



Bréfa- og málasafn 1958

Bjarni Benediktsson – Stjórn­mál – Alþingismaður – Ritstjóri – Richard Nixon – John W. White –
Ambassade de France en Islande – Chase S. Osborne – Alexander Jóhannesson – John J. Muccio –
Hermann Jónasson – Walden Moore – L.D. Wilgress – Vincent Evans – William C. Trimble – U.S.
Delegate Appointed to Attend NATO Parliamentary Conference November 18, 1956 – Utanríkismál –
Varnarmál

Tekið af vef Borgarskjalasafnsins

bjarnibenediktsson.is

Einkaskjalasafn nr. 360
Stjórn­málamaðurinn
Askja 2-23, Örk 1

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HEADQUARTERS
ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE
OFFICE OF THE COMMANDER
APO 81. NEW YORK, N. Y.

8 March 1957

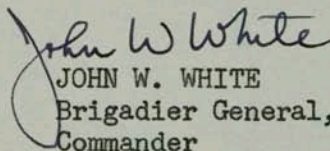
Dear Mr. Benediktsson:

At the request of Vice President Richard M. Nixon, I am forwarding the enclosed letters.

When I informed The Vice President of the individuals who had so kindly obtained the Icelandic dolls for his daughters I did my best to ascertain the names of all of the persons who had participated. I hope I did not inadvertently omit the name of any deserving person. In the event I did, I would greatly appreciate your conveying both my appreciation and Vice President Nixon's appreciation.

Will you please be so kind as to present these letters to: Mr. Thorbjorn Gudmundsson, Mr. Atli Steinarsson, Mr. Thorsteinn Thorarensen and Mr. Sigurdur I. Bjarnason.

Sincerely,


JOHN W. WHITE
Brigadier General, USAF
Commander

Mr. Bjarni Benediktsson
Editor-in-Chief
Morgunbladid
Reykjavik

HEADQUARTERS
ICELAND DEFENSE FORCE
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16 August 1957

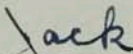
Dear Bjarni:

On the eve of my departure from Iceland I wish to convey to you my sincere appreciation for the many official and social courtesies you have so graciously extended to me during my stay as a guest of Iceland. Both Patsy and I are leaving Iceland with mixed emotions -- with happiness, as is natural, that we will be reunited with our family and friends in the United States -- and yet with a deep feeling of regret that we must leave so many friends and your country which we have, through acquiring a better knowledge and understanding, come to admire and respect immensely. We hope that our paths will cross again and that we will have the pleasure of seeing you in the States in the not too distant future.

May I also convey to you my deep personal respect and admiration for the statesmanship you displayed during the early and later days of NATO in guiding your country toward the difficult goal of national and international security. You are well aware, of course, that we in America are striving to achieve these same goals, and it is my fervent hope that our two nations may continue to work in close cooperation toward the attainment of lasting world peace.

Patsy joins me in wishing you and Sigridur continued health, success and happiness.

Very respectfully,



JOHN W. WHITE
Brigadier General, USAF
Commander

The Honorable
Bjarni Benediktsson
Haahlid 14, Reykjavik

Ambassade de France
en Islande

8 octobre 1957.

Dear Mr. Benediktsson,

This is a copy
of the article I spoke of
the other day, I mean
a copy of the translation
sent to me by the Minis-
try for Foreign Affairs
in Paris.

I had some difficulty
to find it again, therefore
the delay - - -

Very sincerely and
cordially yours.

U. S. Delegates Appointed to Attend NATO Parliamentary Conference
November 18, 1956

<u>Democrats</u>	<u>Senators</u>	<u>Committees, etc.</u>
Green, Theodore Francis Rhode Island		Foreign Relations, ranking next to Senator George Rules, Chairman Chairman, U.S. Delegation to Strasbourg, 1954
Russell, Richard B. Georgia		Armed Services, Chairman Appropriations Atomic Energy
Fulbright, J. William Arkansas		Foreign Relations Banking and Currency, Chairman
Johnson, Lyndon B. Texas		Armed Services Finance Senate Majority Leader
<u>Republicans</u>		
Capehart, Homer E. Indiana		Foreign Relations Banking and Currency
Thye, Edward, J. Minnesota		Appropriations Agriculture
Kuchel, Thomas H/ California		Interior and Insular Public Works
Curtis, Carl T. Nebraska		Rules Civil Service
<u>Representatives</u>		
<u>Democrats</u>		
Hays, Wayne L. Ohio		Foreign Affairs House Administration Chairman, U.S. Delegation, 1955
Clark, Frank M. Pennsylvania		Merchant Marine Public Works
Anfuso, Victor L. New York		Agriculture U.S. Delegate, 1955
McCarthy, Eugene J. Minnesota		Ways and Means
Smith, Frank E. Mississippi		House Administration Public Works

Republicans

LeCompte, Karl M.
Iowa

Ellsworth, Harris
Oregon-

Becker, Frank J.
New York

Morano, Albert P.
Connecticut

Foreign Affairs
House Administration

Rules
U.S. Delegate to Strasbourg, 1951

Public Works
~~Public~~ U.S. Delegate 1955

Foreign Affairs
House Administration

Care of Mr. Walden Moore
114 East 54th Street
New York 22, N. Y.,
October 15, 1956

COPY

Dr. Alexander Jóhannesson
Rector Emeritus of the University of Iceland
Sponsor for Iceland of the Declaration of Atlantic Unity
57 Hringbraut
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Doctor Jóhannesson:

The enclosed, revised list has the advantages of being typed and having some phrase-length comments. Where there is no comment, the presumption is that the attitude was favorable or at least open-minded. In general I have under-stated rather than over-stated the degree of approval with which my story was received. Actually the reception given it in Iceland has been profoundly heartening.

