

● PSF: Subject File

Carter, J. Franklin
Feb. - Apr. 1945

PSF J. F. Carter folder 3-45

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
1210 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

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Metropolitan 4112
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"We, the People"
"The Week in Washington"

February 5, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: INVESTIGATION OF LONG TERM CAPITAL FOR INDUSTRY.

Dear Miss Tully:

The fight centering around Mr. Wallace has, to a certain extent, superimposed itself on the preliminary discussions with the Treasury, as authorized, concerning study of the problems of providing long-term capital and equity capital for American industry.

The Treasury is, of course, interested in the problem but admits that there are conflicts, particularly with respect to taxation, which might make it advisable to have the study undertaken under the direct auspices of the White House.

With this in view, I think I had better postpone discussing the problem with Mr. Bell until specifically authorized to do so. The attached report to me from S.C.Badger, who has been specializing in this field for this Unit, indicates that the Treasury subordinate officials are thoroughly sympathetic with the attempt to solve this problem but are unable to proceed further, on what is now a policy matter, except on clearance with Mr. Bell.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

February 5, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN F. CARTER

On Monday, January 29, Francis Bonner and I met with Messrs. Murphy and Speck of the Treasury Department. After a general discussion Mr. Murphy said that he had been directed by Mr. White to write a letter for his signature addressed to you stating that if we had any concrete proposal he would be very pleased to have the Bureau of Research and Statistics go into the matter and study it. However, if we merely wanted to get the approval of the Treasury Department of an over-all study we should take the matter up with the Undersecretary, Mr. Bell. I told him that we did not wish to make a specific proposal and in taking it up with Mr. Bell, should we first clear through Mr. White. He said that this was not necessary.

He stated that he believed that we should try to have this study made not by the Treasury Department but by the White House itself as, naturally, this would make it much more important. He stated that there was a Treasury Committee of the top personnel studying the situation; that there was a conflict of interest in the Treasury Department between the Bureau of Internal Revenue and some other bureaus.

Both Messrs. Murphy and Speck seem to agree with the general statement set forth in my latest memorandum and both wholeheartedly favor Mr. Wallace's program as stated through the Commerce Committee of the Senate.

PSF; J. F. Carter folder
3-45-

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
1210 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

"We, the People"
"The Week in Washington"

Metropolitan 4112
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February 8, 1945.

~~SECRET~~

file

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: LETTER FROM PUTZI HANFSTAENGL.

Dear Miss Tully:

Herewith attached are the original and a copy of a letter, dated January 17, from our old friend Putzi Hanfstaengl.

The State Department concluded that it would be illegal for Putzi's relatives in this country to send him any funds. However, he points out that other German internees at his camp are in receipt of money-remittances and packages from their friends in the U.S.A. and that Mr. ~~Major~~ Winthrop Aldrich of the Chase National Bank can attest to the accuracy of this statement.

I have sent a copy of this letter to Joe Grew, with a request that I be advised if there is any change in the State Department's interpretation of the Alien Property and other war legislation, which would permit his former wife to send him the \$100 she is holding for that purpose.

In my previous talk with Mr. Grew, he agreed that we had a sort of obligation where Putzi is concerned, if it were legally possible for us to do anything. I shall, of course, await instructions before I make any reply to this letter.

J.F.C.

DECLASSIFIED
By Deputy Archivist of the U.S.
By W. J. Stewart Date MAY 1 1972

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England

Dr. Hans Frank
"P" Camp - Rivers. State of Mass
So. Chief Postal Center. Liverpool

SENDER'S NAME: -

BY AIR MAIL



Mr. John F. Carter
1210 National Press Building
Washington H. D.C.
U.S.A.

EXAMINER 4621
OPENED BY

Epistola VI

Wedn. Jan. 17 - 1945
"P" - Camp - Peveril
Peel - Isle of Man.

Dear John:

Of late I have been quite alarmed by the news of the sinister isolationist resurgence in the U.S.A.

Besides the President's assuring message there was rather little coming from the other side to modify the impression - except H.V. Kaltenborn's broadcast of Dec. 28 - 1944 and Winthrop Aldrich's address of Jan. 9 - 1945, both urging Anglo-American co-operation. Since I have known both of them for the last forty years I sent them congratulatory letters which I hope passed the kind censors.

While I realize how awkward it is, if I thus plead for the government which is keeping me interned for the sixth year - in itself a violation of the Hague Convention which provides a maximum of five years for internment - I think I owe it to Egon, my friends and the TRUTH: to remain loyal to my old belief concerning the necessity for an English Speaking World-League.

In the meantime I must leave it to others to determine how far the treatment I am receiving bears resemblance to what used to be circumscribed by the British motto: "Honour and Fair Play."

Turning to the laws governing the conduct of the Enemy Alien Property Custodian, they apply to my personal property in the U.S.A. only; they by no stretch of the imagination can be made to apply to remittances of money made to me by U.S. Citizens or Soldiers. The decision of the competent authorities (cf. your letter Nov. 20 - 1944) strikes me therefore as most extraordinary. I can only repeat: There are quite a number of German etc. P.O.W. in this and other camps who have been receiving regular money-remittances and packages from their friends in the U.S.A.

Why don't you ask the advice of the above-mentioned Winthrop Aldrich, Chairman of the Chase National Bank, N.Y.? He will bear me out in what I am saying.

This much for today. With thanks in advance,

Yours

semper idem

Tuty Hanftaen

P.S. My love to dear Henry Pringle and, of course, the ladies

COPY

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Peel -- Isle of Man

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Yours

Semper idem

Putzy Hanfstaengl

P.S. My love to dear Henry Pringle and, of course, the ladies.

PSF
Carter

February 27, 1945.

Dear Mr. Carter:

I have your note, together with copy of Mr. Munson's letter to you of February fourteenth. I have had my files thoroughly searched and I cannot find any letter or report on the Hawaiian Islands to the President from Mr. Munson. You may have in mind a report on Martinique and Guadeloupe in September 1941. I am sorry I cannot be more helpful in this matter.

With kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

Grace G. Tully
Private Secretary

Mr. J. Franklin Carter,
1210 National Press Building,
Washington, D. C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
1210 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

"We, the People"
"The Week in Washington"

Metropolitan 4112
Metropolitan 4113

February 19, 1945

MEMORANDUM TO MISS TULLY :

Dear Miss Tully:

The original of the report requested in
the inclosed copy of a letter from Mr. Curtis Munson,
was in the President's file.

JFC
J.F.C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER

(Jay Franklin)

1210 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D. C.

"We, the People"
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COPY

February 14, 1945

Dear John:

There has come a request through official Navy channels to my present commanding officer for a copy of "Report on Hawaiian Islands" by C.B. Munson, written in 1941.

The O.N.I. desire to know from me where they may obtain a copy of this report. Since I was working for you at the time I wonder if you could help in this matter. If so, please mail me a copy or should you desire to deliver or take up the thread in person let me know.

I have a copy in a strong box in Washington which only I can open. Of course I consider this your property till I receive some word from you.

Should you desire to take it up in person please notify me and I will write through channels giving them your name and address.

I still have a great weakness for the "Carter Boys".

Sincerely,

(Signed)

CURTIS B. MUNSON
245 President Avenue
Providence, R.I.

P.S. This report was originally delivered to Navy with your permission. It is a long report.

Please destroy this letter by fire.

Men Corro
m-
3-41

September 12, 1941.

My dear Mr. Munson:

I want to send you this little personal note to tell you how very grateful I am for that fine report on Martinique and Guadeloupe. I am delighted to have it and appreciate all the trouble you have taken in preparing it.

With every good wish,

Very sincerely yours,

FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT

Curtis B. Munson, Esq.,
3112 O Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

dj

3112 O. H. H. W.
C. B. Minson

SUMMARY OF REPORT ON MARTINIQUE AND GUADELOUPE

1. There are no Nazis to be seen in Martinique.
2. There are no airfields or extensive new military works of an aggressive character though undoubtedly the harbor of Forte de France is protected to the best of their ability.
3. The present situation offers no threat to us.
4. The present attitude is one verging on hopelessness tinged with nerves. A condition of tension caused by ^{our} fear ^{that} we may seize them. Their one and only hope is the good will of the United States.
5. Admiral Robert is a fine and honorable man surrounded by a group of able officers.
6. Holding the present situation is recommended.
7. Some lessening of the tension by relieving their difficulties through economic aid is suggested.
8. The general sentiment is friendly to Americans.

C. B. M.

GENERAL GROUND COVERED BY OBSERVER

Your observer arrived by air in Forte de France Martinique August 2, 1941 on an agricultural mission as a Collaborator of the Department of Agriculture. On August 11th he flew to Pointe a Pitre, Guadeloupe, passing low over the French Islands of Isles des Saintes and Marie Galante. On August 15th he returned to Forte de France, again having flown low, and on August 18th took the air for Washington, D. C. He covered many miles by automobile and considerable on foot in Martinique and in both sections of Guadeloupe, Basse Terre and Grande Terre.

The following are observations not suggestions as to policy.

ISLANDS NOT ECONOMICALLY DESIRABLE TO U.S.

