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VETOED  
10/14/74  
DELIVERED TO THE CLERK OF  
THE HOUSE 10/14/74 (3:07 PM)

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 11, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 1131 - Continuing  
Appropriations for fiscal year 1974  
Sponsor - Representative Mahon (D), Texas

Last Day for Action - October 24, 1974

Immediate action is recommended since the existing con-  
tinuing resolution expired September 30, 1974. Programs  
of the following agencies are without legal authority to  
continue:

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| Agriculture   | AID  |
| HEW   | USIA |
| Labor   | EPA  |
| DOD programs for military construction and foreign<br>military assistance |      |
| Various smaller agencies  |      |

Purpose

Provides continuing appropriations for above activities of  
the Federal Government until the sine die adjournment of  
this session of Congress.

Discussion

The bill contains an objectionable provision which prohibits  
use of funds for military assistance to Turkey unless the  
President certifies to the Congress that Turkey is in com-  
pliance with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Foreign  
Military Sales Act and any agreement thereunder, and that  
substantial progress toward agreement has been made regard-  
ing military forces in Cyprus.

Other provisions of the bill would

- limit funds for fertilizer for South Vietnam to  
\$85 million (compared with \$120 million requested);



- reduce by \$250 million the rate at which grant military assistance programs (except for South Vietnam) are funded; and
- authorize use of up to \$15 million of foreign assistance funds for relief of flood damage in Honduras and Bangladesh, and of damage caused by civil strife in Cyprus.

### Fiscal crisis

As you know, the law and the Constitution prohibit incurring obligations or making expenditures without appropriations. Also, the law prohibits any officer or employee from accepting service without pay except in cases involving the safety of human life or protection of property.

Until today, use of funds by the agencies listed above has generally involved prior appropriations. Beginning October 14, agencies cannot certify and Treasury cannot disburse payroll funds. While only payrolls of the Agency for International Development are affected at first, payrolls of other agencies will be affected during the week. With due attention to the law, some agencies are now beginning actions to stop new grants, other payments, and obligations.

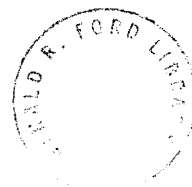
### Analysis

Because of the fiscal crisis noted above, it is essential that you act quickly if you plan to veto this resolution. We have been informed by the House Appropriations Committee staff that they expect that a veto would be sustained in the House. The close vote on the Mansfield Resolution, S.J. 247, supports this view. On that basis, the Committee staff is drafting a clean bill.

### Recommendation

That you veto this bill as quickly as possible.

*for Paul H. Davis*  
Roy L. Ash  
Director



October 14, 1974

Received from the White House a sealed envelope said to contain H. J. Res. 1131, Joint Resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1975, and for other purposes, and a veto message thereon.

Spickett for  
Clerk of the House of Representatives

3:07 pm 10/14/74  
Time received



RUSH

ACTION MEMORANDUM

Date: October 10, 1974

Time: 5:45 p.m.

FOR ACTION: ~~Geoff Shepard~~  
~~NSC/S~~  
~~Phil Buchen~~  
~~Bill Timmons~~

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks  
Jerry Jones  
Paul Theis

~~TO~~ FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, October 11, 1974

Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 1131 - Continuing appro-  
priations for fiscal year 1974

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

ASAP

Thank you.

*okay*  
*PT*



PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Warren K. Hendriks  
For the President

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

OCT 10 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 1131 - Continuing  
appropriations for fiscal year 1974  
Sponsor - Representative Mahon (D), Texas

Last Day for Action

Immediate action is recommended since the existing continuing resolution expired September 30, 1974. Programs of the following agencies are without legal authority to continue:

Agriculture  
HEW  
Labor  
AID  
USIA  
EPA  
DOD programs for military construction and foreign  
military assistance  
Various smaller agencies



Purpose

Provides continuing appropriations for above activities of the Federal Government until the sine die adjournment of this session of Congress.

Agency recommendations

Office of Management and Budget      Approval - if S.J. Res. 247  
on military aid to Turkey  
is approved

Affected Agencies                      Approval - if S.J. Res. 247  
on military aid to Turkey  
is approved

### Discussion

The bill contains an objectionable provision which prohibits use of funds for military assistance to Turkey unless the President certifies to the Congress that Turkey is in compliance with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Foreign Military Sales Act and any agreement thereunder, and that substantial progress toward agreement has been made regarding military forces in Cyprus.

