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Collection: Roberts, John G.: Files

Folder Title: JGR/Bicentennial of the Constitution

(2 of 5)

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WASHINGTON

April 17, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Presidential Telephone Call to Request Chief Justice to Serve as Chairman of Bicentennial

Commission

Dianna requested that I prepare the attached. I assume the following has been considered, but, for what it's worth: When the President signed Public Law 98-101, he stated that the Chief Justice could only participate in the ceremonial or advisory functions of the Commission, and not in matters involving the administration of the Act. Designating the Chief to be Chairman of the Commission is flatly inconsistent with the signing statement. Under Public Law 98-101, the Chairman, among other things, appoints a staff of up to forty members -- hardly a ceremonial or advisory role.

Attachment

April 17, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Recommended Telephone Call

As you will see from the attached, the Chief of Staff and I recommend that you telephone the Chief Justice today and request that he serve as Chairman of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

Attachment

FFF:JGR:aea 4/17/85

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts

Subj Chron

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO:

Chief Justice Warren E. Burger

DATE:

April 17, 1985

RECOMMENDED BY:

Donald T. Regan and Fred F. Fielding

PURPOSE:

To ask the Chief Justice to serve as Chairman of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution

BACKGROUND:

Public Law 98-101, which you signed on September 29, 1983, established a 23-member commission to coordinate the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution at Constitution Hall in Philadelphia, on September 17, 1787. You are to appoint twenty of the members, including twelve from lists submitted by Congressional Meaders and the Chief Justice. (No appointments have yet been made.) The tiree other members are designated by statute: the Chief Justice, the President pro tempore of the Senate, and thue Speaker of the House. You are authorized to designate the Chai man of the Commission, who se wes at your pleasure.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION: 1.

- 1. Request that the Chief Justice serve as Chairman of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.
- 2. Recognize the importance of commemorating in 200th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution, and acknowledge the prior efforts in the Chief Justice in this area.

3. Thank the Chief Justice for submitting recommendations for appointment to the Commission; advise the Chief Justice that you will be appointing the membership in the near future.

- 4. Express your hope that the work of the Commission will cause all citizens to study the Constitution and rededicate themselves to the enduring values it embodies.
- 5. Caveat: Earlier this year it was announced that former Senator Roger Jepsen would serve as staff director of the Commission. The announcement was heavily criticized, and the Chief Justice himself was known to be displeased. It has now been decided to offer Jepsen another position having nothing to do with the Commission. If the Chief Justice raises the question, you may assure him that Jepsen will not be involved in the Commission.

DATE OF SUBMISSION: April 17, 1985

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FFF:JGR:aea 4/17/85

cc: FFFielding JGRoberts

Subj Chron

WASHINGTON

April 17, 1985

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COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

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- Recognize the importance of commemorating the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution, and acknowledge the prior efforts of the Chief Justice in this area.

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DATE OF SUBMISSION: April 17, 1985

| ACTION | | |
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FFF:JGR:aea 4/17/85 cc: FFFielding

JGRoberts Subj

Chron

WASHINGTON

April 23, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Appeals Appointment of Roger Jepsen to Post Relating to Celebration of Bicentennial of the Constitution

Richard Morris of Indiana complained to Senator Lugar upon learning that Roger Jepsen was to head the Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Lugar responded with a bland note; Morris then wrote directly to you to voice his concern. Morris's interest apparently stems from his avocation as a serious collector of materials related to the 1787 Constitutional Convention.

The attached draft reply advises Morris that Jepsen will not be involved in the Bicentennial Commission.

Attachment

WASHINGTON

April 29, 1985

Dear Mr. Morris:

Thank you for your letters of April 1 and 19 regarding former Senator Jepsen and the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

Thank you for taking the time and effort to share your views on this matter with us.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mr. Richard O. Morris President The Rytex Company Post Office Box 786 Indianapolis, IN 46206

FFF:JGR:aea 4/29/85 bcc: FFFielding JGRoberts ✓ Subj Chron

WASHINGTON

April 29, 1985

Dear Mr. Morris:

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Thank you for taking the time and effort to share your views on this matter with us.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mr. Richard O. Morris President The Rytex Company Post Office Box 786 Indianapolis, IN 46206

FFF:JGR:aea 4/29/85 bcc: FFFielding JGRoberts Subj Chron

WASHINGTON

April 23, 1985

Dear Mr. Morris:

