

(TRANSLATION)

Paris, May 30, 1940.

FRANCE-AMÉRIQUE

9 & 11 Avenue Victor-Emmanuel
Paris (VIII.)

Dear President and friend:

Since the foundation of our work and the creation of the France-America Society of New York, of which you recently gave us the honor of accepting the presidency, you have constantly lent the support of your activities and the assistance of your high influence.

On the strength of these close and long standing relations and the good wishes you were good enough to renew at the beginning of this year, we believe that in these tragic days we are going through, we can address an appeal to you, which is the object of this letter.

If we are correctly interpreting the present tendencies of opinion in the United States, it today is alert; it is thought that America is in danger, that her first line of defense - that of all the Western States - is threatened, that the Reich could attempt to establish naval bases at Curacão or in Greenland. She seems resolved to help the Allies, in every way short of sending an expeditionary force.

If this interpretation is exact, it agrees with what the France-America has always held, knowing that under the impetus of the élite and of the American conscience, the citizens of the United States would rise to assure the defense of free people, as soon as they realise that this
defense

defense is in danger.

It will be extremely desirable that two measures be immediately taken in the United States to bring efficacious assistance to the Allies. One measure would be of a moral sort and the other of a material sort.

The United States should send airplanes to the Allies; if tomorrow the United States should send 100 planes to France and if it were announced to the world that the 100 planes were to cross the ocean in three or four days, the moral effect produced in Europe and in the army and among the population would be considerable, and you know how important morale is at the present moment.

The other measure would be of a financial sort; the French government should pay either in gold or in securities all the orders given to the United States; they are taking preparatory measures to deliver the holdings and securities in dollars which the citizens might possess. If the United States consider their own interest, they should feel that it is not to their interest to insist on a remittance and that orders of France be paid from gold of the Bank of France and dollars or securities in dollars which French institutions or citizens possess; if France were compelled to deliver all her gold and all her foreign securities, this would cause the franc to have practically no value in the international market, it would make the relations between America and France impossible; it would make the reestablishment of France after the war extremely long and painful; it would condemn to misery all the population of working age;

the interest of America like that of humanity, as well as the anxiety of maintaining in France conditions of stability, to avoid all possibility of revolution, demands this solution: to care for future reparations in France credit should be given her in order not to diminish her gold reserve; of holdings and security in dollars; these would be the guarantee of the franc and of social stability of France.

Given the new state of public opinion in the United States, do you not think that decisions in this respect could be taken in the United States through the intervention of personalities such as yourself and members of your committee? They may well think that every found aid could risk being inefficacious.

We confide ourselves to you in all cordiality and simplicity as colleagues working on one common ideal of friendship and equity.

Believe us cordially devoted.

(Signed)
Gabriel Louis Jaray

(Signed)
Firmin Roz

(Signed)
Gabriel Hanotaux