

Mr. Phillips Talbot  
Ambassador  
Of the United States Of America  
Athens - Greece

January 15, 1969

By this letter and the token gift accompanying it, allow us to take the opportunity of bidding Mr. Talbot and you farewell and a safe return to the U.S.A.

The token gift is a replica of an old Byzantine icon of Saint John the Theologian. We thought that this was an appropriate selection under the circumstances. In a world of tension and turmoil men can afford nevertheless, to stop and reflect.

Please be also kind and convey these few thoughts back to Washington D.C. to those who administer the policy of the most progressive and the most powerful country in the world, views which we feel sure you also deeply share; The Greek people must again be placed in direct and open control of their lives. Any other course is unthinkable and would reduce Greece to the political level of the communist world where no-democracy is the accented pattern.

Greece's friends must not sit back and wait for the situation "to work itself out". They must help hasten the course towards the return to true democracy. It is everyone's obligation and interest both within and outside this country, to see that this happens as quickly as possible.

With best wishes always,

Yours sincerely,

John Glavanis  
Charilaos Karápiotis  
Emmanouel Kafalogianis  
Emmanouel Kothris  
Evangelos Savopoulos  
John Tsouderos