

ATHENS 124.

3rd July 1972

H.E. Mr Henry Taska
Ambassador of the USA
Athens.

Dear Ambassador,

I would like to thank you very much for the invitation to attend the reception on the occasion of the 196th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of the USA.

I am very sorry, however, that I cannot attend, although I would have wished to, and personally express my congratulations on the anniversary of the great day of the American people, which is at the same time one of the landmarks in the history of mankind, being synonymous with the prevalence for the first time in the modern era of the ideas of the independence of nations, freedom, democracy, and human dignity. It is for all this exactly that this day is honoured by all the people of the civilised world, and more especially by the Greek people - for the well-known reasons.

My inability to attend - in all frankness - is due to the presence of the Secretary of State William Rogers, which under different circumstances would have been gratifying to the Greek people. But his visit to our country, under present conditions, cannot be interpreted in any other way than as another act of courtesy and support by the government of the US to the regime of the tyrants of the Greek people - and this actually is the meaning attributed to it officially by the Greek side.

This inability becomes even greater because at the same time and under the same roof the leaders of the small group of Army officers who five years ago deprived the Greeks of their liberties and have kept them ever since in bondage, will be present to celebrate 4th July!....

This is why I have to transmit my congratulations to you in writing and not personally as I would have otherwise preferred to do.

Yours sincerely,

JOHN G. ZIGHDIS

6, ANTHIMOU GAZI ST.
TEL. 232-555

3rd July 1972

ATHENS 124.

H.E. Mr Henry Taska
Ambassador of the USA
Athens.

Dear Ambassador,

I would like to thank you very much for the invitation to attend the reception on the occasion of the 196th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of the USA.

I am very sorry, however, that I cannot attend, although I would have wished to, and personally express my congratulations on the anniversary of the great day of the American people, which is at the same time one of the landmarks in the history of mankind, being synonymous with the prevalence for the first time in the modern era of the ideas of the independence of nations, freedom, democracy, and human dignity. It is for all this exactly that this day is honoured by all the people of the civilized world, and more especially by the Greek people - for the well-known reasons.

My inability to attend - in all frankness - is due to the presence of the Secretary of State William Rogers, which under different circumstances would have been gratifying to the Greek people. But his visit to our country, under present conditions, cannot be interpreted in any other way than as another act of courtesy and support by the government of the US to the regime of the tyrants of the Greek people - and this actually is the meaning attributed to it officially by the Greek side.

This inability becomes even greater because at the same time and under the same roof the leader of the small group of Army officers who five years ago deprived the Greeks of their liberties and have kept them ever since in bondage, will be present to celebrate 4th July!....

This is why I have to transmit my congratulations to you in writing and not personally as I would have otherwise preferred to do.

Yours sincerely,

My inability to attend - in all frankness - is due to the presence of the Secretary of State William Rogers, which under the circumstances would have been gratifying to the Greek people. But his visit to our country, under present conditions, cannot be interpreted in any other way than as another act of courtesy & support by the Govt of the U.S.A. The regime of the tyrant of the Greek people after actually is the man, attributed to it especially by the Greek side.

This inability becomes even greater because at the same time & under the leadership of the leaders of the small group of Army Officers who five years ago deprived the Greeks of their liberties & have kept them ever since in bondage, will be present to celebrate 4th July!

This is why I have to lament by ...