Thank you for your letter of April 1. In that letter you objected to reports that former Senator Roger Jepsen was to be appointed to some position related to the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

Please be advised that Mr. Jepsen will have no role with respect to the Commission. Thank you for taking the time and effort to share your views on this matter with us.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mr. Richard O. Morris President, The Rytex Company Post Office Box 786 Indianapolis, IN 46206

FFF:JGR:aea 4/23/85 bcc: FFFielding JGRoberts Subj

Chron

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450 N. CAPITOL AVE. / P.O. BOX 786 / INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206 / (317) 634-5588 / (800) 428-9289

308964 CC

April 1, 1985

Honorable Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Fielding:

I enclose copies of an exchange of correspondence with Senator Richard G. Lugar. This correspondence is largely self explanatory.

I earnestly appeal to your sense of propriety with respect to the appointment of Roger Jepson to any post related to the celebration of the Bicentennial of the Constitutional Convention of 1787. I cannot criticize Senator Lugar's reply to my original letter. As Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee of the United States Senate, he cannot afford to spend time on this kind of a matter. However, I am under no illusions about what the appointment of Mr. Jepson as a "consultant" really meant.

This appointment was extraordinarily distressing to those of us conservatives who have been supporters of President Reagan. Mr. Jepson's past behavior and the image which results therefrom make it almost impossible for us to think that the White House has very much concern about the importance of our Constitution.

Very truly yours,
Therard O. Morrer

Richard O. Morris

President

ROM/sm

cc: Mr. Bruce B. Melchert

SH 308 SENATE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510 202-224-4814 COMMITTEES:

AGRICULTURE, NUTRITION AND FORESTRY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

March 15, 1985

Mr. Richard O. Morris The Rytex Company P.O. Box 786 Indianapolis, IN 46206

Dear Mr. Morris:

Thank you for your letter of February 13, 1985, mentioning your interest in the Constitutional Bicentennial Commission. I do recall our short visits on the street during the Lincoln Day recess and your disapproval of the appointment of former Senator Roger Jepsen to head the Constitutional Bicentennial Commission.

Subsequently, the administration has discovered that the members of the Commission must select the chairman. Senator Jepsen is serving as a consultant while members of the Commission are selected. This is proving to be an arduous procedure and the fate of Senator Jepsen is uncertain.

I will register your thoughts with the White House and I appreciate your taking time to write.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Lugar

United States Senator

RGL/cr



450 N. CAPITOL AVE. J. P.O. BOX 786 / INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46206 / (317) 634-5588 / (800) 428-9289

February 13, 1985

Hon. Richard G. Lugar 206 Hart Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Lugar:

When we met on the street yesterday, were you surprised that I would have any interest at all in the Constitution Bicentennial Commission? For most of my adult life I have been a collector of original and scholarly materials related to the Constitutional Convention of 1787. In 1976 I gave my collection to the Lilly Rare Books Library at Indiana University. Since then I have continued collecting and these new materials will also go to the Lilly Library some time in the future.

With this background I have had an interest in the plans for the celebration of the 200th anniversary of the convention. We are planning a celebration in Indiana which will center around the outstanding collection of materials at the Lilly Library. I was appalled at the appointment of "Bathhouse" Roger Jepson to head the Bicentennial Commission. I realize that, following his defeat last November, the Republician Party had to "take care of" former Senator Jepson. Doing so in this manner, however, can only be interpreted by the general public as contempt for the Constitution by both President Reagan and the Republican party.

Anthony Lewis and Garry Wills have both written columns on this unfortunate appointment. They have an ax to grind with the Republican Party; I do not. I know you are terribly busy with your new responsibility as Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. However, I hope you can find time to let President Reagan know that liberal newspaper columinsts are not the only ones who feel that it is quite important that this appointment be reversed. I appreciate your help.

Very truly yours,

Richard O. Morris President

ROM/sm

WASHINGTON

May 16, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Videotape Message Regarding ABA and Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution

The attached approves a Presidential introduction to the KQED/ABA series on the Constitution, as discussed at this morning's staff meeting.

Attachment

WASHINGTON

May 16, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FREDERICK J. RYAN. JR.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SCHEDULING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING Orig. signed by FFF

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Videotape Message Regarding ABA and

Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution

You have asked for my views on whether the President should tape an introduction to the planned comprehensive media project "We the People," jointly sponsored by public television station KQED, Inc., and the American Bar Association. "We the People," centering on eight 60-minute television programs, will explore the major themes of the Constitution in commemoration of the bicentennial of its drafting.

