

PSF Executive Offices : Early, Stephen
of President

PSF

Subject Files "E"

Box

147

~~147~~ A

1
Exec. Oxo.

PSF: Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 20, 1936

R.F.
File same early
H. L. Brown 10/21

CONFIDENTIAL MEMORANDUM FOR MISS LE HAND:

I have today executed the President's instructions with regard to Prall and Machold.

For your information, Prall advises that this request came from Jim Farley and Vincent Dailey who told him the action was taken at the request and for the benefit of Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Democratic County Committee in the Watertown Area. I advised Prall to let Farley and Dailey know of the President's statement with regard to Machold and the Power Trust.

STE

WALTER T. BRADEN
ALBANY, N. Y.

Aboard Presidential Special

October 18, 1936.

MEMO FOR S. T. E.

Get busy at once with Prall and tell
him that Machold is the Power Trust.

Miss Marguerite A. LeHand,
Personal Secretary to the President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

F. D. R.

Dear Marguerite:

I learned at the Syracuse Convention
that the Machold power group had succeeded in
obtaining approval of an application for the
establishment of a new public station in Water-
town. A second group in which Gerald Johnson,
Editor of the Watertown Times, is a figure
opposed by the Federal Radio Commission for a
license to transfer Station WJLB at Canton to
Watertown. For some reason this application
has been held up. If Machold does not appear
in the picture but I understand he is behind
the radio station venture.

Kindest personal regards.

Very sincerely yours,

Charles T. Brown

WALTER T. BROWN
ALBANY, NEW YORK

October 3, 1936

Confidential

Miss Marguerite A. LeHand,
Personal Secretary to the President,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Marguerite:

I learned at the Syracuse Convention that the Machold power group had succeeded in obtaining approval of an application for the establishment of a new radio station in Watertown. A second group in which Harold Johnson, Editor of the Watertown Times, is a figure applied to the Federal Radio Commission for a license to transfer Station WCAD at Canton to Watertown. For some reason this application has been held up. Ed Machold does not appear in the picture but I understand he is behind the radio station venture.

Kindest personal regards.

Very sincerely yours,

Walter T. Brown

Exec. Ofc. PSF: Early
PF
In Case - E - 1/10/37

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 5, 1937.

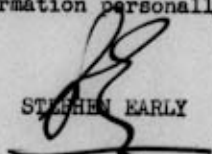
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

On November twelfth, you asked me to inquire of Ray Stevens about the Democratic candidate for Governor of New Hampshire — whether he would be a good man to appoint in government service?

At that time, Mr. Stevens was out of the city. Either you or he have been absent much of the time since then.

Ray Stevens says there are certain very confidential things he would like you to know — things he doesn't wish to write or give you indirectly.

Within the next two or three days McIntyre will give Stevens an appointment. He is coming in with Senator Brown of New Hampshire. When Brown leaves, Stevens will remain with you four or five minutes. He then will give you the information personally.


STEPHEN EARLY

MR. EARLY:

This note came in to you when Stevens (Federal Tariff Commission) was out of the city. He did not return until after you had gone to Florida. Has happened to be out of town or out of his office at each time I called thereafter.

Do you want to get in touch with Mr. Stevens now -- he is in town.

Jan 4

Stevens
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 15, 1936.

MEMO FOR S. T. E.

Will you find out about
this when Stevens gets back
to Washington?

F. D. R.

[Handwritten signature]

M/3-22-920i
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
3. 10 4-
Huse
November 12, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Ask Ray Stevens about
Democratic candidate for Governor
of New Hampshire. Would he be
a good man for some place in
the government?

9-39-22
2-12-22
Zee

Exec. Oxc.

PSF: Early

*file
private*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 3, 1937

*Early
Jan - Wham 2-37*

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

A friend of ours, an executive official of one of the major broadcasting companies, called yesterday to tell me "off the record" of a visit made by Doctor Stanley High to the New York offices of his company. The purpose of his visit, according to my informant, was to negotiate, for a price said to be extraordinarily high, a series of weekly broadcasts which Doctor High would deliver.

The plan was, I was told, to tell the country once a week about the things "the President has in mind"; what the President thinks; what his major policies will be, etc. -- all to be spoken by Doctor High in the role of intimate friend and adviser.

I do not believe that this particular broadcasting company will accept Doctor High's plan. Knowing something of his ability as a salesman, however, I have no assurance that he will not be able to sell himself to some other radio corporation.

Vice Jim Farley called me this afternoon; said he had been "on the Hill" with the President and Joe Robinson; had found them in a state of anger and bitterness. Jim wanted me to get this information to you because he thought it was likely they would either come down to see you or telephone concerning statements made by Doctor High in his article published this week by the Saturday Evening Post, "Whose Party Is It?". I attach a copy of the Post with this article marked and respectfully invite your attention to the Editor's note.

Jim attributed Joe Robinson's indignation and that of other friends on the "Hill" to the fact that Doctor High, who is set forth in the Editor's note as having the "reputation of being one of the President's close advisers", had represented him not as a New Dealer, not as a friend of the Democratic Party, not as a friend of the President, not as a Liberal, but more as a conservatively minded Democrat whose adhesion to the New Deal was one of convenience.

I hope you will read this article by Stanley High, noting its references to many others, including the Attorney General.

A casual reading of this article convinces me that it would have the effect of driving a wedge between the Democrats of the North and the South. This may be the national result of this work by High. Here in Washington, however, I am afraid that it will rupture many friendships.

May I talk to you sometime soon about Dr. High and certain steps which I think should be taken, particularly if he is permitted to continue to visit the White House, etc.?

SE
STEPHEN EARLY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

For the President's
Confidential
files
J.E.
Charleston, S. C.,
April 30, 1938.

PSF Exec. Ofc.
Eq-14
MEMORANDUM FOR

S. T. E.

Will you get in touch confidentially with McNinch and ask him if there is something we can do to keep the Wichita Falls papers, who are opposing Congressman McFarlane, from getting control of the radio? The people he wants to get a license is the Wichita Broadcasting Company, who are Wichita Falls merchants.

F. D. R.

Done
J.E.

PSF Exec. Oxc.

Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

file
Confidential

6-20-38

Memorandum for the President:

Steve thought you had better
read this before I make the 'phone call.

MHM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 17, 1938.

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

TO THE PRESIDENT:

No copy of this has been made and I am sending it in a sealed envelope marked personal and confidential.

Hatton Sumners, Chairman of the Judiciary Committee of the House, has been named by the Speaker to serve on the monopoly investigation committee. You already know the situation in the Senate.

Hatton is leaving here early next week to open his campaign for reelection. He is opposed by Tom Love and a young man named Leslie Jackson. Both are running on 100% New Deal support platforms.

Hatton will win.

He is now concentrating on his campaign for reelection. This campaign will attract national attention in the press and, with his reelection, will be played up by the press as a New Deal defeat.

Should it happen that Hatton is defeated, Seller of New York, would become Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee.

I am advised today that Hatton has discussed his plans with the Speaker and with Sam Rayburn; that he is hesitant and extremely doubtful about accepting membership on the monopoly investigation committee because he wishes to concentrate upon his campaign.

