

Document set 1: petition from Oswald to Bouchotte, dated July 11, 1793, with seven numbered attachments.

In his petition, Oswald presents his case to Bouchotte: he explains how he left his family in America and accepted a post as colonel of artillery under General Dumouriez. He left his American army certificates at the French War Office. He recounts his secret mission in Ireland and indicates that he returned to Paris on June 8. Despite having been reimbursed for the costs of his journey, he observes that his horse, bought in London for 40 guineas, was left in Minister Lebrun-Tondu's stables and died. He requests an indemnity for the horse and the return of the certificates that he deposited at the War Office. Employed since September 18, 1792, but only having received two months' pay, he requests the payment for the other months. Since his present certificate is insufficient, he asks for a new one so that he can continue his military service. He adds that he commanded 4 out of 24 units at Jemappes and 4 of 12 at Liège. There are four attachments currently remaining with the letter [attachments numbered 3 and 7 are missing at present]; they are numbered on their versos:

"No. 1 & 2," dated August 23, 1793: Certified transcripts, in French, of two testimonials documenting Eleazer Oswald's military service. The first testimonial, from September 17, 1791, certifies Oswald's participation in the American Revolution as a lieutenant colonel of artillery, and was issued in Philadelphia before the Commandant General of the Artillery. The second, from August 28, 1792, certifies that Oswald is a citizen of Pennsylvania, remarks that he served with distinction in the American Army, and was signed and sealed by Thomas Pinckney in London. The certificate of the translator follows. The document translation took place at the War Office in Paris.

[**"No. 3"** relates to the purchase of a horse in London; it is not in the Oswald Family Papers]

"No. 4," October 29, 1792: Declaration of General Dumouriez, who declares that, in recognition of Oswald's military talent and civic spirit, he confers upon him the grade of colonel in the artillery and issues to him this certificate.

"No. 5," January 6, 1793: Permit for a month's leave. The commandant of the French Army in Belgium gives Oswald a month's leave with the understanding that he will return to his post at the end of that time. The second portion is from the Commandant of the second artillery certifying that Oswald left the town of Tirlemont on January 16.

"No. 6," June 21, 1793: Certificate of Oswald's secret mission by Minister of Foreign Affairs Lebrun-Tondu. The document certifies that from February 20 until June 8, Oswald was engaged on a secret, delicate, and dangerous mission. Lebrun-Tondu presents the certificate, which he has signed, and which was countersigned by the Secretary General of Foreign Affairs.

[**"No. 7"** is relative to the horse's stabling fee; it is not in the Oswald Family Papers]

Document set 2: Letter from Oswald to Bouchotte, dated Paris July 23, 1793, with two attachments

Having received no answer to his communication of ten days earlier, Oswald writes again and encloses a copy of a letter of reference from Thomas Paine. Oswald also refers to the documents relating to his service that he sent with the previous letter (document set 1).