

● PSF

Netherlands

1944-45

(12/00) Signed original of this letter sent to State
hms for delivery Netherlands folder
hms 1-44

February 7, 1944.

Dear Bernhard:

Ever so many thanks for your telegram on my birthday. My "flu" was sufficiently better to let me go to my birthday party. I do hope all goes well with you. Do give my warm regards to your Mother.

As ever yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

H.R.H.
Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands,
77 Chester Square, S.W.1
London,
England.

The White House
Washington

JAN 26 8 25 PM 1944

1WN AB 16 VIA RCA

LONDON 1140A JAN 26 1944

THE PRESIDENT:

SINCEREST CONGRATULATIONS AND ALL VERY BEST WISHES ON YOUR
BIRTHDAY

BERNHARD



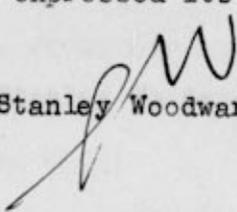
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

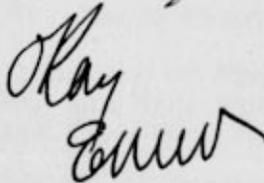
February 21, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL WATSON:

Referring to our recent conversation concerning the projected trip of H.R.H. Princess Juliana of the Netherlands to Curaçao I have upon your instructions taken up the matter of a flight escort with Major General Giles, U.S.A.A.F. General Giles referred me to Brigadier General Larry Kuter, who said that he would give instructions for a fighter escort for Princess Juliana from Miami to Curaçao and return.

I have informed the Netherlands Embassy to this effect and the Embassy has expressed its appreciation.


Stanley Woodward


Larry Kuter



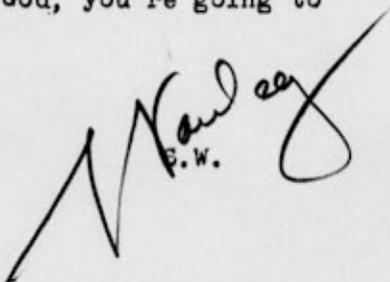
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

DIVISION OF PROTOCOL

February 16,
1944

MEMORANDUM TO GENERAL WATSON:

Don't bother to read the
attached memorandum if you don't
want to - but I have written it
and, by God, you're going to
get it.


E.W.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

February 16, 1944

File
Gen Watson phoned
Chief of Air Corps
Office
2/15/44
ed

MEMORANDUM TO GENERAL WATSON

Confirming my conversation with you yesterday on the proposed trip of H. R. H. Princess Juliana of the Netherlands to Curaçao, the Embassy has submitted the following schedule:

- February 23 Arrive New York, La Guardia field, by plane from Montreal.
- February 23 Leave New York via Atlantic Coast Line or Seaboard Railway for Miami
- February 24 Arrive Miami
- February 26 Leave Miami for Curaçao by K.L.M. plane
- March 5 Leave Curaçao by K.L.M. plane for Miami
- March 5 Arrive Miami
- March 5 or 6 Leave Miami for New York by train.

The party consists of the following: H. R. H. Princess Juliana, Mr. and Mrs. van Tets, and Captain Sesink, Mr. van Rhijn and Mr. Fien, Special Agents.

Upon the flight of Princess Juliana from Miami to Surinam last November, her plane was escorted by United States Military planes and the Embassy has inquired whether a similar arrangement can be made for the flight Miami - Curaçao and return.

Off the record, I am told that the Queen insists upon this and has told Princess Juliana that she may not go without escort.



Stanley Woodward

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Netherlands folder
1-44



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

X

February 28, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL WATSON

Referring to the visit of Crown Princess Juliana of the Netherlands to Curaçao and the fighter plane escort arranged upon your instructions, it now develops that Princess Juliana has accepted invitations from President Medina and General Trujillo to visit Venezuela and the Dominican Republic upon her departure from Curaçao. I believe that the visit to Venezuela is scheduled for March 3, where she will remain for one day, and her visit to the Dominican Republic is scheduled for March 5, after which she will return to Miami.

The Department considers that it would be inadvisable for the fighter escort to go along from Curaçao to Venezuela and to the Dominican Republic so if the President has no objection I shall apprise General Arnold of these new developments and request that arrangements be made for the fighter escort to omit Venezuela and the Dominican Republic on Princess Juliana's return trip from Curaçao to the United States.



general Watson phoned general Arnold 2/1/44 that the President Stanley Woodward wished fighter plane escort to continue on to Venezuela, Santo Domingo and return to USA with HRA Juliana

Netherlands Folder

~~SECRET~~

FROM-AMBASSADOR BIDDLE
FOR PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

170939 NCR 6624

(Re Queen Wilhelmina)

GUEST'S DEPARTURE STILL HELD UP BY WEATHER

DISTRIBUTION
P1A/ACTION
FILE

REGRADED UNCLASSIFIED

The White House
Washington

*netherlands folder
1-44
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Royalty
file*

WB27 NTL

APR 5 6 54 PM 1944

CD LONDON VIA WU CABLES 46 NETHGOVT APR 5 1944/650P

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR KIND TELEGRAM STOP I AM SO GLAD TO HEAR
THAT MRS ROOSEVELT HAS ENJOYED HER VISIT STOP I SINCERELY HOPE
YOU HAVE QUITE RECOVERED FROM YOUR RECENT INDISPOSITION STOP
MY BEST GREETINGS TO YOU BOTH

WILLHELMINA

C
O
P
Y

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

3 May 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The Secretary of the Treasury

The following message from the President was received in the White House Map Room this date:

"From the President for Secretary Morgenthau.

"Replying to your message of May 2nd, paragraph 4, please take no action until we have an opportunity to talk over the problem.

"I am inclined to believe that granting a loan to Holland on good security in this country to be used for purchase in America of reconstruction materials would not establish an undesirable precedent.

"American industry in the post-war period may probably need all the foreign orders that can be safely accepted in order to benefit employment and dispose of surpluses.

"From information now available to me it appears that the implied threat can be ignored.

"In view of the above, I should like to have us both give further consideration to the matter presented in your message and also talk with State."

Respectfully,

(signed) Chester C. Wood

CHESTER C. WOOD,
Captain, U.S. Navy,
Assistant Naval Aide to the President.

(Orig. of this memo in Map Room files)

file personal Netherlands folder 1-44

May 20, 1944.

Dear Juliana:-

I have not written you for a long time for, as you probably know, I have been in the South for over a month getting over what turns out to have been a sort of bronchial pneumonia during the Winter.

I am wondering much about what plans you have made for yourself and the children during the Summer, and if you have decided on a place to go. Marthe told me the other day that you were thinking of the coast of New England.

I know how hard it is to get houses for this Summer and I trust that you will let me know if I can help in any way because I know that coast very well.

Eleanor and I have a cottage (in fact, two of them) at Campobello Island, N. B., which is about two miles across the Bay from Eastport, Maine. You go there from Montreal -- a night trip to St. Andrews, N. B., and then fourteen miles by boat to the Island.

Our house is quite large enough for you and the children and several guests for there are, as I remember it, two sitting rooms, a dining room, a play room and two small bedrooms on the ground floor. Upstairs there are about six or seven masters' rooms. In any event, if you have any guests or extra people they could live in what was my Mother's house which is next door. Everything is extremely simple and the climate is really lovely -- never hot.

We are not using either of the houses this Summer and it is the kind of a location, with very few neighbors, where it would be really impossible to rent the houses. Therefore, they are yours to occupy, and, because we are both Dutch, the terms would be extremely simple -- no rent! Although we had adequate linen in them and kitchen utensils and tableware, it is always

possible that some kind friends may have stolen desirable articles during the past two years! You can always fill in any small things that are missing and you can get them in St. Andrews, N. B., duty free, or in Eastport, Maine, paying a slight duty when you take them into Canada.

The Island is really lovely and I and all my children were brought up there in the Summers.

By the way, the sailing is grand and in the boat house at the foot of the place I have a small sail boat which, of course, I should be delighted to have you use. You would have to hire some local boatman.

Finally, you would have to have one man on the place to cut the grass around the house and to run the little engine which pumps the water into both houses out of the well.

If you have decided on nothing else and would care to think of this, get Mr. Van Tets to run down and look it over for you. I should, of course, be awfully happy if you would use the house or houses which otherwise will be entirely unoccupied.

What do you hear from your Mother and Bernhard? I was, of course, greatly worried by her narrow escape from the bombing.

Otherwise things seem to be going fairly well and we hope to have some news soon.

Give my love to the baby. I do hope to see you all soon.

Your affectionate old Uncle,

H. R. H.
The Princess of the Netherlands,
120 Lansdowne Road,
Rockliff,
Ottawa,
Canada.

file
Personal

Netherlands folder
May 27th '44

STORNOWAY
ROCKCLIFFE PARK
OTTAWA

Dear Mr. President,

Your letter was so nice,
and your offer so kind,
that it started a great
enthusiasm in me.
Then it was a hard come down
into reality, to realize
it's out of the range of all
possibility, as we have no
staff for an enterprise
like this. But to have
made such a wonderful

suggestion is so much like
my old uncle, and is
so much appreciated,
you do understand that
I am sure.

But there is a happy ending
to this, as by the greatest luck,
just in these days, we laid
hands on a lovely hotel cottage
in Chatham, Cape Cod, just
what we'd planned to have,
so don't feel ^{too} sorry for us.

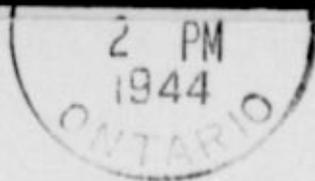
I feel badly answering
this only today, I only

found your letter after
coming back from New
York - I was sorry to
miss Mrs. Roosevelt there,
it would have been so
nice to discuss the West
Indies! It also was too
bad that I had to be in
Seattle this winter just when
Aruca was in Washington!

I thank you so much
for your letter and for the
pleasant things in it.

With so many thanks again
Your grateful little niece - Liana

**BY AIR MAIL
PAR AVION**



The President of the United States
The White House
Washington D.C.

U.S.A.

From princess Juliana of the Netherlands
541 Acacia Ave
Ottawa Ont.

Netherlands folder 1-44

THE WHITE HOUSE
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON

June 7, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILES:

The President directed me to call Hon. Jesse Jones and ask him to hold up this Netherlands loan until the Secretary of the Treasury and the Under Secretary of State had a chance to hold a conference on this matter.

GGT

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 6, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

I have told the Secretary of the Treasury, as directed, that you suggested that he and Secretary Stettinius straighten out this matter. He wonders if you would be willing to ask Jesse Jones to hold up this loan until they have had a chance to confer?

GGT

WASHINGTON
THE WHITE H

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 6, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

The Secretary of the Treasury telephoned to say that the Treasury Department was not in sympathy with the loan from the Government being made to the Netherlands Government. Winthrop Aldrich was in to see the Secretary of the Treasury today and said that the Chase Bank and other banks were willing to lend the money to the Netherlands Government and the Secretary feels it should be done this way rather than by the Government.

GGT

(3008)

lmo

COPY

OK, OK, FR, R, Agreement indicated by the President 5/24/44 and returned to the Secy of State 5/23/44

THE SECRETARY OF STATE

Washington

May 26, 1944

My dear Mr. President:

I refer to your memorandum of May 8, 1944 for the Secretary of the Treasury with regard to the proposed credit to the Netherlands Government and to the letter which the Secretary of Commerce addressed to me under date of April 22, 1944 and its enclosure with regard to the same matter. For your convenience I attach copies of these documents. I have noted that in the memorandum for the Secretary of the Treasury you expressed interest in the views of the Department of State with regard to the credit.

It is the view of the Department of State that the proposed credit would be desirable if satisfactory arrangements can be made with regard to the collateral which do not involve action by the United States Government to make legally effective in this country the Netherlands royal decrees of May 24, 1940 and May 7, 1942 in so far as they concern the vesting in the Netherlands Government of title to the dollar securities in this country privately owned by residents of the Netherlands. It should be noted, however, that this Department is prepared to certify under Section 25(b) of the Federal Reserve Act the authority of the Netherlands Government to dispose of the gold of the Nederlandsche Bank under earmark in this country, if the Netherlands Government issues a decree vesting the gold which is satisfactory to the Department of State. It is my understanding that the Netherlands Government is now giving consideration to the issuance of such a decree.

Once

The President,

The White House.

