Dear Mr. President:

I greatly appreciate your most thoughtful letter of the fifth about my resignation as Chairman of the International Development Advisory Board. It is indeed one of the nicest letters I have ever received.

I should like to take this opportunity to tell you that I took up with the members of the Board the question raised by Norman Thomas of what might be done to commemorate men and women who lose their lives while on actual service under the Point Four program and had from them a number of interesting and constructive suggestions. We discussed it further at the meeting last week and Dr. Bennett agreed to review these suggestions in the light of his operating experience and submit a recommendation to the Board. I agree entirely that proper recognition should be given to persons in our foreign service who undertake hazardous assignments or whose achievements are in any other way outstanding.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Nelson A. Rockefeller

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.
November 6, 1951

Respectfully referred for the
files of the State Department.

WILLIAM J. HOPKINS
Executive Clerk

Transmitting copy of letter, 10/30/51, which the President received from Honorable Nelson A. Rockefeller, tendering his resignation as member and Chairman of the International Development Advisory Board, effective on November 5, 1951; together with a copy of the President's letter, 11/3/51, to Mr. Rockefeller, accepting the resignation as tendered.
November 5, 1951

Dear Mr. Rockefeller:

I have received your letter of October thirtieth, advising me of your intention to resign as Chairman and Member of the International Development Advisory Board as of today.

Although it is with real regret that I accept your resignation, I do understand your desire to concentrate your energies on stimulating wider interest in the problem of international development on the part of business and private enterprise.

You and the other members of the Board have performed an outstanding service. Your report, "Partners in Progress", has been of tremendous value not only to the Government but also to people all over the world who understand the relationship between economic progress in the underdeveloped areas and the maintenance of peace and freedom.

I am convinced that we will live to see the day when the lives of millions of men and women in these areas will be substantially improved as a result of the beginnings made under our Point Four program. The educational work and the study in connection with international development performed by your Board will properly be credited with much of this success.

This splendid contribution has not been your first public service nor, I am sure, will it be your last. I hope that I may feel free to continue to call on you for consultation and advice in the future and that you will continue to bring me your suggestions and ideas for the improvement of this great program.

With deep appreciation,

Sincerely,

(Harry S. Truman)

Honorable Nelson A. Rockefeller, #
Chairman,
International Development Advisory Board,
Washington, D.C.

Delivered to Colita Hotel
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  

November 3, 1951  

MR. MASTERT: 

Mr. Nelson Rockefeller has resigned as Chairman of the Point Four Advisory Board. Mr. Jim Landigan of Mr. Harriman's office is drafting a reply for the President's signature and will have it on your desk on Monday morning at 9 o'clock for you to look over.

Mr. Rockefeller is hopeful that the letter can be released sometime on Monday.

Mr. Kelsey asked me to give you this message.

MR
Dear Mr. Rockefeller:

I have received your letter of October 30, advising me of your intention to resign as Chairman and Member of the International Development Advisory Board as of today.

Although it is with real regret that I accept your resignation, I do understand your desire to concentrate your energies on stimulating wider interest in the problem of international development on the part of business and private enterprise.

You and the other members of the Board have performed an outstanding service. Your report, "Partners in Progress", has been of tremendous value not only to the Government but also to people all over the world who understand the relationship between economic progress in the underdeveloped areas and the maintenance of peace and freedom.

I am convinced that we will live to see the day when the lives of millions of men and women in these areas will be substantially improved as a result of the beginnings made under our Point Four program. The educational work and the study in connection with international development performed by your committees will properly be credited with much of this success.

This splendid contribution has not been your first public service nor, I am sure, will it be your last. I hope that I may feel free to continue to call on you for consultation and advice in the future and that you will continue to bring me your suggestions and ideas for the improvement of this great program.

With deep appreciation,

Sincerely,
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TANKERSLEY:

Here is the letter of resignation from Nelson Rockefeller about which I was speaking to Mrs. Truettell over the phone just now. I would appreciate it if you would give us draft of appropriate acceptance for the President's signature. Perhaps you may wish to phone me about it tomorrow.

E.D.R.

 copy not in held up 11/8/51
October 30, 1951

Dear Mr. President:

This letter is to express to you my sincere appreciation for having given me the opportunity of serving as a member and Chairman of the International Development Advisory Board.

