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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 19, 1982

Dear Mr. McDowell:

Mr. James A. Baker, III asked me to respond to your letter of September 11.

We greatly appreciate your interest in the POW/MIA issue and we support efforts such as yours to increase public awareness of this American tragedy.

Since 1976, the Departments of Defense and State have worked in close association to debrief Indochinese refugees in order to obtain any information they may have on our missing men. Since the fall of Saigon in 1975, we have received 1,533 reports. Of the total, 447 are first hand live sighting reports. Fifty-one percent of these (229) correlated with individuals since accounted for, thus attesting to source validity. Ten percent are known to be fabrications. The remaining forty-seven percent (208) of the sighting reports of our men being held remain unverified and are the subject of continuing investigation. The remaining 1,086 reports pertain to hearsay sightings and to crashsite and gravesite information.

Given the above circumstances we believe it would be irresponsible to rule out the possibility of live Americans being held against their will. In a letter from President Reagan to the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, he stated " I assure you that actions to investigate live sighting reports receive and will continue to receive necessary priority and resources, based on the assumption that at least some Americans are still being held captive. Should any such reports prove to be true, this government will act decisively to insure their return."

An interagency group for POW/MIA affairs consisting of representatives from the Departments of State and Defense, the National Security Council, the Defense Intelligence Agency and the National League of Families meet regularly to explore all possible avenues to obtain a full accounting. Obviously, details concerning options considered or being considered are not appropriately divulged publicly.

I hope the above is of help to you. Should you desire more specific information, the Department of Defense would be the appropriate agency for you to contact.

Enclosed is the photograph you requested.

Thank you again for your letter. Your support and interest are appreciated.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to
the President

Mr. John McDowell
RR# 1, Box 147
Clarksville, Iowa 50619

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Cron
file
resumes*

November 19, 1981

Dear Rick:

Here is the resume I promised you of Don Evans.

He is now Assistant General Counsel at the Chemical Manufacturers Association, and is a former Legislative Assistant of long standing for Congressman John Ashbrook.

He was active at the local level last year for President Reagan in the nomination contest. His wife works for the National Rifle Association.

Of all of the resumes I have sent to Mrs. Gorsuch, Don is by far the highest qualified. I believe he would be an excellent addition to your staff.

Attached is the cover letter I sent previously.

Cordially,

Morton

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President

Rick Trapp
Office of the Administrator
Administrative Assistant for Policy
Environmental Protection Agency
West Tower
Room 1013
Washington, D.C. 20460

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 19, 1982

Mr. Norman Carlson
Federal Bureau of Prisons
320 First Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20537

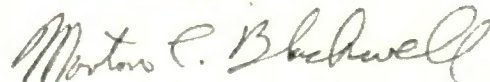
Dear Mr. Carlson:

Enclosed is a file concerning a proposal by Mr. James E. Black of Tulsa, Oklahoma, to install satellite receiving stations in prisons. Mr. Black is interested in beaming in religious programs for the inmates.

As you see, I have told Mr. Black this falls in your jurisdiction and is not a matter for the White House.

I would appreciate your contacting Mr. Black directly concerning his proposal.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 17, 1982

Mr. James E. Black, President
Faith Ministries, Inc.
Fontana Center, Suite 1138
Tulsa, OK 74145

Dear Mr. Black:

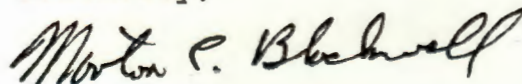
I have your letters of August 31 and October 5 and apologize that they have not been acknowledged.

You may know that the White House is not the proper agency of the government to give you clearance for your fine project. The man you want to contact is Mr. Norman Carlson, Federal Bureau of Prisons, 320 First Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20537. His telephone number is (202) 724-6300. I am forwarding your correspondence to Mr. Carlson and you may hear directly from him.

We attempted to reach you by telephone to expedite this information to you since we have delayed so long in answering but were unable to get a number for you from Tulsa information.

Your project sounds most commendable and we wish you well in your efforts in behalf of the prisons population.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

cc - Mr. Norman Carlson
Federal Bureau of Prisons



FAITH MINISTRIES

JAMES E. BLACK
President

August 31, 1982

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Liaison on Religious Affairs
The White House
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

Enclosed you will find a letter that I have written to President, Ronald Reagan in reference to a voluntary program that Faith Ministries Incorporated has undertaken to work in cooperation with the Federal prison system. We would appreciate you taking the time to fully review our proposed activity and bringing it to the attention of the President if you would deem it necessary.

As you will note from the enclosed brochures, our ministry has been established as a positive force in the rehabilitation of many lives throughout the prison systems within the United States already. We understand that there may be several minor obstacles that need to be overcome before we can be allowed to fully cooperate with the Federal prison system. It is not our intention to draw attention to ourselves, but to provide a strong and viable rehabilitative alternative to the inmates use of their free time through the provision of educational and Christian programming through the satellite receiving network.

We would appreciate any comments or criticisms that you may have regarding our program so that we may become more effective in implementing the proposed projects that we would like to undertake.

As you will see, all we are asking for is a favorable approval on the part of the proper authorities within the government so that we may undertake the capitalization and installation of these various satellite receiving systems.

We thank you again for the time that you've taken to consider our project and hope that it would find favor in your eyes as a strong, viable, and effective rehabilitative program. We look forward to hearing from you soon. Until then, we will continue to remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,

James E. Black, President
Faith Ministries Incorporated



FAITH MINISTRIES

October 5, 1982

JAMES E. BLACK
President

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Liason on Religious Affairs
The White House
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

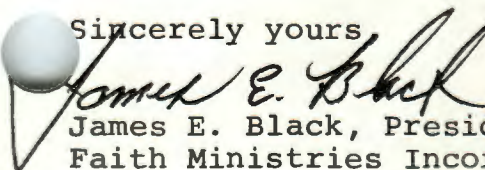
On August 31, 1982, our office mailed a letter to you outlining the details of a program that would provide for the installation of a Satellite Receiving System in the Federal Prison System for the rehabilitation of prison inmates. In that letter, we stated that Faith Ministries Incorporated would be fully responsible for the solicitation of funds, the procurement of equipment, and full installation of the equipment in the prison system if it was approved by your office. We also included some information regarding Faith Ministries Incorporated and the vision behind the proposed project.

As of the date of this writing, we have not received any response from your office as to the position you may have regarding this project. We would appreciate a response from your office indicating the status of this project as it has been presented. If you have not received our information, please notify us at the above address and we will send you copies of the information that was originally mailed. If you should have need of any further information in order to assist you in your decision making, please contact us so that we may provide the answers that you may be in need of.

We look forward to hearing from you soon as to the future of the installation of a satellite receiving system in the federal prisons. If we do not receive any communication from your office in reference to this matter within two weeks, we will phone your office to find out the status of these proposals. We hope that this will not be an inconvenience to you, but instead, assist you in the accumulation of any information you need in order to make your decision in reference to the proposal. If there is a specific person that we need to be contacting within your office regarding this matter, please notify us so that we may more efficiently communicate with them.

Again, thank you for your time and consideration of these projects. We look forward to hearing from you soon, until then, we will continue to remain,

Sincerely yours,


James E. Black, President
Faith Ministries Incorporated



"Victory in Christ"

FAITH MINISTRIES

JAMES E. BLACK
President

August 31, 1982

Mr. Ronald Reagan, President
United States of America
The White House
Washington, DC 20003

Dear Mr. President:

First of all, I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the courageous leadership and stand you have taken in reference to installing opportunities for the people of our country to pull together to meet the needs of each other. I am especially impressed by your attitude in allowing the American people to voluntarily become involved in activities that have in the past been relegated to the government sector. I thank you for the positive positions that you have taken on such issues as, legalized abortion, voluntary prayer in school, and tax relief for the parents of children in private schools. It is my prayer and sincere hope that the plans that you have for our nations economic recovery will be able to be fully realized in a very short time.

The major purpose of this letter is to ask for your approval and cooperation with a volunteer project that the Lord has given to Faith Ministries Incorporated that will work together with our nations prisons to rehabilitate the numerous inmates that are presently housed in the prisons. As a former prisoner myself, I am fully aware of the amount of idle time that an inmate presently has during his time of incarceration. I am not sure that any studies have been done to prove how an inmate fully utilizes his time, but I would estimate that nearly 75% of an inmates free time on the whole, is spent watching television or reading various magazines. Because of the amount of time devoted to the television, the media becomes a very important part of an inmates rehabilitation program. This is why Faith Ministries Incorporated has been raised up in order to more effectively minister to the needs of the inmates in our prison system today.

Faith Ministries is a ministry that has been formed under my direction, for the expressed purpose of reaching out to the inmates of the prison system with creative and effective rehabilitation techniques. The major thrust that the Lord has directed our ministry to follow is to provide a satellite receiving system accompanied by a full network of cable and television sets that will allow an inmate an opportunity to watch constructive and or educational programs. Our desire, is to install a satellite receiving dish

at each Federal prison that would be able to provide a broad spectrum of Christian programming on a 24 hour basis to the inmates. The major thrust of our program is to provide at least four Christian channels along with an all sports channel, an all news channel, an educational channel, a channel for close circuit use by the prison and several channels for household entertainment use by the prison itself. Our intent is to provide a minimum of ten to as many as twelve channels in all through the use of the receiving system. We will intersperse the Christian channels throughout the channel spectrum so that the inmates will have a greater opportunity to be exposed to this effective evangelistic tool.

We here at Faith Ministries believe that this type of program will be very effective in helping to establish a greater moral balance as well as positive guidelines for living to the inmates through the type of programming that will be provided. Of course, our long range goal is to help reduce the recidivism rate which in turn will cause a reduction in crime and the prison rolls. The best effect of that activity is that there will be a reduction in the economic demand made on the government and the tax payer to support the prison system.

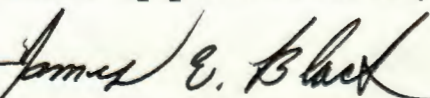
Please understand that our program is designed to be one that does not cost the Federal government anything. We intend to fully support our program totally through investment by the private sector principally through Christian businesses and churches who have identified themselves as being in support of this type of program.

So far to date, we have installed one such satellite system in the Oklahoma State Prison in McAlester Oklahoma. We have several other locations presently under review for additional installations in the state prison network. We would appreciate an opportunity to be of assistance to the Federal prison system if you feel that this project would be able to assist them in their rehabilitation process. I thank you for taking the time to consider our request and hope that it will find favor in your eyes. I have enclosed additional information which outlines briefly the proposed activity and economic considerations that need to be reviewed. I would welcome the opportunity to answer any questions or receive any comments that you may have regarding the installation of a receiving system in any Federal prison.

We want you to know that we fully support everything that you feel God has directed you to do in reference to leading our nation. We hope that we may have an opportunity to prove our desire and willingness to be of assistance to the Federal prison system in the near future. Thank you for your time and hopeful approval of our project.

We look forward to hearing from you soon. Until then, I will continue to remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,



James E. Black, President
Faith Ministries Incorporated



FAITH MINISTRIES

JAMES E. BLACK
President

PROPOSAL:
INSTALLATION OF SATELLITE RECEIVING SYSTEM
IN APPROVED FEDERAL PRISON LOCATIONS

It is the desire of Faith Ministries Incorporated, an Oklahoma based non profit religious corporation, with the full approval of authorized Federal personnel, to donate and install a satellite receiving system for the purpose of providing a cross section of television programming including Christian, Educational, Social, Sports and Household entertainment channels to inmates of federal prisons. The project is designed specifically to aid in the rehabilitation process of the inmates.

Proposed guidelines:

1. This system will be donated and installed through guidelines established and supervised by the Department of Chaplaincy.
2. The system to be installed includes all equipment necessary such as satellite receiving dish, transponders, terrestrial antennas, cable systems, and television sets, to provide at least ten separate channels of well-rounded, wholesome network programming independent of local cable systems. Of the ten or more channels that would be provided, it is requested that at least four of these channels be given exclusively to full time Christian programming that would be dispersed alternately throughout the channel spectrum. In addition, the system would provide for an all sports and an all news channel plus, a full educational channel which provides for home extension study courses. An additional channel would be allocated for use by the prison for closed circuit video productions.
3. Faith Ministries Incorporated will be responsible for the full acquisition of all equipment necessary to install the satellite receiving system. The sources of this equipment will vary from various industry related companies as well as Christian businesses and ministries throughout the United States and local surrounding the Federal prison to receive the system. Any equipment which is not donated by either ministries or industry companies, shall be purchased at the expenses of Faith Ministries through gifts and contributions from the Christian community which have been designated for the purpose of the satellite receiving system.
4. Faith Ministries Incorporated, will provide the initial three years of equipment maintenance which includes all costs of repair and labor on the satellite receiving system which will be installed. At the conclusion of the three year maintenance period, the

maintenance of the system would then become the responsibility of the prison.

5. It is the intent of Faith Ministries to prepare and make available to the Federal Bureau of Prisons an exact accounting of the cost of the equipment that will be installed at each facility as well as the estimated cost of maintenance for the three year period.

In summary, it is the desire of Faith Ministries and its partners that this effort to provide additional rehabilitation opportunities to inmates, will meet with additional successful rehabilitation of inmates in the Federal prison, therefore, reducing the level of crime as well as reducing the prison rolls which will ultimately ease the economic demand of the Federal prison system on the tax payers. The long range goal of our activity is not to draw attention to Faith Ministries Incorporated, but to provide an opportunity for inmates to really become productive citizens again.

If you should have any questions or desire further explanation of anything mentioned in this proposal, please contact James E. Black, President, Faith Ministries Incorporated.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 22, 1982

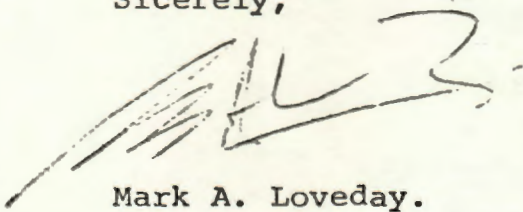
Janet Shockley
Invest in America
Architects Building
117 South 17th Street
Suite 906-907
Philadelphia
PA 19103

Dear Janet,

I have put in the request for the additional photographs as requested. There will be no charge for the copies.

I have also spoken to the various departments regarding your request for a photographic session with the eagle award. They have promised me a photograph of the award taken by the official White House photographer rather than involving everyone in considerable extra complications. I will send this to you as soon as it is available.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M. A. Loveday', written over a horizontal line.

Mark A. Loveday.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 22, 1982

Mr. Gary S. Nash
Church Alliance for Clarification of ERISA
Suite 311, 511 North Akard
Dallas, TX 75201

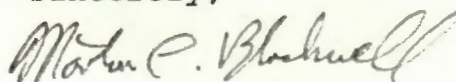
Dear Mr. Nash:

In response to your letter of November 12, we have checked with the Executive Clerk of the White House. We are advised that it is possible to get an occasional single red line copy of a bill but that multiple copies are not made available to the White House.

The proper procedure is to contact National Archives and Records Service, Eighth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20408. Their phone number is (202) 523-3134.

