



8-7-1941

## Statement of Support, August 7, 1941

Henry W. Hobson

Ernest Angell

Clark M. Eichelberger

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RELEASE THURSDAY, AUGUST 7, 1941

Committee to Defend America  
907 - 15th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

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Council for Democracy  
1427 I Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

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Fight for Freedom, Inc.  
1213 National Press Bldg., Washington, D. C.  
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Washington, D. C., Aug. 6..... Full support for the President and his administration is pledged by three national organizations in a statement issued in Washington today, in reply to the appeal to Congress issued by former President Hoover, ex-Governor Landon, John L. Lewis, and others. Believing that they speak for the overwhelming majority of the American people of every party and creed, who have again and again affirmed and reaffirmed their confidence in the President and his policies, the signers of the statement, Bishop Henry W. Hobson, of Cincinnati, Chairman of Fight for Freedom, Inc.; Ernest Angell, New York lawyer, President of the Council for Democracy, Inc.; and Clark M. Eichelberger, Acting Chairman of the Committee to Defend America, assert that while all Americans desire to avoid the suffering of war, they desire still more the safeguarding of their nation and its liberties. Unity in these aims transcends party division, says the statement, and the attempt to block it is deplorable.

The statement in full follows:

Representing Americans of every principal party and tradition, we unite to declare our full support of the President and his administration in the steps they have taken and are taking to safeguard the security of this nation.

In so doing, we believe we speak for the overwhelming majority of the American people of every party and creed. Their support of the President and his policies has been affirmed and reaffirmed in a series of popular referendums -- in the general support of the destroyer-base transaction of a year ago; most recently by the popular response to the dispatch of American forces to Iceland; in test after test in Congress; and in the unmistakable evidence of every reliable poll of national opinion. Together these indications have assured the Administration of general approval throughout the nation unprecedented in such an hour of crisis.

All Americans have desired to avoid the sufferings and sacrifices of war. But they desire far more the safeguarding of the security of their nation and of those liberties which constitute its strength as a free people. They know

that Hitler has, both by word and by action, repeatedly declared his contempt for, and his undying enmity to the American people, their Constitution, their structure of government, and their national life. They understand his designs against their neighbor states of the Western Hemisphere, designs already manifested in sabotage and attempts at revolution. They know that with the fall of those who now stand across his path, the full weight of his intrigue, propaganda, and ultimately his military power would be turned against them. Americans know that the issue with which Hitler and his associates threaten them is not one of war or peace, but of resistance by every means to assure the full and final overthrow of the Axis tyranny, or of ultimate capitulation. They are resolved to make that resistance in collaboration with the other enemies of the Axis rather than delay until they must make it alone. And they are ready for whatever steps may be required to achieve that purpose.

The great body of the American people will continue to support their President in the course he is pursuing, and we urge them to make their support unmistakably clear.

This unity transcends party divisions. Since the November election, leaders of all parties have united to support the national policy. The attempt to block the steadily growing national unity by the interjection of party issues is deplorable. It will please the Axis; but will have no effect upon the American people.

COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRACY, INC.  
by ERNEST ANGELL, PRESIDENT

FIGHT FOR FREEDOM, INC.  
by HENRY W. HOBSON, CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE TO DEFEND AMERICA  
by CLARK M. EICHELBERGER, ACTING CHAIRMAN