

Atlantic Union

Hearings before the
Committee on Foreign Affairs
House of Representative
U.S

ATLANTIC UNION

HEARINGS BEFORE THE

COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIRST CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

H. Con. Res. 107

(and similar pending resolutions)

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION INVITING THE DEMOCRACIES
WHICH SPONSORED THE NORTH ATLANTIC
TREATY TO NAME DELEGATES TO
A FEDERAL CONVENTION

JANUARY 23, 1950

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ATLANTIC UNION COMMITTEE

The Honorable JOHN KEE,
Chairman, House Foreign Affairs Committee, The Capitol.

MY DEAR CONGRESSMAN KEE: As the spokesman for a delegation of members of the Atlantic Union Committee, who, reposing confidence in your leadership in the present critical world situation, on behalf of the members of that committee and for myself, I respectfully urge your consideration of the following statements:

The forces of freedom have bled themselves white physically and economically in defending, twice within one generation, the freedom they value more than life itself.

These forces have, on each occasion, subordinated their nationalism to the united effort to overcome the forces of aggressive autocracy.

The United States has, as a result of her contributions in these struggles, succeeded to the leadership of the free world. Free people throughout the world today look to us for both moral leadership and physical assistance. They recognize the unselfishness with which we have poured out our substance to support our less fortunate brethren.

We suggest, Mr. Chairman, that subsequent events have demonstrated the inadequacy, each in its turn, of the measures of support we have so far undertaken. These measures, however, have bought valuable time in which to undertake steps which are adequate to meet the challenge we and all free peoples face.

Communist despotism, following the tenets of its prophets and founders, has now extended its grip over a third of mankind. These tenets call for its continued extension until it engulfs the other two-thirds, including ourselves.

A parallel may be drawn between the lack of unity among the free peoples today and that which divided our forefathers into 13 bankrupt and discordant states in their "League of friendship."

The principles they then applied brought order out of chaos. They preserved individual freedom and self-government. They have brought more blessings to more people than any other system yet conceived. And these same principles, wherever applied, have brought beneficial and enduring results.

The application of these principles in a citizen-to-citizen rather than nation-to-nation solution is the broad, but today neglected, road blazed by the founders of this country. We cannot urge too strongly your leadership in bringing about early exploration of this road.

Such an exploratory effort is called for by the Atlantic Union Resolution which was introduced into Congress July 26. It involves no advance commitments. It does not obstruct or condemn previous or present policies and methods. Requiring no Charter amendments, it would leave the United Nations intact. Its success would strengthen the United Nations.

The Atlantic Union Committee is less than 1 year old. In this short time it has enlisted the support of thousands of citizens throughout the country. It has chartered chapters or community leaders in every State of the Union. From the Atlantic to the Pacific and from Canada to the Gulf—from Key West to Seattle and from Bangor to Twenty Nine Palms its membership is increasing rapidly.

The merit of the Atlantic Union Resolution has attracted the support of more than 50 Senators and Congressmen. They are encouraged in their support by the active interest of increasing numbers of their constituents.

We believe that the exploratory convention called for by this resolution can find the answers to our problems today as did the convention which met at Philadelphia in 1787, and that these answers can bring the American people and other free peoples both peace and prosperity.

History pays homage to the leadership and vision which brought about that earlier convention. History is now selecting those to whom similar homage will be paid by future generations.

Yours respectfully,

OWEN J. ROBERTS, *President,*
Atlantic Union Committee.

[H. Con. Res. 108, 81st Cong., 1st sess.]

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Whereas the parties to the North Atlantic Treaty have declared themselves "resolved to unite their efforts for collective defense and for the preservation of peace and security"; and

Whereas they have agreed in article 2 of that treaty to "contribute toward the further development of peaceful and friendly international relations by strengthening their free institutions, by bringing about a better understanding of the principles upon which these institutions are founded, and by promoting conditions of stability and well-being" and to "seek to eliminate conflict in their international economic policies" and to "encourage economic collaboration between any or all of them"; and

Whereas the principles on which our American freedom is founded are those of federal union, which were applied for the first time in history in the United States Constitution; and

Whereas our Federal Convention of 1787 worked out these principles of union as a means of safeguarding the individual liberty and common heritage of the people of thirteen sovereign States, strengthening their free institutions, uniting their defensive efforts, encouraging their economic collaboration, and severally attaining the aims that the democracies of the North Atlantic have set for themselves in the aforesaid treaty; and

