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March 24, 1947

Dear Mr. President:

I read with a lot of interest your Report No. Three - The Necessary Steps for Promotion of German Exports and it is a most interesting document.

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x275-A

I do appreciate most highly your willingness to go into this matter and I also appreciate the thoroughness with which you have covered the ground.

I am hoping we can work out the economic situation in Germany so as to reestablish the European balance of trade. At Potsdam I suggested to the conference that the Rhine and Danube should be free for the transport of merchandise to all those countries that had riparian rights on them and I am sure that it is going to be necessary to reestablish the economic balance in Europe before we can possibly reestablish the political balance.

x396
x190 Potsdam
Conference
x173

I think you have made a great contribution toward that end.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY S. TRUMAN

Honorable Herbert Hoover
The Waldorf-Astoria Towers
New York, New York

x PP7-95
x 315

HERBERT HOOVER

The Waldorf-Astoria Towers
New York, New York
March 18, 1947

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I am sending you herewith my conclusions upon the problems of reviving German industry and thus exports with which to relieve American and British taxpayers from their burden in preventing starvation in Germany. These problems also involve economic stability and peace in Europe.

Whatever may have been our policies in the past, I am convinced that the time has come to face the realities that have developed. The mission you assigned to me would be less than performed if I did not state the stark situation and make such recommendations as seem to me necessary.

I wish again to express my appreciation to you for your consideration, to my colleagues Mr. Hugh Gibson, Dr. Gustav Stolper, Dr. Dennis A. FitzGerald, Dr. William Sebrell, Jr., and Messrs. Louis Lochner, Frank Mason and Tracy Voorhees, and to our military and civil officials in Germany.

Yours faithfully,

Herbert Hoover