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Presidential Records

Folder Title: Folder 312 (11/23/1987-12/08/1987)

Box: 19

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National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

531072
67001

November 23, 1987

Dear Miss Sam and Miss Bertha:

It was good to hear from you, and we both had a lump in our throats as we read your poem. It is truly beautiful. We thank you.

Knowing my schedule, may I make this our Christmas message? We wish you both a Merry, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

The enclosed is in memory of Buzzy, to you who cherished and loved him so.

God bless you both.

Sincerely,

Donald

Miss Sam and Miss Bertha Sisco
Post Office Box 148
Healdsburg, California 95448

RR:AVH:pps

RR Dictation (Sample)

Encl: \$100.00 check

Misses Sam & Bertha Sisco
P.O. Box 148
Healdsburg - Calif 95448
November 18-1987

A very good morning,
President Reagan!

You said there was nothing you and Nancy
wanted in form of leather work this year.

So - we thought to share the enclosed words
with you both - "Friends of the Boyed"

Everyone we've shared these words with, has got
emotional on us - tell us yours & Nancy's feelings -

Merry Christmas with all our
Blessings - God Bless you
both in all you do!

Miss Sam & Miss Bertha
always for "Brother Buggy"

P.S. The enclosed was one of many we wrote for dear Buggy
during his last days - and really the words are for so many
dear ones - we trust you enjoy -

Friends of the Aged.

Blessed are they who understand my
faltering step and frail hand.

Blessed are they who know my ears today
must strain to catch the things they say.

Blessed are they who seem to know that
my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.

Blessed are they who look away when
juices is spilled at the table today.

Blessed are they with a cheery smile who
stop to chat for a little while.

Blessed are they who never say,

You've told that story twice before.

Blessed are they who know the ways
to bring back memories of yesterday.

- For past memories can never
- be forgotten.

Blessed are they who make it known
that I'm loved, respected, and not alone.

Blessed are they who know I'm not at a
loss to find the strength to carry
- the cross.

Blessed are they who ease the days on
my journey home in loving ways.

"Sambert"

Miss Sam & Miss Bertha Susco
always for "Brother Buzzy"

For President Reagan & Nancy
December 25-1987

531161
FJ004

November 23, 1987

Dear Dr. Hindle:

It's taken a while for your letter of October 25 to reach my desk -- hence this tardy reply. I appreciate your writing and giving me a chance to respond to your charges. I can understand your thinking that I am responsible for our deficit situation; similar charges have been made in the Congress and carried by the media. My answers to these statements, made publicly, are almost never carried in the media.

First off, the President can't spend a dime. All spending must be authorized by the Congress. It is true the President must send a budget to the Congress each year, and this I've done. So far the Congress has left every budget on the shelf. The country has not had a budget since 1981. Congress just passes what they call a "Continuing Resolution," with all the spending appropriations included. If I should veto such a resolution, the government would have to shut down. That's why I've been asking for a "Line Item Veto," which 43 Governors have. Then I could veto out specific measures without closing down the government.

Now about those budgets I've submitted; my first one, if adopted, would have reduced the deficit by \$91 billion. If my first five had been adopted, the cumulative deficits would have been \$207 billion less by 1986. Yes, I've asked for increases in defense spending. I am responsible for national security -- according to the Constitution.

But let me point out, while Congress has reduced my proposed defense budgets by \$125 billion, it has added \$250 billion to domestic spending.

With regard to our tax cuts, they have been responsible for the economic recovery we've been having for 59 months. Not only did they provide an incentive, they stimulated the economy. This has been true in times past. When President Kennedy secured an income tax cut similar to ours, there was an immediate increase in total tax revenue. In our case tax revenues have increased by 65% since our lowered tax rates went into effect.

Back in the Great Depression, in 1932 Congress raised the minimum income tax rate from 1.5% to 9% and the top rate from 25% to 63%. Total tax revenue fell by 21%.

By the way, you mentioned the threat of unemployment. Since our expansion began 59 months ago, we have created 14 million new jobs. Our potential workers pool is considered to be all citizens, male and female, from age 16 and up. This includes students, all retirees, etc. Today, more than 62% of that pool is employed -- the highest percentage in our history.

I hope this gives you a somewhat different perspective on responsibility for the deficit. One last item: When the "War on Poverty" went into effect in the '60s and the top income tax rate was 90%, the Federal budget in those 15 years from 1965 to 1980 increased to five times what it had been. The Federal deficit increased to 38 times what it had been. Thanks for writing.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

Dr. Brooke Hindle
5114 Dalecarlia Drive
Bethesda, Maryland 20816

RR:AVH:pps

RR Dictation (Sample)

10 Ms. Wrooke Hindle 5114 Dalecarlia Dr. Bethesda Maryland

Dear Ms. Hindle

20816

It's taken a while for your letter of Oct. 25 to reach my desk - hence this tardy reply. I appreciate your writing and giving me a chance to respond to your charges. I can understand your thinking that I am responsible for our deficit situation, similar charges have been made in the Congress & carried by the media. My answers to those statements, made publicly are almost never carried in the media.

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according to the Constitution.

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Back in the great depression, 1932 Congress raised the minimum income tax rate from 1.5% to 9% & the top rate from 25% to 63%. Total tax revenue fell by ~~to~~ 21%.

By the way you mentioned the threat of unemployment, since our expansion began 59 months ago we have created 14 mil. new jobs. Our potential workers pool is considered to be all citizens male & female from age 16 & up. This includes ~~school~~ students, all retirees etc. Today more than 62% of that pool is employed - the highest percentage in our history.

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OK w/RED TO PUT IN FILE

KSK 11/23

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Re: [unclear]

There were
from the
Monthly Sample

100
Anne - for the
letter to Brooke
Hindle - the Brey
says: "MS." It
called NYU & he
is a man. Also
they say his title is
Dr. Hindle A

BROOKE HINDLE
5114 DALECARLIA DRIVE
BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20816
Telephone (301) 320-5312

October 25, 1987

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Mr. President:

I write to express a faint pleasure that you now assert a new willingness to talk with members of Congress about your and their concepts on how to reduce the massive Federal Deficit.

