Subject File "D"

Box 143
30. 6ÈT. 1942
PSF
325 EAST 57È STREET
NEW YORK

Dear Mr. President,

Ever so many thanks for your kindness and the wonderful weekend. I can't tell you how much I enjoyed it and how pleased I was to seeing you again, Sir. I suppose.
Martha told you that we need together to see doctor, who seems a very nice man and inspires confidence. I think, sir, we ought to give him another chance and then if she gets worse, perhaps try...
The doctors you mentioned. Poor Martha I'm so sorry for her, and she never complained - it was such joy to see her again.

Thank you once more, yours very sincerely

Margaret
The President of the U.S.A.
The White House.
Washington D.C.
My dear Margrethe:-

I have spoken with Governor Lehman in regard to your husband and I feel sure that when the time comes he can be of very great use in French relief work. However, as you probably know, we are merely planning for that great event and can do nothing at the present time except to make a paper organisation which would be put into effect at the first opportunity.

In other words, at the present time Governor Lehman will have only a very small staff of planners for the different countries where we hope to start rehabilitation as soon as they are freed from the German yoke.

Perhaps when you next come to Washington you will let me know a little in advance and bring your husband down here in order that I may introduce him to Governor Lehman.

Martha had a grand time in New York and she tells me that you have not insisted on any peanuts for the top of her head!

I do hope to see you one of these days soon.

Very sincerely yours,

H.R.H.
The Princess René de Bourbon,
325 East 57th Street,
New York, N. Y.
3-Dec 1942.

325 EAST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK

Sir,

Dear Mr. President,

First of all Rene and I want to thank you ever so much for your help and kindness to Jacques, who is now twice almost two weeks in "Little Norway" training at full speed. He loves it and is very happy. As you always
are so kind to me, and tell me you are my grand-
nuncle, which gives me great pleasure, may I
Take the liberty, Sir, of asking you for judgement
in a case which is very close to my heart-
Being French is very eager to do something
useful for his country now as you Sir, have
nominated a herman to help to restore
And specially need Europe. René thought that he might be very useful in helping over there.

What do you advise him to do? Should he go directly to Governor Leaman and offer his services in anything he might wish him to do over there or here?

I personally think that René might be of great help, Sir.
He knows the language and the country well and I'm sure he would be greatly thankful if he could be of any use here or there. Please forgive Sir, to bother you, just tell Martha what you think and she will tell us—hoping you are quite well and thanking you for all your understanding. Your very sincerely, Mary The
21-12-1942

325 EAST 57TH STREET
NEW YORK

Sir-

Dear Mr. President-

Ever so many thanks for your very kind letter and all the trouble you took, I can't tell you how very thankful to you. Your kind words to me are to you, sir, next time we go to
Washington I'll let you know in time.

It was so nice to see Mr. Hill here again. I always miss him when she is away. She is such a wonderful friend. I promise you, sir.
no more peacocks on her head, except, if we should happen to go to the Zoo together, you must tell her that.

Wishing you Sir, a very happy year and all the best for the New Year, perhaps even the
peace and great victory for this wonderful country. We all owe so much. With best love, your grand-niece, niece, or sister. 

Margaret –
To:
The President of the U.S.A.
The White House
Washington D.C.
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 22, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR
HON. E. R. STETTINIUS, JR.

For preparation of a memorandum
on which I can base a reply to Princess
Rene de Bourbon.

F.D.R.

Letter to the President, 2-18-44, from
Margrethe, Princess Rene de Bourbon, who en-
closes a letter from the Countess Kotyebue,
740 Park Ave., NYC., 1-14-44, who wants help
in getting her son, John D. Sanford, out of
a concentration camp at Compiègne, France.
March 1, 1944

My dear Margaret-

I am enclosing a memorandum from the State Department in regard to Countess Kotzebue's son. Apparently the Germans would not send any of the Americans from the camp where he is, and I fear that all we can do now is to hope that they will let people from his camp come over here on the next exchange. Will you tell his Mother?

I do hope you will come down to Washington again soon and, in the meantime, do be sure to let me know if there is anything more I can do.

Always sincerely,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

H. R. H.
The Princess Beme de Bourbon,
352 East 57th Street,
New York, N. Y.

P.S. Since dictating the above I have received the enclosed memorandum from the State Department in regard to Mr. John Demarest Sanford, which is certainly good news.
Mrs. President

Dear Sir,

Please forgive me bothering you, but I am making a letter from the Consular Office in Ashwa. I know for years in Paris there is a very worried about her son and I just feel very long for her. I think if she could be taken out of the concentration camp and exchanged somehow.
It was such a joy to see President again. I thought that looked so very well. I often think of you. Sir. And truly admire all you are doing for the country. Please accept on my very best regards.

Yours truly and devotedly,

Mary Park
January 14
140 Park Ave.

Mr. President,

Dear Sir,

May 14, 1914.

This is to consider the case of my friend Mr. Smith who said he was unjustly imprisoned and was returned.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

February 29, 1944

Subject: Repatriation of Mr. John Densmore Sanford.

