business so far amounted to 34 million francs. — ten and a half months before Pearl Harbor —

Dearborn was pleased. Late in January 1941 the Courier Lesto, so far unmolested save for an inspection by the British censors in Bermuda, whose report, if any, was not acted upon by the British Government, carried Edsel Ford's congratulations to M. Dollfus. "We are very proud of the record that you and your associates have made in building the company up to its first great position under such circumstances."

By August of 1941, Edsel Ford was hesitant about continuing the correspondence, since "everything will be scrutinized by the censors." Something must have decided him to go on corresponding anyway.

By August of 1941, evidently because the U.S. was by now irrevocably committed to all steps short of open war against the Axis, and because "everything will be scrutinized by the censors," Edsel Ford was hesitant about continuing the correspondence. Something decided him to go on corresponding anway. Two months after Pearl Harbor, Dollfus was reporting net profits for 1941 of 58 million francs. "...since the existence of a state of war between the United States and Germany," he wrote, "correspondence is difficult and this letter will be MAILED by Mr. Lesto from Vichy...production is continuing at the same rate despite difficulties...(but) is the best of all French manufacturers...still relying on the French government to preserve the interests of the American stockholders."

In March 1942, the Ford plant at Poissy, France was severely bombed by the R.A.F.