

HEATH HOUSE,
COWBRIDGE, SOUTH WALES.
Thursday 26th November 1942.

General de Gaule, Free French Headquarters, London.

Sir:

I am writing this letter as a very ordinary Englishman because I feel that something may have happened concerning your post-poned broadcast on Sunday which has possibly caused you distress.

It is not given to the man in the street to understand what is going on behind the scenes in the diplomatic world, but I just want you to know that, to the average Britisher, you are the symbol of all that is good in France and Frenchmen. In the dark days of 1940 your personality shone out as a beacon light of hope and encouragement for all the world to see and you can be assured that you have a very warm place in the hearts of the British people.

It will not be forgotten that you fought a lone battle and won through and there is little wonder now that others wish to follow in the trail which you blazed. But do not worry about their coming - or their going - because the name of de Gaule will undyingly be linked up with the re-birth of your native land.

You will undoubtedly return to France with honour and glory, and for your journey, I respectfully wish you, Sir, Bon Voyage.

I have the honour to be, Sir,
Yours very truly,

R. N. Bird.