

R Walton Moore Papers
Box 3
Bull. H, W.C. 1937

R. W. Moore

Paris, January 8, 1937.

Dear Judge Moore:

I have just had called to my attention an unnumbered instruction of the Department, dated December 18th, addressed to Mr. Southard and signed by Mr. Carr, dealing with the refusal of immigration visas by our consuls abroad on the ground that the applicant is likely to become a public charge, and ordering them to interpret the word "likely" in the sense of "probably" and not in the sense of "possibly."

So far as this office is concerned, I understand that there have been in the past twenty-seven months 5220 visa letters and 624 despatches sent to the Department and that there has been no complaint or criticism of any kind.

I wonder what is the source of the instruction referred to above. Of its effect I have no doubt. It is interpreted

The Honorable

R. Walton Moore,

Acting Secretary of State,

Washington, D. C.

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interpreted here (and in other missions of ours in Europe which have communicated with me) to mean that Jews are to be given visas whether or not they are likely to become public charges.

I don't agree for one minute that "likely" means "probably" and I think the instruction is definitely against the public interest.

With these harsh words, I embrace you!

Yours affectionately,

Bill.

William C. Bullitt.

May 15, 1937.

Dear Bill:

The praise of me in your letter of May 3rd of course pleases me very much, although it runs far beyond anything I deserve. I shall not allow any feeling of disappointment to embitter me or weaken my purpose to render the administration all the service of which I am capable, and I feel fairly certain it will be of some value, assuming that my great asset of good health remains at par. Exactly what my duties will be I do not know, but kind fate has ordinarily taken pretty good care of me throughout a long life. I have mailed you copies of the Congressional Record showing what was said in the Senate and House when I was under discussion. The Chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs told me after the House had acted that in his years of experience there he had never known a parallel case of an individual being so unanimously commended by members of both parties. It is naturally a satisfaction to me that, as I near the end, I seem to have the good opinion of so many people, and there is nothing more satisfactory to me than to have your friendship. No one connected with the Administration equals you in brilliancy of intellect and ability to visualize the world situation generally and in detail, and I hope you know

that

The Honorable
William C. Bullitt,
American Ambassador,
Paris.

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that there is no one to whom I am more devoted.

I read your messages with the greatest interest, and I know that they receive the close attention of the Secretary.

You must not give yourself any trouble on account of my young relatives, but in compliance with your request, my niece Mary Walton McCandlish, will write you about their plans. When they reach London they will hire an automobile and meander around England and Scotland.

The President, as you are already informed, reached Washington yesterday and at once called in the Congressional leaders and in a very positive way went over the measures, including the Court proposal, which he says must be enacted before adjournment. I still feel rather unhappy about the situation, but the President has a lot of wisdom and a lot of good luck, and before the heat of the summer strikes Washington conditions may become much clearer.

Without regard to what occurs during the remainder of the present Administration, I am perfectly sure that in 1940 no old fashioned Republican will stand a ghost of a chance of being elected, and that a real liberal will succeed Mr. Roosevelt. There is now even some talk about the opposition party changing its name. It is a little curious that I was perhaps the first person to suggest that that might have to be done. Before the last Congressional election I conveyed that suggestion in a letter to Arthur Krock. One strong reason for a new label is that no party calling itself Republican may expect to make any headway in the south. In my judgment the next President will be such a

liberal

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liberal as Roosevelt is, or a man entertaining far more radical views.

You must guard against overwork. There are some of us so phlegmatic that we do not need to bother about that sort of thing, but there are others for whom it is necessary. I have had a rather hectic week, being compelled to engage in too much social activity, which is a horror to me, and I am glad that ~~Saturday~~ has arrived, with the prospect of a few quiet hours.

Affectionately your friend,

Paris, May 3, 1937.

Personal and
Confidential.

Dear Judge Moore:

I was delighted to receive your letter of April 20, but mightily disturbed about your prediction. I suppose that before this note reaches you the die will have been cast.

You know how heartily and profoundly I hope that things will turn out as you wish. You may find it difficult to believe but I can promise you that you are really a very extraordinary person and one of the greatest servants that the people of the United States have ever had. Mr. Thomas Jefferson and Mr. Patrick Henry would remove their hats and bow profoundly to you, and you ought to have all the power that you can wish for the good of the American people. Anyhow, I love you and want to see you have everything that you want and I don't like the suspicion that you may not.

I

The Honorable

R. Walton Moore,

Department of State,

Washington.

We

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I have telegraphed so frequently and voluminously of late that I have little to write. The French are hoping rather desperately that the British will help them to guarantee the status quo in Central Europe. The men at the top here are acutely aware that their power to operate in Central Europe has been reduced immensely by the new status of Belgium, and they can see no way to insure the preservation of Czechoslovakia unless England will threaten to go to war if Germany should attack Czechoslovakia. There is not, in my opinion, any chance that Great Britain will give such a guarantee.

I have heard nothing whatsoever, as usual, from our Embassy in London or from Norman Davis with regard to his conversations there and I should be greatly obliged if you would send me any information that I ought to have. Sir Eric Phipps, the new British Ambassador, has however talked to me with some frankness and he was emphatic in his statement that Great Britain could not give any guarantee to Czechoslovakia.

I was delighted to receive the Department's cable saying that the Red Cross could help the refugees from Bilbao. I shall tell Delbos personally as well as Del Vayo, the Spanish Foreign Minister, tomorrow. It is a fine and noble gesture.

We

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We are all well and thriving in spite of the fact that the arrival of the floods of Americans is increasing vastly the useless social activities of the Embassy.

I am looking forward most eagerly to the visit of your nieces and nephew and I hope that you will ask them to let me know their exact itinerary as soon as they can conveniently. When they arrive I shall probably be installed in a little chateau at Chantilly as this house by that time will be quite uninhabitable. The Exposition buildings of all the countries of the world are now being clustered around me. From the window now as I look out this evening, I have close up to me the German Nazi eagle; the Soviet hammer and sickle; but, thank God, even closer in front of them is the cross of the Pope!

Blessings and good luck.

Yours affectionately,

W.C.

William C. Bullitt.