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Misc.

May 12, 1948

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Dear Joe:

I am returning Mr. Greenfield's letter which you left with me to read. It is most interesting.

You'd be surprised how many letters of this sort I get and how easy it is for people on the outside to settle this almost insoluble question.



Sincerely yours,

Harvey

Honorable Joseph F. Guffey
2929 Benton Place, N.W.
Washington 8, D. C.

x Ben
x PP71077

Office of the President

May 6, 1948

Hon. Joseph F. Guffey,
2929 Benton Place, N. W.,
Washington 8, D. C.

Dear Joe:

Referring to our conversation on the telephone today, I think it would be most constructive on the part of The President if he were to announce that the United States Government, as soon as the Jewish State is formally established, will recognize it.

It is important that the announcement be made in advance of May 15th when the British Mandate will come to an end. I fear it is generally understood that Russia will recognize the Jewish State immediately after it is established. All of us here, friends of President Truman, are loath to see him put in the embarrassing position of following, rather than leading in this historic moment.

You will recall that I am not a political Zionist, but it is no longer a matter of ideology. It is a condition and not a theory, and all realists in the United States know that a Government de facto does exist in Jewish Palestine.

As a Democrat of long standing, a Delegate- at Large to the National Convention and as a sincere friend of President Truman, I know of no pronouncement he could make that would so electrify the American people as the one suggested above.

As you know, I am a member of the Board of Directors of City Trusts and therefore will be one of the hosts to The President, on May 20th, when he has I think said that he will come to Philadelphia in honor of the Centennial Anniversary of the Founding of Girard College. I hope to be lunching with The President and my fellow Trustees on that day, and should be glad to have a further word with him on any subject that he may wish to discuss with me.

I do hope that you will be able to get across clearly to The President the importance of the suggestion in unifying the American people behind him and behind his vigorous and constructive foreign policy with which he would once again capture the imagination and goodwill of the democratic peoples of the world.

I enjoyed hearing your voice on the telephone today and learning that you are so much better.

Hoping to have the pleasure of seeing you soon in Philadelphia, believe me as always

Sincerely yours,
/s/ Albert M. Greenfield X