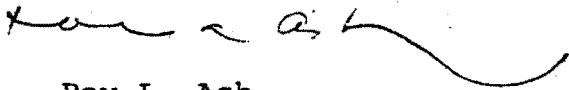
S. J. Resolution 247, passed by the Senate on October 9, authorizes the President to suspend the provision until December 15, 1974, if he determines that such suspension will further negotiations on the Cyprus conflict. House action on the Senate Resolution is expected today or tomorrow.

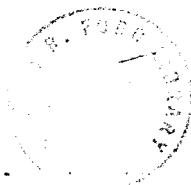
Other provisions of the bill would

- limit funds for fertilizer for South Vietnam to \$85 million (compared with \$120 million requested);
- reduce by \$250 million the rate at which grant military assistance programs (except for South Vietnam) are funded; and
- authorize use of up to \$15 million of foreign assistance funds for relief of flood damage in Honduras and Bangladesh, and of damage caused by civil strife in Cyprus.

### Recommendation

While it is desirable for action on this bill to take place immediately, it seems wise to wait on House action on S.J. Resolution 247. If the House passes the bill intact, then this Resolution could be signed. If not, a veto should be considered.

  
Roy L. Ash  
Director



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 11, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 1131 - Continuing  
Appropriations for fiscal year 1974  
Sponsor - Representative Mahon (D), Texas

Last Day for Action - October 24, 1974

Immediate action is recommended since the existing continuing resolution expired September 30, 1974. Programs of the following agencies are without legal authority to continue:

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Labor	EPA
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Purpose

Provides continuing appropriations for above activities of the Federal Government until the sine die adjournment of this session of Congress.

Discussion

The bill contains an objectionable provision which prohibits use of funds for military assistance to Turkey unless the President certifies to the Congress that Turkey is in compliance with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Foreign Military Sales Act and any agreement thereunder, and that substantial progress toward agreement has been made regarding military forces in Cyprus.

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### Analysis

Because of the fiscal crisis noted above, it is essential that you act quickly if you plan to veto this resolution. We have been informed by the House Appropriations Committee staff that they expect that a veto would be sustained in the House. The close vote on the Mansfield Resolution, S.J. 247, supports this view. On that basis, the Committee staff is drafting a clean bill.

### Recommendation

That you veto this bill as quickly as possible.

*for Paul H. Owen*  
Roy L. Ash  
Director



THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION

WASHINGTON


Last Day - October 22

October 11, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

KEN  COLE

SUBJECT:

Enrolled House Joint Resolution 1131  
Continuing Appropriations for  
Fiscal Year 1974 and other  
purposes

Attached for your consideration is the House Joint Resolution 1131, sponsored by Representative Mahon, which provides continuing appropriations for activities of the Federal Government, as listed below, until the sine die adjournment of this session of Congress.

- . Department of Agriculture
- . Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
- . Department of Labor
- . Administration for International Development
- . United States Information Agency
- . Environmental Protection Agency
- . Department of Defense programs for military construction and foreign military assistance
- . Various smaller agencies

At Saturday's meeting you indicated your decision to veto the bill based on the objectionable provision which prohibits the use of funds for military assistance to Turkey. Additional background information is provided in Roy Ash's enrolled bill report (Tab A).

We have checked with the Counsel's Office (Chapman), the NSC, Secretary Kissenger, Roy Ash, Paul Theis, and Bill Timmons who also recommend veto and recommend you approve the attached veto statement.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign the Presidential Veto Statement (Tab B) returning House Joint Resolution 1131 (Tab C) to Congress without your approval.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

OCT 10 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 1131 - Continuing  
appropriations for fiscal year 1974  
Sponsor - Representative Mahon (D), Texas

Last Day for Action

Immediate action is recommended since the existing continuing resolution expired September 30, 1974. Programs of the following agencies are without legal authority to continue:

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Agency recommendations

Office of Management and Budget      Approval - if S.J. Res. 247  
on military aid to Turkey  
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Affected Agencies                      Approval - if S.J. Res. 247  
on military aid to Turkey  
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### Discussion

The bill contains an objectionable provision which prohibits use of funds for military assistance to Turkey unless the President certifies to the Congress that Turkey is in compliance with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Foreign Military Sales Act and any agreement thereunder, and that substantial progress toward agreement has been made regarding military forces in Cyprus.