Your long needed concern with the deficit has been caused by your present notice of the sharp decline in stock prices.

You are totally wrong to blame Congress for the fantastic increase in the Federal Deficit during your presidency. That is your fault. You are probably 99% responsible for this disaster--by failing to: 1) seek the raising of taxes in order to cut out annual deficits during the past few years while we had very high income, 2) decrease the rising import of foreign goods (notably of Japanese and German automobiles), 3) encourage Americans to "Buy American," and 4) turn off the enormous increase you are responsible for in U.S. expenditures on the SDI and a few other military matters.

Of course, if stocks and bonds continue to go and stay down, a large depression may result and may make it impossible for the U.S. to cover the costs of enormous new unemployment--and the costs of deficit interests.

You correctly recognize the crisis.

You must also recognize that it is your fault. You owe it to our nation to work on solving it. You need to stop misstating almost everything.

With deep concern,

Brooke Hindle

[P.S. I am a historian: former professor and dean at NYU and former director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History--now emeritus.]

WHORM: Presidential Handwriting File

FILE TRANSFER
BY THE REAGAN LIBRARY STAFF

*Ronald Reagan Personal Papers
Presidential Personal (PP)*

Previously filed: ~~Folder~~ *November 1987*

Presidential Records

New file location: *Folder 312*

Date of transfer: *920 5/24/99*

last
file

PHILIP J. KRUIDENIER
3500 WAKONDA COURT
DES MOINES, IOWA 50321

October 16, 1987

3
Presidnet Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Presidnet:

As in the past, this letter is similar in nature to several others which I have writtten to you and Mrs. Reagan. All of them have expressed enthusiastic approval and support for the great work you are doing as our President. But now I am wondering if these letters, or any portion of them ever get to your attention. Even so, I shall once again send a few thoughts from a life long Republican from the Middlewest.

Your message the other day gave me great hope for the future....I didn't hear you say it, but you were quoted as saying that you were going to stump the land and tell the American people the truth about what the Democrats were and have been doing to your programs. This is long overdue.

You are the only one in the past fifty years who has been able to ; consistently communicate with the voters in this country. And the voters need to know the facts...hot in general terms, but in specifics.

I have introduced resolutions in our precinct causus the past few years to support a move to give the President "Line item veto power". And would you believe it, that each time I have to explain just what this means and why it is so important. This is true to an even greater degree when talking to the man on the street or at a social gathering. People, for example do not seeits importance to putting a stop to "Pork barreling"

You said when you took office you could wipe out fifty billion dollars from the Federal budget just through the elimination of useless programs, fraud and waste. You tried, but the Democrats and quite a few Republicans blocked your every move. Why don't you name them and tell the American people just how it was done. Why not tell us about the Grace Commission report and how its recommendations were received and shunted aside but the greedy politicians.

During the Iran-Conta "Show" it was brought out by Mr. Hyde of Illinois how certain congressmen had actually undermin your Foreign policies.... but he didn't name names. Why not tell the people about those acts....

The News Media reports that the ghat the Bolin Ammendment was passed by a "Unanimous" decision...that is not true...it was passed "Without dissent" in one of those quickie moves in Congress...and was not actually voted on.

Why not tell the people that there never was any "Diversoon" of funds in the Contra Affair. There couldn't have been any diversion sinc e the money never belonged to the United States. the money belonged to Mr. Hakim and Mr. Secord....consequently there couldn't have been any diversion.

So let me just add a few random thoughts which might be included when you talk to us about some of the rproblems which have grown completely out of hand.

Page two

Defense Dept. You can cut the Defense budget only if the Congress will let you select the items to be cut...all of the Congressional pork barrel items.

Education.....This department was established fifty years ago to gather and disseminate educational information to school districts throughout the country.

Not to become a multi-billion dollar power controlling education throughout the land.

News Media and Congress men....Most of the Congressmen today are "consensus Politicians"they are delegates from the various States, not Representative They vote only in accordance with the latest "Poll" about any issue. they are interested primarily in perpetuating their spot on the Congressional payroll.

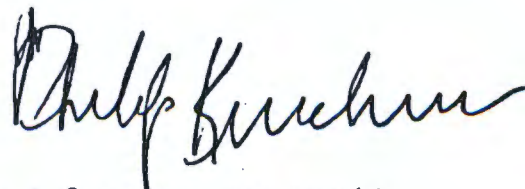
News Media...why not tell us just how the News Media has taken the power for selecting candidates for public office away from the people and arrogated it to themselves. ...by the early caucus schemes which now plague the States.... it is ridiculous to make a candidate run for office for two years....and during that time his one goal is to please the Press and TV people so as to get his or her name before us. ...what a way to choose a President...or any one else.

Why not tell us again and again how much better Welfare works when it is administered locally than when controlled by Bureaucrats in Washington.

Well, I could say more....just let me repeat that I do hope you will take to the TV and take off the gloves and tell us exactly what is going on in Washington.

And I repeat once more...you are a great President and have served this country well. I was a supporter of yours in 1968 and ever since //lee½ i½ tje gppd wpr;

Respectfully and very sincerely,



P.S. Once again I should explain...I am blind and only a few years ago taught myself touch typing...and this electric typewriter is rather sensitive and does things I do not intend it to do....so please forgive me if it is difficult to read...I know I make mistakes...but can't see to correct them.

531070
61002

November 23, 1987

Dear Mr. Kruidenier:

Thank you for your October 16 letter. It has only just reached me, hence this late reply. You mentioned other letters. I'm afraid, in the flood of mail that comes to the Executive Branch, much of it gets buried out there in the bureaucracy. In the future, if you should write, put the number 16690 on the front of the envelope. That will get your letter directly to me.