Once the Netherlands Government is re-established in the Netherlands it should be possible for that government to implement the vesting of privately-owned dollar securities without the necessity of action by this Government to make the Netherlands decrees legally effective in the United States. Providing the measures mentioned above with respect to the gold of the Nederlandsche Bank are taken, the possibility could be explored of an arrangement whereby some of this gold may be used as interim collateral which could subsequently be released against dollar securities turned over by the Netherlands Government. The possibility could also be explored of private participation in the credit at this later phase of the arrangement.

Faithfully yours,

/s/ CORDELL HULL

Enclosures:

1. Letter from Secretary of Commerce, dated April 22, 1944.
2. Enclosure accompanying above (letter from Netherlands Minister of Finance).
3. White House memorandum dated May 3, 1944.

C
O
P
Y

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
WASHINGTON

April 22, 1944

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Enclosed herewith copy of letter received from Mr. Van Den Broek, the Netherlands Minister of Finance.

Mr. Van Den Broek spoke to me about this loan some seven months ago, and, after a conference with the President I told the Minister that I thought we would be able to grant the loan provided it was on a strictly secured and business basis.

The RFC is authorized by law to make loans of this character when properly secured by investments in this country. You will recall that we made a loan to Great Britain and Northern Ireland for \$425,000,000, secured in this manner, and it is working out very satisfactorily. The Netherlands want to be in a position now to place orders for reconstruction materials that will enable industry to go immediately into such work when production for war eases up.

The Netherlands want to repay the money over a period of 15 years, with interest at 3%, and are willing, if we wish, to have the loan transferred to a so-called International Bank, if and when one is ready for business, or to private investors.

The Netherlands is a rich government, amply able to repay its obligations. They will need assistance as will other overrun countries, and should be generally helpful in the reconstruction period.

My own view is that the loan should be authorized now by the RFC, under conditions that the money be spent in this country and that any orders placed by the Netherlands be first checked with the RFC and WPB.

Please let me have your views.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Jesse H. Jones

Secretary of Commerce

Honorable Cordell Hull
Secretary of State
Washington, D.C.

0051
VAN NIE
VAN FINANCIEN
(Royal Netherlands Treasury)
Tel: LONDON Wall 2027

PINNERS HALL

Gr. Winchester Street

London, E.C. 2.

34843

The Honorable Jesse Jones,
Secretary of Commerce,
Lafayette Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Jones:

Shortly after returning to England in September 1943 I was informed that the plans for the granting of a loan to the Netherlands Government by the R.F.C. could not, at least for the time being, materialize. I need not tell you how disappointed I was to hear this and I am writing you because I know that the scheme to borrow at present a certain sum of money against collateral was considered by you to be businesslike and sound.

As you are fully aware, my Government has so far paid its own expenses during the war and it still prefers, as long as it can possibly manage to do so, to continue that policy. I am convinced that international banking circles consider the credit of Holland to be of a very high order and there is not the slightest doubt that private banks in the U.S.A., if they were allowed to do so, would gladly lend money to the Netherlands against certain guarantees. However, at present your Government does not permit them to grant loans to foreign countries.

The reason why I did not succeed in entering into an agreement with the RFC, although you, Mr. Cordell Hull and many others were in favour of it, was, I believe, that the U.S. Treasury was of opinion that the transaction was more or less premature, particularly so because the Treasury was preparing, and at that time already discussing, plans for an International Stabilization Fund and an International Bank for Reconstruction. I told you on several occasions that, in the event of the R.F.C. immediately granting a loan, my Government would be quite willing and prepared at the proper moment, to transfer such a loan to the planned International Bank once such a bank has been established. Also you know that I wanted to be in a position to have at my disposal certain funds in the U.S. in order to be able to enter into negotiations with various producers in your country in connection with post-war problems.

Six months have elapsed since we discussed this matter and I would like to reopen this question.

An International Stabilization Fund has been discussed, but although some arrangement may be reached in the near future, it will certainly take a considerable time before anything like the originally contemplated scheme can be expected to materialize.

Negotiations and discussions regarding a Bank for Reconstruction still have to be started and I am afraid that I am not being very pessimistic in saying that a lot of water will go down the Mississippi before such a bank becomes a reality. What will happen in the meantime?

In the interests of my country the Netherlands Government must continue with the preparation of post-war plans and take all possible measures for facilitating and speeding up the reconstruction of its industries and the re-establishment of the economy of the country immediately after its liberation. We are, therefore, more or less obliged, if we cannot rely upon acquiring credits in the U.S.A., to find out what we can do elsewhere. I do not need to explain to you what the result will be. Countries without, or practically without resources, and with a completely different and, if I may say so, a much lower standard of reliability and credit than my country, will after the war approach the U.S. for help and support. To avoid unemployment, their requests for credits will very likely be favourably received. We, on the other hand, will in the meantime have entered into negotiations with other countries and the danger exists that in order to help our people in the quickest possible way, we will have to rely upon British industry exclusively. It is even imaginable that populations in liberated countries will press upon their Governments to renew unduly soon relations with German industry, if they feel their Allies cannot help them.

You may well ask yourself: "Why is van den Broek so anxious to get credits in America and why does he not lay much more stress on the necessity of getting credits in a country so much nearer to his own - England?" Because, Mr. Jones, I believe that it will be essential that the Netherlands East Indies re-establish their business relations with the U.S. as soon as the Japs are beaten. If we are to be sellers to the U.S. in the future we should also plan now to be buyers when this can and should be done, namely, immediately after the liberation of Holland.

May I remind you that in 1941 about three hundred million dollars worth of goods were imported into the U.S.A. from the Netherlands East Indies, consisting mainly of rubber, tin, quinine, tobacco and kapok. We were buying weapons.

I hope you will understand my feelings and the frank way in which I present my problems to you. Really the idea of postponing an arrangement to grant credits to a country like Holland, a country that has so greatly contributed in the past to the development of the U.S., financially and otherwise, until world wide plans have materialized, does not, in my opinion, make sense. I am writing you this because the possibility of coming to business may now be slightly better than six months ago. If this is so, I would gladly pay a short visit to Washington. You will also understand, however, that I should prefer not to be away from England in case there is an invasion of Western Europe. When the curtain rises over the darkness in which my compatriots have been living now for almost four years, I want to be on the spot, because at that time I propose to do all I can to assist to the best of my ability in the rebuilding of my country.

If there is a reasonable chance of coming to a settlement on the lines we have discussed, which I consider to be of mutual interest, and on the understanding that my Government will be prepared to transfer a loan by R.F.C. to an International Bank as soon as this is considered desirable, will you kindly let me know by either dropping me a note or sending me a cable?

Looking forward to a reply,

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

/s/ J. Van Den Broek

Netherlands Minister of
Finance

COPY

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
Washington

May 2, 1944

TELEGRAM FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM THE
SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY

I have received a letter from Jesse Jones recommending that a new request of the Dutch Government for a loan of unspecified amount, secured by investments in this country, should be authorized by R.F.C. The proceeds of the loan are to be used for purchases here of reconstruction materials as soon as circumstances permit.

It is my view that this loan would be politically unwise for the rest of the year for the following reasons:

1. It constitutes a post-war commitment and prejudices an important issue which has not yet been decided on policy grounds either by yourself or by Congress.
2. To grant this loan at this time would be an open invitation to all the other governments-in-exile and other Allies to put in their applications for large loans direct from the U. S. Government.
3. Holland is one of the relatively few foreign governments that at the appropriate time should have no difficulty borrowing from the private investment market at reasonable rates of interest. I believe we ought to be very hesitant to give the impression that we are likely to compete with private investment markets for loans to good borrowers.
4. The Dutch Minister of Finance in a memorandum accompanying the Jones letter states that a refusal by the U. S. to grant this loan will force Holland to enter into negotiations with other countries and to rely upon British industry exclusively. The Minister further states that unless the loan is granted, his Government may find it necessary to reestablish relations immediately upon liberation with German industry.

I am sure you will not like the implied threat by the Dutch Minister any more than I do.

If you agree, I will advise Jesse Jones that in my opinion the granting of the loan at this time would be premature and would constitute a policy commitment on loans for post-war purposes to governments-in-exile that we are not currently prepared to undertake.

NoSig

file
personal

netherlands foreign
1-44



77, CHESTER SQUARE,

S. W. 1.

SLOANE 3666.

July 26th 1944

Dear Mr. President,

from the papers I see that
you are in great form and if my
bit of wishing helps - I wish your
success with all my heart!

brother is well but out of town
for the time due to doodle bugs
which have not yet disturbed me
and I even got my own back by
going out once with your B-24's
to bomb their bases which was
very interesting and exciting.
We are all hoping to see you here
and it would not surprise me

if you suddenly appeared here
out of the blue. If so I sincerely
hope to get the opportunity to be
with you if even you can only
spare me a little time. I see little
of Elliott who works hard. I wonder
if you could be most awfully
kind and drop a hint of some
sort at your Navy & State Dept
about a certain Lt. Commander
in your Navy, Northern Briggs,
who was chief Cypher Officer here
under Adm. Stark but was ordered
back for duty to Washington last
week and left. He - that is not
only I but most of the Dutch
officials, have found him a good
friend and very nice fellow and
all miss him greatly. Our Foreign

2



77, CHESTER SQUARE,

S. W. 1.

SLOANE 3666.

Office and I wondered whether there
was any chance of having him
back here as Assistant Naval Attache
to our Government. He would
be very good for that job we
feel and therefore I took the
liberty of writing to you about
it. I hope you don't think I'm
taking liberties in doing so but
we all liked the man so very
much.

The war is finally going the
right way and we are all
full of hopes. Julia is very

Well and went to Metham, Mass. with
the children for a summer holiday.
Hope she can come here soon.

Holland is in a bad shape - won't
last much longer - they really need
liberation now. I went to see
Eaker and his Air Forces - there is
a very fine man and leader!
Also had an audience with the
Pope who was very kind.

With my regards to Mrs Roosevelt
and all my best wishes,

Yours very sincerely

F. Erberoff

Wm. ...
...
The President

The White House
Washington

From Prince Bernhard.

Netherlands folder
1-44

(3302)

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 10, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

SECRETARY OF STATE.

Please let me have the
draft of a reply.

F.D.R.

Letter from the Netherlands Ambassador, 7/27/44,
to Mr. Hassett, enclosing letter for the
President from Queen Wilhelmina, 7/16/44,
in re war news, etc.

NETHERLANDS EMBASSY
WASHINGTON 9, D. C.

No. 5249.

The President

July 27, 1944.

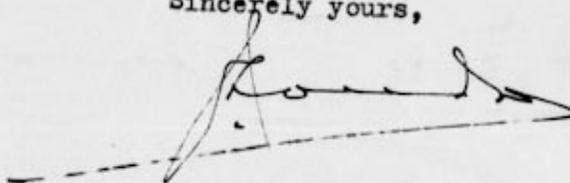
Dear Mr. Hassett,

I am enclosing herewith a personal
./.
letter from Her Majesty Queen Wilhelmina
addressed to the President of the United
States.

I venture to have recourse to your
kind intermediary for the safe delivery of
this letter to the President.

With my anticipated thanks I am, dear
Mr. Hassett,

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'K. van der ...', written over a horizontal dashed line.

Netherlands Ambassador.

Mr. William D. Hassett,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.

16th July, 1944.

My dear Mr. President,

In addition to my congratulations on the capture of Cherbourg I should like to tell you how happy I am about the splendid news from New Guinea, such a promising start of the freeing of the Netherlands Indies.

Immense hopes have been raised in our home country and in the Netherlands Indies by the fact of the invasion. You know that in spite of all the terror, starvation, looting, inundations and increasing German frightfulness my countrymen have never lost their courage and their determination to resist, but now they feel that their liberation is drawing near.

I very much regret that being kept here by the very promising prospects of the invasion I shall be denied the pleasure of seeing you and Mrs. Roosevelt again and of reviving the very happy memories I value so much of my visits to you in the preceding years.

If in the course of a meeting I could exchange views and impressions with you, I would certainly very much like to discuss one of the many aspects of the German problem which seems particularly important. It is the question what to do

-with-

with the leaders and the members of the Nazi-party. I have been reading again your address last year in Ottawa, where inter alia you stated: "We are making sure - absolutely, irrevocably sure - that this time the lesson is driven home to them once and for all. We are going to be rid of outlaws this time."