A telegram has just been received from the American Legation at Bern which indicates that the German Government has approved the inclusion of Mr. John Densmore Sanford in the current United States-German exchange operation. This is the case which Princess Rene de Bourbon took up recently with you.

E.S. [Signature]

Copy of this memorandum sent to H.R.H. The Princess Rene de Bourbon as enclosure to the President's letter of 3/1/44.

J.M.
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON  
February 28, 1944  

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT  

REPATRIATION OF JOHN DENSMORE SANFORD  

Reference is made to your memorandum of February 22, 1944 regarding Princess Rene de Bourbon's request for assistance in repatriating Countess Kotzebue's son, whose name according to our records is Mr. John Densmore Sanford.

Mr. Sanford, an American civilian interned at Compiegne, France, is fifty years of age. His case was specially called to the attention of the Swiss Government for consideration in selecting Americans for repatriation.

Subsequently, the Germans said that because of "technical difficulties" the Americans in the current exchange would be drawn from three camps in southeastern Germany. We made representations in behalf of Americans elsewhere, but have at the moment no assurance that any non-official Americans will be repatriated from other areas.

Further details regarding Mr. Sanford's case are given in the underlying memorandum.

Two copies of our press release regarding the current exchange with Germany are enclosed for possible transmission to Princess Rene de Bourbon.

Enclosures:

1. Memorandum of information regarding Mr. Sanford's case.
2. Press release no. 49.
3. Letter from Princess Rene de Bourbon.
4. Letter from Countess Kotzebue.
SUMMARY OF INFORMATION REGARDING CASE
OF MR. JOHN DENSMORE SANFORD.

Our records indicate that Mr. Sanford's American
citizenship has been established and that he is reported
to be interned at Frontstalag 122, which is a civilian
internment camp at Compiègne, France.

For security reasons we were obliged to withhold
from the current exchange with Germany certain Germans
whose return was specifically requested by the German
Government. Accordingly, we feel that we cannot insist
upon the inclusion of specific non-official Americans in
this exchange. Furthermore, we feel that to do so might
so emphasize their importance as to convince the Germans
that they are persons probably worth detaining for
bargaining purposes.

On February 8, a week before the Gripsholm set sail
for Europe, we arranged to have Mr. Sanford's case again
called to the attention of the Swiss Government. Subse-
quently we received a communication emanating from the
German Government in which that Government stated that
because of "technical difficulties" (probably disruption in
its transportation facilities) the Americans to be returned
in the current exchange will be drawn from three internment
camps in southeastern Germany. Since receipt of this
communication, we have requested the Swiss Government, and
through it the German Government, to endeavor to overcome
these "technical difficulties" so that deserving cases of
representative Americans, among whom is Mr. Sanford, may
be given an opportunity for inclusion in the exchange no
matter where they may be residing.

According to the terms of the current exchange agree-
ment, the selection of those to be repatriated is to be on
a compassionate basis, the aged and the infirm being given
preference. We have not yet received the list of non-
official Americans to be repatriated in the current exchange,
but in view of the German Government's attitude in this
matter as indicated above, we cannot hold out much prospect
of Mr. Sanford's being included in this exchange.
The motorship Gripsholm left New York today for Lisbon under safe conduct from all the belligerents. It is carrying 18 members of the former French diplomatic and consular establishments in the United States, 26 German consular officials with their wives and families who came into the custody of the United States during military operations in North Africa, a German consular officer and wife taken in Italy and several hundred German nationals who entered the United States in 1942 from certain of the other American republics en route to Germany but who were unable to continue their voyage at that time. Other passengers include about 375 German nationals being repatriated on humanitarian grounds because of illness or other special circumstances and 131 seriously sick and seriously wounded prisoners of war, including 14 from Canada, who are being repatriated under the provisions of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention.

On its return voyage from Lisbon the Gripsholm will bring back to the United States the staff of the former American Embassy at Vichy and of the American Consular Offices in the former unoccupied zone of France, together with certain newspaper correspondents and relief workers numbering in all about 156, as well as 95 officials of certain of the other American republics, all of whom since early in 1943 have been held in Germany. Some members of these groups who for illness or other reasons were unable to join them in Germany are expected to be added to the official party as it passes through France.

In addition to the foregoing the Gripsholm is expected to embark at Lisbon for return to the United States about 375 nationals of the United States and of the other American republics whom the German Government reciprocally is releasing for repatriation on humanitarian grounds, and a number of seriously sick and seriously wounded American prisoners of war who are being repatriated by the German Government in accordance with the provisions of the Geneva Prisoners of War Convention. The Department of State has not yet received information concerning the names of the persons to be included in these last two groups as their selection will be made in Europe.

Lists of those being repatriated will be made public as soon as they are received.

On the voyage to Lisbon and return, the Gripsholm will carry Red Cross relief supplies for prisoners of war and civilian internees as well as prisoner of war and civilian internee mail.
March 13, 1944.