I'm most grateful for your support, and particularly so with regard to line item veto. I've been preaching that ever since I've been here. Perhaps you know that Governors in 43 States have that. I had it as Governor of California. It truly would be of the greatest help in balancing the budget.

Let me tell you why the attack must be on the Congress itself and not on certain individuals -- although I'm tempted many times to single out a few. The law requires the President to submit to Congress each year a budget for the coming year. Congress is then supposed to take that, change parts of it if they so desire and vote on it. Since I've been President, not one of my budget proposals has ever been considered by the Congress. They've termed each one "dead on arrival" and then packed all the appropriations into what they call a "Continuing Resolution." When this reaches me, I can't veto it without shutting the entire government down. See what line item veto could do to change that?

You are right on a great many things, including the Iran-Contra affair. As to your suggestions of things to do, I'll be doing them in this election year ahead. I do have one problem. I can go out making speeches (and I will), but much of the news media is on the other side. They will report that I made a speech and show it on TV for about half a minute, but not the part where I make the points you want to hear.

Well, again my thanks to you for your generous words and support.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

Mr. Philip J. Kruidenier
3500 Wakonda Court
Des Moines, Iowa 50321

To Mr. Philip J. Kruidenier 3500 Wakonda Court
Des Moines Iowa 50321

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Will again say thanks to you for your generous words & support.

Sincerely RR

End
case
File

49824355

PR 11

To Fred Ryan

Fred I think this
looks like something
I should do.

RR

RECEIVED ^{AK} _{ES}

NOV 23 1987

SCHEDULING
OFFICE

Talent & Residuals, Inc.

November 13, 1987

Mr. Lester A. Weinrott
111 East Chestnut
Chicago, Illinois 60611

Dear Les:

I'm asking for your help.

The OFF THE STREET CLUB is having its Christmas Benefit Luncheon on December 11, 1987. This marks its eighty-seventh year of service to Chicago's underprivileged children. As you know Les, this event is the highlight of the City's movers and shakers in the communications and financial communities.

The Club would like to honor its Executive Director, Ralph Campagna, age forty-four, a rare human being who believes in helping mankind above all else.

Les, would you ask the First Lady if she will bring this to the President's notice?

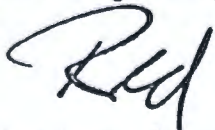
Harold Washington, Mayor of Chicago, has declared December 11th "OFF THE STREET CLUB DAY."

What would really rally the troops in the Club's fight against drugs and street gangs would be an acknowledgement of Ralph Campagna's efforts by the President.

I am enclosing material which provides background on the Club and on Ralph Campagna, a product of that Club. Would you please write to Mrs. Reagan and forward the enclosed?

Thanks.

Best regards,



Sterling "Red" Quinlan



SRQ/swc
Enclosures

LESTER A. WEINROTT
111 EAST CHESTNUT • CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611
TELEPHONE: (312) 642-1176

November 17, 1987

Dear Nancy:

The enclosed letter from Red Quinlan, the senior in communications in Chicago, spells out his request.

I join with him in seeking your help in bringing this to Ron's notice.

Chicago's Off The Street Club has been in the forefront in helping underprivileged children since 1900. I was actively engaged in the effort in the 1930s. (Edie helped me out and in turn enlisted me in a Passavant campaign.)

The Off The Street Club hopes that the President will acknowledge the club's Executive Director, Ralph Campagna. A video tape would be sensational. If the President's schedule eliminates that, a letter or proclamation would be deeply appreciated.

Betty and I are making it on a day-to-day basis. We think of both of you often and pray for good health, happiness ... and a bright 1988.

Betty joins me in love ...

Y
••
fin

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 24, 1987

Nov. 30 Taping

MEMORANDUM FOR SANDY WARFIELD
DEPUTY ASSISTANT
OFFICE OF APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: PETER D. KEISLER
ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Presidential Taping for Chicago's Off the
Street Club

As you requested, we have reviewed the request for the President to tape a message honoring Ralph Campagna, Executive Director of Chicago's Off the Street Club. The tape would be shown at the club's Christmas benefit luncheon on December 11, 1987, at which Mr. Campagna is to be honored. We understand that the President has indicated his interest in doing this taping, and we offer no legal objections. In our judgment, the remarks should focus on the good work being done by Mr. Campagna and should not include any direct or indirect appeal for financial contributions.

Thank you for bringing this matter to our attention.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

11/25/87

003

MEMORANDUM

TO: TONY DOLAN/ELIZABETH BOARD
FROM: FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.
SUBJECT: APPROVED PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITY

MEETING: Tape message for Chicago's "Off the Street Club" Luncheon

DATE: November 30, 1987

TIME: 4:30 pm

DURATION: 5 minutes

LOCATION: Roosevelt Room

BACKUP LOCATION:

REMARKS REQUIRED: Yes

MEDIA COVERAGE: No

FIRST LADY
PARTICIPATION: No

NOTE: PROJECT OFFICER, SEE ATTACHED CHECKLIST

M. Archambault
W. Ball
J. Courtemanche
E. Crispen
R. Dawson
F. Donatelli
D. Dellinger
A. Dolan
J. Erkenbeck
L. Faulkner
C. Fuller
M. Fitzwater
T. Griscom

Advance Office
J. Hooley
J. Kuhn
J. Lamb
J. Manning
J. McKinney
N. Risque
D. Johnson
R. Shaddick
G. Walters
WHCA Audio/Visual
WHCA Operations

End
Case
File

601483

0165

BILLY GRAHAM
MONTREAT, NORTH CAROLINA 28757
November 23, 1987

Mr. Reagan

Dear Mr. President,

I am enclosing a summary of the remarks by Minister Kharchev (Chairman of the Council for Religious Affairs of the USSR, and a member of the Soviet Central Committee) that I spoke to you about on the phone yesterday morning.

