

1226 EAST FOOTHILL BOULEVARD
ALTADENA, CALIFORNIA

April 9, 1949.

Hon. Marriner S. Eccles
Federal Reserve Board
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Eccles:

Your San Francisco speech seems like the voice of one crying in the wilderness. The American people are extraordinarily kind, extraordinarily generous; and extraordinarily ignorant regarding foreign affairs, in regard to which few of their leaders have dared to enlighten them. Thus in spite of the fact that for years the Soviets and Stalin personally have announced their fixed intention to destroy this country, and in spite of the fact that they have inflicted more outrages on us than any other nation even dared to dream of, our good people have been going along under the delusion that no nation could really be so devilish, and that by unending appeasement ~~was~~ could preserve peace: whereas you and I know that Russia is only waiting for a favorable opportunity to attack us. If we had had the sense ~~ten~~ years ago to issue an ultimatum to Russia, there would have been no war, and we should have secured the peace which is now so uncertain. Mr. Truman's threat to use the atom bomb is right, but it should have been made two years ago. I hope that it is not now too late.

Your remark about sustaining economic activity at home, shows how many people think that whiskey, a mere temporary stimulant, can be made a permanent substitute for food.

With highest regards, and with gratitude for your attempt to enlighten public opinion, I am

Sincerely yours,

Edward A. Harriman
Edward A. Harriman

May 12, 1949.

Mr. Edward A. Harriman,
1226 East Foothill Boulevard,
Altadena, California.

Dear Mr. Harriman:

I wish to thank you very much for your letter of April 9 complimenting the expression of my views in my San Francisco speech. Your letter has just come to my attention following my return from the West and I take the first opportunity to express my appreciation.

Very sincerely yours,

M. S. Eccles.

CM:am