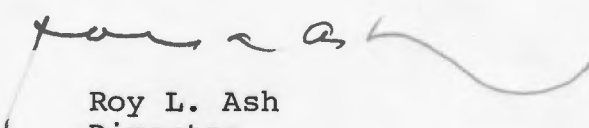
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- authorize use of up to \$15 million of foreign assistance funds for relief of flood damage in Honduras and Bangladesh, and of damage caused by civil strife in Cyprus.

### Recommendation

While it is desirable for action on this bill to take place immediately, it seems wise to wait on House action on S.J. Resolution 247. If the House passes the bill intact, then this Resolution could be signed. If not, a veto should be considered.

  
Roy L. Ash  
Director



10/23/74

Mr. J. -

To be added to the  
file, pl. Thanks

Kate



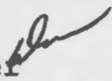


EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

To Paul Theris  
10.12.74  
NR.

DATE: 10/32/74

TO: Bob Linder

FROM: Dale McOmber 

Here is a suggested beginning and ending to the veto message on the Continuing Resolution which I am giving to Scowcroft.

We are deferring to the NSC on the foreign aid cutoff aspect of the message.



October 12, 1974

VETO STATEMENT ON THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION

I am returning today without my approval the Continuing Resolution (H.J. Res. 1131). I ask the Congress to enact promptly a new Continuing Resolution without the section on aid to the Government of Turkey.

(Discussion of aid to Turkey)

It is imperative that a new Continuing Resolution be enacted quickly. A number of Federal agencies have been without new spending authority since September 30. Unless a new bill is approved promptly, the Federal Government will not be able to pay some of its people or meet all its benefit payments or other program obligations. I am certain the Congress will want to join me in preventing such unfortunate events.

Many members of the Congress have recognized the need for prompt and desirable action on this Continuing Resolution. Senator Mansfield and Representative Mahon have been particularly helpful and I thank them for it.

My choice is unavoidable. My responsibility is clear. I must ask that the Congress reconsider its action and send to me a bill that we can all support in good conscience.



TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

At the beginning of my Administration I pledged to work closely and cooperatively with the Congress. I believe I have kept that promise. I have appeared before two joint sessions of the Congress, I have met frequently with the leadership of both Houses, and I have agreed to appear personally before a subcommittee of the House of Representatives -- a step no other President has undertaken in more than a century.

These actions are an earnest of my commitment to a new partnership between the legislative and executive branches of our government. They reflect my deep belief that the antagonisms that have too long divided our nation must be resolved, that hopes for partisan advantage must be put aside, and that we must get on with the business of doing the best we can for our country.

The cooperation I have received from the leadership of the Congress -- Democratic and Republican alike -- has been truly remarkable. The leaders have advised me and I have listened; I have explained my problems to them and they have responded with understanding and support. For this I am deeply grateful.

It is, therefore, with deep regret that I am returning today without my approval the recently passed continuing resolution, H.J. Res. 1131, granting funds for the operation of several Departments and agencies and for the temporary continuation of our foreign aid programs. I take this step with great reluctance, but in the belief that I have no other choice.

The continuing resolution the Congress has passed and sent to me for signature contains an amendment requiring an immediate cut-off of all military assistance to Turkey. That amendment was passed despite my own public objection to it, and in the face of the unanimous opposition of the bipartisan leadership of both Houses of Congress. It is an act which is harmful even to those it purports to help.





The United States is making every effort to play a useful role in assisting the parties to a resolution of the Cyprus dispute. The continuing resolution as amended is entirely destructive of those efforts. Instead of encouraging the parties involved in the Cyprus dispute to return to the negotiating table, an arms cut-off to Turkey could mean the indefinite postponement of meaningful negotiations. Instead of strengthening America's ability to persuade the parties to resolve the dispute, it would lessen our influence on all the parties concerned. It would as well imperil our relationships with our Turkish ally and weaken us in the crucial Eastern Mediterranean. It directly jeopardizes the NATO alliance.

