

BRITISH EMBASSY,

WASHINGTON, D.C.,

March 11th, 1940.

No. 241.

My Lord,

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With reference to Your Lordship's despatch No. 122 (T 867/134/384) of the 5th February, I have the honour to report that on the 5th March the Right Honourable R.G. Casey presented his Letter of Credence as Australian Minister to the United States to President Roosevelt. The texts of Mr. Casey's speech on this occasion and of the President's reply are enclosed herein.

2. I also have the honour to transmit a copy of circular instructions issued to Consular Officers under my superintendence on the subject of Mr. Casey's appointment.

3. The establishment of the Australian Legation has entailed termination of Mr. Officer's appointment as Australian Counsellor at His Majesty's Embassy. I am very glad to have this opportunity of putting on record my warm appreciation of Mr. Officer's services during the time that he has been attached to the Embassy. In addition to performing his special duties connected with Australia, Mr. Officer has always given ungrudging and invaluable assistance in the general work of the Embassy and the many contacts which he formed in Washington and elsewhere have been most useful. Since

FRHM:AR:NT

the/

The Right Honourable,

The Viscount Halifax, K. G.,

etc., etc., etc.

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the outbreak of war Mr. Officer has rendered assistance in our war activities which has been particularly valuable in a number of directions and his advice and knowledge of local conditions have been of the greatest service to me. I am sure that my predecessor would endorse my views, and I am glad to think that though Mr. Officer has now left the Embassy, he is still stationed in Washington and that I can therefore still benefit from his advice.

I have the honour to be,

with the highest respect,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's most obedient,

humble servant,

(SGD) LOTHIAN