and change after a particularly difficult autumn. Whilst in the United States Mr. Runciman hopes to take an opportunity of paying a visit to Mr. Roosevelt. No political importance /

Marvin H. McIntyre, Esq.,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER



BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

"importance is to be attached to this visit
which is a purely private one."

May I enquire whether the President
concurs in the above statement or if he wishes
it to be amended in any way? You will I hope
appreciate that an early answer, if necessary
by telephone, would be very welcome.

Yours sincerely,

K.C. Lidday

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

STANLEY HIGH

P.P.F.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4322

File

1-19-37

MEMO. FOR MHM:

Secretary Sayre would like very
^{x20}
much to have an opportunity for a little
Sir Walter
talk with Runciman while he is here.

#

RB

Sir Walter

9 L. & P. 1/2 - 1/6

W

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

STANLEY HIGH
Nearwater Lane
NOROTON, CONNECTICUT

Jan. 22
1937

Dear Marguerite:

I am sending this memorandum off today because
it concerns the week-end White House visitor.

I came home with a swell cold.

As ever,

Stanley

PPF

4322

Stanley High

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

Memorandum for the President
From Stanley High
Jan. 22, 1937

The information in this memorandum concerns the visit of Mr. Walter Runciman. It was given to me by a Swiss, a long-time friend and, by all odds, the best informed man on Europe-behind-the-scenes that I know. He is a Roman Catholic and has served as confidential emissary for the Pope.

1) He insists the Runciman visit is part of an effort to bring about Anglo-American cooperation for the rehabilitation of Germany economy which, he declares, is on the verge of collapse.

2) Runciman is known to be very close to Montagu Norman. Norman, in turn, is a close friend of Schacht. (The two spent a week together recently in a hide-out in the Black Forest). Norman is said to be strongly pro-Hitler - a viewpoint shared by Beaverbrook and, strangely enough, Lady Astor.

3) Certain Jewish interests are in on the move - notably Sir Alfred Mond - who owns a majority of the shares of International Nickel of Canada. Germany, recently, has been taken the bulk of that company's output.

All through Europe, says my friend, Jews are making money out of the German mess.

4) Finally, this man declares that, at heart, the Pope is almost as much anti-Fascist as anti-Communist. Because of the influence of Rome, however, he has not been able to speak out. (This sounds dubious!) But I am told that a close reading of certain of the Pope's recent speeches shows clear statements against Fascism!

Nothing - not even war - would be worse now than a rehabilitation of Hitler's regime which would saddle Europe permanently with him and his program.

Stanley High

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER



PPF
4322

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

January 22, 1937

My dear Mr. President:

I enclose as of possible interest a memorandum
containing a few remarks about Mr. Runciman.

Faithfully yours,

Cordeell Hall

Enclosure:
As stated
above.

The President,
The White House.

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

RIGHT HONORABLE WALTER RUNCIMAN

Mr. Runciman is in the sixty-sixth year of his life and the sixth year as President of the Board of Trade of Great Britain. He has been a member of Parliament since 1900 and has served as President of the Chamber of Shipping, President of the Board of Education, President of the Board of Agriculture, and in other official capacities as well as in important business capacities.

Mr. Runciman, an old time Liberal and free trader, was one of few of that group to enter the National Coalition in 1931. His incumbency as President of the Board of Trade has been in a period when British commercial policy has been undergoing a somewhat ironic change, that is from free trade, while other nations were on a protective basis, to one of protection and exclusiveness, while other nations are attempting to minimize those tendencies. While placing due responsibility upon the people of Great Britain, nevertheless much of the responsibility for the failure of Great Britain to swing around toward easier trading throughout the world can be laid to a group of which Mr. Runciman is a member. He is at present extremely nationalistic, as has been evidenced by his promotion of and subscription to policies calculated to gain unfair advantage over American interests in many parts of the world. His apparent unfriendliness to us may be due to indifference,

supreme

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

supreme nationalism, or, as his family have long been leaders in British shipping, he probably resents American aid to ship lines.

Several factors in Mr. Runciman's life may combine to make him a difficult person at present. First of all, the nature of his position demands that he drive as hard a bargain as he can. But beyond that there is his own frustrated ambition. He had hoped to be Prime Minister. Lord Runciman, his father, is now ninety years of age and Walter Runciman will succeed him in the House of Lords, a life time position which will remove from him the responsibilities of cabinet or executive posts.

