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Letter From Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson to J. Joseph Smith, December 25, 1940

Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson

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Copy

Woodbury, Conn.,

December 25, 1940

The Hon. J. Joseph Smith,
House of Representatives,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Smith,

I beg you to ask your conscientious judgment whether America can afford any chance of Britain's going down; to ask your conscience where you stand in this battle between civilization and barbarism, between freedom and despotism.

You must realize, I am sure, that cooperation of the English-speaking peoples is America's only sure defense. Unless we help Britain now, to whatever extent necessary to keep command of the seas and the air from passing to our enemies, then all our costly armaments will be ready to late to save us. Our Government will have prepared for us an indefinite future of humiliation and suffering.

Realizing these things, you bear a heavy responsibility indeed. This is an appalling emergency. Our war industries should be on a twenty-four hour basis. Our so-called neutrality laws, which change international law to the detriment of those fighting our battle, and the Johnson Act should be repealed, if necessary to maximum help to Britain. The President should be encouraged and supported in a bold policy of realism. Even participation in the war on sea and in the air now would be far preferable to the fate in store for the United States,--if Britain and the British fleet should fail.

Very sincerely yours,

F. M. Huntington-Wilson.