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Charles J Meadows  
Box 71  
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November 21, 1973

The Hon Henry Belmon, U.S. Senate  
The Hon Dewey Bartlett, U.S. Senate  
The Hon James R Jones, MC, Dist 1, Okla  
The Hon Clem McSpadden, MC, Dist 2, Okla  
The Hon Carl Albert, MC, Dist 3, Okla  
The Hon Tom Steed, MC, Dist 4, Okla  
The Hon John Jarman, MC, Dist 5, Okla  
The Hon Happy Camp, MC, Dist 6, Okla

Gentlemen:

I am worried and greatly concerned with the current state of affairs within our government and would like to express some views and pose some questions to which I hope each of you will respond.

First, although I voted for him, I feel that Mr Nixon is no longer the man to lead our country through these perilous times. I feel that his very, very, late response to the charges against him with reference to Watergate, are late simply because he had no defence and the current "so called" facts were only recently conceived and are designed to further cover-up his alleged involvement in the entire affair. His explanations are not acceptable to me and, I feel, are not acceptable to the majority of the American people even though some are accepting these "explanations". Gentlemen, I say a man who is unaware of the actions of his closest, hand-picked, friends and advisers is hardly the man to lead us in foreign affairs, protect the interest of the American people in world policy and also to handle the ultra serious problems we face here at home. I do not believe in ostracizing any man and I do not ostracize Mr Nixon but I do think he should resign or be replaced.

Secondly, I feel that the Congress is vesting too much power in the executive branch of our government. While telling us that we are in the process of decentralizing the federal government, it appears to me that the opposite is true. As one example, take revenue sharing. While this appears, on the surface, to give the cities and states more control of tax money, we are well aware that the federal government dictates "Who" gets "How Much" so how is this decentralizing the federal government and returning control to the states when the federal government retains some control over how the money is spent? This money was placed in the federal governments control through taxation from the states (by federal law) and if the states are to share in a portion of their taxes, it should be without federal controls attached. There are many such programs that I could mention but will use only this example. I could misunderstand the entire program but the above is my understanding and I feel the controls imposed are wrong.

Thirdly, I feel Congress should have been more far sighted and forceful in the current energy crisis. Since gas rationing seems a certainty, I don't feel it should be placed in the hands of the service station owner - I think it should be controlled by the Congress with a stamp system not unlike the one we had during World War II. With that system everyone would at least get some gas. What happens to me if the service station owner where I buy my gas sells out or just quits business due to reduced profits? Do you think the next station down the street is going to take on new customers or do you think he will sell more gas, if available, to his regular customers? I feel the answer is obvious.

Gentlemen, you govern us by our consent, but every time you pass power upward, we lose a part of our control over you, our duly selected and elected officials. This granting of greater powers to the executive branch is a cause of great concern to a lot of people. Many governments can not function because of overcentralization of power. Need I name them? Is ours to become the same or are "we, the people" going to continue to have a say in how we are governed? I commend the Congress for holding the line on the commitment of our troops in excess of ninety days without Congressional approval. Although I doubt if any conflict would last that long if the available weaponry were used, at least it is a firm step.

Next, I must state that I am in disagreement with the majority of our foreign policy - especially when it means trading with the avowed enemies of our country. True, we might have to do without some things - so be it. At least we have our integrity left. We have always rallied to a cause when it was worthy and just. I can not but feel that each time we make a new treaty or pact with our stated enemy, we "Give up something". What is that something? We gave up a lot of our power to defend ourselves in our latest arms agreement with Russia. A political breakthrough? A victory for our country? Not in my opinion nor in the opinion of a lot of other people. Gentlemen, where is our foreign policy formulated? Is it at the grass roots level in your district? Is it in some committee room in Congress or on the Congressional floor? Could it be in the executive branch with just a few advisers? Could it be injected into some of these places upon receipt from the Council on Foreign Relations? What is this particular council's function. When did Congress establish it - or, did Congress establish it? Who exercises power over the CFR? As you can see, gentlemen, I am not a student of government, economics, etc.. I am simply a worried American who feels that our country is in the gravest danger that it has been in since the Pilgrims landed.

Things can and will get worse but I thank God for his promise in 1st Thessalonians Chapter 4, verses 16 through 18 where HE said " For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. Wherefore comfort one another with these words"

This means when we enter the worst era in the history of the world, I won't be here - but what about my children, grandchildren, and what about some of you? What about your future generations? Will they be living under a world government or a good, God fearing, government? Will they still be a free people who can still select and duly elect those who are to govern in complete freedom of choice? There is also a great comfort in the Book of Revelation, Chapter 22, Verse 20. "He which testifieth these things saith, Surely I come quickly. Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus."

Gentlemen, if you took the time to read this letter, I thank you. If you have time to respond, I will appreciate it. I love our Lord and our country. Nothing is going to happen to our Lord but may he have mercy on our country and guide each of you and your fellow law makers in the laws that are enacted.

Sincerely,

  
CHARLES J MEADOWS



WATERGATE

November 27, 1973

Mr. Charles J. Meadows  
Box 71  
Elk City, Oklahoma 73644

Dear Mr. Meadows:

I wish to thank you for your letter of November 21 in which you expressed yourself regarding certain matters. I share your concern as to what has happened in our government, but as I look back through history, I find that our government has been confronted with many problems through the years, and I am thankful that we have been able to overcome them. I feel that with the help of the good Lord, we will be able to continue to meet these problems and come up with answers to them.

I am thankful that we live in a country where we can express ourselves as you have done, and I would appreciate your further comments at any time.

Sincerely,

Happy Camp  
Member of Congress

HC/dlr