I have no legal objection to the President taping an introduction to the series, and recommend that he do so. It is my view that the President should be as closely identified as possible with the celebration of the bicentennial of the Constitution. Such identification is not only entirely appropriate as a general matter, but also provides an opportunity for the President to articulate his views on the Constitution and the system of government it established. The celebration of the bicentennial is likely to occasion spirited and broad discussion about the nature of our government, and the President should participate actively in that discussion.

The text of the President's introduction should focus on the Constitution itself and the bicentennial rather than the television programs. This office would be happy to participate in preparing the President's remarks.

FFF:JGR:aea 5/16/85

cc: FFFielding JGRoberts

Subj Chron

WASHINGTON

May 16, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SCHEDULING

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FFF:JGR:aea 5/16/85

cc: FFFielding JGRoberts

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).

Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.

Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

WASHINGTON

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Peter D. Hannaford 655 Fifteenth Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005 202/638-4600

April 22, 1985

The Honorable
Pat Buchanan
Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Pat,

The enclosed material comes from Bob Daggett, a senior partner in Brobeck, Phleger & Harrison, a major San Francisco law firm, and a friend of long standing (he was best man in our wedding). He is working with the American Bar association on a media project in connection with the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution and is wondering if the President would be interested in taping an introduction. I pass it on as an amicus curiae. If there is interest in the project, I suggest you have someone contact him direct. His telephone number is 415/434-0900.

Huter D. F.

Sincerely,

PDH:aca

Enclosure

WASHINGTON

May 16, 1985



MEMORANDUM FOR FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SCHEDULING

DIRECTOR, TRESIDERITAD SCHEDOLING

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Videotape Message Regarding ABA and

Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution

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The text of the President's introduction should focus on the Constitution itself and the bicentennial rather than the television programs. This office would be happy to participate in preparing the President's remarks.

take in January an introduction plus an interview for body of program

Sr. Produce: David Kenard Sr. Reporter: William Turner

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WASHINGTON

June 25, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

ROBERT H. TUTTLE PC

SUBJECT:

Presidential Appointments

Attached for your signature are commissions of appointment for the following individuals to be Members of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, new positions:

> Frederick K. Biebel, of Connecticut. Betty Southard Murphy, of Virginia. Phyllis Schlafly, of Illinois. Bernard H. Siegan, of California. Ronald H. Walker, of Maryland. Charles Alan Wright, of Texas.

Upon the recommendation of Warren E. Burger, Chief Justice of the Supreme Court:

Herbert Brownell, of New York. Cornelia G. Kennedy, of Michigan. Obert Clark Tanner, of Utah. Charles E. Wiggins, of California.

Upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, in consultation with the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate:

Harry McKinley Lightsey, Jr., of South Carolina. Edward P. Morgan, of Maryland. Theodore Fulton Stevens, of Alaska.

Upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in consultation with the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives:

Lynne Anne Vincent Cheney, of Wyoming. Philip M. Crane, of Illinois. William Jospeh Green, of Pennsylvania. Thomas Henry O'Connor, of Massachusetts.

Also attached for your signature is an order designating Warren E. Burger, Chief Justice of the United States, as the Chairman.

You approved these appointments April 1, 1985. All necessary clearances have been completed.

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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Richard J. Douglas 707 Marshall Avenue Rockville, Md. 20851

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W. Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Fielding:

Early this Spring I wrote to your office to volunteer my efforts in connection with any activities planned to celebrate our Constitutional Bicentennial.

If your office is as swamped with work as I imagine it must be, I can well understand why I have received no response.

However, since I am quite interested in the occasion, and noting that the President recently has appointed a Commission headed by the Chief Justice to oversee the festivities, I want to ensure that your office, or other appropriate office, can find me, if you think you can use me.

Thus, I want to advise you of my recent change of address and home phone number. The new address and phone are:

707 Marshall Avenue Rockville, Md. 20851

(301) 424-4322

I am also enclosing my business phone and address, for your general information:

National Association of Stevedores 2011 I Street N.W. Suite 601 Washington, D.C. 20006

(202) 296-2810

I thank you very much for your kind attention, and look forward to hearing from your office in the future.

