

PSF Executive Offices : Hopkins, Harry L.  
of President

PSF  
Subject Files "E"

Box [redacted] 147  
107 [redacted]

*file*

*PSF Exec. Ofc.*

*Hopkins Folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

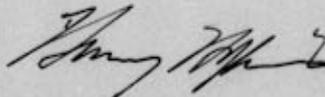
January 2, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Justice Byrnes telephoned me and said that he had just learned that Leo Crowley intended to continue his salary of \$50,000 a year as President of Standard Gas and he wondered if you had given consideration to that. That he, Byrnes, doubted that anyone should be Alien Property Custodian who is drawing a salary from a private corporation.

He doubts that Leo would take the job under these circumstances.

He further stated that there is no meeting of minds between Morgenthau and Biddle relative to the administration of the Alien Property Custodian funds.



HARRY L. HOPKINS

*File  
Personal*

*BF Exec. Ofc.*

*Hopkins Folder  
3-42*

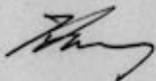
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 2, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Justice Byrnes called me up and thinks:

1. That if Lindbergh is taken into the Air Corps he should not be placed in Washington. Byrnes says it is impossible for Lindbergh to keep his mouth shut and that he will be constantly dealing with legislators behind the scenes.
2. That he is 40 years or more and should not be given a combat command.
3. That he should be placed in a training unit but not in command of that.



HARRY L. HOPKINS

*PSF Exec. Ofc.*

*Hopkins Folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 13, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HARRY HOPKINS:

To speak to me about today.

F.D.R.

Conf. letter from Knox to the Pres. 1/10/42  
re allocation of something to the Dutch.

*PSF Exec. Ofc. Hopkins  
Folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 21, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

H. L. H.

I think this suggestion of Winston is all right. Will you telephone Marshall and King about it? Then you can reply to Winston and tell him we are all agreed on it.

F. D. R.

Secret message from the Prime Minister to Harry Hopkins re Sir John Dill's coming into the combined staff as ~~the~~ chief representative of the British to work with our Chiefs of Staff.

*PSF Exec. Ofc.*

*Hopkins  
Folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

February 9, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HARRY HOPKINS:

To do the necessary. I  
have not signed it.

F.D.R.

Draft of proposed reply to Lord Halifax  
from the Pres. as prepared by Gen. H.H.  
Arnold Subject: Withdrawal of American  
Volunteer Group to China.

*PSF Exec. Ofc.*

*Hopkins Folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 17, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HARRY HOPKINS:

FOR PREPARATION OF REPLY.

F.D.R.

Sealed envelope from Winston Churchill  
to the President. Feb. 25, 1942.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

Hopkins  
Files

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 31, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HARRY HOPKINS:

Will you speak to me about these?

F.D.R.

Back from  
Confidential letter from Secy. of War to  
the Pres. March 27th. re: his slant on  
plans for northern offensive.

Radiogram from London to the Pres. from  
Former Naval Person No. 59 and 126. with  
attached memo from McCrea

WASHINGTON  
THE WHITE HOUSE

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 31, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HARRY HOPKINS:

To read and return for secret  
files.

F.D.R.

Secret  
Memo from Admiral King 3/25/42  
Subject: Unity of Command in Sea Frontiers

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THE WHITE HO  
1

## Grace

I have with me

1. Letter from Wallace to Pres about  
States Dept + New Exec. order.
2. Letter from Wallace to Pres  
answering Jones argument.
3. Letter from Admiral King to Pres -  
he asks me to take up with Nelson
4. Letters of Poague + Thomson answering  
Pres. relative to plan for Mrs. Trapp  
Cantel - I will prepare answer.

Boony

*PSF Exec. Ofc.*

*Hopkins Folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 23, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR

HARRY HOPKINS:

Will you speak to me about  
number three?

F.D.R.

*Hopkins Folder*  
*1-42*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

**[REDACTED]**

May 4, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY L. HOPKINS  
HON. EDWARD R. STETTINIUS

I should like to have some line on the amount bought through Lend-Lease or the big appropriation of \$500,000,000 by the Chinese Government. What I want a definite check on relates to the allegation that a very large proportion of the goods and munitions purchased for China never gets to China -- but not for military reasons.