Mr. Walden Moore's plans have been altered by the changing picture in Europe, so that he will not be free to visit Iceland early in November as he had hoped. He will write to you about this.

Please give my kindest remembrances to Mrs. Jóhannesson, with my appreciation of her full part in our happy visit.

I shall always be grateful to you for your quick perception of the cause and for your immediate reaching out to the opportunity in Iceland.

Iceland has won me for its permanent enthusiastic advocate wherever I go.

Sincerely, with all good wishes,

Stellanora Osborn

Mrs. Chase S. Osborn

Copy to
Hon. Bjarni Benediktsson
Mr. Haraldur Gudmundsson (A copy of the list was requested by him.)

LIST OF THOSE IN ICELAND TO WHOM THE DECLARATION OF ATLANTIC UNITY;
THE NATO PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE, AND THE PROJECTED ATLANTIC EX-
PLORATORY CONVENTION WERE PRESENTED, IN BRIEF, BY MRS. CHASE S. OSBORN,
SEPTEMBER 23 TO OCTOBER 13, 1956. UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED THE
PLACE IS REYKJAVIK.

1. Miss Sigerlaug Saemundsdóttir, temporary assistant in Tourist Bureau, prospective student at University of Iceland, Bóklöðustigur 7, phone 3977. Genuinely interested and originatively cooperative.
2. Mr. and Mrs. Teitur Thordarson, Bergstadastraeti 81, phone 4630. Cashier of a fisheries concern. Favorably interested in citizen cooperation to strengthen NATO in ways more than military.
3. Mr. Donald Muechterlein, U. S. Information Agency
4. Miss Stella Kemp, U. S. Information Agency
5. Miss Frances Clements, U. S. Information Agency
6. Ambassador John J. Muccio, American Embassy
7. Mr. Benedikt Gröndahl, M.P., Secretary, Social Democratic Party, phone 2882. My first contact, with letter from Hon. Lithgow Osborne, former Ambassador to Norway, President of the Scandinavian Foundation. He was much interested in hearing about the citizens' movement for Atlantic unity or union in the United States and other NATO countries, and in my spreading the news of this movement in Iceland. He gave a number of names of others who should be interested.
8. Mr. Bjorni Gudmundsson, Press Officer, Foreign Office. Glad to get literature. Suggested how I might obtain appointments with the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister.
9. Mr. Brian D. Holt, Vice-Consul, British Embassy. Gave me names of a number who might be interested and wished me luck.
10. Mr. and Mrs. Olaf Hallgrímsson, President of Baldur Lions Club, Honorary Irish consul.
11. Mr. Arni Kristjánsson, Manufacturer, Deputy-Governor of Lions Clubs in Iceland
12. Miss Arndis Björnsdóttir, President of Zonta International
13. Hr. Kaupm. Jón B. Helgason, Vesturgata 27, telephone 4516. Favorable.
14. Mr. Hilmar Foss, Chairman, Anglo-Icelandic Society, Past President Baldur Lions Club, past deputy district governor of Lions, translator, Hafnarstræti 11, phone 4824. Out of politics but in general seemed favorable. Suggested names.
15. Rev. Bjarni Jónsson, Suffragan Bishop of Iceland, chairman of YMCA, past president of Rotary, Laekjargata 12B. Deeply and enthusiastically interested. Gave suggestions.
16. Mr. Thorleitur Thordarson, Director, Iceland Tourist Bureau
17. Mr. Sigurdur Bjarnason, M.P. Editor, Morgunbladið. Lions Club. Member of Prassidium of Nordic Council meeting in Helsinki in October. Definitely interested.
18. Mr. Saemundur Helgason and Mrs. Helgason, Bóklöðustigur 7, phone 3977. Interested.
19. Hon. Andrew G. Gilchrist, Minister for Great Britain. Sympathetic.
20. Matthias Jóhannesson, reporter, Morgunbladið.
21. Th. O. Thorarensen, reporter, Morgunbladið. Has a special interest in NATO.
22. Dr. Thorkell Jóhannesson, Rector, University of Iceland, and Professor of Icelandic History. Sympathetic.
23. Mr. Vilhjálmur Th. Gíllason, Director of the State Broadcast Service and Chairman of National Theater Board, former director of schools

24. --
25. Mr. Stefán Juliusson, Brekkugata 22, Hafnarfjörður, Iceland. Teacher of Icelandic and English in secondary school; author; secretary of Rotary Club
26. Dr. Olafsson, dentist, member of Keflavik Rotary Club, Keflavik, Iceland. Phone 440.
27. Col. Ragnar Stefansson, Public Relations Officer, Air base, Keflavik. Interpreted my address to Keflavik Rotary Club, liked what we are doing and my way of presenting it.
28. Hon. Johann Hafstein, M.P., Director of Utvegsbanki Islands. As member of standing committee of the NATO Parliamentary Conference he plans to go to Paris in November for the 1956 meeting. Is also interested in an approach from the level of the private citizen.
29. Mr. Hersteinn Pálsson, editor, Visir. Definitely interested in citizen approach to problem of unity for NATO.
30. Dr. Helgi Eliasson, Arnarhvoli, Reykjavik. National Director of Education, past Governor of Rotary for Iceland. Thinks what we are doing is much worth while.
31. Mr. Ragnar Geórgsson, superintendent of schools, Vonarstraeti 8. Much interested. Many teachers, he thinks, would be favorably disposed and would like to read more about the Atlantic movement in the papers and hear about it on the radio.
32. (Duplication)
33. Miss Sigrídur Bachmann, Director, Nursing Service, Landsspítalinn, member of Zonta International
34. Miss Asta Magnúsdóttir, Treasurer of Iceland. Interested.
35. Mrs. Ellen Sighvatsson, member of Zonta International, delegate to Ohio Regional Convention in 1954, 2 Ammannssi. Interested.
36. Sigurdur Sigurdsson, M.D., State Doctor, President, Icelandic-American Society, Laugavegur 114, phone 82300. He and all 300 members of the Icelandic-American Society will look on such activity with constructive sympathy.
37. Mr. Jón Gunnarsson, head of association of deep-freezing plants, Hafnarfjörður, Iceland. For some time has been interested in the Atlantic movement.
38. Mr. Haukur Snorrason, editor, Tíminn, Lindergata. Thought that an exploratory convention should have been held a year ago.
39. Professor Magnús Jónsson, M.P., former professor of theology, Laufasvegis, 63. I was told he was much interested along this line. Unfortunately he was in Russia. Phone 3877.
40. Rev. Jakob Jónsson, Engihlíð 9, phone 5969.
40. Mrs. Guðrún Pálsdóttir, Bólsladarhlíð 3. Teacher of music in middle school, widow of outstanding labor leader in Althing.
41. Mr. Hilmar Fenger, Hofsvallagata 49. Junior partner in importing house.
42. Hon. Haraldur Guðmundsson, Laugavegur 114. Managing director of State Social Insurance Institution, chairman of Social Democratic Party. Much interested.
43. Mr. Helgi Saemundsson, Editor, Althyðubladid. Interested.
44. Guðmundur Guðjónsson, Hringbraut 74. Freshman, University of Iceland.
45. Hon. Gylfi Gíslason, M.P., Professor, Minister of Education, Vice-Chairman, Social Democratic Party. Gave valuable suggestions.
46. Mr. Thordur Einarsson, U. S. Information Agency.
47. Mrs. Sigrídur J. Magnússon, Laugavegur 82. Interested.
48. Mrs. Aslaug Agústs dóttir (Mrs. Bjarni Jónsson), Laekjargata 12B. Chairman, Y. W. C. A. Much interested.
49. Mr. Gunnar Schram, Morgunbladid. Young attorney from Akureyri. Much interested.

50. Colonel Manzo, NATO base, Keflavik. In command during absence of General White. Sympathetic.
51. Rev. Benjamin Kristjansson and Mrs. Kristjansson, Sudra-Laugaland, Akureyri. Has lived in Canada. Sympathetic.
52. Mr. Gunnar Gunnarsson, Dyngjuvegi 8, Reykjavik. Outstanding author, novelist. Deeply interested.
53. Mr. Gunnar Gunnarsson, Jr, Dyngjuvegi 8. Artist. Deeply interested. Phone 81586.
54. Hon. Bjarni Benediktsson, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs. Much interested.
55. Miss Graf, German Embassy.
56. Séra Jón Authuns, Gardastræti 42. Dean of the Lutheran Church in Iceland. Much interested. Phone 1406.
57. Rev. Bragi Fridriksson, Faxaskjöl 24A. Just back from three years in Winnipeg. Interested in knowing more about the movement.
58. DR. ALEXANDER JÓHANNESSEN, 57 Hringbraut. (Dr. Alexander Jóhannesson) Professor of Comparative Philology and the Icelandic Language. Rector Emeritus of the University of Iceland. Author of Isländischer etymologisches wörterbuch, 1951-56, 9 volumes. SPONSOR FOR ICELAND for Declaration of Atlantic Unity Project.
- 58A. Hon. Ólafur Thors, Gardastræti 41. Chairman, Conservative Party. Did not talk to him personally but was assured of his interest.
59. Mr. Thoraninn Thoraninsson, Timinn. Described as best editorial writer on foreign affairs in Iceland. Much interested.
- 59A. G. Halldósson, Blomvallagata 10. Has been interested for some time in American movement for Atlantic Exploratory Convention. (Halldórsson)
60. Mr. Ingi Thorsteinsson, Faxaskjöl 24. Phone 80969. Graduate of University of Iceland. Much interested.
61. Dr. Herbert Kuhle, First Secretary, German Embassy. Phone 82535. Much interested.
62. Miss Rannveig Thorsteinsdóttir, Drápuhlid 41. Advocate. Executive Secretary, Icelandic Council of Women. Deeply interested.
63. The Rt. Rev. Asmundur Guðmundsson, Bishop of Iceland. Much interested.
64. Young Conservative.
65. Staff man at broadcasting office. Probably against our movement.
66. Professor Arnmann Snaevarr, Professor of Law, University of Iceland. Takes no stand on any political issues.
67. Hon. Henri Voillery, Vonarstræti 4. Telephone 7622. Diplomatic Representative of France in Iceland for thirteen years. Delighted with the character of our support, and the progress we have made. Eager to be kept in touch.
68. Hon. Emil Jónsson, Acting Foreign Minister, Foreign Office. Cordial to the movement.
69. Mr. Einar Petursson, Jr., Smaragotü 1. Phone 3170. Favorable. Attorney.
70. Mr. Sven Knudsen, Attaché, Royal Norwegian Embassy. Much interested.
71. Mr. Gunnar Guðjónsson, Hafnarstræti 5. Belgian Consul, President of Reykjavik Chamber of Commerce. Deeply interested.
72. Mr. Kjartan Thors, Smaragata 13. President of Employers' Association, chairman of board of directors, Icelandic Trawler Owners Association; consul general for Italy. Completely sympathetic and interested.

