

Levi Pennington

People

7-29-1965

Pennington to Mark Hatfield, July 29, 1965

Levi T. Pennington

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/levi_pennington

Recommended Citation

Pennington, Levi T., "Pennington to Mark Hatfield, July 29, 1965" (1965). *Levi Pennington*. 288.
https://digitalcommons.georgefox.edu/levi_pennington/288

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the People at Digital Commons @ George Fox University. It has been accepted for inclusion in Levi Pennington by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons @ George Fox University. For more information, please contact arolfe@georgefox.edu.

July 29, 1965.

Governor Mark Hatfield,
State House,
Salem, Oregon.

Dear Friend:--

Please accept my congratulations and my commendation for your attitude and your vote on the blanket resolution of unrestricted support of the president of the United States in the Viet Nam undeclared war.

My personal disapproval of the president is not based on the fact that he is a Democrat; and not merely on the fact that the public has not been given "the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth". In this particular case of the action by the governors, I feel that you were completely justified in your attitude that no such resolution as was presented should be passed before this conference and "briefing" today.

And if more truth comes out in this conference than we have had thus far, it may further indicate that the whole Viet Nam situation has not been wisely handled.

Aside from anything else, I appreciate the fact that you stand true to your convictions; that you are ready to "stand up and be counted", even if the count on your side of a difference should be just one, you.

(Back in an eastern state once on a time a jury was "hung" for a long time, the vote being eleven to one, ballot after ballot. The judge asked the foreman of the jury why they could not come to an agreement, and the foreman of the jury, who was the one man who would not vote with the other eleven, replied, "Because there are eleven men on this jury who do not understand this case." There had to be another trial in which it became clear that the foreman of the jury was right -- the case was decided as this foreman desired to have it decided in the first place.)

It's pleasant to me when a public official reaches the same decision that I do on a controversial question; but a more important thing, as I see it, is that he should earnestly seek to know the right course, and when he reaches his decision as to what is the right course I can be sure that he will follow that course, whether I or millions of other people agree with him or not.

With best wishes all the time, I am

Sincerely your friend,

Levi T. Pennington.