Respectfully yours,

Richard D. Douglas

WASHINGTON



July 8, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR BEN ELLIOTT

DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT DIRECTOR, PRESIDENTIAL SPEECHWRITING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Presidential Article on the Constitution for Parade Magazine: 200th Anniversary

of the Republic

Counsel's Office has reviewed the above-referenced proposed article. Our first concern is with the title, "200th Anniversary of the Republic." The government of the United States under the Articles of Confederation was a republic, in that such authority as the United States possessed was exercised by elected representatives. The article should be entitled the "200th Anniversary of the Constitution." I would also delete the dashed clause in the first sentence, since "our birth as a republic operating under certain laws aimed at ensuring the maximum of personal freedom in our country" did not, strictly speaking, occur in 1787. Indeed, it has been frequently argued that the Articles of Confederation failed precisely because they granted too much freedom to the people and the States and not enough power to central government.

I would delete the first full paragraph on page 2, with its reference to a constitutional convention. The President has generally avoided comment on the controversial call for such a convention to adopt a balanced budget amendment. By some counts we are only one state short of the total needed to call such a convention, which would be rife with legal uncertainties.

The second sentence on page 3 is inaccurate in stating "we're almost 200 years old." The United States as a nation was, of course, born in 1776. I would also change "as our republic begins its third century" in the second paragraph on page 3 to "as our Constitution enters its third century."

cc: David L. Chew

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Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

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| Document | NO. | | | | |

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

| DATE: | 7/3/85 | ACTIO | N/CONCUR | RENCE/CO | MMENT DU | EBY: | 5:00 | pm, | Monday | , July | <u>, 8</u> |
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SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE: 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC

PARADE MAGAZINE ARTICLE (June 26, 5:00 pm draf

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| VICE PRESIDENT | | | LACY | | |
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| HENKEL | O | | ELLIOTT | | |
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REMARKS:

Please submit your comments to Ben Elliott with an information copy to my office by 5:00 p.m. Monday, July 8. Thank you.

RESPONSE:

Received 3 S

PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE: 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC PARADE MAGAZINE ARTICLE

As we approach the 200th anniversary of our Constitution — not of our birth as a nation but our birth as a republic operating under certain laws aimed at ensuring the maximum of personal freedom in our country — I can't help but muse on the genius of our Founders. And it reminds me that I have a great hope for the children of our country today: that they will read the works of Madison and Monroe, of Jefferson and Adams and Hamilton. Read their letters to each other, and their essays; for in their arguments and opinions, so passionately stated, the image of an age can be discerned — and the image of a great nation.

The Founders believed first and foremost in freedom, which they approached as both an abstraction and a practical reality. They created, with a sureness and originality so great and pure that one inescapably perceives the guiding hand of God, the first political system that made it clear that power flows from the people to the state -- and not the other way around. They created a system in which We, The People granted the state certain rights -- the state itself would not be the granter of rights but the recipient, from the people, of certain powers.

There was a profound cleanliness to their construction; it reflected a moving and yet utterly realistic respect for men and women and the freedom God meant them to have; and it has served us well for almost two centuries now. In fact, our U.S.

Constitution is the oldest still-governing document in the world.

It doesn't really need our praise, our Constitution -- its

longevity is testimony enough to its legitimacy.

There is much talk these days of a second Constitutional Convention, and the need to change this portion of the document and that. But I'll tell you: I wouldn't "improve it" too much. I don't believe in fixing what isn't broken.

There are some things we might add -- such as a Constitutional amendment for a balanced budget. I believe such an amendment is, at this point, our only hope in forcing the government to cut costs, control spending, and thereby limit the amount of money the government can take from we, the taxpayers.

2

For my part, I see much of the great work ahead of us as a continual attempt to enhance and enhance again the measure of freedom enjoyed by the men and women of our country. Like the Founders, like most people, I appreciate freedom as an abstraction, but I am also deeply aware of its practical benefits. When we reform our tax system -- when we make it fairer and clearer and succeed in lowering the tax rates for the majority of Americans -- then we will be moving toward more freedom for the people of our country. When we lower tax rates for small businesses, for instance, we will be increasing their power to reap profits and create jobs -- and that, too, will be a contribution to personal freedom. This reform will, in my view, offer a Second American Revolution of hope and opportunity for all.

And so there is so much to do, so much is ahead of us. And in spite of the fact that we're almost 200 years old, America still has the vitality of a strapping young man and a vibrant young woman. As a matter of fact, I sometimes see America as Mary Lou Retton going for a ten, her spirit and exhuberance uncontained and uncontainable.

