



1-28-1940

Telegram From Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson to Herbert Hoover, January 28, 1940

Francis Mairs Huntington-Wilson

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DLERAY BEACH JAN. 23, 1940

REJOINER TO MR. HOOVER

HON HERBERT HOOVER, etc.

MANY THANKS FOR YOUR TELEGRAM. I AM HAPPY TO FEEL SURE THAT YOU CONSIDER THE DEFENSE OF FINLAND AT LEAST AS IMPORTANT AS RELIEF AND THAT THE ONLY PROBLEM IS THE METHOD OF PROCEDURE. IF IT IS YOUR CONSIDERED JUDGMENT THAT THERE ARE INSURMOUNTABLE OBSTACLES TO THE SUGGESTED PLAN CAN YOU SUGGEST SOME OTHER EFFECTIVE METHOD THAT COULD OPERATE PROMPTLY. I AM AFRAID THAT ANY SEPARATE COMMITTEE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR DEFENSE WOULD BE HANDICAPPED BY CONFUSION, LACK OF ORGANIZATION AND FATAL DELAY. AFTER ALL, THE TWO PURPOSES, IT SEEMS TO ME, ARE ONLY TWO ASPECTS OF ONE PURPOSE NAMELY, HELPING FINLAND AND YOUR EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION WOULD ONLY HAVE TO ASK THAT CHEQUES FOR DEFENSE BE MARKED QUOTE FOR DEFENSE END QUOTE AND THEN TURN THEM OVER TO THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT. I BELIEVE MANY MORE PEOPLE WOULD CONTRIBUTE FOR DEFENSE EVEN THAN FOR RELIEF AND THAT THE AMOUNT OF MONEY COLLECTED MIGHT WELL BE SUFFICIENT FOR THE PURCHASE OF ENOUGH AIRPLANES AND MUNITIONS TO BE OF VERY IMPORTANT HELP TO FINLAND. THANKS AGAIN AND MUCH REGRET THAT I CANNOT NOW GO TO NEWYORK FOR A TALK AS YOU KINDLY SUGGESTED

F.N.HUNTINGTON-WILSON