Others, not contacted, who may be interested: Hon. Hans G. Andersen, Palais de Chaillot, Paris (Passy 3127), Iceland's Permanent Representative on the Council of NATO; Hon. Guðmundur I. Guðmundsson, Foreign Minister; Dr. Kristinn Guðmundsson, Ambassador to United Kingdom; Hon. Bjorn F. Bjornson, former M.P. delegate to NATO Parliamentary Conference, Hvolsvöllur. At Akureyri: Hon. Kjartan J. Johannson, M.P., Jónas Rafnar, former M.P., Séra Kristján Róbertsson, and Mr. Fridjón Skarphediusson.

October 15, 1956

Dr. Alexander Johannsson
57 Hringbraut
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Dr. Johannsson:

Mrs. Chase S. Osborn has told me about her good talk with you recently in Reykjavik and has conveyed to me the most welcome news that you are willing to accept the Sponsorship for Iceland of the Declaration of Atlantic Unity.

In behalf of the other United States Sponsors (whose names are listed at the top of this letterhead) I want to welcome you into association with us and with our colleagues in nine other NATO countries in this most worthwhile project.

Mrs. Osborn tells me that she left with you a copy of our Pamphlet and our Prospectus which tells about our accomplishments so far and about our future plans. I enclose a copy of a memorandum from our Project Director, Walden Moore, bringing this part of the Prospectus up to date.

Because of the urgency of a number of matters in London, Paris, Rome and Bonn Walden Moore will not be able to visit Iceland on his way to Europe, November 7 but he does hope to stop there either on his way back or on a subsequent trip.

I enclose herewith our translation of the memorandum presented to the Committee of Three by an international delegation representing the 24 signers of the Declaration of Atlantic Unity.

I also enclose a copy of our translation of General Billotte's covering letter. His proposals for military reforms do not, of course, commit the signers since they are outside the scope of the Declaration.

The United States Sponsors have formally requested an interview with Secretary Dulles as soon as possible for the purpose of presenting him with the enclosed memorandum. We will also give or send it to Senator George and the members of the delegation from Congress to the NATO Parliamentary Conference in November. We are also circulating the memorandum to all 79 United States signers of the Declaration (including Adlai Stevenson and Estes Kefauver).

We are requesting the Sponsors of the Declaration in the other countries to take similar action vis-a-vis their own Foreign Ministers and signers.

I also enclose a list of the delegation from Congress to the NATO Parliamentary Conference in November. The Democratic Senatorial Delegation is an excellent one including as it does the Majority Leader, the Chairman of the Committees on Foreign Relations and Armed Services and two of the ablest Senators on the Foreign Relations Committee. We are hopeful that Senator Wiley, ranking Republican member of the Foreign Relations Committee will also be a member of the Delegation. Three of the Senators and six of the Representatives have been Sponsors of the Kefauver Resolution for an Atlantic Exploratory Convention.

Would you please send me a list of the Icelandic delegation and give me your confidential notation on those who might most profitably be brought in contact with key United States Senators?

Meanwhile you could be most helpful to us by soliciting the signatures to the Declaration of a few leading Icelanders and sending us their names and a brief description as given in the signature list of our pamphlet. We would expect to have these printed and added as an extra page to the pamphlet.

If you should require any further copies of the Pamphlet or the Prospectus our Project Director, Mr. Walden Moore, 114 East 54th Street, New York 22, N. Y. will be glad to send them to you.

As President of the American-Scandinavian Foundation I am most happy to add another Scandinavian Country to those participating in the Declaration.

With most cordial greetings, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Lithgow Osborne

- Enc. 1. Memorandum - Oct. 1
2. Declaration Memorandum
3. Letter - Billette to Committee of Three - Sept. 17
4. U. S. Congressional Delegation

cc. Bjarni Benediktsson
Johann Hafstein
Hans Christian Sonne
Will L. Clayton
William H. Draper, Jr.
Hugh Moore

WILL L. CLAYTON WM. H. DRAPER, JR. HUGH MOORE LITHGOW OSBORNE H. CHR. SONNE

127 East 73rd Street, New York 21, New York

October 15, 1956

Honorable Bjarni Benediktsson
Gardastraeti 41
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Mr. Benediktsson:

I enclose a copy of a letter I have just written to Dr. Johannesson, with attachments.

Mrs. Osborn has told me of your keen interest in the Declaration of Atlantic Unity Project and I am sure you will give Dr. Johannesson any assistance he may require.

With all best wishes, I am,

Yours very sincerely,

Lithgow Osborne
Lithgow Osborne

Enc. Letter to Alexander Johannesson - Oct 15
with attachments

LO:cp

August 2, 1957

Prime Minister Hermann Johansson
Althing
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

We hope you are familiar with the enclosed Declaration of Atlantic Unity which we believe has had a not inconsiderable impact on official policy in a number of NATO countries since its first publication in October 1954.

We enclose a Circular Letter which we are sending to all 271 signers of the Declaration in Eleven NATO countries as well as to heads of governments, foreign ministers, leading parliamentarians, editors, etc. -- about two thousand in all.

It seems to us that at the present time NATO is in the dangerous position of being in a static condition and that if we cannot push it forward it will inevitably tend to slip backward.

Constructive thinking in Europe is now centered on Euratom and the Common Market, while attention on this side of the water is focused on disarmament, Russia and the Near East. Meanwhile the Atlantic gap widens slowly, almost imperceptibly, but ominously.

However, we feel that the great majority in this country desire to close the gap, not widen it. This view is born out by the following extract from an editorial in the July 20 Saturday Review by Elmo Roper, a leading public opinion analyst:

"Here is the question we asked and the answers we received:

"Last year's crisis over the Suez Canal and the Middle East caused a great strain between the U.S. and its allies, England and France. Do you think it essential that we get this alliance fixed up, or merely desirable, or do you think it really doesn't matter whether we get it fixed up or not?