For the countries now occupied the final eradication in Germany of the tenets of the Nazi-party and of that party itself is a question of to be or not to be because no enduring peace is possible as long as Nazism continues to exist there. So you will understand how absolutely I agree with your words and how glad I was to hear Stalin proposes to import German manpower for the rebuilding of the devastated regions in Russia, because I am sure that he will pick out the Nazis in the first place for this work.

I am convinced that there can be no prospect of any real peace if we do not shape things in such a way that these people cannot resume their pernicious activities. Various measures will no doubt have to be taken in order that Germany shall not break the peace again, but I am convinced that one of them must be to remove the higher and lower party-gangsters, not only the older-, but also the younger ones and those among the Hitler youth. Not every country can neutralize them in the way the Russians propose to do so but I feel very strongly that this is the kind of measure which our sense of self-defence and self-preservation makes it necessary to promote. To control certain branches of German industry is no

-doubt-

doubt useful or even necessary, but I do not think it is enough; the human element, it seems to me, cannot safely be left out of account, and I believe we shall have to go much further than the narrower group of war-criminals if nazism is really to be obliterated.

If you can find time to let me have confidentially your views on this point, I should be very glad. I realise that it is just one of the many thorny subjects we shall have to deal with when hostilities end.

With my best regards to you and my love to Mrs. Roosevelt

*I remain your very sincere
friend
W. Churchill*



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

August 24, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

With reference to your memorandum of August 10, 1944, the letter from Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands is returned herewith, together with a suggested reply.

CH

Enclosures:

As stated.

file
confidential

August 26, 1944.

My dear Queen Wilhelmina:-

I have received your letter of July 16, 1944 and regret that my absence from Washington has delayed a reply. I share, of course, your gratification with the course of the war both in the Pacific and on the continent of Europe and hope that the day of liberation both for the Netherlands and the Netherlands Indies is not far distant.

Your observations respecting the definite eradication of the Nazi Party in Germany correspond very closely to my own views on this subject. It is my view that when the Allied forces are in complete occupation of Germany all leaders and active members of the Nazi Party should be eliminated from any participation in the administration of Germany and forbidden any political activity whatsoever. I fully agree that we cannot risk having these Nazis resume any of their nefarious activity and I assume that one of the principal objects of the occupation will be to root out the Nazi Party in all of its manifestations.

As you may know, the European Advisory Commission in London is engaged upon the drafting of surrender terms for Germany and their subsequent execution. I believe that the Commission has recently addressed a letter to your Government requesting its views in the matter of German surrender and I assume that your Government will, no doubt, express its opinion on the liquidation

of the Nazi Party in replying to this letter from the European Advisory Commission. I believe that the various United Nations Governments concerned will not have much difficulty in arriving at an agreed policy for the final eradication of Nazism.

I am sorry, indeed, that you cannot come over this summer and I wish much that I could have gone to England or Scotland, as I had hoped. After the election is over I may be able to arrange a meeting with the Prime Minister of Britain and Marshal Stalin and, if I can do so, I count on seeing you. Things are happening so fast in a military way at this moment that, while I do not dare predict a date for the German collapse, it is at least one of the possibilities that by the time I am coming to Europe you will be safely back in the Netherlands again. May Heaven speed the day.

I think that both here and in England there are two schools of thought -- those who would be altruistic in regard to the Germans, hoping by loving kindness to make them Christians again -- and those who would adopt a much "tougher" attitude. Most decidedly I belong to the latter school, for though I am not blood-thirsty, I want the Germans to know that this time at least they have definitely lost the war.

I was, of course, made very happy in knowing that you escaped so miraculously when your house in London was hit. Remember that it is not only your people in the Netherlands who

need you -- but people all over the world. Do
please take care of yourself.

My wife sends her love and joins me
in warm personal greetings.

Your very sincere friend,

Her Majesty
Wilhelmina,
Queen of The Netherlands.

hms

Netherlands folder
1-44

September 4, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY:

For your information.

WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President

eb

Copy of letter to The Secretary of Commerce,
from the President, dated September 4, 1944,
attached.

September 4, 1944

My dear Mr. Secretary:

I have consulted the Secretaries of State and the Treasury regarding your letter of August 10, 1944 concerning the request of the Netherlands Minister of Finance for a Reconstruction Finance Corporation secured credit of up to \$300,000,000 for post-war expenditures in this country.

It is their view, in which I concur, that international financing on reasonable terms through normal banking channels should be encouraged, and that governmental agencies participate only when broad policy considerations make desirable inter-governmental collaboration in cases in which commercial financing is not available on such terms, or when some governmental participation is necessary in order to assist private institutions in handling the transaction.

The Netherlands Government has a credit position which should be attractive to private lenders and the type of credit requested in this case is particularly suited to their facilities. I feel that every effort should be made to ascertain definitely the possibility of a private credit to the Netherlands Government before an agency of this Government undertakes to handle the loan. In this connection, I am informed that a consortium of private banks is now prepared to extend a short-term credit on reasonable terms to the Netherlands Government.

Irrespective of whether this loan should be made by private investors or the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, this Government will not take any action to make legally effective in this country the Netherlands royal decrees of May 24, 1940 and May 7, 1942, in so far as these decrees purport to vest in the Netherlands Government title to the dollar securities in this country privately owned by residents of the Netherlands.

I suggest that you consult with the State and Treasury Departments about the manner in which to proceed with the request of the Netherlands Government.

Sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

The Honorable
The Secretary of Commerce
Washington, D. C.

DSB:BLE
August 24, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

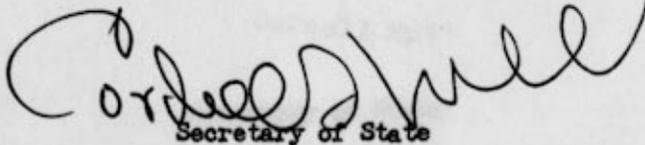
1. This is in response to your memorandum of August 14, 1944, with reference to the letter of August 10, 1944 from the Secretary of Commerce in which he urged that the Reconstruction Finance Corporation be authorized to proceed with the extension of a secured credit up to \$300,000,000 to the Netherlands Government.

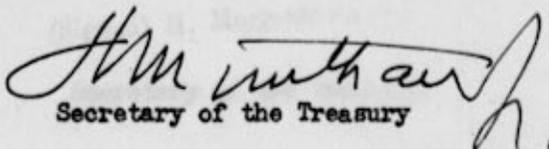
2. It is our opinion that the Netherlands Government should be asked to explore the possibility of obtaining a loan on reasonable terms through normal banking channels before the Reconstruction Finance Corporation considers the extension of its facilities to the Netherlands Government. If a satisfactory private offer on reasonable terms cannot be arranged we should then consider a joint proposal involving both private lenders and the Reconstruction Finance Corporation.

It would be unfortunate if the government were subjected to the criticism that it was competing with the private banks and taking away business from them for which they have adequate facilities.

3. You have previously approved a letter of May 26, 1944, of the Secretary of State regarding this proposed credit, which suggested the desirability of exploring the possibility of private participation in the credit.

4. There is attached a draft letter to the Secretary of Commerce setting forth the major principles which we suggest should govern the negotiations with the Netherlands Government.


Secretary of State


Secretary of the Treasury

Make copies of letter
to Secty of Commerce
to go to State & Treasury
Secretaries -
For your information

- Netherlands folder* 1-44
(3318 - The Secretary of State)
(3319 - The Secretary of the Treasury)

ams

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 14, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

**THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY**

**FOR JOINT PREPARATION OF REPLY
FOR MY SIGNATURE.**

F.D.R.

Letter from the Secretary of Commerce, 8/10/44, and draft of a letter which he had planned to send to Hon. J. Van den Broek, Netherlands Minister of Finance, in re application from the Netherlands Government for a loan up to \$300,000,000, and in connection with which the Secretary of Commerce feels that favorable consideration should be given, sent to the Secretary of State. A copy of the President's memorandum, and explanation of enclosures sent to the Secretary of the Treasury.

September 7th, 1944

STORNOWAY
ROCKCLIFFE PARK
OTTAWA

Dear Host and Hostess
of many happy days.

This is to say good-bye - or
rather an adieu - as I am leaving
"these shores", for the start of a
pre-war life.

I am very, very sorry to leave
them, and I feel that keenly,
right in the middle of wild and
overwhelming joy. I so much
loved being in your country, and
I felt there completely at home,
and particularly so when staying
with you. I am taking such
happy memories back - you well

know that - and a gratitude
for always.

I'll be keeping telling Margriet
of her Godfather - - -

And Bernhard and the
children, and Mother of course
too, are looking very much
forward to the first occasion
we will have to see you both
again, whether in the U.S.A. or
in the Netherlands.

May I remind you, that our
address is still Soestdijk, Baarn -
as it still seems to be standing
upright!

With all best wishes and love
affectionately yours

Juliana

Mrs Roosevelt
so read & please
return to me

The President a

THE

U.S.A.

From Princess Juliana of the Netherlands

*file
Personal*

FROM

Netherlands order
The White House
Washington

1-84

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

September 8, 1944.

U. S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE 131254

Her Majesty
Queen Wilhelmina of The Netherlands
London, England.

It is with great emotion to know that allied troops have already entered into The Netherlands. May the day of complete freedom from German troops from any part of Netherlands soil be close.

I am thinking of you and yours.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

TELEGRAM

OFFICIAL BUSINESS—GOVERNMENT RATES

H.R.H.
Princess Juliana of The Netherlands
Stornoway
Rockcliffe Park
Ottawa, Canada.

I am thrilled by the news of allied troops on Netherlands soil. I am thinking of you and the babies and hope that the day of complete restoration may come very soon. Let me know if there is anything I can do.

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

FROM

Netherlands folder
The White House
Washington

September 8, 1944.

TELEGRAM

file personal Netherlands folder 1-44

The White House
Washington

The White House
Washington

SEP 11 8 57 PM 1944

1WN BN 24 VIA RCA

LONDON 1205PM SEPT 11, 1944.

THE PRESIDENT:

MANY THANKS VERY KIND TELEGRAM. AM ALREADY LONDON ON WAY HOME.
WARMEST GREETINGS ALSO TO MRS ROOSEVELT.

PRINCESS JULIANA.

1382

Netherlands folder
1-44

*file
personal*

The White House
Washington

SEP 11 8 55 PM 1944

WB38 63 INTL CABLE VIA WU
BG LONDON SEP 11 745P

THE PRESIDENT

THE WHITEHOUSE WASHDC

EXCEEDINGLY REJOICING IN THE GREAT NEWS I AM MOST GRATEFUL
FOR YOUR KIND TELEGRAM AND FERVENTLY HOPE MY BELOVED
COUNTRY WILL SOON BE COMPLETELY FREE AGAIN I AM GREATLY
TOUCHED BY YOUR KIND THOUGHTS OF ME AND MINE AND HAPPY TO
TELL YOU THAT JULIANA HAS JUST SAFELY ARRIVED THANKS SO
MUCH TOO FOR YOUR KIND LETTER
WILHEMMINA.

PSF

Netherlands folder

1-44

file
personal

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

September 15, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

A MESSAGE FROM THE NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER

I enclose for your information a message addressed to you by the Netherlands Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. E. N. Van Kleffens, with regard to operations in Japanese-occupied territory. This message was transmitted to me at Dr. Van Kleffens' request by the American Embassy near the Netherlands Government in London since that Government has no direct code communication with Quebec.

Enclosure:

Message from Netherlands Foreign Minister.

CH

MESSAGE FOR PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT FROM
NETHERLANDS FOREIGN MINISTER

*file
personal*

"On learning that Pacific strategy will be discussed at Quebec conference Netherlands Government request in view of their vital interest in that question that following statement with regard to operations in Japanese occupied territory be transmitted to the President. Same statement is being sent to Mr. Churchill through British Foreign Office. Minister for Colonies Van Mook and Vice Admiral Helfrich are proceeding America. Netherlands Government trust President and Prime Minister will find it possible to give them an opportunity to elucidate Netherlands point of view. (Statement begins) 'Success of main strategy against Japan in severing communications between Japan and occupied area covering Burma, Malaya, Philippines, British Borneo and N.E.L. will cut off Japanese forces in that area from arms and munitions but will not compel them to surrender or to withdraw supposing this to be possible. Area as a whole has sufficient food and other materials and facilities for maintenance and it may be assumed that Japanese forces have sufficient stocks of arms and munitions. Experience points to probability that Japanese stay on for irregular warfare even after defeat or surrender Japan. Facts in recovered territory in the area show that isolated Japanese forces become more ferocious and destructive as isolation becomes

more

more irremediable. If liberation occupied areas is delayed suffering and destruction of large populations will increase beyond all measure and prisoners of war and internees can be considered lost. Since voluntary evacuation of the area by Japanese forces cannot be expected active liberation as soon as possible seems urgent both from this point of view and with regard to future rehabilitation. This action should primarily be directed towards most important territories with most civilized and numerous population and greatest economic value. Among these Java seems to offer best base for further operations because of central situation sufficient food production and accommodation ample skilled and unskilled labour, well developed system of roads and harbours good air-bases and healthy mountain regions for rehabilitation. Even in case of widespread destruction repairs for Allied operational purposes are easiest to effect in Java. The occupation of Java would deprive the Japanese of their main regional source of supplies and labour".

