

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

November 10, 1977

Mr. Samuel L. Blumenfeld
171 W. Seventh Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02127

Dear Mr. Blumenfeld:

Thank you for informing me of your views on the proposed Panama Canal Treaty that has now been forwarded to the Congress. There can be no doubt that this is an issue of great concern to all Americans.

I certainly agree that, whatever the treaty arrangements, the United States should retain the capacity to ensure that no unfriendly power can interfere in its use of the Canal. My deliberations on the proposed Treaty will be guided by this imperative goal.

Each article of the proposed Treaty will have to be scrutinized in depth for its implications for U. S. interests. I am in the process of doing so. And I can tell you that there are many unresolved questions. As you may be interested in those that have occurred to me after my reading of the proposed Treaty, I attach here a list of issues that I believe require in-depth examination during Senate consideration of the measure. In addition, I am including with this letter a copy of the proposed Treaty and associated agreements. Your analysis of the proposals and a list of questions you believe should be addressed to the Administration would be of great benefit to me as I examine the matter.

I look forward to receiving the benefit of your analysis. If I can be of assistance in any other area of concern to you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Edward W. Brooke
United States Senator

EWB/mcl
Enclosure