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

May 7, 1948

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 spon-
sored by our government. This recommendation seeks under a new guise and with
far less prospect of success to perpetuate a mandate over two unwilling peoples in
Palestine, while 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 is in fact 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 force
greater than any that might have been required to enforce
partition, it should place its authority and prestige un-
equally 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 ensure 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 so critical for the history of the world that nations must combine in the same spirit 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,

[Signature]

[Signature]
Emanuel Baker - 15th New York
Henry J. Kane - 9th Maine
Eugene Keogh - 9th New York
Hugh O'Brien - 11th New
Ray Farnham - 1st Indiana
Arie J. Ward - 1st R.I.
Joshua Carnell - 1st Colorado
A. W. Modero - 1st Indiana
John W. Modero - 1st Indiana
Frank Bremer - 33rd Pennsylvania
Han K. Li - 15th 2nd Indiana
Fred L. LeBoeuf - 14th Indiana
Joseph Rhyne - 1st New

Melvin Price - 22nd Ind.

Joseph A. Symes
Helen Salaman Danglo
Augustine Malloy
The following Members have signed the letter to the President:

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