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February 26, 1951

The President
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

Your memorable words on world disarmament in your address to the United Nations last October gave new hope to people throughout the world.

We have been confident that you would follow your courageous words with action and that you would take the first opportunity to present to the world a concrete plan for universal disarmament based on the simple, practical principles you set forth in your UN address. The expected meeting of the Big Four foreign ministers seems an exceptional opportunity since our government's latest note to the Soviet requests that the discussion at any meeting of the four ministers include the "existing level of armaments" as the first of the "real causes of tension."

We respectfully urge that you bring a concrete plan for world disarmament before the next meeting of the four ministers. Your leadership in urging action now would silence doubts currently expressed as to the purposes of this country and your own objectives. It would prove that the United States wants a warless world and is ready to act to secure it. It would bring nearer the time when the vast sums now spent for armaments could be used to war against want and to aid human advancement. We know you pray as we do that this day may come soon.

You laid a solemn obligation upon all nations to make unremitting effort for world wide disarmament when you said to the UN Assembly: "We cannot permit the history of our times to record that we failed by default. We must explore every avenue which offers any chance of bringing success to the activities of the United Nations in this vital area." These words, Mr. President, are the most convincing we can use to urge that your plan for world disarmament be presented at the next meeting of the Big Four foreign ministers.

Very sincerely yours,

Mabel Vernon
Chairman

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