This luncheon was held on October 28, 1986, and a number of Washington leaders were present including Ambassador and Mrs. Yuri Dubinin, and Ambassador Jack Matlock (before he became the Ambassador to the Soviet Union).

I think you will be quite interested in what Minister Kharchev had to say. I think it has some relevance in your forthcoming meeting with Secretary Gorbachev. You probably will be amazed at his personal remarks concerning me.

There is no doubt in my mind that there is a quiet religious revival on throughout the Soviet Union, and in much of eastern Europe. I think this can be kept in the back of your mind at all times in your dealings with them. I am certainly praying for a successful summit.

Thank you again for the wonderful time on Thursday evening.

With warmest personal affection to you and Nancy,



The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

End
Case
File

537693

GI001

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Biff -

Hand-writing file. RR
noted address on back
of letter. No outgoing letter.
only an assortment of
loose papers & buttons.

RR

December 1, 1987

Dear President Reagan :

Thank you for the pins. They are beautiful! Wait until you see them all together - you'll be surprised how many there are! (I'm glad they're small... they don't take up much room.)

I am anxious for the Soviets to come to America. We have so much to be proud of (especially our President + First Lady). I am thrilled about their visit because I'll get to see you on T.V. every night.

I don't know if Anne told you, but I am teaching 1st grade at Wilson School in Fresno. It was really named for Woodrow Wilson, but I prefer to think of it as Ronald Wilson Reagan School. (I'm not the least bit biased am I?)

I just started teaching (after school began) so I've been busy getting used to everything. I've never taught 1st grade... just last month I was substitute-teaching in high school so this is a big change for me! It is exciting... the kids are very sweet.

I'm glad you got to go to the Ranch for Thanksgiving. I hope you had a nice rest and I hope Mrs Reagan is taking it easy. She's been through

(over)

a lot lately. She is amazing!

I am hoping and praying that
everything works out the way you want it to.
Please give my best to Mrs Reagan... I'm concerned
she might over-do, and she should rest.

Thank you again and again,

Ann from Fresno

Miss Ann Schuette

1834 S. Clovis Ave.

Fresno Calif. 93727

Env
CASC
File

Dear President Reagan:

10-18-87



Sugar Loaf

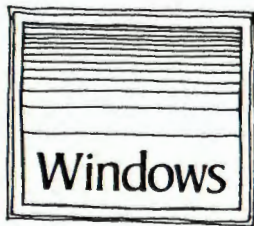
thank you ~ you made my day !!!

Mrs. Ann Schuette
1834 S. Clovis Ave.
Fresno Calif. 93727

This card is filled with
good, positive thoughts. It is
extremely contagious !!
EVERYTHING everywhere
will work out well..... loved ones' health
concerns, press conferences, arms
negotiations, etc.

Thanks for the pins!

Ann from Fresno

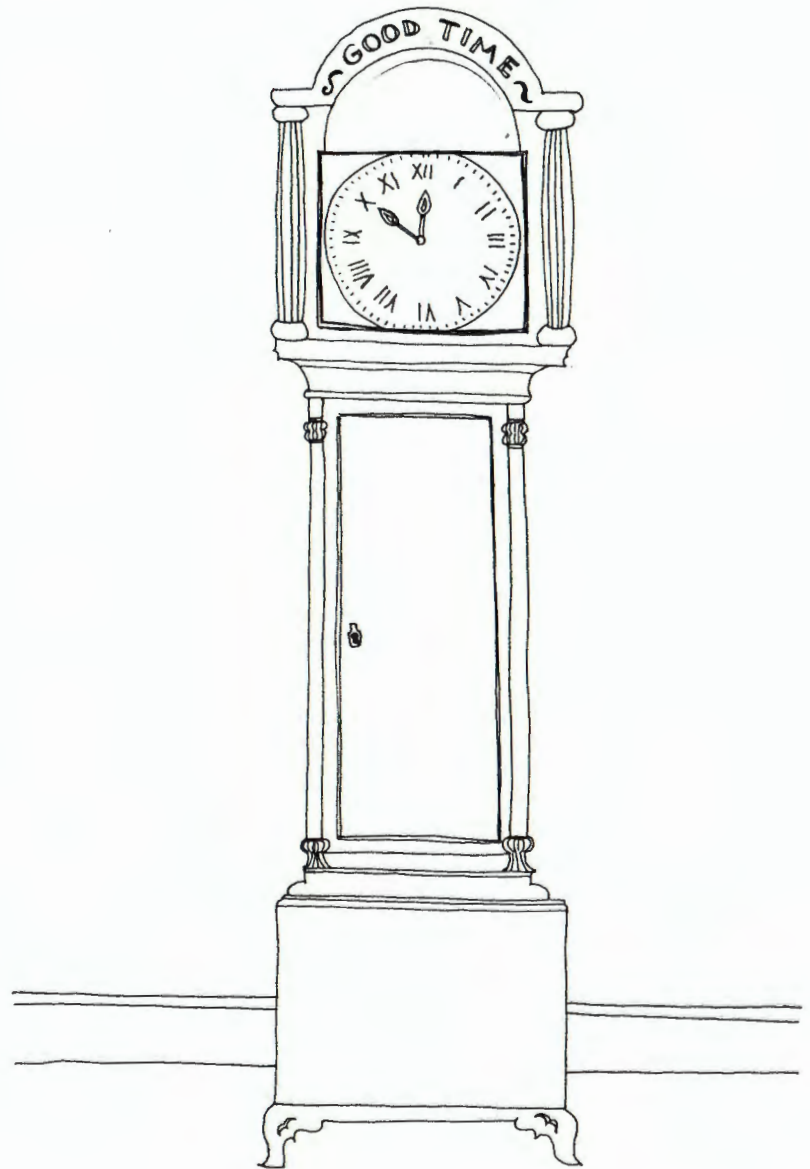


© Susan Landor Keegin

Carolyn Bean

120 Second Street, San Francisco, CA 94105

LK 794 - 100



Enl

540244

PR007-0C

Dec 87

The President has seen 1.5/87



The Catholic Center at U.V.M.

