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April 14, 1941.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
Attorney at law,
Mills Building,
San Francisco, California

My dear Jack:

Your letter written Friday, and your copy of the communication of Dr. Moffitt reached me this morning. I know how heavy your hearts must be in thinking of the condition of Philip. Mine is likewise. Curare, I learned long ago, was the most deadly poison in the world, and is always used by detective novelists in the suicide of the villain. This is all I know about it, but I've read fifty stories of its deadly qualities, and I shudder to thinking of feeding it to the boy.

We arrived home Saturday. I had forgotten the Easter holidays, and found the city filled with visitors. The newspapers estimate the number of them to be three hundred thousand here. I never regarded Easter particularly as a holiday, but everybody else does, and I had to forego my letters until today. This afternoon the baseball season opens. I am of forty different minds whether to go or not, but I'll probably succumb. Good-bye for the

COPY

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

day. I will write you again this week.

With my love, in which Mother joins, to all,

I am

Affectionately your father,

COPY

April 14, 1941.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, 3rd,
973 Green Street,
San Francisco, California

My dear Hiram:

I returned Saturday from Miami. I was going to write you and your father yesterday, but I had forgotten that it was the most sacred Holy day that is in the year, and I was unable to carry out my original purpose.

I wanted you to know that your Grandmother in her anxiety to be of service to you in your personal matter called upon Dr. Hogan. He at once took hold of it, and the assurance given him is that your case for deferment is a good one, and that deferment will be granted. If war should be declared, and if it be found necessary to take you into the service, you will be taken in at San Francisco, there to perform such services as you may be called upon to perform; but very likely, under the circumstances, you would be assigned to legal work. The authorities seem to think there will be nothing to the matter. The chief official is absent from town and will be absent the next

COPY

two weeks. Upon his return I will personally see him. I have little confidence in the outcome of the matter, but everybody else holds an opinion contrary to mine. However, we can do nothing but wait and see what is done. I send you clipping that appeared in the Washington Daily News the other night, the trend of which you will follow.

I have not altered my opinion in the slightest degree concerning this war. We're going into it because the groundwork has been laid by hypocrisy, deceit, and misrepresentation. We are literally being "bulled" into it. It is a shame and an outrage.

It is well to say nothing whatever about your case.

Thank you for your reports concerning Philip. I think his condition is awful, and the thought of his being given curare, the most deadly poison in the world (my knowledge consists of detective stories wherein the infernal thing was used) makes me shudder.

With my love, in which Gran joins, I am

Affectionately your grandfather,

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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

April 17, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
Attorney at law,
Mills Building,
San Francisco, California

My dear Jack:

I have been trying in the half week that I have been back to answer the mass of correspondence that gathered here during my absence, but without any material success.

Everything here is war and the "national defense". The President, following his usual course in matters that he don't wish to divulge, is acting like a cunning petti-fogger, and is befooling the people of this country upon the war issue. I really believe that he has become "goofy" in thinking of the situation, and sees himself finally the arbiter of the world, and director general of the opinions of all the races of the various nations, and in the end he expects to lead them out of the mess in which at present they find themselves. I don't know what we can do but I get quite beside myself in thinking of it.

We're going into this war, as I have told you since 1937, and from that date to this we have been gradually edging in. The news from the Balkans is anything

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr - 2

but reassuring. I thought that the English at least would know what Hitler is going to do, and would prepare to checkmate him, but, apparently, they have done nothing of the sort. No dependence can be placed upon the news that comes to us, and the communiques are quite as false as Hitler's. And to think that we are preparing, first, to convoy our supplies to Britain, and then to send our boys into every section of the earth. It is plain murder.

I suppose Hiram has told you I have sent him clippings that have appeared here. I did this so that he would be under no misapprehension regarding the situation. The little doctor from Vallejo has been more than kind, and while we were at Miami he was given most positive assurances, but I doubt the efficacy of this. I shall see the man in charge upon his return next week, and then may be able to tell you more, and with greater confidence.

I had a good time at Miami, notwithstanding the weather was wretched. I got into the water daily, got myself pretty well burned the first day, and on one or two succeeding days pretty well rolled, but I stood it all right (I was doubtful about this) and I think it really did me good.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

I went to the opening ball game, saw an indifferent game, but not a bad one. I was with Doctor Dandy of Johns Hopkins University, the great mental specialist. I talked to him a great deal about Philip, but he could give me little information. He told me if he had all of the records of the operation, he might be able to hazard a fair opinion. He also told me that a man at Stanford named Doctor Reichert, he thought the "tops" of his profession. He did not disparage Doctor Naffziger at all, but Reichert, he thought, outranked him. I give you this gossip for what it is worth.