We would not recommend the acquisition of Martinique or Guadeloupe from an economic standpoint. France has poured millions into these islands over three hundred years, through a preferential price for their products, especially sugar, rum and bananas. The economy is based on mono-culture, - the one big crop, sugar cane. It would take a large investment to change the Islands from a liability to an asset or even to make them self-supporting. It is doubtful if this could be achieved under a political governor such as a democracy would furnish. There is too much inherent lassitude in the native population and a man can always pick enough to eat off a tree. A political governor would never stay long enough to learn the country and people and develop his plans to fruition.

We doubt if the United States wants another 500,000 blacks with semi-tropical lassitude, 64% syphilis, a high rate of tuberculosis, not to mention leprosy and many other diseases - in short another problem.

SEIZURE BY FORCE NOT NECESSARY

There is one main point of military value in these islands, the good harbor of Forte de France, Martinique, with the flat land surrounding it. Should we seize this temporarily by force, to hold it over the present emergency along with sufficient surrounding land for air bases and internal defense? With no knowledge of its strategic importance in the large theatre of world war your observer's answer to this question is an unqualified NO, - at least while North Africa remains French.

There are some indications that this seizure is what the Germans would like us to do, possibly to worsen our relations with Vichy, though above all to worsen our relations with the French people and North Africa. It would give the Germans an excuse to seize other French bases of far more military value. Finally it might show us in the light of Imperialism to South America and oppressed peoples generally. This seizure would cost money and some lives - American and French - we would bear a share of the responsibility for the maintenance of what we held and when acquired we would possess nothing we do not possess already.

BLOCKADE WITHOUT NEGOTIATION UNDESIRABLE

Though these islands cannot be starved out by blockade, blockade might cause internal troubles and weaken the hold of the French Navy. Any blockade, however, should always be alternated with release of the pressure and negotiations. Unrelieved blockade might cause an unpleasant situation where we would be forced to take over a liability to restore order. The blockade method is not recommended. It would be without advantage and a great hardship to these peoples.

HOLDING PRESENT SITUATION ADVISABLE

It seems to your observer that we can best safeguard our interests by friendly negotiation with only a remote threat of blockade. This negotiation should be aimed to secure for ourselves sufficient observers throughout Martinique, Guadeloupe, Marie Gallante and Isles des Saintes to satisfy us that the present status quo is maintained and to instantly notify our government of the slightest change. Above all, there should be sufficient observers to allay all American suspicion of these islands and to immediately counteract all propaganda, whether irresponsible American journalism or more sinister forces intent on disturbing the relations of these Islands and the United States of America.

Before going into a more detailed description of this all important status quo we summarize our impressions as follows. The present situation in Martinique is one of hopelessness with the United States of America as the one and only hope. There is some tension and nervousness due to fear alone. The hopelessness of the Admiralty is tinged with gallantry and nostalgia.

To see the situation in its entirety one must be acquainted with a number of factors economic, racial, emotional and spiritual.

In order better to understand these factors let us survey the scene.

DIFFERENCE BETWEEN GUADELOUPE AND MARTINIQUE

There is a difference between the islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe, faintly like that between Portland, Oregon and Seattle, Washington. In Martinique the sugar plantations and the businesses are owned by the old French Families (slightly tar-brushed) residents for many hundred years. The owners of the businesses are all old local inhabitants.

In Guadeloupe the sugar and rum plantations were owned by French Associations in Continental France. They sent out efficient managers to their holdings who did not stay long. Those managers who stayed, remained because they developed some lucrative business for themselves and became inhabitants. The native whites of Guadeloupe, therefore, are typically self made men, not out of the top drawer. In Guadeloupe there is a clear preception of "go-getter" business technique, there is a wide gap between the economically successful whites or semi-whites and the negro in the lower economic brackets. The negroes are more primitive and more respectful to whites in Guadeloupe than in Martinique, in a remote way reminding one of the social difference between the field hand and the household negro, the difference between Alabama and Virginia darkies. American business methods are appreciated and aped in Guadeloupe. In Martinique the French family-type of business is usual. Your observer suffered from business banquets in Guadeloupe and sometimes rubbed his eyes for fear he had fallen into the hands of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. However, the Guadeloupian bad meat quickly restored one to post banquet reality. There is a thing they call the Guadeloupian Malady. It is jealousy. A Collaborator of the United States Department of Agriculture had to cover the business front completely, missing no one. Mon. Paul Bena, Chief of Forest, Topographical and Agricultural service at Guadeloupe was a great councillor and friend in this regard and very enthusiastic about his work.

COLORED POPULATION

Before leaving the United States for Martinique we received the impression through newspaper accounts and heresay that the colored population of the French Islands were bitterly opposed to Americans or American occupation, fearing they might revert through the latter to the status of our negro

in the south. Undoubtedly they have been propagandized to this effect. However, they fear Hitler with the white eyeballed fear that only a negro can effect. They know he is after the Jew and they are convinced he is after them too. Also they have seen our negro with his patent leather shoes, his white collar and his bow tie. They lick their lips at his affluence and his well fed appearance, knowing full well the vittels he ate which gave him that appearance all bore foreign labels, such mystic labels, as New York, Baltimore and Chicago. It was white man's food. They know the change that took place in Puerto Rico when we took over and it looks good to them. After all the only equality the negro has with the French is one of sex, not economic or even social. Exclusive of the Navy there are about 260,000 people in Martinique 10% rated as white.

The keyhole to the colored population in these islands is in their navel. . They have no great ideology or real patriotism. The United States has the key. The key is food and safety, with not too much dictatorship, because dictatorship scares them. In short the key is our easy-going democracy. Black faces peer at you as you ^(wander) wander about Martinique and Guadeloupe, friendly, seemingly happy and many with a French charm. Often they would like to say something to you but are afraid. They say it with their eyes. I believe it is "when are you coming to take us over, we are scared of dictators." When they do talk, they are a little more subservient than our blacks and maybe if you know them well enough they ask you for a necktie with the stars and stripes on it or discuss a trip to the United States someday. The wiser ones simply say "there is too much sugar cane here."

Six years ago in peacetimes when your observer was in Martinique, the negroes laughed, sang and got drunk. Forte de France was hardly safe to walk around alone at night. Today under the mild dictatorship of the French Admiralty it is as safe as a church. Sambo does not sing any more, however, or laugh or get very drunk. He is a little scared.

The Governor of Guadeloupe's first job on arrival there was the execution of a condemned man who had murdered his wife and a few children. The guillotine knife was rusted blunt, the equipment was decayed. The Governor found they had not had an execution in Guadeloupe in over 100 years. He had to send to Martinique for suitable equipment. He was pleased at his firmness in carrying it out, but the fall of the knife protruded every black eyeball in Guadeloupe one eighth of an inch out of its socket and there it stayed permanently. He might scard the natives there too badly. They might be dangerous if scared too badly or not eating. There is a very remote possibility of a negro uprising in either Martinique or Guadeloupe as there is of a sailor's mutiny. They are very remote possibilities and the French officers are top notch. Yet it should always be born in mind.

THE WHITES

The "white" natives in Martinique are for the most part very friendly to us as they are also in Guadeloupe. Besides these "whites" are shopkeepers and business men, producers of rum and sugar or retailers of imports and as a result are doubly friendly to us. Many, we suspect, are disloyal to Vichy.

FORMER POLITICS IN MARTINIQUE

The negro was politically in control of Martinique before the French Navy took over. That ended his control. There are some disgruntled

politicians wandering around. This Navy occupation stopped a lot of political graft evidently the local sport in Forte de France up to that time. It still crops up from time to time but only we suspect until it runs afoul the Admiralty. The efficient American Consul at Forte de France, Mr. Maliege undoubtedly has reported very thoroughly on the local politics to the State Department and is much better fitted to do so than your observer. We only mention them in passing.

POLITICS IN GUADELOUPE

In Guadeloupe a Mon. Des Cartes was formerly agent for the sugar mills and retained by them. He also controlled the labor. He is reputed to know Guadeloupe better than any other man. Only rarely ~~there were~~ strikes difficult to settle. There is a suggestion that on these occasions the factories were skimping. Mon. Des Cartes' salary. Usually he settled labor trouble before it started. He still sways much influence there. The business men seemed to side with him and at least they considered him too powerful to side against. The Governor and he eye each other a bit like fighting cocks. The Governor accepts his help and of course the Governor has the whip hand. Mon. Des Cartes is still powerful, helps the Governor and waits for the return of peace or possibly even some other opportunity with money attached. Of the two we like the Governor best.

GOVERNOR OF GUADELOUPE

The Governor is a French Army man. He is young, ambitious and though possessing great colonial experience this is his first governorship. He is able, graduating first in his class at Saint Cyr and first in all his military schools in France. A Navy man expected this Governorship, so in small ways this Army Governor has not the support of the Navy and is very short handed.

For instance he only has two really intelligent white men to aid him. He is not out of the top drawer, is quite egotistical and sits at his palace desk under a quotation by Pétain with one of his own below it. He has a charming wife whose father is an Englishman, a Mr. Brown. She speaks fairly good English, though rusty at it. The Governor speaks none.

