February 26, 1947

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

The enclosed pamphlet, "The Work, My Friends, Is Peace", is sent to assure you of the great respect, amounting to real affection, which I had for your magnificent husband. Therefore, you will know that what follows is intended to be offered in sincere friendship and respect for you.

Just having returned from the Asheville Conference I was consternated when I read your paragraph in which you acknowledge that you find the statements adopted there "a little difficult to understand". This can only mean, of course, that the time that you have expended in your many good deeds has not permitted you to give serious consideration to the ground-swell of American public opinion which, in the words of Raymond Swing in a letter to me which I read before the Conference stated "Once again the politicians must be made to realize that the people insist on peace. But this time they must know it can only be achieved through the introduction of law in the present vacuum of anarchy in world relations."

You will be glad to know that it was the great majority opinion, of the over five hundred delegates assembled from every part of our country, that we should work through the United Nations to preserve such organs as the Economic and Social Council, UNESCO and the other divisions set up in an effort to cure the causes of war. But, at the same time we all felt that these other activities would have no chance of success unless we could preserve the peace. Therefore, what we meant by "a world government of limited powers, etc" was to so strengthen the Charter through either Article 108 or 109 that it would transform the United Nations from a league of selfish sovereign states into a World Government of the people whose powers were limited to the prevention of war. You must know that the way the Charter is set up now, the only way that it could keep the peace would be by making war. What a paradox. This is well described in the pamphlet "Equal Before the Law".

-1-
Praying that you may have time to consider this movement which I assure you is rapidly being adopted by the American people, who only need leadership to make it effective.

I call on you to lead the crusade.

Respectfully yours,

F. R. von Windegger

Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
Hyde Park
Duchess County
New York
“The Mightiest Weapon of All American Public Opinion”

Synopsis of address by

Selden F. Waldo

President of the

United States Junior Chamber of Commerce

at the Annual Meeting of the
St. Louis Junior Chamber of Commerce
St. Louis, Missouri

Under the title

Law or Chaos

January 16, 1947
LAW OR CHAOS

Synopsis of address by Selden F. Waldo, President of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce before St. Louis Junior Chamber of Commerce January 16, 1947

The world today is undergoing a profound revolution. On every side we see conflict. The underprivileged peoples seek liberation from their masters. In Palestine and China, with a history that has meant so much to civilization, we see open warfare. Although Fascism has had its trunk cut, its roots still flourish in Spain, Argentina and elsewhere.

Perhaps the greatest struggle of all is between the forces of Communism and Democracy, as the world eyes Russia with wonder, fear and mystery. While we hope for peaceful relations between these totally different systems, the policy of the present Soviet Government, the recent conflicting public statements of its leaders, and its ruthless record force us to approach co-operation with great caution and especially is this true where major concessions are demanded.

The great question which may well determine the future of civilization rests upon whether or not the Comintern was in truth dissolved on May 22, 1943 or whether this was a mere subterfuge to secure greater shipments of lend lease material in the emergency of war — a subterfuge which may perhaps be discovered only when communism, with its historic teaching of world revolution, plunges us into the last and greatest of wars. Recent developments in Russian policy at the United Nations have been most encouraging, but it is essential that such a friendly attitude be consistent and be expressed in positive form over a continuous period of time.
The peoples of the World desire peace, for civilization as we know it cannot withstand another conflict. The tragic loss of life in World War I and II coupled with the great advancements in modern military science make the possibility of a third conflict seem ghastly.

But through the clouds there shines like a beam from the sky — a ray of hope — the nations of the world united in an organization for peace. Our purpose should be to discover its true potentialities, analyze its weaknesses and throw into the balance of the fight to preserve sanity among the peoples of the world, the mightiest weapon of all — American public opinion.

The fact that at San Francisco, a group of belligerent nations in time of war could affix their signatures to such a lofty statement of purpose as the United Nations charter in and of itself is testimony to the fact that man has made some progress from the law of the jungle.

The twenty-five years of experience gained in the old League of Nations, the fact that Russia and the United States have both joined the United Nations, the increased facility of communication and travel with the resulting mobility of public opinion all are significant indications that this time world co-operation can be achieved.

The primary responsibility of the United Nations is to foster understanding and trust and to serve as a world forum. It would justify its existence if it does nothing else but tear aside the iron curtain to pour through a light of understanding in order that the common people of Russia may realize that we have no quarrel with them; that they have nothing, absolutely nothing, which we want.