We are informed by a member of the British Embassy staff that the President of the Board of Trade is the only official in Great Britain who may properly be addressed as "Mr. President."

January 22 1937

My dear Mr. President:

I enclose as of possible interest a memorandum
containing a few remarks about Mr. Runciman.

Faithfully yours,

Cordell Hull

Enclosure:
As stated
above.

The President,

The White House.

WE:JRM:ASD
1/22

A true copy of
the signed origi-
nal.

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

COUDERT. Hon. Frederic R.

47-12 : 939

PM2

P.P.F.

4322

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

D.C.

January 26, 1937

File

48
20
36
340

Sir Walter

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

The British Ambassador advises the State Department that he has received cables from his Government, reporting that the British press has treated the Runciman visit with too much optimism.

The Foreign Office in London suggests to the Ambassador that the British Embassy in Washington and the State Department collaborate in a move to reduce this optimism. The Ambassador received the following statement from his Foreign Office -- evidently a formula for the statement the Foreign Office desires the Embassy to make and which probably will be made by the Embassy tomorrow:

"Talks have been of a general character and further discussions will be necessary before it can be determined whether there is a suitable basis for trade negotiations."

x 614-A

This statement is approved by the State Department, Assistant Secretary Sayre advises me, and the State Department plans to issue a similar statement tomorrow.

This is for your guidance at the press conference this afternoon. If you say anything to the press, please remember not to use the language of the British statement.

STEPHEN EARLY

(Sir Walter Runciman
is President of the
British Board of
Trade)

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

COUDERT. Hon. Frederic R.

47-12: 939

PM3



PPF 4322

BRITISH EMBASSY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

March 25th, 1937.

Dear Mr. McIntyre,

We have just received from the
Foreign Office the attached parcel, which
contains a book for the President from Mr.
Walter Runciman. Would you be kind
enough to deliver it to Mr. Roosevelt on
his return.

Yours sincerely,

P. H. Runciman

Mr. Marvin McIntyre,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

COUDERT. Hon. Frederic R.

PPF
4322

April 5, 1937.

My dear Runciman:-

I am delighted to have the "Shanty Book." It is important for history that we separate the authentic shanties from modern imitations. I do not want them to suffer from the fate of Negro spirituals. A large number of the most popular Negro spirituals have been written in the last decade by New York and Hollywood musical producers -- most of them Hebrews.

We have had a good visit from Tweedsmuir and we talked much of you.

Always sincerely,

Frederic R. Coudert

Right Honorable Walter Runciman,
London,
England.

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

COUDERT. Hon. Frederic R.

May 13, 1938.

PPF
4322

My dear Runciman:-

I was very glad to have your letter and I hope by now that you are back and have had a delightful cruise in the "Sunbeam". From the fact that I have read of no torpedoes or bombs launched against you in the Adriatic or the Aegean leads me to believe that you have escaped some of these normal incidents of modern life!

I, too, have had a cruise -- only a short one -- out as far as the Virgin Islands and back. If you do not know the Windward Islands and Leeward Islands, you must visit them in the "Sunbeam." I know of nothing more picturesque or interesting.

Things seem to be going extremely well in connection with the trade agreement, and I am confident that it will be worked out in such a way as to meet with general satisfaction not only in Great Britain and the United States, but also in the Dominions and Colonies.

I hope there is some chance that you will be coming over here again soon. It would be delightful to see you again.

Faithfully yours,

The Right Honorable
Lord Runciman of Doxford,
8 Barton Street,
Westminster, S.W.1.,
England.

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

Hon. Frederic R.

8, BARTON STREET, WESTMINSTER, S.W. 1.

18th February, 1938.

