January 11, 1941

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

Dear Missy:

The attached memorandum came from a very well-informed person and I thought you might want to show it to the President.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

FCW: bk
MEMORANDUM

January 6, 1941

With reference to the Russian situation, I can say briefly the following:

Immediately after the revolution in 1918 the group led by Lenin no doubt were honest, but very much misguided. The present group, which is led by Stalin, are very much dishonest and also misguided. In certain quarters of Russia they are rightly called "opportunists" and they are capable, if a good opportunity offers, of establishing a Nazi regime or a controlled Democracy.

The liquidation of Communist leaders for the last several years was partly for the reason of discrediting Communism among the Russian masses to pave the way for a change of "isms" whenever the opportunity offers.

On the one hand, Mr. Stalin gave orders several years ago to print a well worded Constitution, but he keeps the document in his desk under lock and key. On the other hand, he sacrificed Mr. Litvinoff and his followers for racial reasons to please the Nazis.

To the best of my knowledge the Bolsheviks believe that the European horizon is very cloudy because Democracy in Europe suffered a great setback and the Nazis have not yet proven to the Bolsheviks that they are economically strong and since the Bolsheviks have tasted discomfort from economic weakness and since there is in existence in Russia a strong influential group in the Communist Party who are strongly opposed to Nazism for racial reasons, Stalin has probably decided for the time being to stick 100% to his Communist principles. From a purely Communist point of view Stalin is interested first of all in completely destroying British Imperialism and British Democracy and simultaneously hopes that at a later date the German Communists can help Stalin undermine the Nazi regime from within the Nazi Party. (Please note that the last Communist vote in Germany, before Hitler came into power, was I believe well over ten million people and those ten million Communist voters have not all been destroyed by Hitler - the majority of them are today members of the Nazi Party.)

Under such circumstances, it looks almost impossible to obtain any friendly co-operation from Moscow for the British, but there are two loopholes in the entire question and they are:

1 - Does Stalin and his group look several years ahead?

2 - What is the feeling in this influential group in the Russian Communist Party towards Hitler's racial policy?

If the last two queries do exist in Russia, then the British might have a chance of changing the Soviet Government's policy in their favor, but they will have to risk a great deal and probably pay a high price for the change in the Soviet Government's heart.

I believe that the last two queries are worthwhile studying at the earliest possible date because the Russians might be in a stronger position to put up a quarrel with the Germans just now than in the middle of June or July when all of the roads in the Balkans and Poland are dry and suitable for a strong mechanized German army.
PSF P.O. Dept. May Twenty-seventh Nineteen forty-four.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

Dear Mister President:

In this grave moment the real faith you have in God will be your inspiration to say and to do the thing that is right. My heart goes out to you in your hour of responsibility.

I offer my Mass and Holy Communion this morning that you may have divine assistance.

Your entire Cabinet supports you wholeheartedly. God bless you affectionately. Frank
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 5, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

Who said a man was not a prophet in his own home town?

F. C. W.

I will give you $5.00 even money on the game this Saturday.

F. C. W.
November 7, 1941.

MEMORANDUM FOR

F. C. W.,

I will not attempt to lick your team on a dry day. I am a wet -- so is the Navy. I will bet you $5.00 if it rains on Saturday. My boys are web-footed. Your Polish outfit needs a dry track.

F. D. R.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Frank Walker phoned me from New York just now that he has broken his plate of false teeth, and is staying in New York to get them fixed before coming down tonight.

E.M.W.

1.57 p.m.
June 11, 1942.

Miss Grace Tully,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Grace:

I think the enclosed memorandum might be of interest to the President. It came to me from Mr. R. Stewart Lechert, who obtained it from a very close personal friend. He did not mention his friend's name but the man is German-born, about 75 years old, and for many years has been Peruvian Minister in Germany. He is of very fine character.

I think the memorandum is most interesting.

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

FCD/cc
June 8th, 1942

Talked to [name withheld] who arrived on the Drottningholm. He says that the War will be over in Europe this year and that unless England and the United States land troops in Europe there will be complete chaos. He says that the morale of the German nation is broken; that the people are despondent and bitter in their feelings against the Government, but that no one dares to say a word. They are terrorized.

He said that Hitler has absolutely no opposition but that the country is getting to understand that Germany is lost. He says that he estimates that sixteen million people have been killed in Europe. He says that recently the Germans have killed all the people in asylums and all severely wounded soldiers. They experimented with war gas in these killings. They are wantonly allowing people not only in Greece and Norway and France and Belgium and Holland, but also within Germany itself, to die of hunger in order to feed their soldiers well.

He says that Hitler is utterly indifferent to human suffering of any sort and the men about him are the same. I asked him what he thought about the possibility of Hitler being assassinated and he said he thought that he was likely to be and that if he were, the next thing you would hear would be that Himmler killed Goering and Ribbentrop and then someone killed Himmler and so on all the way down the line.

He said he feared that the conquered nations were bound to kill German soldiers on a large scale unless they were very rigidly controlled.

(over)
He seems to think that the finding of a practical peace basis after firing ceased was a problem the magnitude of which few people appreciate.

He said that German propaganda was still very effective and that on the steamer that he came over on, where there were principally South Americans, at least 20% were fifth Columnists.

He said that you could get anything anywhere in Europe with money and that 90% of all operations in Germany now had some involvement of graft in them. He said the same thing applied to all the countries on the continent.

I asked about Spain. He said that conditions were very bad there and that Franco was just controlling the country with soldiers and police and he thought that 75% of the population in Spain were in favor of the allied nations.
MEMORANDUM

The Postmaster General's request for priorities for

Cardinal Dougherty

Msgr. McGee

Father Burgio

March 23, 1944

(Return from Florida to Wash. or N. Y.)
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Frank Walker came in after Cabinet and said that Cardinal Dougherty of Philadelphia and two of his entourage would like to get air transportation from Florida either to Washington or to New York on March 23rd. Frank says he is a great admirer of yours and has been fine in every way and he wonders if it would not be a nice gesture for us to give them a priority.

What do you think?

GGT
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
August 21, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE POSTMASTER GENERAL

I wish you would talk with Jim Murray again and tell him that you and I think there is more than one way of killing a cat! I think it would be much wiser to say that we will appoint Parker but that as to the timing we think it better to wait until November. Parker should be perfectly content if he knows that the appointment is coming.

F. D. R.

Letter to the President from Senator Murray, dated August 18, 1944, re appointment of Joseph E. Parker as Postmaster of Butte, Montana.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
January 22, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL:

If you have any urgent messages which you wish to get to me, I suggest you send them through the White House Map Room. However, only absolutely urgent messages should be sent via the Map Room. May I ask that you make them as brief as possible in order not to tie up communications. If you have very lengthy messages the Map Room officer will have to exercise his discretion as to whether it is physically possible to send them by radio or whether they will have to be sent by pouch.

F.D.R.

(Identical memo sent to all Cabinet Members & mems, 1/19/45, from Adm. Brown re this is filed. Adm. Brown folder, 2-45)
Dear Mr President

I think George Allen would be a good choice for Secretary. He has a fine sense of loyalty - the first and most important essential - he has the other qualities in good measure. It's just a thought. It's good to see your cooking recipe. Affectionately,

[Signature]

Hope you don't think these are compliments.