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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON OFFICE
THE SECRETARY
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
October 27, 1945

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Respectfully referred to the
Secretary of State for appropriate
acknowledgment.

William D. Hassett
WILLIAM D. HASSETT
Secretary to the President



FROM: Hassett, William D. Secretary to Resident		FILE DESIGNATION NOV 31945	
CR	DATE 10-27-45	NO. WH 10710093	
SUBJECT: Refers for acknowledgment letter from American Association of University Women re their approval of order calling for enfranchisement of Japanese women		NO REPLY	
		ANSWERED 10-31-45	
		REMARKS	
REFERRED TO:	DATE	RFRD	
		7E 10/29	
PREVIOUS CORRESPONDENCE	ATTACHED	NO RECORD	CHARGED TO

FORM OWMR-1 PERMANENT FILE COPY



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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 1634 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

October 13, 1945

President Harry S. Truman
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

May I express to you, on behalf of the American Association of University Women, our deep satisfaction in the United States directive to Japan calling for the enfranchisement of women in that country?

No more fundamental step could be taken in the effort to turn Japan from a war-loving, oligarchic country to one that practices peace and democracy than to give the vote to the women of Japan as well as to the men. In a government by the people it is of course just, proper, and essential that women, as people, should vote and should share in that government. If Japan is to have a democratic government, it therefore should have a government by men and women. Moreover, as women in Japan learn to exercise the right of suffrage and to participate in government, their influence cannot fail to weight the scales against that country's practice of aggressive war.

We rejoice that the directive issued by this country, through General MacArthur, has so promptly and vigorously insisted on this reform in Japan, and we congratulate you and all officials who have had a part in shaping the policy.

Sincerely yours,

Kathryn McHale
Kathryn McHale
General Director

KM/fvs

DCR - NE Unit	
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AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS, 1634 I STREET, N. W.
WASHINGTON 6, D. C.

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October 13, 1945

The Honorable James F. Byrnes
Secretary of State
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Secretary:

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Sincerely yours,

Kathryn McHale

Kathryn McHale
General Director
DOR - NE 011

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In reply refer to
PL

My dear Miss McHale:

I acknowledge the receipt of your letter of October 13, 1945 on behalf of the American Association of University Women with regard to the enfranchisement of the women of Japan. I also acknowledge the receipt, by reference from the White House, of your similar letter of the same date addressed to the President.

The generous expressions of your group's satisfaction with this aspect of this Government's policy for Japan are much appreciated. You and your associates are assured that all steps will be taken to encourage Japan to adopt a peaceful, democratic government which will respect the rights of other nations and Japan's international obligations.

The Department at all times welcomes expressions of opinion from individuals and organizations on matters appertaining to international affairs. Thank you for your courtesy in making the views of your group available.

Sincerely yours,

For the Secretary of State:

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Francis H. Russell
Acting Director
Office of Public Affairs

Miss Kathryn McHale, General Director,
American Association of University Women,
National Headquarters,
1634 I Street Northwest,
Washington 6, D. C.

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