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Vienna, September 14, 1934.

Dear Moffat:

I want to write you briefly, for your background, with regard to the arrest of Mrs. Hammerand and also with respect to a Mr. Granger who has been in Vienna and who lives in Washington, and whom perhaps you know.

First, about Mrs. Hammerand. My despatch No. 136, of September 14, which goes forward today, will tell you about her. She is a native Missourian who is now Austrian, and I think there is no doubt, from what I can learn, that she was actively associated in the July 25 putsch. There is nothing we can do for her and I doubt whether there is anything we should do for her. The fact that she is of American birth, however, and that it is known that she has many American women friends here, will probably ease the sentence which she may eventually get. I naturally do not want to pre-judge the case, but it looks as though she were in it pretty badly and was a go-between with her husband, for some of the leaders in Germany and Austria. If this is so, then she knew she was playing with fire. I understand that the affairs of the Hammerand Hotel, which is a very decent and quite good hotel, were not going so well and I think she and her husband were probably counting on making a good thing out of their connection with the Nazi Party. I have sent the rather full information in the despatch under reference in order that you may be able to answer the relatives, but what I want to tell you is that so far as the woman's guilt is concerned, no one seems to have much doubt. By this I mean that she was not only a National Socialist sympathizer in their opinion, but was actively concerned in the plot against the Government. This, of course, is for your own information and background, for I do not know the woman, to my knowledge have never seen her, and can only give the impressions which I gather from those who do know her.

There is a man named Alfred Granger here who lives at 2824 O Street, N. W. in Washington and who, I understand, has a house at Lake Forest, Illinois. He is an architect by profession and has been in Vienna on various occasions. He was here during Seipel's time and claims to have been a very good friend of Seipel. He says he is writing a book on Austria called "The Spirit of Vienna." He is a good friend of our Consul General here whom he knows from

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previous visits. I have seen something of him here and there and he is one of those persons who is personally extremely objectionable to me because he wants to be associated with the great and the near great. I am more or less of a disappointment to him I think because I have failed to take much interest in him.

He has been pestering me to see the President and the Chancellor, but I have staved him off as I saw no reason why I should bother these busy men just to satisfy Granger's vanity. He came in, however, yesterday and told me a long story about how he had been asked by Secretary Hull to act as the official host for the Austrian Trade Delegation which was in the United States this spring. He said it was he who, at the Secretary's request, introduced the delegation to the President and acted as ~~tour~~ official host for them in Washington, giving dinners etc., for them. He said that he wanted very much for his book to have a chance to talk with the President and the Chancellor. To make a long story short, although I doubted very much whether he had had anything to do with the Austrian Trade Delegation in the way he explained to me, I thought if he was writing a book I might take him to see the President. I therefore arranged to take him there this morning and the President was very nice to him.

The Chancellor is, of course, in Geneva, but after I had taken him to the President Granger made it clear to me this morning that he expects me to take him to the Chancellor also when the Chancellor comes back. I told him that I had been very glad to take him to see the President, but that even for someone who had more rights to see the Chancellor than he, it would be very difficult for me to make an engagement in those busy days following the Chancellor's return to Vienna and before Granger's departure for home on the 26th. I made it clear to him that I did not see how I could ask the Chancellor to see him just because he wanted an opportunity to see him.

I am telling you this because Granger may complain to you all when he goes back to Washington that I had not helped him as I should, and I want you to know that I did take him to see the President and have no intention of taking him to see the Chancellor. There are too many people coming here whom it is worth while for the Chancellor to see for me to impose men like Granger on him. Granger is decent enough, but he is merely one of those presumptuous and self important people who will stick at nothing to push themselves forward. I wanted you to know that if he tells the Secretary, whom he says he knows very well, that I did not do for him what I should, that I feel that I did more for him than should have been

done and that Mr. Granger's principal cause for complaint is that I did not entertain him with all sorts of people whom he wanted to meet through me. You know this sort of individual and I think I need say no more.

I am delighted to do everything for everybody when they are reasonable people, but I just can't allow myself to be used by men like this to impose themselves on busy people.

Cordially yours,

P. S. By the way, I almost forgot my principal reason for telling you about Granger. As we were leaving the President this morning he said "May I bring to President Roosevelt, who is my very dear friend, your very good wishes"? To this President Miklas naturally had to reply that he would be very glad to have him do so. The chances are nine out of ten that when Granger gets back to Washington he will seek an appointment with the President as the special bearer of President Miklas' greetings to President Roosevelt. Enough said.