

Philadelphia 14 Aug: 1779

Sir,

Congress have deemed it highly necessary to inform you that the Enemy have exerted themselves to send out a very considerable reinforcement to their army now in America: seven thousand were destined hither from Europe, and three thousand from the West Indies. The operations in the place last mentioned may perhaps prevent the arrival of those Troops, but there is no solid reason to expect that the European reinforcement will not arrive.

It is proper you should be informed that our Allies were much concerned to find that preparations were not earlier made for a vigorous Campaign: the exertions of America are necessary to obtain the great objects of the Alliance, her Liberty, Sovereignty & Independance. The barbarities already exhibited by the
Enemy

Enemy, and their avowed determinations
to give a still greater scope to their
ravages are additional motives to our
endeavours. Congress are fully
convinced therefore that you will
comply with their ^{earnest} wishes to prepare
for the most immediate and most
vigorous operations, particularly by
filling up your Battalions, & having
the Militia of your State ready to
march at the shortest warning. It is
highly probable that Circumstances
may soon call them forth to operate
offensively, and it is hoped & expected
with such Energy and Effect as to free
these States from their hostile Invaders.

I have the Honor to be Sir with great Respect

Your most obedient & able Servant
John Jay

P.S. A copy of an Act of
Congress of the 12th March
against John Douglas
late Commander of
the Privateer Schooner
called the Hunter is
herewith enclosed
The Exec. President Moore
P.S.

See page 181