"Essential we get alliance fixed up.....	66%
Not essential, but desirable.....	18%
Really doesn't matter.....	9%
Don't know.....	7%
	<u>100%</u>

"It is hard to remember when any political question got such strongly positive answers, or when the undecided formed so small a part of the total. The American public is very clear in its understanding that the absolute first duty of our foreign policy is to preserve the ties that bind us to our fellow democracies of Europe."

Prime Minister Hermann Jonasson

-2-

August 2, 1957

In order to give effect to this desire of the American people (and we believe also other peoples in the Atlantic Community) the United States Sponsors of the Declaration are asking to see the President and the Secretary of State to discuss this matter with them and to lay before them three specific proposals as follows:

1) a special meeting of the North Atlantic Ministerial Council or the Council of Permanent Representatives before the September meeting of the United Nations to consult together and, if possible, to concert the policies of the fifteen NATO members on certain controversial questions of concern to them that will be debated in the UN.

2) A major speech by the President devoted entirely to NATO and emphasizing the political, economic, social and cultural development of the Atlantic Community.

3) A meeting of the heads of government of the fifteen NATO countries prior to the tenth anniversary of the Treaty (April 4, 1959), when it will be up for review, to agree on ways of prolonging, strengthening and improving the Treaty, the NATO organization, the Atlantic Community and particularly the prospects for world peace.

While Iceland is the smallest NATO member in population it represents the longest tradition of democratic government of all of them and is a natural bridge between North America and Europe.

Our Project Director, Mr. Walden Moore, will be in Iceland from August 20 to 24. At that time he hopes to have talks with the Icelandic Sponsor of the Declaration, Dr. Alexander Johannesson, and the other Icelandic signers as listed on the back of this letterhead.

We hope, Mr. Prime Minister, that these suggestions will commend themselves to you and to your colleagues.

Yours very sincerely,

Lithgow Osborne
For the American Sponsors of the
Declaration of Atlantic Unity

Enc: Circular Letter

I have not had any reply to my letter of September 4 to Ambassador Dean (of which I sent you a copy) & have to write "The Icelandic Fisheries matter" to the New York Times on September 10. I shall be in great need of consolation.

Looking forward to seeing you in about two weeks. I am

Respectfully yours,

Richard Nixon

Re: Letter from Sigurson - September 4

cc: Bjarni Benediktsson
Lárus Guðnason

September 11, 1958

Dr. Alexander Johannesson
Hringbraut 57
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Dr. Johannesson:

Thank you for your note of September 9 and for reserving a room at the Hotel Borg for my wife and me from September 28 to October 2.

I enclose a copy of a letter from the Canadian Ambassador to NATO on the Icelandic Fisheries question.

I have not yet talked with Arthur Dean but hope to do so before leaving New York.

I think it is bad luck for Iceland that Communist China should announce the twelve-mile territorial limit at this time. Since Soviet Russia also claims twelve miles I'm afraid many Americans will think this is a Communist maneuver to which our ally Iceland is lending herself.

Of course, this view has no substance but the following extract from Secretary Dulles' Press Conference of September 9 has perhaps some significance.

"Q.-Sir, on the point about whose three-mile limit it is, then you are not paying any attention, I gather, to the territorial claims of the Red Chinese or even to the use of a limit around Quemoy and Matsu.
A.-No, the three-mile limit referred to is the three-mile limit which represents the territorial waters of the Republic of China around Quemoy and Matsu. We do not accept from the Chinese Communists, or anybody else, for that matter, the extension of territorial waters to twelve miles. That is what you might call a 'grab'. It cannot be effected unilaterally by any nation any more than it can grab territory."

I note by the papers that Foreign Minister Gudmudssen is coming here soon to lay the fisheries dispute before the United Nations. In principle I always regret seeing inter-NATO disputes brought before the U. N., where the Communists can always add fuel to the fire, but this, of course, may be an exception.

I have not had any reply to my letter of September 4 to Ambassador Thors (of which I sent you a copy). I hope he sends "The Icelandic Fisheries Limits" to the list I sent him as Iceland's case, I feel, is in great need of explaining.

Looking forward to seeing you in about two weeks, I am

Faithfully yours,

Walden Moore

Enc: Letter from Wilgress - September 8

cc: Bjarni Benediktsson ✓
Lithgow Osborne

September 11, 1948

Mr. Chairman of the Committee
Washington D.C.
Dear Sir:

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of September 8, 1948, regarding the Icelandic Fisheries Limits.

I enclose a copy of a letter from the Icelandic Ambassador to the United States, dated September 4, 1948, regarding the same matter.

I have also the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of September 10, 1948, regarding the same matter.

I think it is important to point out that the Icelandic Ambassador's letter of September 4, 1948, states that the Icelandic Government is in a desperate situation with respect to the fishing industry and that it is in a desperate situation with respect to the fishing industry.

Of course, this does not mean that the Icelandic Ambassador's letter of September 4, 1948, is a desperate situation with respect to the fishing industry.

It is also important to point out that the Icelandic Ambassador's letter of September 4, 1948, states that the Icelandic Government is in a desperate situation with respect to the fishing industry and that it is in a desperate situation with respect to the fishing industry.

I hope that the Committee will be able to help the Icelandic Government in its desperate situation with respect to the fishing industry.

C O P Y

1, rue Chané, Paris(16e)

8th September, 1958

Dear Mr. Moore:

I have received your letters of August 15th and September 4th and note the efforts you have been making to assist in a settlement of the Icelandic Fisheries question.

This question is one which has been causing us concern for some months and the situation has been intensified with the coming into force of the Icelandic regulations at the beginning of this month. We all in NATO are ready at any time to offer any assistance within our power for a settlement of this question which is so detrimental to the unity of the Atlantic Alliance.

