



DEPARTMENT OF STATE
WASHINGTON

January 29, 1946.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. HASSETT:

With reference to your memorandum of January 18, I am enclosing a draft reply for the President's signature to the letter of January 16 from Miss Anna Lord Strauss, the President of the National League of Women Voters.

James F. Byrnes
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Enclosures:
Draft reply
Letter returned



February 2, 1946

M.C.

My dear Miss Strauss:

Thank you very much for your letter of January sixteenth. The work which your organization has been doing in creating an intelligent public interest in international questions has been of great benefit and I am always happy to receive expressions of well-informed public opinion.

With regard to the question of the disposition of the enemy islands in the Pacific, you may be sure that the United States government is well aware of the relationship of this problem to our desire for fruitful international cooperation through the United Nations Organization. I cannot, however, at the present time go beyond the statement made at my press conferences on January fifteenth and January twenty-third. All aspects of this problem are now under active study by the various branches of the government concerned and final determinations of policy and action in this matter will be reached in due course.

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You are aware, I feel sure, that the United States took the initiative in establishing the trusteeship system of the United Nations and has continued to work for a realigation of its objectives. You may rest assured that any final decision in the matter of the Japanese Islands will be in accordance with the traditional humanitarian and democratic policy of the United States, and that due consideration will be given to the welfare of the inhabitants of these islands and their political and economic development, as well as to the security needs of the United States.

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Very sincerely yours,

(Sgd) HARRY S. TRUMAN



Miss Anna Lord Strauss, x
President,
The National League of Women Voters, x
726 Jackson Place,
Washington, D. C.