Diocesan Office of the Newman Apostolate

Redstone Campus, Burlington, Vermont 05401
(802) 862-8403

*Rev. P. Papp
Superior
RR*

December 1, 1987

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

So often we read about protests and demonstrations on College Campuses that the good things happening go overlooked. As you will soon be meeting with Soviet Leader Mikhail Gorbachev we will be with you not in protest but in prayer. The Catholic Student Association at the University of Vermont and Norwich University have planned a 24 hour interfaith prayer vigil to coincide with the Washington summit. I have enclosed a copy of a letter sent to all Organizations and Faiths throughout the State so that you will know first hand that you will be receiving a tremendous amount of support through prayer.

May God guide you in your deliberations so that our Nation and the world may see in you a President of Peace.

Sincerely yours,

Robert J. Baffa

Father Robert J. Baffa
Director

RJB/jbn

40244

THE CATHOLIC CENTER AT U.V.M.

REDSTONE CAMPUS
BURLINGTON, VERMONT 05401
1-802-862-8403

November 18, 1987

Dear Friends:

Peace processes are much in the news these days with the disarmament talks between the "Superpowers", the Central American (Arias) peace plan and the conflicts in the Middle East. We believe that peace of any sort requires a conversion of our hearts and minds from a perspective of competition to one of cooperation. It is in this spirit that the Catholic Student Association at the University of Vermont is sponsoring a 24 hour "Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Peace" on December 6th & 7th, 1987. This date has been chosen because it is the eve of the Summit Meeting between President Reagan and General Secretary Gorbachev and the anticipated signing of the Arms Treaty.

The Vigil will be held in the Chapel of the Catholic Center at UVM on Redstone Campus. We invite anyone who is interested to sign up to spend an hour during the 24-hour period by calling John Nyberg at 862-8403. You may also like to reserve a block of time for your organization. We would like as many organizations as possible to participate in this important event.

This event will conclude with an Interfaith Service at 7:00 pm. Monday, December 7, 1987. This will be held in the Catholic Center Chapel and we encourage all to attend. If your group wishes to take an active part in this service please give me a call.

We hope that the Prayer Vigil will be an opportunity for people to seek the wisdom to begin (or continue) the search for peace and the courage to be instruments of peace. As the American Catholic Bishops have stated in their 1983 Pastoral Letter on Peace, "Contemplation fosters a vision of the human family as united and interdependent... We implore other Christians and everyone of good will to join us in continuing prayer for peace, as we beseech God for peace within ourselves, in our families and community, in our nation and in the world."

Thank you for your time and may we all pray for peace in the world today. A student will contact you around November 24th to answer any questions you may have about this event. Once again thank you for your time. I remain

Sincerely Yours,

John B. Nyberg
John B. Nyberg
Campus Minister

End
Case
File

531139
FG240

December 2, 1987

Dear Donn:

Thanks for your letter of November 24. I share your feeling about George Allen and the fine service he has rendered. And while I'm at it, thank you for your service in the same cause.

Donn, I've had a feeling that you who are doing this have met with some resistance in the education community. Maybe I've been misinformed, but here and there I get stories that indicate physical education is brushed off in some of our schools. I must admit I haven't done anything to verify those reports. But you've made me happy with word of that agreement with the Soviet Union. I can't think of anything that would keep us on course better than that competition.

Thanks again. Nancy sends her love.

Sincerely,

RON

The Reverend Donn D. Moomaw, D.D.
16221 Mulholland Drive
Los Angeles, California 90049

RR:AVH:pps

RR Dictation

To Rev. Donn Meemaw 16221 Mulholland Dr.
L.A. Calif. 90049

Dear Donn

Thanks for your letter of Nov. 24. I share your feeling about George Allen and the fine service he has rendered. And while I'm at it, thank you for your service in the same cause.

Donn I've had a feeling that you ~~are~~ who are doing this have met with some resistance in the education ~~communities~~ community. Maybe I've been misinformed but here & there I get stories that indicate physical ed. is brushed off in some of our schools. I must admit I haven't done anything to verify those reports. But you've made me happy with word of that agreement with the Soviet U. I can't think of anything that would keep us or course better than that competition.

Thanks again. Nancy sends her love.

Sincerely
Ron

Donn D. Moomaw D.D.

November 24, 1987

President Ronald Reagan
White House 16690
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ron:

I have just talked with George Allen. As you know, he has resigned as Chairman of your Council on Physical Fitness and Sports. He has really done a very fine job leading this nation, on your behalf back to an awareness of the need for a healthier, stronger American citizen.

Your Council, on which I have served for many years, has worked hard and accomplished much.

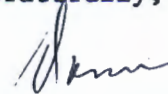
The biggest accomplishment of the Council has been to make our nation aware that our young people are not physically fit. Your Council, with the able assistance of Ash Hayes, Executive Director, designed programs for all ages second to none in the world. I believe we have made a profound impact upon the parents, teachers and students of our nation and their need for physical fitness.

We have conducted the most ambitious and successful programs in the 31 year history of the Council.

Something I think you will be interested in is our relationship with the Soviet Union. We have just entered into an agreement with the Soviet sports people for the Russian children to take our fitness tests and for over one and one half million American youth to take their test. The results of this will be interesting and stimulating to both nations.

George Allen has often spoken of his appreciation for your support over the years. I believe we have a healthier America today because of you and George and the Council working hand in hand.

Gratefully,



Donn D. Moomaw

DDM/sb

End
Case
File

THE
RONALD REAGAN
PRESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION

528155
FE008-01

December 4, 1987

Bill French

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for your letter of December 1st - and your kind words which are much appreciated.