My dear President,

A year has passed since you gave me the great pleasure of being your guest in the White House and important changes have taken place over here since that time. Baldwin resigned and Neville Chamberlain formed a new Cabinet. He offered me the Lord Privy Seal, but I declined a sinecure. This has not, however, diminished in any degree my feelings on the topics which you were good enough to discuss with me in 1937, and when I handed on my portfolio to Oliver Stanley I pressed him to pursue two objects, namely, a reasonable attitude in Dominion affairs, and better trade relations between the United Kingdom and America. I was satisfied last Autumn that Neville Chamberlain was going to support every helpful step towards a good Trade Agreement between our two countries, and while spending a week in the same house with him he said to me emphatically how glad he was that closer contacts could now be established. You know how reserved and unemotional he is, which made me all the more surprised and pleased to hear the emphasis with which he referred to

his desire for the conclusion of an Agreement. He went so far as to say, actually with warmth, "There is nothing in the world I so much desire as a closer understanding with the United States and the President".

The British officials sailed for Washington this week and before they sailed I had a long talk with them furthering the objects which you (and let me add I) had so much at heart. I am not now in the Cabinet, but I keep up my contacts with Ministers.

My father's death took me out of the House of Commons into the House of Lords. A very busy Autumn and Winter kept me in England, but I am shortly sending my "Sunbeam" under sail to the Adriatic, there to begin a long cruise in Italian, Greek and Turkish waters, provided that the fools who lay mines and fire torpedoes will leave us alone!

I follow your affairs and speeches with intense interest and "Peter" Murray tells me at times of such news as he has of your seaside holidays. With very cordial recollections and good wishes for the future,

I am,

Very sincerely yours,
Runciman of Doxford.

COUDERT, Hon. Frederic R.
New York, N. Y.
January 13, 1937

Writes the President re visit of Sir Walter Runciman, President, British Board of Trade, of London, England, to this country, and indicating that latter will visit the President while he is in Washington.

The President wrote Mr. Runciman, leaving Mr. and Mrs. Runciman stay over Sunday, Jan. 24. He will be able to have some

4322

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Hyde Park, N. Y.,
September 1, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR

GENERAL WATSON

Will you let the British

Embassy know that if Leslie
Runciman comes to Washington,
I shall be very glad to see
him and that Colonel Arthur
Murray wrote to me about him?

F. D. R.

Gen. Watson phoned
Sir Ronald Campbell
above message 9/2/41

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

COUDERT, Hon. Frederic R.
New York, N. Y.
January 13, 1937

Writes the President re visit of Sir Walter Runciman, President, British Board of Trade, of London, England, to this country, and indicating that latter will visit the President while he is in Washington. -- The President wrote Mr. Coudert on January 16 that he is looking forward to having Mr. and Mrs. Runciman as guests at the White House, Saturday January 23 to stay over Sunday, Jan. 24. Says if they arrive soon after lunch on the 23d, he will be able to have some free time to talk to them that day and Sunday.

SEE - PPF 269

P. P. F.

4322

4322

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

RANDALL, George D.
Palm Beach, Fla.,
Jan. 27, 1937

Wires the President asking is it not dangerously unfair to rebuke a man asking property rights be observed. Says Arthur P. Sloan's reasonable stipulation deserves the President's support. Also if bulletins are correct concerning the President's understanding with Sir Walter Runciman that this country would guarantee Britain's food supply in the event of war would this not lead to another Lusitania incident. - On Feb. 1st, the President instructed Mr. McIntyre how to handle this situation.

SEE - 407-B Automobile Strike (Official File)

P.P.F.

4322

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

COUDERT, Frederic R.
New York City
February 1, 1937

Writes the President about how much the Runcimans (Sir Walter) enjoyed their visit to the White House. Mr. Coudert desires to see the President when he comes to Washington. -- Mr. McIntyre wrote Mr. Coudert February 3 that if he will telephone his (McIntyre's) office upon his arrival in Washington, preferably about 10 o'clock in the morning, he will arrange brief appointment for him with the President.

SEE - PPF 269

P. P. F.

4322

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER

HIRST, Francis W.
London, England
February 18, 1937

Writes the President, re Judiciary Reorganization, likening it to British history and he encloses newsclipping re same. -- The President, by memo, instructed Mr. James Roosevelt to draft reply. -- The President wrote Mr. Hirst on March 2 that he has read the clipping from the Manchester Guardian with great pleasure, and says we are going to have an interesting time even though it may be somewhat prolonged. Says he enjoyed the visit of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Runciman, and asks Mr. Hirst to give them his regards.

P. P. F.

SEE - PPF 1147

4322

PPF 4322
RUNCIMAN, SIR WALTER