THE FRENCH NAVY & MORALE

The French Navy is in control physically and politically in Martinique. The officer material headed by Admiral Robert is very high grade. The morale of the sailors is good, under the circumstances remarkably good, which speaks well for the officers. The men are physically fit, neat, disciplined and on the whole keep their spirits up in face of extremely trying circumstances. In a semi-tropical country where an energetic white man deteriorates perceptibly in six months these boys are facing the boredom of Forte de France, Martinique with remarkable morale. They are far from home, many have wives, children and families in occupied France of whose welfare they have received no word in six months. The women they have to associate with are largely negro in a population which is 64% syphilitic, and in spite of the increasing watchfulness and guidance of their petty officers the sailors are politically confused. There is always present the danger of mutiny against their officers under these circumstances should conditions approach a point which they consider unbearable. The final spark might be a small one such as the wine giving out or it might have to be very large. Your observer cannot say definitely how sensitive the balance may be and doubts at present that it has even approached a sensitive sphere. Yet the danger is inherent in the situation.

THE FRENCH ADMINISTRATION OFFICERS

The French administrative officers and the Admiralty are frightfully overworked. They might be helped to hold the economy together without making out too many harassing papers. They would trade a lot for this - to get away from so much delay and red tape in ordering supplies. They would trade a lot more to sell some sugar and some rum.

APPARENT ATTITUDE OF OFFICIAL MARTINIQUE

To understand official France in Martinique and how they think it is necessary to answer a question. Did France bet on Hitler to win and have they gone so far in this bet that there is no turning back? Or on the contrary are they held in such an agonizing vice nationally and individually that they are saying one thing with their mouth and another with their hearts. Germany has a strangle hold on occupied and unoccupied France and individually two out of every three Frenchmen we met in the French Antilles had wives or families within the reach of German power. The mother of the Governor of Guadeloupe was only recently released from a concentration camp. The answer to this question was best formulated by Madame Benesch, wife of Captain Benesch, diplomat and now captain of vessels at Fort de France. Her answer fits your observers impressions elsewhere in Martinique and Guadeloupe. It must be recognized he speaks of real Frenchmen who are today in these two islands and does not speak for France. It also must not be forgotten that the answer would be very considerably changed by marked armed success of one side or the other.

"The armistice meant to the French the cessation of bombings, the cessation of the continuing and imminent slaughter of themselves, in short the end of the war. They were beaten and they were glad to stop. Also they thought Britain would be beaten in a month or a month and a half and they could then get the best terms available and a chance - not to retrieve

their nation - but to rebuild its shattered remnants.. They had given too much in the last war. The sons of France today were brought up by all that was left from the last war - the embusquee. France today was betrayed largely from the top and France was on the verge of a bloody revolution. Soldiers with rifles were beginning to look for their officers and citizens were getting ready to plunge their knives into the politicians and the wealthy. Germany was welcomed as a police force to keep France in order till England was beaten and afterwards till France could reorganize herself. But the British were not beaten, Germans and Frenchmen mix like fire and water, the occupation is not working out, the new order is the order of Al Capone and the old French hatred of Germany has risen till today though practically hopelessly frustrated it is greater than in 1914. Still you do not say much in print over your name with your mother in a concentration camp. "

Official Martinique is the Navy. The Governor of Guadeloupe is an Army man, with the Jeanne d'Arc a warship, stern to the dock, at Pointe a Pitre. Officialdom in both these islands is loyal to Vichy, as Vichy is the only French Government existing in the mother county today and they are loyal officers and Frenchmen. The Navy will fight if attacked by anyone, hopeless though that fight may be. In all his time in these islands your observer never heard a good word said for the Germans. They are very angry at the British because of Oran, but really we believe do not like them any less than they did in 1914-18. They never have liked them. The French are a bit closer to the Americans in temperament, cling to some sentimentality about Lafayette and this joined to the fact that we could blockade them into internal troubles or blast them out of Forte de France and surrounding flat lands in 24 hours lends a distinct air of "America being their only friend" to the atmosphere. When your observer suggested that at the very

worst it might just possibly be that these islands would become the last colonies left to France it was acknowledged to be true with serious voice and silent gratitude. Any other friends they might have, even Vichy France, are too far away and these military people know it. They will, we believe, make any concessions to us, short of turning the whole thing over, or giving us military bases which would not be compatible with the French-German Armistice terms. Any resistance they make to other concessions to us is in our judgement purely bluff in order to make the best trade possible. Should we not make a deal to periodically inspect the gold, inspect the planes, check movement of their warships and armament of the same, check personelle, inspect prisoners on Isles des Saintes? In fact inspect anything we want to inspect and have as many observers on the Islands of Martinique, Guadeloupe, Isles des Saintes, and Marie Galante as we deem necessary. To date a great deal of this has been done by our consular staff, and our naval observer facilitated willingly by the French officers and Admiral Robert. But we suggest it might be regularized and in a way official. For though nothing is put in the way of free movement of American officials in those islands we must remember that the present innocuous status quo must be rigidly maintained. Martinique is wholly innocent today, nay pathetic, but the form of propaganda, the form of naval dictatorship, the loyalty to Vichy is poised like a boxer's feet (though on his last legs) ready to move in any direction.

THE PRACTICAL FRENCH

In passing we must not overlook the old French racial gift of using their head. The side on which the bread is buttered has never been confused by them with emotion. They continue today to appraise with cool intellectuality. If the North American continent comes out on top that is one side of

the bread; if Germany comes out, that is another.

ARMISTICE TERMS

It seems as though most Americans have never read and simply disregard the existence of French-German Armistice terms. Yet even officially, they are continually bumping their heads against them with surprise. It is these terms and the unwillingness of France to break the Armistice, which holds eight tankers and freighters inactive in the Harbor of Fort de France when Britain and the United States and even the French Islands need to use them. So long as France does not break the Armistice this and many other things must be officially, and are in no way a sign of local animosity toward us.

FRENCH EXCUSE COMPLEX

Due to the collapse of France, the French have an inferiority feeling which explains their own weaknesses by violent criticism of the British. Because in their heart honor is lost they over-emphasize French honor and are indignant at times that the world does not accept the French Charlie McCarthy's word as it did before he sat on Hitler's iron knees.

With these guiding outlines regarding French thought we may give full rein to observations of Martinique and Guadeloupe which come closer to bringing tears to one's eyes than the light of battle.

FRENCH COLONIAL POLICY

The two Islands of Martinique and Guadeloupe are alike in that they represent the results of the 300 year old French Colonial Policy invented shortly after Columbus. The economy based almost entirely on sugar cane was an easy way of assuring the steady industry of a somewhat lassitudinous, semi-tropical black population. The politicians in France and the

politician owners in the islands worked together to milk France and the cane. While France poured millions into these islands for 300 years through a fancy price for sugar, rum and bananas and the blacks sweated, fortunes were made on both sides of the Atlantic. If times were hard the native population took it on the chin. On top of this was piled the old American mining camp technique. In order to retrieve the wages of the laborer for the owner and politician foreign products were imported. Amongst these were telegraph poles from France and 'Morou' a second grade codfish from Nova Scotia salted too late and too little for its long sojourn on dry land. These and many other articles were highly remunerative to the importer. There was timber in Guadeloupe from which poles might be made, there were fish in the sea. But a fisherman and a logger have to be energetic and enterprising. These industries simply would not spring up without encouragement. Fishing seems to be not for the market but when a native or a village wants a fish badly. With trees loaded with bread fruit, which your observer found a not unpalatable substitute for potatoes, a colored man was often called a 'paysan' or a yokel by his fellows because he ate breadfruit and not imported white potatoes. On Sundays the negro strove to have on his table white man's food which consisted of anything with a foreign label from Brazil to Norway. It was easy to keep the economy to sugar, rum and bananas under these circumstances while France paid the bill.

TRANSITION FROM OLD POLICY SLOW AND DIFFICULT

But the sword has stuck down France. She can no longer play fairy Godmother to these isles, and their economy is in great danger of turning bottom up. The big planter (regards sadly) warehouses crammed with tons of sugar which he cannot sell. The little man is going out of business with

nothing on his shelves. Those in authority realize that the islands could be made self-supporting, especially under the present form of military dictatorship in spite of the lassitude of the population. In fact without any change these people cannot starve for by nature of soil, climate and moisture these islands are the richest islands in this chain. They are not to be compared to barren St. Thomas or jungle covered Dominica for instance. But it takes supplies of materials to switch the economy. For instance health, --and some of the lassitude is undoubtedly actually due to bad health, - could be improved tremendously at Forte de France in Martinique and above all at Pointe a Pitre in Guadeloupe by a new water supply system. Pointe a Pitre is very low and the old leaky water main runs through a swamp close to the sewer pipe. The authorities are anxious and ready to put in new water systems.

SUPPLIES HARD TO OBTAIN

Material supplies, however, would have to come from the United States and are doubtless unobtainable under rearmament conditions. The fishing industry would need supplies and refrigeration, as would a possible dairying industry. A large part of the grazing land which is not too great anyhow is taken up by work oxen for the cane fields.