It is my information, and I believe it, that Hatton will make a friendly campaign but will attempt to justify himself in opposing the Court Reform proposal, etc. Only to the extent that he feels this justification to be necessary, will he differ with you or be otherwise critical.

I have reasons to believe that it would be unfortunate if Seller of New York (being what he is) should become Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee. I would consider it also to be most unfortunate should Hatton refuse to serve on the monopoly investigation and Seller should become a member of the investigation committee as King has done because of Ashurst's refusal.

Would you consider writing Hatton a letter or telegraphing him that you have heard that he was expressing hesitancy about accepting the Speaker's appointment to the monopoly committee and would request him to accept this appointment.

-2-

I believe Hatton would accept if he got such a letter. I believe he would use this letter in Texas in his campaign. Politically, too, the letter would serve him as an excuse for interrupting his campaign in order to participate in the monopoly investigation. Of course it would cushion him somewhat from attacks by his two New Deal opponents.

Will you please carefully consider this situation. I hope you will be able to give me your answer by telephone on Monday. Should you decide to write Hatton, the letter should be mailed not later than Monday if he is to receive it in Washington before he leaves for Texas.

S.T.E.

file
1-2

PSF Exec. Oxc
Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 5, 1938

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

I have talked to Marjorie Davies regarding the suggestion that General Foods sponsor Jay Franklin.

I am now advised that the Board of Directors of General Foods Corporation, after the experience with Boake Carter, has unanimously and definitely decided that never again will that Corporation put a man commentator on the air. I am told that their experience with Boake Carter was troublesome from beginning to end — that in advertising and sales promoting he was a dismal and complete failure — an expensive experiment.

Marjorie, personally, would like to be helpful. In the light of the Board's decision, made on the basis of the Boake Carter experience and during her absence from the country, she tells me confidentially, that her hands are tied.

Such is the picture as regards General Foods. There may be other possibilities. I will keep both eyes open in the hope of finding something worthwhile for Jay Franklin.

Steve
STEPHEN EARLY

TELEGRAM

PSF Exec: Jc
Early

file
private

The White House
Washington

The White House
Washington April 4, 1939

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FOR
THE PRESIDENT

"In telegram Number 630, dated April 4th. 5 p.m., and received by the Department of State Marked 'personal and secret for the President', Ambassador Bullitt stated that he had lunched on April 4th., with Messrs Monnet, Reynaud and Daladier and that they talked over the matter of X. Ambassador Bullitt stated that the conversation was serious and satisfactory and that it was decided to let the complete question rest with the President's imagination. He concluded by adding that the President would have a visitor knocking at the door after his return to Washington."

Early.

405pmd

TELEGRAM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4-4-39

Mr. Forster:

The attached sent to Warm Springs
to the President. Mr. Early requested
after sending, copy should be returned
to your office.

McMullin,

Telegraph Room.



THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON

April 4, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT.

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Early

THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON



April 4, 1932.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

In telegram No. 630, dated April 4th, 3 p.m., and received by the Department of State marked "Personal and Secret for the President", Ambassador Bullitt stated that he had lunched on April fourth with Messrs. Monnet, Reynaud and Daladier and that they talked over the matter of X. Ambassador Bullitt stated that the conversation was serious and satisfactory and that it was decided to let the complete question rest with the President's imagination. He concluded by adding that the President would have a visitor meeting at the White House after his return to Washington.

RW
mc - 5
501 pm

file

PSF Exec. Ofo.
Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 26, 1939

11

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Congressman Francis E. Walter of Pennsylvania saw me this week and requested an appointment with you. He told me of his legal experience and of his desire to be appointed to a judgeship.

I told the Congressman that it was contrary to your policy to discuss appointments of this sort and asked him to see the Attorney General. He agreed to this and did see the Attorney General. However, he asked me to promise him that I would tell you of his candidacy.

S.T.E.

*PSF Exec. Ofc.
Early*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 11, 1939

*Monday morning
conference
file
personal*

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Colonel Harrington thinks it would be helpful if you would take up with the Congressional leaders, Monday morning, the question of getting action by the Congress on the Relief Bill. Harrington points out that your message and the Bill has been before the Congress for some three weeks; that past experience shows that it takes at least a month after the Bill is reported to the House and Senate to secure passage. He points out that the only action taken by the Congress has been to refer the message to the Appropriations Committee of the House and the holding, by the Committee, of its so-called "fantastic" hearings. Harrington takes the position that something should be done to speed up action and to report the Bill without further delay by the Congress.

S. T. E.

BSF Exec. Offc.

Early
2

To the President
Memo from Col Watson
Aug-26-1939

Attaches report from Chief of Military Intelligence,
Army in regard to movements of Russian Naval

Vessels. Memo to Watson from Early asking for a
check on vessels attached.

See--War Dept folder-Drawer 1-1939

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

PSF: *Early*
v

September 7, 1939.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

file 7 MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Ed Halsey, who has been carefully checking against all records, public utterances, etc. tells me that sixty senators will support a "cash and carry" neutrality act; that twenty-five will stand in opposition; that the others are on the doubtful or uncertain list.

S.T.E.

164,000 ..

210,000 .

file *BSF Exec. O/c.* *Early* *Early*
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 19, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

~~VERY CONFIDENTIAL~~

Representative Taylor, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, told me today:

"Immediately after the President holds his conference tomorrow and the House and Senate have convened on Thursday -- and the President's message has been received -- a neutrality bill, approved in advance by the Administration, should be introduced in the House by Sam Rayburn, the Majority Leader.

"The House will pass it immediately by a huge majority.

"It would be immediately sent to the Senate and the Senate would have something that the Administration wants to work on -- not the half way thing now before the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee.

"I know that Sam Rayburn should take charge of the house bill. I believe Congressman Martin, the Minority Leader, might join with Sam. This would have a tremendously fine effect on the country -- this non-partisan championship of an Administration bill.

"It would put the Republican isolationist Senate bloc on the spot. •

"The House should do this first. The enthusiasm of the members will cool if the House has to sit for a long time for Senate action, recessing and recessing. It would be much better to have the House act and then wait for the Senate than if the House has to sit idly by, with nothing to do, until the Senate acts.

"From talking to the members of the House in the cloak-rooms and around the Capitol generally, and with the members of the Appropriations Committee, I know what I say. I can tell you also that many members of the House who loved Sam McReynolds and who admire Sam Rayburn will feel personally offended if Sol Bloom is allowed to lead the fight. Germans in the United States and in their home land will not be able, if Rayburn leads the fight, to say that the neutrality bill is nothing but a Jewish measure of revenge and retaliation.

"Again, let me say, I know what I am talking about -- that if Bloom leads this fight -- many of us, at the start, will have an awful bad taste in our mouths and less heart to go on.

"This is my very sincere recommendation to the President. It is based on 31 years of experience in the House and I know it expresses the sentiment of the House and the members of my Committee.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

- 2 -

"The members of my Committee are important. Undoubtedly we will be getting requests for emergency appropriations."

STEPHEN EARLY

Copy

PSF: Early
September 21, 1939.