The world cannot long endure with two economic spheres — one prosperous and the other in abject misery. We cannot take this great civilization which we have in America, with its luxurious standard of living and hold it aloof from the suffering peoples of Europe and Asia. For no matter how low on the human scale, these underprivileged people through the process of human evolution will one day have placed in their hands the tools of civilization, the ability to conduct scientific research — to make war. Let us see to it that when these people have placed in their hands these tools that we also give to them human understanding and the ability to solve their relations with other people through peaceful means, for if we do not, we will be inundated as have the civilizations before us because these underprivileged groups outnumber us by the hundreds of millions.

The present United Nations Organization is but a step in the right direction; however, in all too many instances its effectiveness is restricted by limitations and restrictions some of which have been actively urged by the American Government.

The vital function of the Economic and Social Council is to concern itself with the world economic and social conditions, but it can only make studies and recommend actions to the various governments. High sounding words are not enough. There must be a power to act.

The statute creating the International Court of Justice is excellent. It provides for the creation of a high judicial court of the world — a model of justice and impartiality, but the statute nowhere states that individual nations are mandatorily obligated to submit their disputes to judicial decision. As a matter fact, that statute merely sets forth that the court may hear only such
cases as may be referred to it by the parties. In order to govern the relations between countries, as well as individual men, the experience of the human race clearly demonstrates that there must be a body of law and courts of justice to enforce that law with sufficient power to have their decisions carried out.

The Security Council does not have on call an international police force whose sole obligation is to that body, but the Security Council will have available only such forces of the individual nations as may be made available to it by agreement with the country involved, and as we know, the primary loyalty of these troops will be to the country whose uniform they wear.

The fundamental theory of the United Nations is the unanimity of the great powers and that is why the great powers have the right of veto in the Security Council. To elaborate on this vicious practice is unnecessary. There is no system of equity or justice ever created which has as its foundation the advantage of the strong over the weak. The abuse of the right of veto has been the greatest obstacle to the effectiveness of the United Nations.

Both the League of Nations and the United Nations were based on the principle of undisputed sovereign states safeguarding their own independence and their own sovereignty and not transforming any authority to the central organization. This approach is to the past, predicated on the gloomy philosophy that we will pay lip service to the new ideal but will gird our strength for the inevitable wars that always arise. Rather we should face the future realizing that since no nation has successfully conquered the world, and since in past history wars have always arisen, that we will have another conflict unless we resort to the new and striking action of submitting enough of our sovereignty to an international organization capable of preserving this peace and there placing our hope and trust. Without this, our downfall will ultimately come.

Since the beginning of time human beings in groups, whether they be clans, tribes, principalities, states or nations have fought each other. The only factor which has brought peace has been the incorporation of the small units into larger nation groups which have back of them the power of the law of the greater body.

The present barriers between nations must be swept away in one bold stroke by the peoples of the world who rise up and demand that upon the foundation of the United Nations there be erected a world federated government. Such a government should be based upon a system of universal law, the principle of non-interference in domestic affairs, the creation of an International Court with mandatory jurisdiction and power to enforce its decrees.

Should Russia or other nations refuse to go with us in such an undertaking, then we should immediately form a world government with those peace-loving peoples who are willing to co-operate. By building the standards of those within the organization, we could produce such an era of prosperity that Russia could not afford to remain aloof.

Standing for one precious moment on the brink of atomic destruction, a kindly destiny has placed in our hands the ideals of international friendship, understanding and good will. These can be achieved only through a system of law and justice incorporated in a strong government of the nations of the world. If we refuse to lead the way — to demonstrate that an amendment of the United Nations Charter to accomplish these ends is both practical and feasible — then we have failed both ourselves and posterity.
Resolution Passed by the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce at its Annual Convention at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, June 29, 1946

"The United Nations Organization should be supported as an immediate practical method of keeping world peace under law; and furthermore, the United Nations should be strengthened into a real federal world government.

"Outstanding statesmen, scientists and educators have stated in substance:

'The world needed government on a world level before the atomic bomb. Now it has become imperative.'

"NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that it shall be the policy of the United States Junior Chamber of Commerce to:

1. Support the United Nations Organization, the security, relief, rehabilitation, and related organizations which are now functioning.