F. D. R.

DECLASSIFIED  
By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.  
By W. J. Stewart Date JAN 30 1973

*BF Exec. O/c.*

*Hopkins Folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 5, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY L. HOPKINS

Have you any word on this  
first paragraph for Hambro?

F. D. R.

Letter from Mr. C. J. Hambro,  
65 Stockton Street, Princeton, N. J.,  
re celebrating King Haakon's 70th  
Birthday, and also suggesting that  
the President arrange to see the  
Prime Minister of Norway alone when  
he comes to Washington.

*PSF Exec. Oxc.*

*Hopkins Folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 7, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

H. H.

Will you check on this and  
speak to me about it?

F. D. R.

Memorandum to the President,  
dated May 7, 1942, from the Secretary  
of War and the Chief of Staff, re  
"Analysis of Air Transportation  
Requirements for the war program.

*PSF Exec. Ofc.*

*Hopkins Folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 16, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HARRY HOPKINS:

Will you speak to me  
about this?

F.D.R.

Handwritten note of the President's

Ben Cohen  
Counsel in Chungking for  
Lend-Lease - Red Cross, etc.

*PSF Exec. Ofc.*

*Hopkins Folder  
1-42*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 18, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HARRY HOPKINS

Will you answer Sumner Welles?

F.D.R.

Letter personal and secret from S. Welles  
to H.H. May 13, 1942 enclosing copy of  
a letter which the Canadian Minister  
hand@d Welles.

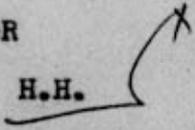
PSF Exec. O/c.

Hopkins Folder

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 8, 1942.

MEMORANDUM FOR

H.H. 

To read and return for my  
confidential file.

F.D.R. 

Letter from Donald Nelson, 6/1/42  
enclosing copy of letter D. Nelson wrote  
to Lt. Gen. Brehon Somervell, Services of  
Supply under date of May 21 re "Report  
on Certain Features of The Organizational  
Problems Involved In Developing Resources  
To Meet Strategic Requirements".



Thank you for all you  
- have done for me  
and my family. I hope  
you are all well and  
happy. I will be in  
touch with you soon.  
Love,  
Harry

We are having a quiet  
and wonderful time. Try not  
to send for Harry too soon,  
but you know I'll under-  
stand, if you must -

With many, many  
sincere thanks for everything  
Affectionately  
P

*PSF Exec. Ofc.*

*Hopkins folder*  
*-42*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 20, 1942

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY L. HOPKINS

To speak to me about.

F. D. R.

**Enclosure**

Memo for FDR 11/17/42 from Dave Niles and Wayne Coy re making Oscar R. Ewing Chairman, Dem. Nat. Com. and other political matters.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

no printing freedom  
full  
personnel  
1943

Mr. President,

This business of  
the Madam is pretty  
serious.

I have arranged to  
see Song at 9.

I am going in with  
Marshall. There is  
also a final meeting  
of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Russian  
Protocol at 11 and I  
would like to be there.

Max would like to  
go in with us tonight.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

Hopkins folder 2-43

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 17, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY L. HOPKINS

Will you speak to me  
about this?

F.D.R.

Memo 3-13-43 for Adm. Leahy from Brig. Gen. J.E. Hull, Chief, Theater Group, War Dept., Subject: Paper on State Dept. Policies, which sets forth views of the State Dept. on organization of military and political govt. for Husky. Also attached is memo, 3-10-43 to Gen. Eisenhower from Maj. Gen. T.T. Handy, Gen. Staff, Chief, Operations Division, War Dept., Subject: State Dept. Policy, encl. memo prepared by State re military govt. and political and economic affairs which should be applicable both to Sicily and other parts of Italy.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 26, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS GRACE TULLY

SUBJECT: Berle letter of Mar25th re  
Presidential power

Dear Grace:

I discussed this with the  
President and he wants it in his file.