Dear Margrethe:—

I have just received the enclosed letter from the Under Secretary of State showing that Mr. John Densmore Sanford is not on the GRIPSHOLM. Apparently nobody knows why he is not.

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

H. R. H.
The Princess Rene de Bourbon,
352 East 57th Street,
New York, N. Y.

(Enclosure)
Margrethe
March 8, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Repatriation of Mr. John Densmore Sanford.

On February 29, I informed you that the Department had received a telegram from the American Legation at Bern which indicated that the German Government had approved the inclusion of Mr. John Densmore Sanford in the current United States-German exchange operation. This is the case which Princess Rene de Bourbon took up recently with you.

The Department has just received a telegram from the American Legation at Lisbon which gives the passenger list of the exchange vessel Gripsholm, and I find that the name of Mr. John Densmore Sanford is not included in this list. The Department has no information to indicate why Mr. Sanford did not leave German-controlled territory to participate in the present exchange. Any pertinent information which may be received will be promptly communicated to you.

[Signature]

FOR VICTORY
BUY U.S.隱BONDS AND STAMPS
March 30, 1944,

My dear Prince Rene-

I am delighted to know that you are about to serve as a Captain in the French Army but I shall miss seeing you over here.

For you it will be most interesting work and I trust that all will go well and that France will be really free again in a short time.

I hope that Margrethe will be sure to let me know if there is anything possible that I can do to help while you are away.

With all the good luck in the world,

Very sincerely yours,

H. R. H. Prince Rene de Bourbon,
325 East 57th Street,
New York, N. Y.
Mr. President

Dear Sir:

Before I leave for Africa as a Captain in the French Army, I want to thank you, Sir, for all your kindness towards me. I have almost spent 4 years over here and I will always keep a deep feeling of gratitude to the country that became my second home. It is hard for me to leave my wife, but I know how very kind you, Sir, have always been to her and how many good friends she has over here - Two of my sons are also in the Army and I hope to see my daughter in Africa where she serves as ambulance driver.

We have all great hope that France will rise again with the support of you, Sir, and the U.S.A.

God Bless America.

Yours very sincerely,

(Signed) RENE DE BOURBON

Captain
Mr. President

Dear Sir,

Before I leave for Africa as a Captain in the French Army, I want to thank you, Sir, for all your kindness towards me. I have almost spent 4 years over here, and I will always keep a deep feeling of gratitude.
to the country that became my second home. It is hard for me to leave my wife, but I know how very kind you sir have always been to her and how many good friends she has over here. Two of my sons are also in the army and I hope to see my daughter in Africa where the war as ambulance driver.

We have all great hope that France will rise again with the support of you sir, and the U.S.A. God Bless America.

Yours very sincerely,

Pierre de Bourbon, Capt.
23 June 1944

Mr. President

Dear Sir:

It was so very kind of you to ask me to Hyde Park and I want to thank you Sir, for having given me such a nice time. It was so very nice to see you again Sir, and looking so wonderfully well. Maybe next week I will be staying with Martha in her new place in Connecticut, it will be fun seeing her again.

For the moment I am in Vermont staying with the sister of Lotty, she and her husband have a farm here. It is such a beautiful country with mountains all around.

Thanking you once more for all your kindness towards me Sir,
I remain

Yours very sincerely. niece

MARGRETHE

(Princess Renée de Bourbon)
23 June 1944

Mr. President

Dear Sir,

I am your humble servant,

I was very kind of you to ask me to Hyde Park and I want to thank you, sir, for having given me such a nice time. It was so very nice to see you again, sir, and looking so wonderfully well. May he next week I will be

[Invisible text due to handwriting legibility]
In the new place in Brookley, it will be fine being back again.

For the moment I am in Vermont staying with the sister of both the author husband and I. There is a farm there. It is in a beautiful country with mountains all around.

Thanking you once more for all your kindness towards me. I remain yours very sincerely,

Margaret
The President of the U.S.A.
The White House
Washington, D.C.
TRANSMITTING CARBON OF MEMORANDUM WHICH THE
PRESIDENT RECEIVED FROM THE SECRETARY OF STATE,
11/29/44, IN RE REPATRIATION OF JOHN BENSEMORE
SANFORD. ORIGINAL MEMORANDUM RETAINED FOR OUR
FILES.
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

November 29, 1944

Subject: Repatriation of John Densmore Sanford

I refer to your memorandum of February 22, 1944, regarding Princess Rene de Bourbon's request for assistance in repatriating Countess Kotzebue's son, Mr. John Densmore Sanford and to my memorandum of February 28 and 29 to you on this subject.

The Embassy at Paris reports that Mr. John Densmore Sanford called at the Embassy recently and requested that the following message be sent to Allene Kotzebue, 740 Park Avenue, New York:

"Liberated September 1st working in Paris. Henry at Farm. Farm intact. Building and three chateaux all right also Lucy. Love."

The message has been transmitted to Mrs. DeKotzebue.