I have been frightfully worried about Philip, but everything is being done that can be done now.

With all my love, in which Mother joins,
I am

Affectionately,

Dad

COPY

April 22, 1941.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, 3rd,
973 Green Street,
San Francisco, California

My dear Hiram:

Yesterday I saw the party in charge of drafting here. He was exceedingly courteous and kind. The only danger is that he may be so wrapped up in national defense that he will forget his remarks to me.

After I had been explaining the situation to him for quite a little while, he interrupted me, and said - "I tell you there is no reason for you or Mrs. Johnson to worry about this situation. If anything should arise that would cause an alteration in deferment, and it becomes necessary to assign the young man to some work, I will assign him to San Francisco, and his work shall be there." He was perfectly positive in this statement. He recognizes that a man engaged in legal work in San Francisco might be infinitely more valuable pursuing his work than as a draftee, and I think he has recognition, as well, of the peculiar circumstances of the case.

Apparently, your papers have not been received here yet. My understanding was that you carefully prepared the request for your deferment, and that this is acquiesced in by Earl Warren or Mr. Harrison, so that the state authority was with you in the matter. Better quietly investigate what has become of these papers. It is not to be wondered at that they have not been received here yet, because of the innumerable cases, and because no investigation has been made to discover them, - the party in command having just returned when I saw him.

I could write you a large volume on this matter, but I think I have said all that is essential to be said.

With my love, I am

Affectionately your Grandfather,

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

April 25, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
973 Green Street,
San Francisco, California

My dear Jack:

I read with the utmost interest your letter of the 18th, and I have just re-read it. I agree with you, that it is rotten luck that Frere developed such a rare case. I will try to make all the inquiries that I can about Mayo's and Johns Hopkins. I know nothing about Mayo's, but Johns Hopkins I have a little knowledge of. It has deteriorated in the last few years, and I would not wish to bring Philip there. All the Mayos are dead, I think, and the institution is run by those who were a part of its management, other than its founders.

Mother last night talked to Dr. Willcutts in whom she has an exalted and implicit confidence. I heard her over the 'phone ask about bringing Philip back here to either one of the institutions. His advice was not to take him to Johns Hopkins, under any circumstances, and he was against bringing him back to Mayo's. I will get your Mother to write you of her

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

conversation with him. As soon as Dr. Willcutts gets to California, if you desire it, he will come up to San Francisco, and look Philip over. Of course, he would not do this without notifying Naffsiger, whom he knows. It will be the latter part of May before he gets to California, however, and that is a pretty long time to wait.

I have not written you regarding Hiram's personal matter, because I have written him quite fully. I have presumed, because you were a part of it, that you are in sympathy with his application for deferment. Time marches on, and we're approaching the fatal day. So let me know if we're trying to do anything which does not meet with your approval.

I get perfectly cockeyed at the situation here. There is nothing I can do, and nothing that can be done when a wilful and utterly untruthful man rules us. He has made up his mind to get us into this war, and nothing can stop him. We'll all take a blast at him soon, but it is utterly useless. It makes me sick at heart.

With my love, in which Mother joins, I am
Affectionately,

H.W.J.

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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Sunday, April 27, 1941.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
Attorney at law,
Mills Building,
San Francisco, California

My dear Jack:

I have just received yours of 25th. This was the same day that I wrote you. Our letters, of course, crossed. I feel like you do about the unceasingly new things that the poor boy can develop. I feel, too, that each one saps his remaining strength, and each one leaves him less able to cope with the horrid disease. Everything is being done that can be done. I rack my brain but I cannot think of anything that has been neglected. I am glad that Ebright is apparently paying attention to the case again, and I hope he continues. The strongest constitution on earth would be worn away by the sufferings of Philip, and this is what I fear more than all else. I have a hunch - I can't tell where it comes from, and it is probably pure damn nonsense - that once his leg will begin to recover, and he can straighten it out like an ordinary leg, and use it as such, that perhaps things will be a little better with him; but, of course, I don't know anything about it, and probably this is just a ray of hope.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

I haven't any new offices, save that we had another room assigned to us. This is simply an inside room, and is not even immediately contiguous to the office.

I write you this Sunday because it is my habit to do so, and your letter came today. The inefficient postoffice here picks up a few letters on Sunday, and makes distribution of them. Some days they will deliver your letter, and then again I won't get it until the following day. There is no use to growl about this because they would all swear they delivered it at the earliest possible time, although I know from the delay in the air-mail and immediate delivery letters, that they do not.

Mother is in pretty good shape, and I think I may say that our trip to Miami did her good. My physical aches would be very much better if I had no mental ones, but I get quite frantic in thinking what is being done to us.

