

July 2, 1948

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Irish + Turkey

Dear Governor:

Thank you very much for your note of June 29th with its enclosure from Mr. James Demos Kakridas of Boston. It was good of you to send this along and I wish you would express to Mr. Kakridas our appreciation of his thoughtfulness in letting us have his suggestions. I will, of course, be glad to bring them to the President's attention at the first opportunity.

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I am hoping to get to Philadelphia and if I do, shall hope to see you.

*Matthew J. Connelly
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RB/aje

Sincerely yours,

MATTHEW J. CONNELLY
Secretary to the President

Honorable Maurice J. Tobin
30 Hopkins Road
Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts



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Maurice J. Tobin
30 HOPKINS ROAD
JAMAICA PLAIN, MASSACHUSETTS

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June 29, 1948

Mr. Mathew Connolly
Secretary to the President
White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Matt:

About a week ago I had a very interesting conversation with James Demos Kakridas, a very able Greek radio announcer who covers several radio stations in eastern Massachusetts. **136-misc/*

He is very grateful to the president for the program he has attempted to start for the re-habilitation of Greece. He is very much disturbed over the propaganda many wealthy and prominent Greek Citizens are spreading to the detriment of the president and the administration.

I suggested to him that he set down as briefly as possible, the situation in this country as it applied to the president in Greek American Circles. I believe that his suggestion of two representatives of the president, one a Greek American free of political entanglements and the other an American of some other nationality, would help clear up the situation in the minds of Greek Americans and the other American people as well.

I am also sending a copy of Kakridas letter to Howard McGrath.

Hoping to see you in Philadelphia, I am

Sincerely,

Maurice
Maurice J. Tobin



JAMES KAKRIDAS
468 BROOKLINE AVENUE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

June 25, 1948

Hon. Maurice J. Tobin
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Mr. Tobin;

Having knowledge of your interest in the common good for the community, the state, the nation, and foreign nations, I have deemed it advisable, proper and necessary that I write to you concerning a very important matter having to do with justice to Greece and American aid to that country.

There are many points which I want to bring to your attention concerning the American aid program to Greece;

Firstly, for ten years Greece has been embattled in a Civil War. Brothers killing brothers and women and children slaughtered by the thousands.

Secondly, the American aid to Greece reaches the hands of black-marketeers and international racketeers of a political nature, and consequently very little money actually reaches the destitute peoples of Greece as is indicated by the latest scandal concerning the purchases of rice for the Greek people amounting to millions of dollars and which rice was contaminated. Things of this nature tend to show an attempt to feed the Greek people with foods not fit for human consumption. We wonder whether or not this has been intentionally done.

Thirdly, this sort of treatment towards the Greek people becomes propaganda fodder against the President of the United States.

Fourthly, certain Americans of Greek extraction, who are very powerful in business and with the present government in Greece, have allied themselves into an association and also have taken upon themselves to seize the leadership of all Greek American fraternities, churches and all other such organizations for the purpose of selling the Greek-Am-



erican people to the Republican party for their own selfish gain and benefits and to work against President Truman by blaming him and his Administration for what is going on in Greece to-day.

Fifthly, these same Americans of Greek extraction have conspired to spread and are spreading cheap and unfair propoganda against the President of the United States. They accuse him of merely using words and crocidile tears towards the Greek cause but that no action for that nation has come forth from his administration. They go so far as to make false statements in the meetings of the Greek American fraternities, which are strictly non-political organizations, to the effect that if the Republicans are voted into office the Civil War in Greece will end and that its people will be greatly aided.

Because of the foregoing points which I brought to your attention, I take the liberty to make the following suggestions to you.

Firstly, a special mission consisting of one Greek-American, known by the Greek people and having no political connections, and one American should be sent to Greece representing the Government and President of the United States for the purpose of investigating conditions in Greece and then to make a report to the President of the United States, and to publicise the facts as found by the report of the special mission to be the truth about Greece.

Secondly, this mission must place the blame for conditions in Greece where they belong, and then the United States Government should take immediate steps to remedy the situation.

Thirdly, the Greek-American who will have been sent to Greece, once back, will be sent on a tour of the United States to enlighten the Greek-American people of the aid given and the work done by the Truman Administration to Greece and the Greek people. The enlightenment may also come from the radio and newspaper articles which will appear all over the entire United States.

The above suggestions will undoubtedly be a means for the enlightenment of the Greek people in America as to the truth about the Greek question and will tend to keep them within the Democratic fold and will enthuse them to worthy work towards the re-election of Pres. Truman.

I write to you in the hope that I have thrown some light on the Greek question and that my suggestions will be of some benefit to the Democratic party all over the U. S.

Very truly yours,

James Demos Kakridas
JAMES DEMOS KAKRIDAS