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 22, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

ADMIRAL LEAHY:

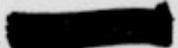
Will you be good enough to
show this to the Joint Staff?

F.D.R.

Secret telegram to the Secretary of State
From Schoenfeld, London, Sept. 13, 1944, sub-
mitting message from the Netherlands Foreign
Minister Van Keffens, in re operations in
Japanese-occupied territory.

Netherlands folder 1-44

October 26, 1944.

file → 

PROPOSED REPLY FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE
QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS

I have your message indicating the need for providing food and medical supplies to the people of the Netherlands.

The Government of the United States is most anxious that such assistance be provided as quickly as practicable consistent with achieving the complete defeat of Germany at the earliest possible date.

The combined military authorities of the United States and the United Kingdom have already made provision for the introduction of food and medical supplies into Holland after its liberation. These supplies will be provided to the fullest extent permitted by the military situation and the limits of supply, shipping and port capacity and availability.

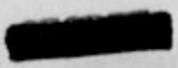
This Government will be glad to agree to any plan for the importation of food from Sweden into German-occupied areas of Holland which will insure that such supplies will actually be made available to those of your citizens in need and will not result in advancing the interests of our mutual enemy.

I have directed the United States Chiefs of Staff to give urgent consideration to such a plan as soon as it is received.

(Signed) ROOSEVELT

DECLASSIFIED
By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.

By W. J. Stewart Date FEB 19 1974



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON



10-26-44

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD:

Commander Smith, in Admiral
Leahy's office, phoned that this afternoon
an answer went out from the President to
the Queen, via State Department.

ld



THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

[REDACTED]
25 October 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

The Joint Chiefs of Staff have considered the message addressed to you by the Queen of the Netherlands relative to supplying of food and medical supplies to the people of Holland and placed before you by the Department of State, October 13, 1944.

It is recommended that the attached reply be made by you to the Queen of the Netherlands.

For the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

William D. Leahy

WILLIAM D. LEAHY,
Admiral, U.S. Navy,
Chief of Staff to the
Commander in Chief of the Army and Navy.

Enclosure.

DECLASSIFIED

\ JCS memo, 1-4-74 /

By RHP, NLR, Date FEB 19 1974

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

PROPOSED REPLY FROM THE PRESIDENT TO THE
QUEEN OF THE NETHERLANDS

I have your message indicating the need for providing food and medical supplies to the people of the Netherlands.

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DECLASSIFIED

JCS memo, 1-4-74

By RHP, NLR, Date FEB 19 1974

[REDACTED]

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 14, 1944

Memo for General McFarland:
(Secretary, Joint Chiefs of Staff)
Dear McFarland:

Here is the communication from Queen Wilhelmina to the President, of which I spoke to you.

The President thinks that the request should be complied with, and food dropped to the Dutch.

He wished me to have action taken through the Joint Chiefs of Staff, but I have been UNABLE to locate Admiral Leahy, and am therefore giving it to you as Secretary for the necessary action.

Very sincerely yours,

EDWIN M. WATSON
Major General, U.S. Army
Secretary to the President.

Memo 10-13-44 to Miss Tully from Mr. Summerlin forwarding message for the President from Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands asking that food and medical supplies be kept ready to send into Holland immediately the country is freed.

In reply refer to
PR 856.48/10-844

October 13, 1944

My dear Miss Tully:

I am enclosing herewith a copy of a note dated October 8, 1944 from the Netherlands Ambassador at Washington, transmitting for the President a message from Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands.

Sincerely yours,

ROBERT T. SUMMERS

Chief of Protocol

Enclosures:

From Netherlands Ambassador,
October 8, 1944.

Miss Grace G. Tully,
The White House.

3756

hms

Netherlands folder --44

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 1, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

MR. SUMMERLIN

I have already taken this up with the Army but will you be good enough to see what you can find out through your channels and let me know?

F. D. R.

Letter from P. Kasteel (?), Gouverneur van Curacao, Willemstad, 11/13/44, to the President, extending congratulations on reelection. States he is a Hollander, and makes inquiry regarding his wife and five children, who were living in occupied Netherlands, in Elst, between Arnhem and Nijmegen, ~~xxx~~ in the midst of the battle zone. The writer was introduced to the President by Mrs. Roosevelt on 10/12 and the President at that time offered to initiate inquiries about the matter.

Miss Sully

Dear Grace -

When Gov. Kasteel of
Curacao came in yesterday to
see the President, the
President agreed to find
out what could be done
about his wife.

Attached is her
name + address + a map
indicating where she is.

Malvina

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 20, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. E. R. STETTINIUS:

The wife and family of Governor Kasteel of Curacao has not been heard from for a long time and I wish you would send this memorandum to our people in London because I think this is in a British area -- in order to see if some information can be obtained about them.

This is down below Antwerp on the Dutch side and I am not sure that British troops are in there yet. The Governor would be very happy if he could get some word from either the British or the Dutch.

F.D.R.

Stettinius
Robinson
Wagner
Belmont
Wheeler

Mrs Mary ~~Ba~~ Kasteel - Baltussen

Rijksweg 23

Elst

near Nijmegen

Gelderland

Holland



Original letter to State 12/7/44 for transmittal.

Netherlands forced
1-

December 5, 1944.

Dear Governor Kasteel:-

I have not any real information about your family but I enclose a memorandum just received. This shows that they were apparently all well up to a short time ago. I will let you know as soon as I hear anything further.

With all good wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

His Excellency
Dr. Petrus Albertus Kasteel,
Governor of Curacao.

~~SECRET~~

Copy sent to Gov. Kasteel 12/5/44

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 4, 1944

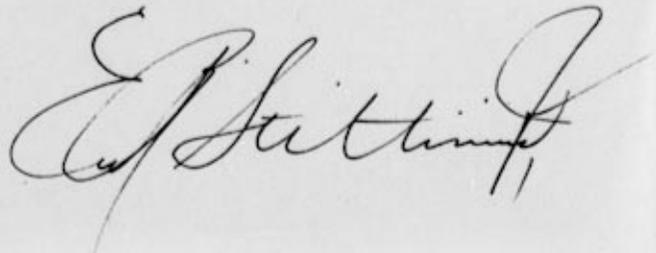
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Whereabouts of Wife and Children of
Governor Kasteel of Curacao.

The Embassies at London and Brussels, as well as the Embassy near the Netherlands Government, have been instructed to institute intensive inquiries concerning the whereabouts and welfare of the wife and five children of Governor Kasteel of Curacao. SHAEF and the International Red Cross have also been requested to make investigations. Thus far the only information which we have been able to ascertain is that Mrs. Kasteel and her children were residing at Elst, a town midway between Arnhem and Nijmegen at the time of the airborne attack on Arnhem.

I shall communicate with you as soon as any additional information is obtained.

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By J. Schauble Date FEB 10 1972



Return to
Mrs. Bonsteel

Thanks.

gd

December 20, 1944.

My dear Governor Kasteel:-

The President has asked me to send you the enclosed memorandum which has just come to him from the Secretary of State. He will let you know any further word that he hears.

Very sincerely yours,

Grace G. Tully
PRIVATE SECRETARY

His Excellency
Dr. Petrus Albertus Kasteel,
Governor of Curacao,
Willemstad,
Curacao.

(Enclosure)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 18, 1944

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

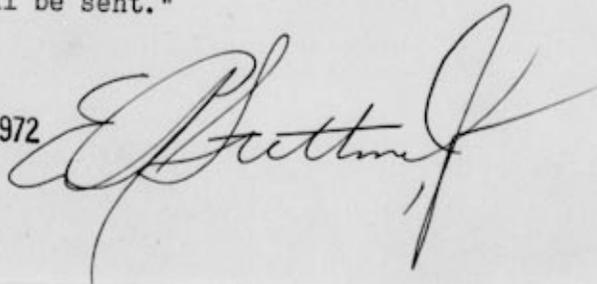
I have now received from the American Embassy at London the following message dated December 13 concerning the whereabouts and welfare of the wife and family of the Governor of Curacao.

"Information has been received to the effect that Madame Kasteel and her children left Elst voluntarily for Gendt on September 20, 1944. It is understood that they have since been evacuated by the Germans to Winterswyk or its immediate neighborhood which is about forty miles west of Munster. This information, however, requires definite confirmation.

As soon as further news is obtained a further telegram will be sent."

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By J. Schauble Date _____

FEB 10 1972



Netherlands folder 1-44

ADDRESS OFFICIAL COMMUNICATIONS TO
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
WASHINGTON, D. C.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

December 6, 1944

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL WATSON:

With reference to the President's memorandum of December 1st, in regard to inquiries about the wife and children of Governor Kasteel, the Governor of Curacao, I am sending herewith two memoranda from two Divisions of the Department, containing a bit of information in addition to that contained in the memorandum sent to the President by the Secretary of State on Saturday, December 2nd.

Your file is also enclosed.

G. T. Summerlin
George T. Summerlin

Enclosures:

- Original letter from Governor Kasteel, November 13, 1944;
- Memorandum from Special War Problems Division, December 4, 1944;
- Memorandum from Division of European Affairs, December 5, 1944.



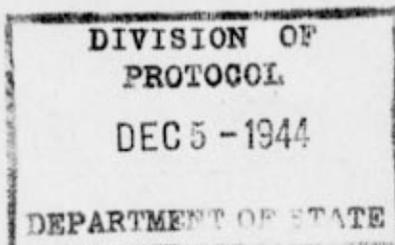
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

December 5, 1944

SA/S - Mr. Summerlin:

A memorandum regarding the Kasteel case was sent to the President by the Secretary on Saturday. Nothing new has developed since that time. You may, however, wish to send a further memorandum to the President telling him that the Embassy at London hopes to receive further information on the subject during the course of the next few days and that the Embassy has been instructed to issue visas to Mrs. Kasteel and her children as soon as they reach England.

WK
Hugh S. Cumming, Jr.
Chief, Division of Northern
European Affairs



NOE:WOT:TV

DIVISION OF
PROTOCOL

DEC 4 - 1944

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WAR PROBLEMS DEPARTMENT OF STATE
SPECIAL DIVISION

December 4, 1944

SA/S - Mr. Summerlin:

Reference is made to the attached memorandum from the White House concerning the desire of Governor Kasteel of Curacao to obtain information regarding his wife and five children who were last heard from at Elst, Netherlands.

SWP's records indicate that telegram No. 9859 was sent to the Embassy at London by Mr. Morgan of NOE on November 23 requesting that inquiries be made regarding the Governor's family. In reply telegrams No. 40 of November 28 and No. 10611 of December 1 were received from the Embassy. NOE advised SWP this morning that a memorandum was sent to the White House on Saturday, December 2, transmitting the substance of the telegrams from London.

It is understood that action was originally taken by NOE on the basis of a memorandum from the White House addressed to the Secretary, which was referred for action to Mr. Matthews of EUR.

I am returning the memorandum of December 1 from the White House as you may desire to send it to NOE to be included in its file.

E. A. P.

SWP:MMBlessing:BB

GOUVERNEUR

VAN
CURAÇAO.

Personal.

WILLEMSTAD. November 13, 1944.

The President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

May I, a Hollander, who recently had the honor and pleasure of making your acquaintance, offer my warmest congratulations upon your victory in the Presidential election. It is a victory I was as sure of, as the victory of the United Nations.

Millions of people all over the world, will rejoice to know that the mighty ship of the American State will continue to be guided by the hand that has steered her so far and so brilliantly on her hazardous course. It is such a comfort to know that having been at the helm through the difficult and dangerous days that lie behind, you will still be there to pilot to Victory.