So you can put me down as bullish in the bully pulpit.

There are nights, now that the summer is here, when Nancy and I sit out on the Truman balcony and watch the sun set. The balcony offers a view of the rolling lawns of the White House, and the strong old trees that surround it, and sometimes I find my gaze drawn to a beautiful blossoms. The tree was planted by Andrew Jackson, and I think sometimes how he took the seeds in his hand and worked a small place for them in the soil and pressed them in. And maybe he stood up then and regarded his work; and I wonder if he could have imagined that years later one of his successors — the successor, in fact, who would serve as President as our republic begins its third century — would be the beneficiary of his gentle work.

But then we all are the beneficiaries of his work, and the work of Jefferson and Madison and Adams and Franklin and Hamilton; and the nation whose seeds they so lovingly planted still yields the most beautiful blossoms; and for that we must truly be thankful.

WASHINGTON

July 8, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence Offer of Services in Connection with the Bicentennial of the Constitution

The President-General of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence has written you to offer the services of that organization in connection with the Bicentennial of the Constitution. There is, according to General Kennedy, no active society of descendants of the signers of the Constitution, so her society is prepared to fill the breach, apparently under some notion of geneological cy pres (and also because several signers of the Declaration also signed the Constitution). A Mrs. William Light of McLean is listed as the appropriate person to contact.

The attached draft reply advises General Kennedy of the existence of the Bicentennial Commission, under the recently announced chairmanship of the Chief Justice. Also attached is a brief note to Mark Cannon, transmitting General Kennedy's letter.

Attachment

WASHINGTON

July 8, 1985

Dear Mrs. Kennedy:

Thank you for your letter of June 15, volunteering the services of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence in connection with the observance of the Bicentennial of the Constitution.

By Public Law 98-101, Congress established the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution, "to promote and coordinate activities to commemorate the bicentennial of the Constitution." The President recently announced the membership of the Commission, and designated the Chief Justice to serve as Chairman. A copy of this announcement is enclosed for your information.

In light of the responsibilities of the Commission, I have taken the liberty of referring your gracious offer of assistance to the office of the Chief Justice.

Thank you for advising us of the willingness of your organization to assist in the bicentennial observances.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mrs. Dorothy S. Kennedy President-General Soc. DSDI, Inc. East Meadow Lane, RFD 1 Pembroke, NH 03275

Enclosure FFF:JGR:aea 7/8/85

cc: FFFielding JGRoberts Subj Chron

WASHINGTON

July 8, 1985

Dear Mark:

I am enclosing a letter addressed to me from the President-General of the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, offering the assistance of that organization in connection with the bicentennial of the Constitution. In light of the Chief Justice's responsibilities as Chairman of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution, I thought it best to refer the correspondence to him, and have advised Mrs. Kennedy that I have done so.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Dr. Mark Cannon
Administrative Assistant
to the Chief Justice
Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20543

Enclosure

FFF:JGR:aea 7/8/85 cc: FFFielding JGRoberts Subj Chron ndeparto

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President-General,
MRS. PHILLIP F. KENNEDY
East Meadow Lane, RFD 1, Pembroke, NH 03275

First Vice President-General, RIEMAN McNAMARA, JR. 8964 Tarrytown Dr., Richmond, VA 23229

BENJAMIN HARRISON WALKER 108 East 82nd St., New York, NY 10028

Chaplain-General,
THE REVEREND HAROLD BEND SEDGWICK
Blueberry Lane, Lincoln Centre, MA 01773

Registrar-General, MISS VIRGINIA E. CAMPBELL Box 55169, Fort Washington, MD 20744 Assistant Registrar-General,
MRS. JOHN C. ALLNUTT
227 Great Falls Rd., Rockville, MD 20850

Historian-General, PHILIP SCHUYLER PYNE

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Assistant Historian-General, MRS. JOSEPH B. HAUCK 117 W. Allen's Lane, Philadelphia, PA 19119

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Chancellor-General, EDWARD RIDLEY FINCH, JR. 36 W. 44th St., New York, NY 10036

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PERCY HAMILTON GOODSELL, JR. Cheshire, CT 06410

REAR ADM. SCHUYLER N. PYNE, USN. RET. Annapolis, MD

FRANKLIN BACHE SATTERTHWAITE New York, NY

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Mrs. David F. Cowan Indianapolis, IN Annapolis, MD Philadelphia, PA McLean, VA Jacksonville. FL Mrs. Earl N. Mullen Miss Eleanor R. Hall Springfield, PA West Chester, P Mrs. Robert M. Hawkridge William B. Abert Rockville, MD

June 15, 1985

Mr. Fred Fielding Chrm. BiCentennial USA c/o The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20001

My dear Mr. Fielding,

At the recent Annual Congress of the Society for the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, the membership expressed a desire to participate actively in the Commemorative preparations and celebrations for the BiCentennial of the Constitution.

