

Honorable Harry S. Truman,
The White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President: The prompt, decisive and courageous manner in which you have moved to meet the emergency created by Communist aggression in Korea has been a source of gratification and inspiration to me, as I am confident it has been to ~~many others~~ ^{the nation as a whole}.

We are blessed in this great country of ours with both the human and the natural resources which are needed to cope with such an emergency, but we also need dynamic leadership if these resources are to be mustered effectively. You have provided this type of leadership and done it in a way that inspires the utmost confidence in your ability.

It has been distressing to me to see some of your enemies trying to make political hay out of this emergency and at the same time predicting that you would permit political considerations to temper your judgment and actions. Your messages to Congress, particularly your advocacy of immediate increases in taxes, show how utterly wrong your detractors have been.

It should be obvious to everybody by now that your primary concern is for the welfare of the nation, and this should assure you of the unstinted support of the vast majority of the thinking people of America.

Such assurance, in turn, should encourage you to take boldly any further steps which appear necessary or desirable for the increase of our military strength and for the protection of our national economy. Without casting reflections on anyone, it can be truthfully said that some grievous mistakes were made in the early stages of our mobilization for both World War I and World War II. It would be tragic indeed if those mistakes were repeated again.

Congress should give you without delay whatever additional authority you may need to cope with the emergency and to protect the nation from the dangers of inflation. If, after Congress has done its duty, you feel that the situation warrants the reimposition of price controls,

let me urge you most earnestly at the same time to freeze both prices and wages. Failure to do this in the previous emergencies produced dire consequences with which I am sure you are familiar. That was one mistake we ~~surely will not repeat again so soon~~ ^{should not repeat again}.

There is the possibility, of course, that freezing prices and wages will operate to the disadvantage of some individuals or groups, but the temporary disadvantage of the few should not be allowed to ~~block~~ block the long-range good of the nation as a whole.

If wages are frozen along with prices there doubtless will be some protests from ~~some~~ ^{some} short-sighted labor leaders who ~~are~~ ^{might be} more interested in their own temporary gain than they are in the nation's economic stability. Do not be deterred by this prospect. The thinking leaders of labor, as well as many in the ranks of labor, realize that when the nation's welfare is at stake there should be no favored group or class. They realize too that only by freezing wages can price control be made really effective.

You need not temporize with this question. Send the engine room the "Full Speed Ahead" signal and rest assured that the people will back ~~you~~ you up. With regards and sincere best wishes.

AMON G. CARTER. *Publ*