3. Implement the policy in paragraphs 1 and 2 by:

   b. Conferring and corresponding with other Junior Chambers of Commerce and similar organizations throughout the world concerning the development of a similar policy in their organizations.
   c. Sending a copy of this resolution to our state and national legislators and to our United Nations delegates."

As I have often said in these pamphlets, my generation has made a terrible mess of the world and if it can be saved our young people are going to have to do it, though we have left them little time. If they act on their recognition of the emergency that confronts us the world may yet be saved.

F. R. von Windegger
"As long as national sovereignty remains the basis of international relations, peace will remain precarious, and even the greatest of the Great Powers will enjoy no true security. The establishment of a world union depends on the cooperation of all states, great and small. But the contribution of each is commensurate with its own national importance. That is why the establishment of such a union depends on the American people to a higher degree than on any other. Lead on, America! We of the Old World are prepared, we are eager, we are impatient to follow!"

Dr. William E. Rappard, Director, Graduate Institute of International Studies, University of Geneva, at University of Utah Commencement, June 4, 1946.

If this pamphlet has interested you, won't you please pass it on to a friend?

THE PLAZA BANK
1230 OLIVE STREET
ST. LOUIS 3, MO.

F. R. VON WINDEGGER, Pres.

WELLINGTON PRESS

There can be no Peace without Justice,
No Justice without Law,
No Law without Government to Make
Interpret, and Enforce that Law.

Copies of this Pamphlet in quantity may be obtained from
WELLINGTON PRINTING CO., 1603 Locust St., St. Louis 3, Mo.
at following prices. Check or Money Order must accompany order
100—$17.00  500—$30.00  1000—$48.00
Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt
29 Washington Square West
New York City

My dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

In reference to your request of January of this year to our Embassy on the matter of release from the camp of Miss Erna VORITZEK I have the honour to inform you that Miss Voritseck has been released from the camp for internees and left for Berlin.

From there according to our information she intends to proceed to the USA.

Sincerely yours,

Yakov M. Lomakin,
Consul General of the USSR in New York
September 3, 1947

NEW ADDRESS OF THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR YUGOSLAV RELIEF, INC.

Dear Friends:

We wish to inform all chapters, organizations and friends that the national office of the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief, Inc. has been removed from 255 East 11th Street, New York 3, New York to its present location at:

AMERICAN COMMITTEE FOR YUGOSLAV RELIEF, INC.
465 LEXINGTON AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, NEW YORK

We are requesting all interested individuals and organizations to take this change of address into consideration for future reference and to address all future correspondence to the above mentioned new address.

With sincerest fraternal greetings, I am

Very truly yours,

Peter Vukcevich
Administrative Secretary

"... it is our ardent desire to assist the people of Yugoslavia to recover from the ravages of war. ..." — President Harry S. Truman
COPY

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

I have received your letter of September 30 regarding participation in a radio broadcast, and thank you for this attention. Unfortunately, in view of the exceptional burden of work, I am unable to accept your invitation personally or to transfer it to any member of our delegation, as they are likewise extremely busy with their current work in the General Assembly and its numerous committees.

With sincere respect,

(signature illegible, presumably A. Y. Vyshinski)

1/10/47
Уважаемая г-жа Рузвельт,

Ваше письмо от 30 сентября по поводу участия в радиопередаче получил. Благодарю Вас за Ваше внимание. К сожалению, ввиду исключительной занятости, я лишен возможности принять Ваше любезное приглашение лично или передать его кому-либо из членов нашей делегации, которые также весьма заняты в своей текущей работе по Генеральной Ассамблее и в многочисленных Комитетах.

С искренним уважением

[Подпись]

16. 10.
If you will ask some one to telephone to my secretary, Miss Thompson, at Algonquin 4-2822, I will see that the questions go to you immediately.

Very sincerely yours,

Sept. 29, 1947

Dear Mr. Vyshinsky:

I have been asked to start a program to spread information, particularly among the women of this country about the work of the UN.

Its first broadcast will be next Sunday, October 5th, in Poughkeepsie at the radio station from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m. Certain women observers who have been to the UN meetings, will be asked to come and ask questions. I will be the moderator and I wonder whether if we submit the questions to you and give you the time for the answers, if you or someone whom you designate from your delegation would care to be on this first broadcast.

I feel that you should be given full opportunity to state your point of view, but I also feel, naturally, that the other point of view should be before the public as well, so you will know that what you say will undoubtedly be open to further questions and answers by the opposing view points.