I will certainly present Fred Ryan's name to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting where, in accordance with your wishes, I am sure he will be elected as a new Trustee. Fred's participation will be very helpful as we proceed with this exciting project.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Bill

William French Smith
Chairman

—

1025 THOMAS JEFFERSON STREET, N.W. SUITE 820 WASHINGTON, D.C. 20007 (202)342-2900

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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CAROL L. LANE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

End
Case
File

536010
JL001

December 8, 1987

Dear Dr. Mudd:

I have investigated the situation with regard to your grandfather, Dr. Samuel Alexander Mudd. I know how much you have done and the effort you've put forth to get his name cleared of the charge against him. I regret to say I've learned that, as President, there is nothing I can do. Presidential power to pardon is all that is within a President's prerogatives and that, of course, was done by President Andrew Johnson.

Believe me, I'm truly sorry I can do nothing to help you in your long crusade. In my efforts to help, I came to believe as you do that Dr. Samuel Mudd was indeed innocent of any wrongdoing. But we'll have to accept that "full unconditional pardon" is what we must settle for.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

Dr. Richard Mudd
1001 Hoyt Avenue
Saginaw, Michigan 48607

RR:AVH:pps

RR Dictation

To Dr. Richard Mudd 1001 Hoyt Ave.

Saginaw Mich. 48607

Dear Dr. Mudd

I have investigated the situation with regard to your grandfather Dr. Samuel Alexander Mudd.

I know how much you have done and the effort you've put forth to get his name cleared of the charge against him. I regret to say ~~that~~ I've learned ^{THAT} as President there is nothing I can do. Presidential ~~the~~ power to pardon is all that is within a President's prerogatives and that of course was done by President Andrew Johnson.

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Sincerely RR

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: December 8, 1987

NOTE FOR: A.B. CULVAHOUSE

The President has

seen

acted upon

commented upon

the attached; and it is forwarded to you for your:

information

action

Rhett Dawson
(x-2702)

cc: Original to Files




THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

The President has seen 12/08/87

December 2, 1987

INFORMATION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: ARTHUR B. CULVAHOUSE, JR.
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT 

SUBJECT: Request by Richard D. Mudd for a Presidential Pardon for his Grandfather, Dr. Samuel Mudd

Richard D. Mudd, an eighty-seven-year-old physician from Saginaw, Michigan, has spent almost his entire life attempting to clear the name of his grandfather, Dr. Samuel Mudd. Dr. Mudd, who set the broken leg of John Wilkes Booth after he shot President Lincoln, was convicted by a military commission of participating in the conspiracy to assassinate President Lincoln.

On February 8, 1869, President Andrew Johnson granted Dr. Mudd a "full and unconditional pardon." On July 24, 1979, President Carter advised Dr. Richard Mudd that:

Regrettably, I am advised that the findings of guilt and the sentence of the military commission that tried Dr. Mudd in 1865 are binding and conclusive judgments, and that there is no authority under law by which I, as President, could set aside his conviction. All legal authority vested in the President to act in this case was exercised when President Andrew Johnson granted Dr. Mudd a full and unconditional pardon on February 8, 1869.

President Carter's response (copy attached) incorporates the opinion of the Office of Legal Counsel, Department of Justice, that President Johnson's pardon "exhausted the power of the President to intervene in the Mudd case in his capacity as President." Memorandum for Honorable Robert J. Lipshutz (Counsel to the President) from Leon Ulman (Deputy Assistant Attorney General, Office of Legal Counsel) (August 4, 1978).

In light of the Justice Department opinion and the previous actions taken by Presidents Johnson and Carter, we do not believe there is anything further you can do, as President, to exonerate Dr. Samuel Mudd.

Attachment

*Dr. Norman
Aprague with
Kundat pleared
Rich and Mudd Mr*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON
July 24, 1979

To Dr. Richard Mudd

I am aware of your efforts to clear the name of your grandfather, Dr. Samuel Alexander Mudd, who set the broken leg of President Lincoln's assassin, John Wilkes Booth, and who was himself convicted as a conspirator in the assassination. Your persistence in these efforts, extending over more than half a century, is a tribute to your sense of familial love and dedication and is a credit to the great principles upon which our nation was founded.

Your petition and the petitions submitted to me on behalf of your grandfather by numerous members of Congress, several state legislatures, historians and private citizens have been exhaustively considered by my staff over the past two years. Regrettably, I am advised that the findings of guilt and the sentence of the military commission that tried Dr. Mudd in 1865 are binding and conclusive judgments, and that there is no authority under law by which I, as President, could set aside his conviction. All legal authority vested in the President to act in this case was exercised when President Andrew Johnson granted Dr. Mudd a full and unconditional pardon on February 8, '1869.

Nevertheless, I want to express my personal opinion that the declarations made by President Johnson in pardoning Dr. Mudd substantially discredit the validity of the military commission's judgment.

While a pardon is considered a statement of forgiveness and not innocence, the Johnson pardon goes beyond a mere absolution of the crimes for

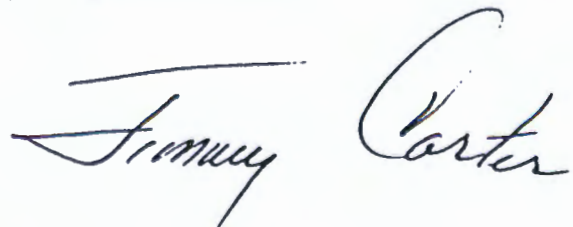
which Dr. Mudd was convicted. The pardon states that Dr. Mudd's guilt was limited to aiding the escape of President Lincoln's assassins and did not involve any other participation or complicity in the assassination plot itself -- the crime for which Dr. Mudd was actually convicted. But President Johnson went on to express his doubt concerning even Dr. Mudd's criminal guilt of aiding Lincoln's assassins in their escape by stating:

"...it is represented to me by intelligent and respectable members of the medical profession that the circumstances of the surgical aid to the escaping of the assassin and the imputed concealment of his flight are deserving of a lenient construction, as within the obligations of professional duty and, thus, inadequate evidence of a guilty sympathy with the crime or the criminal;

"And...in other respects the evidence, imputing such guilty sympathy or purpose of aid in defeat of justice, leaves room for uncertainty as to the true measure and nature of the complicity of the said Samuel A. Mudd in the attempted escape of said assassins..."

