EDITORIAL PRACTICES

The editing of the Harmer Diary and the Brand Reports is guided by two main considerations: to stay as close as possible to the original documents; and to produce an uncluttered version of the texts that is easy to follow. The original spelling, punctuation, capitalization and so on have been retained for most of the text. Clarifications have been added in square brackets to spell out abbreviations, to give full names, when there are only partial names or initials, to identify the holder of an office referred to in the text, and occasionally to elucidate meaning. To minimize editorial intrusions frequently occurring abbreviations, like H-P (for Hall-Patch) in the Harmer Diary, have been spelled out in full after their first appearance, and less familiar abbreviations like 'kn.' for 'knot' have been silently expanded. Some abbreviations of Harmer's, e.g. L/L for Lend-Lease have been kept as typical abbreviations after one or two expansions, and a couple of 'V. & C. [Vinson & Clayton]'s have been kept for effect. There are also some silent corrections of one or two misspellings, possibly arising from dictation or mistyping, and expansions of abbreviated words (could, interest, should, would) in a few handwritten Brand Reports.

Footnotes in the Harmer and Brand chapters contain brief biographies of people mentioned in the text, information about organizations, places and cultural references, and explanations of issues and policies raised by Harmer and Brand. It should be understood throughout that 'billion' always means '1000 million'.

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