Dear Steve:

The Secretary and I have been talking about various features of what may be said in respect to the modification of the Neutrality Law and have concluded that it would be well for the President to make some statement in his message to negative the contention that repeal during the progress of the war would be an unneutral act, and the Secretary has requested me to make a memorandum which is herewith embodying that thought.

Among those who support the contention are Messrs. Hyde and Jessup whose joint letter is printed on the editorial page of the New York Times of this morning and, of course, there are many other people who take their view. This is certain to be one of the main points in the fight against repeal.

Yours very sincerely,

R. Walton Moore

Enclosure:
Memorandum

The Honorable
Stephen Early
The White House

Attached is memo for the President from Hull thru Watson hoping that Pres could include the suggestion of Walton Moore in Speech.

See: Current Speech Material File for this correspondence-given to
G. Tully-Sept 25, 1939

PSF Exec. Ofc.

Early ✓

To Steve Early

From Paul R. Leach
Correspondent, Chicago Daily News

Sends first page editorial which appeared in Chicago Daily News---
Sept 16, 1939----following Senator Borah's Radio talk.

Also copy of The United States News-Sept 18, 1939 which gives
an analysis of speech of Senator Borah.

See: Current Speech Material file-kept by G. Tully--the above was
given to her on Sept 25, 1939.

PSF Exec. Ofc.
Early
2

Memorandum to Gen Watson
From Steve Early
September 26, 1939

Asks Watson to give memo to President ~~some~~ reminder when he sees
Senator Lee
Memo is telephone message for the President from Garner--re-Lee.

See: Senate folder-Drawer 2-1939

PSF Exec. Off.
Early
2

October 5, 1939.

To Watson from Early

In re-message through Max Gardner from Senator Bailey
about Senator Reynolds voting against the Neutrality Bill.

See: Neutrality folder-Drawer 2-1939

PSF Exec. C. Sec.

Steve Early
2

October 19, 1939.

Letter to Ambassador Davies from the President in answer to his letter of October 7th which was brought by Mr. Stanley Richardson from Belgium via Pan American Airways Clipper and the President's answer of the 19th which he took back to Belgium via clipper on Oct 22, 1939.

Davies letter of Oct 7th was written after he had had a 3 hour conversation with the King of Belgium who wished to send the President a message. The President's letter of Oct 19th carried the answer to the King through Davies.

See: Belgium folder-Drawer 1-1939

PSF Exec. Ofc.

Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

file
Pres. mail
PSF Exec
OSF: Early

CONFIDENTIAL

October 26, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

TO READ AND RETURN

F. D. R.

Thanks

CH

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 25, 1939.

Personal and ~~Confidential~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Huston Thompson telephoned me this morning and asked that I tell you of an hour and half's conversation he had with Ambassador Oumansky before he went to Russia. He says that Oumansky now is returning to Washington.

Huston says that Oumansky told him that the Russians would never be able to successfully negotiate with the British unless the British put their negotiations in the hands of Winston Churchill. Huston declared that, according to Oumansky's confidential statement to him -- "Winston Churchill is the one man the Russians will deal with. He has never belittled them nor deceived them and they have great faith in him."

Huston seemed to think it important that you know about this.

S.T.E.

DIVISION OF
PRESS INTELLIGENCE
304 COMMERCIAL BLDG.

NO.

SYMBOL

Post (I)
Washington, D. C.

DATE

10/13/29

Over the Coffee By Harlan Miller

ROOSEVELT ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS—II

IS VOYAGER, IS LANDS

How deep and authentic is President Roosevelt's knowledge of foreign affairs?

The President has spent more time



Harlan Miller

in Washington than a three-term Senator. Probably more time than a four-term Senator. Half of this time he was assistant secretary of the Navy.

As every Senator knows, the front porch and front lawn of the Navy is foreign affairs.

From 1913 to 1920 the Franklin Roosevelts belonged to the "young married" crowd of the Capital's official circle. Roosevelt became intimately acquainted with the young secretaries of the embassies and legations as well as with the ambassadors and ministers, with the counsellors, charge d'affaires, naval and military attaches of the 50 governments accredited here.

Now these young men have grown older; they are ministers or ambassadors themselves, or high in their own governments at home. Roosevelt still knows them. He can exchange phone calls and letters with them with an informality no other President has enjoyed. He has private sources of information which must be almost as good as Borah's. And Roosevelt knows these diplomats so well that they can't spoof him.



"—the Navy is foreign relations"

At Harvard he majored in history, and in his last year at Columbia he majored in international law. He read Admiral Mahan's "Influence of Sea Power" when he was 11, and has reread it occasionally; at 14 he was debating on Philippine inde-

This oversized item has been
filmed in sections



Marion Miller

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"the Navy is foreign relations"

At Harvard he majored in history, and in his last year at Columbia he majored in international law. He read Admiral Mahan's "Influence of Sea Power" when he was 11, and has reread it occasionally; at 14 he was debating on Philippine independence and the increase of our Navy.

There were Delano and Roosevelt all over the world when he was a boy. Their letters were read and discussed at the Hyde Park breakfast table, and when they came for visits the whole world was spread out in the living room like a map; the names and the scenes in his stamp collection came alive.

This background was there when his 13 trips to Europe began, his visits to 23 foreign countries. Before he left college he could speak and read French and German fluently, and he had a fair reading knowledge of Spanish and Italian.

He can understand Hitler's radio speeches in the original.

To augment the hourly dispatch bags from Cordell Hull at the State Department he subscribes to a special clipping service on foreign affairs. At the end of each year he goes through a synopsis of the world developments in international relations. He reads a review of every book published on foreign affairs, and reads many of them in tele.



"foreign reports every hour"

Since he entered the White House there has been a steady parade of rulers and statesmen through its doors. From Hjalmar Schacht, of Germany, in 1933, to King George this year.

But even before that he had known and talked with Clemenceau, Lloyd George, Poincare, Orlando, Villi, Rufford, King Albert and a score of others of the world's great ones.

Thus he has always had a rare chance to know what the score was.

He was in Paris during the 1919 peace conference, and while he took no official part in that discussion on world affairs, he met and talked with everyone and saw what was happening behind the curtains. He brought Woodrow Wilson back from his first jaunt to Paris.

It was an internship in world affairs that helps him as a diagnostician today.

No other American President has ever entered the White House with such an intimate knowledge of world politics and international stresses and strains. An examination of his record and background makes it seem that any president, whether Cordell Hull or Vandenberg or McNutt or Tom Dewey, would be fortunate to have as seasoned a Secretary of State as Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

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Exec. Ofc.

RSP: Eav/y

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 13, 1939

file

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

I wonder whether you have seen this column by Ernest Lindley. It was written to correct errors of statement in the first column, which we called to his attention.

S. T. E.

original carbon of
memo

October 19, 1939.

MEMORANDUM FOR STEVE:

Please tell Ernest that Harlan Miller's story is essentially accurate and that Ernest's story is essentially inaccurate -- especially in what he calls "the really significant points" at the bottom of paragraph three.

Under the sub-heading "Here, However," he says "from his earliest years Franklin D. Roosevelt moved in a society which was in a real sense international and which was not conscious of any differentiation between the interests of the United States and the interests of western Europe." This is stated as fact when it is definitely pure invention. (I am being polite.) Ernest's failure to investigate is rather pathetic, as is his knowledge of history.

