

Ref.:

FO 127/206

Please note that this copy is supplied subject to the National Archives terms and conditions and that your use of it may be subject to copyright restrictions. Further information is given in the Terms and Conditions of supply of the National Archives' leaflet displayed at and available from the Record Copying counter.

Ministry of Economic Warfare,
Berkeley Square House,
Berkeley Square,
W1.

28th February, 1941.

Dear Minister,

I have been in deep contemplation ever since the matter we discussed yesterday with the P.M., and feel I must put my concerns to you before we take any further action.

Leeper's assessment on Saturday was pretty close to the mark, and his conclusion that despite being unable, probably, to win in Europe, we could win a world war has, of course, been bandied about for the last month or two. However, what Winston now proposes is a truly terrible thing, and I am not sure my conscience will allow me to participate.

I have always maintained that in this war body-line bowling of the Hun is justified, and the Messrs HHHH Operation, once we took it over, was intended to fulfill that function, but I do not believe we can be morally justified to use it to cause the suggested end result.

I feel we must have another meeting to discuss where we are going to take this matter, and I would appreciate your opinion. Can I suggest a joint car again next Saturday?

Yours Ever,

H.D.

Mr. A. Eden,
Foreign Office, SW1.