In offering my heartfelt congratulations, I wish you, Sir, continued good health and strength to carry your burden, and may God bless your labours, which benefit not only America, but the whole of mankind.

It is a little difficult at such a time, to introduce a personal matter, and were it not so important, I would not think of doing so.

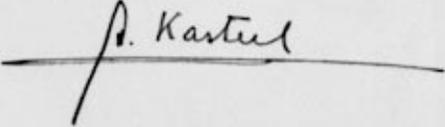
When I was in Washington on Thursday, 12th October, and Mrs. Roosevelt did me the honor of introducing me to you, you very kindly offered to initiate enquiries about my wife and five children, who were living in occupied Netherlands, in Elst, between Arnhem and Nijmegen, in the midst of the battle zone.

As that is a month ago and I have heard nothing, I am feeling gravely anxious as to what has become of them. One does one's best to believe in the old saying "No news is

good news", but somehow it does not bring much comfort after nearly five years of separation. If it has been possible to find any information whatever about them, I would be more than grateful if I might know.

With renewed thanks for your kind intervention, and the assurance of my highest consideration,

Believe me, Mr. President,
respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "P. Kartul", is written over a horizontal line.

PSF

Netherlands folder

1-45

file
personal

[12-11-44]

January 8, 1945.

Dear Stanley:-

Thank you much for yours of
December eleventh.

I hope you will give my warm
greetings, and those of Mrs. Roosevelt,
to Her Majesty when you next see her.
We are waiting anxiously for the great
day when she will be able to return to
The Hague.

With every good wish for the
New Year,

Very sincerely yours,

Honorable Stanley K. Hornbeck,
American Ambassador near the Netherlands Government,
London,
England.

PSF Netherlands

near the Netherlands Government

LONDON, December 11, 1944.

My dear Mr. President:

When I was received by Her Majesty, Queen Wilhelmina, on the afternoon of December 8, for the presentation of my Credentials, I conveyed to Her Majesty, both in the terms of the formal address and in the course of an informal conversation which followed the formalities of the presentation, expression of your personal goodwill and of your official interest in and concern regarding the difficult conditions which prevail in the Netherlands today and the no less difficult problems which for some time to come will confront Her Majesty's Government and people. Queen Wilhelmina expressed in simple words but with unmistakable meaning her appreciation of your messages, she inquired regarding your health and that of Mrs. Roosevelt, she spoke at length regarding her enjoyment of the visits which you and she had exchanged while she was in the United States, and she remarked upon the beauties, the comfortable life and the friendly hospitality of Hyde Park. In conclusion she asked me to convey to you and Mrs. Roosevelt a full expression of her cordial regards and best wishes.

These exchanges took place in the presence of Dr. van Kleffens, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Vice Admiral C. Baron de Vos van Steenwijk, Aide-de-Camp to Her Majesty. The Queen did not raise or touch upon any questions connected with or relating to current situations and problems.

With respectful greetings, cordial regards and all best wishes, I am,

Yours sincerely,

Stanley K. Hornbush

The President,
The White House,
Washington.



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

In reply refer to
PR

January 5, 1945

My dear Miss Tully:

I am transmitting herewith an unsealed communication addressed to the President by the American Ambassador near the Netherlands Government.

Sincerely yours,

G. D. Sumner
Chief of Protocol

Enclosure:

Unsealed letter from
the Honorable Stanley K.
Hornbeck.

Miss Grace G. Tully,

The White House.



PSF Netherlands folder 1-45-
GOUVERNEUR

VAN
CURAÇAO.

WILLEMSTAD, January 8th 1945.

Dear Mr. President,

filed Netherlands folder, 1-44
I thank you most warmly for your letter of December 5, and the enclosed memorandum, which shows me how extensive and complete are the arrangements you have so kindly made for trying to trace the whereabouts of my wife and children, and if they are located, for helping them to get to Curaçao.

Prime Minister Gerbrandy having visited Elst, their home, found everything destroyed by bombardment or fire and no sign of my wife and children, who presumably were sent by the Germans near to the German frontier.

It is not possible to express adequately the deep sense of gratitude I feel, that a man with your immense tasks and responsibilities should make time to help me in this personal anxiety. It is something I shall never forget.

With most grateful thanks, and every good wish,

Very sincerely yours,

J. Kastner

Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States of America
The White House
WASHINGTON D.C.

GOVERNOR
VAN
CURAÇAO.

file
WILLEMSTAD, January 10 1945.

Dear Miss Tully,

I thank you very much for your letter of 20th December enclosing a copy of the memorandum from the Secretary of State, sent to me at the request of the President.

Will you kindly convey to the President my most grateful thanks for His very kind interest and help. The thought of what my wife and children are probably suffering, together with thousands of others is always in mind, and every item of news of them is very precious.

Yours sincerely,

J. Kasteel

Miss Grace G. Tully,
Private Secretary
The White House,
Washington.

con.
GOUVERNEUR
VAN
CURAÇAO.

PSE Netherlands folcvl 1-43-
WILLEMSTAD. — January 29th, — 1945.

6

Dear Mr. President,

Please accept my most grateful
thanks for your letter of 16th. January.

It is a great comfort to know my eldest son is
safe in Allied hands, on liberated territory.
Although he is only fourteen, it seems he appears
much older, as he is so tall, and I have had many
anxious moments lest the Germans should take him for
forced labour.

May I repeat how immensely grateful I am to you
for your most kind interest and help? I hope one
day some opportunity may arise for me to do some
service for you; nothing would give me greater
happiness.

I was much impressed by your inaugural address.
The message was inspiring, and expressed with such
vigor and economy of words.

Believe me, Mr. President,
Very sincerely yours,

P. Hasin

Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt, President of the United States of America,
The White House
Washington D.C.

4040

hms

*Serial original sent to the Office of the Secy. State
for forwarding.*

*Netherlands folder
1-45*

January 16, 1945.

My dear Governor Kasteel:

I have just received from the American Embassy at Brussels, through the State Department, a further report concerning Mrs. Kasteel and the children. I thought you would like to have this information immediately.

"Latest advice this Embassy is that Mrs. Kasteel and four children left Elst for Gent (Gelderland) from where they were probably evacuated by the enemy to the north. One son, Frans, remained behind, was found by British troops and brought into liberated territory possibly to Megen near Hertogenbosch.

"Source of information states that further enquiries are being made regarding his present whereabouts. Department will be informed promptly upon receipt any further information."

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

His Excellency
Dr. Petrus Albertus Kasteel,
Governor of Curacao,
Willemstad, Curacao.

~~SECRET~~
SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

January 11, 1945

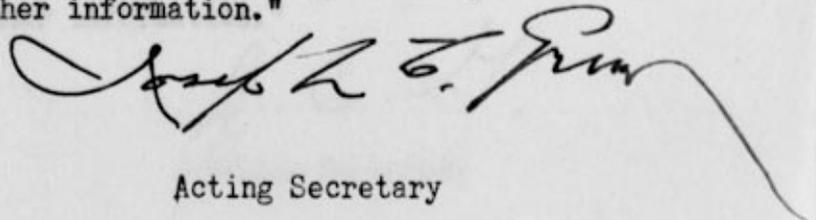
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Family of the Governor of Curacao

I have now received from the American Embassy at Brussels, the following message dated January 6, concerning the whereabouts and welfare of the wife and family of the Governor of Curacao:

"Latest advice this Embassy is that Mrs. Kasteel and four children left Elst for Gent (Gelderland) from where they were probably evacuated by the enemy to the north. One son, Frans, remained behind, was found by British troops and brought into liberated territory possibly to Megen near Hertogenbosch.

"Source of information states that further enquiries are being made regarding his present whereabouts. Department will be informed promptly upon receipt any further information."



Acting Secretary

DECLASSIFIED
State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72
By J. Schauble Date FEB 10 1972

January 16, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Message from the Queen of the Netherlands.

I enclose for your information a message from Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands in which she states that it is now the duty of the Netherlands Government to ask for urgent military action for the purpose of driving the Germans out of Holland. The alternative request of the Netherlands Government is for immediate relief in the form either of mass evacuation or in that of food, clothing, fuel and medical supplies. The Netherlands Ambassador stated orally that the Queen has sent the same message to King George and to Prime Minister Churchill.

Enclosure:

As stated.

NOE:JHM:MEB
[Handwritten initials]

EUR
[Handwritten initials]

[Handwritten initials] OF
JAN 16 1945 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Message from the Queen of
the Netherlands

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Enclosure:

As stated.

NOE:JHM:MEB

NETHERLANDS EMBASSY
WASHINGTON, D. C.

16.I.45

No 348

*afgedrukt by h. van Vredenburg
Consul, Netherlands Embassy
H.S.C.*

*memo to
President
1-16-45
NR/STN*

The Netherlands Ambassador presents his
compliments to the Honorable the Secretary of State and
has the honor to request Mr. Stettinius' kind intervention
./. to forward the enclosed message from Her Majesty the Queen
of the Netherlands to the President of the United States
of America.

Washington, D.C.,
January 16, 1945.



The situation in the still occupied part of the Netherlands has deteriorated to such an alarming extent that I should very much like to present to you personally a full picture of that situation and appeal urgently to you for very speedy help.

As recently as January 6th, 1945, two members of the Netherlands Cabinet, the Prime Minister Dr. P.S. Gerbrandy and the Minister of Shipping and Fisheries R.J.M. de Booy, had a conference at S.H.A.E.F. with the Supreme Allied Commander, General Eisenhower in order to discuss certain relief problems with regard to the Netherlands, more especially in the area of the country which remains to be liberated. They found in General Eisenhower not only a sympathetic and understanding listener but also a man who fully realizes the great importance of working out plans for the immediate relief, upon its liberation by the Allies of the starving population of Western Holland.

The discussions both with General Eisenhower personally and the next day with General Bedell Smith, Chief of Staff to General Eisenhower and General Grasett, Assistant Chief of Staff for Civil Affairs, were, to the minds of the Netherlands Cabinet Ministers, quite satisfactory and they received the very definite impression that everything humanly possible would be done by S.H.A.E.F., not only in the planning itself but also in view of the timely execution of the relief operation provided there does not result from this action undue prejudice to military

operations, a notion which, it was agreed, was to be defined further, if possible.

It is not, therefore, because the Netherlands Government feel disappointed or discouraged in consequence of their latest talks with S.H.A.E.F. that I have decided to make this personal appeal to you. It is because the situation in my country has become so critical that I feel that it is no longer sufficient to plan for immediate relief after liberation, even if the plans devised are the best possible plans and their timely execution assured, but that action of an entirely different nature will have to be taken now. Conditions in the still occupied part of Holland as will appear from some facts and figures mentioned below, have at present become so desperate, that it is abundantly clear that, if a major catastrophe, the like of which has not been seen in Western Europe since the middle ages, is to be avoided in Holland, something drastic has to be done now, that is to say before and not after the liberation of the rest of the country. The situation is precarious enough in the Northern and Eastern provinces, where the Germans have carried off great quantities of foodstuffs and cattle and where they may be counted upon with certainty to carry off or destroy whatever remains when the time comes for them to retreat, but it is especially in North-Western Holland, the section comprising the provinces of North Holland, South Holland and Utrecht where by far the worst conditions prevail. Four and a half million people, or half of the total population of the Netherlands, live in this densely populated area. It is here that the big cities of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, Utrecht, Haarlem, Leiden, Delft and Dordrecht are situated, and it is especially here that the essential necessities of life, such

as food, clothes, blankets, fuel and medicines are sorely lacking. According to the latest figures available, the average rations in the cities just mentioned had gradually dropped to 630 calories per day (the minimum number of calories a person, doing very light work, can normally live on, is put at 2000 calories per day. The British rations, which admittedly are not luxurious, are calculated to represent 2500 - 3000 calories per day). Seyss Inquart, German Governor of the Netherlands, in a recent broadcast to the people of Holland (on January 7th, 1945) admitted with cynical frankness that "nobody could or should contend that the present rations were even approximately sufficient". He textually specified the weekly rations per head of the population as follows - thereby certainly not putting the figures at a lower level than the facts warrant - "about 1000 grams of bread - unevenly distributed -, approximately 150 grams of other farinaceous foods, a little additional syrup and sugar, 75 grams of vegetable oil, 50 grams of cheese and, with difficulty, 1000 grams of potatoes". It will be noticed that Seyss Inquart does not pretend that these utterly deficient rations include either meat, butter or milk, which in fact, at least in the cities, are not to be had. This former Austrian Quisling only mentions these rations in his speech in order to compare them to what the people of the Netherlands were getting before they started the railroad strike in compliance with the orders of their Government in London and of the Allied High Command in view of the Arnhem operation, and so as to prove to them that they only have themselves to blame for the situation in which they find themselves at present.