We regret that necessary economy measures have made it impossible for us to obtain the multiple copies.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

CHURCH ALLIANCE FOR CLARIFICATION OF ERISA

STEERING COMMITTEE:

Dr. Darold H. Morgan, Chairman
Dr. Charles C. Cowser
Mr. Earl E. Haake
Mr. Thomas J. Hanrahan
Mr. Leo J. Landes
Dr. John D. Ordway
Rev. Henry F. Treptow
Dr. Dean R. Wright

MEMBERS ACTING ON BEHALF OF THE PENSION PROGRAMS OF THE FOLLOWING DENOMINATIONS:

Mr. Robert Adler
Union of American Hebrew
Congregations
Ms. Anne Booth Bowman
Church of the Brethren
Mr. Gary W. Brunson
Mennonite Churches
Mr. Harold A. Conrad
Church of God
Dr. Charles C. Cowser
Presbyterian Church in
the United States
Mr. Ray C. Dodds
Reorganized Church of Jesus
Christ of Latter Day Saints
Mr. William B. Duffy, Jr.
Unitarian Universalist Association
of Congregations in North America
Rev. James M. Granberry, Jr.
African Methodist
Episcopal Church
Mr. Earl E. Haake
The Lutheran Church-
Missouri Synod
Mr. Thomas J. Hanrahan
Catholic Relief Society
Mr. Charles K. Homung
United Methodist Church
Mr. Leo J. Landes
United Synagogue of America
Mr. Donald Mack
The Wesleyan Church
Dr. Dan M. Moore
Presbyterian Church
in America
Dr. Darold H. Morgan
Southern Baptist Convention
Dr. John D. Ordway
United Church of Christ
Mr. Darrell Prichard
Church of God
in North America
Dr. Robert A. Robinson
Episcopal Church
Mr. Arthur M. Ryan
United Presbyterian Church
in the U.S.A.
Dr. William Martin Smith
The Christian Church
(Disciples of Christ)
Mr. E. M. Stiles
General Conference of
Seventh-day Adventists
Rev. Henry F. Treptow
The American Lutheran Church
Mr. Garrett C. Van de Riet
Christian Reformed Church
in North America
Dr. Jewett L. Walker
A.M.E. Zion Church
Dr. John Wang
Lutheran Church in America
Dr. Charles Wessels
Church of the Nazarene
Dr. Dean R. Wright
American Baptist Churches

SECRETARY

Mr. Gary S. Nash
Suite 311, 511 North Akard
Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 747-6155

COUNSEL:

Williams, Myers & Quiggle
Suite 900, Brawner Building
888 Seventeenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006
(202) 333-5900

November 12, 1982

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
Old Executive Office Building
Room 191
17th and Pennsylvania N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Re: Red Line Copy of the Tax Equity and Fiscal
Responsibility Act of 1982

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

On August 20, 1982, I wrote President Reagan requesting that he send red line copies of the above referenced bill to representatives of about twenty-seven different religious denominations in this country.

If there is a problem with this request, please let me know by calling me at (214) 747-6155.

Very truly yours,

Gary S. Nash
Gary S. Nash

GSN/vm

*Sent copy to
Executive
club
11/14*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 23, 1982

Dr. Roy Graves
Winter Park Church of Religious Science
1415 Gene Street
Winter Park, Florida 32789

Dear Dr. Graves:

I am writing in response to your letter to the President of September 14.

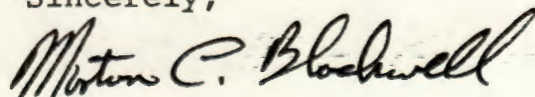
You are correct that the National Religious Broadcasters does not represent Catholics nor Jews. Dr. Ben Armstrong, Executive Director of the NRB, has made it clear that the NRB has been a Protestant organization since its founding in 1943.

There are other organizations including the New York Board of Rabbis and U.S. Catholic Conference Communications Coalition which do represent these religious groupings.

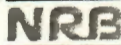
To the best of my knowledge, the NRB has never purported to represent other faiths, but Dr. Armstrong assures me that ". . . many Catholics and Jews, liberal religionists, and intellectuals attend our (NRB) conventions each year. We encourage the broad participation of other groups."

As you know, the President frequently addresses groups of Catholics, groups of Protestants, and groups of Jews. The National Religious Broadcasters is a large, influential, legitimate organization. We do not feel that the separation of church and state is endangered if a president meets with legitimate religious leaders.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison



NATIONAL RELIGIOUS BROADCASTERS

CN 1926 Morristown, New Jersey 07960 (201) 575-4000
Ben Armstrong, Ph.D., Executive Director

November 18, 1982

Mrs. Carolyn B. Sundseth
Confidential Assistant to Morton Blackwell
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20005

Dear Carolyn:

Thank you for sending me the confidential memo about the letter from Dr. Roy Graves dated September 14.

I am sorry for the delay in answering your good letter.

National Religious Broadcasters indeed does not represent Catholics or Jews, since it has always been a Protestant organization since its founding in 1943.

Jews are represented by the New York Board of Rabbis and Catholics by the U. S. Catholic Conference Communications Commission and by UNDA USA.

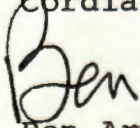
We have never purported to represent other faiths, even though many Catholics and Jews, liberal religionists and intellectuals attend our convention each year. We encourage the broad participation of other groups.

Dr. Roy Graves is indeed misinformed about the objectives of NRB. We agree with him, however, in his concern to "live and let live."

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

With warm personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,


Ben Armstrong

BA:ad

Winter Park Church Of Religious Science

37
M. Blackwell

Dr. Roy Graves, Minister

September 14, 1982

Sent copy to
Arms Training
lots
will be in file
1 of 2 in file
Asked for
Suggestion
on Reply

President Ronald Reagan
Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D. C. 20500

RE: National Religious Broadcasters
Convention, Washington, D.C. 1983

Dear Sir:

We regret your addressing the above convention last year and ask you to reconsider repeating the error next year.

Having been a delegate several years ago, representing Religious Science International, it was clear that "National Religious Broadcasters" does not represent the broad religious perspectives they allege. They specifically disallow membership to Roman Catholics, Jews, liberal religionists and intellectuals in general.

Further, in the interest of the separation of church and state, it is far wiser to avoid the heavy and simplistic evangelical fervor represented by the National Religious Broadcasters. Any even implied endorsement by the President is an error in judgement, we believe.

We sincerely hope you will consider these facts, and with us, live and let live, ---the hoped for American dream.

Sincerely yours,

Roy Graves
Dr. Roy Graves

RG:ms

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 25, 1981

*Cron
file*

*Answer
Lynn*

Dear Mylio:

I want to express my sincere appreciation for the commemorative bottle from the 1981 American Legion National Convention. That's as close as I'll get to Hawaii this year.

I regret that I was unable to attend. I hope I'll be able to attend next year's convention.

Cordially,

Morton

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President

Mylio S. Kraja
Executive Director
American Legion
1608 K St., NW
Washington, D.C. 20006

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1982

The Honorable Dan Oliver
General Counsel
Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20202

Dear Dan:

This is to recommend to you Tim Fryery, currently of Louisville, Kentucky.

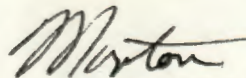
As you know, I oversaw the 1980 Reagan Youth Campaign and maintained a strong interest in training of outstanding young conservative activists. Last weekend at my biennial debriefing session for youth campaign coordinators, I hosted a meeting of 20 of the cream of the crop from around the country. I had received excellent reports on the activities of Tim Fryery in organizing students in the Louisville area. Tim proved to be a very outstanding young man.

In our two days of intensive discussions, he was a standout.

When I learned he is a conservative Episcopalian, I recalled your interest in finding someone to help the Prayer Book Society, a cause dear to my heart.

I am pleased to recommend Tim for this position. He is a self starter. He is smart. He is hard working. In my judgment, he is destined for great things.

Cordially,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1982

Mr. Jack Abramoff
College Republican National Committee
210 First Street, S. E.
Washington, D. C. 20003

Dear Jack:

I just had an interesting meeting with leaders of the American Indian National Republican Federation. They are very interested in a wide variety of youth training programs.

I would appreciate it if you would contact:

Mr. Ted Bryant, President
American Indian National Republican
Federation
c/o Charles Trimble Company
Suite 905, 200 North Glebe Road
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 528-1200

and give him a current list of your scheduled training programs and leadership seminars.

Cordially,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1982

Miss M. C. Morris, Executive Vice President
Leadership Institute
8001 Braddock Road, Suite 402
Springfield, Virginia 22151

Dear M. C.:

I just had an interesting meeting with
leaders of the American Indian National
Republican Federation. They are very
interested in a wide variety of youth
training programs.

I would appreciate it if you would
contact:

Mr. Ted Bryant, President
American Indian National Republican
Federation
c/o Charles Trimble Company
Suite 905, 200 North Glebe Road
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 528-1200

and give him a current list of your scheduled
training programs and leadership seminars, *when*

Cordially,

Morton

*we
develop it.*

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1982

Mr. Dave Barron
Young Republican National Federation
310 First St. S. E.
Washington, D. C. 20003

Dear Dave:

I just had an interesting meeting with leaders of the American Indian National Republican Federation. They are very interested in a wide variety of youth training programs.

I would appreciate it if you would contact:

Mr. Ted Bryant, President
American Indian National Republican
Federation
c/o Charles Trimble Company
Suite 905, 200 North Glebe Road
Arlington, VA 22203
(703) 528-1200

and give him a current list of your scheduled training programs and leadership seminars.

Cordially,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 3, 1982

Mr. Curtis M. Dombek
Editor-in-Chief
Harvard Journal of Law and
Public Policy
Harvard Law School
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138

Dear Mr. Dombek:

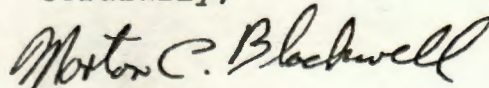
Thank you for the opportunity to review the proofs of my remarks on student organizations and activism.

I have made a number of suggested changes. Most important, I do not want to give the impression that I am hostile to Young Americans for Freedom, a group which has provided many effective leaders of conservative activism.

I considered offering you a footnote to go with my obviously incorrect predictions of the 1982 elections. It turned out that, during the elections, the many sources of conservative activism on most economic issues were largely dormant. The resources of the organizations were, in fact, increasing but their expenditures in 1982 on generating grassroots activism during the election period were only a tiny fraction of their expenditures in 1980. The reasons why this was so may be deduced from my remarks. Perhaps that point is best not made explicit on this occasion.

I am looking forward to seeing the finished product.

Cordially,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Enclosures

HARVARD JOURNAL of LAW AND PUBLIC POLICY
HARVARD LAW SCHOOL
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02138

November 23, 1982

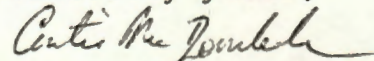
Mr. Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Enclosed please find page proofs of your remarks at the Yale Symposium last April. While you did not ask to see proofs, the Journal staff made a couple of additional changes which it submits for your final approval. Please review the proofs as quickly as is convenient, so that we may go forward with publication as soon as possible.

On behalf of my colleagues here at the Journal, let me thank you for your contribution to this special issue.

Sincerely yours,



Curtis M. Dombek
Editor-in-Chief

CMD

OPERATOR: jh

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AND ACTIVISM

MR. MORTON BLACKWELL*

Most people have little knowledge of campus political organizations. I confess that with respect to the left, my information is a bit out of date. But on conservative operations, I am reasonably current. There are about 3,600 colleges and universities in the United States, and the great majority of them have no conservative student organization of any type.

Back when I left the Republican National Committee as executive director of the College Republicans, in November of 1970, we had about 900 College Republican Clubs out of those 3,600 campuses. I do not want to say it was cause and effect, but a period of decline ensued. By May of 1980 there were only about 250 College Republican organizations.

I was asked in April, 1980 by Reagan Campaign Manager Bill Casey to oversee the national Reagan youth effort. We conducted a training program through that summer and placed 30 full time youth coordinators working for Youth for Reagan in targeted states. Additional resources were applied through the College Republicans.

By the November, 1980 elections we had slightly over 1,000 College Republican Clubs. Remarkably, there was not a falling off after the election. The Republican National Committee, chaired by Dick Richards, funded 50 intensive, three-day schools last fall and about 30 this spring. Richards also supported a lot of field work on local campuses. Right now there are about 1,150 College Republican organizations, an all-time record.

You have probably seen literature from Young Americans for Freedom in recent years. ~~Some of that literature, as is not unusual for political organizations, was a little bit misleading. The best of their literature, the least misleading, describes YAF as having 80,000 or 100,000 members and supporters. It happens that in January, 1980 Young Americans for Freedom had a total student membership of 2,108 people. I do not know what the 1982 figures are, but someone disgruntled with that state of affairs leaked a copy of their 1980 information at that time.~~

Intercollegiate Studies Institute, the other well known conserva-

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an excellent group which has had some hard times.

Literature

This should appear at the top of page 2.

tive campus group, has representatives on a few hundred campuses, very few local organizations.

Our need is to get in-depth, conservative organizations on as many campuses as possible. There are about 200 law schools in America. If the Federalist Society, which is obviously philosophically conservative, is going to have a major impact across the nation, it must go far beyond the number of campuses represented here today. And in doing so, you should keep in mind always the maxim I have been selling to some of you for a long time: It is organizational technology which usually determines the success of philosophically oriented groups.

Back in the Goldwater days, when I first became politically active, conservatives had the belief that being right, in the sense of being correct, was sufficient to prevail—that victory would naturally fall into our deserving hands like a ripe fruit off of a tree. We believed in the Sir Gallahad theory: "I shall win because my heart is pure." But that is not the way the real world works.

Most organizational technology is philosophically neutral. The techniques which you use to organize a College Republican Club or a Young Americans for Freedom club or a Federalist Society club could be equally applicable to a Young Democrat club, a Young Socialist Alliance or the National Lawyers Guild. Different emphases for different sorts of organizations, certainly different potentials for growth of a mass base, but basically the same techniques.

First, some things you should avoid. Avoid trying to send letters to all of the students; that is terribly inefficient financially. Avoid reliance on posters to recruit people; that does not sign people up. Avoid paid space advertisements. These three "logical" approaches have been tried many times by many well-meaning people. They are not very useful in getting large numbers of people to affiliate.

A useful technique would be to insert little items or stories about your formation and activities in various conservative publications. Go through a broad spectrum: *National Review*; *American Spectator*; *Intercollegiate Review*; *Reason Magazine*; *Conservative Digest*; *Human Events*, and so forth. Encourage law students to write to a given address to get information on the Federalist Society.

For student contacts, you might write to lists of conservative faculty members acquired though ISI or the Heritage Foundation

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or through interviews with conservative law faculty whom you know already. You should write or visit school newspapers. I often used that method to find the right students. School newspapers are ordinarily very left wing, but if you present yourself at a school newspaper office as a field man for a conservative organization and ask who are the right wing activists on campus, they will usually tell you. They know, because they have often been subjected to attacks from these people.

An essential element for getting large numbers of people is a membership table. Congressman Phil Crane often tells a story about his registration at Indiana University — Bloomington. Phil had paid his fees and he walked up to a little card table which sported a big photograph of Eleanor Roosevelt. The caption on the photo was "Know your enemy." He sensed instinctively that this organization, the Intercollegiate Studies Institute, was his, so he set up. The techniques for running a good membership table take about 45 minutes to relate, so I can't take the time here. But I do suggest you set up membership tables at every law school. Set up an arresting table. Perhaps you could find a suitable photograph of Teddy Kennedy or Tip O'Neill. Set your table up in an area of maximum foot traffic, and so forth, just as if you were soliciting members for any other student organization.

You should set up some sort of incentive program. Most people in youth political organizations are totally localized to their own campuses, but it is extraordinarily easy, in my experience, for anybody to go to another campus and organize anything. The left has often proved that you can run a dirty dish rag up a flag pole on any college campus in America and somebody will salute. If you understand organizational technology, you can get a big crowd out for the ceremony.

Give people an incentive to organize law schools where you do not now have organizations. I suggest you create a beautiful pin, perhaps with a diamond in it, or a synthetic ruby if you cannot afford a diamond, to be awarded only to people who have organized a Federalist Society on a campus other than their own. Or give people a certificate signed by a number of federal judges on your advisory committee.

Structure the organization carefully, because awkward structures can strangle you. Try to set up a national structure which provides maximum service, includes a strong executive, but avoids opportunities for a great amount of patronage to an executive

any-

board. Many organizations have troubles along these lines. Young Americans for Freedom, for instance, is frequently racked with internal problems, largely because people on their national board have patronage at their disposal, and expense accounts for national travel. If you have a strong executive, without perquisites to be passed out except in the area of service, primarily fieldwork, you will be better off.

Establish a fair decision-making apparatus to select your national officers. Make sure there are iron clad guarantees to prevent cheating in credentials fights. You should certify numbers of members of a club, and apportion one national convention delegate per 30 members of the club or whatever. Require local membership lists to be filed and available for inspection three months or so before your elections of national officers. This will discourage credentials hanky-panky, which is very destructive.

Where possible, establish a field program. Send field men who are willing, at least part time, maybe as volunteers with expenses paid, to organize at law schools where you are not yet represented. You should study the many different elements of youth political organization. One most relevant to you would be fund raising for the local organizations. One of the things you are going to want to do is to get expense money for speakers on your campuses. You may need to help your people get to good conferences.

A number of you who have been through my Leadership Institute schools have seen a manual I wrote years ago for College Republicans called "How to Budget and Finance Your Club." In it is the "famous fool proof fund raising formula" by which I raised many thousands of dollars yearly for conservative youth activity. That procedure works very well for local clubs.

In general, study how to win. That is what made the difference between the Old Right and the New Right. We came to a new understanding after the Goldwater defeat, different conservatives at different rates and to different extents. We owe it to our philosophy to study how to win.

The most effective person is not the one who is most knowledgeable on all the issues. We need people both philosophically sound and technologically proficient.

A philosophically oriented organization can degenerate through destructive agitation over exceedingly fine points of doctrine. You spiral down into insignificance, where your last two members confront one another, and one yells at the other, "It is not enough

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that you are for everything that I am for—if you are not for it for the same reasons, to hell with you.”

Study how to win. Study those things which enable you to implement your philosophical ideas. At least 25% of all of Federalist Society training efforts should not be discussing the fine points of doctrine and legal philosophy. You should be the prime source of expertise on these topics:

practical action

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implementation not

1. How to get the right people into the study of law.
2. How to get into the right law school.
3. How to succeed as a conservative in law school.
4. Law student participation in politics and government.
5. How to get better people on law faculties.
6. How to get a good clerking job.
7. How to become a judge.
8. How to make sure the right people get to be judges.

Look for people who have learned these lessons in the school of hard knocks. The trouble with the school of hard knocks for most is that, while it teaches its lesson well, by the time you graduate, you are too old to go to work. Fine those people who have established their expertise, and let them share it with you.

Find

There are philosophically sound people who have become proficient in these areas of achievement. Get them to make systematic presentations to you and others on how they achieved success.

This concentration on “How to do it” may not be as intellectually satisfying as elegant discussions on fine points of doctrine, but it will surely triple the effectiveness of your organization. You may save your organization from collapsing when your current leaders complete their stay at law school. It is no accident that you found some new and outstanding judges to speak on this program. Because of the change in the national elections in 1980, people with your political and judicial philosophy now have an opportunity to serve on the Federal bench.

I next want to share with you some thoughts about the real nature of politics, how we achieved that change, and where we are headed.

I made election predictions for years for a newsletter called *The New Right Report*, published by Richard Viguerie, the conservative direct-mail expert who also publishes *Conservative Digest*. In January, 1980, I predicted the Republican party would win a net of seven new Senate seats and 35 new House seats. Mr. Viguerie, very frankly, was disinclined to publish those predictions because they ought them to be overly optimistic. The actual numbers were

12 in the Senate and 33 in the House.

I was guessing in January, 1980, more accurately than most people were guessing in October. I made my evaluations based not on a careful study race by race as to how many were likely winners and how many were likely losers, but on a measurement of the aggregate, rival resources available to the political process.

I started from an uncommon premise. ~~What determines the success of a political endeavor is, very frankly, not what most people think an election is.~~ Most people think it is simply a contest between two candidates. Others think it is the vigorous contest between everybody in one political party and everybody in the other political party. Others think of a political contest essentially as a contest over two points of view to prove which one is right. None of these are adequately descriptive, in my judgement, of the real nature of the political process.

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What we have, in my view, is a system in which the numbers effectiveness of the activists contesting on the respective sides ~~what determines the outcome of a political contest.~~ If that is true, and if we measure and monitor the sources of activism which come into play in the political process, we can predict where we are headed. I want to outline briefly for you the major sources of activism which contributed to the 1980 election and made it possible for some of these estimable gentlemen on your program to get appointed to federal judgeships.

The first source of activism is the party structure. The Republican Party structure is, by any measure, immensely better off than the Democratic Party structure. I did studies of the party committees funds after 1976 elections, 1978 elections and 1980 elections. The dollar resources are very impressive.

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In the biennium of the 1976 elections, there was a total of \$45.7 million received by major committees of the Republican Party. In 1977-78, the total receipts reported to the Federal Election Commission by Republican organizations were \$84.5 million, almost doubled. In 1979-80, the total receipts were \$161.2 million, doubled again.

The comparable figures for the Democrats in 1976 was \$18 million. In 1978, it was \$27 million. In 1980 it was \$36 million. So not only is the Republican Party raising a lot more money, but it is growing at a much faster rate.

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Next, compare the 1981 receipts to the 1979 receipts, to get current figures and to compare comparable nonelection

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years. In 1979, the Republican Party ³⁵ the three big committees, the National Committee, Senatorial Committee and Congressional Committee aggregated \$33.5 million. In 1981, they aggregated \$80.8 million, almost tripled. In 1979, on the other hand, the Democratic Party reported \$4.9 million and in 1981 they reported about \$8.3 million, less than doubled. Again, the margin of lead is increasing.

Also interesting is the number of party contributors. Seventy-five percent of the \$80.8 million in 1981 for the national Republican groups was in contributions of \$25 or less. Seventy-five percent of the money that came into the Democratic National Committee in 1981 was in contributions of \$500 or more. Approximately two million people actually made voluntary contributions to the Republican Party in 1981 and only a few hundred thousand gave contributions to the Democratic Party.

At every level, the training programs of the GOP organizations are incomparably superior to their Democratic counterparts.

The second source of activism for the President's winning coalition of 1980 was the business and association political action committees.

Twenty years ago, there were hardly any political action committees except those of organized labor. Changes in the law, changes in court decisions and the successful examples of some pioneers have caused a revolution to take place in the political action community. The corporate and association political action committees total now about 1,850 and new ones are being founded every week. Moreover, they are very quickly growing in numbers of contributors. They are finding better ways to raise funds. They have more total dollars available to them.

Moreover, their pattern of giving has altered. Until the 1980 elections, the great majority of the contributions from these corporate and association political action committees went to Democrats, largely to liberal Democratic incumbents. Many of these business and association leaders were attempting to buy access to incumbent politicians rather than to influence the course of elections.

In 1980 that switched around. They gave by about a 60/40 ratio to Republican candidates. The numbers of these contributions going each election cycle to challenger candidates against incumbents is on the increase. The percentage of their money going to pro-free enterprise candidates for open seats is on the increase.

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In the opposition coalition organized labor is doing a very good job. They have been doing a very good job over many years, getting resources out of the labor movement into politics. But they do not have much area left for growth because there are no major unions left without political action committees, and they have for years been extracting all the money they reasonably can get.

Even now, the great majority of the major corporations and trade associations in the United States do not have political action committees.

There is no way for the unions to increase greatly their political resources, because they have been trying to do that for years. They cannot just increase their assessments without limit because they operate in something of a free market system. They are losing certification elections. They cannot double their income by doubling their political assessments any more than the maker of a washing machine can double his profits by doubling his prices. He might just price himself out of the market.

The third source of activism for the President's winning coalition is the voluntarily supported conservative grass roots organizations which are growing up all over the place.

They come in all shapes and sizes and descriptions. Some of them are focused in on a cluster of related issues like right to work, right to life, tax limitation or gun control. Others of them are broad spectrum—conservative on virtually every issue—like Committee for the Survival of a Free Congress, the Conservative Caucus, the American Conservative Union, the National Conservative Political Action Committee. In this category I place the religious right as well as the Heritage Foundation, the Federalist Society and other groups whose primary contribution is intellectual.

These conservative organizations are a reasonably new phenomenon, at least as major factors in the public policy process. They did not start getting big until the mid-1970s. The growth pattern is spectacular. Terry Dolan told me that in the first quarter of 1980, he raised \$900,000. In the first quarter of 1982, he raised \$1.7 million.

All of these groups were afraid that the proverbial little old lady in Peoria, who is responsible for making these voluntary contributions, would stop giving after 1980 elections. After all, if you have beaten Jimmy Carter, George McGovern, Frank Church, Birch Bayh, and all the rest, the victory is ours. We won. Why

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should we keep making contributions?

This should appear at the bottom of the last page (p. 8).

To the surprise and pleasure of most of the leaders of these groups, the contributions not only did not decline, they have increased. I know of none of these groups that did not do better in 1981 than they did in 1979, and many of them did better in 1981 than they did in 1980. The early returns from 1982 indicate a continued, very rapid growth.

Significantly, an almost universally high priority of conservative groups is their political training programs. On the opposite side, the liberal coalition has its own voluntarily supported grass roots groups. There are not very many of them, but the Americans for Democratic Action, the National Committee for an Effective Congress, the environmentalist groups and others come to mind. They have been trying this election cycle to raise additional funds, but when you look at their financial reports you find they are not showing great and spectacular growth.

showing

Some new liberal PACs are being founded. Many of the defeated Democratic politicians of 1980 elections have formed new ones. George McGovern has one called, ironically I believe, the Americans for Common Sense.

politicians

Frank Church sent me a letter for a group called Democrats for the 80's. It was a computerized letter which began "Dear Morton". The thrust of the letter was that I should give money to this group because the nation is subjected to all sorts of danger because Ronald Reagan has named terrible right wingers to his administration. Church's letter listed six examples. I think I was number 4 on his list.

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being

By the very nature of direct mail, they can't raise much net money this year. I doubt there exists a large reservoir of liberals out there just waiting for Frank Church and George McGovern to ask them for money. My belief is that liberals prefer to do good with other people's tax money rather than make voluntary contributions.

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Even if I am wrong and there are untold liberals out there just waiting to give money, the dynamics of direct mail make it a practical impossibility for these groups to raise major resources for the 1982 elections.

Direct mail requires initially expensive mass mailings to people who have never contributed before. These mailings may only break even. It is the people who contribute to the initial "prospect" mailings whom you subsequently solicit for contributions to

get net funds. Frankly, it cannot be done very well by any new groups before the 1982 elections.

We have discussed the party groups, the business groups, the union groups, the voluntarily supported groups. That (does) exhaust the sources of activism for the President's winning coalition. But there is another source of activism for the opposition coalition, a major, generally unrecognized source: federal funds for grants to organizations or for outright government expenditures for political advocacy purposes.

My own view is that it is not legitimate for tax money to go to advocacy groups. I think it would not be appropriate for tax dollars to go either to Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum Organization on the one hand, or to the National Organization for Women on the other hand. It is a fact that Mrs. Schlafly's group has never received nor even asked for any government funds, but an affiliate arm of the National Organization for Women, in the 1980-81 period, got a grant of over half a million dollars.

Remarkably, no one in the federal government has a good list of all the money that goes out in grants to advocacy groups. That money is spent in a great variety of ways. Many of those programs are very blatant political organizations.

Your tax dollars are training people how to organize precincts and organizing people to do voter registration drives. Guess where they register people—in liberal Democratic areas. Grant money pays for get-out-to-vote drives to increase voter turnout. Guess where—liberal Democratic areas. We looked at the VISTA training operation and it was largely concerned with how to organize people politically. The 300,000 CETA public assistance jobs were largely given over to patronage employees for local Democratic machines. Most of you, in your home towns, probably saw some type of political scandal with respect to CETA. That happened across the country.

Times are changing. For several reasons, the resources going into political activism are (this year) greatly reduced. First, the total dollar amount that was made available for grants of any kind to nongovernmental groups has decreased. Second, some programs have been abolished, such as the whole 300,000 CETA public assistance jobs (program). Third, many people who are now making the decisions as to who gets new grants are people who share the President's political philosophy, people who are inclined to oppose grants of money for running advocacy programs. There is a new

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priority for programs which help the needy rather than help organize liberal Democrats.

All those factors have reduced by literally millions of tax dollars the amounts going into programs of political advocacy.

In sum, I see every source of activism for the President's winning coalition still in the period of growth. I see every source of activism for the opposition static, growing but not at too great a rate, or, in one significant case, shrinking dramatically. Therefore, I am prepared to fly in the face of everybody else's predictions.

Everyone is predicting doom and gloom for the Republican Party this year. I do not believe it. My own predictions of January of this year were that the GOP will pick up a net of four seats in the Senate and a net of 15 seats in the House.

I based those predictions not on a careful study, race-by-race, because you never can say for sure what is going to happen in individual races. Witness the sudden death of Congressman John Ashbrook. You can measure the sources of activism and the quality of expertise going into politics. On that basis, there is every reason to think the GOP can have great gains. No one can always predict these things with certainty. But I will conclude with an analogy between what President Franklin Roosevelt did in the 1930s and what is going on today.

President Roosevelt put together a new governing majority in America which was reasonably stable, at least, for 48 years.

There were many keys to Roosevelt's success. One of the keys was not that he solved the Depression in the 1930s, because as you all know, the Depression did not show much sign of improvement until World War II came along.

Yet in 1934, Roosevelt gained Congressional seats, rather than lost. He broke what some people describe as an "iron law" that Presidents' parties lose in mid-term elections. The secrets of Roosevelt's success, in my judgement, were these.

First, he kept the issue initiative. He kept everybody talking about his programs to solve the problems of the country. He reduced his opposition to carping about and reacting to his plans. Throughout the 1930s, the public perception was that the Republican Party had no plan to pull us out of the mess of the Depression. Roosevelt's plans did not pull us out of it, but he was the only one who had any recognizable plan.

I do not think that there must be a great economic turnaround this year for the GOP to win more seats. Not only should there be

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Roosevelt

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more republican seats, let me say parenthetically, there are likely to be more conservative Democrats in the next Congress than there are now because lots of these sources of activism are applying themselves in Democratic primaries, particularly in the South.

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The second secret of the success of Franklin Roosevelt was that he was able to hold his coalition together. There were some very desperate elements in the Roosevelt coalition. There were segregationist Southern Democrats, unions with white only membership clauses, liberal intellectuals, and civil rights organizations. That was just one of many areas of divergence in his coalition. Still, his coalition held together and became a normal governing coalition.

disparate

Another major secret of his success was that Roosevelt kept the focus on his enemies. He kept attacking and casting blame on his enemies. For the rest of his life, he attacked those he called the "economic royalists" and the "malefactors of great wealth." He probably died in 1945 mumbling an attack on Herbert Hoover. To the extent that he could, Roosevelt reran the 1932 elections in 1934 and 1936 and 1938 and so forth.

9

them

While the Reagan presidency has managed to hold its coalition together, while we have managed to retain the issue initiative, at least to date, it is yet uncertain how well we are going to focus in on rerunning subsequent elections on the same themes which won for use in 1980. I think it is possible to do so.

Confrontation was a key. Roosevelt was the most beloved President of this century. His supporters virtually worshipped him. Interesting, though, he was almost certainly the most deeply despised President of this century. His opponents loathed him, even long after his death. Perhaps the next most beloved 20th century president was Dwight Eisenhower. In contrast to Roosevelt, hardly anyone hated Eisenhower, but he was a political failure and left no era of political success for his party.

There were two ways we could have played this second-year budget fight. I was not privy to the internal decision on the final budget figures, but I think it is safe to say that the 1983 Reagan budget represents somebody's judgment of the best which could come out of the Congress.

Certainly no one has suggested that this budget is what the President thought was the ideal budget for the United States.

large

Putting this budget forward with such a large deficit neither placated our foes nor enthused our friends. In fact, elements of the President's winning coalition are in some ways disoriented, be-

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cause here is *our* President coming up with that deficit.

The alternative would have been to put forward something much closer to what the president thought would be a good budget, to fight the battle and then lose were unavoidable. The deficit would have been clearly and correctly pinned on the liberal Democratic leadership.

President

Then we could more easily have reconstituted the coalitions of 1980 in the 1982 election. We would have had basically the same lineups and the same levels of enthusiasm. We know how the last chapter of that book reads.

, unavoidable,

My time is up.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 3, 1982

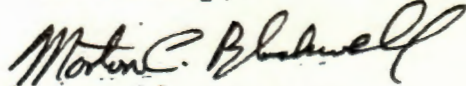
Reverend John Giminez
Rock Church
640 Kempsville Road
Virginia Beach, VA 23464

Dear Reverend Giminez:

My assistant, Carolyn Sundseth, has reported her conversations with you concerning your plan to organize an interdenominational week of prayer here to precede the National Day of Prayer in 1983. It will make the National Day of Prayer more meaningful to have it preceded by the prayers of leaders of many ministries.

Please keep in touch as your plans develop.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 6, 1982

Reverend Johnny Sims
Nauvoo Church of God
Route 3
Nauvoo, AL 35578

Dear Reverend Sims,

I have been asked by Linda Perriman of our White House Office of Media Relations and Planning to answer your recent letter about School Prayer.

As you are aware, the President is most concerned for the plight of those in schools who wish to meet and pray, but who are prevented from doing so by U.S. Supreme Court decisions. I can assure you he deeply appreciates the many thousands of people such as yourself who are helping with this long struggle.

I am enclosing a packet of materials regarding this issue produced earlier this year. May I suggest that you write to Senator Denton's office for the new list of Congress.

Once again, I thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 6, 1982

Mr. William Johann
9812 St. Julian's Lane
Richmond, VA 23233

Dear Mr. Johann,

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the situation in Israel and the Lebanon, and the recording of your July Richmond Christian Family Conference. As you are aware, the President is committed to a peace in the Middle East that includes a strong and free Israel.

My family and I enjoyed our participation in the Intercessors for America Conference. I have great admiration for the work that you do.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
December 10, 1982

MCB-3
list of people

12/10/82

Sent to
attached list.

Dear

Thank you for your letter regarding the problems in Nebraska for Christian schools.

As the President's liaison to the Christian school movement, I have kept in touch with these developments. I have had two very cordial, personal meetings here in my office with Pastor Everett Sileven of Louisville, Nebraska and numerous telephone conversations with him and with other leaders concerned with the application of the principles of religious liberty and educational freedom to this case.

On October 22, when a temporary compromise was reached, the President publicly expressed pleasure that Pastor Sileven was able to rejoin his family. A copy of the White House news release is enclosed.

The legal actions against Christian schools in Nebraska have been taken by state, not federal authorities.

Officials of our U.S. Department of Education have kept in close contact with Nebraska Christian school leaders and the state school authorities. Charles J. O'Malley, Education Secretary Bell's Executive Assistant for Private Education has repeatedly been to Nebraska, working to help both sides in an attempt to reach a satisfactory conclusion to this tragic difficulty.

Please be assured that the President strongly supports our American tradition of diversity in Education, including religious, private and public schools.

We appreciate your concern. and we hope that either the courts, the state legislature or the respective sides in the dispute will quickly solve this problem in such a way as to strengthen both religious freedom and quality education.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison.

The following received Blackwell letter dated 12/14 - Problems in Nebraska

1 Mrs. E. M. Currier
Box 3
Kristin Forest
Hardy, VA 24101
(Dear Mrs. Currier)

2 Mr. and Mrs. Eben D. Fowler
6100 Longview Road
Kansas City, MO 64134
(Dear Mr. and Mrs. Fowler)

3 Mr. Sims Calhoun
Route 1, Box 184
Mansfield, LA 71052
(Dear Mr. Calhoun)

4 Miss Leone L. Lynn
710 East Kentucky
DeLand, FL 32720
(Dear Miss Lynn)

5 Mrs. Warren Peak
Route 1, Box 365
Grain Valley, MO 64029
(Dear Mrs. Peak)

6 Mrs. Ted C. Adams, Jr.
5031 Raintree Lane
Greenville, SC 29615
(Dear Mrs. Adams)

7 Miss Lori Kleinsorg
400 Baer
McPherson, KS 67460
(Dear Miss Kleinsorg)

8 Mr. K. B. Rodwan
330 Jewell
Ferndale, MT 48220
(Dear Mr. Rodwan)

9 The Reverend John E. Simpson
Haddonfield Bible Church
Belmont Avenue off Potter Street
Haddonfield, NJ 08033
(Dear Mr. Simpson)

10 Mr. Warren Langford
Apartment H-3
4915 West Genesee Street
Camillus, NY 13031
(Dear Mr. Langford)

The following received Blackwell letter dated 12/14 - Problems in Nebraska

11 Mrs. Virgil Cantrell
Route 2, Box 774
Stigler, OK 74462
(Dear Mrs. Cantrell)

12 The Carroll Huskey Family
Route 1, Box 247
Lettsworth, LA 70753
(Dear Friends)

13 Mr. Kenneth Tristol
1915 Holland Avenue
Bronx, NY 10462
(Dear Mr. Tristol)

14 Mrs. Clayton T. Walsh
3230 Mercury Lane
Los Cruces, NM 88001
(Dear Mrs. Walsh)

15 Mrs. Milton White
Route 1, Box 5
Limon, CO 80828
(Dear Mrs. White)

16 Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Hopkins
22285 Albatross Circle
Farmington, MN 55024
(Dear Mr. and Mrs. Hopkins)

17 Mrs. William Cramer
Route 6, Box 10
Shawnee, OK 74801
(Dear Mrs. Cramer)

18 Miss Janis Walker
224 Seale Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301
(Dear Miss Walker)

19 The Reverend Dennis Anderson
Tabernacle Baptist Church
Post Office Box 170
Simmesport, LA 71369
(Dear Mr. Anderson)

20 Miss Frances Benham
510 South Avenue I
Post, TX 79356
(Dear Miss Benham)

The following received Blackwell letter dated 12/14 - Problems in Nebraska

21 Mr. and Mrs. Joe Moore
5116 North Forest
Kansas City, MO 64118
(Dear Mr. and Mrs. Moore)

22 Miss Ruth I. Ruffin
2625 Falls Drive
Dallas, TX 75211
(Dear Miss Ruffin)

23 Mr. and Mrs. D. L. Radle
715 West 14th
Post, TX 79356
(Dear Mr. and Mrs. Radle)

24 Mr. David E. Pierson
13812 Wooded Creek Drive
Farmers Branch, TX 75234
(Dear Mr. Pierson)

25 Miss Gladys J. Keig
3802 Cherry I-36
Grand Forks, ND 58201
(Dear Miss Keig)

26 Mr. Dave Lawson
Post Office Box 8756
Minneapolis, MN 55408
(Dear Mr. Lawson)

27 Mr. John Hill
Post Office Box 747
Bremerton, WA 98310
(Dear Mr. Hill)

28 Mr. and Mrs. William S. Dedrick
3120 Camp Hayden Raod
Port Angeles, WA 98362
(Dear Mr. and Mrs. Dedrick)

29 Mr. and Mrs. L. S. Sparks
3412 Boyd Street
Midland, TX 79703
(Dear Mr. and Mrs. Sparks)

30 Mrs. Ruth A. Wilson
2514 Hawthorne
Independence, MO 64052
(Dear Mrs. Wilson)

31 Miss Thelma Phillips
807 Susan Drive
Arlington, TX 76010
(Dear Miss Phillips)

The following received Blackwell letter dated 12/14 - Problems in Nebraska

32 Mr. and Mrs. Gregg Bridgens
Rural Route 1, Box 180A
Eudora, KS 66025
(Dear Mr. and Mrs. Bridgens)

33 Mr. and Mrs. Tom Adleta
6425 Embers Road
Dallas, TX 75248
(Dear Mr. and Mrs. Adleta)

34 Mr. and Mrs. Leonard M. Lambert
Rural Delivery 1, Box 56
Conestoga, PA 17516
(Dear Mr. and Mrs. Lambert)

35 Students of Tupelo Children's
Mansion
c/o Mr. David Goddard
Post Office Box 167
Tupelo, MS 38801
(Dear Students)

36 Miss Doris Sparlin

Purcell, OK 73080
(Dear Miss Sparlin)

37 Miss Carolyn Reas
6206 South Roselawn
Salem, VA 24153
(Dear Miss Reas)

38 Mr. David E. Pratte
7021 Omaha Court
Ft. Wayne, IN 46804
(Dear Mr. Pratte)

39 Mr. Neil Martin
Apartment 6
3824 North 15th Avenue
Phoenix, AZ 85015
(Dear Mr. Martin)

40 The Reverend Philip R. Feist
Midland Bible Church
2800 North Street
Midland, TX 79701
(Dear Mr. Feist)

41 Mrs. Glenda Knowles
14107 Denver
Grandview, MO 64030
(Dear Mrs. Knowles)

The following received Blackwell letter dated 12/14 - Problems in Nebraska

42 Mrs. Leroy Davis
Route 10, Box 430
Columbia, MO 65202
(Dear Mrs. Davis)

43 Mrs. M. B. Daughtry
Route 2, Box 94B
Lavonia, GA 30553
(Dear Mrs. Daughtry)

44 Mr. James N. Hess
1206 Washington Street
Wausau, WI 54401-5676
(Dear Mr. Hess)

45 Miss Ruth Jeffery
323 South Okfuskee
Wewoka, OK 74884
(Dear Miss Jeffery)

46 The Reverend Perry Taylor
Iuka Church of Christ
Post Office Box 323
Iuka, MS 38852
(Dear Mr. Taylor)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 14 1982

Mr. Bruce Taylor
Vice President
Citizens for Decency through Law
2331 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 105
Phoenix, Arizona 85021

Dear Mr. Taylor,

Thank you for the impressive number of signatures that you have collected concerning pornography. As you are aware, the President has taken steps this year to encourage the enforcement of existing laws.

I enclose the original petitions as per your request over the telephone. The total number of signatures was 6,760.

Once again, I commend you in your work on this important issue.

Sincerely yours,

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 14, 1982

Mr. Howard Phillips
The Conservative Caucus
422 Maple Avenue East
Vienna, VA 22180

Dear Howie,

Thank you for the strongly worded petitions on the "Nuclear Freeze" issue and the funding of the Department of Education and the National Endowment Fund for the Humanities (NEH).

For your reference, the numbers counted by our selves were as follows:

Nuclear Freeze	8876 names
Education Department	6967 names
NEH	3601 names

Keep up the good work!

Cordially,

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison.

cc EMD -

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 16, 1982

Mr. Carl E. Mau
111 N. Olive Street
Media
Penn 19063

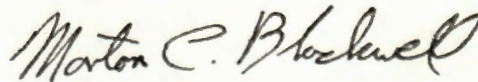
Dear Mr. Mau,

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your letters concerning the Liberty Bell idea. The concept is certainly an interesting one, and shows a pride in our national heritage.

Unfortunately this is not a project that can be undertaken by the White House.

Again, thank you for informing the President,

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 17, 1982

Mr. Gary Hong
National Council of Health Centers
2600 Virginia Ave, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

Dear Mr. Hong,

I would like to thank you for your suggestion regarding a Presidential Proclamation on behalf of American Veterans in nursing homes.

Traditionally, the President issues such proclamations only when Congress authorizes him to do so. You may, therefore, wish to contact those who represent you in Congress regarding your idea.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 27, 1982

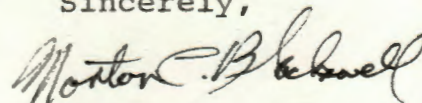
Miss Judy Hagen
1441 217th Pl. S. E.
Issaquah, WA 98027

Dear Miss Hagen:

Reference is made to your note of November 26 regarding the visit of your group of bicyclers to my office last August.

I regret I am unable to help you with photographs of the occasion. The camera was provided by someone in your group. One of my assistants came in to take the pictures but we have no way of knowing whose camera was used.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

November 26, 1982

Dear Mr. Blackwell,
I am a representative
of the King's Spokesmen
from the Lutheran Bible


**The
Lutheran
Bible
Institute
of Seattle**

Providence Heights
Issaquah, Washington 98027
(206) 392-0400

Institute. We went on
a Bike-A-Thon this past summer from
Seattle to Washington, D.C. We stopped
and visited you while in D.C. August 12th
and a photographer took a picture of us
with you.

We would like to know if we can
get copies of that print. The group
of 4 bikers, Don Fladland and you, Mr.
Blackwell were in the photo.

If possible, please send 5 photos to
me and I'll get them to the other
bikers. Thank you!

Sincerely,

Judy Hagen

1441 217th PL SE
Issaquah, WA 98027
206-392-2572