FOUR MILLION DOLLARS OF SUGAR MAY BE LOST

The sugar mills are well enough equipped materially, but the warehouses are full of raw sugar and there will be no room for the new crop. One of the larger plants at Pointe a Pitre is building an extra warehouse with no cement and no steel for reinforcing. Maybe it is just to keep busy. They claim that four million dollars worth of sugar in these two islands will be lost for good if not moved in the next four months; that some of it in that humid climate is

beginning already to turn to syrup; that in six months it will all be syrup. They do not refine sugar beyond the raw stage nor have they means to do so. Our Agriculture Department tell us that they consider this slightly exaggerated. They say at the end of seven or eight months there would be a twenty percent loss and after a year the deterioration is liable to mount to a substantial loss. However this sugar has been stored since the end of their last crop. Their harvest is February to April. In four months from now this sugar will have been stored nine months. So that brings them pretty close to the line. Besides they have no storage facilities for the next crop.

DRUGS NEEDED

They are short of drugs as the following rush order implies quoted from a letter to the financial attache of the French Ambassador, 20 Exchange Place, N.Y.C. from Controleur de la Marine Le Noire at Forte de France:

"I telegraphed you today to buy and send by military plane (American implied)

25,000. *units* of Insulin

20 grammes d'adrenoline (epinephrine)

to the Governor of Martinique and charge to the Colony. - - - - -

The most important amongst other articles of which we are completely lacking are

Liver extract
Sels d'or
Calcium injectable
Novarsenobenzol
Condensed milk, baby food (vitamines D)
baby bottles, nipples
camphor oil
protiodure de mercure
metropine
stovarsol
permanganate of potassium
choolmogra oil
iodine
antipyrine
eau de Janel
syringes and needles

Certain of these articles, especially the baby products, were ordered in July but have not yet been delivered. I am counting on buying the others immediately by private means but it is not sure that we still have enough available dollars on the August license. In this case it will be necessary to report the purchases as of September.

I would be much obliged if you will aid and hasten the transactions and releases, if necessary by the Red Cross, in order to escape the loss of time resulting from purchasing delays and financial regulations."

Your observer believes that considerable of their difficulty and delay is caused by their own embassy in the United States. This is unconfirmed. If confirmed it carries interesting implications.

However, in view of the difficulties they encounter in securing even badly needed drugs, it is little wonder that the transition cannot be made under present conditions to a self sustained economy which would demand considerable supplies of materials and equipment. The change must perforce be very gradual for it would take considerable investment in materials and metals competing with U. S. rearmament needs, to say nothing about struggling foot by foot against a pattern established for 300 years.

THEIR ONE HOPE AMERICA

In the meantime what are these people to do? Let their sugar rot, and let their bananas rot and pour their rum on the ground because there are no casks left to fill. When irresponsible newspapers spread lying rumors of nazis in Martinique, (if one arrived there and they knew it we believe he would be slapped into prison immediately), of airfields being built, of submarine bases under construction, they not only brand themselves as liars but also as fools or worse and brand the French Admiralty, who are far from fools, as fools too. The Admiralty and the people know that the only place whence

salvation can come, with things standing as they stand today, is a great and near continent, the United States of America.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS IN MARTINIQUE

Therefore your temporary naval observer Marine Major Muncie, ably checking landing points, tank approaches, personelle, etc., was observed by the French largely through questioning his taxi cab driver and joked with about it by ranking naval officers because they did that work once in their youth. Your permanent naval observer Commander Blankenslip is an old fox, as able as they come. The French do not make him out. Their general impression, which he ably creates, is that it was cruel to send an old man like that into that heat. One or two such as Madame Benesch and Admiral Robert probably suspect how able he is. The rest of the island do not. The colored people worship him. Everyone likes him. Your consul Mr. Malige is observed, slightly feared because he is part French and regarded with a hopeful eye because he is of long and able U.S. consular service and because Martinique is the domain of the State Department at the present time and the French know in capable hands it will remain so or hope it will. Mr. Maliges hands are capable. Your vice-consul is popular, does his work well, is much sought after for dinner parties and stag naval parties, because he is good-looking, attractive and very American. Your Collaborator of the Department of Agriculture was observed suspiciously by the French for three days solely because he was a stranger, then was accepted as an emissary of good will and nearly killed by business dinners, raw rum samples and only saved from gastric destruction by courteous invitations from the Admiralty and Navy officers. As a stranger your observer has met with far more suspicion in a Western town of the same size and suspicion of far longer duration.

Nothing is put in the way of any American official to constrict his movement here or there about the islands. Our naval observer inspected the Aeroplanes. He said the wings had been taken off and stored about three to five miles from the fusilages. They would have to be reassembled and transported to the harbor to the Aircraft Carrier ~~Bern~~ in order to take off, as there are no air fields. This could not possibly escape detection. No American has actually seen the gold so far as we know. Someone, we believe it was the consul, has seen the boxes which contain the gold. The physical difficulty of opening the boxes to look at the precious metal itself appears to be the obstacle in the way of a complete inspection and lack of this inspection is not due to unwillingness on the part of the French.

MISCELLANEOUS

There are about 4 million dollars worth of bales of cork, - judging by eye about two ship loads, - lying at Forte de France. One is at the docks of the Cie General Transatlantique. This cork is so apparent it might be overlooked. We understand it lacked bottoms to continue its voyage from Africa to the United States. However, someday it might go the other way to France or Germany. As it is a war material, we note it, for it should not be lost track of.

We judged that the naval observer was occupying himself with roads, invasion points, machine gun placements, fortifications and condition of French naval vessels. We concentrated our observations on political aspects, ease of unrestricted movement, conditions of various classes of people, medical officers, agriculture, economics, and in short the general impressions and comparisons which one might secure in 16 days at Martinique and Guadeloupe. We saw no construction work in extended auto travel or air

travel which would indicate military work of any moment or any airfields. We travelled all over Martinique, having only to call a taxi to travel anywhere. We described a figure eight which completely covered Basse Terre at Guadeloupe. The itinerary for this journey was selected by ourselves and we travelled in an auto accompanied by the Minister of Forest, Mines and Agriculture and the President of the Chamber of Commerce. We requested the Pan American pilot to fly low over Isles des Saintes and Marie Galante both on the way to Guadeloupe from Martinique and on the way back to Martinique. In all we flew over them four times. We were so low over Isles des Saintes we could see the small panes of glass in windows with four 6" x 6" panes. We saw nothing that looked like submarine bases there and no new construction. There were no air fields or hangars visible on Marie Galante. There was one place on Marie Gallante which looked very flat and had there not been cows grazing on it might make an air field without much work. Only the cows had walked on it to date. As an emissary of the Department of Agriculture desiring among other things to kill false news stories, we secured the word of the Governor of Guadeloupe as a "Frenchman and a soldier" while at his house after dinner, that nothing had been built of any military kind on Marie Gallante or Isles des Saintes. When he passed this word we told him we knew what his answer would be in advance because we had flown so low over Isles des Saintes coming in that we could see the little panes of glass. We merely wanted to take his word back with us. He laughed, and unmasked gave the same word for all of Guadeloupe.

POLITICAL AND OTHER PRISONERS ON ISLES DES SAINTES

Isles des Saintes is a fresh, small island off Basse Terre about 4 miles which is reputed to be a sort of summer resort where Guadeloupians

go for a 'changement d'air'. It is here that they keep their political and other prisoners. We encountered several young civilians, sunburnt and full of fishing stories returned from Isles des Saintes after the weekend. It would appear to be a healthy place for prisoners. We travelled extensively by auto and also on foot in the high places nearly all over Grande Terre. In all our travels along the roads everywhere in Martinique and Guadeloupe we were struck by the fact that we never saw a new or semi-new road leading into the jungle. The old roads appeared to be bearing only their normal traffic for which they were built, usually cows, pigs or bare feet. There could be little occult work going on.

IF DISPOSED TO HELP

The Minister of Agriculture at Martinique, Mon. Stele, a botanist and authority on plants of that whole Carribean region desires two tons of soya beans for experimental purposes. We hope we can secure them for him to redeem ourself as an agriculturist.

Reduction in duty on their rum would allow them to sell some of their very superior Martinique rum in the United States. Their present stored sugar should be moved somehow or it will be lost and their economy depends on it.

They might be aided to market their bananas from Guadeloupe. These are the Fayo smaller, more delicately flavored than the Gros Michel to which the U.S. is accustomed. They wrap the bunches and already have achieved some success in disposing of them here, but the irregular service tells against them. The United Fruit might be able to do something about it. U. S. already takes all their vanilla from Guadeloupe, which is high grade.

They are short of drugs in Martinique, probably due to their own fault in a way. Our drugs are different from theirs and confuse them and are much higher priced than those from France. They ordered from France and waited too long without receiving any. We could win good will, by sending them ^{these} drugs as a gift if not too expensive.

