August 29, 1950

Dear Congressman Noland:

I read your letter of the twenty-fifth with a great deal of interest and I appreciate most highly your suggestions. I am hoping to be able to inform the country of our plans and ambitions for peace at regular intervals from now on and I think both of your suggestions will be adequately met.

I am very anxious, of course, to help the Congressmen who are up for election this fall but it is difficult to decide what is most helpful from the President. Experience has shown that people do not like to be told by the Chief Executive how they should vote. They not only demonstrated that to Woodrow Wilson in 1918 - I just had an example of it in Missouri, so these things will have to be approached with great caution if we expect a successful result this fall.

Sincerely yours,

HARRY S. TRUMAN

Honorable James E. Noland
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C.
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

August 25, 1950  THE WHITE HOUSE

Dear President Truman:

I have just returned from spending five days in Indiana visiting at the county fairs in the rural communities of the 7th District. I was certainly amazed by the way the farmer, the worker, the man on the street generally are talking about the United Nations. I believe Jacob Malik succeeded in personally insulting every American in this country of ours.

I do not intend to presume to advise you on the conduct of your important position, but from the standpoint of our party and the country, two things seem extremely important to me at this time.

First, it is of great importance that the members of the United Nations send ground troops to aid our Army in Korea, even if they be only token forces. That is the great question in the minds of the people, how this can be a United Nations action when only the American ground forces have been placed into action.

Secondly, the people are very interested in the conduct of our international relations and in the progress that we are making. At the present time our Party is on the defensive with the people in the entire Midwest because of the studied effort of the metropolitan press to play up every story which points out any weaknesses or failures in the conduct of our foreign policy. I know that the people would welcome a series of personal reports of our progress in the war and our progress in international cooperation from their President. Reports by the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State are a poor substitute.

Undoubtedly plans and preparations are being carried through on both of these matters at this time. I have every faith in our success, both in the conduct of the war and the promotion of international cooperation, and in the success of our Party at the polls under your leadership. I know that we are on the right road and that we will be successful in meeting the difficult problems both at home and abroad as they arise.

With complete confidence in your ability to lead this nation in this critical era, I am

Sincerely yours,

James E. Noland

[Signature]

James E. Noland, N.C.