No milk means no adequate way of feeding babies or small children. Is it to be wondered at that according to information received some weeks ago, infant mortality in this part of the country was steeply increasing and had already jumped to double the usual rate? Many reports contain accounts of people fainting in the streets and along the roads for lack of nourishment. Men, who would never have even thought of such a thing before now in some cases succumb to the temptation of working for the Germans in order to obtain a few extra rations for themselves and their families. Well authenticated reports tell of daylight holdups and robberies of bakeryshops and bakerycarts, a thing formerly unheard of in our law-abiding country. But then starvation too was formerly unheard of.

According to the best information available there is actual famine in the big cities. Clothing and especially woolen or flannel underwear is also very scarce. Clothes worn-out, or seized by the Germans, cannot be replaced, and so the majority of the people, whether at home or out-of-doors are ill-equipped to stand the rigours of the winterclimate. Blankets have been looted by the Germans in vast numbers. Besides lack of food and clothing there is also an acute lack of fuel. No wood or coal is available for private use so that there is no way of heating even one room to live in or of warming up or cooking the meagre supply of food one succeeds in getting. Seyss Inquart in his speech mentioned above, sharply criticises the Netherlands police for not preventing more effectively the cutting down of trees in public parks and gardens by people in need of fuel. As moreover the gasworks have been stopped, and such electric power stations - as are still working on meagre coal rations - only may supply electricity to German buildings and concerns,

the people have to remain in the dark from sunset to sunrise. The absence of coal has still another effect, and that is that gradually there is no fuel available for the electric pump-installations which keep a large portion of the country from becoming inundated. If the worst comes to the worst in this respect, over 50 percent of North Western Holland (that is to say of the provinces of North Holland, South Holland and Utrecht) including considerable portions of Amsterdam and of Rotterdam will be flooded. It is in this connection also that a very real danger exists with respect to the drinking water in the large centers. If, due to the stopping or flooding of the waterworks and sewerage system, drinking water is no longer dependable, it will be impossible to avoid disease and epidemics. Already the spreading in an alarming way of dyphteria and typhoid fever is announced from Amsterdam. An increase of disease is also caused by the absence of soap, which has not been available now for many months, and the consequent impossibility to keep clean; vermin and skin diseases are prevalent as never before during the occupation.

Hunger, cold, darkness, dirt, disease and floods.

Is it any wonder that Seyas Inguart with unparalleled cynicism ironically wished the people of the Netherlands good luck this year, "for otherwise the situation which today is characterized by hunger, cold and misery, might unexpectedly grow into a catastrophe" ?

All this is appalling, but to make matters infinitely worse the Germans have officially called up all men between the ages of 17 and 40 (born between the years 1905 and 1928) to work in Germany. Those who do not voluntarily come to the registration offices are liable to the death penalty if they are caught; so are all people helping or harboring them.

Extensive razzias are organized in the cities and in the villages. Streets are cordoned off and manhunts carried out. In Rotterdam, e.g., the Germans succeeded in one week in netting approximately 54,000 men; in the Hague, Haarlem, Utrecht and other towns many more thousands were caught and sent off to work, for the most part in Germany. The transportation of these men and boys takes place under ghastly conditions; in an attempt to demoralise the victims, they often are made to march long distances without food or pause (from Rotterdam to Utrecht for instance, which is about 40 miles) and are then herded into cattle cars and shipped off without enough food or clothing to last for the long journey. Seyss Inquart in "explaining" this deportation of labor to the Netherlands people in his recent broadcast said: "In this most total of all wars everything that can in a way be used must be considered as important for the war and its interests".

What this hunt for slave labor really means to the population of the Netherlands will be realized if one knows that before this latest measure in respect of all men between 17 and 40, between four and five hundred thousand workers had already been deported to Germany from the Netherlands. Conditions, as is well known, in most of the labour camps in Germany are extremely bad, both from a physical and moral point of view. Death both from ill-treatment and neglect and from being exposed to the Allied bombing of German war factories have been widespread. The Netherlands Government and the resistance movement in Holland are doing everything in their power to dissuade the men themselves from registering and to prevent Government officials and business men from collaborating, for whatever motive, with the Germans with regard to

these deportations. The response to the German callup has been insignificant so far, but if in some isolated cases the spathy of the victims, due in large part to lack of adequate food and shelter, should be too great to be overcome, and if, lured by promises of plentiful food, these men now should prefer going to Germany voluntarily rather than risking further starvation in Holland, it would hardly be surprising.

As is undoubtedly already known, the enemy during the period of occupation have so far killed some 150,000 Netherlands citizens of which 120,000 Jews who, according to reliable information, have been deported to and destroyed in Poland. It is superfluous here to mention the atrocities which have been committed by the Germans both in the concentration camps (the camp at Vught alone accounted for 13,000 killings) and prisons and elsewhere, but with every day that passes more atrocities are committed and more innocent victims added to the total number.

From the foregoing only one conclusion can be drawn and that is that the people in North Western Holland are facing physical destruction. It probably is not too late yet to save a considerable portion of them, but in a few months time it will undoubtedly be out of the question.

We have before us the picture of an industrious and cultured people with a long and not inglorious history, going to their doom. Without stressing the humanitarian side of this matter I wish to put the question whether it is in the interest of the world in general, and of Western civilization and of Western Europe in particular, that this nation be crippled and partly annihilated. And it is perhaps useful to stress this point: although the North-Western part of the Netherlands comprises only about one third of the country's total area and one half of its population, yet this part has always been -

and still is, politically and economically speaking, the heart of the country. That country obviously has a definite political, social, cultural and economic role to fulfill on the Western fringe of the European continent; from the point of view of international peace and tranquility, any void created there would be sure to have undesirable consequences for others interested in that part of Europe. It is, that goes without saying, necessary that this war be won, but I assert that it is not necessary for winning the war that conditions are allowed to spread and develop, whatever duties our ruthless enemy may have to provide for the feeding of the population of the North Western part of the Netherlands, which will inevitably result in its total or partial ruin and extinction. On the contrary, it is precisely because there is no need to sacrifice these unfortunate people that help should be brought to them without delay. It is now the duty of the Netherlands Government to ask for urgent military action for the purpose of driving the Germans out of Holland. They feel that this is a reasonable and necessary request, and they would be grateful for an assurance that nothing will be left undone to this end. Should, contrary to the hopes of the Netherlands Government, immediate military help be out of the question, then immediate relief in the form either of mass evacuation or in that of food, clothing, fuel and medical supplies is an imperative necessity.

May I end by sending you and Mrs. Roosevelt my affectionate regards.

WILHELMINA

Netherlands folder 1-45

~~SECRET~~

Imp file *file confidential*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

January 17, 1945.

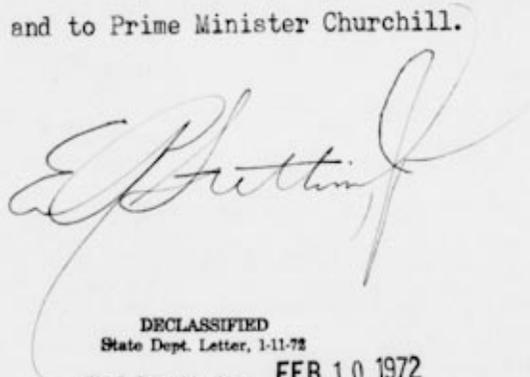
MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Message from the Queen of
the Netherlands

I enclose for your information a message from Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands in which she states that it is now the duty of the Netherlands Government to ask for urgent military action for the purpose of driving the Germans out of Holland. The alternative request of the Netherlands Government is for immediate relief in the form either of mass evacuation or in that of food, clothing, fuel and medical supplies. The Netherlands Ambassador stated orally that the Queen has sent the same message to King George and to Prime Minister Churchill.

Enclosure:

As stated.



DECLASSIFIED

State Dept. Letter, 1-11-72

By J. Schauble Date FEB 10 1972

The situation in the still occupied part of the Netherlands has deteriorated to such an alarming extent that I should very much like to present to you personally a full picture of that situation and appeal urgently to you for very speedy help.

As recently as January 6th, 1945, two members of the Netherlands Cabinet, the Prime Minister Dr. P.S. Gerbrandy and the Minister of Shipping and Fisheries R.J.M. de Booy, had a conference at S.H.A.E.F. with the Supreme Allied Commander, General Eisenhower in order to discuss certain relief problems with regard to the Netherlands, more especially in the area of the country which remains to be liberated. They found in General Eisenhower not only a sympathetic and understanding listener but also a man who fully realizes the great importance of working out plans for the immediate relief, upon its liberation by the Allies of the starving population of Western Holland.

The discussions both with General Eisenhower personally and the next day with General Bedell Smith, Chief of Staff to General Eisenhower and General Grasett, Assistant Chief of Staff for Civil Affairs, were, to the minds of the Netherlands Cabinet Ministers, quite satisfactory and they received the very definite impression that everything humanly possible would be done by S.H.A.E.F., not only in the planning itself but also in view of the timely execution of the relief operation provided there does not result from this action undue prejudice to military

operations, a notion which, it was agreed, was to be defined further, if possible.

It is not, therefore, because the Netherlands Government feel disappointed or discouraged in consequence of their latest talks with S.H.A.E.F. that I have decided to make this personal appeal to you. It is because the situation in my country has become so critical that I feel that it is no longer sufficient to plan for immediate relief after liberation, even if the plans devised are the best possible plans and their timely execution assured, but that action of an entirely different nature will have to be taken now. Conditions in the still occupied part of Holland as will appear from some facts and figures mentioned below, have at present become so desperate, that it is abundantly clear that, if a major catastrophe, the like of which has not been seen in Western Europe since the middle ages, is to be avoided in Holland, something drastic has to be done now, that is to say before and not after the liberation of the rest of the country. The situation is precarious enough in the Northern and Eastern provinces, where the Germans have carried off great quantities of foodstuffs and cattle and where they may be counted upon with certainty to carry off or destroy whatever remains when the time comes for them to retreat, but it is especially in North-Western Holland, the section comprising the provinces of North Holland, South Holland and Utrecht where by far the worst conditions prevail. Four and a half million people, or half of the total population of the Netherlands, live in this densely populated area. It is here that the big cities of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, Utrecht, Haarlem, Leiden, Delft and Dordrecht are situated, and it is especially here that the essential necessities of life, such

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According to the best information available there is actual famine in the big cities. Clothing and especially woolen or flannel underwear is also very scarce. Clothes worn-out, or seized by the Germans, cannot be replaced, and so the majority of the people, whether at home or out-of-doors are ill-equipped to stand the rigours of the winterclimate. Blankets have been looted by the Germans in vast numbers. Besides lack of food and clothing there is also an acute lack of fuel. No wood or coal is available for private use so that there is no way of heating even one room to live in or of warming up or cooking the meagre supply of food one succeeds in getting. Seyss Inquart in his speech mentioned above, sharply criticises the Netherlands police for not preventing more effectively the cutting down of trees in public parks and gardens by people in need of fuel. As moreover the gasworks have been stopped, and such electric power stations - as are still working on meagre coal rations - only may supply electricity to German buildings and concerns,

the people have to remain in the dark from sunset to sunrise. The absence of coal has still another effect, and that is that gradually there is no fuel available for the electric pump-installations which keep a large portion of the country from becoming inundated. If the worst comes to the worst in this respect, over 50 percent of North Western Holland (that is to say of the provinces of North Holland, South Holland and Utrecht) including considerable portions of Amsterdam and of Rotterdam will be flooded. It is in this connection also that a very real danger exists with respect to the drinking water in the large centers. If, due to the stopping or flooding of the waterworks and sewerage system, drinking water is no longer dependable, it will be impossible to avoid disease and epidemics. Already the spreading in an alarming way of dysphtheria and typhoid fever is announced from Amsterdam. An increase of disease is also caused by the absence of soap, which has not been available now for many months, and the consequent impossibility to keep clean; vermin and skin diseases are prevalent as never before during the occupation.

