

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D. C.

May 7 1948

The President of the United States,
The White House,
Washington, D.C.



My dear Mr. President:

Believing as we do that this is an hour of grave crisis for the United Nations and also for the United States, we respectfully address you concerning the Palestine situation.

We believe that the Resolution favoring partition as adopted by the General Assembly on November 29th provides a solution which is more practicable, equitable and capable of administration than the trusteeship proposal now sponsored by our government. This recommendation seeks under a new guise and with far less hopes of success to perpetuate a mandate over two unwilling peoples in Palestine, which the British government is now abandoning as utterly unworkable. The logic of the General Assembly Resolution in favor of partition is now proving itself in practice as the only right and hopeful solution for Palestine.

The action of our government carries the implication of an abandonment of the democratic process in settling international issues. Physical force by member nations in the United Nations in any effort to upset the decisions of the majority appears to have been an important factor in our government's change in position. The situation requires understanding, firmness and statesmanship.

We suggest the following program and urge that it be given your full support:

1. Our government should cease its fruitless efforts to impose a trusteeship which will involve the use of forces greater than any that might have been required to enforce partition, it should place its authority and prestige unequivocally behind the resolution for the establishment of Jewish and Arab States in Palestine.

2. Immediate action should be taken to protect Jerusalem which is part of the spiritual heritage of mankind from the large-scale destruction of battle which threatens following the termination of the Mandate. Our government should take the initiative to secure the immediate confirmation of the Jerusalem Trusteeship Statute. The United States should support the formation of a voluntary force contributed by willing member states of the United Nations to maintain the truce and restore order in Jerusalem.

3. The United States should immediately lift the arms embargo and facilitate the flow of arms to Palestine to be used for defense purposes. To assure that these arms are not used for aggression, they may be distributed through the United Nations Palestine Commission.

4. The United States should not allow the authority of the United Nations and its own prestige to be impaired, as they are now being impaired, by aggression of the Arab States in clear violation of the Charter and in defiance of the United Nations. The United States should take leadership in the United Nations in directing these nations to withdraw their armed nationals from Palestine and to desist from further invasion. It should be made clear that unless this is done, economic and diplomatic sanctions and even expulsion from the United Nations as provided in the Charter of the United Nations, will be instituted against them and will be supported by the United States. A Border Commission of the United Nations, comparable with that sent to Greece, should be sent to Palestine at once.

5. Our concern over the failure of the British Government to cooperate in carrying out the partition resolution of the General Assembly and especially its failure to maintain law and order, which responsibility it reserved exclusively unto itself until the termination of the Mandate, should be transmitted by our government to the British Government. We draw particular attention to the responsibility which rests on the government of Great Britain to restrain the Arab Legion of King Abdullah of Trans-Jordan from any military intervention in the affairs of Palestine. This Legion exists only by virtue of a British subsidy and is under the command of a British commanding officer.

Mr. President: It is our conviction that this is an hour no less critical for the history of the world than when fascist Italy marched with impunity into Ethiopia and set in train consequences which led inevitably to World War II. Considerations of justice, of law and of our national safety alike require that affirmative action along the lines above indicated be taken by our government. Courageous assertion of American leadership is called for and we hope that we shall not appeal to you in vain.

Respectfully yours,


Chet Holifield

Abraham J. Multer - *Abraham J. Multer*
Adolph J. Sabath - *A. J. Sabath*
x

Emanuel Keller - 15th New York
 Thomas J. Kane - 7th Mass
 Eugene Keogh - 9th New York
 Hugh Ashmeade - 2nd - Ind.
 Ray Madden - 1st Indiana
 Annie J. Howard - 1st R.I.
 John A. Carroll - 1st Colorado
 As a minimum ~~Andrew~~ Thomas,
 John W. McCormack - 10th New York
 17th Mass.
 Frank Buchanan - 23rd Pennsylvania
 John Dingell - 15th Dist of Michigan
 Samuel H. Ludlow - 14th Mass. Legat.
 William T. Pinyan - 22nd Dist. N. West.
 Melvin Price - 22 Ill.

Carl A. Lyne
 Helen Galagan - 2 angles
 Augustine Kelly

Donald L. Toole N.Y.

James J. Hefferman N.Y.
John J. Creamer N.Y.C.

Herman P. Eberharter Penna.

Sam J. Rosary New York

Frank R. Havens - Calif.

Raymond S. Sadowski - Michigan

Thomas S. Gordon - Illinois

John A. Blatnik - Minnesota

Philip M. Mullin Mass.

Eric, Casper Tenn.

Arthur Klein 19th N.Y.

Edw J. Hart 11th N.Y.

John B. Amodeo 11th Mass.

Walter B. Miller 14 - Ohio

Frank Kaarsten 13 - Mo

Sol Bloom 20 - New York

Just. Kupar #12 district

Charles A. Buckley 25th C. District.

The following Members have signed the letter to the President:

Congressman John Blatnik	Minn.	Congressman Thomas Lane	Mass.
" Sol Bloom	N.Y.	" Walter Lynch	N.Y.
" Joseph Bryson	S.C.	" Ray Madden	Ind.
" Frank Buchanan	Pa.	" John McCormack	Mass.
" Charles Buckley	N.Y.	" Hugh Meade	Md.
" William Byrne	N.Y.	" Benjamin Multer	N.Y.
" John Carroll	Colo.	" Donald O'Toole	N.Y.
" Emmanuel Celler	N.Y.	" Philip Philbin	Mass.
" John Delaney	N.Y.	" Melvin Price	Illinois
" John Dingell	Mich.	" John Rooney	N.Y.
" Harold Donohue	Mass.	" Adolph Sabath	Ill.
" Helen G. Douglas	Calif.	" George Sadowski	Mich.
" H. Eberharter	Pa.	" Andrew Somers	Ill.
" Aime Forand	R.I.		
" Thomas Gordon	Ill.		
" Edward Hart	N.J.		
" Franck Havenner	Calif.		
" James J. Hefferman	N.Y.		
" Chet Holifield	Calif.		
" Walter Huber	Ohio.		
" Frank Karsten	Mo.		
" Estes Kefauver	Tenn.		
" Augustine Kelley	Pa.		
" John Kennedy	Mass.		
" Eugene Keogh	N.Y.		
" Arthur Klein	N.Y.		