If he would look into the question of "family ties", he would realize that the Roosevelt family, in the West Indian sugar business was compelled to contend many years against the British and French interests in those islands -- and that is what made them revolutionists rather than Tories in 1776.

If he had ever read about the China trade of the Delano family, he would have realized that the great fight in those days was between the British and the American firms. And that I was brought up on the story of how the Delano family's principal competitors were the British. The President's grandfather, Warren Delano, was the United States agent in China during the whole of the Civil War and spent most of his time fighting against the British interests which, at that time, were wholly on the side of the Confederacy.

The statement further down column one that "in later years he made it plain by his comments that he did not look back upon Germany with the same friendliness that he felt for Great Britain and France," (referring to his early years in Germany) is deliberate falsification. As a matter of simple fact, I did not know Great Britain and France as a boy but I did know Germany. If anything, I looked upon the Germany that I knew with far more friendliness than I did on Great Britain or France.

The next paragraph in regard to a pro-Chinese bias is, in part, true because in the China trade days all European and American traders regarded Chinese employees as essentially honest, whereas, at that period Japanese employees were not so rated.

The next paragraph in regard to my half-brother is just plain dirty. It is true that he was First Secretary of Embassy in London but it is also true that under President Cleveland he was First Secretary of Embassy in Vienna and, as a matter of fact, my half-brother infinitely preferred his tour of duty in Vienna to his tour of duty in London.

In regard to my relations with the British and French during the Wilson Administration, there is just enough truth in Ernest's statement to make it untrue, because he omits the fact that instead of Spring-Rice needing to "mend his ways" if Ernest had been here at that time, he would have realized that Von Bernstorff and the German Embassy did things in Washington before our entry into the War which were not only contrary to diplomatic usage, but would have caused Von Bernstorff to be sent home in 1914, if we had then known what we learned later.

The statement that "Franklin D. Roosevelt was convinced we were going into the World War long before we entered it" is untrue. The slur on William Jennings Bryan and through him on the President is pretty cheap.

Tell Ernest that I forgive him because I happen to know the environment in which he lived during the World War but that I hope much that in the future he will not let prejudice enter into his column as it has in this case. It might be useful if Ernest would check with me first, because after all, as an old friend, he has a right to do so.

F.D.R.

FDR/dj

COPY

Early ~

October 19, 1939.

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The statement further down column one that "in later years he made it plain by his comments that he did not look back upon Germany with the same friendliness that he felt for Great Britain and France," (referring to his early years in Germany) is deliberate falsification. As a matter of simple fact, I did not know Great Britain and France as a boy but I did know Germany. If anything, I looked upon the Germany that I knew with far more friendliness than I did on Great Britain or France.

The next paragraph in regard to a pro-Chinese basis is, in part, true because in the China trade days all European and American traders regarded Chinese employees as essentially honest, whereas, at that period Japanese employees were not so rated.

The next paragraph in regard to my half-brother is just plain dirty. It is true that he was First Secretary of Embassy in London but it is also true that under President Cleveland he was First Secretary of Embassy in Vienna and, as a matter of fact, my half-brother infinitely preferred his tour of duty in Vienna to his tour of duty in London.

In regard to my relations with the British and French during the Wilson Administration, there is just enough truth in Ernest's statement to make it untrue, because he omits the fact that instead of Spring-Rice needing to "mend his ways" if Ernest had been here at that time, he would have realized that Von Bernstorff and the German Embassy did things in Washington before our entry into the War which were not only contrary to diplomatic usage, but would have caused Von Bernstorff to be sent home in 1914, if we had then known what we learned later.

The statement that "Franklin D. Roosevelt was convinced we were going into the World War long before we entered it" is untrue. The slur on William Jennings Bryan and through him on the President is pretty cheap.

Tell Ernest that I forgive him because I happen to know the environment in which he lived during the World War but that I hope much that in the future he will not let prejudice enter into his column as it has in this case. It might be useful if Ernest would check with me first, because after all, as an old friend, he has a right to do so.

F.D.R.

FDR/dj

Statesman's Progress

By Ernest W. Lindley

President's Training In Foreign Affairs

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT has a more intimate knowledge of affairs abroad than any other President in our history has had. From early childhood through his early years as President, his preparation has been, in many respects, unique.

For months I have repressed an urge to write on that subject in this column. To deal adequately with Mr. Roosevelt's background for the conduct of foreign affairs would require a book. Moreover, it has seemed to me to be unfair to attach too much importance to his experiences and attitudes in his younger years.

Various of my writing colleagues, however, have extolled Mrs. Roosevelt's remarkable training in the field of foreign affairs. One, Harison Miller, has just written a glowing story on the subject that he has overheard many inhibitions of the principal facts to the best of my knowledge are correct, but he has missed what seem to me to be the really significant points.

AMONG the points that are neglected are these: Franklin D. Roosevelt has made 13 trips to Europe, the first when he was 3 years old. He has visited 22 foreign countries. He has spent about 36 months abroad.

He grew up in a home where European periodicals and visitors familiar with European affairs and Far Eastern affairs were common.

He has a speaking knowledge of French and German and a smattering of Italian and Spanish. From boyhood he has been a student of naval affairs.

He studied history in college and international law.

With the Roosevelts, and their children, Spring-Jones, who was then British Ambassador, was a friend and a playmate. Theodore Roosevelt, Spring-Jones had had a somewhat attractive character, but he regarded the United States as, in substance, a British colony. If the Wilson Administration had been loaded with un-American Anglophiles, including Cobdenites and other warm friends of the Roosevelt Spring-Jones would either have had to mend his ways or he would have been ordered out of the country.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT was convinced we were going into World War I long before we entered it. He may be credited with foresight, but there is not one jot in the record to indicate that he felt any doubt about our duty to uphold the Allies with all our substance. He was contemptuous of William Jennings



F. D. R. AS ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

Shown presenting decoration to Lieut. Comdr. Boone

He served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy through both Wilson Administrations. As last member of the young married set he became well acquainted with members of the young diplomatic set.

During the World War he became acquainted with many of the leading European statesmen.

He was present during part of the negotiations leading to the Treaty of Versailles.

He traveled home from Europe once on the same boat with Woodrow Wilson.

He has a complete set of Punch since 1842.

He has an extraordinary stamp collection.

Since he entered the White House he has talked with almost every foreign statesman of the world.

His Chinese knowledge is so good he is called by the Chinese as a "preparation" for the conduct of foreign affairs.

THESE, HOWEVER, are only other facts of his education and conduct. The fact that he has collected these facts for 20 years is a fact of his character.

Franklin, tall, thin, young, in 1898 Roosevelt moved to the city which was for a time the international and which was not conscious of any differentiation between the interests of the United States and the interests of western Europe.

From his earliest years his closest and most pleasant connections were with Great Britain and France. He visited Germany, and during two summers he attended school in Germany while his father took the baths at Naumburg. His German training may have furthered his ability to read military maps, and in cycling through Germany and Switzerland with a tutor he had some pleasant larks. But in later years he made it plain by his comments that he did not look back upon Germany with the same friendliness that he felt for Great Britain and France. In the Orient his family ties, on the Delano side, were with the China trade and China. Raymond Moley quotes him as saying quite frankly that this is the cause of his pro-Chinese bias.