I was interested to learn from your letters that you will be in Paris from November 7th to 22nd which will give you the opportunity of discussing NATO matters with members of this Delegation.

Yours faithfully,

L. D. Wilgress.

Walden Moore, Esq.,
Declaration of Atlantic Unity,
51 East 42nd Street,
New York 17, N.Y.

**CABINET IN ICELAND
QUITS IN PARTY RIFT**

Special to The New York Times.
REYKJAVIK, Iceland, Dec. 4
—The Leftist coalition Cabinet headed by Premier Hermann Jonasson resigned today following disagreement among the three governmental parties over economic problems.
The Government, formed by the Progressive, Social Democratic and Labor Alliance (Communist) parties, was appointed July 13, 1956.
The break-up of the coalition was precipitated by differences among the parties on how to combat inflation.
President Asgeir Asgeirsson has asked the Cabinet to stay on indefinitely while the parties try to find a new basis for cooperation.

REYKJAVIK, Dec. 4 (AP)—
The Government resigned in the face of worsening economic difficulties. Mr. Jonasson told a special session of Parliament that he wanted to freeze wages at the November level as one means of halting inflation, but that he had run into stout opposition from the Communist Trade Minister, Ludvig Josepsson, and Communist representatives of the trade unions.

PARIS WEEKLY SEIZED

December 5, 1958

Dr. Alexander Johannesson
Hringbraut 57
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Dr. Johannesson:

The enclosed dispatch from Reykjavik in today's New York Time naturally interested me greatly.

Would you please write me about its significance and what is likely to happen?

If it results in a new government excluding the Communists I am sure that will make the task of those who are working for agreements which will satisfy Iceland's legitimate needs much easier.

Faithfully yours,

Walden Moore

Enc: Clipping

cc: Bjarni Benediktsson

December 16, 1958

Dr. Alexander Johannesson
Hringbraut 57
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Dr. Alexander Johannesson:

Thank you for your letter of December 12 with its very full and frank answers to the questions in my letter to you of December 8.

Meanwhile we have had the news of the action of the U.N. Assembly in calling another conference on the law of sea for the spring of 1960.

Of course we are happy that another conference is to be held but disappointed that it will not be until the spring of 1960 instead of February 1959 as our Norwegian friends wanted.

I enclose a copy of the clipping on the matter from the New York Times of Dec. 11, which is not generally available because of the newspaper strike here. Many of these questions in the U.N. seem to be decided by political log rolling rather than statesmanship.

The postponement makes Evans' statement that "meanwhile we hope it will be possible for us to reach a modus vivendi with any country with which we have difficulties" especially pertinent. I hope to have a talk with him and with the U.S. people concerned with the matter in the near future. The Assembly adjourned on the night of the 13th and many delegates are away for a rest until after Christmas.

I am surprised and disappointed at your statement that "As matters now stand it is impossible for Mr. Olafur Thors to form a Government without the help of the Communists." According to my Political Handbook the Independents have 19 seats and the Socialists 8 which would give them 27 out of 52 seats or a bare majority of one in each house. Why then is it necessary to form a coalition with the Communists which seems a terrible thing to do since they are against everything we stand for. I recognize of course that this would be a temporary expedient until elections could be held under a new law in the fall of 1959. However most democratic parties who have made a coalition with the Communists have regretted it in the end.

I had been hopeful that our friend, Bjarni Benediktsson, would be the next Foreign Minister.

As I do not know how long our newspaper strike will last, I hope you will drop me a line if and when a new government is formed.

Faithfully yours,

Walden Moore

Enc: Clipping - N.Y. Times, Dec. 11

cc: Bjarni Benediktsson

U.N. VOTES PARLEY ON SEA LAW IN '60

Step Marks Shift on Part of Many Delegations--Spring Session is Indicated

United Nations, N.Y., Dec. 10 - An international conference intended to settle the controversial problem of the extent of territorial waters and also the limits to exclusive fishing rights will be held in the spring of 1960.

The General Assembly approved today by an overwhelming margin an amended resolution authorizing Secretary General Dag Hamarskjold to call such a conference in March or April, "on the earliest date convenient" for the sixty or more countries that might send delegates.

This action marked a shift on the part of many delegations here. Last week the Legal Committee narrowly defeated a seven-nation motion to place the sea law item on the agenda of the next General Assembly and accepted a resolution sponsored by the United States, with others, for a conference in July or August, 1959, at Geneva.

The same seven nations, Chile, Ecuador, El Salvador, India, Iraq, Mexico and Venezuela, produced today another amendment, this time postponing the meeting until 1960.

It was explained that an all-out effort had been made in the last three days to find an agreed basis for a conciliatory solution. The resulting draft was born of concessions on both sides, the Assembly was informed.

The final vote on the resolution as amended was 72 in favor, none against, 6 abstentions.

At issue are the relative merits of the old three-mile limit, a six-mile limit, a twelve-mile limit or something more; also how it should be applied. Fishery rights have already led to the dispute between Britain and Iceland after the Icelandic unilateral extension to a twelve-mile limit three and a half months ago. It flared anew here this afternoon.

Thor Thors of Iceland charged that British warships had violated the United Nations Charter through the threat of force. He said: "Fish is for us even more important than coffee is to Brazil, sugar to Cuba, sheep to Argentina, automobiles to Detroit or oil to Texas."

In reply, W.V.J. Evans of Britain, denying the assertions of Iceland, explained that his country was pledged to the success of the conference in 1960 and "meanwhile we hope it will be possible for us to reach a modus vivendi with any country with which we have difficulties."

20/11, 1958

Mr. Walden Moore
Project Director
Declaration of Atlantic Unity
51, East 42 Street
New York 17, N.Y.