Harry L. Hopkins  
encl.

~~SECRET~~  
File

March 25, 1943

(Private and  
~~Confidential)~~

My dear Harry:

I reply to your letter of March 23 asking an opinion as to the power of the President to agree to the creation of an independent state, say Austria. The following appears to be the situation.

1. The recognition of a newly created state is a purely executive act and does not depend upon treaty or other executive action. If, after surrender and before a peace treaty, the President determines that a specific territory is so separated as to have become independent, he can recognize its existence by recognizing its government, either provisionally or definitively, and by sending a minister or officer having diplomatic powers to represent the United States interests near its government. No congressional action is needed in the first instance. Conceivably, when the post of minister was formalized, the Senate could decline to confirm a nominee to the post, or the Congress could decline appropriations to maintain it. But neither of these issues need be raised if the President chose to appoint an army officer or civilian representative as, say, High Commissioner, with the rank and powers of a minister or ambassador; or if the State Department agreed to receive in Washington a delegate or diplomatic representative from that country.

Ultimately, of course, treaties of friendship, commerce, and so forth, would have to be negotiated and they could be defeated in the Senate; but this is hardly likely, if sufficient time elapsed so that the new state was actually in existence.

2. The

The Honorable  
Harry L. Hopkins,  
The White House.

DECLASSIFIED  
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-73  
By R. H. Parks Date JAN 30 1973

2. The handling of the military forces of the United States could be so managed as to foster, in fact, the setting up of an independent state or states; for the military authorities could accept, deal with, and guide the organization of the local authorities to a point where they could be recognized as the government of the country -- assuming that the population of the country was prepared to accept such a government.

3. In my judgment, the President could not enter into an agreement, in advance, with the government of a third power -- say, Britain -- to take any of the foregoing steps, in a fashion which would bind his successors. He could merely make a pledge as to the policy he would carry out. A successor could decline to be bound by such an agreement, and the government, as such, would not be bound. But -

4. In my judgment the President could, as commander-in-chief and under his war power, enter into military agreements in the nature of staff agreements, with the commander-in-chief of a third power as to military action and policy. Included in this could be an agreement for the handling of the military forces looking toward the creation of an independent state or states, especially if these were part of enemy or quasi-enemy territory. The precise binding quality of staff agreements has never been fully ascertained under our practice; but it is fairly arguable that agreements of this sort, so far as they related to military policy, are binding to a large extent even on a successor, since a commander-in-chief, having the power to lay and carry out campaigns, must be deemed to have the power necessary to make agreements reasonably appropriate to carrying out such campaigns. In this view, the President has the power, by military agreement, to create a situation in which all of the characteristics of an independent state will be created except that of recognition by this government.

I hope this answers your question, which is not as simple as it looks. Since this is personal, and not official, I am sending it by safe hand,--in this case,

my

-3-

my brother, Captain Berle, of Military Intelligence,--  
rather than through State Department channels.

Faithfully,

*Adolf Berle*

a-b:aab:es

95-6  
lam

*Hopkins folder*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 13, 1943.

A BRILLIANT SUGGESTION FOR HARRY HOPKINS:

Would you be willing to undertake, as my Ambassador, to break the news to Jim Curley while I am away?

F.D.R.

Letter, 3-11-43, to James M. Curley from William J. Bigley, Jr., Bigley Trucking Corp., 1342 S. Capitol St., Wash., D.C. re Bigley Tank and memo, 3-27 to Mr. Hopkins from Lieut. Gen. Brehon Somervell, Army Service Force, War Dept., re inadvisability to place Bigley Tank in production for China .

PSF Exec. Ojce.

Hopkins folder

April 13, 1943

The Honorable James M. Curley,  
House of Representatives,  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Congressman:

The President asked me to write you a note about the Bigley tank. You will recall you left the attached letter with the President.

The question of whether one tank is or is not superior to another is, of course, always a matter of opinion.

