

SECRET

23rd September, 1941.

Dear Cribbett,

see-17
As we agreed over the telephone today I am writing to you to give you the information about the so-called Ordway scheme. Ordway is an undergraduate at Harvard who came to us with a strong recommendation from Wrong of the Canadian Legation, and made an extremely favourable impression. His idea is to organize a group of young Americans of college age who will go to England to do any kind of work in which they could be useful. They will be prepared to do semi-skilled labour such as dock construction, to work in civilian defence or to join the armed forces. They would like to stay on in England after the war to assist in the work of reconstruction.

2. As regards those who wish to join the armed forces, it would seem better to direct them to the normal channels. But the other two ideas seem worth following up. Apart from the actual useful work they could do, the value from the point of view of Anglo-American relations might easily be considerable.

3. Foster discussed this with Ben Cohen. The latter suggested that it would be best to approach Stettinius about the scheme as Stettinius was nominated by the President to deal with the American C.T.C. Cohen also suggested that rather than create another unit, a category for semi-skilled labour should be created in the C.T.C.

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WGH:HS

4. You said that you would like to have a note on this to take with you to London, so that you could find out what the reaction there would be, and that you would also ask Air Marshal Harris to mention the matter to Stettinius.

Yours sincerely,

(sgd) W. G. HAYTER.