Most tragic of all, an arms cut-off would not help Greece or the Greek Cypriot people who have suffered so tragically over the past several months. We recognize that we are still far from a settlement consistent with the honor and dignity of Greece, and are prepared to exert our influence to that end. But reckless acts that prevent progress toward a Cyprus settlement harm Greece, for it is the Greek government and the Greek Cypriots who have the most to gain from a compromise settlement. And it is they who have the most to lose from continued deadlock.

It is for these reasons that I am vetoing the bill sent to me. I do so because, should this measure become law, it would be impossible for the United States to continue to play any meaningful role in assisting the parties to resolve the Cyprus dispute. We would inevitably be forced to withdraw from the negotiations because the Congress would have taken from us the tools we need to affect the outcome.

My choice, then, is unavoidable; my responsibility clear. I ask that the Congress reconsider its action and send to me a bill that we can all support; a bill that provides the flexibility needed to carry forward the foreign policy of the United States.



THE WHITE HOUSE,

To the House of Representatives:

Draft Presidential Veto Statement

"At the beginning of my Administration I pledged to work closely and cooperatively with the Congress. I believe I have kept that promise. I have appeared before two joint sessions of the Congress, I have met frequently with the leadership of both Houses, and I have agreed to appear personally before a sub-committee of the House of Representatives -- a step no other President has undertaken in more than a century.

These actions are an earnest of my commitment to a new partnership between the legislative and executive branches of our government. They reflect my deep belief that the antagonisms that have too long divided our nation must be resolved, that hopes for partisan advantage must be put aside, and that we must get on with the business of doing the best we can for our country.

The cooperation I have received from the leadership of the Congress -- Democratic and Republican alike -- has been truly



remarkable. The leaders have advised me and I have listened; I have explained my problems to them and they have responded with understanding and support. For this I am deeply grateful.

*today without my* It is, therefore, with deep regret that I <sup>*am returning*</sup> ~~must withhold my~~ approval of the recently passed continuing resolution <sup>*CFR 1131b*</sup> granting funds for the operation of several Departments and agencies and for the temporary continuation of our foreign aid programs. I take this step with great reluctance, but in the belief that I have no other choice.

The continuing resolution the Congress has passed and sent to me for signature contains an amendment requiring an immediate cut-off of all military assistance to Turkey. That amendment was passed despite my own public objection to it, and in the face of the unanimous opposition of the bipartisan leadership of both Houses of Congress. It is an act which is harmful even to those it purports to help.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.: 645

Date: October 10, 1974

Time: 5:45 p.m.

FOR ACTION: ~~Geoff Shepard~~  
✓ SC/S  
✓ Phil Buchen  
Bill Timmons

cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks  
Jerry Jones  
Paul Theis

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, October 11, 1974

Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 1131- Continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1974

ACTION REQUESTED:

\_\_\_ For Necessary Action

XX For Your Recommendations

\_\_\_ Prepare Agenda and Brief

\_\_\_ Draft Reply

\_\_\_ For Your Comments

\_\_\_ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

ASAP

Thank you.



PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

\_\_\_\_\_  
K. R. COLE, JR.  
For the President

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

OCT 10 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 1131 - Continuing appropriations for fiscal year 1974  
Sponsor - Representative Mahon (D), Texas

Last Day for Action

Immediate action is recommended since the existing continuing resolution expired September 30, 1974. Programs of the following agencies are without legal authority to continue:

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EPA  
DOD programs for military construction and foreign military assistance  
Various smaller agencies

Purpose

Provides continuing appropriations for above activities of the Federal Government until the sine die adjournment of this session of Congress.

Agency recommendations

Office of Management and Budget      Approval - if S.J. Res. 247 on military aid to Turkey is approved

Affected Agencies                      Approval - if S.J. Res. 247 on military aid to Turkey is approved



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*RUSA*  
LOG NO.: 645

ACTION MEMORANDUM

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Time: 5:45 p.m.

FOR ACTION: Geoff Shepard  
NSC/S  
✓ Phil Buchen  
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cc (for information): Warren K. Hendriks  
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Time: 2:00 p.m.