A careful reading of the information provided to me about this case led to my personal agreement with the findings of President Johnson. I am hopeful that these conclusions will be given widespread circulation which will restore dignity to your grandfather's name and clear the Mudd family name of any negative connotation or implied lack of honor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jimmy Carter". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the typed name.

Dr. Richard Mudd
1001 Hoyt Avenue
Saginaw, Michigan 48607

Department of Justice
Washington, D.C. 20530

8-8-78
000004

MEMORANDUM FOR HONORABLE ROBERT J. LIPSHUTZ
Counsel to the President

Re: Dr. Samuel Mudd Case

This responds to Ms. McKenna's memorandum to this office of May 30, 1978, regarding possible Presidential action with respect to the late Dr. Mudd. Mr. Harmon has asked me to respond. For reasons stated hereafter, we think that the President is not barred from expressing his personal views with regard to the Mudd case but that the full pardon granted to Dr. Mudd by President Johnson on February 8, 1869 exhausted the power of the President to intervene in the Mudd case in his capacity as President.

I. Background

The relevant facts are set forth in great detail in a memorandum to you written by Mr. Apodaca of your staff attached to Ms. McKenna's memorandum 1/ and a memorandum to you from the Deputy Pardon Attorney, Department of Justice, 2/ and need be restated only briefly for present purposes.

Dr. Samuel Mudd was convicted by a military commission of participation in the conspiracy to assassinate President Lincoln in 1865. On February 8, 1869, President Johnson granted Dr. Mudd a "full and unconditional pardon" with regard to that conviction. In 1977, several members of Congress as well as

1/ Memorandum from Patrick Apodaca dated May 24, 1978.

2/ Undated memorandum from David C. Stephenson, Deputy Pardon Attorney.



descendants of Dr. Mudd suggested that the President might take some action in the Mudd case, apparently because of a belief that Dr. Mudd was innocent of the charges for which he was convicted or that he was tried illegally. The recent discourse on this subject has identified four possible options, 3/ any of which might be viewed as an appropriate response by the President to the entreaties described above. We will discuss each in turn.

The first suggested option is the issuance of a "public proclamation declaring the conviction of Dr. Samuel Mudd null and void." This option is in our view untenable because we believe that the President has no power, either statutory or constitutional, to declare convictions such as that entered against Dr. Mudd to be "null and void."

With regard to any possible statutory power of the President, we are aware of no statute explicitly or implicitly permitting the President to review the record of a trial conducted by a military commission established over a century ago and, in effect, to reverse the conviction entered by that commission. 4/

With regard to possible constitutional power to declare Dr. Mudd's conviction to be "null and void," we are aware of none. The only provision of the Constitution that suggests itself as a source of such power is Art. II, §2, of the Constitution, which vests the President with "Power to grant Reprieves and Pardons for Offenses against the United States . . . , " the pardon power. The pardon power would not support the first option for two reasons.

3/ Apodaca memorandum, note 1 supra, at 7.

4/ As discussed in the Deputy Pardon Attorney's memorandum, note 2, supra, at 8, the record of that military commission is regarded as a military record subject to review under 10 U.S.C. §1552, which does not authorize disturbance of the judgments of a military court-martial. See 40 Op. A.G. 504 (1947). Our memorandum of September 9, 1977, regarding the case of Private Slovik concluded that the President has no power to review actions taken pursuant to §1552.

First, the pardon power is not as a legal matter a power to declare convictions "null and void" or otherwise to permit the President to conduct what would normally constitute appellate review of a criminal conviction entered by a federal court, including military courts. See 31 Op. A.G. 225, 227 (1918). Rather, the pardon power places in the President

plenary authority . . . to "forgive" the convicted person in part or entirety, to reduce a penalty in terms of a specified number of years, or to alter it with conditions which are in themselves constitutionally unobjectionable. 5/

Thus, the pardon power should appropriately be viewed as an unfettered power to forgive an offense, not to reach the kind of judgments regarding guilt or innocence that are, under the Constitution, reserved to courts and juries. 6/

5/ Schick v. Reed, 419 U.S. 256, 266 (1974). We note that were the pardon power to be construed as permitting, in effect, Presidential review of the judgments of Art. III courts, it would contradict the fundamental tenet of our constitutional system that the judgments of those courts may not be subjected to Executive revision. See Chicago & Southern Air Lines v. Waterman S.S. Corp., 333 U.S. 103 (1948).

This is not, of course, to say that perceived unfairness in a trial or doubt as to guilt of one convicted is not properly taken into account by the President in his decision whether to grant a pardon in a specific case. The point is that a Presidential pardon does not establish innocence in the same sense that an acquittal by a court establishes innocence; it has the legal effect of forgiving the offense and restoring disabilities incurred as the result of a federal conviction.

6/ Were the pardon power viewed as permitting the President, in effect, to overturn convictions, opinions of several Attorneys General would be directly called into question. These opinions generally take the position that the effect of a pardon is limited to removal of disabilities imposed as punishment for a conviction rather than disabilities that may be incurred by virtue of a conviction but which cannot be characterized as punishment. If indeed the pardon power enabled the President to reverse convictions, then it would follow that any disabilities would perforce be removed by the exercise of that power. See generally 31 Op. A.G. 225, 226-30 (1918); 39 Op. A.G. 132, 134-35 (1938); 36 Op. A.G. 193 (1930); 22 Op. A.G. 36 (1898).

