

MOST SECRET.

Mr. Peake.

I should record for the dossier that Major Elliot returned to the charge when he came down yesterday. He feels that nothing should be done until the Lease-Lend Bill is out of the way unless perhaps to build up the idea of a possible consultation amongst the President's entourage. I said that I thought that nothing should be done at the moment.

This idea, and I think that it is based on common sense, is that such a meeting should be contemplated when it is decided that our next objective should be a decision on the use of American ships convoyed by the American Navy. To produce a favourable decision considerable dramatisation would be essential and in his opinion this objective would be worth a great effort. He now agrees that Iceland would be very difficult but thinks that a meeting of battle-ships in the Atlantic would be feasible or else at one of the new bases, such as Trinidad,

I think this file had better be kept in the Embassy.

SLC:BW

S.L.C.

5.2.41

The Ambassador does not think much of the idea, but he has I believe written a private letter to the P.M. about it.

E.S.P.

To Mr. Butler (with you cup)

MB.

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NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.