

Summer Welles Papers
Box 162 Folder 2
Europe Files
France, 1942

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

DATE:
March 11, 1942

SUBJECT: Food for French prisoners of war in Germany

PARTICIPANTS: French Ambassador, Mr. Gaston Henry-Haye;
Acting Secretary, Mr. Welles

COPIES TO: ³⁻¹⁴
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The French Ambassador called to see me at his request.

The Ambassador called my attention to the fact that food destined for the British prisoners of war in Germany was transitting French territory and that he feared if something were not done to permit the French Government to obtain food for French prisoners of war in Germany, the French authorities might retaliate by refusing to permit the transit through France of further shipments of food for the British prisoners. I said that, as I had frequently stated before, attention would be given immediately to all of these questions once the assurances requested of the

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French Government by the United States Government had been given. I said that if and when that time came, every reasonable request of the French Government would be most carefully examined with a view to providing assistance to the French people, within the proper limits of the clearly defined policy of the United States.