



NEWS

FROM

THE AMERICAN COMMITTEE ON AFRICA, INC.
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

George Houser, Executive Director

August 6th, 1959 5 P.M.

MEMBERS OF UNITED STATES CONGRESS IN A JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED IN WASHINGTON, D. C., EXPRESS THEIR CONCERN OVER THE SITUATION IN ALGERIA AND RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF THE ALGERIAN PEOPLE TO INDEPENDENCE.

"We recognize the right of the Algerian people -- as of all people -- to self-determination and independence."

This is one of the clear-cut statements included in a joint declaration signed by 16 members of the United States Congress and released in Washington, D. C., on August 6, 1959.

The declaration also expresses the "deep concern" of its sponsors over "the war in Algeria" which "will soon enter its sixth year."

The joint declaration recommends that the U.S. "urge our ally, France, to enter into negotiations for the cessation of the conflict."

The Congressmen who sponsored the joint declaration emphasized the fact that they "can not remain silent about this tragic war in Algeria" and that they "publicly urge a negotiated peace now between the two parties concerned."

The full text of the joint statement, which follows, was signed by Victor Anfuso, Byron Johnson, George Kasen, Charles A. Boyle, William Meyer, Robert Mix, Charles O. Porter, Adam C. Powell, Henry Reuss, Frank Thompson, Leonard Wolf, James Roosevelt, Richard Bolling, Edward P. Boland, Hugh J. Addonizio, and Frank Clark.

JOINT STATEMENT OF SIXTEEN U. S. CONGRESSMEN ON THE WAR IN ALGERIA

We, the undersigned members of the U. S. Congress, are deeply concerned that the war in Algeria will soon enter its sixth year.

We recall the two resolutions passed by the United Nations General Assembly in successive 1957 sessions that a peaceful, democratic, and just solution should be found to end the conflict in conformity with the U. N. Charter.

We recognize the right of the Algerian people - as of all peoples - to self-determination and independence.

To achieve this right, thousands of Algerians are dying monthly and thousands more are refugees in other parts of North Africa and elsewhere.

The present situation in Algeria continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security.

Therefore we suggest that our United States Government take leadership in bringing the Algerian conflict to a just termination, not only for reasons of peace and humanitarianism, but to lay foundations for good relations between a free Algeria and the American people and their government in the years ahead.

We recommend that our country urge our ally, France, to enter into negotiations for the cessation of the conflict.

We urge that our country in the forthcoming 14th session of the U. N. General Assembly no longer abstain from voting, as it did in the 13th General Assembly, on any responsible resolution that urges continuing negotiations to reach a solution to the conflict.

We commend our country for making available certain surplus foodstuffs to the Algerian refugees, and certain scholarships to Algerian students, and we urge our government and its private agencies and citizens to continue to help these refugees.

Thus we cannot remain silent about this tragic war in Algeria and we publicly urge a negotiated peace now between the two parties concerned.

SIGNED:

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Hugh J. Addonizio (N.J.), Victor Anfuso (N.Y.), Edward P. Boland (Mass.), Richard Bolling (Mo.), Charles A. Boyle (Ill.), Frank Clark (Penn.), ~~Byron Johnson~~ (Colo.), George Kassen (Cal.), William Meyer (Vt.), Robert Nix (Penn.), Charles O. Porter (Ore.), Adam C. Powell (N.Y.), Henry Reuss (Wisc.), James Roosevelt (Calif.), Frank Thompson (N.J.), and Leonard Wolf (Iowa).