SUBJECT: Enrolled Resolution H.J. Res. 1131- Continuing appro-  
priations for fiscal year 1974

ACTION REQUESTED:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Necessary Action     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Your Recommendations |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prepare Agenda and Brief | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Reply                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> For Your Comments        | <input type="checkbox"/> Draft Remarks                       |

REMARKS:

Please return to Kathy Tindle - West Wing

ASAP

Thank you.

*No objection  
D.C.*



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Warren K. Hendriks  
For the President



# Ninety-third Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

*Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-first day of January,  
one thousand nine hundred and seventy-four*

## Joint Resolution

Making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1975, and for other purposes.

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That (a) clause (c) of section 102 of the joint resolution of June 30, 1974 (Public Law 93-324), is hereby amended by striking out "September 30, 1974" and inserting in lieu thereof "sine die adjournment of the second session of the Ninety-third Congress".*

(b) Clause (a) of such section is amended by inserting immediately after "joint resolution" the following: "or, in the case of the United States Information Agency, enactment of authorizations of appropriations for fiscal year 1975 for that agency".

SEC. 2. Section 101(e) of such joint resolution is amended by striking out "first quarter" and inserting in lieu thereof "quarterly".

SEC. 3. None of the funds herein made available shall be obligated or expended for military assistance, or for sales of defense articles and services (whether for cash or by credit, guaranty, or any other means) or for the transportation of any military equipment or supplies to Turkey until and unless the President certifies to the Congress that the Government of Turkey is in compliance with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, the Foreign Military Sales Act, and any agreement entered into under such Acts, and that substantial progress toward agreement has been made regarding military forces in Cyprus.

SEC. 4. The fourth unnumbered clause of section 101(b) of such joint resolution, relating to foreign assistance and related programs appropriations, is amended by striking out all that follows "as amended" and inserting in lieu thereof ": *Provided*, That in computing the current rate of operations of military assistance there shall be included the amount of obligations incurred in Department of Defense appropriations during the fiscal year 1974 for military assistance to Laos;"

SEC. 5. Such joint resolution is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:

"SEC. 112. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution or any other Act, the President is authorized to use funds made available for foreign assistance by this joint resolution but not to exceed \$15,000,000, to provide, on such terms and conditions as he may determine, relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction assistance in connection with the damage caused by floods in Honduras and Bangladesh and by civil strife in Cyprus."

SEC. 6. Such joint resolution is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new section:







H. J. Res. 1131—2

“SEC. 115. Notwithstanding any other provision of this joint resolution or any other Act, not to exceed \$85,000,000 of the funds made available for foreign assistance by this joint resolution may be obligated to procure fertilizers for, and to provide fertilizers to, South Vietnam.”

*Speaker of the House of Representatives.*

*Vice President of the United States and  
President of the Senate.*



TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

At the beginning of my Administration I pledged to work closely and cooperatively with the Congress. I believe I have kept that promise. I have appeared before two joint sessions of the Congress, I have met frequently with the leadership of both Houses, and I have agreed to appear personally before a subcommittee of the House of Representatives -- a step no other President has undertaken in more than a century.

These actions are an earnest of my commitment to a new partnership between the legislative and executive branches of our government. They reflect my deep belief that the antagonisms that have too long divided our nation must be resolved, that hopes for partisan advantage must be put aside, and that we must get on with the business of doing the best we can for our country.

The cooperation I have received from the leadership of the Congress -- Democratic and Republican alike -- has been truly remarkable. The leaders have advised me and I have listened; I have explained my problems to them and they have responded with understanding and support. For this I am deeply grateful.

It is, therefore, with deep regret that I am returning today without my approval the recently passed continuing resolution, H.J. Res. 1131, granting funds for the operation of several Departments and agencies and for the temporary continuation of our foreign aid programs. I take this step with great reluctance, but in the belief that I have no other choice.

The continuing resolution the Congress has passed and sent to me for signature contains an amendment requiring an immediate cut-off of all military assistance to Turkey. That amendment was passed despite my own public objection to it, and in the face of the unanimous opposition of the bipartisan leadership of both Houses of Congress. It is an act which is harmful even to those it purports to help.



The United States is making every effort to play a useful role in assisting the parties to a resolution of the Cyprus dispute. The continuing resolution as amended is entirely destructive of those efforts. Instead of encouraging the parties involved in the Cyprus dispute to return to the negotiating table, an arms cut-off to Turkey could mean the indefinite postponement of meaningful negotiations. Instead of strengthening America's ability to persuade the parties to resolve the dispute, it would lessen our influence on all the parties concerned. It would as well imperil our relationships with our Turkish ally and weaken us in the crucial Eastern Mediterranean. It directly jeopardizes the NATO alliance.