We have an ample production of light tanks to meet the needs of China if and when the Burma Road is opened. The Army is quite sure that when the time comes they will have an adequate supply of light tanks without entering now into the production of a new tank. I don't know whether the War Department would change their minds about this but their present position is quite positive against the building of a new tank at this time.

Very sincerely yours,

encl.

HARRY L. HOPKINS

~~SECRET~~

WAR DEPARTMENT

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY SERVICE FORCES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

March 27, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HOPKINS:

Subject: Bigley Tank

1. I do not believe it would be advisable to place the Bigley Tank in production for China, not only because of the unsatisfactory characteristics of the tank but also due to the availability of better equipment if and when transportation becomes available.

2. The Bigley Tank is a tracked vehicle with a thin metal superstructure which as now designed has no turret, very light armor and very few basic combat essentials. Its only apparent advantage over our present light tank is in its weight of 17,495 pounds unloaded as against 31,000 pounds weight of our light tank with combat load. However, the combat loading of the Bigley tank would use up a substantial portion of this advantage in weight.

3. We have ample production of light tanks to meet the needs of China if and when transportation becomes available. In point of fact, we have had to cut back drastically the production of light tanks as the Russians have recently indicated no further need for this tank during the present year. Hence, if and when the time comes to provide combat vehicles for China, I am convinced that we should supply our present light tank.

4. I do not believe it is an appropriate time as yet to start stock piling for China. As you know, our projected delivery by the Air Transport Command is now approximately 3,500 tons per month and this figure cannot be expected to exceed more than 10,000 or 11,000 tons per month this year. While some consideration has been given to the use of the Northern Route into China, the capacity of this route would not permit the delivery of many combat vehicles in view of the imperative need by China of other materials. I am sure that we can maintain a production rate in light tanks which will enable us to provide a reasonable supply for the Chinese Army if and when transportation becomes available without entering now into the production of a new tank which we believe decidedly inferior to our present model.

5. I am inclosing herewith for your information a comparison of the characteristics of our present M5A1 light tank and the Bigley Tank.

*Brehon Somervell*  
BREHON SOMERVELL,  
Lieutenant General,  
Commanding.

~~SECRET~~

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 3-16-59

Incl.:

M.C.'s of M5A1  
and Bigley Tank



~~SECRET~~

<u>Characteristics</u>	<u>M5A1</u>	<u>Bigley Tank</u>
Length	14' 2 3/8"	18' 4"
Height	7' 6 1/2"	5' 2"
Width	7' 4 1/4"	7' 6"
Weight	31,000 lbs.	17,495 lbs.
Maximum road speed	Combat Load	Unloaded
Armor Basis	40 MPH	30 MPH
Hull	2 - 2 1/2"	1/2" steel plate
Sides	1 1/8"	1/2" steel plate
Rear	1"	3/16" steel plate
Bottom	3/8 - 1/2"	1/2" steel plate
Turret		
Front	2"	The Bigley Tank
Sides	1"	has no turret.
Top	1/2"	
Armament	One (1) 37mm Gun Three (3) .30 Cal. Machine Guns	The Bigley Tank has no provision for armament of any type.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library

DECLASSIFIED

DOD DIR. 5200.9 (9/27/58)

Date- 3-16-59

Signature- *Carl L. Spicer*

~~SECRET~~

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 24, 1943.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. HARRY HOPKINS

Will you speak to  
me about this?

F.D.R.

*ALW planned  
Mr. Lomenell  
re this. We will  
hear from him.*

C  
O  
P  
Y

BIGLEY TRUCKING CORPORATION  
1476 Broadway  
New York, N.Y.

March 11, 1943

Hon. James M. Curley,  
New House Office Bldg.,  
Washington, D. C.

My Dear Governor:-

Leading authorities of the Ordnance Division representing the Chinese Government informed me that due to the conditions of the terrain in China, the limited capacity of all bridges, few of which are able to sustain a weight greater than ten ton, that it is vital to the successful conduct of the campaign against Japan that the type of tank which we have constructed be utilized.