There is no active Society for Descendants of the Signers of the Constitution, however more than 100 members of the Society for the Descendants of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence have a dual heritage, descending from one of the following: Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, George Read, George Clymer and Roger Sherman.

Mrs. William R. Light has knowledge of several original items peretaining to the men who signed the Constitution. She is extremely interested in the listing of these paintings, artifacs and memorabilia, that they may be made known to the public.

Mrs. Light would also make available to you the names of members of the DSDI who agree to work with her and with you should you agree to accept their services.

Her address is: Mrs. William R. Light 1113 Waverly Way

McLean, Virginia 22101

Thank you for your attention to my letter. I, too, shall be most pleased to participate in any way that I can.

Sincerely yours,

Dorothy S. Kennedy President-General

Soc. DSDI, Inc.

cc: Mr. Frank Hodsell

Ms. Sheila Mann Mr. Wm. Ward,IV

Mrs. Hans Bielenstein

WASHINGTON

July 8, 1985

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Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Dr. Mark Cannon
Administrative Assistant
to the Chief Justice
Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20543

Enclosure

FFF:JGR:aea 7/8/85 cc: FFFielding JGRoberts Subj Chron

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In light of the responsibilities of the Commission, I have taken the liberty of referring your gracious offer of assistance to the office of the Chief Justice.

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Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mrs. Dorothy S. Kennedy
President-General
Soc. DSDI, Inc.
East Meadow Lane, RFD 1
Pembroke, NH 03275
Enclosure
FFF:JGR:aea 7/8/85
cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
Subj
Chron

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 25, 1985

The President today announced his intention to appoint the following individuals to be Members of the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution. The President also intends to designate Chief Justice Warren E. Burger as Chairman, who is a member by law.

FREDERICK K. BIEBEL is Executive Vice President and Treasurer of the International Republican Cooperation Fund in Washington, D.C. He was born April 5, 1926 in Bridgeport, Connecticut, and now resides in Stratford, Connecticut.

BETTY SOUTHARD MURPHY is Partner in the law firm of Baker & Hostetler in Washington, D.C. She was born March 1, 1928 in East Orange, New Jersey, and now resides in Alexandria, Virginia.

PHYLLIS SCHLAFLY is President of Eagle Forum in Washington, D.C. She was born August 15, 1924 in St. Louis, Missouri, and now resides in Alton, Illinois.

BERNARD H. SIEGAN is Distinguished Professor of Law at the University of San Diego. He was born July 28, 1924 in Chicago, Illinois, and now resides in La Jolla, California.

RONALD H. WALKER is Managing Director and Partner of Korn/Ferry International in Washington, D.C. He was born July 25, 1937 in Bryan, Texas and now resides in Potomac, Maryland.

CHARLES ALAN WRIGHT is Professor of Law at the University of Texas at Austin. He was born September 3, 1927 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and now resides in Austin, Texas.

Upon the recommendation of Warren E. Burger, Chief Justice of the United States:

HERBERT BROWNELL is currently of Counsel with the law firm of Lord, Day and Lord in New York City. He was born February 20, 1904 in Peru, Nebraska, and now resides in New York City.

CORNELIA G. KENNEDY is currently U.S. Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit. She was born August 4, 1923 in Detroit, Michigan, and now resides in Grosse Pointe Woods, Michigan.

OBERT CLARK TANNER is Founder and Chairman of the Board of OC Tanner & Company. He was born September 20, 1904 in Farmington, Utah, and now resides in Salt Lake City, Utah.

CHARLES EDWARD WIGGINS is currently U.S. Circuit Judge for the Ninth Circuit. He was born December 3, 1927 in El Monte, California, and now resides in San Francisco, California.