They need some old moving picture films for the entertainment of their sailors aboard ship. They desire non-propaganda films. We suggest pictures of American Mountains and snow, C.C.C. boys and even U. S. Sailors eating good food, pretty American girls and the immensity of American factories, ability to produce and crowds of happy American workers passing through factory gates with full dinner pails. Also some comics and cartoons. This is an opportunity. The morale officer of the Naval Air Base, San Juan has two movie machines now in use at San Juan which will be surveyed and available in October, and could be put to the use of the French in Martinique. They fit American made films. Capt. Ted E. Chandler, French Desk, O.N.I., should be contacted in this regard and is agreeable if requested by the State Department.

Mon. Paul Bena, Chief of Forestry, Topography and of Agriculture at Guadeloupe needs badly to have some Amazon flies for use against the borer.

The Admiralty seems friendly, the whole atmosphere appears anxious to please us, though tinged with suspicion. If this is not correct it is the most ably and unbelievably perfect hoax ever perpetrated. We assume, if we aided them, banker experts would see to it that the funds so secured would not fall into axis hands. There was an erroneous feeling amongst French officials that Jewish influence in the United States Treasury made things difficult for them. We suggest that they have been subjected to

some sort of subtle propaganda to this effect.

"RADIO SAVANNE"

In Martinique there is a large square at Forte de France with a statue of Josephine in the centre of it. This square faces the harbor of Forte de France. Through the headlands one can look out of the harbor mouth to the open Carribean sea beyond. This square is called the "Savanne". There are benches here on which old men and negroes and women and children sit. Merchant sailors sometimes sit here too. We never saw many French naval sailors sitting there. In a way of speaking these people have sat there for many, many years looking out toward the sea - negroes and whites and women and children - waiting for something to come out of the sea. Nothing ever came. They have become accustomed to making up their own tales. These tales are called the "Radio Savanne". There is a new bulletin every half hour in these disturbed times. "Radio Savanne" covers the water front. There is no piece of news it has not fabricated in its day. Merchant sailors fresh from the Savanne go on to New York or Baltimore and are interviewed by unscrupulous newspaper men. Some of these newspaper men were so thrilled by what they heard they even paid their own way out to Martinique to sit on the Savanne themselves. There they gathered news with their ears, refusing to open their eyes, because what their eyes told them they could not sell. One typical day two American Admirals pass by in a bomber. They stop off to pay their personal respects to an old friend of theirs, that honorable and distinguished gentleman, the French Admiral Robert who rules the French Artilles. An electric buzz goes through the benches of the Savanne. Painlessly a new bulletin has been born, a Radio Savanne. Negroes and semi-whites in not inconsiderable numbers flee for the hills and open

fields out of the other side of Forte de France. It is an ultimatum! Save yourself! The American invasion is on. Radio Savanne even announced the exact time the bombing was to start. Long live the "Radio Savanne" for warning them in time, may she never change her habits and always be as wrong.

Curtis B. Johnson

March 2, 1945.

Today I told J. Franklin Carter the President suggested he talk with Secretary Bard about this matter.

G.G.T.

file

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
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J.F. Carter folder 3-45

PSF

"We, the People"
"The Week in Washington"

Metropolitan 4112
Metropolitan 4113

March 1, 1945.

REPORT ON OPERATION OF "SEAMOBILE".

You may be interested in the attached report on the operation of the "Seamobile" during five winter months in the North Atlantic.

In sum, it indicates that we were justified in pioneering in this type of light coastwise cargo vessel, both from the point of view of performance and from the point of view of economy. I still am of the opinion that we should build fifty or a hundred of these ships for Pacific island, Caribbean and coastwise use.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

WEAVER ASSOCIATES CORPORATION

NAVAL ARCHITECTS AND MARINE CONSULTANTS

3 DUPONT CIRCLE

WASHINGTON, D. C.

JOSEPH B. WEAVER, PRES.
W. STARLING BURGESS, V. PRES.
WILLIAM J. WIGNALL, TREAS.

HOBART 3220-3221

REFERENCE NO.

MEMORANDUM

To: J. Franklin Carter
Room 1012
National Press Building
February 28, 1945

From: J.B. Weaver

Subject: SEAMOBILE I

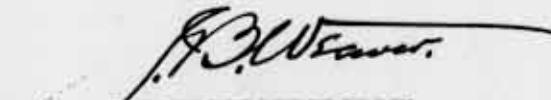
I hand you herewith a summary of an abstract from the log of SEAMOBILE I covering its first five months of operation. One or two points stand out clearly:

1. The revolutionary type of drive is practical.
2. The retractable feature of the drive has worked out satisfactorily.
3. Due to the great saving in the weight of the power plant by using the small high speed engine units the remarkable ratio of the deadweight to the weight of light ship of 3.2 to 1 (closely corresponding to vessels of 10,000 tons deadweight) is of extreme interest.

It might also be of interest if it were realized that our relationship was arbitrarily terminated by one "Seabury" before we were able to complete our work, and we were not permitted to be on the trials or obtain any technical information through official channels in respect to the results of this development.

Unable to obtain any explanation of this action we preferred charges against "Seabury" in complete detail in the summer of 1943. We know nothing about any action taken on these charges and to this day do not know the reasons for the arbitrary action in terminating our contract.

Our congratulations to the President in respect to his naval architectural knowledge.


J.B. Weaver

Attachment

February 15, 1945

MEMORANDUM

"SEAMOBILE TANKER"

CHARACTERISTICS OF VESSEL

L.O.A.	257'-7 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
L.B.P.	250'-0"
Beam Moulded	40'-0"
Displacement	16' Draft, 3,660 Tons
Deadweight	2,788.4 Tons
Pay Load (Cargo)	2,500 "
Deadweight at 11' mean draft	1,500 "
Ratio deadweight to weight of ship	3.2 to 1
Power - 8 Gray marine Diesel engines of 150 B.H.P. each geared to 4 vertical shafts with retractable propellers and driving gear units.	

PRESIDENT'S DIRECTIVE

L.W.L.	250'
Capacity - 1500 T.D.W. @ 11'-0" mean draft	
Speed - 8 or more knots	

PSF 9.7 Carter folder 3-45

file

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
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Metropolitan 4113

~~SECRET~~

March 12, 1945.

INTERIM REPORT ON LOW-TEMPERATURE DISTILLATION.

As instructed, I discussed the Riis process for low-temperature distillation with General Fleming of the P.W.A. and John Blandford of the F.H.A.

Blandford convinced me that the the logical agency to handle the pilot-operation is the Tennessee Valley Authority. Since T.V.A. is already engaged in many similar lines of scientific research and is, notwithstanding Senator McKellar, still exempt from Congressional control of its operations, I think that this is both the most natural and the least conspicuous way in which to try out the process.

Unless otherwise instructed, I shall take this up with Dave Lilienthal the next time he is in Washington.

General Fleming was also very cooperative and seemed to be seriously impressed with the feasibility of the process. He said that he lacked the funds but that his offices on the West Coast would help with facilities and supervision, if it was decided to use the present available private funds to test the process.

Fleming also said that the process, if proved feasible, would have important and immediate military and naval applications.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

*J. F. Carter folder
3-45*

file

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
1210 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

*Suggests he
talk with Gen. Fleming of
PW + Blandford of
Nat. Housing. J.F. does
not believe they can
get an appropriate
March 1, 1945.
Metropolitan 4112
Metropolitan 4111
Lme
March 9*

"We, the People"
"The Week in Washington"

~~SECRET~~

REPORT ON NEW PROCESS FOR LOW TEMPERATURE DISTILLATION.

The attached letter from Mrs. Honeyman and the attached report prepared by Earle F. Hiscock of this Unit refer to what seems to be one of the basic discoveries of this century.

After consultation with Vannevar Bush, Hiscock went to Portland and had a prolonged series of technical discussions with Mr. M.P.P. Riis, the inventor of the process. Hiscock has returned with complete blueprints, etc. and is of the opinion a) that Riis knows what he is talking about and b) that his process represents something of incalculable importance. Incidentally, Riis believes that Germany and Japan have developed a similar process and have thus solved their problems of gasoline supply.

Henry Wallace is personally interested in ascertaining the facts about this process and would like to cooperate, through the Bureau of Standards.

In my judgment, prompt action, real secrecy and a minimum expenditure of funds might yield dramatic military returns now and enormous economic potentialities for the post-war period. Opposition of considerable magnitude, both from industrial and political sources, ^{including John L. Lewis,} can certainly be expected. Accordingly, I would like your permission to proceed by all appropriate means to ensure the completion and testing of a pilot-unit in the Riis process. This process is most simply stated as the application of electronics to distillation of organic matter--coal, wood, sawdust, farm wastes, garbage--with tremendous increased yields of power, fuel and by-products. The overall cost of a pilot operation, including facilities, should be well within \$5,000. I recommend a large sum so as to insure both secrecy and scientific control.

J.F.C.

March 1, 1945

LOW TEMPERATURE DISTILLATION PROCESS

A low temperature distillation process is now available for the reduction of shale, brown coal, lignite, coal, wood, as well as other organic materials such as comstalks, leafy growth and farm refuse.

