

JIM WRIGHT
TEXAS
MAJORITY LEADER

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Office of the Majority Leader

Washington, D.C. 20515

January 30, 1981

The Nobel Peace Prize Committee
Drammensveien 19
Oslo 2, Norway

Gentlemen:

In a cable addressed to the Nobel Prize Committee yesterday I nominated Jimmy Carter, former President of the United States, for the Nobel Peace Prize. This letter is offered in support of that nomination.

The deep commitment of former President Carter to the peaceful settlement of disputes and advancement of human justice produced a number of significant concrete steps forward in the interests of world peace during his recent Administration. Four examples will illustrate the point.

The Panama Canal Treaties

On September 7, 1977, following thirteen years of negotiations, President Carter signed two treaties which established a new relationship between the United States and Panama for the operation and protection of the Panama Canal. These treaties resolved issues which had embittered relations between the two countries ever since the foundation of the state of Panama in 1903 and the construction of the Panama Canal thereafter.

Although the Canal itself was a towering achievement and a boon to world commerce and to the Panamanian economy, it physically divided the small country of Panama and represented an enclave of foreign authority on Panamanian soil. Over a period of years it became the focus of nationalist passions in Panama, and in 1964 the resulting tensions erupted into violence with serious loss of life. Unless the United States had found a peaceful solution to the tensions between the two countries, there would have been a continuing threat to stability in the region and beyond, and further embittering of relations.

Under the terms of the Panama Canal Treaty and the Treaty Concerning the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal, Panama recovered jurisdiction over all its territory, and it will assume responsibility for operation and maintenance of the Canal in twenty years. The United States will have a continuing interest in the security and neutrality of the Canal. The Panama Canal Treaties are a model of peaceful settlement of a difficult international dispute, and reflect the capacity of determined individuals to reach accord on matters of importance for peace.

The Camp David Accords

Following President Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem, the United States, under President Carter's leadership, worked with Egypt and Israel to produce a set of principles which would translate that initiative into a concrete peace agreement. When those efforts stalled, President Carter invited President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin and their staffs to a summit conference in September 1978 at Camp David, Maryland. The purpose from the outset was to develop a detailed framework of principles for a comprehensive peace in the Middle East and, specifically, for a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Through thirteen days of intensive discussion and negotiation, two documents were completed. President Carter personally drafted the "Framework for the Conclusion of a Peace Treaty between Egypt and Israel." He developed with President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin the main elements of "A Framework for Peace in the Middle East Agreed at Camp David" and directed a small drafting group which produced the final version of that document. During the six months of negotiations between Egypt and Israel which followed conclusion of the Camp David Accords on September 17, 1978, President Carter was personally engaged in the talks in Washington on the Egyptian-Israeli Peace Treaty. In a final effort in early March, 1979, he traveled to Egypt and Israel to resolve the last outstanding issues, and this first treaty of peace between Israel and one of its neighbors was signed in Washington March 26, 1979. President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin received the Nobel Peace Prize for their roles. The Peace Treaty was followed by negotiations -- still in process -- which for the first time put Israel's security concerns in the West Bank and Gaza on the same agenda with the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. The process advanced by President Carter broadened the foundation for continued negotiations toward a wider peace in the Middle East.

The Iranian Hostage Crisis

President Carter's response to the Iranian hostage crisis demonstrated his strong commitment to the use of peaceful means of dispute resolution, in furtherance of the goals of the United Nations Charter. In the face of an armed attack on the U. S. Embassy in Tehran and incarceration of its personnel, he exercised wise restraint in refraining from the use of force, which might have exacerbated the danger to peace and stability in that region and the world. From the outset he directed his energies toward resolving the dispute through negotiation, making use of a wide variety of intermediaries in communication with Iran, and through the dispute resolution mechanisms of the United Nations. He took the unprecedented step of referring such a sensitive and highly charged controversy to the International Court of Justice for legal resolution, thus leaving no avenue of peaceful settlement unexplored. The United Nations Security Council unanimously called on the Government of Iran to release the hostages.

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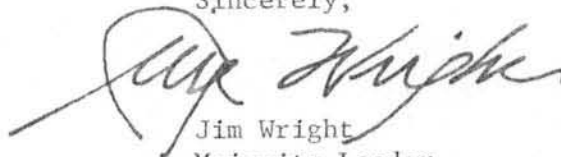
The final resolution of the crisis, achieved through intensive negotiations aided by the Government of Algeria, provided the world a salient example of the willingness of a powerful nation and its chief of state to resolve even the most aggravated of disputes through peaceful means that reenforce rather than endanger international peace and security.

Human Rights

At the very beginning of his Administration, former President Carter committed himself and the United States Government to the vigorous pursuit of human rights, and made this effort a central part of U. S. foreign policy. Despite great skepticism and criticism in many quarters, he perservered in this effort to support the work of so many other dedicated and courageous people throughout the world and international public and private agencies. For President Carter, human rights were not a matter of expediency, but derived from the moral obligation of each individual to help improve and sustain the well-being of others. His commitment of a major world power to this goal was a demonstration of his deep awareness of the importance of the pursuit of human rights for global peace and justice.

