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March 23, 1942.

Confidential

Hon. Marvin H. McIntyre
Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Re: Disclosure of Tax Returns

Dear Mac:

1. I have been in touch with Randolph Paul as a result, I imagine, of your prodding Henry.

2. I have told Paul that whereas Treasury, a year or more ago when the matter first went on Henry's desk, could have been handled so as to include, in my opinion, all organizations in order to find out which ones were exempt and which were not, I was of the opinion that vis-a-vis the Vinson bill now pending, it would be bad dope to try to do by regulations what in part Vinson thinks requires a statute. Maybe Vinson should be tipped off to call on the Treasury for an opinion as to whether the power lies there at the moment.

3. The returns of information fall due May 15. I still would like to see the date expedited. I hear tell that we are at war.

4. For the first time the government will receive on May 15 information as to who was back of America First, The Technocrats, the Bridges Committee, the Coughlin groups, Gerald Smith, et al. I say that the government will get this information, but it all depends on how much vitality is put into the Treasury Department with respect to this situation. In other words, Labor's Non-Partisan League may claim to be a labor organization; ditto for many of the German Bund groups; some of the Coughlinite and McWilliams groups may claim to be bona fide religious organizations.

5. I hope that Henry puts a good tough guy in charge of these informational returns. Within a week of May 15, the information should be analyzed and a flock of men should be out in the field checking up the returns. I am convinced that many of the big contributors will have phoned the names.

6. I have already written to Edgar Hoover to make sure that Biddle requests the Boss to issue an Executive Order making this information available to Justice. It should include the names of all large contributors to organizations making public opinion.

7. I think the next drive should come for an amendment of the pending Revenue Act, or even by a separate measure to have these returns all made public.

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