His half-brother, James M. Roosevelt, was attached to the American Embassy in London during the Cleveland Administration.

While he was a member of the "young married set" during the Wilson Administration his closest ties were with the British and French and with the strongly pro-Ally members of the administration. Ronald Lindsay, later became British Ambassador to the United States, played baseball

Bryan, who didn't know French or German or Spanish or Italian and had not made 11 trips abroad, and had not visited 20 European countries but whose adverse judgment on Wilson's approach to the submarine problem has now been so thoroughly vindicated that there is today not a single important official from Franklin D. Roosevelt through Cordell Hull to any member of Congress who dares to propose that the Wilsonian policy be followed in this war. Indeed, the "neutrality" policy proposed by the Roosevelt Administration amounts to a complete repudiation of the policy of Woodrow Wilson with regard to the rights of American citizens and American ships to protection in areas of combat.

The European statesmen and military and naval officers with whom Mr. Roosevelt has contact are Asiatics or Germans or the Navy officers interested in the World War were exclusively victors of the Allies.

There is nothing in his public utterances, and for that I know nothing of his private preferences, to indicate that he even had an understanding of the European problem from the German viewpoint. And I know that in Germany as it existed before Hitler and as it may exist after Hitler.

There is nothing in his public utterances to indicate that he is familiar with the essential about the European struggle for domination or to preserve the balance of power, even during the last 150 years since the French Revolution.

THESE POINTS could be multiplied and elaborated. They could be built into an argument that Mr. Roosevelt is so intensely pro-British and pro-French that he is incapable of making a sober decision as to American policy. But such a conclusion would be unfair. Whether or not he is fully aware of his own bias, he is undoubtedly trying to think in terms of the best interests of the United States. By nature he is impulsive and given to strong prejudices. But he is a wise, older man than he was 20, 15 or even 5 years ago. He is listening to advice about world affairs, although he may not invite advice as often as he should do so, and he probably has no idea how many people in his own Administration have misgivings about certain of his actions and tendencies in foreign affairs. The knowledge of European and Oriental affairs which Franklin D. Roosevelt has been absorbing since he was 5 years old is only a tool. What the American public is interested in is not how much he knows about foreign affairs, but what is his conception of the relation of the United States to the rest of the world.

INGTON

As The Twig Is Bent

By Ernest K. Lindley

Roosevelt's Early 'Bias'

IN JUSTICE to the President I want to take back one statement about his preparation for handling foreign affairs, which I made in a recent column. I said that from his earliest years his closest and most pleasant connections were with Great Britain and France. I cited the fact that as a boy he spent some time in Germany and during two summers attended school at Natchez, Miss., where, in his later years, he made it plain by his comments that he did not look back upon Germany with the same friendliness that he felt for Great Britain and France.

These statements were based on brief notes of conversations held with Mr. Roosevelt, Louis Howe, and others while I was writing a biography of Roosevelt more than eight years ago. But in that book and in later books on the President and his career I added up the facts to a somewhat different set of conclusions.

Ancestors Fought Against British

THERE ISN'T ROOM here to go over the whole ground, but here are two salient points:

1. As a boy, Franklin D. Roosevelt had a robust aversion to Great Britain. It was probably more acute than the dislike of Great Britain engendered in the minds of many schoolboys in that period by our American history textbooks. For Roosevelt's own family history about which he began to learn at an early age and of which he has always been proud, was replete with incidents in which Britain was the enemy. His ancestors had struggled with the British in the West Indian trade and competed with them in China. They had taken an active part in the Revolution. At about the age of six young Roosevelt began to show a decided interest in American naval history. John Paul Jones still ranks as one of his heroes.

2. Roosevelt looks back with pleasure on the four summers he spent in Germany as a boy. There Germany he experienced was the old Germany—the Germany of the salubrious Rhine-land in that benign period at the outset of the reign of Kaiser Wilhelm II. But a transition to a less agreeable land was made when he attended the Natchez school. There Roosevelt came into direct contact with one sign of the trend of courses in topography and military map reading had only recently been instituted. He took them and enjoyed them immensely. (Thus his skill in reading maps and sketching them owes something to his German experience.)

Youthful Bias Not Anti-German

ON A CYCLING TOUR young Roosevelt ran about the German military. He was arrested, for trying to cycle into Strasbourg, a fortified city, after sundown. He was let off without penalty and was given a glass of wine and a piece of cake, before he was sent back with instructions to enter the city by train.

Young Roosevelt had a happy time in Germany. But in later years he could—and did—recall from his experiences there the symptoms of the Prussian influence. This influence he came heartily to dislike. Roosevelt's bias in his boyhood was anti-British, and certainly was not anti-German. As for many others who had known and loved the old Germany, the bias probably came during the war years. During the ten years and more I have known him, Franklin D. Roosevelt has seemed to me to have rather strong Polishish and pro-French bias. His training would have been much better rounded, I think, if he had been able to renew his contacts with Germany during the post-war period.

In 1936, "Halfway With Roosevelt," I wrote, "Mr. Roosevelt certainly did not lack realization of the plight of Germany, but he had the typical American antipathy to what used to be called the 'Prussian tradition' and he never evinced an intimate appreciation of the economic and psychological factors which resulted in the rise of Hitler."

Unlikely To Be Pawn Of British Policy

IN THE SAME analysis of Roosevelt's training for the conduct of foreign affairs, I wrote, "Mr. Roosevelt could not be a Walter Hines Page or a J.P. Morgan. He is too familiar with the British to be a gullible pawn of British policy like his old friend, Col. House. He feels no more inferiority in the presence of a British title than in the presence of an American big banker or industrialist."

Nevertheless, Mr. Roosevelt has lived all his life on the Eastern seaboard, where people are always conscious of what is going on in Europe, and by education and association he is the type of person who looks on Western civilization as an essential utility and accepts unconsciously the ties of language, law, and similar political institutions.

In 1936, I cited also Mr. Roosevelt's penchant for helping democratic and liberal movements generally. This exuberant energy, his love of dramatic actions, and his reluctance to say "that is none of my business."

My anxiety about Mr. Roosevelt's tendencies in foreign affairs is nothing new. I have been writing about it for years. More than three years ago I wrote, "There is a very real question concerning Franklin D. Roosevelt as to whether or not he will follow the tragic course of Woodrow Wilson."

POST-PRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1939

R 3. 1939

*file
personal*

PSF Exec. Ofc.

Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 22, 1939

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Senator Carter Glass called me this morning and said that he was greatly concerned by the false headlines and vicious misrepresentation of his position with reference to the Garner Presidential candidacy. He spoke at considerable length to tell the story of what he had said to the two newspapermen who interviewed him and to denounce the stories they published. He declared that these stories were "false and malicious."

The Senator said he was particularly distressed because one of the newspapers had seen fit to print the statement that his "advocacy of Garner" had terminated "his harmonious relationships with the White House." He said he hoped very much that no one "over here" felt that way and that he was calling to tell us the truth and to give us the details of how these stories had gotten out.