Whereas these federal union principles have succeeded impressively in advancing such aims in the United States, Canada, Switzerland, and wherever other free peoples have applied them; and

Whereas the United States, together with the other signatories to the treaty, has promised to bring about a better understanding of these federal principles and has, as their most extensive practitioner and greatest beneficiary, a unique moral obligation to make this contribution to peace; and

Whereas the United States and the other six countries which sponsored the treaty have, by their success in drafting it and extending it to others, established a precedent for united action toward the attainment of these aims, and the creation of a free and lasting union: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That the President is requested to invite the countries which sponsored the North Atlantic Treaty to name delegates, representing their principal political parties, to meet this year with delegates of the United States in a federal convention to explore how far their peoples, and the peoples of such other countries as the convention may invite to send delegates, can apply among them within the framework of the United Nations, the principles of free federal union.

LIST OF DELEGATION—ATLANTIC UNION COMMITTEE

Henry E. Atwood, president, First National Bank, Minneapolis, Minn.
 Mrs. Robert Low Bacon, civic leader, Washington, D. C.
 Robert J. Bishop, attorney and citrus grower, Orlando, Fla.
 Rev. A. Powell Davies, pastor, All Souls' Church, Washington, D. C.
 Dr. A. V. Grosse, atomic scientist, Philadelphia, Pa.
 Livingston Hartley, author, Washington, D. C.
 Gilbert Lamb, frozen foods, Milton, Oreg.
 Mr. and Mrs. L. B. McIntire, certified public accountant, Louisville, Ky.
 Mrs. Stewart Y. McMullen, civic leader, Glencoe, Ill.
 Mrs. Walter Miller, civic leader, Alexandria, Va.
 Garrison Norton, former assistant secretary of State, Washington, D. C., and New York.
 Victor Reinemer, rancher, Circle, Mont.
 Roy F. Steward, patent attorney, Meriden, Conn.
 Mrs. Sara Sommer, civic leader, Peoria, Ill.
 Mr. and Mrs. Clarence K. Streit, author, Washington, D. C.
 Senator Estes Kefauver, Tennessee.
 Congressman Hale Boggs, Louisiana.
 Congressman James W. Wadsworth, New York.
 L. H. Schultz, president, Blue Bus Lines, Batavia, N. Y.
 Mrs. Laurance Martin, civic leader, Evanston, Ill.
 Wilbur L. Dunbar, economist, North Manchester, Ind.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS IN THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ADOPTED JANUARY 31, 1950, IN RE PROPOSED WORLD GOVERNMENT

At a meeting of the board of assistants, the governing authority of the Society of Mayflower descendants in the District of Columbia, held in the city of Washington, on January 31, 1950, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted, to wit:

Whereas there are pending before the Congress of the United States proposals for the establishment of a so-called world government, to embrace all nations and peoples of the earth, with the United States of America as a constituent member; and

Whereas because of the wide divergences, prejudices, antagonisms, distrusts and misconceptions attendant upon the existing differences of race, custom, creed, religion, speech, economic aim, interest, and need, political concept, ideal, ideology and ambition; and because, also, of the inherent urge and force of self-interest and demagogic appeal everywhere to be encountered—a single government, created for all lands and tongues, functioning with power, authority and universal harmony and beneficence, is absolutely impossible and out of the question; and any reign thus set up would prove to be a veritable Babel of criminal folly and confusion; and

Whereas the joinder of our own nation in such a tragic and colossal misadventure would surely result in the overthrow of its system of liberty and constitutional government, and the regulation of its internal and domestic affairs; the inevitable loss of its nationality and freedom; the destruction of its unexampled enterprise and progress; the ultimate depletion and pillage—for the world at large—of its vast resources; and its reduction to a condition of hopeless impotence and futility: be it, therefore

Resolved, that the Society of Mayflower Descendants in the District of Columbia absolutely opposes any and all efforts for the establishment of such world organization, and respectfully calls on the American Congress to register its prompt and overwhelming disapproval of all such schemes and proposals; and be it further

Resolved, that copies of these resolutions be furnished to the Congress and its appropriate committees, for their consideration.

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