In the tests against some fourteen other vehicles at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds and elsewhere, the Bigley Tank was the only one that met every test and in view of the fact that the tank was constructed with no cost to the Government and in the opinion as expressed privately, both in and out of the Army Service, it is one of the best fighting weapons that has ever been developed both from the standpoint of speed, of operation and low cost of construction, it is entitled to further development either by the Army direct or by the Army and myself jointly.

The decision reached by the Army Tank Board is not in conformity with the tests that took place and if their decision is permitted to be final, it precludes the possibility of marketing the tanks in countries where their use is vital, since the only place where a tank weighing over ten ton can be operated with safety is in a capital city where the highways are constructed of either concrete or granite and where bridges are constructed of stone, concrete or steel.

The fact is that the Ordnance Division of the Chinese Government, after an exhaustive study and survey by their best engineers, are of the opinion that it is ideal for operation in China and yet it is impossible for them, under the Lend-Lease Act, to make direct purchases of the tanks from the Bigley Company without the approval of the Ordnance Division of the War Department.

Kindly awaiting your suggestions, I remain

Sincerely,

(s) Wm. Bigley Jr.

T-119

DSF: Exec Off Hopkins folder  
2-43

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 24, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:

What is the status?

F.D.R.

Memorandum for the President, 6-22-43,  
from Harry Hopkins saying that Allred of  
Texas has no intention of withdrawing his  
name, and he doesn't have a chance of being  
confirmed. Also re move to promote Dawkins.  
States also that Maestri is sponsoring  
Caillouet.

~~SECRET~~

75F-15000 015

Hopkins folder

2-43

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*file*

July 2, 1943

MEMORANDUM FOR

MISS GRACE TULLY

I wonder if you could have someone get the papers to show the names of American citizens who received decorations from Hitler prior to the outbreak of the war.

I think the State Department sent that information to the President and believe it will be in our own files.

*H.L.H.*

H.L.H.

(Hopkins Sufley - 1943)

PSF  
Exec. Adj.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 27th  
19 43

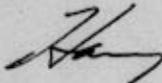
MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT

Mr. President:

Archie MacLeish tells me you cannot copyright the poem in Rudyard Kipling's own hand which you have. Furthermore, Archie says there is no necessity for your doing so - that possession of the document itself gives you ample protection.

I have, therefore, returned the manuscript to Miss Suckley at the Library.



H.L.H.

July 23, 1943

Dear Margaret:

Here is an excerpt from a letter I got from Lord Beaverbrook:

"Would you please look up in the President's Library, probably at Hyde Park, for a volume of Poems of Currer Ellis and Acton Bell? And will you please let me know the name of the publisher of that volume? It is either Aylott & Jones, or Smith Elder.

"The reason I write is because I will have some advice to give after I know which issue the President possesses.

"Would you please advise the President to copyright the manuscript poem by Kipling, which he holds? It is bound in a red case, and embossed in gold are the words "Cherkley Court by Rudyard Kipling" - if I remember rightly.

"The copyright should be set up at once in order to prevent exploitation and in the President's name or in the name of his Foundation."

If you can get me the information on the name of the publisher and send me the manuscript that he refers to, I will have the manuscript copyrighted in the President's name. I am sure it should be done that way rather than in the name of the Library because the President can decide later what he wants to do about it.

Cordially yours,

Miss Margaret Suckley,  
Franklin Delano Roosevelt Library,  
Hyde Park, N. Y.

HARRY L. HOPKINS

NY, YDRL, 4-22-55, avc.

Franklin D. Roosevelt Library  
Hyde Park, N. Y.

July 26 1943

Dear Harry:

Your letter of the 23rd has just come in. The volume of  
Poems of Currer Ellis and Acton Bell is published by Smith Elder &  
Co., 65 Cornhill, 1846, and herewith is the Kipling Manuscript you  
ask for.

Drew Pearson is a little ahead on his news of Fala's  
family!

Best wishes to you and Louise.

/S/ Margaret L. Suckley

P.S. Give my love to The President.

5/3/55

RJ

For poem referred to -  
see Grp. 7 - Historical Mas



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*Hopkins folder*  
*2-43*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 22, 1943.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR HARRY HOPKINS:

What would you think of putting Jim Farley into the place of Governor Lehman -- head of American Relief -- when Lehman goes up as Director of the International organization?