BB/hg

Dear Mr. Walden Moore,

Dr. Alexander Johannesson lent me some time ago your report about your recent visit in Iceland. Later he asked for the report because the Icelandic foreign office did want to see it as dr. Kristinn Guðmundsson, our ambassador in London, had written most unfavorably about it to the foreign office. I pointed out to dr. Alexander Johannesson that in the report there were some remarks which I thought would be very unwise to let the Icelandic government see.

I consider especially most inappropriate to repeat to the Icelandic government this remark of Ambassador Muccio:

"U.S. Ambassador Muccio doubted whether British withdrawal was practicable or even altogether desirable. Such a step, he believes, would be hailed as a great victory by the government of Premier Hermann Jonasson and exploited by the Communists."

Even if Mr. Muccio might have said so, he certainly did so quite privately. It would make his position here very difficult if this got into the hands of the prime minister. Possibly Ambassador Guðmundsson has already told him that this was in your report, because I understand that you did read it for him. That is bad enough, but let them have it in a written form is too bad.

Therefore I urged dr. Johannesson to say that he had not the report, which is true enough as I have not let him have it again. But now he tells me that the foreign office has asked him again, and that dr. Guðmundsson indeed has written a private letter to the prime minister. Dr. Johannesson thinks that he must let the foreign office read the report, especially as the minister of education is one of our signers. I most urgently advise you to delete the remark of Mr. Muccio from your report and send it in the necessarily altered form to dr. Johannesson. You might say: U.S. Ambassador Muccio suggested that, to avoid etc. But the words in *between* must be taken away.

Else you may do a serious harm to a cause, I and all other of your friends here know you eagerly want to support. I hope you understand the spirit this letter is written in and how serious I think the problem is.

With my best regards to Mrs. Moore.

Yours sincerely

Bjarni Benediktsson

December 8, 1958

Dr. Alexander Johannesson
Hringbraut 57
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Dr. Johannesson:

I enclose two clippings from today's New York Times on Icelandic politics and fisheries. I just talked on the phone with Ambassador Thor Thors who said he had so far gotten all his information on the Icelandic political crisis from the New York Times just as I had. I called his attention to the two enclosed items which he had missed.

I had a very frank and cordial talk with Ambassador Hans Andersen at the U.N. on Saturday. He asked that our talk be entirely confidential so I am not at liberty to disclose anything. However, he is returning to Iceland tomorrow and I suggest you see him while he is in Reykjavik. I must say I was not very reassured by what he told me.

I would appreciate any light you can throw on the following questions. 1) Who has the constitutional responsibility of deciding whether or not the Althing should be dissolved and new elections held - the President or the Prime Minister? 2) Do any other parties agree with the Independent Party in seeking a revision of the election law? 3) Did the Communists deliberately precipitate this crisis in order to get new elections? 4) Is a new coalition likely within the present Althing a) leaving out the Communists? b) including the Communists? 5) What governmental measures need to be taken in order to stop the inflation?

My wife joins me in sending very cordial greetings to you and Mrs. Johannesson.

Faithfully yours,

Walden Moore

Enc: 2 clippings - N.Y. Times

cc: Bjarni Benediktsson

COPY

UNITED KINGDOM MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS
99 Park Avenue
New York 16, N.Y.

Replies should be addressed
P.O. Box 206
New York 16, N.Y.

December 15, 1958

1274/669/58

Dear Mr. Moore,

Thank you for your letter of December 8 and for the copy of your report on the Icelandic fisheries question enclosed with it. I am sending you herewith six copies of the United Kingdom Government's Memorandum on this question as requested by you.

As you no doubt realise the issue before the recent Session of the United Nations General Assembly was the question of convening a second conference on the law of the sea. The problem of Icelandic fisheries was not on the agenda of the Assembly and was only referred to incidentally in the course of debate. My own competence is in the United Nations field and I think you will therefore appreciate that my knowledge of the Icelandic problem is limited. I doubt whether you would find a talk with me on the subject to be very profitable. If, however, you feel that there are any aspects within my particular field which you would like to discuss, I am at your disposal.

Yours faithfully,

(s) Vincent Evans

(W.V.J. Evans)
Legal Adviser

Mr. Walden Moore
Declaration of Atlantic Unity
51 East 42nd Street
New York 17, N.Y.

December 16, 1958

W.V.J. Evans, Esq.
United Kingdom Mission to the United Nations
P.O. Box 206
New York 16, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Evans:

Thank you for your letter of December 15 and the enclosed six copies of the United Kingdom memorandum on the Icelandic fisheries. I shall study the latter with great interest and circulate the other copies to the U.S. Sponsors of the Declaration.

I read the story of the Assembly's action on a new conference in the Times of December 11 (the last issue before it was closed down by a strike). I was happy to see that a new conference is to be held but disappointed that it will not take place until the Spring of 1960 - instead of February 1959 as the Norwegians and others had proposed.

This decision lends added weight to your own words as quoted in the above news article as follows: "meanwhile we hope it will be possible for us to reach a modus vivendi with any country with which we have difficulties."

While I note what you say in your letter to me about your field of competence I would like to talk informally with you about a "modus vivendi".

I will therefore get in touch with you by phone to arrange a talk. As this is a particularly busy time for all of us that may not be until after the first of the year.

Faithfully yours,

Walden Moore
Director



THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy
Bonn/Bad Godesberg, Germany
October 29, 1958

Dear Bjarni:

The bearer of this letter, Hubertus Prince zu Löwenstein, is spending several days in Iceland to gather material for a book he is writing on NATO, the title of which, in English, will be "The Defense of the West".

Prince zu Löwenstein is accompanied by his collaborator, Dr. Volkmar von Zuehlsdorff.

