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January 15, 1951

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Park-Sheraton Hotel
Seventh Avenue and 55th Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Maybe I can't help having this letter sound as if I'm a little irritated, but I hope I don't need to say that my great admiration, respect and affection for you are still intact.

In your piece in The World-Telegram and Sun on January 11th I find this:

"Until the U.N. has within itself more power than any single aggressor nation or group of aggressor nations, it seems impossible with voluntary aid to have enough force to withstand those overwhelming numbers who serve a Communist force in Korea. This will not last forever."

That sounds to me like another way of saying, "until and unless we get world federation there can be no hope of world peace." Or, as Winston Churchill put it recently,

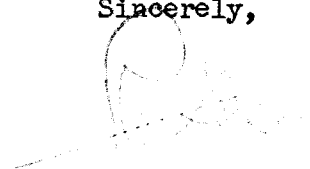
"What hope can there be for the future of the world unless there is some form of World Government which can make its effort to prevent a renewal of the awful struggle through which we have just passed?"

I may have interpreted you wrongly, but if not, then obviously you are aware that our hard choice is between the alternatives of world law and world war, and you prefer world law. If that is so, it would be of immeasurable help to the movement for world government if you would make your position unmistakably clear. Your support of that great cause would be one of the most encouraging pieces of news that could possibly be proclaimed.

May it not be that you are now ready to proclaim it?

With high esteem,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rex Stout", written over a horizontal line.

Rex Stout

RS:mm

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt, January 15, 1951

STOUT, R.

January 18, 1951

Dear Mr. Stout:

In answer to your letter of the 15th, I was not implying anything about World Federation or World Government. World Government seems to me as impossible as any dream at the present time.

Naturally I would prefer world law but at the present time there is no way of enforcing world law. There is no force within the United Nations which is obligatory, only voluntary, and we are seeing in Korea that voluntary force is not sufficient.

I hope we will get an obligatory force some day and I will be glad when all members join in the United Nations and when there is force enough in the world, and sufficient desire to live and let live and a curtailment of "revolutionary expansionism" so that we can consider methods of world law, but now we must use the United Nations as it is, and diplomatically as a whole, and try to work out a temporary peace. More than that we can not expect.

Very sincerely yours,

ORIGINAL RETIRED FOR PRESERVATION

*I will be glad to see you
Hendrickson & Galt
Ed. Bayning
W. G. Galt
W. G. Galt*

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STOUT

February 20, 1951

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
Val-Kill Cottage
Hyde Park, Dutchess County
New York

Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you very much for your letter of January 18th. Knowing how busy you are, I have delayed writing you again, but I don't think I should put it off any longer.

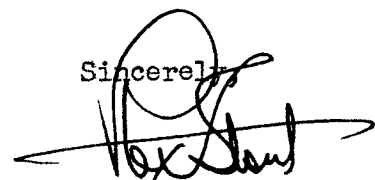
Since the basic attitude toward the problems of human society, of you, and Justice William O. Douglas, and Prime Minister Nehru, and Bishop Sherrill, and dozens of others whom I could name are actually identical, I think it is not only regrettable but dangerous when any of that group misunderstands and misinterprets the position of others on any of the current critical problems--putting first of all, of course, the problem of preventing another world war.

I honestly believe that the purposes and policies of the leading advocates of world government have been either misrepresented to you, or badly presented, and I feel deeply and strongly that an attempt must be made to set that right.

I would like to try it. I don't think it is presumptuous of me to ask you to give me an hour of your time for that attempt. Won't you have an hour, anywhere you say, sometime in the next three or four weeks, to give me this chance?

I know you give lots of hours to a lot of things but if I can't have this one now, I'm going to keep on trying to get it.

Sincerely,



Rex Stout

STOUT, Rex

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March 20, 1951

Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt
The Park Sheraton Hotel
202 Fifty Sixth Street West
New York 19, N. Y.

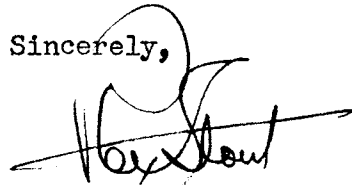
Dear Mrs. Roosevelt:

Thank you very much for sending me that paragraph from the letter from Dr. Friedgood.

The points raised by Dr. Dean in his article, "World Government and the Constitution of the United States," are so technical that I am not competent to form an opinion on them unaided. However, they have been dealt with exhaustively by several members of the Bar, among them Justice Douglas, Dean Pound, and Dean Paul Shipman Andrews of Syracuse University.

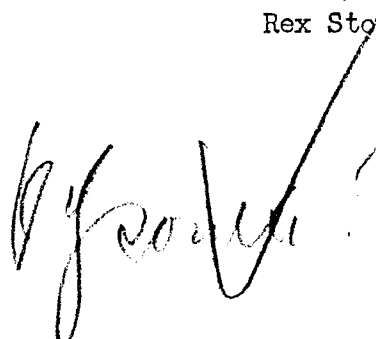
Another instance of disagreement among experts - and naturally I am most impressed by the experts whose opinions support my own position. We always are, I think.

Sincerely,



Rex Stout

rs:aj



Friedgood, Hassu

STOUT, Rex

March 28, 1951

Dear Mr. Stout:

Thank you for your cordial note which has just arrived. I enjoyed our meeting very much, and look forward with keen anticipation to discussing with you further the vital problems which you explored with Mrs. Roosevelt.

I do not wish to leave the impression with you that I am opposed to your viewpoint, which indeed I support heartily in principle. There is no question in my mind that the ultimate goal towards which we must all work is that which now engages your interest. From the realistic viewpoint, however, I am wondering whether a federation of world states can be achieved at one fell swoop in the present international situation. It seems to me that the legislation necessary to accomplish this purpose must succeed and cannot precede the will of the peoples of the world and the sovereign nations that represent them. For the present, therefore, I would be content to embark on a world-wide campaign of education towards the viewpoint which you represent, at the same time that we take every measure available under the charter of the United Nations to enforce by military, economic, political and social sanctions the will of those who are demanding peace in spite of the Soviet's imperialistic designs to the contrary.

I appreciate very much the information and bulletins which Miss Ruth Friend sent to me. Please place my name on your mailing list so that I may be kept informed of the important work which you and your colleagues are doing. I hope with all my heart that you will be successful in achieving the goal to which you are dedicated.

With cordial greetings to you and Mrs. Stout, I am

Yours sincerely,

Harry B. Friedgood, M.D., F.A.C.P.
Associate Clinical Professor
of Medicine

HBF:ec

Mr. Rex Stout
Writers Board for World Government
7 East 12th Street
New York City 3, New York

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Friedgood, Harry

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