F.D.R.

*Penned notation:*

*To  
The President*

*In view of the fact that this comes under Leo Crowley - I do not believe Jim would consider it very important.*

*Harry "*

PSF Exec. Ofc.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Hopkins folder 2-44*  
*file personal*

February 12, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET

Back in 1942 I clearly directed, as per enclosed memorandum, that Harry Hopkins' salary be raised to \$15,000, in view of the fact that I so greatly depended on him for the coordination of the requirements of the United Nations. You wrote to him on December 10, 1942 that you could not reduce his salary, as he had requested, to \$10,000.

It seems to me that an injustice has been done. I, therefore, suggest that his salary be raised to \$12,000 a year, and that it be dated back to the beginning of this fiscal year, i.e., to July 1, 1943.

Can you do this?

F. D. R.

Dear Grace:

Here is the correspondence  
I referred to last night.

Now I need the money  
and if it could be dated from the  
beginning of this fiscal year -  
July 1, 1933 - I should like it.

But I want nothing  
done about it if the President  
feels it will be embarrassing.

If he decides affirmatively  
will you get it put there for  
me. Many thanks

Harry

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
BUREAU OF THE BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF  
THE DIRECTOR

December 10, 1942

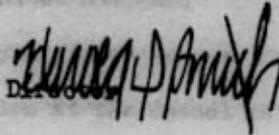
Personal

Dear Harry:

It seems that it is much easier to get a salary raised in the Government than it is to get one reduced. Thus far I have been unable to deliver on your request that I see to it that your salary stays at \$10,000 and is not raised to \$15,000 as directed by the President.

Rudolph Forster says that the President has given instructions to have your salary raised to \$15,000, and he will enter into no side agreements with us to stop the raise from going through - despite the fact that you want it that way. He says that you are going to have to make your peace with the President. In short, I admit failure.

Sincerely yours,



Honorable Harry Hopkins

The White House

COPY (Original filed with memoranda in FDR's handwriting)

My dear Mr. Hopkins:

On March 27, 1941 I designated you to advise and assist me in carrying out the responsibilities placed upon me by the act of March 11, 1941 entitled "An Act to Promote the Defense of the United States." Almost from the beginning of your service in this connection, I have utilized you for many other special duties. Your services have evolved to the point where you have become an integral part of the staff of the Commander-in-Chief and I now depend upon you to a very large extent for the coordination of the requirements of the United Nations.

Because of your increased responsibilities I am fixing your compensation at the annual rate of \$15,000 effective November 15, 1942.

Very sincerely yours,

(Signed) Franklin D. Roosevelt

Honorable Harry L. Hopkins

The White House

COPY (Original filed with Memoranda in FDR's handwriting)

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1942.

My dear Mr. Hopkins:

I hereby designate you to advise and assist me in carrying out the responsibilities placed upon me by the Act of March 11, 1941, entitled "An Act to Promote the Defense of the United States." In this capacity, you will receive compensation at an annual rate of \$10,000.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Franklin D. Roosevelt

Mr. Harry Hopkins

Washington, D. C.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

Hopkins for air 2-44

file  
personal

HARRY L. HOPKINS  
WASHINGTON

Feb 17  
Miami Beach  
1944

Dear Mr. President:-

I received your message on the train - the first news of Stephen's death. There is but little we need to say to each other for I will know that you understand completely. We, with millions of other fathers, have been in the shadows of this for months.

Stephen, I am sure died bravely and gallantly - and that the short span of his life lived with great zest and happiness. These compensations will in time be enough.

I am gaining weight and strength - and the sun seems to have healing qualities for my body and spirit.

Thank you so much for thinking of me and Stephen so warmly.

As ever.

Harry

PSF Exec. Off.

Harry Hopkins folder 2-44

file  
Personal

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 15, 1944

March 15, 1944.