Most tragic of all, an arms cut-off would not help Greece or the Greek Cypriot people who have suffered so tragically over the past several months. We recognize that we are still far from a settlement consistent with the honor and dignity of Greece, and are prepared to exert our influence to that end. But reckless acts that prevent progress toward a Cyprus settlement harm Greece, for it is the Greek government and the Greek Cypriots who have the most to gain from a compromise settlement. And it is they who have the most to lose from continued deadlock.

It is for these reasons that I am vetoing the bill sent to me. I do so because, should this measure become law, it would be impossible for the United States to continue to play any meaningful role in assisting the parties to resolve the Cyprus dispute. We would inevitably be forced to withdraw from the negotiations because the Congress would have taken from us the tools we need to affect the outcome.

My choice, then, is unavoidable; my responsibility clear. I ask that the Congress reconsider its action and send to me a bill that we can all support; a bill that provides the flexibility needed to carry forward the foreign policy of the United States.

*Gerald R. Ford*

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
October 14, 1974



OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT  
ON HIS VETO  
OF THE CONTINUING RESOLUTION  
H. J. RES. 1131

THE OVAL OFFICE

2:23 P.M. EDT

Today, in the interest of preserving the ability of the United States to assist the governments of Greece, Turkey and Cyprus to negotiate a peaceful settlement of the Cyprus dispute, I am returning to the Congress without my approval the Continuing Resolution which the Congress has amended to cut off military aid to Turkey.

In so doing, I want to clear the air of a number of misunderstandings concerning the U.S. position toward the Cyprus crisis.

Since the outbreak of the crisis, our objectives have been to establish a ceasefire, to provide humanitarian aid to the refugees, to assist the parties toward a negotiation and a settlement and to strengthen and to improve our historically friendly ties with Greece, Turkey and Cyprus.

I have discussed these goals with the bipartisan leadership of the Congress and have received their unanimous and vigorous support. Our ability to pursue these goals depends, however, on being able to maintain a constructive relationship with the parties involved. The cut-off of assistance to Turkey is destructive of that relationship.

Further, it in no way helps the Greek people or the people of Cyprus who have suffered so much in the past months. In fact, by dashing hopes for negotiations, it prolongs their suffering.

We recognize clearly the need to ensure that the honor and integrity of the Greek people be maintained. We seek a settlement which ensures that fundamental requirement. United States friendship with Greece has been established through generations of cooperation and mutual respect, based on shared values and common goals. I intend firmly to carry on and strengthen that relationship.

MORE



I cannot, however, carry out this pledge if my ability to act in the current crisis is undercut by restrictions imposed by the Congress. We all seek a peaceful resolution of this problem. We all seek justice for the people of Cyprus. We all seek to maintain the strength and cooperation in our relationship that is a cornerstone to Western security in the Mediterranean.

It is for these reasons that I return this resolution to the Congress and ask that it thoughtfully reconsider its position.

I pledge to continue working closely in partnership with the Congress to enable the United States to play a useful role in helping the parties toward a peaceful resolution of the Cyprus dispute.

I am now signing my veto message, which will be delivered today to the Congress.

Thank you very much.

END

(2:27 P.M. EDT)





OCTOBER 14, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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THE WHITE HOUSE

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

At the beginning of my Administration I pledged to work closely and cooperatively with the Congress. I believe I have kept that promise. I have appeared before two joint sessions of the Congress, I have met frequently with the leadership of both Houses, and I have agreed to appear personally before a subcommittee of the House of Representatives -- a step no other President has undertaken in more than a century.

These actions are an earnest of my commitment to a new partnership between the legislative and executive branches of our government. They reflect my deep belief that the antagonisms that have too long divided our nation must be resolved, that hopes for partisan advantage must be put aside, and that we must get on with the business of doing the best we can for our country.

The cooperation I have received from the leadership of the Congress -- Democratic and Republican alike -- has been truly remarkable. The leaders have advised me and I have listened; I have explained my problems to them and they have responded with understanding and support. For this I am deeply grateful.

