

URGENT

SECRET

Mr. Foster on return

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

Mr. Hayter spoke to Mr. Cribbett yesterday and I have spoken to him again today, after our telephone conversation, regarding the new C.T.C. scheme. I told Mr. Cribbett of Mr. Hopkins's talk with you and of the fact that Hopkins was waiting for some move from our side, and I emphasized that it seemed a great pity for us to be marking time and not already to have taken advantage of Hopkins's receptive attitude. Cribbett explained that for the last week Air Marshal Harris, as a result of the decision at the Joint Staff Mission meeting of August 29th, had been doing his best to get in touch with Mr. Hopkins to discuss the whole question. He had, however, been unable to establish contact with Hopkins's office. Mr. Cribbett went on to say that a telegram received only yesterday from London regarding the duties of the Joint Staff Mission had made it quite clear that it was the duty of the Air Force Delegation to inaugurate and supervise the functioning of this new C.T.C. scheme. Mr. Cribbett implied fairly clearly that, that being so, he felt we should leave it to the Air Marshal to deal with the matter. In the end we agreed that you, on your return to Washington tomorrow, would communicate with Mr. Cribbett in order to discuss matters with him, and perhaps with Air Marshal Harris. You would be able to tell them of Mr. Hopkins's remarks to you and as a result you might be able to assist the Air Marshal in framing the representations which he is to make to Mr. Hopkins.

~~800-1/1/41~~ -/14

At the same time perhaps you could speak to Mr. Cribbett about the attached rather half-baked despatch from the F.O. asking us to take up with the U.S. authorities the possibility of a number of American civilian scientists going over to England to work in the research establishments of the different British supply departments - apparently as employees of the U.S.G. I rather doubt if there is enough information in this despatch about the actual duties these men would have to perform, etc. to enable much progress to be made. But perhaps you could discuss with Mr. Cribbett how best to approach the U.S.G. Would it be best to tackle this through Mr. Hopkins, and if so should we do it here, or the Air Marshal, or what?

*H. W. ...*

September 10th, 1941.

FRHM:HK

Spoke to A M Harris who said that he had been trying to get hold of Hopkins for a fortnight with no success.

Hopkins' secretary thought he could arrange a meeting soon, Harris said that most of the things in the cabinet paper were under way with other members of the U.S.G. and that the only thing that remained was the formation of an American CTC. He appeared to think that a letter to Hopkins was not the proper method of approach although Philip Vaux had indicated that this was the right way to do it.

Foster  
11/9

It is to be hoped that as a result of Mr. Foster's intervention the R.A.F. Delegation will now be able to take the matter up direct with Mr. Hopkins. We must not, however, lose sight of the matter, and these papers ought to be brought up again on September 19th.

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As regards the subsidiary question raised in F.O. despatch No. 616, Mr. Foster did not take this up with Air Marshal Harris. He did, however, mention it to Professor Darwin, who knew nothing of the matter and asked to be sent a copy of the F.O. despatch. This copy has now been sent to Professor Darwin and I gather from what Mr. Foster said that we should ask him in a day or two how he thinks the question had best be handled.

Perhaps Mr. Hayter would therefore be kind enough to have a word with Professor Darwin, say on Monday next.

Foster

September 12th, 1941.

Dr. Darwin is away until Thursday night.  
B.V. 10/9

~~H. Hayter 16/9~~

Please return to me on 15/9

Hayter 12/9

FRHM:HK

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.