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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 27, 1988

582226
FED01-02
FG001-02
PA001
PA002
M0075

MEMORANDUM FOR HOWARD BAKER

FROM: RHETT DAWSON *M*

SUBJECT: White House Participation in Civil War Veterans of the Confederacy Ceremony

BACKGROUND

Each year the Confederate Memorial Committee commemorates the birth of Jefferson Davis and honors the memory of Confederate veterans on the first Sunday of June at the Confederate Monument in Arlington National Cemetery. It has been customary for the President to send a wreath and Presidential representative since 1914, when President Woodrow Wilson dedicated the monument.

Jim McKinney recommends that this year he advise by suitable letter the Confederate Memorial Committee that the White House will no longer participate in Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies, but will instead honor Confederate veterans in the same manner and on the same day as all other American war dead. McKinney's recommendation is based on a long history of serious reservations concerning the conduct of the Confederate Memorial Day ceremonies, particularly:

- primary emphasis is on honoring Jefferson Davis, with coincidental recognition of the Confederacy;
- ceremony has involved dipping the American Flag for the playing of "Dixie";
- the Committee in the past has requested that the President's representative be of a particular race; and
- a serious feud is ongoing between opposing Confederate factions involved with the ceremony.

DISCUSSION

Views are split among White House senior staff on Jim's recommendation to decline this year's invitation. The Offices of Domestic Affairs (Cribb noting that there is indeed a feud), Public Liaison (Range), and Communications (Griscom) all concur in McKinney's recommendation to discontinue White House participation, for the reasons outlined above.

The Offices of Legislative Affairs (Addington) and Political and Intergovernmental Affairs (Donatelli) recommend that the White House continue the practice of sending a representative, under certain conditions stipulated by White House Counsel. Legislative Affairs points out that there is the likelihood of a

APR 28, 88 note to John Tuck from Ken DUBERSTEIN

backlash from Members of Congress supportive of this group (e.g., Trent Lott). Political and Intergovernmental Affairs observes that although there has been virtually no news coverage of this event for several years, a radical departure from long-standing precedent in an election year could be misunderstood and costly.

Counsel's Office has no legal objection, but emphasizes that this is primarily a political, rather than legal, matter. They stress, however, that continued White House participation in this event must be conditioned on reliable assurances that the problems that have occurred in the past have been corrected. For instance:

- the ceremony must be solely in honor of the Confederate war dead;
- no restrictions, conditions, or preferences may be placed on who the White House chooses as its representative; and
- appropriate rules, regulations, and formalities for ceremonial occasions must be observed (e.g., proper respect for the American flag).

The Offices of Legislative Affairs and Political and Intergovernmental Affairs strongly endorse these conditions for continued White House participation in the event.

RECOMMENDATION

While a close call politically, I believe that Jim McKinney's recommendation is the better and more enlightened view. His recommendation is strengthened by Ken Cribb's reaffirmation that there is an ongoing turf battle between the organizations that purport to represent the Confederate War Memorial.

DECISION

Discontinue White House participation in Confederate Memorial Day Ceremonies

Continue White House participation, with the conditions outlined by Counsel's Office

Let's discuss

cc: Kenneth Duberstein ✓
James McKinney
A. B. Culvahouse
Alan Kranowitz

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 28, 1988

NOTE TO JOHN TUCK

FROM: Ken D.

Trust you are handling this one.

Ken
HHB decided
option 2 on
2nd page
memo
JCA
5-5-88

Being handled by Baker & John will find out an update for Ken on Monday.

Attachment

Per Ken " Great, but pls keep me posted "

KENNETH M. DUBERSTEIN
DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

— —

585148

1160

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

July 7, 1988

FEDD1-02

FB001-02

FB002-23

ST014

9/3

Dear General Woods:

On behalf of the President, it gives me great pleasure to designate you as his Personal Representative at the wreath-laying ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the birth of President Benjamin Harrison. The President is deeply grateful for your willingness to undertake this special assignment, and he has asked me to extend you any assistance you may require.

This ceremony will be held at the grave site on August 20 at Indianapolis, Indiana. Should any local officials wish to join in the ceremonies, we would, of course, welcome their participation as it befits the occasion. Arrangements have been made with the White House Florist for the delivery of the wreath to you by a florist in your area. That florist will contact your office to finalize arrangements.

Should you desire any further assistance or guidance concerning this ceremony, please do not hesitate to call or write.

With the President's appreciation and warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

JAMES C. MCKINNEY
Director

White House Military Office

Major General Stephen R. Woods, Jr.
Commanding General
United States Army Soldier Support Center
Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana 46216-5040



585149

1160

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

19

July 7, 1988

FE 001-02
FG001-02
FG002-30
STO 15

Dear General Lawson:

On behalf of the President, it gives me great pleasure to designate you as his Personal Representative at the wreath-laying ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the birth of President Herbert Hoover. The President is deeply grateful for your willingness to undertake this special assignment, and he has asked me to extend you any assistance you may require.

This ceremony will be held at the grave site on August 10 at West Branch, Iowa. Should any local officials wish to join in the ceremonies, we would, of course, welcome their participation as it befits the occasion. Arrangements have been made with the White House Florist for the delivery of the wreath to you by a florist in your area. That florist will contact your office to finalize arrangements.