During the past year, at your request the Board reviewed the policies and programs of the United States Government as they bear on international economic development, and their relations to the activities of private groups, the specialised agencies of the United Nations and the Organization of American States. We prepared and submitted to you our report under the title Partners in Progress. This report reviewed both the scope and nature of the problems and our recommendations for dealing with them decisively. It reflected our unanimous conclusions. It was a rewarding experience to find such fundamental agreement on these conclusions among men and women of strong convictions and different backgrounds representing business, labor, agriculture and education.

Following the submission of the report last spring, I spent several months, as did other members of the Board, appearing before groups throughout the country to discuss the close and inseparable relation between international development and the security of the United States. It was also my privilege to testify before the House Foreign Affairs Committee in support of the economic aspects of the foreign aid program. The Mutual Security Program has now been established by Congress and the necessary funds have been appropriated. This work should now proceed with dispatch and effectiveness.

To the best of my ability I have completed my assignment as member and Chairman of the International Development Advisory Board. This letter is to tender my resignation to take effect after the next Board meeting on November fifth. I feel that I can now best serve the program of international economic development by again concentrating on the role of private initiative in this field of international cooperation.

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.
I should like to express my appreciation for your support during this past year, and my continuing faith in your belief that we "must embark on a bold new program for making the benefits of our scientific advances and industrial progress available for the improvement and growth of underdeveloped areas."

Sincerely,

[Nelson A. Rockefeller's signature]
IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The President has today sent the following letter to the Honorable Nelson A. Rockefeller, accepting his resignation as Chairman and Member of the International Development Advisory Board:

Dear Mr. Rockefeller:

I have received your letter of October thirtieth, advising me of your intention to resign as Chairman and Member of the International Development Advisory Board as of today.

Although it is with real regret that I accept your resignation, I do understand your desire to concentrate your energies on stimulating wider interest in the problem of international development on the part of business and private enterprise.

You and the other members of the Board have performed an outstanding service. Your report, "Partners in Progress", has been of tremendous value not only to the Government but also to people all over the world who understand the relationship between economic progress in the underdeveloped areas and the maintenance of peace and freedom.

I am convinced that we will live to see the day when the lives of millions of men and women in those areas will be substantially improved as a result of the beginning made under our Point Four program. The educational work and the study in connection with international development performed by your Board will properly be credited with much of this success.

This splendid contribution has not been your first public service nor, I am sure, will it be your last. I hope that I may feel free to continue to call on you for consultation and advice in the future and that you will continue to bring me your suggestions and ideas for the improvement of this great program.

With deep appreciation,

Sincerely,

HARRY S. TRUMAN

Following is the text of Mr. Rockefeller’s letter to the President:

Dear Mr. President:

This letter is to express to you my sincere appreciation for having given me the opportunity of serving as a member and Chairman of the International Development Advisory Board.

During the past year, at your request the Board reviewed the policies and programs of the United States Government as they bear on international economic development, and their relations to the activities of private groups, the specialized agencies of the United Nations and the Organization of American States. We prepared and submitted to you our report under the title Partners in Progress. This report reviewed both the scope and nature of the problems and our
recommendations for dealing with them decisively. It reflected our unanimous conclusions. It was a rewarding experience to find such fundamental agreement on these conclusions among men and women of strong convictions and different backgrounds representing business, labor, agriculture and education.

Following the submission of the report last spring, I spent several months, as did other members of the Board, appearing before groups throughout the country to discuss the close and inseparable relation between international development and the security of the United States. It was also my privilege to testify before the House Foreign Affairs Committee in support of the economic aspects of the foreign aid program. The Mutual Security Program has now been established by Congress and the necessary funds have been appropriated. This work should now proceed with dispatch and effectiveness.

To the best of my ability I have completed my assignment as member and Chairman of the Interim aid Development Advisory Board. This letter is to tender my resignation to take effect after the next Board meeting on November fifth. I feel that I can now best serve the program of international economic development by again devoting my time to the role of private initiative in this field of international cooperation.

I should like to express my appreciation for your support during this past year, and my continuing faith in your belief that we must embark on a bold new program for making the benefits of our scientific advances and industrial progress available for the improvement and growth of underdeveloped areas.

Sincerely,

WILSON A. ROCKEFELLER