Glass declared the published newspaper stories were "simply vicious." He said he told the newspapermen that there was nothing of political significance in the letter he had written Garner acknowledging the gift of a book the Vice President had sent him. He said the book was received when he was ill — delirious — and that he did not acknowledge it for a month later, because of his illness. He said the newspapermen had seized upon this letter at this time in a way that misrepresented the purpose of it.

I thanked the Senator for calling and told him that I would forward to you a report in explanation of his call and what he had said.

S.T.E.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

Steve Early
✓

December 16, 1939.

To the President at Hyde Park

From Steve Early

Summary of News reports

Re-Battleship Admiral Graf Spee

" Count Ciano's address before the Chamber of Fascist Corporations
in Rome on Dec 16th etc etc

See: Navy folder-Drawer 1-1939

Monday morning Conference
PSF
Exec. Ofc.
File
Personal
Early
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
March 15, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Mr. President:

I presented to Speaker Bankhead yesterday, the case of Mrs. Thomas J. Preston, widow of Grover Cleveland.

I have, this morning, received a letter from the Speaker in which he says:

"I will take steps at once to have such a bill prepared and introduced and do what I can to secure its passage this session."

When and if you see the Speaker, Monday morning, I wish you would thank him for this and indicate, as you have to me, your personal interest.

STEPHEN EARLY

PSF Exec. O/c.

Early

*File
Personal
Early*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1940

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Dear "Boss":

The Press Room has a candidate -- a native born Washingtonian, a man of rare attainment and ability, one who possesses every worthwhile qualification.

His name is J. Russell Young.

The Press Room offers him as a successor to George Allen, District Commissioner, resigned, whose resignation becomes effective April fifteenth.

Russ is receptive. He has been eligible for more than two years to retire on two-thirds pay as White House correspondent for the Evening Star.

His appointment would be well received on the Hill and elsewhere except possibly by Sissy Patterson and her Times-Herald crew.

S.T.E.
S.T.E.

PSF
Exec. Ofc
Early

Steve Early

MEMORANDUM TO JIM ROWE FROM THE PRESIDENT - March 27, 1940

President suggests that he speak to Steve Early concerning attached memo from Jim Rowe dated March 26, 1940. re two matters which Sec Wallace wanted him to take up with the President.

1. Whether he should accept invitation to make speech at Testimonial dinner for Jim Farley.
2. Re: Protestant Churches becoming more and more disturbed about status of Myron Taylor at the Vatican. Attached are the following letters:

1. Letter to Dr. W. W. Alexander from Samuel McCrea Cavert of the Federal Council of the Churches of Christ in America and copies of Dr. Buttrick's letters of Feb 27, 1940 and March 22, 1940 to the President.

See: Wallace-Drawer 1-1940

PSF
Exec. Cfc. Early
Early

For Steve's statement to the Press---March 28, 1940
on return of Sumner Welles from his Mission abroad.

See: Welles-Drawing 1-1940

Copy

PSF Exec. Off. Early
Early

(Undated-came to file April 1, 1940)

Memo to Mr. Early

McDermott says the A. P. has the following bulletin from Rome:

"Undersecretary Welles disclosed today that no peace plan or mediation proposal had been offered him by any belligerent government or any other government during his conversations".

"He also declared emphatically that he had not conveyed any suggestions for peace to any European powers. He said he was taking facts and no peace proposals back to President Roosevelt."

Mr Hillman of Colliers will be at the press conference today.

(Original of the above memo is in Welles folder-Drawer 1-1940)

PSF
Exec. Ofc. Early
Early

Letter to Mr. Early from Mr. Cass Canfield-April 8, 1940.

Re: The President some day writing a book and their wanting

to handle it. (Mr. Early's reply attached of April 19, 1940)

See: Gen corres-Canfield-Drawer 3-1940

BF Exec. Off. *Steve Early*

Early

April 11, 1940

Memo to General Watson from the President:

Re: appt to see Joe Guffey about sending Woodward's
name up for appt to Maritime Commission and to tell
Guffey that poor Woodward is being sued for his back
salary etc.

Attached to the above memo are the following memos re
Woodward:

Memo of April 9-1940 to the President from
Steve Early re conversation he had with Mr.
Frederic Delano etc.

Memo to Steve Early from Jim Rowe--April 9, 1940
re Jerry Land and his talk with the President
about Woodward and Guffey etc.

Memo to the President from Jim Rowe--April 8, 1940
re inquiry of Admiral Land's who is interested
to know whether President has seen Guffey.

For the above memos-----

See: Maritime Commission folder-Drawer 2-1940 (April 11, 1940)

PSF Exec. Off.

Early

Steve Early

(List was prepared by Census Bureau)

List of Swedish, Norwegian, Danish and Finnish
Foreign Born, and sons and daughters of Foreign
Born and mixed parentage in 17 states

(Notation on list to Steve Early, saying that the
President wants this list for his Press Conference
in the morning) (Came to file April 13, 1940-is undated)

See: Commerce Dept folder-Drawer 1-1940 (Dave Niles)

BF Exec. Of
Early ^{early}

Longhand O.K. to Steve Early from FDR to
release attached statement to Sunday Papers for
April 14, 1940.

Re: Force and military aggression against small
nations and in this instance through invasion
of Denmark and Norway.

See: State Dept-Drawer 1-1940 (April 13, 1940 memo from Hull
to the President)

BF Exec. Ofc.

Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

file
personal
Early

May 8, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Dear Mr. President:

Attached hereto is a statement which William D. Hassett has given me regarding the conduct of certain newspapermen who accompanied you to Hyde Park and were guests of the Campbell House from May 4th to May 6th, 1940.

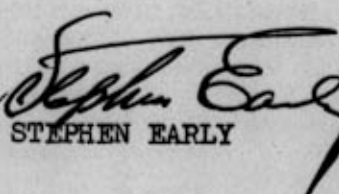
I have told the newspapermen of your deep personal concern and embarrassment over the reports you received from friends in Poughkeepsie who related to you the story of the newspapermen's misbehavior while at the Campbell House. I told them that you were distressed that the innocent victim had been a permanent guest -- a lady some 80 years of age and blind. I told them, with some feeling, how the explosion of firecrackers throughout the night had effected the old lady, as well as the other guests and how greatly embarrassed you were.

I told them it was a great pity and shame that you should be subjected to such embarrassment; that you could not visit your home at Hyde Park without being humiliated by the newspapermen who accompanied you, etc.

Mr. Felix Belair, of the New York Times, and President of the White House Correspondents Association, Mr. George Durno of the I.N.S., Mr. Douglas Cornell of the A.P. and Tom Reynolds of the U.P. assure me that they personally will see to it that there is never a repetition of the deplorable affair which took place in the Campbell House on the nights of Saturday, May 4th and Sunday, May 5th.

It is my belief that these four gentlemen will carry out this promise and that it is much better to let the newspapermen police themselves than for us, for the present at least, to undertake to police them.

This for your information.


