July 7, 1939.

Dear General:

The enclosed letter refers to a personal matter I discussed with the President this morning. I should appreciate it very much if you would see that he gets it promptly.

Sincerely yours,

M. S. Eccles Chairman.

General Edward M. Watson, White House.

LBC: em

July 7, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

I am enclosing a suggested draft of a letter which I think will cover Dr. Currie's case. You will note that I couched the letter in terms of a leave of absence as, on further reflection, this seemed to me to be preferable to arranging for a loan of his services. On a leave of absence basis, he could qualify for the higher salary as an administrative assistant, and any possible criticism arising from the fact that his salary was being paid from assessments on the Federal Reserve banks while serving as your assistant would be avoided. As our staff is not under the Civil Service, he would not sacrifice any status in that respect.

If you approve, I would appreciate it very much if you would sign and return the letter to me, if possible, by Monday, in order that I may get Board approval before the Board Members learn of the matter from other sources.

Respectfully yours,

M. S. Eccles Chairman.

The Honorable, The President of the United States, White House.

LBC: em

July 8, 1939

Dear Marriner:

As you know, the Reorganization Act provided for a certain number of administrative assistants to the President. As one of these assistants, I should like to appoint Lauchlin Currie. Assistant Director of Research in your organization.

In order, however, that his present status with the Board of Governors be preserved while serving as my assistant, I would appreciate it if the Board would grant him leave of absence for a period of a year, to take effect upon the date of his appointment.

Very sincerely yours,

French Illmerwell

Honorable Marriner S. Eccles, Chairman, Board of Governors,

Federal Reserve System,

Washington. D. C.

July 10, 1939

My dear Mr. President:

In response to your letter of July 8 advising me that you would like to appoint Lauchlin Currie of this organization as one of the administrative assistants to the President provided for in the Reorganization Act, the Board will be glad to grant him leave of absence for a period of a year, to take effect upon the date of his appointment, in order to preserve his present status with the Board of Governors while serving as your assistant.

Very sincerely yours,

M. S. Eccles, Chairman.

The President,

The White House.