When we discussed the visit together several days ago, I suggested to Prince zu Löwenstein that he call on you, not only because you are one of my oldest friends in Iceland, but also because of your great interest in NATO and cooperation among nations of the West. I should, therefore, be grateful for any assistance or help you may be able to give him.

With kindest regards and every good wish to you and your wife, in which my own joins me, I am

As always,

Bill

William C. Trimble
American Minister

The Honorable
Bjarni Benediktsson,
Editor "Morgan Bladid",
Reykjavik.



DECLARATION OF ATLANTIC UNITY

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Walden Moore
Project Director

December 1, 1958

Mr. Bjarni Benediktsson
Morgunbladid
Adalstraeti 6
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear Bjarni Benediktsson:

Many thanks for your letter of November 20.

The enclosed exchange of letters with John Muccio explain how I came to commit this blunder which I, of course, deeply regret.

In accordance with your suggestion I am sending another copy of my report to Dr. Alexander Johannesson similar to the one herewith enclosed (with the erroneous account of Ambassador Muccio's views eliminated).

May I call your attention to the new addendum to my report?

The dinner mentioned in it was attended by Nils Langhelle (Labor, Speaker of Norwegian Storting), Benedickt Grandal (Iceland), Geoffrey de Freitas, M.P. (Labor, U.K.), Betty Boothroyd (Labor, U.K.), John Vernon (NATO) and my wife and me. Grandal, I thought, presented the Icelandic case brilliantly and impressed everyone. Next day Vernon sent a memorandum up to Spaak.

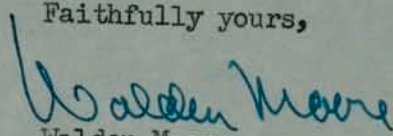
We of course saw a good deal of Johann and Ranki Hafstein in Paris and had them to dinner privately. Johann advanced very forcefully the view that the U.S. should have refused all aid to the present Icelandic government because it had Communists in the Cabinet. I could not agree with this although admittedly the problem is a tricky one.

Both Grandal and Johann made excellent speeches to the plenary session.

Do let me know if there is any chance of your coming to this country before next June when I expect to see you at the Atlantic Congress in London (if not in Reykjavik beforehand).

With warmest regards to you and your charming wife,

Faithfully yours,


Walden Moore

P.S. My wife wants to ask your wife whether she mailed the sheepskin? We have not yet received notice of its arrival here.

- Enc: 1. Icelandic Report with addendum.
2. Letter from Muccio - Nov. 21
3. Letter to Muccio - Dec. 1

COPY

THE FOREIGN SERVICE
OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

American Embassy
Reykjavik, Iceland
November 21, 1958

My dear Walden:

I had a most pleasant and fruitful visit with our friend Bjarni last night. He mentioned that I apparently had left you with the impression that I felt that the British should not lift their naval demonstration against Iceland's extension of the fishery limits. There must be some slip up.

I have consistently held that, having registered their protest and having backed this up with the naval show in the neighboring waters, the continuance of the "cat and mouse" tactics between the British and Icelandic fisheries patrols had become counterproductive and frightfully dangerous.

It is obvious that the resolution of the two substantive facets of the problem require time. (1) A general rule establishing territorial seas and fisheries limit on a worldwide basis can only come from an international convention. (2) Giving effective expression to the principle laid down in the so-called South African resolution unanimously adopted at Geneva that countries greatly dependent on the resources of the neighboring seas should be given special consideration calls for agreement by interested parties.

From the beginning Washington has urged moderation and avoidance of incidents upon the two parties. Disengagement is the only way of averting further acerbating the situation and explosive incidents.

With very best regards.

Sincerely,

John J. Muccio

Mr. Walden Moore, Project Director
Declaration of Atlantic Unity
51 East 42nd Street
New York 17, New York

December 1, 1958

Ambassador John J. Muccio
American Embassy
Reykjavik, Iceland

Dear John:

Many thanks for your good letter of November 21 which was waiting for me when I got back to my desk this morning.

I am really sorry that I gave the wrong impression in my report about your views on the British naval demonstration. As you know, I took no notes but wrote my report from memory in London - and obviously my memory was somewhat befuddled by Bjarni Benediktsson's very generous refreshments during our last night in Reykjavik!

At the suggestion of one of my British friends Ambassador Kristinn Gudmundsson asked me to call on him and I did so as I had seen no one in the Icelandic Foreign Office and I wanted to get straight on one or two points respecting the government's views. The Ambassador asked to see my report, but I told him it was strictly confidential and that he could see it only on condition that he should not reveal its contents to his government or to anyone else. When he agreed to these conditions, I let him read the report through while I sat there. He made one or two factual corrections (which I incorporated) but his only comment was that I had made a mistake in not talking to any members of the Progressive Party.

However, when the Ambassador asked several times to be allowed to make a copy of the report (which, of course, I refused), I became suspicious and left.

I now realize that I was somewhat naive in this matter and believe me I will not make the same mistake again!

I enclose a copy of my report (with my erroneous account of your views on the British demonstration eliminated) together with an addendum which you may find of some interest.

If anything of interest develops from my talks with the Icelanders, British and Americans here, I will, of course, let you know.

I talked with our Ambassadors or charges in nearly every country we visited but in all cases my news of the arrival of your second son had preceded me! Win joins me

in sending our warmest congratulations to you and your charming wife. We ourselves became grandparents for the first time on October 9 (a boy).

If you come to Washington before my next visit to Iceland (probably next May), please let me know, as I would like to have a talk with you.

Meanwhile many many thanks for your kindness and hospitality. Please remember us to Mrs. Muccio and to the Olsen's.

Faithfully,

Walden Moore

Enc: Icelandic Report with addendum.