

Two attachments: copies of Thomas Paine's letter of introduction

July 21, 1793, certified translation of a letter from Thomas Paine to the War Minister. Paine recounts how he met Oswald in London the previous September when Oswald was anxious to serve in France in order to repay the debt he believed Americans owed the French for their support. At the end of the campaign, he was sent to Ireland by Lebrun-Tondu to report on rising tensions, where he fulfilled his mission admirably, especially since, being American, his presence did not arouse suspicion. Paine adds that since Oswald will not return to America until the following spring and would like to continue his service in the army, and since he is an excellent artillery officer and an intrepid soldier, Paine would be pleased if the War Minister would grant Oswald an interview. There follows an inscription from the public interpreter, certifying the fidelity of his translation.

July 21, 1793, draft of above letter from Paine to Bouchotte in support of Oswald.

Document set 3: Two notes on one sheet

The first, dated September 9, 1793, in which the secretary indicates that he has sent the letter concerning Citizen Oswald of Philadelphia to Citizen Bouchotte, the war minister, having received it from Citizen Merlino. Following that is another note, dated September 14, 1793, in which the secretary adds that Bouchotte ought to have received the attached pieces on September 9, and that he had asked Bouchotte to look at them.

Document set 4: Memo of arrears due to Citizen Oswald

September 29, 1793, draft of an account of payments due for the period that Oswald was a colonel of artillery. Included are: pay, food, feed for horses, and compensation for his horse.

September 30, 1793, final copy of memo of arrears due to Oswald, signed by him and with a note referring to the decree of the National Convention which entitles him, along with every officer who served in the Belgian Army, to their pay up to April 1, 1793.