This process, discovered in 1917 by Mr. M.P.P. Riis now residing in Portland, Oregon, is said to be a close parallel if not a duplicate of the distillation processes utilized for at least fifteen years by the Germans and the Japanese. The process is such as to make available high percentage yields of oil, alcohol and other hydrocarbons useful for motor fuel and solvent purposes from low grade coals and shales.

Investigation indicates that for the past twenty years the continuing and effective opposition to the application of this as well as less effective processes for the better utilization of lignite, wood waste and farm refuse has prevented their practical economic development.

The recent denial by the Utah State Legislature of funds for the prosecution of further research and the building of pilot plants for lignite and brown coal distillation is a case in point. In spite of the most favorable outlook in an exhaustive report (prepared under the direction of a most competent engineer, Dr. Neil C. Christesen of Salt Lake City, working with other scientists and staff members of the University of Utah) the coal and

power interests successfully blocked the practical application of the findings.

The facts as now available indicate that the Riis process is far superior to others now known. It embodies, in a low temperature retort, the application of supersonic pulsating waves combined with an electric field of varying polarity. This is described as bringing the processes of nature to the hand of man by applying the principle of the natural methods of reduction of the forest and mineral wastes in the earth's construction. Scientists now freely acknowledge the pulsation of the earth and the changing polarity of the surface and molten interior and it is by the reproduction of these conditions that (with comparatively low temperatures) the Riis process can veritably "wring" combinations of hydrocarbons as well as inorganic materials (metals and other elements) out of the raw material furnished by nature.

It is recommended that immediate steps be taken to allocate a special fund to set up the Riis process in Pilot operation. In view of the far reaching economic effect on the existing sources of oil and power it will be necessary to provide for a high degree of security and protection.

It is estimated that a simple pilot plant for low temperature distillation can be placed in operation for \$5,000. It is, however, most strongly recommended that at least \$25,000 be made available for use in establishing the pilot operation of other phases of the process all looking toward the development of a competent research organization with suitable funds (at least \$1,000,000) in the new fields of catalysis and synthesis.

Nan Hood Hougumman
1728 S. W. Prospect Ave.
Portland, Oregon

Hon. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Nan Wood Honeyman

1728 S. W. Prospect Drive

Portland, Oregon

Feb. 20th.

1945

My dear Franklin:

When in Washington recently I talked to John Carter about a distillation from waste materials process discovered by a man now living here in Portland. John recognized the possibilities enough to think these plans should be checked on.

For the past few years I have been bending every effort towards having an investigation (I am getting to hate that word!) made and in the Fall of '38 I sent quite a lot of material to you but I suppose it got lost in the quantities of things you have to refer to the supposedly proper offices. But, PLEASE, don't let this get away again.

It is bound to be developed sometime and I want it to be so, not only in the United States but especially under your Administration

Many congratulations on the Yalta conference. I am so thrilled to have the gossips shown that if there is to be any pushing around to be done we aren't going to be the pushee. I am so proud of my President and my old friend.

Affectionately,

Nan

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
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WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

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file *PSF* 3-45-

"We, the People"
"The Week in Washington"

Metropolitan 4112
Metropolitan 4113

March 14, 1945.

* REPORT ON THE CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTION.

My preliminary political intelligence reports on the Canadian general election indicate that McKenzie King is going to be badly defeated.

Your friendly words and statement at yesterday's press conference will help him in Ontario but not in Quebec.

The indications are that the Canadian Commonwealth Federation will sweep most of Western Canada, including Ontario, with the Alberta Social Credit Party aiding. It is also indicated that in Quebec the Bloc Populaire, organized by the parish-priests in revolt against the hierarchy, especially the Cardinal-Archbishop (who has supported King), will carry the province.

The net picture is a strong leftist sweep in the Dominion. As I check further reports I will perhaps modify this provisional forecast. The old Unionist-Conservative group, which used to take its orders from London, is apparently out of the picture and London--taught by the Australian elections--is keeping its hands off.

I assume that you have already received this information and have measured both its value and its relation to future political trends in this country, but think it worth passing on to you.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
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file *PSF* *3-45-*

"We, the People"
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J.F.C.
J.F.C.

T-497

*PSF J. F. Carter folder
3-45-*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 20, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR

ADMIRAL BROWN:

TO LOOK INTO.

F.D.R.

Secret Report (Technical Series Report No. 41) on Navy's attitude toward use of emergency luminous tape, with enclosures, submitted by J. Franklin Carter.

PSF J.F. Carter for doc 3-45

4216 THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 20, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR

HON. FRED VINSON:

For your information. If
you think this report has any merit,
will you let me have your recommenda-
tions?

F.D.R.

Report on Glossary of Business and Banking
Terms, submitted by John Franklin Carter,
1210 National Press Bldg., Washington 4,
D.C., 3/14/45.

MR. PRESIDENT:

How about sending this to Judge
Vinson and see if the suggestions have
any merit and for recommendation?

G.G.T.

WASHINGTON
THE WHITE HOUSE

MAIL ROOM

GRACE:

TO READ AND DO THE NECESSARY.

F.D.R.

PSF J. F. Carter folder 3-45

March 23, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR J. FRANKLIN CARTER:

In regard to your report on Canvas Shelters for U.S. Troops, we have just received the following from the War Department:

"The report of the investigation has now been made and the Inspector General has concluded that the statements made in Technical Series Report #27 have no foundation in fact. While Mr. Carter does not indicate the source of his information, the report of the Inspector General shows that at least part of it must have come from a former employee in the office of the Quartermaster General who was relieved because of incompetence and from a dissatisfied civilian contractor. On a previous occasion we had the Inspector General investigate allegations made in another report from Mr. Carter and found that that report also had no foundation in fact.

"In view of the incorrect information which has been given Mr. Carter in the past for his reports, I strongly recommend that he be advised to request from my office assistance in confirming the information before calling the reports to your attention."

Grace G. Tully
Private Secretary

WAR DEPARTMENT
THE CHIEF OF STAFF
WASHINGTON

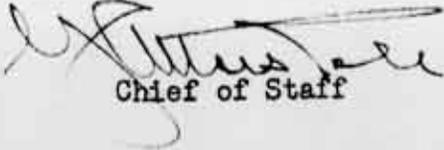
February 23, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

My attention has been called to the attached Technical Series Report #27 which I understand was submitted to you by Mr. John Franklin Carter. Mr. Carter brought this report to my office with a statement that he did so under instructions from the White House. General Watson advised me that you had no particular desire to have the Inspector General investigate the subject matter of the report as Mr. Carter recommended, but that the War Department should use its own discretion in this regard. Because of the serious nature of the allegations made in the report, I considered it advisable to have the Inspector General determine the factual basis, if any, for the statements made in the report.

The report of the investigation has now been made and the Inspector General has concluded that the statements made in Technical Series Report #27 have no foundation in fact. While Mr. Carter does not indicate the source of his information, the report of the Inspector General shows that at least part of it must have come from a former employee in the office of the Quartermaster General who was relieved because of incompetence and from a dissatisfied civilian contractor. On a previous occasion we had the Inspector General investigate allegations made in another report from Mr. Carter and found that that report also had no foundation in fact.

In view of the incorrect information which has been given Mr. Carter in the past for his reports, I strongly recommend that he be advised to request from my office assistance in confirming the information before calling the reports to your attention.


Chief of Staff

February 23, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT:

My attention has been called to the attached Technical Series Report #27 which I understand was submitted to you by Mr. John Franklin Carter. Mr. Carter brought this report to my office with a statement that he did so under instructions from the White House. General Watson advised me that you had no particular desire to have the Inspector General investigate the subject matter of the report as Mr. Carter recommended, but that the War Department should use its own discretion in this regard. Because of the serious nature of the allegations made in the report, I considered it advisable to have the Inspector General determine the factual basis, if any, for the statements made in the report.

The report of the investigation has now been made and the Inspector General has concluded that the statements made in Technical Series Report #27 have no foundation in fact. While Mr. Carter does not indicate the source of his information, the report of the Inspector General shows that at least part of it must have come from a former employee in the office of the Quartermaster General who was relieved because of incompetence and from a dissatisfied civilian contractor. On a previous occasion we had the Inspector General investigate allegations made in another report from Mr. Carter and found that that report also had no foundation in fact.

In view of the incorrect information which has been given Mr. Carter in the past for his reports, I strongly recommend that he be advised to request from my office assistance in confirming the information before calling the reports to your attention.

Chief of Staff

December 19, 1944

CANVAS SHELTERS FOR U.S. TROOPS

It is reported that there is a serious and continuing shortage of canvas shelter duck for temporary and permanent shelter use in the United States Army.

This shortage is presently reported to be so serious that 1,500,000 men on the Western Front will be without adequate protection from the weather. Present efforts to rectify this condition are stated to have resulted in high priority procurements which, however, are reported to be impossible of completion and consequent availability for at least 60-90 days.

It is stated that the serious shortage of shelter duck among other things is the direct result of a situation involving the Quartermaster Corps of the Army Service Forces. It is reported that, while Major General Edmund B. Gregory is the designated Quartermaster General, Colonel Georges F. Doriot,¹ assigned on the organization chart as Director of the Military Planning Division, is for all intents and purposes actually responsible for the policy, procurements, and decisions affecting major equipment problems of the Quartermaster Corps.