Hunger, cold, darkness, dirt, disease and floods. Is it any wonder that Seyss Inquart with unparalleled cynicism ironically wished the people of the Netherlands good luck this year, "for otherwise the situation which today is characterized by hunger, cold and misery, might unexpectedly grow into a catastrophe" ?

All this is appalling, but to make matters infinitely worse the Germans have officially called up all men between the ages of 17 and 40 (born between the years 1905 and 1928) to work in Germany. Those who do not voluntarily come to the registration offices are liable to the death penalty if they are caught; so are all people helping or harboring them.

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these deportations. The response to the German callup has been insignificant so far, but if in some isolated cases the apathy of the victims, due in large part to lack of adequate food and shelter, should be too great to be overcome, and if, lured by promises of plentiful food, these men now should prefer going to Germany voluntarily rather than risking further starvation in Holland, it would hardly be surprising.

As is undoubtedly already known, the enemy during the period ~~period~~ of occupation have so far killed some 150,000 Netherlands citizens of which 120,000 Jews who, according to reliable information, have been deported to and destroyed in Poland. It is superfluous here to mention the atrocities which have been committed by the Germans both in the concentration camps (the camp at Vught alone accounted for 13,000 killings) and prisons and elsewhere, but with every day that passes more atrocities are committed and more innocent victims added to the total number.

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and still is, politically and economically speaking, the heart of the country. That country obviously has a definite political, social, cultural and economic role to fulfill on the Western fringe of the European continent; from the point of view of international peace and tranquility, any void created there would be sure to have undesirable consequences for others interested in that part of Europe. It is, that goes without saying, necessary that this war be won, but I assert that it is not necessary for winning the war that conditions are allowed to spread and develop, whatever duties our ruthless enemy may have to provide for the feeding of the population of the North Western part of the Netherlands, which will inevitably result in its total or partial ruin and extinction. On the contrary, it is precisely because there is no need to sacrifice these unfortunate people that help should be brought to them without delay. It is now the duty of the Netherlands Government to ask for urgent military action for the purpose of driving the Germans out of Holland. They feel that this is a reasonable and necessary request, and they would be grateful for an assurance that nothing will be left undone to this end. Should, contrary to the hopes of the Netherlands Government, immediate military help be out of the question, then immediate relief in the form either of mass evacuation or in that of food, clothing, fuel and medical supplies is an imperative necessity.

May I end by sending you and Mrs. Roosevelt my affectionate regards.

WILHELMINA.

22/1 '45

PS F. Netherland

2347, S STREET
WASHINGTON 8, D. C.

Dear Mr. President,

As you told me you did not receive mother's telegram as yet, and as I was presented with a copy of it, it gives my conscience as a daughter a ~~more~~ ^{more} rest if I pass that on to you - You don't mind, do you?

It was good to see you and Mrs. Roosevelt again today, just like good old days.

Wishing you once more ALL the luck in the world

Yours very sincerely

Juliana

Netherlands, 1845

The President

From princess Juliana of the Netherlands
Personal and unopened

[1-22-45]

The situation in the still occupied part of the Netherlands has deteriorated to such an alarming extent that I should very much like to present to you personally a full picture of that situation and appeal urgently to you for very speedy help.

As recently as January 6th, 1945, two members of the Netherlands Cabinet, the Prime Minister Dr. P.S.Gerbrandy and the Minister of Shipping and Fisheries R.J.M. de Booy, had a conference at S.H.A.E.F. with the Supreme Allied Commander, General Eisenhower in order to discuss certain relief problems with regard to the Netherlands, more especially in the area of the country which remains to be liberated. They found in General Eisenhower not only a sympathetic and understanding listener but also a man who fully realizes the great importance of working out plans for the immediate relief, upon its liberation by the Allies of the starving population of Western Holland.

The discussions both with General Eisenhower personally and the next day with General Bedell Smith, Chief of Staff to General Eisenhower and General Grasett, Assistant Chief of Staff for Civil Affairs, were, to the minds of the Netherlands Cabinet Ministers, quite satisfactory and they received the very definite impression that everything humanly possible would be done by S.H.A.E.F., not only in the planning itself but also in view of the timely execution of the relief operation provided there does not result from this action undue prejudice to military

operations, a notion which, it was agreed, was to be defined further, if possible.

It is not, therefore, because the Netherlands Government feel disappointed or discouraged in consequence of their latest talks with S.H.A.E.F. that I have decided to make this personal appeal to you. It is because the situation in my country has become so critical that I feel that it is no longer sufficient to plan for immediate relief after liberation, even if the plans devised are the best possible plans and their timely execution assured, but that action of an entirely different nature will have to be taken now. Conditions in the still occupied part of Holland as will appear from some facts and figures mentioned below, have at present become so desperate, that it is abundantly clear that, if a major catastrophe, the like of which has not been seen in Western Europe since the middle ages, is to be avoided in Holland, something drastic has to be done now, that is to say before and not after the liberation of the rest of the country. The situation is precarious enough in the Northern and Eastern provinces, where the Germans have carried off great quantities of foodstuffs and cattle and where they may be counted upon with certainty to carry off or destroy whatever remains when the time comes for them to retreat, but it is especially in North-Western Holland, the section comprising the provinces of North Holland, South Holland and Utrecht where by far the worst conditions prevail. Four and a half million people, or half of the total population of the Netherlands, live in this densely populated area. It is here that the big cities of Amsterdam, Rotterdam, The Hague, Utrecht, Haarlem, Leiden, Delft and Dordrecht are situated, and it is especially here that the essential necessities of life, such

as food, clothes, blankets, fuel and medicines are sorely lacking. According to the latest figures available, the average rations in the cities just mentioned had gradually dropped to 630 calories per day (the minimum number of calories a person, doing very light work, can normally live on, is put at 2000 calories per day. The British rations, which admittedly are not luxurious, are calculated to represent 2500 - 3000 calories per day). Seyss Inquart, German Governor of the Netherlands, in a recent broadcast to the people of Holland (on January 7th, 1945) admitted with cynical frankness that "nobody could or should contend that the present rations were even approximately sufficient". He textually specified the weekly rations per head of the population as follows - thereby certainly not putting the figures at a lower level than the facts warrant - "about 1000 grams of bread - unevenly distributed -, approximately 150 grams of other farinaceous foods, a little additional syrup and sugar, 75 grams of vegetable oil, 50 grams of cheese and, with difficulty, 1000 grams of potatoes". It will be noticed that Seyss Inquart does not pretend that these utterly deficient rations include either meat, butter or milk, which in fact, at least in the cities, are not to be had. This former Austrian Quisling only mentions these rations in his speech in order to compare them to what the people of the Netherlands were getting before they started the railroad strike in compliance with the orders of their Government in London and of the Allied High Command in view of the Arnhem operation, and so as to prove to them that they only have themselves to blame for the situation in which they find themselves at present.

No milk means no adequate way of feeding babies or small children. Is it to be wondered at that according to information received some weeks ago, infant mortality in this part of the country was steeply increasing and had already jumped to double the usual rate? Many reports contain accounts of people fainting in the streets and along the roads for lack of nourishment. Men, who would never have even thought of such a thing before now in some cases succumb to the temptation of working for the Germans in order to obtain a few extra rations for themselves and their families. Well authenticated reports tell of daylight holdups and robberies of bakeryshops and bakerycarts, a thing formerly unheard of in our law-abiding country. But then starvation too was formerly unheard of.

According to the best information available there is actual famine in the big cities. Clothing and especially woolen or flannel underwear is also very scarce. Clothes worn-out, or seized by the Germans, cannot be replaced, and so the majority of the people, whether at home or out-of-doors are ill-equipped to stand the rigours of the winterclimate. Blankets have been looted by the Germans in vast numbers. Besides lack of food and clothing there is also an acute lack of fuel. No wood or coal is available for private use so that there is no way of heating even one room to live in or of warming up or cooking the meagre supply of food one succeeds in getting. Seyss Inquart in his speech mentioned above, sharply criticises the Netherlands police for not preventing more effectively the cutting down of trees in public parks and gardens by people in need of fuel. As moreover the gasworks have been stopped, and such electric power stations - as are still working on meagre coal rations - only may supply electricity to German buildings and concerns,

the people have to remain in the dark from sunset to sunrise. The absence of coal has still another effect, and that is that gradually there is no fuel available for the electric pump-installations which keep a large portion of the country from becoming inundated. If the worst comes to the worst in this respect, over 50 percent of North Western Holland (that is to say of the provinces of North Holland, South Holland and Utrecht) including considerable portions of Amsterdam and of Rotterdam will be flooded. It is in this connection also that a very real danger exists with respect to the drinking water in the large centers. If, due to the stopping or flooding of the waterworks and sewerage system, drinking water is no longer dependable, it will be impossible to avoid disease and epidemics. Already the spreading in an alarming way of dyptheria and typhoid fever is announced from Amsterdam. An increase of disease is also caused by the absence of soap, which has not been available now for many months, and the consequent impossibility to keep clean; vermin and skin diseases are prevalent as never before during the occupation.

Hunger, cold, darkness, dirt, disease and floods. Is it any wonder that Seyss Inquart with unparalleled cynicism ironically wished the people of the Netherlands good luck this year, "for otherwise the situation which today is characterized by hunger, cold and misery, might unexpectedly grow into a catastrophe" ?

All this is appalling, but to make matters infinitely worse the Germans have officially called up all men between the ages of 17 and 40 (born between the years 1905 and 1928) to work in Germany. Those who do not voluntarily come to the registration offices are liable to the death penalty if they are caught; so are all people helping or harboring them.

Extensive razzias are organized in the cities and in the villages. Streets are cordoned off and manhunts carried out. In Rotterdam, e.g., the Germans succeeded in one week in netting approximately 54,000 men; in the Hague, Haarlem, Utrecht and other towns many more thousands were caught and sent off to work, for the most part in Germany. The transportation of these men and boys takes place under ghastly conditions; in an attempt to demoralise the victims, they often are made to march long distances without food or pause (from Rotterdam to Utrecht for instance, which is about 40 miles) and are then herded into cattle cars and shipped off without enough food or clothing to last for the long journey. Seyss Inquart in "explaining" this deportation of labor to the Netherlands people in his recent broadcast said: "In this most total of all wars everything that can in a way be used must be considered as important for the war and its interests".

What this hunt for slave labor really means to the population of the Netherlands will be realised if one knows that before this latest measure in respect of all men between 17 and 40, between four and five hundred thousand workers had already been deported to Germany from the Netherlands. Conditions, as is well known, in most of the labour camps in Germany are extremely bad, both from a physical and moral point of view. Death both from ill-treatment and neglect and from being exposed to the Allied bombing of German war factories have been widespread. The Netherlands Government and the resistance movement in Holland are doing everything in their power to dissuade the men themselves from registering and to prevent Government officials and business men from collaborating, for whatever motive, with the Germans with regard to

these deportations. The response to the German callup has been insignificant so far, but if in some isolated cases the apathy of the victims, due in large part to lack of adequate food and shelter, should be too great to be overcome, and if, lured by promises of plentiful food, these men now should prefer going to Germany voluntarily rather than risking further starvation in Holland, it would hardly be surprising.

As is undoubtedly already known, the enemy during the period of occupation have so far killed some 150,000 Netherlands citizens of which 120,000 Jews who, according to reliable information, have been deported to and destroyed in Poland. It is superfluous here to mention the atrocities which have been committed by the Germans both in the concentration camps (the camp at Vught alone accounted for 13,000 killings) and prisons elsewhere, but with every day that passes more atrocities are committed and more innocent victims added to the total number.

From the foregoing only one conclusion can be drawn and that is that the people in North Western Holland are facing physical destruction. It probably is not too late yet to save a considerable portion of them, but in a few months time it will undoubtedly be out of the question.

We have before us the picture of an industrious and cultured people with a long and not inglorious history, going to their doom. Without stressing the humanitarian side of this matter I wish to put the question whether it is in the interest of the world in general, and of Western civilization and of Western Europe in particular, that this nation be crippled and partly annihilated. And it is perhaps useful to stress this point: although the North-Western part of the Netherlands comprises only about one third of the country's total area and one half of its population, yet this part has always been -

and still is, politically and economically speaking, the heart of the country. That country obviously has a definite political, social, cultural and economic role to fulfill on the Western fringe of the European continent; from the point of view of international peace and tranquility, any void created there would be sure to have undesirable consequences for others interested in that part of Europe. It is, that goes without saying, necessary that this war be won, but I assert that it is not necessary for winning the war that conditions are allowed to spread and develop, whatever duties our ruthless enemy may have to provide for the feeding of the population of the North Western part of the Netherlands, which will inevitably result in its total or partial ruin and extinction. On the contrary, it is precisely because there is no need to sacrifice these unfortunate people that help should be brought to them without delay. It is now the duty of the Netherlands Government to ask for urgent military action for the purpose of driving the Germans out of Holland. They feel that this is a reasonable and necessary request, and they would be grateful for an assurance that nothing will be left undone to this end. Should, contrary to the hopes of the Netherlands Government, immediate military help be out of the question, then immediate relief in the form either of mass evacuation or in that of food, clothing, fuel and medical supplies is an imperative necessity.