It is, therefore, with deep regret that I am returning today without my approval the recently passed Continuing Resolution, H. J. Res. 1131, granting funds for the operation of several departments and agencies and for the temporary continuation of our foreign aid programs. I take this step with great reluctance, but in the belief that I have no other choice.

The Continuing Resolution the Congress has passed and sent to me for signature contains an amendment requiring an immediate cut-off of all military assistance to Turkey. That amendment was passed despite my own public objection to it, and in the face of the unanimous opposition of the bipartisan leadership of both Houses of Congress. It is an act which is harmful even to those it purports to help.

The United States is making every effort to play a useful role in assisting the parties to a resolution of the Cyprus dispute. The Continuing Resolution as amended is entirely destructive of those efforts. Instead of encouraging the parties involved in the Cyprus dispute to return to the negotiating table, an arms cut-off to Turkey could mean the indefinite postponement of meaningful negotiations. Instead of strengthening America's ability to persuade the parties to resolve the dispute, it would lessen our influence on all the parties concerned. It would as well imperil our relationships with our Turkish ally and weaken us in the crucial Eastern Mediterranean. It directly jeopardizes the NATO alliance.

(MORE)



Most tragic of all, an arms cut-off would not help Greece or the Greek Cypriot people who have suffered so tragically over the past several months. We recognize that we are still far from a settlement consistent with the honor and dignity of Greece, and are prepared to exert our influence to that end. But reckless acts that prevent progress toward a Cyprus settlement harm Greece, for it is the Greek government and the Greek Cypriots who have the most to gain from a compromise settlement. And it is they who have the most to lose from continued deadlock.

It is for these reasons that I am vetoing the bill sent to me. I do so because, should this measure become law, it would be impossible for the United States to continue to play any meaningful role in assisting the parties to resolve the Cyprus dispute. We would inevitably be forced to withdraw from the negotiations because the Congress would have taken from us the tools we need to affect the outcome.

My choice, then, is unavoidable; my responsibility clear. I ask that the Congress reconsider its action and send to me a bill that we can all support; a bill that provides the flexibility needed to carry forward the foreign policy of the United States.

GERALD R. FORD

THE WHITE HOUSE,  
October 14, 1974.



October 14, 1974

Received from the White House a sealed envelope said to contain H. J. Res. 1131, Joint Resolution making further continuing appropriations for the fiscal year 1975, and for other purposes, and a veto message thereon.

Spickett for  
Clerk of the House of Representatives

3:07 pm 10/14/74  
Time received





OCTOBER 14, 1974

Office of the White House Press Secretary

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THE WHITE HOUSE,  
October 14, 1974.



OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

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THE WHITE HOUSE

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MORE

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It is for these reasons that I return this resolution to the Congress and ask that it thoughtfully reconsider its position.

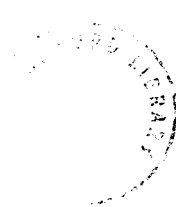
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I am now signing my veto message, which will be delivered today to the Congress.

Thank you very much.

END

(2:27 P.M. EDT)



Office of the White House Press Secretary

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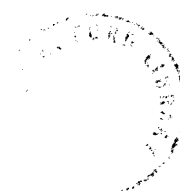
THE WHITE HOUSE

STATEMENT BY THE PRESIDENT

I am deeply gratified by the House vote sustaining my veto of the Continuing Resolution. This wise and responsive action will serve the cause of peace on Cyprus while maintaining the strength of our vital security relationships in the Eastern Mediterranean.

I want to thank the Congressional leadership for its understanding and support. I look forward to working in partnership with the Congress to enhance the ability of the United States to assist the parties in negotiating a peaceful and lasting resolution of the Cyprus dispute and in responding generously to the humanitarian relief needs of the Cypriot people. At the same time, I ask Congress for prompt action to provide continued funding without encumbering restrictions for the operation of several departments and agencies.

# # #



October 10, 1974

Dear Mr. Director:

The following bills were received at the White House on October 10th:

H.J. Res. 1131 ✓  
H.R. 11541

Please let the President have reports and recommendations as to the approval of these bills as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Linder  
Chief Executive Clerk

The Honorable Roy L. Ash  
Director  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D. C.