Dear Harry:

The Prime Minister has just had the enclosed delivered to us for forwarding to you. I am wondering if you would like to return it to us and we could have it photostated so that a copy could go to Stephen's Mother, his brothers, Diana and perhaps you would like an extra one. I also would like to have a copy.

I am delighted that you made the trip so well to Rochester and Steve tells me that he talked with you and that you are feeling very well. Continue to take it easy and do let me hear from you when you have a chance.

Affectionately,

Honorable Harry L. Hopkins,  
St. Mary's Hospital,  
Rochester, Minnesota.

Inscription re Stephen's death

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 15, 1944.

TO THE PRIME MINISTER  
FROM THE PRESIDENT

Inscription for Harry received  
and forwarded to Rochester.

ROOSEVELT

PSF Exec. Off.

Hopkins folder 2-44  
file  
personal

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 27, 1944

MR. LATTA:

Mr. Sanderson's office says that Miss Krauss advises that she has just talked with Mr. Harry Hopkins, regarding the matter of his request for discontinuance of retirement deductions and refund of those already made.

He now asks that the whole matter be dropped.

W. J. H.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*file  
in safe*

March 8, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

Miss Krauss called to say Mr. Hopkins wishes to take out the amount of money he has in the retirement fund. Also, in the future he would like to make arrangements so that the money would not be taken out of his checks. Attached herewith is a memorandum on the subject from the Department of Justice.

G.G.T.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 8, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS GRACE TULLY:

I am enclosing herewith copy  
of the letter relative to the  
retirement fund deductions.

I am told that Public Law 411,  
77th Congress, Jan. 24, 1942, is that  
which brought these people under the  
operation of this retirement act.

The last paragraph of this letter  
is the pertinent one to the case I  
outlined to you over the phone.

*D.E.K.*  
D.E. Kravitz  
Secy. to H.L.H.

encl.

14

COPY  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Washington

*Pub. Law 411  
77th Cong. Jan 24, 42*

February 10, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. CARUSI

In your memorandum of February 8, annexed, you inquire whether members of the White House staff who are paid from the "Emergency Fund for the President" fall under the mandatory provisions of the retirement law.

Executive Order No. 3315 of August 3, 1920, which is mentioned in your memorandum, does not now bear upon the question.

Section 3 of the Civil Service Retirement Act was amended by section 3 of the Act of January 24, 1942 (56 Stat. 13, 15), and further amended by the act of March 7, 1942 (56 Stat. 143, 147), so that it now reads as follows:

"This act shall apply to all officers and employees in or under the executive, judicial, and legislative branches of the United States Government \*\*\* except elective officers and heads of executive departments \*\*\*."

There are some further exceptions, relating to employees of the legislative branch and employees subject to another retirement system. Subsection (b), gives the President a limited power to exclude persons from the operation of the act. That subsection provides:

"(b) The President shall have power, in his discretion, to exclude from the operation of this act any officer or employee or group of officers or employees in the executive branch of the service whose tenure of office or employment is intermittent or of uncertain duration."

The fact that an employee is paid from the President's emergency fund enters into the question only so far as it may bear upon the status of the employment as intermittent or of uncertain duration. If the position is dependent upon appropriations of emergency funds and therefore will not extend beyond the duration of the emergency, it may be regarded as of uncertain duration and subject to the discretion vested in the President. This accords with the conclusion in the Attorney General's opinion of December 30, 1941, that positions which are "temporary for the duration of the emergency" are "temporary positions" within the meaning of the Selective Training and Service Act of 1940.

C O P Y

- 2 -

Under the Civil Service Regulations, prescribed by the President, definite periods have been established for determining whether an appointment is temporary or permanent, for particular purposes under those regulations. These periods are arbitrary and subject to change. As indicated in the opinion of December 30, 1941, a position may be "permanent" under these regulations by "temporary" within the meaning of the word as used in a statute.

It is within the authority of the President to prescribe an arbitrary period for classifying employment as of "uncertain duration" under section 3 (b) of the Retirement Act. In effect, he has already done so. Executive Order No. 9154 of May 1, 1942 (7 F.R. 3275), excludes from application of the Retirement Act.

"Employees whose services will be for brief periods  
but not to exceed one year."

