May 20, 1952.

President Harry Truman
White House
Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

Residents of Connecticut are greatly disturbed by the report that Vice Admiral Merlin O'Neill has decided to raze the Stamford Lighthouse, and in its place erect an open steel structure with light and horns, attached to a mile long copper cable, operated by a one man crew from the shore.

"Our Lighthouse is a revered landmark." Native Sons and Daughters do not look upon it as something made of stone and steel - but rather as a friend. They have a deep sentimental regard for Stamford Lighthouse.

We do not want to lose it. Mr. President, as a resident of Missouri - there may be many landmarks in your State that you too, would like to see persevered.

Stamford Lighthouse is in excellent condition. It has been able to stand the ravages of three hurricanes. It came through the nineteen fifty hurricane unscathed - not even a pane of glass broken!

All along the Coast of Connecticut, we have numerous Yacht and Boating Clubs. In the Yachting Season, there are hundreds of small pleasure craft in the water. Many of them owned and skippered by young boys and girls.

A sudden squall can be a very serious affair to so many owners of small craft!

The Stamford Lighthouse and its crew of alert trained Coast Guardsmen has through the years given these mariners wonderful protection. From their vantage point of a mile off shore - Lighthouse crew can hear and see long distances.

With their twenty four hour patrol duty, and ship to shore communications system, they can dispatch aid quickly to any disabled boat - large or small - and persons in need of help!

Through the years - stories of many of these rescues have never reached the newspapers.

Last year, in August of nineteen fifty one, two new diesel motors were installed to run horn and light generator compressors. Nearly a million tons of commercial cargo in and out of Stamford Harbor each year.

To Stamford Harbor Master Captain John Ryle, I owe a debt of gratitude for his kindness in furnishing me with much needed data for this letter.

To all civic minded residents of Connecticut who believe in the campaign - you can protest by letter or petition to United States Senators, Brien McMahon and William Benton. Also representative Albert P. Morano, Washington, D. C.

The Lighthouse - Faithful Sentinel through the night casting its friendly beam of light over the waters of Long Island Sound.

Save this grand old guardian of the Marines from destruction!

Catherine Frewen Barlow
Old Greenwich, Connecticut
May 20, 1952.