With my love, in which Mother joins, I am

Affectionately,

Hu

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

P:S: I write this note because of the P.S. of your letter in which you tell of the rise in the temperature of Philip. The damned doctors will be wanting to cut him open again, for some such thing as they suggest is the cause of this. Unless imperative I would not let them perform any other operations on him. You, of course, are on the ground and know better than I, and I have no right to make any such suggestion as I do. Pardon it.

Dad

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COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

Sunday, May 5, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
Attorney at law,
Mills Building,
San Francisco, California

My dear Jack:

I had hoped by delaying my letter to you until Sunday that I would find yours here telling me of Philip's condition. I realize that you have written a letter and it is in the mail, but the damn rogues here sometimes put it in the mail box, and sometimes do not. I have had your letter of a week ago, and Hiram's more recent, but neither gave me a feeling of optimism. In addition, both Naffziger and Moffitt are out of town, and while Hiram paints a very pretty picture of the erudite Dr. Ebright, it is rather contrary to what we have heard before.

Dr. Hogan is leaving here Tuesday night next, and after that week he will probably call upon you. He has been the personification of kindness in both Hiram's personal matter, and Philip's illness. He will call upon you with the sole purpose of trying to make some suggestion. Bear with him, please. Dr. Willcutts is a horse of another color. He will probably be put in charge of the hospital

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Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

at San Diego, which is a very large but important one. Mother places the utmost reliance upon him. He was in charge of the hospital here, and had the respect and regard of all with whom he came in contact.

I think he is one of the intuitive surgeons, just as there are intuitive lawyers. I do not mean by this that these classes are particularly able outside their chosen path, but within it they show an aptitude for carving up the human body and perform great feats cutting out pieces of it of various and sundry kinds, and recognition comes to them as great surgeons. He may call upon you. If he does, please receive him well. Incidentally, he has met Naffziger.

Last night I was interested in Lindbergh's speech. He had twenty minutes, and I realize the stress he was under. I think he did very well considering. I do think that he has splendid nerve, and says just what he pleases. If he is right, what a terrible thing it is that this administration is taking our

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Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

country into such a horrible war. He asked twice, why we should do it, but he did not give the answer. I don't blame him, because none of us has guts enough to tell the truth, and we all sidestep when it comes to it. I have got the foolish notion in my head that Hitler does not want to declare war on us, and that he will hold off as long as possible. This will play into the hands of men like Roosevelt, Knox, and Stimson, but he probably will not do it for very good reasons. His desire is to put the onus on us, and while we have given cause for a hundred wars to any belligerent opposed to us he probably would rather be in the position of laying upon our doorstep an actual declaration of war. Today's papers carry a dispatch that twenty odd ships of ours have arrived at Suez conveying ships with supplies for Great Britain, and then, a refutation of the story also, so we can't tell whether it is true or not. I imagine it to be true, however.

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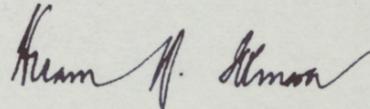
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Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 4

It is difficult for me to wait until tomorrow to receive your letter. I want to go over to the postoffice and snatch it away.

With love, in which Mother joins, to everybody, I am

Affectionately your Father,



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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 11, 1941.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
Attorney at law,
Mills Building,
San Francisco, California

My dear Jack:

I received this morning your letter of May 9. You see this was one of the letters that came as all of them should come. The trouble is wholly with the Washington postoffice. I think I made that clear to you.

I read of Philip's trials, and the torture he has undergone in the matter of the kidney stones, and I think it is horrible. I wonder if the medicine has anything to do with the acuteness of his suffering. I don't look for any great results from Hogan's visit to him, but, at least, he will give me a thoughtful viewpoint which subsequently I shall send to you.

I note Dr. Naffziger said that quite a few doctors talked to him about the case, and he was asked many questions concerning it. I think that he refers principally to one interview that he had with Willcutts. Willcutts knows him and undertook to interview him. I think

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 2

that they get along splendidly. Willcutts will call upon Philip. I have described him to you before. Mother has an abiding confidence in his judgment. I think in his realm of surgery he has proven himself. My only doubt is his lack of time to digest the case. If they are willing that he should call, it would do no harm, and may be productive of good. I received from Hiram a wire last evening saying that Hogan could not call Sunday, as he contemplated because Ebright would be absent then. Of course, all these doctors have to act with circumscription. I don't doubt Naffziger's ability or competency at all, but he promised to let me know when he would be in the east again after his first visit, and promised as well, that he would let me know the situation. I don't like the fact that he did not keep faith with me, but there may be a thousand excuses, and of course, I would not take him to task for it. Perhaps he has grown so big that he does not feel it incumbent on him to advise an old grandfather, no matter what the old fellow's feeling will be. One thing about Hogan - Philip went up to see Mr. and Mrs. Hogan on one occasion, when he was having some sort of a physical examination, I think, - I have forgotten just what it was.

