

COPY

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WAR OFFICE,  
WHITEHALL,  
S.W.1.

15th November, 1939.

My dear Edward,

You wrote to me on the 31st October enclosing a copy of a telegram from Lothian about the desire of certain wealthy Americans to establish and maintain American hospitals in England.

We naturally welcome offers such as this and I have consulted the Adjutant General about this particular one. He tells me that any hospitals established in this way should come under the Red Cross and I learn from him, through Lord Cromer, that a Commissioner of the American Red Cross Society, a Mr. Swift, is now in Germany and will be coming to London via Paris towards the end of the month. It will then be possible for the British and American Societies to decide who will be responsible for administering these hospitals.

In the meantime I should be grateful if you would ask our Ambassador in Washington to convey our thanks to the donors, saying that we gratefully accept the offer and indicating that further information will be sent to them by the Red Cross Society.

Yours ever,

(Signed) Leslie Hore Belisha.

The Rt. Hon. Viscount Halifax, K.G., G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E., T.D.