1. According to Who's Who in America, vol. 22, 1942-1943, Colonel Doriot is listed as a "corporation official," formerly President of the McKeesport Tin Plate Corporation, now (1942-1943) Chairman of the Board, National Can Company, successors.

~~SECRET~~

In this connection it is stated that Colonel Doriot while Professor of Business Administration at the Harvard Business School had General Gregory as a pupil, with the result that despite the present difference in rank General Gregory in effect remains in a student role. It is stated that this status allows Colonel Doriot free rein to exercise wide authority throughout the Quartermaster Corps by means of a far-reaching "Gestapo" and "hatchet man" system, which results, it is reported, in situations typified by the present shelter duck shortage.

The background picture of the canvas duck shortage is stated to begin generally with the infiltration into the Jeffersonville Quartermaster Depot of some of Colonel Doriot's civilian aides. This Depot, long responsible to the Army for canvas duck shelter and tentage equipment in general, was at this time--November-December, 1943--commanded by Brigadier General Allen R. Kimball. The activities of Colonel Doriot's aides are stated to have resulted in the establishment of Doriot's men within the Jeffersonville Depot, which in effect resulted in a condition of "Colonel Doriot talking to himself."

It is reported that thus in the early months of 1944 long prior to D-Day, when major decisions regarding shelter and tentage had to be made, the Doriot group at Jeffersonville prepared for General Kimball's endorsement

a report on shelter duck. This report, it is stated, was duly approved and forwarded to Washington, where Colonel Doriot in turn OK'd it and sent it to General Gregory for final approval and transmittal to the Army Service Forces Staff.

During this time, while this report was in channels, responsible technologists of the Quartermaster organization in Washington disagreed with its findings and protested verbally and in writing that the estimated requirements for shelter duck, etc., were basically unsound.

It was then reported that a maneuver took place which resulted in General Kimball's being relieved of the command of the Jeffersonville Depot as, it is reported, there was some indication that he might receive evidence which would cause him to investigate his original decision. In his place General Gregory assigned Brigadier General Guy L. Rowe, alleged to be a Doriot choice, and picked for his lack of knowledge of specialized equipment handled by Jeffersonville. In the meantime, it is stated, the reorganization of Jeffersonville by the Doriot group had been completed to eliminate half of the officers formerly assigned to the "Duck and Webbing Pool," which was also abolished as a section.

In order, it is reported, to provide a means of quieting protests of Quartermaster personnel under his

~~SECRET~~

direction in the Military Planning Division and particularly the requirements and Procurements Branch, Colonel Doriot is stated to have appointed Lieutenant Colonel Stephen J. Kennedy to be responsible for shelter duck.

Recent developments which are reported to have occurred, when the Armies in Western Europe reported the shelter duck shortage as extremely acute, included a meeting under the chairmanship of Lieutenant Colonel Kennedy in New York to endeavor to establish future policy, and a discussion between Colonel Doriot and General Somervell last week regarding the shelter duck shortage. The results of the meeting held by Kennedy are stated to be practically nil. Colonel Doriot's discussion with General Somervell is said to have resulted in the General's "pinning his ears back" for arguing that he was only "trying to save the Army money."

In connection with all of the above it is reported that Lieutenant General Somervell has established a satisfactory working relationship with Major General Clifford L. Corbin (present Director, Procurement, Q.M.C.) and Colonel R.B. Stevens, Deputy Director of Purchases.

At the present time it is reported that procurement action as previously stated will result in deliveries of the needed shelter duck in approximately 60-90 days.

In view of the particular situation regarding shelter duck and the general procurement and distribution

~~SECRET~~

- 5 -

organization in the Quartermaster Corps, it is seriously recommended that the Inspector General be directed to investigate and report his findings to the Chief of Staff, U.S. Army.

~~SECRET~~

PSF 9.7. Carter for down 3-45

file personal

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
1210 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

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March 23, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: INSPECTOR GENERAL'S COMMENTS ON T.S.REPORT No. 27.

Dear Miss Tully:

Your memorandum of March 23, quoting a report from the Inspector General concerning this Unit's report on Canvas Shelters for U.S.Troops (T.S.Report No. 27), has raised a regrettable issue of the veracity of these reports.

The Inspector General reports two things: 1st, that the statements have no foundation in fact; 2nd, that the source of the information is in part at least from "a former employee in the office of the Quartermaster General who was relieved because of incompetence and from a dissatisfied civilian contractor."

The complete falsity of the second statement casts doubt both on the accuracy of the first statement and on the integrity of the Inspector General's Office.

For the President's information, the attached memorandum gives the name and identification of the actual source of this information in T.S.Report No. 27. This Unit has not received any of its information from the "sources" alleged by the Inspector General. I urgently request, however, that the identity of my informant be not disclosed to the War Department which will hasten to persecute him. I make this statement because, in a previous instance, when on request of Col. Davenport in General Marshall's Office, I disclosed the source of certain information, the Inspector General's Office merely cracked down on the source of the information and smashed the project involved, going to the extent of ordering the immediate induction of a technician whose deferment had been requested by his employer on a secret Navy contract.

In the face of this misinformation supplied to the President by the War Department, I submit that it might be in order to inspect the Inspector General's Office.

J.F.C.

~~Strictly Confidential~~

March 23, 1945.

Memorandum re War Department comment on Technical Series Report No 27

In regard to the sources of information supporting T.S. Report No 27 titled "Canvas **S**helters for U.S. Troops" it is reported that the primary source was Mr Ralph Butland, now and for some years past employed as a technologist in the Procurement Division, Research and Development Branch of the Quartermaster Corps. Mr Butland is further reported to act in a general advisory capacity on Quartermaster problems of wide scope involving procurement and supply.

It is further reported that no part of the information came from a "dissatisfied civilian contractor".

It appears that the sources of the Inspector General are incorrect on both points.

Handwritten scribble

*J. F. Carter please
3-25-45*

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
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WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

*Advised Mr.
Carter to take up with
Dir. of the Budget
3/29/45*

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March 27, 1945.

REPORT ON RIIS PROCESS FOR LOW-TEMPERATURE DISTILLATION.

Since previous reports on this subject, I have had an interview with the Public Health Officer of Jersey City, Mr. James J. Hagen, who witnessed a demonstration of this process and says that it performs as indicated in the written reports already submitted.

This morning I had an interview with Dave Lilienthal who will go ahead with the pilot operation, which is necessary to establish the proper controls and to acquire first-hand knowledge of the operation of this process. For reasons of secrecy and economy, he suggests the following:

"The President to direct the allocation of \$10,000 of O.S.R.D. funds to the T.V.A. to finance an inquiry and preliminary report to the President upon the feasibility of selected low-temperature processes for distillation and synthesis, with particular attention to their usefulness in the prosecution of the war."

General Fleming left no doubt that this process, if piloted successfully, would be of great utility to the Army and the Navy. It would also be of great value in rehabilitation and relief in communities where ~~existing~~ utilities have been destroyed or never existed.

This Unit urges favorable action on this request, being of the opinion that the process involved may be of critical importance to the concluding phases of the war and to the post-war development of the United States and of the world.

J.F.C.
J. F. C.

*PSF 9.7 Carter folder
3-45*

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March 28, 1945.

REPORT ON FLOOD-CONTROL IN ANCIENT ROME.

You might be interested in this report by Tacitus on the problems of flood-control in ancient Rome, when the Emperor Tiberius tried to safeguard the city against the rampaging Tiber, only to bump into the Senate.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

15 A.D.

"A question was then raised in the Senate by Arruntius and Ateius whether, in order to restrain the inundations of the Tiber, the rivers and lakes which swell its waters should be diverted from their courses. A hearing was given to embassies from the municipal towns and colonies, and the people of Florence begged that the Clanis might not be turned out of its channel and made to flow into the Arno, as that would bring ruin on themselves. Similar arguments were used by the inhabitants of Interamna. The most fruitful plains of Italy, they said, would be destroyed if the river Nar (for this was the plan proposed) were to be divided into several streams and overflow the country. Nor did the people of Reate remain silent. They remonstrated against the closing up of the Veline lake, where it empties itself into the Nar, "as it would burst in a flood on the entire neighborhood. Nature had admirably provided for human interests in having assigned to rivers their mouths, their channels, and their limits, as well as their sources. Regard, too, must be paid to the different religions of the allies, who had dedicated sacred rites, groves, and altars to the rivers of their country. Tiber himself would be altogether unwilling to be deprived of his neighbor streams and to flow with less glory." Either the entreaties of the colonies, or the difficulty of the work or superstitious motives prevailed, and they yielded to Piso's opinion, who declared himself against any change."

Tacitus. Annals.

T-505

PSF J. F. Carter folder 3-45-

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MARCH 29, 1945

MEMORANDUM FOR

ADMIRAL LEAHY:

TO READ AND TELL ME WHAT YOU THINK.

F.D.R.