STEPHEN EARLY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 8, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. EARLY:

(Confidential)

The reports made to the President of "Hooliganism" at the Campbell House during our last visit could not have been exaggerated. The conduct of members of our party late into the night of Saturday, May fourth, was bad enough but what was done on the night of May fifth was worse. Street rowdies or gangsters could not have been worse.

On Sunday night, or to be precise, sometime after 1:00 A.M. Monday, a fire cracker was exploded on the seventh floor of the hotel. This was the floor on which my room was located. Other fire crackers were exploded at intervals of say, an hour, until about 5:30 A.M., Monday morning, on the seventh floor. In between times, I heard other explosions below the seventh floor. So it is not an exaggeration to say that the hotel was under continuous bombardment from sometime after midnight until after daylight Monday morning.

The corridor on the seventh floor, on Monday morning, was strewn with debris from the fire crackers and looked like any public park would after an old-fashioned fourth of July celebration. The bombardment of the first night, of which reference has been made, was, according to all accounts, pretty bad, although I personally did not hear it and as far as I know, explosives were not set off on the top floor where I had my room.

There has never been any doubt as to who has been responsible for shooting off fire crackers on other occasions or as to who was the ring leader in general acts of rowdiness which reflected no credit on either the perpetrators or the members of the President's party. There was far too much of this even in the days when we were stopping at the Nelson House.

Although all the guests at the Campbell House both Saturday and Sunday nights must have been terror stricken, the offense against one guest should make even the rowdies who were responsible hang their heads in shame. One of the permanent guests at the hotel is a Mrs. Anna Perry, an aged woman, going to 80, who is totally blind. She must have thought that the end of the world had come.

W.D.H.
WILLIAM D. HASSETT

PSF Exec. Ofc.
Early

May 28, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR

S. T. E.

Just to keep the record straight in your office and mine I report the following conversation with Roy Howard today per appointment:

1. He was with me about twenty minutes and I started right in by telling him I had a very important mission to the principal South American Capitals which he, and he alone, could fill. I told him of my need of information, from a non-government source, in regard to Fifth Column German, Italian and Communist activities in those countries; that I wanted him to go as Roy Howard, who started the U.P. in those countries and as the head of an important chain; that he would have no connection with the Government, as this would be very unwise down there, and that I wanted him to obtain his information on the strength of his well-known position down there.

He seemed completely surprised, hemmed and hawed, spoke of his tremendous personal responsibilities with Scripps-Howard; that no one else could carry on the work; but that Carl Bickel, who had been there more recently, could do it better. I pointed out that Bickel is known down there to have retired and that it would be like sending the retired First Secretary of the Embassy instead of the Ambassador himself. He was very uncomfortable, repeated his personal and newspaper difficulties about going and then, at my request, said he would go back to New York and think it over.

He also said that he was sure he could think of equally good or better people, and I told him that I had surveyed the entire field and wanted him and him alone.

2. He then asked me if I could say anything about the offer of the British to turn the Singapore base over to the American Navy. I looked surprised and he said that he had asked Lord Lothian, who had lunched with him in New York a week ago; that Lothian knew nothing of it but had promised to find out and no further word had come. I told him that I had read the story as a statement of fact in Clapper's column, but that I could not take time to deny columnist's stories of this kind -- there were too many of them. I gave no further information.

-2-

3. He asked if I was going to put one man in charge of national defense and I told him that that had never been done and could not be done under the Constitution and laws. He referred to Baruch as having been in sole charge during the World War. I told him he must have got his information from the newspapers because that was wholly untrue. I outlined Navy and War Department procedure in getting missions during the World War. He seemed surprised and wholly ignorant of the whole subject. I added that the present appropriations and authorizations are not at all like those of 1917. We are not trying to equip and send abroad four or five million soldiers and that this new authorization is, in effect, the addition of \$1,000,000,000 to existing national defense appropriations of \$3,000,000,000.

Not one word was said about the Barlippo-Boward policy or any of the columnists except the statement of Clapper above. He seemed a bit subdued and left promising he would let me know.

Personal and Confidential

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 23, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

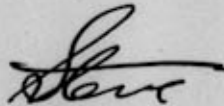
A careful reading and analysis of the editorials and contributions of columnists in the Scripps-Howard papers during the past two weeks justifies the charge that these papers are distorting the facts in dealing with the question of national defense. In the face of what might almost be described as a ground swell of public opinion in favor of national unity where national defense is concerned, these papers have been pursuing a course which would certainly carry comfort to the enemies of democracy — to be exact a gentleman of the name Hitler.

Ludwell Denny's and General Johnson's columns have been particularly unfair. Whatever their purpose or avowed intent may be, their contributions are calculated to sabotage the program for defense. I have given a good deal of thought to the solution of this problem. I have tried to look at it from every point of view. Three things occur to me which could be done and they are:

1. A letter of complaint could be written to Roy Howard. This would present certain difficulties because the reply would be that we were objecting to free discussion. It might lead to an exchange of arguments but I do not think it would point the way to a solution.
2. You could call Roy Howard on the carpet and tell him face to face that his papers were distorting the truth in a manner that endangered the national interest. This might easily have the effect of arousing Howard's further antagonism and at the same time strengthen his opposition and the opposition of his papers. It is a risk I should not like to take. I am opposed to it.
3. There is another method of approach. Why don't you conciliate Howard through an appeal to his vanity? He is very susceptible to flattery, as I know from a long acquaintance. I would suggest that you ask him to come to see you; that you mention his long familiarity with Central and South American problems gained through study and extensive travels in those countries. Tell him that you would like to have him make a survey of conditions in the Central and South American Republics, particularly concerning the activities of "fifth columns" in those countries.

I would suggest that you mention to him his wide acquaintance with important people through his travels and other contacts in those countries, that because of these contacts he would be in a position to invite confidences and to obtain information not available to others. I should emphasize to him that while gathering information to be utilized in a series of articles which would be of outstanding importance in the world of news, he could, at the same time, obtain information which it would be invaluable for the government to have. I think you could very easily make the role of unofficial ambassador very attractive to Mr. Howard.

Of the three possible approaches to correct the current unpatriotic trend in the Scripps-Howard newspapers, I would be in favor of the third one.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Steve' or 'Stephen', with a stylized, flowing script.

STEPHEN EARLY

*PSF Exec. Ofc.
Early*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Early

June 3, 1940.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

~~VERY CONFIDENTIAL~~

Dear Mr. President:

Newspaper reports and radio reports emanating from Texas sources say that Elliott is going to deliver "by direction of the highest authority", a sensational address in Detroit within a few days; that he will speak on the Fifth Column and predict dire results of the war in Europe.

I understand Elliott is visiting here, possibly tomorrow night. May I suggest that, in the light of reports that he will speak by direction of the highest authority, it would be advisable to avoid talking to him about the war or Fifth Column, etc. It may be that one purpose of his visit is to get material for his speech.

S.T.E.

BF Exec. Ofc.

Early
Jan 2

Re; Telephone message to Steve Early of June 15, 1940
from William Allen White suggesting that the President advise French Premier
in on e way or another that Gov of U.S. will not recognize Gov in Europe
brought about by force etc etc etc

See: Wm A. White-Gen corrs-Drawer 2-1940

PSF Exec. Ofc. Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 9, 1940

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Thought you might be interested in some things Wayne Johnson told me, this morning, about contributions.

