

In Congress 16<sup>th</sup> October 1778<sup>47</sup>

Whereas Congress on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of April 1778 did Resolve that "any Man or body of Men who should presume to make any separate or partial Convention or Agreement with Commissioners under the Crown of Great Britain or any of them, ought to be considered and treated <sup>open &</sup> as avowed Enemies to the United States". And Whereas Congress have received intelligence that the Commissioners of the ~~King~~ <sup>of Great Britain</sup> are about to send under the sanction of a Flag, certain seditious Papers under the name and title of Manifestos, to be distributed throughout these United States, with a view to stir up dissention, animosities, and rebellions among the good People of these States. And Whereas such practices are contrary to the Laws of Nations, and utterly subversive of the confidence necessary for those means which have been invented among civilized Nations to alleviate the horrors of War. Wherefore the Agents employed to distribute the said Papers are not entitled to protection from a Flag while engaged in the prosecution of such infamous purposes.

Resolved

That it be recommended to the Executive Powers of these United States to take up and secure in safe and close custody, all and every Person and Persons, who under the sanction of a flag or otherwise may be concerned or engaged in the purpose aforesaid. And further that the Papers aforesaid be printed in the several Gazettes, more fully to convince the good People of these States of the insidious designs of said Commissioners.

By order of Congress  
Henry Laurens,  
President.



Oliver T. Anderson  
Register of Congress of A. 4th. 1778  
to the City of New