Secret Report on Post-War Political
Intelligence, submitted by J. Franklin
Carter, 2-27-45, with enclosed outline
of system of foreign political intell.
info.

T-510

*PSF J.F. Carter folder
3-45*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 2, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE SECRETARY OF STATE:

**TO READ AND RETURN FOR MY
FILES.**

F.D.R.

Secret Report from J. Franklin Carter, 3-22-45
re Nazi Technicians in Argentina.

PSF J.F. Carter folder
3-45
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

4303

April 2, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR
THE DIRECTOR OF THE BUDGET
FOR RECOMMENDATION

F. D. R.

Communication of 3/30/45 from John Franklin
Carter, 1210 National Press Building, Wash., D.C.

Interim Report on Low-Temperature Distillation
(Riis Process); suggesting necessary procedure
to have \$10,000 allocated to the T.V.A. for
a pilot operation in the Riis Process.

Copy of this memorandum goes
to Audrey Turner for our files.

G. G. T.

CCW
Please have copy
of the Carter memo.
I send the ^{pres.} memo
& the original to
Budget

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
1210 National Press Building
Washington 4, D. C.

SECRET

March 30, 1945

INTERIM REPORT ON LOW-TEMPERATURE DISTILLATION (RIIS PROCESS)

This morning, as directed, I had a talk with Mr. Lawton of the Budget Bureau on the necessary procedure to have \$10,000 allocated to the T.V.A. for a pilot operation in the Riis Process for Low-Temperature Distillation.

Lawton says there are two ways in which this can be done.

First, you can direct the O.S.R.D. to allocate \$10,000 to the T.V.A. to finance an inquiry and preliminary report to the President on the feasibility of selected low-temperature processes of distillation and synthesis.

By relating this allocation to the President, we could avoid possible entanglements, technical explanations and loss of secrecy involved in attempting to persuade O.S.R.D. personnel of the character of the operation. If this can be avoided, I believe it preferable to the alternative.

Second, you could direct the Bureau of the Budget to allocate \$10,000 of your Special Funds direct to T.V.A. for the purpose outlined above. Lawton felt that this method might have the disadvantage of possible publicity since the O.S.R.D. already has ample funds available which could be allocated to T.V.A. at your direction.

It is my conviction that the fewer individuals informed of this inquiry the better for all concerned, in view of the numerous corporate interests which might regard it as endangering their economic status. This is particularly the case because the actual period of time required to establish the value of the Riis Process will be short and the expense extremely moderate, which offers the possibility of maximum speed and secrecy in completing the pilot operation.

On receipt of the T.V.A. report, you would be in a position to decide whether a larger operation would be feasible or desirable.

J. F. C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
1210 NATIONAL PRESS BUILDING
WASHINGTON 4, D. C.

*PSF
Carter*

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~~SECRET~~

April 6, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: "M" PROJECT REPORTS.

Dear Miss Tully:

Herewith attached please find ¹⁴ ~~eight~~ Memoranda ^{& 2 translations} from the Bowman-Field
Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project), for the President's files.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER

(Joy Franklin)

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March 23, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: POPULATION AND PEACE IN THE PACIFIC ("M" PROJECT)

Dear Miss Tully:

Herewith attached, in ten parts, is Report No. R-119 from the Bowman-Field Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project), being the text of an authoritative study of "Population and Peace in the Pacific", written by Professor Warren S. Thompson of Miami University, Ohio. This text has been made available to "M" Project in advance of the regular publication of the work and the author himself will be available, if needed, for ~~advisory~~ advisory services in connection with the United Nations Conference at San Francisco. It was our belief that, with the subject of "trusteeship" for colonial possessions on the agenda of the Conference, this authoritative study and its author might be of substantial value to the work of the American delegation.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
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March 6, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: "M" PROJECT REPORTS.

Dear Miss Tully:

Here are 20 Memoranda and Reports from the Bowman-Field Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project) for the President's files.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

Dear grace,

Hope to see you some of these days -

Henry

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER

(Jay Franklin)

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February 21, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: REPORTS FROM BOWMAN-FIELD COMMITTEE ("M" PROJECT)

Dear Miss Tully:

Here are five reports from the Bowman-Field Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project) for the President's files.

They include a study on "Settlement Possibilities in Argentina", which may be of particular interest now that Argentina is re-considering its policy towards the Axis, and a study of "Quaker Relief Work in the Balkans after 1918" which may also be of value to current plans for relief in the Balkan region. This report is, I understand, based on material supplied by Drew Pearson, who was active in Quaker relief operations in Europe after the last war.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER

(Jay Franklin)

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February 14, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: REPORTS FROM BOWMAN-FIELD COMMITTEE ("M" PROJECT)

Dear Miss Tully:

Wherewith attached, please find 16 reports from the Bowman-Field
Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project), for the President's file.

JFC
J.F.C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
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January 19, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: SPECIAL REPORT ON EASTERN POLAND ("M" PROJECT)

Dear Miss Tully:

Here is a special report from the Bowman-Field Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project), with accompanying maps, on the population and land-settlement problems of the Pripet Marshes in Eastern Poland.

Henry Field thought that this report might be especially useful at this time when there may be "Big Three" discussions of Polish frontiers in the East.

The sum total of the report is, briefly, that the Poles are definitely in the minority in this region, being outnumbered by Jews and Ukrainians in the cities and by Ukrainians and White Russians in the villages. The figures are of 1939 and, if anything, the Polish proportion has decreased in the intervening five years.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

Dear Grace,

I would like original maps returned

if you have no further use for them -

Henry

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER

(Jay Franklin)

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January 18, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: REPORTS FROM BOWMAN-FIELD COMMITTEE ("M" PROJECT)

Dear Miss Tully:

Herewith attached, please find 7 reports from the Bowman-Field
Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project) for the President's files.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER

(Jay Franklin)

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January 3, 1945.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: DOCUMENTS FROM BOWMAN-FIELD COMMITTEE ("M" PROJECT)

Dear Miss Tully:

Herewith, please find twelve studies prepared by the Bowman-Field Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project), for the President's files.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER

(Jay Franklin)

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December 20, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: REPORTS FROM BOWMAN-FIELD COMMITTEE ("M" PROJECT)

Dear Miss Tully:

Herewith enclosed, please find 8 reports from the Bowman-Field Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project) for the President's files.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
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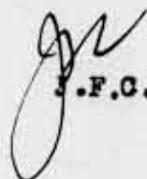
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November 14, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: REPORTS FROM BOWMAN-FIELD COMMITTEE.

Dear Miss Tully:

~~Here are some further reports from the Bowman-Field Committee on Migration~~
and Settlement ("M" Project) for the President's files.


J.F.C.

J.F. Carter folder 3-44

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER
(Jay Franklin)
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October 31, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: "M" PROJECT REPORTS.

Dear Miss Tully:

Herewith attached, please find 6 ^{*} Reports from the Bowman-Field
Committee on Migration and Settlement ("M" Project) for the President's files.

JFC
J.F.C.

* No.

R-88	T-54	M-148
R-93		149
		150

J.F. Carter folder 3-44

2713 DUMBARTON AVENUE

WASHINGTON 7, D. C.

October 18, 1964

Dear Grace,

I am sending you ten
items from "M" Project for
your files.

All best wishes,

Sincerely yours

Jewry

Nos. -

T-56	M-136	R-72
	M-142	R-90
	M-143	R-91
	M-144	R-92
	M-146	

JOHN FRANKLIN CARTER

(Jay Franklin)

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October 3, 1944.

MEMORANDUM FOR MISS TULLY: "M" REPORT.

Dear Miss Tully:

Here is Copy No. 6 of No. L-39, Studies of Migration and Settlement ("M" Project) for the President's file.

J.F.C.
J.F.C.

file 4-6-45

Study Room 115
Library of Congress Annex
Washington, D. C.

July 13, 1944

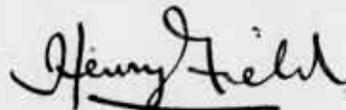
Miss Audrey Turner
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Turner:

I wish to call to your attention the attached
Errata and Corrigenda in connection with our "M" Series
Reports.

With all good wishes.

Yours sincerely,



Henry Field

Attachment

May 15, 1944

ERRATA AND CORRIGENDA

1. R-30 entitled: "White Settlement in Africa--II
Ethiopia."
 - (a) P. 23, lines 12 and 13 should read "of the
Galla-Sidamo."
 - (b) P. 47, footnote 1 should read "Mezzadria."

2. R-39 entitled: "Internal Colonization in Sicily."
 - (a) P. 31, substitute for line 1, "The following
Table shows the distribution of cultivable
land during the period 1919-1930. However,
these 140,000 hectares were distributed among
341 estates, mainly those with more than 200
hectares. The whole cultivated land distributed:"
 - (b) P. 29, change "Rabbau" to "Raubbau."

3. R-38 entitled "Japanese Settlement in Hokkaido."
 - (a) P. 9, line 12 change to Asahigawa.
 - (b) P. 17, line 12 change to Hokkaido.
 - (c) P. 17 line 19 change to Tokugawa.
 - (d) P. 24, line 8 change to Militiamen.