"The financial picture is looking better every day.

"Capt. Joe Patterson of the N.Y. Daily News has contributed \$5,000 and also is contributing a like amount to the State campaign.

"Marshall Field has contributed the limit.

"Tom Watson of International Business Machines has pledged the limit, this week.

"Sonny Whitney also has pledged the limit and will deliver this week.

"Also the limit, in more than one way, is on its way from Victor Emanuel."

S.T.E.

PSF: Early

File personal Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 24, 1940.

TELETYPE FROM CHARLIE MICHELSON TO STE:

2:10 Last Friday -- Oct. 18, 1940 -- in an "off the record" talk with newspaper reporters, Joe Martin, Jr., Chairman of the Republican National Committee -- here in New York City -- told reporters that he had been informed by a high naval officer at Washington that, immediately after the Election, the United States Fleet would move into Manila.

Asked if it meant war, Mr. Martin indicated that he thought it would -- that is unless the Japs backed down. He said he did not think they would back down, as they are a proud people. He also indicated his disapproval of the suggested course and said he might have something to say about it in a week or so. Mr. Martin was asked if the Fleet would go from Manila to Singapore and he said he thought so.

BF Exec. Ofc.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 22, 1941

file
personal
Early Folder

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM TO THE PRESIDENT:

I have seen Dan Tobin. He is willing from time to time to let the Fight for Freedom Committee use his name. He is not ready yet to accept membership on that Committee.

Dan's position is that he is for war when the President of the United States says the word — he is willing to work for defense, for aid to the allies and everything short of war in the meantime.

Dan tells me, confidentially, that his Teamsters, national and international, include Italians, Germans and others. He has an educational job to do. He is doing this job to the best of his ability. He believes he is doing a much more effective work than he would be able to if he joined the Fight for Freedom Committee. He points out that John L. Lewis and other labor leaders who are in opposition to the President's foreign policy will move into his organization and probably destroy him just as quickly as he favors putting this country into war.

S.T.E.
S.T.E.

Exec. Office of Pres.: Early

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 20, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Ulric Bell telephoned to say that as you know they are very anxious to have Tobin become a member of their Committee because of his position in labor circles. Ulric understands that you are in favor of this and wonders if you could say a word to give Tobin a push. The Committee is "Fight for Freedom".

M.A.L.

OK
JHR

PSF Exec. Ofc.

Early Folder
File
Confidential

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 23, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL WATSON:

Dear Pa:

There is a possibility that Victor Emmanuel may telephone you this week. The President knows him. He is one of the biggest Utility operators in the country -- perhaps the only one who has supported the President through three campaigns and contributed heavily to the success of each. Confidentially, he is putting Wendel Wilkie on the boards of two of his companies -- New York Ship Building, and the Vultee Airplane Company. He is doing this because Wilkie needs the money and because he is interested in airplane and ship building and all other lines of industrial production to aid the Allies, and promote the defense program. If Victor calls it will be to ask an appointment with the President for Wendel Wilkie, and Wilkie will come seeking ideas and suggestions that he may follow out in his speeches and activities for national unity, defense and Allied aid.

BSF Exec. Apc.

Early Folder

January 17, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

S. T. E.

Here is another one. Honestly I think that something has got to be done about Luce and his papers.

The issue of "Time" of January 12th has arrived in Chile and been distributed from the news-stands. Once again Chilean's susceptibilities have been aroused to further antagonism because "Time" describes the conference at Rio de Janeiro as a "big round-up"; that the first move of this "round-up" is to "corral" the American Republics into a homogeneous "herd". It would seem obvious that independent Republics anywhere in the world very properly object to being "corralled into a herd" by a larger and more powerful nation.

What to do about this attitude, which is definitely unpatriotic in that it is harmful to the United States to a very great degree?

BF Exec. Ofc

Early folder
3

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 12, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR STEVE:

Would you and Bill check on
the accuracy of the attached? I think
it is so good it could well be given out
by me at my next press conference.

What do you think?

F.D.R.

Baruch letter with quotation From Livy

PSF Exec. Ofc.

Early Folder

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 20, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR S.T.E.

I showed Johnny Hanes' letter to the President and he suggests you send him the following letter:

"Dear Johnny:

"I am very, very grateful. You have done a fine thing and you have helped not only yourself but me.

"I want you to do something for me. Go back in the newspapers and read the things that were said by most of those active in Mr. Willkie's campaign -- and said by Mr. Willkie himself on several occasions. They were direct attacks on my Boss and individual members of my Boss's family. The reason I still like my Boss's method of campaigning is that in not one single speech made by him in 1932, 1936 or 1940 did he ever once attack his opponent or members of his opponent's family. That quality is, I fear, a bit rare but I hope there will be more of it in future campaigns by the candidates and all those who surround them."

F.D.R.

TELEGRAM

PSF Exec. Sec.

Early File

The White House
Washington

September 8, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. EARLY;

The President asks me to tell you that a very distinguished foreigner is due to arrive incognito next week on a strictly secret mission. This foreigner wants to get a complete picture of the major industrial plants and military bases in a swing out to the Pacific Coast, down the Pacific Coast and back again. He plans to go to Detroit, the Great Lakes Training Station at Chicago and then to Seattle where he would inspect the Boeing Plant and the Army and Navy bases; next he would visit the aluminum and magnesium plants and the Kaiser plant near Portland, Oregon; then he would take in plants in the San Francisco area, continuing to Los Angeles and San Diego; next to San Antonio to inspect the air training field, after which he would go to the big camp in Mississippi. A visit to Fort Bragg, North Carolina would be made on the way back to New York. This visitor will make up his own itinerary and will have to move very rapidly because he hopes to make each of his inspections at the various places between trains and will be in the United States for two weeks only. The President, however, desires you to ask General Somervell and Donald Nelson very confidentially whether any major activity has been omitted from the above itinerary. The President wants this information by tomorrow morning so that he can notify the Embassy of the visitor in question.

W.D.H.

BF Exec. Ofc.

Early folder 2-45

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 4, 1945

file → ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Inasmuch as you have the British Ambassador coming in at noon today, I thought you would like to know some of the reports that come to me from friends regarding the plans the British have to hold a series of "off the record", individual and small-group conferences with Washington newspapermen.

I am advised that Halifax himself is to hold these conferences — that they begin this week.

It is understood that the purpose of these conferences — and most of them will be held with individuals, invited to tea — presumably is to give Washington newspapermen the British point of view on subjects which will be discussed at the announced meeting of the BIG THREE — the President, the Prime Minister and Stalin.

You probably noticed in the morning papers the reports from London where the British Press is actively advocating a new clarification of the American foreign policy. These dispatches say that there is a growing demand for such clarification and that official British views are often reflected through the editorial views of the London Times. In an editorial today the Times urged Congress to "play a major role in world affairs" and clarify its feeling with regard to isolationism.

May I invite your attention, also, to reports which came out of London recently in the form of "Confidential Notes to Editors" saying that General Eisenhower was to return to the United States. Significantly the London Press, at the same time, featured stories that important changes would be made in the Allied High Command.

S.T.E.