

SECRET

Mr. Hoyer-Millar.

Squadron Leader Russell was in here to-day and I asked him about the background of Mr. Paul McNutt's speech about the Civilian Technical Corps. Squadron Leader Russell said that the Social Security people in Alabama had had the bright idea of getting rid of their local unemployed on the C.T.C. and had put this idea up to Mr. McNutt as Federal Security Administrator. Mr. McNutt had welcomed the idea, had promised the assistance of his organisation in finding people for the C.T.C. and had made ~~a~~ ^{the} speech reported in the New York Times.

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

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Squadron Leader Russell was anxious that the Embassy should write a letter of thanks to Mr. McNutt for his cooperation, and showed me the attached copy of a letter which had been written to him by the American Advisor of the C.T.C. I see no objection to this idea, and attach a draft. But it seems to me high time that we coordinated the C.T.C. activities in this country. It is obviously very undesirable that there should be two bodies engaged in recruiting labour for this purpose, probably offering different rates of pay and conditions of service and competing with one another in the same field. I gather that Air Marshal Harris has, on Mr. Hopkins' suggestion, spoken to Mr. Stettinius about the proposal that the Americans should organise the C.T.C. for us, and it seems to me that the sooner they do this and take over the existing C.T.C. organisation the better. Perhaps we should talk this over with Mr. Foster and try to get some action.

WGH:KG

W. Grayson

17th September, 1941.

*Yes. Let us
copy of letter to
Russell with his
draft
10/9*

*Sol Campbell
has you sign the
letter
RC*