

Handwritten

March 21, 1945

Dear Ed:

Over night I thought over yesterday's conversation, which got on the wrong track because of reasons for which neither you nor I are responsible. I urge you to raise no objection against the "lend-lease" agreement with Commerce. The work I am supposed to do there is of greatest importance to this government, and especially to this division.

I have considered especially your argument that this Department intends to deal with the same problems in which, with sufficient staff and authority, I hope to work in Henry Wallace's office. Frankly, I have no indication now that this Department will undertake the job, but because of my present position in this Department, I could not do a job which would satisfy and interest me, even if this Department should decide to go in this field.

Entirely independent from this problem, I am sorry to have to tell you that I take a very serious view of the incident which happened yesterday in your office. This is an indication of the lack of status which I have, despite the services which I have given this Division.

I will call on Mr. Berge to present my case to him too. Please be assured of my deep appreciation for everything you are doing in the interest of our cause, and in my own personal interest.

Sincerely,