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 3

They were perfectly charmed with him. They liked his poise, his manners, and his general bearing, and were so enthusiastic about him, that I am quite certain they have for him a great affection.

It is groping in the dark with these people and it is in the hope that perhaps bringing this one in some suggestion may occur to them that will, in part, alleviate the suffering of the boy. I feel the same as I wrote you once before that if they could get him where his leg will rest naturally we will see a marked improvement in him.

There is little that I can say to you about the war that you have not already seen in the newspapers. We're bound to get in, and the President is waiting the right time to strike. Of course, all the members of his Cabinet, and those about him are leading the pack of English propagandists yelping for war. They have a practically unanimous eastern press, and the scum of the columnists in their favor. I am thinking very seriously of declaring myself on the radio against all these people and against war. You speak of my silence, and for obvious reasons I have not wanted to be unduly prominent, although I have never failed to express myself to my fellows; but I can not much longer stand it, and whatever the reasons may be for my apparent

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr. - 4

silence, I shall express myself as my father used to say "with fluency and fervor" soon now.

I think last night Lindberg made a very excellent speech. I know the place where the meeting was held in Minneapolis, and it holds an immense throng. It was stated during the broadcast that it was full, and an equal number of people were on the outside. He is doing a great work. I admire his courage more than I can say. It will all be useless since the enactment of the infamous Lease-Lend Bill. The argument will now be made that there is no use sending relief to Great Britain if it is going to be sunk to the bottom of the sea, and the call will be overwhelming for convoys to protect what we are sending. It is a horrible time. So few people, too, have any conception of the cost of war, and while, of course, the killing of our youth comes first, necessarily the result in dollars and cents must also be reckoned.

With my love, in which Mother joins, I am

Affectionately,

Das

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 24, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
973 Green Street,
San Francisco, California

My dear Jack:

I wired you this morning that I would postpone speech until a week from today, - Saturday, May 31, ten to ten thirty, Eastern Standard Time.

This was caused by a general mixup in dates, and the old trouble of transcriptions. I have guarded myself as well as I could in relation to these transcriptions, and what I have to say will be reported through the network of the NBC, and very likely through the Mutual network.

I saw Naffziger Thursday. He called upon me, and was more than pleasant. He says Philip has a very hard road to go, but he definitely sees improvement in him. He said the last few days before he left San Francisco Philip showed marked gains. He did not wish to offer too much encouragement, but he looks for Philip's recovery. When this recovery will come he is mighty indefinite about. How long Philip will be confined to his bed he is unable to say, and it is upon

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this point that I examined him rather carefully, but without much results. He is depending upon Philip's youth and strength. I can not say that my interview with Naffziger was wholly satisfactory, but it was an improvement on what we had before. One thing he said that left me a little in doubt, and that was, there had not been the production of a sufficient amount of calcine in the broken leg, and this troubled him.

While he was with me he asked me if I would aid him in some plan the doctors had for the need of a medical school or a teaching hospital, and of course, I said yes. This morning I am in receipt of a letter from him outlining the scheme, and giving me a list of legislators for me immediately to work upon. This is something I have never done. If, by a statement or otherwise I could aid him I would be glad to do it, but to ask individuals to support a certain bill carrying a large appropriation is a little beyond me. This is for your eye alone for I have until Monday night only to decide what to do, and I don't want to do anything that would offend him in the slightest degree.

I took up with Naffziger a new room for Philip, and told him they had refused to give it to Phil. He seemed to be utterly in ignorance of the re-

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fusal, although I understood it was he who made the first suggestion. Your Mother and I thought if he could be given a change of air, as it were, with a little better outlook it might brighten him a bit.

I will write you again during the week.

With all my love, in which Mother joins , I am

Affectionately,

Dad.

P.S. In the long communication sent me by Naffziger received this morning, there is just a line concerning Philip - "I have just seen Philip and find him looking fine, and better than when I left", and he had told me in our interview, that the last few days Philip showed marked improvement.

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS

May 25, 1941.

CHRISTIE B. KENNEDY, CLERK

Mr. Hiram W. Johnson, Jr.,
Attorney at law,
Mills Building,
San Francisco.

My dear Jack:

If the spirit moves you in the next few days write me an outline of speech you think ought to be delivered. The President speaks Tuesday night. I won't speak until Saturday next.

Hastily and affectionately,

H.W.J.