



OFFICE OF  
THE DIRECTOR

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: Col. A. J. Goodpaster  
Staff Secretary  
The White House



At the workshop session of the People-to-People Conference on September 12, a committee of eight of the chairmen was set up to study ways and means of financing and coordinating the prospective work of the forty-one separate committees.

This action has led to incorporation of the People-to-People Foundation. Formal and final organization is to be effected at a meeting at the Ambassador Hotel in New York on February 4, *next Monday*.

Chairmen of the committees will at that time become trustees of the Foundation. A Board of Directors will be elected from among these trustees, and it will in turn elect officers. The prospect is that Charles E. Wilson will be chosen President and General William J. Donovan Chairman of the Board in recognition of the leadership they have provided in organizing the Foundation.

The trustees will consider bylaws and the further activities of the Foundation to support the committees and inspire and guide their activities. President Eisenhower, in a letter to General Donovan, has already agreed to be honorary chairman.

General Donovan and Mr. Wilson are now <sup>4</sup>anxious to have a message from the President for the February <sup>4</sup>meeting which will be the first assembly of the chairmen since the President addressed them last September. If at all feasible they would like to arrange for the message to come in the form of a telephone call at the conclusion of the luncheon, about 1:30 P. M.

*filed name*

If that is not feasible, they would like to have a written message, which I would be expected to read at the beginning of my post-luncheon talk.

Attached, in two paragraphs, is what the staff working on the People-to-People Program suggests the President might appropriately say -- of course, with whatever changes and additions you deem desirable.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Abbott Washburn".

Abbott Washburn  
Acting Director

Attachment

USIA

NL 7

Abbott Washburn

~~extra copy for Washburn to carry~~

Mr. Charles E. Wilson

General William J. Donovan  
c/o Ambassador Hotel  
New York City

P -

Please give my greetings to the members and officers of the newly <sup>organized</sup> People-to-People Foundation meeting in New York.

I recall with deep satisfaction the warmth and enthusiasm ~~confidence~~ with which <sup>this</sup> your group -- here in Washington last September 11th, --

undertook responsibility for a broad People-to-People Program

designed to <sup>improve</sup> help foster international understanding. <sup>It is good to learn</sup> I understand

that many of you have already organized committees in your various fields, and that a number of productive projects are under way.

P -

As <sup>they</sup> you meet <sup>to implement the</sup> ~~very~~ promising People-to-People program begun last fall, they can be assured formally establishing the People-to-People Foundation ~~is assured~~

of my continuing <sup>concern and confidence in their efforts to improve</sup> keen interest and concern for ~~your efforts~~ <sup>internatl understanding at the grass roots.</sup>

I congratulate <sup>them</sup> you on the bold vision which ~~has~~ caused you to bring <sup>them</sup> ~~you~~ together and I wish them assemble again today, ~~and wish~~ every success as the Program

develops under <sup>their</sup> your leadership. <sup>It is a mighty work but the</sup> With sincere and personal ~~rewards are great.~~ appreciation.



DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER