

COMMITTEE OF FORMER NUREMBERG PROSECUTORS
FOR A PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

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President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In re: Rome Treaty for International Criminal Court

At this critical moment in world history, when the balance lies between a world under the reign of force or a world under the rule of law, the Committee of Former Nuremberg Prosecutors respectfully urges you, as President of the United States, to sign the Rome Treaty of 1998 establishing, when duly ratified by sixty nations, a permanent International Criminal Court for the trial of individuals who, in the future, commit war crimes and crimes against humanity, including genocide, and are not prosecuted for such offenses by their own countries.

The United States of America has long been a leader in the pursuit of justice under law. In 1946, we joined with Britain, France, and the Soviet Union in bringing to justice the top leaders of Nazi Germany. Germany has signed and ratified the treaty. It would be a travesty if the prosecuting powers were unwilling, half a century later, to recognize these legal principles as applicable to themselves.

At your speech at the University of Connecticut in 1995, you declared your personal support of post World War II international criminal courts. "By successfully prosecuting war criminals in the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda," you declared, "we can send a strong signal to those who would use the cover of war to commit terrible atrocities that they cannot escape the consequences of such actions." Endorsing the proposal to establish a permanent International Criminal Court, you declared that the establishment of such a court would be the ultimate tribute to the people "who did such important work at Nuremberg."

Mr. President, the opportunity to take a significant step forward in man's quest for peace and justice does not often arise. This is one of those opportunities. Please join Great Britain, Canada, France, Italy, Germany, and other major nations of the world, in signing the Rome Treaty for the International Criminal Court.

Very respectfully yours,