For all these reasons, I have chosen to nominate former President Jimmy Carter for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Jim Wright", with a large, sweeping flourish extending from the left side.

Jim Wright
Majority Leader
U. S. House of Representatives

CABLE

The Nobel Peace Prize Committee
Drammensveien 19
Oslo 2, Norway

Gentlemen:

I would like to endorse the nomination, submitted by Congressman Jim Wright, of former President Jimmy Carter for the Nobel Peace Prize.

For the past four years, I was privileged to work closely with President Carter, and believe that I am well qualified to testify to his efforts which merit consideration for the Nobel Peace Prize.

First, President Carter early established the pursuit of human rights as a key goal of his administration. Despite intense criticism from many quarters, he persevered in his efforts to raise the consciousness of mankind about the worth of individual human beings, and set the United States firmly on a course as champion of human rights. Untold thousands of people in the world now live better lives -- or have reason to hope for the future -- because of his efforts.

Second, history is likely to record that one of the most hopeful efforts for peace in this generation centered on the Camp David summit of September 1978, followed by the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty. President Carter was deeply engaged, from start to finish, in this successful work to turn one of the world's most intractable and enduring conflicts in the direction of peace. His two partners in this effort -- President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin -- were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize. I believe that former President Carter is also deserving of that recognition for his own leadership and untiring efforts.

Third, following thirteen years of unsuccessful negotiations to resolve the dispute between the United States and Panama over the future of the Panama Canal, President Carter achieved agreement, and then gained ratification of the two treaties by the United States Senate. This is a milestone in the development of U.S. relations with its neighbors in the hemisphere, and has helped create the basis for peaceful and productive relations for the future.

Fourth, I believe that former President Carter's wise and temperate response to the seizing of 66 Americans in Iran testifies to his commitment -- despite intense provocation -- to seek a peaceful resolution through diplomatic means of even serious and grievous problems. The safe release of all these Americans demonstrates the wisdom of his course -- a course supported by virtually all the international community.

Finally, former President Carter demonstrated throughout his presidency a commitment to bringing weapons of mass destruction under control. While the SALT II treaty has not been ratified by the United States Senate, its conclusion represents an important step on the way to a far safer and saner world.

For all these reasons, I believe that former President Carter should be given serious consideration for the Nobel Peace Prize, and I am honored to endorse his nomination.

Sincerely,

Walter F. Mondale

January 30, 1981

The Nobel Peace Prize Committee
Drammensveien 19
Oslo 2, Norway

Gentlemen:

I wish to nominate Jimmy Carter, former President of the United States, for the Nobel Peace Prize.

The deep commitment of former President Carter to the peaceful settlement of disputes and advancement of human justice produced a number of significant concrete steps forward in the interests of world peace during his recent Administration. Four examples will illustrate the point.

The Panama Canal Treaties

On September 7, 1977, following thirteen years of negotiations, President Carter signed two treaties which established a new relationship between the United States and Panama for the operation and protection of the Panama Canal. These treaties resolved issues which had embittered relations between the two countries ever since the foundation of the state of Panama in 1903 and the construction of the Panama Canal thereafter.

Although the Canal itself was a towering achievement and a boon to world commerce and to the Panamanian economy, it physically divided the small country of Panama and represented an enclave of foreign authority on Panamanian soil. Over a period of years it became the focus of nationalist passions in Panama, and in 1964 the resulting tensions erupted into violence with serious loss of life. Unless the United States had found a peaceful solution to the tensions between the two countries, there would have been a continuing threat to stability in the region and beyond, and further embittering of relations.

Under the terms of the Panama Canal Treaty and the Treaty Concerning the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal, Panama recovered jurisdiction over all its territory, and it will assume responsibility for operation and maintenance of the Canal in twenty years. The United States will have a continuing interest in the security and neutrality of the Canal. The Panama Canal Treaties are a model of peaceful settlement of a difficult international dispute, and reflect the capacity of determined individuals to reach accord on matters of importance for peace.

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The Iranian Hostage Crisis

President Carter's response to the Iranian hostage crisis demonstrated his strong commitment to the use of peaceful means of dispute resolution, in furtherance of the goals of the United Nations Charter. In the face of an armed attack on the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and incarceration of its personnel, he exercised wise restraint in refraining from the use of force, which might have exacerbated the danger to peace and stability in that region and the world. From the outset he directed his energies toward resolving the dispute through negotiation, making use of a wide variety of intermediaries in communication with Iran, and through the dispute resolution mechanisms of the United Nations.

He took the unprecedented step of referring such a sensitive and highly charged controversy to the International Court of Justice for legal resolution, thus leaving no avenue of peaceful settlement unexplored. The United Nations Security Council unanimously called on the Government of Iran to release the hostages.

The final resolution of the crisis, achieved through intensive negotiations aided by the Government of Algeria, provided the world a salient example of the willingness of a powerful nation and its chief of state to resolve even the most aggravated of disputes through peaceful means that reenforce rather than endanger international peace and security.