Second, assuming arguendo that the pardon power granted by Art. II, §2, would authorize the President to pardon Dr. Mudd posthumously and thereby achieve the apparent objective of the first option expressed in slightly different terms, there would be in our view no occasion for the exercise of that power here because the pardon granted to Dr. Mudd in 1869 by President Johnson was, as stated above, full and unconditional. Thus, there is no outstanding conviction of Dr. Mudd or allegations of criminal misconduct upon which the pardon power might be brought to bear. 7/

With regard to the second option, which would involve the transmittal of a letter to Congress and the Mudd family expressing the President's "personal opinion" that Dr. Mudd was innocent, we are of the view that no statutory or constitutional authority is required for the sending of such a letter and that it could therefore legally be sent, if deemed otherwise appropriate.

With regard to whether such a letter should be sent, a question of judgment we are in no position to resolve, we would offer only the following comments. First, Presidential criticism, direct or indirect, of the workings of the criminal justice system with regard to a particular case arguably has very little to commend itself except perhaps in the clearest of cases. The usual assumption is that appellate courts or federal courts exercising habeas corpus jurisdiction are institutionally responsible for ensuring that the ends of justice are served in a particular case.

Second, and as discussed above, not even the pardon power under Art. II, §2, gives the President a role in determining the guilt or innocence of criminal defendants. The problem posed by the President's doing so in a specific case is that although the opinion conveyed might be characterized as personal, it may nevertheless be interpreted as an official act because of the President's office.

7/ We do not address the question whether a pardon might be granted posthumously to Dr. Mudd in the absence of the full and unconditional pardon granted by President Johnson.

Third, we tend to agree with the conclusion reached by the Deputy Pardon Attorney that "the case against Dr. Mudd may be weak, [but] it is certainly not without some foundation." 8/ Thus, the President's own review of the full record of the Mudd trial and his conclusions based on that review could themselves be susceptible to reasonable criticism.

Fourth, although it might be claimed that the case of Dr. Mudd is "unique" and a Presidential opinion could be expressed without inviting "an onslaught of similar requests in the future," 9/ we have doubts that principled or convincing distinctions could be drawn among the many cases that would assuredly be brought to the attention of the President. The existence and use of procedures to inform the exercise of the pardon power, 28 C.F.R. §§1.1 et seq., represent a policy determination of long-standing that, while the President may grant or withhold a pardon for any or no reason at all, the exercise of the pardon power nevertheless implicates deep-rooted notions of fairness and equity that suggest the need for objective standards. We believe that any Presidential action that might be taken with regard to Dr. Mudd should invoke the same considerations and that, at the very least, considerable thought should be given to the ramifications of any affirmative action.

With regard to the third option, involving transmittal of a letter by the President to Congress and the Mudd family "re-affirming the declarations contained [in President Johnson's pardon] regarding doubt as to Dr. Mudd's guilt," we believe that no statutory or constitutional authority is required for what would in substance be a personal, as opposed to official, opinion of the President. 10/

8/ Memorandum, note 2 supra, at 16. We base our conclusions on the facts surrounding Dr. Mudd's conviction as set forth in the Deputy Pardon Attorney's memorandum.

9/ Memorandum, note 1 supra, at 7.

10/ We conclude above that the exercise of the pardon power by President Johnson in 1869 with regard to Dr. Mudd left no room for further exercise of that power. We think it follows from this conclusion that there is no power in the President officially to reaffirm that or any similar pardon.

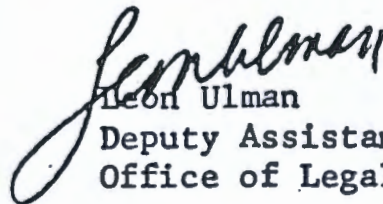
With regard to the possible precedent such an action might set, the arguments against it would perhaps be somewhat different from those set forth above with regard to the second option. The fact that President Johnson chose to express his views regarding Dr. Mudd's probable innocence in the text of the pardon issued to Dr. Mudd might serve to distinguish this case from others in which a pardon was silent with regard to the recipient's guilt or innocence. At the same time, it may be that there are many such pardons which have been granted by former Presidents based on probable innocence which would merit the same consideration as Dr. Mudd's case. Whether the President's time should be taken up with such potential cases is a question we are in no position to address. 11/

The fourth option involves essentially the taking of "no action." Because your office has asked us to consider the "widest range of options" open to the President in this case, we would suggest yet another option which probably lies somewhere between the third and fourth options.

We think that the President might send a letter to interested members of Congress and the Mudd family which, after noting the language related to Dr. Mudd's probable innocence contained in President Johnson's pardon, would take the position that there was no occasion for him to state his official views on Dr. Mudd's innocence because the pardon power in that case was exhausted by President Johnson. The letter might then go on to express the views that an expression of the President's personal views on the guilt or innocence of any convicted person, living or dead, outside of the pardon-granting process would be inappropriate because of the limitations on the President's time and the many situations which might arise in which his opinion might be sought.

11/ The Office of the Pardon Attorney has informed us that the most recent granting of a pardon based on probable innocence occurred in 1967. That office also states that requests for pardons based on claims of innocence are the rule rather than the exception. The infrequency with which pardons have, at least in the last decade, been granted on the basis of innocence suggests the difficulties in second-guessing on a printed record the judgments reached by courts and juries in specific cases.

In closing, we would emphasize that a decision to exercise option three or the alternative suggested above would in the final analysis represent a judgment upon which we have no particular expertise. More contemporaneous cases, however, such as the "Wilmington Ten" situation, give us some pause and lend force to the notion that, once exercised in the Mudd case, future requests for Presidential consideration could not easily be refused.



Leon Ulman

Deputy Assistant Attorney General
Office of Legal Counsel

End
Case
File