Under another provision of the order the Civil Service Commission is authorized to determine the applicability of this exemption to specific officers and employees or groups of officers and employees. This Executive Order, of course, does not exhaust the President's authority.

My conclusion is that the President has the authority to exclude from the application of the Retirement Act any member of the White House staff who is paid from the emergency fund and whose employment the President deems to be of uncertain duration. I have made inquiry of the legal staff of the Civil Service Commission and am informed that the Civil Service Commission would not question the President's power in this respect but that if their views should be requested on the policy involved they would probably submit an unfavorable report.

Respectfully,

(signed)

H. B. C.

Hugh B. Cox

*PSF Exec. Ofc.*

*Harry Hopkins folder*  
*file personal 2-44*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 18, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

DR. McINTIRE

Would you mind preparing an  
answer to Dr. Rivers? I wish he  
would write English!

F. D. R.

Letter to the President, dated  
May 9, 1944, giving a report on  
Harry Hopkins.

PSF Exec. Ofc.

file  
Personal

Mykins folder  
2-44

May 18, 1944.

Dear Harry:-

It is grand to get the reports of how well you are getting on at White Sulphur Springs, and I have had a mighty nice letter from Rivers -- couched mostly in medical terms -- which, however, I have had translated!

The main things I get from it are two. First, that it is a good thing to connect up the plumbing and put your sewerage system into operating condition. The second is (and this comes from others in authority) that you have got to lead not the life of an invalid but the life of common or garden sense.

I, too, over one hundred years older than you are, have come to the same realization and I have cut my drinks down to one and a half cocktails per evening and nothing else -- not one complimentary highball or night cap. Also, I have cut my cigarettes down from twenty or thirty a day to five or six a day. Luckily they still taste rotten but it can be done.

The main gist of this is to plead with you to stay away until the middle of June at the earliest. I don't want you back until then. If you do come back before then you will be extremely unpopular in Washington, with the exception of Cissy Patterson who wants to kill you off as soon as possible -- just as she does me.

My plans -- my medical laboratory work not being finished -- are to be here about three days a week and to spend the other four days a week at Hyde Park, Shangri-La or on the Potomac. For later in the Summer I have various hens sitting but I don't know when they will hatch out.

I had a really grand time down at Bernie's -- slept twelve hours out of the twenty-four, sat in the sun, never lost my temper, and decided to let the world go hang. The interesting thing is the world didn't hang.

I have a terrible pile in my basket but most of the stuff has answered itself anyway.

I am off to Hyde Park to stay until Tuesday or Wednesday next.

Lot of love to you both. Tell Louise to use the old-fashioned hatpin if you don't behave!

Affectionately,

Honorable Harry L. Hopkins,  
Ashford General Hospital,  
White Sulphur Springs,  
West Virginia.

1 SF Exec. Offc.

Hopkins folder 2-44

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

CONFIDENTIAL

August 5th  
1944

My dear Mr. President:

I have had a long talk with Jimmy and, if it will ease your mind any, he is not too unhappy about what happened to him in Chicago. He is certainly carrying on his work here vigorously and gave no indication when I talked with him yesterday of resigning. In fact, I sense that he has a renewed interest in his job, but I may be wrong about this. I fancy, under any circumstances, he will stay through the election.

While the Oil business was settled, it indicated to me how difficult it is to hold a formal economic conference with Great Britain on any single subject at this particular time. Beaverbrook's proposal was clearly untenable if used as a pattern for other agreements. Max, himself, was quite unhappy, not so much because he did not have his say about the agreement, but because he claims he senses a good deal of hostility here. I think he will probably leave the country before you return but he is thinking of making a quick trip to California.

I am working none too hard and feel ever so much better. You surely escaped some scorching days here.

One of our present difficulties is that everybody thinks the war is over. I hope, if you decide to speak on the radio from Seattle, that you will scoff at this. I think the American people have no idea of the severe tests we have ahead of us, particularly in the complete defeat of Japan.

As ever,  
  
HARRY L. HOPKINS

The Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt  
President of the United States