May I end by sending you and Mrs. Roosevelt my affectionate regards.

WILHELMINA

March 21, 1945.

My dear Queen Wilhelmina:

Your delightful telegram came last Saturday just as Juliana was spending Sunday with us in the White House. Yesterday I read in the papers of your flying visit to a little piece of the Netherlands and I wish I could have been with you to see even that small portion.

I have been doing everything I could on the food situation and will have more news when Mr. Lyttelton and a British colleague arrive here next week. We are, all of us, laying aside as large supplies of foodstuffs as we possibly can to use when the British and American troops occupy more of the large cities. Most unfortunately we have discovered a rather serious food shortage over here and they are trying to use the situation for political purposes. But I think the people will understand that it is not a serious matter for us yet and that we can live up to the plans which we are making with the British.

I fear that the situation in many parts of the Netherlands is serious and I have written to General Eisenhower to do his best to save food in Germany and keep it for use in Amsterdam, etc. You can be very certain that I shall not forget the country of my origin and that we are doing all we can with the supplies and also with ships to carry them over.

I told Juliana that I thought the date of her departure would be just about right and that the general offensive would fit in with it, but I told her to tell you to be sure not to go back too early.

TELEGRAM

The White House
- 2 -

It must be an absolutely safe date.

Take care of yourself and be sure to let me know if there is anything I can do.

With warm greetings from us both,

Always sincerely yours,

Her Majesty
Wilhelmina,
Queen of the Netherlands.

TELEGRAM

The White House
Washington

1 WN CO 35 VIA RCA

LITTLEWICKGREENMAS MARCH 17, 1945

THE PRESIDENT:

WASHINGTON, D.C.

I OFFER YOU AND MRS ROOSEVELT MY SINCEREST CONGRATULATIONS ON THE
OCCASION OF YOUR FORTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY. I WISH YOU MANY
HAPPY RETURNS OF THIS DAY.

WILHELMINA R.

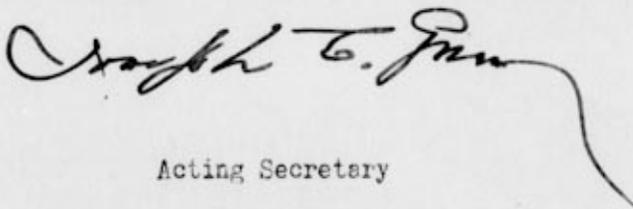
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

March 23, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Reply to Ambassador Hornbeck
for Signature.

I enclose, as requested in your memorandum of March 16, a reply for your signature to the letter dated February 21, 1945 from Dr. Stanley K. Hornbeck, American Ambassador near the Netherlands Government, London.



Joseph C. Gurnea

Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

Letter to Ambassador
Hornbeck for the
President's signature.

March 7, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Letter from Ambassador Hornbeck.

I enclose for your information a letter addressed to you, dated February 21, 1945, from Dr. Stanley K. Hornbeck, American Ambassador near the Netherlands Government, London. The Ambassador urges that at this time the maximum considerateness be extended by the personnel of the Allied governments in their contacts with Netherlands' officials and that some means be found for delivering food now to the people of the occupied part of the Netherlands.

JOSEPH C. GREW

Acting Secretary

Enclosure:

As stated.

Department of State

BUREAU
DIVISION

NOE

ENCLOSURE

TO

Letter drafted 3-21-45

ADDRESSED TO

The President

PSE Netherlands folder 1-45

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 16, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

FOR PREPARATION OF REPLY
FOR MY SIGNATURE.

F.D.R.

DEPARTMENT OF THE
STATE
near the Netherlands Government
London, February 21, 1945.

Dear Mr. President:

I.

In my contacts thus far with officials of the Netherlands Government I have encountered several who seem weary, perplexed, apprehensive, burdened with a psychosis of frustration and--in greater or less degree--suspecting resentment. Regarding some of them, there come to me reports that in their dealings with opposite numbers in the allied governments they are importunate to a degree which creates irritation and impatience. There are among them, however, more than a few who seem calm, cheerful, optimistic, and who are in their contacts effectively urbane.

The long and the short of the matter is that these officials are representing and are working on behalf of a country which is small, is being weakened, and is--with warrant--terribly concerned about its future; and they are dealing constantly with officials of three countries (in particular) which are large,
are

The President,
The White House.

are powerful, and are preoccupied with the problem of defeating common enemies and laying foundations for relationships of peace and security in the post-war world.

Some of the problems with which these Netherlands officials are confronted are of vital importance to them and are of a nature which can be given more sympathetic consideration by the Government and the people of the United States than by those of any other country. The greatest and most immediately pressing of those problems is that of survival--first of their people, second of their country. There is a very real question today whether many of their people--especially those who live in western Holland and those who have been taken by the Germans for slave labor--may not in the course of the next six months die of starvation, neglect or abuse; a question whether still more of them will not have become so worn down that they can never fully (i.e., both physically and psychologically) recover; a question how far the stamina of the nation is being permanently impaired; a question what will be the political structure of the metropolitan area and of the empire when conditions of peace have taken the place of conditions of war; and, finally, a question what will be the standing, the contribution and the influence of the Netherlands in international relations in the post-war world.

These

These officials and their people are looking to the Government and the people of the United States for a kind and a degree of consideration and helpfulness greater than they hope or expect to receive from the governments and peoples of any other countries. They are not asking for charity. They do plead for opportunity. They want to be able to buy--at the earliest possible moment. They cling to a concept of independence which makes them resentful of the fact that in reality they are dependent upon and have to accept the dictates of their greater and more powerful allies.

Nowhere is there greater call, it seems to me, in the field of our relations with other countries, for patience, tolerance, forbearance, giving of material assistance and the whole content of the course of good neighborliness, on the part of the United States, than in our relations with these hard-pressed Netherlanders; nowhere a greater call--not even in our relations with the Chinese.

II.

One of the things that these officials most crave is that in matters of special concern to their country they be consulted, that in matters of common concern they be taken into the confidence of their allies, that as a government they be given full opportunity to express their views, advance their claims, and make their country's

commitments

commitments on an 'in council' basis. The more it may be found possible for the people and the governments of the greater powers to accord them and their views and their representations sympathetic consideration, the easier it will be to reconcile them to decisions which run counter to their desires and to elicit from them the fullest cooperation of which they are capable.

III.

Most important, however, today, of all the problems that confront them and that relate to them, is the problem of getting food to their people. At this moment starvation stares the population of western Holland, including The Hague, squarely in the face. Unless food can be sent into that area not only soon but more than soon, there can be no telling how many innocent and worth while people may be lost to Holland and to the world--a development which, were it to occur, would lay the major powers open to a variety of charges by hostile critics in days to come.

It is not for me to attempt to assess what may be the conditions of need in France and in Belgium; but on the basis of such information as I have, it does not appear that the people of either of those countries are critically short of food, and it does appear that neither of them has suffered as have the Dutch or has in prospect such further sufferings as have the Dutch. What may be
the

the situations in Italy and in Norway are matters for consideration in some other context. Whatever may be the needs elsewhere, in western Holland the Dutch are now confronted with conditions of desperate need.

IV.

There are, I well know and understand, considerations of policy, considerations of military strategy, problems of relative advantages in allocation of short supplies and in use of shipping space, etc., etc. Against the background of these considerations, it is easily possible to believe and to affirm that delivery of food to the population of unliberated Holland at the present time or in the near future is "impossible". That conclusion, however, can only derive from premises expressive of man-made decisions. There is food, there are ships, there are airplanes, there are armed forces. There is one possible procedure at least--and there are perhaps others--by which food could be gotten into Holland. Over and over during the recent years of war there has been achieved not only the possible but also the "impossible". In regard to each and to both of these there have had to be made at highest levels choices as between competing claims and objectives. The situation

is changing constantly and decisions made at given moments come in for review from time to time as changes occur. It would be inappropriate for me to attempt to suggest at what point or in what manner a review should be made of decisions of strategy, whether military or political or both. It is my function to bring to your attention facts and to inform you regarding what seem to me to be possibilities. These two things I have attempted to do in this letter.

V.

Recapitulating:

There would seem to be special need at this time for the maximum of considerateness on the part of the personnel of the allied governments in their contacts with and their handling of the Dutch; Holland is in danger of being submerged (in more ways than one); the Dutch nation, small in numbers at best, is in danger of being decimated; that situation poses a problem and presents a challenge to the good will, the capacity and the ingenuity of the whole community of the United Nations.

Yours respectfully,

Stanley K. Hornbeck

PSE

Netherlands folder

1-45-

March 24, 1945

Dear Hornbeck:

I am glad to have your letter of February 21, 1945, setting forth the desperate need for large scale relief in the occupied area of the Netherlands. Your personal appraisal of the situation is most helpful.

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

The Honorable
Stanley K. Hornbeck,
American Ambassador,
Near the Netherlands Government,
Care of American Embassy,
London.

file

March 25th '45
PSF Netherlands freedom 1-45

STORNOWAY
ROCKCLIFFE PARK
OTTAWA

Jim Jor

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I wanted to thank you once more so much for the lovely week and with yourself and the President. It is an awful idea that it was in the nature of a good-bye visit, but then, good-byes don't really exist any more in this small world, especially when one has become of the migrating type of humans. And also, please don't forget the standing invitation to come and stay - or is it camp? - with us in Holland ---

Mother just came back from her first visit to Holland, she describes it as an indescribably beautiful experience.

The news is certainly thrillingly

heartening, and one hates to get out
of hearing distance of a radio set.

I did so appreciate to be on the
spot at your 40th wedding anni-
versary, and I loved to be able to come
and see you and I'm very very
grateful for your hospitality and
the lovely stay -

With much love

Yours affectionately

Juliana

to 2 P.S. 325
10000 205

Airmail



Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington D.C.
U.S.A.

from princess Juliana of the Netherlands

541 Acacia

Stara

(Copy)

Stornoway
Rockcliffe Park
Ottawa

March 25th '45

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt,

I wanted to thank you once more so much for the lovely weekend with yourself and the President. It is an awful idea that it was in the nature of a good-bye visit, but then, good-byes don't really exist anymore in this small world, especially when one has become of the migrating type of humans. And also, please don't forget the standing invitation to come and stay -- or is it camp? -- with us in Holland.....

Mother just came back from her first visit to Holland, she describes it as an indescribably beautiful experience.

The news is certainly thrillingly heartening, and one hates to get out of hearing distance of a radio set.

I did so appreciate to be on the spot at your 40th wedding anniversary, and I loved to be able to come and see you and I'm very very grateful for your hospitality and the lovely stay.

With much love

Yours affectionately

(Signed) Juliana

1-7
FBI Netherlands folder 1-45-

file

DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

April 9, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Food Situation in the Netherlands

Reference is made to Mr. Hassett's memorandum dated April 4, 1945 requesting a report for you on the status of measures to bring relief to the civilian population of the occupied portion of the Netherlands.

The food situation in that area had reached a state of serious deterioration by November 1944. Inquiry was made of General Eisenhower whether he would object from the military point of view to shipments of relief supplies to occupied Holland. He replied that he had no objection and, moreover, indicated the desirability of such shipments. Since December approximately 20,000 tons of relief foodstuffs and medicines have been forwarded. The greater part of supplies thus far sent have been of Swedish origin.

The Department of State and the Foreign Economic Administration recently approved, after further clearance with SHAEF, a British proposal to make further and continued shipments to occupied Holland of relief supplies up to 5,000 tons weekly. Initial shipments will be made from food stockpiles in the United Kingdom.

At the time the report by the delegates of the International Red Cross Committee was made, it is believed that distribution of the initial shipments from Sweden had not begun. These shipments plus the further shipments recently authorized should serve materially to alleviate conditions in that area.

E. P. Hattorf