Human Rights

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For all these reasons, I would like to nominate former President Jimmy Carter for the Nobel Peace Price.

Sincerely,

Jim Wright
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

Penny--

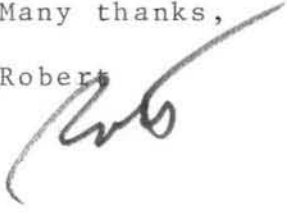
Cable has been approved by WFM, and if possible should go out tonight.

The draft letter for ~~W~~ Jim Wright's signature should be retyped and delivered in the morning to Dick Olsen of the Majority Leader's office, in the Capitol, H148 (225-8040).

(Hopefully, Wright will send it out tomorrow, by cable preferably).

Many thanks,

Robert



(the original material from Roberts Owen is for filing).

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Furtypping

The Nobel Peace Prize Committee
Drammensveien 19
Oslo 2, Norway

Gentlemen:

I wish to nominate Jimmy Carter, former President of the
United States, for the Nobel Peace Prize.

(2)

~~Mr. Supp~~
~~Mr. Lee~~
~~NOMINATION~~
Dick
Olson

The deep commitment of former President Carter ~~of the~~ and advancement of human justice ~~United States~~ to the peaceful settlement of disputes ¹ produced a number of significant concrete steps forward in the interests of world peace during his recent Administration. ^{Four} ~~Just three~~ examples will illustrate the point.

The Panama Canal Treaties

On September 7, 1977, ^{following thirteen years of negotiations,} President Carter signed two ^{which} ~~that~~ treaties ¹ ~~that~~ established a new relationship between the United States and Panama for the operation and protection of the Panama Canal. These treaties resolved issues ^{which} ~~that~~ had embittered relations between the two countries ever since the foundation of the state of Panama in 1903 and the construction of the Panama Canal thereafter.

Although the Canal itself was a towering achievement and a boon to world commerce and to the Panamanian economy, it physically divided the small country of Panama and represented an enclave of foreign authority on Panamanian soil. Over a period of years it became the focus of nationalist ~~is~~ passions in Panama, and in 1964 the resulting tensions erupted into violence with serious loss of life. Unless the United States had found a peaceful solution to the

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~~its nationals.~~ The final resolution of the crisis, achieved through intensive negotiations aided by the Government of Algeria, ~~as intermediary,~~ ^{and its chief of state} provided the world a salient example of the willingness of a powerful nation to resolve even the most aggravated of disputes through peaceful means that reenforce rather than endanger international peace and security.

(7)

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9/ For all these reasons, I would like to nominate former President Jimmy Carter for the Nobel Peace Prize.

Sincerely,

Jim Wright
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives

For Filing

January 28, 1981

MEMORANDUM

TO: Vice President Mondale

FROM: Roberts B. Owen ^{RB} (formerly The Legal Adviser,
Department of State)

SUBJECT: Nomination of President Carter for the
Nobel Peace Prize

A few days ago Warren Christopher asked me to draft some papers for such a nomination. I sent the draft to him in California, and the enclosed materials reflect his comments.

I am advised that the deadline for nominations is January 31, which may require transmission to Norway by telegram. The addressee of such nominations is:

The Nobel Peace Prize Committee
Drammensveien 19
Oslo 2, Norway

Call Tip
I am also advised that such a nomination cannot be made by a private citizen; there is a need to have the nomination made by an individual who is

- a member of Congress;
- a member of the International Court of Justice;
- a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration (I happen to be such);
- a member of the cabinet;
- a university professor.

You may wish to get in touch with a person in the first or last category (or I would be delighted to act, as a person in the third category).

If I can be of any further assistance, I can be reached (for the next two days only) at my old State Department number (632-9598) or at my home (3122 Newark Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008, telephone 363-1134).

Although we have never met, it was an enormous privilege for me to serve in the Carter-Mondale Administration.

Mr. Supp
Handwritten

Rich
Olson

NOMINATION

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tensions between the two countries, there would have been a continuing threat to stability in the region and beyond.

Under the terms of the Panama Canal Treaty and the Treaty Concerning the Permanent Neutrality and Operation of the Panama Canal, Panama recovered jurisdiction over all its territory, and it will assume responsibility for operation and maintenance of the Canal in twenty years. The United States will have a continuing interest in the security and neutrality of the Canal. Now that passions have cooled, both countries appear to accept these agreements as fair and balanced. The Panama Canal Treaties are a model of peaceful settlement of a difficult international dispute.

The Camp David Accords

Following President Sadat's historic visit to Jerusalem, the United States participated with Egypt and Israel in exchanges designed to produce a set of principles which would translate that initiative into a concrete peace agreement. When those efforts stalled, President Carter invited President Sadat and Prime Minister Begin and their staffs to a summit conference in September 1978 at Camp David, Maryland. The purpose from the outset was to develop a detailed framework of principles for a comprehensive peace in the Middle East and, specifically, for a peace treaty between Egypt and Israel. Through thirteen days of intensive discussion and

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