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File → Mrs. John P. Lorb
BRITISH AMERICAN AMBULANCE CORPS, INC.

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May 21, 1941



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FRENCH COMMITTEE
Due to advice that Germany intends to make reprisals against French Nationals who support General Charles de Gaulle, it has been decided it is best not to release these names. They have, however, been filed with the proper authorities.

BANK OF DEPOSIT
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Dear Herbert:

For many months now we, who are united in the belief that the United States should take an active part in this war, have watched with growing apprehension the well financed and sinister groups of people who are effectively planting seeds of confusion and defeatism in the minds of Americans.

In all ways John and I have tried to counteract this---- I, by working at the British American Ambulance Corps, Inc., which, by its very existence, spreads a "Help Britain Attitude"; and John, by his effort on behalf of the Fight for Freedom Committee, and with the same group before it become public, and together by gifts to these causes.

Mr. Roosevelt seems to be trying to influence the American people through the words of Mr. Knox Stimson, Wilkie, etc., but so far no high Government official who has attained his office by the vote of the people has come out to help him.

Next Tuesday, Mr. Roosevelt is to speak. His words will be of the utmost significance because the people are waiting to be led. There is no time now, as in a domestic political problem, for the President to wait to feel the temper of the country.

Hundreds of thousands of letters and telegrams have been sent to him, but these are not enough. The fate of the world hangs in the balance, and by his words to us on Tuesday he will tip the scales one way or another.

Could you, as the Governor of the Empire State, give him publicly the support he is looking for?

You could do this by making a statement, before Tuesday, to the effect that the danger which faces America from Nazism is absolute. The time for half measures is over.

That you believe a National emergency should be proclaimed at once, and that you urge the use of our Navy to insure delivery of our War material to Britain, but that this alone is not enough. We must immediately stop the sinking of so many ships, if not, as our production grows we will not be able to transport the goods because of actual lack of ships. And finally that you pledge your full support of the president in anything he may do to implement this stand.

I have written this as a personal letter because John and I feel so close to you, but actually it is the thought that is uppermost in the minds of hundreds of thousands of people all over the country.

With love,

FRANCES

P.S. I am sending a copy of this letter to you at Boca Grande, Fla.

FL:DK