Should you desire any further assistance or guidance concerning this ceremony, please do not hesitate to call or write.

With the President's appreciation and warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

JAMES C. MCKINNEY
Director
White House Military Office

Major General Warren G. Lawson
The Adjutant General, Iowa
Camp Dodge
7700 Northwest Beaver Drive
Johnston, Iowa 50131-1902

615465

116D

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
November 3, 1988

FE 001-02
FG 001-02
FB 002-17
ST 042

Dear Major General Wallace:

On behalf of the President, it gives me great pleasure to designate you as his Personal Representative at the wreath-laying ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the birth of President Andrew Johnson. The President is deeply grateful for your willingness to undertake this special assignment, and he has asked me to extend you any assistance you may require.

This ceremony will be held at the grave site on December 29 at Greenville, Tennessee. Should any local officials wish to join in the ceremonies, we would, of course, welcome their participation as it befits the occasion. Arrangements have been made with the White House Florist for the delivery of the wreath to you by a florist in your area. That florist will contact your office to finalize arrangements.

Should you desire any further assistance or guidance concerning this ceremony, please do not hesitate to call or write.

With the President's appreciation and warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

JAMES C. MCKINNEY
Director
White House Military Office

Major General Carl D. Wallace
The Adjutant General, Tennessee
Houston Barracks
P.O. Box 41502
Nashville, Tennessee 37204-1501



615466

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FEDD1-D2

FGDD1-D2

FG002-D8

ST032

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1988

b

Dear Major General Flynn:

On behalf of the President, it gives me great pleasure to designate you as his Personal Representative at the wreath-laying ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the birth of President Martin Van Buren. The President is deeply grateful for your willingness to undertake this special assignment, and he has asked me to extend you any assistance you may require.

This ceremony will be held at the grave site on December 5 at Kinderhook, New York. Should any local officials wish to join in the ceremonies, we would, of course, welcome their participation as it befits the occasion. Arrangements have been made with the White House Florist for the delivery of the wreath to you by a florist in your area. That florist will contact your office to finalize arrangements.

Should you desire any further assistance or guidance concerning this ceremony, please do not hesitate to call or write.

With the President's appreciation and warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

JAMES C. MCKINNEY

Director

White House Military Office

Major General Lawrence P. Flynn

Chief of Staff

330 Old Nishayuna Road

Latham, New York 12110-2224

100 West 42nd St

New York, N.Y.

November 2, 1954

10

Dear Mr. General Truman:

I am pleased to hear that you are interested in the work of the National Council on the Arts. The President is very grateful for your willingness to undertake this special assignment, and he has asked me to inform you of the details of the assignment.

This assignment will be part of the work of the National Council on the Arts. The Council is a non-profit organization which is dedicated to the promotion of the arts in the United States. The Council is currently working on a number of projects, including the establishment of a National Endowment for the Arts and the creation of a National Council on the Arts.

I am sure that you will find this assignment to be a most interesting and rewarding one. I am sure that you will be able to make a significant contribution to the work of the National Council on the Arts.

With the President's appreciation and very best wishes,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

JAMES E. BRIDGES

Secretary

White House, Washington, D.C.

Mr. General Truman

Chief of Staff

170 Old Biscayne Road

Miami, New York 1110-1111

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
November 3, 1988

615467
1160

FE 001-02
FG001-02
FG002-27
FG114

CJ

Dear Major General Hilbert:

On behalf of the President, it gives me great pleasure to designate you as his Personal Representative at the wreath-laying ceremony commemorating the anniversary of the birth of President Woodrow Wilson. The President is deeply grateful for your willingness to undertake this special assignment, and he has asked me to extend you any assistance you may require.

This ceremony will be held at the grave site on December 28 at the Washington Cathedral and will not be in connection with any other ceremony. The White House Florist will prepare an appropriate wreath for use on this occasion. It will be delivered to the security office, north side of the Cathedral by 8:30 a.m..

Should you desire any further assistance or guidance concerning this ceremony, please do not hesitate to call or write.

With the President's appreciation and warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

JAMES C. MCKINNEY
Director

White House Military Office

Major General Donald C. Hilbert
Commanding General
U. S. Army Military District of Washington
Fort Lesley J. McNair
Washington, DC 20319-5000

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 3, 1988

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20

WHEAT
67
FBI-12
FBI-15
FBI-17
FBI

Dear Major General Roberts:

On behalf of the President, it gives me great pleasure to designate you as his personal representative at the inauguration ceremony. The President is deeply grateful for your willingness to undertake this special assignment, and he has asked me to extend you my assistance you may require.

This ceremony will be held at the Great Hall on January 20 at the Washington Cathedral and will be in connection with the inauguration of the President. The White House Visitor will provide an escort to the ceremony. It will be held at the security office, north side of the Cathedral by 8:30 a.m.

Should you desire any further assistance or guidance concerning this ceremony, please do not hesitate to call or write.

With the President's appreciation and warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

SIGNED

JAMES C. ROBERTS
Director
White House Military Office

Major General David C. Roberts
Commanding General
U. S. Army Military District of Washington
Fort Lesley J. McNair
Washington, DC 20319-5000