Upon the recommendation of the President Pro Tempore of the Senate, in consultation with the Majority Leader and Minority Leader of the Senate:

HARRY MCKINLEY LIGHTSEY, JR. is Dean, University of South Carolina School of Law. He was born December 27, 1931 in Columbia, South Carolina, and now resides in West Columbia, South Carolina.

EDWARD P. MORGAN is owner of the law firm of Welch & Morgan of Washington, D.C. He was born May 28, 1913 in St. Louis, Missouri, and now resides in Bethesda, Maryland.

THEODORE FULTON STEVENS is a U.S. Senator for the State of Alaska. He was born November 18, 1923 in Indianapolis, Indiana, and now resides in Chevy Chase, Maryland.

Upon the recommendation of the Speaker of the House of Representatives in consultation with the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives:

LYNNE ANNE VINCENT CHENEY is currently Senior Editor of the Washingtonian Magazine. She was born January 14, 1941 in Casper, Wyoming, and now resides in Washington, D.C.

PHILIP M. CRANE is U.S. Representative for the 12th District of Illinois. He was born November 3, 1930 in Chicago, Illinois, and now resides in Washington, D.C.

WILLIAM JOSEPH GREEN is an attorney with the firm of Wolf, Block, Schorr & Solis-Cohen of Philadelphia. He was born June 6, 1938 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and still resides there.

THOMAS HENRY O'CONNOR is a Professor of History at Boston College. He was born December 9, 1922 in Boston, Massachusetts, and resides in Braintree, Massachusetts.



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WASHINGTON

July 9, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Article on 200th Anniversary of the Constitution for Parade Magazine

Attached is a revised draft of the proposed brief article by the President for Parade Magazine on the 200th Anniversary of the Constitution. The changes suggested in the first and third paragraph of my memorandum of July 8 (copy attached) have been made. The change suggested in the second paragraph -- deleting what is now the first paragraph on page 2 -- has not been made. I thought (and think) it best not to mention the call for a Constitutional Convention at all, but the statement in the draft does not support such a call; indeed, if anything, it suggests opposition. Accordingly, I do not feel strongly about dropping that paragraph. I have reiterated the suggestion in the attached draft for your signature (the original draft was staffed for my direct reply, hence my memorandum of July 8; this revised draft was staffed for a reply for your signature).

Attachment

WASHINGTON

July 9, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID L. CHEW

STAFF SECRETARY

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

Origa signed by FFF

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Article on 200th Anniversary of the

Constitution for Parade Magazine

I have reviewed the revised draft of the proposed Presidential article for Parade Magazine. I would still drop the reference to a second constitutional convention in the first paragraph on page 2. I am opposed to such a convention, so I have no quarrel with the thrust of the paragraph, but I think the better course would be to avoid mentioning the subject at all.

FFF:JGR:aea 7/9/85

cc: FFFielding

JGRoberts

Subj Chron

WASHINGTON

July 9, 1985

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STAFF SECRETARY

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JGRoberts

Subj Chron

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| Comments: | | | | |

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IMMEDIATE

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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RESPONSE:

DATE: 7/9/85

(Noonan/BE) July 9, 1985 11:30 a.m.

PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE:

PRESIDENTIAL ARTICLE: 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONSTITUTION PARADE MAGAZINE ARTICLE

As we approach the 200th anniversary of our Constitution, I can't help but muse on the genius of our Founders. And it reminds me that I have a great hope for the children of our country today: that they will read the works of Madison and Monroe, of Washington and Jefferson and Adams and Hamilton. Read their letters to each other, and their essays; for in their arguments and opinions, so passionately stated, the image of an age can be discerned — and the image of a great nation.

The Founders believed first and foremost in freedom, which they approached as both an abstraction and a practical reality. They created, with a sureness and originality so great and pure, the first political system that made it clear that power flows from the people to the state -- and not the other way around. They created a system in which We, The People granted the state certain rights -- the state itself would not be the granter of rights but the recipient, from the people, of certain powers.

There was a profound cleanliness to their construction; it reflected a moving and realistic respect for mankind and the freedom God meant us to have; and it has served us well for almost two centuries now. In fact, our U.S. Constitution is the oldest still-governing document in the world. It doesn't really need our praise, our Constitution -- its longevity is testimony enough to its legitimacy.

There is much talk these days of a second Constitutional Convention, and the need to change this portion of the document and that. But I'll tell you: I wouldn't "improve it" too much. I don't believe in fixing what isn't broken.

There are some things we might add -- such as a Constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget. I believe such an amendment is, at this point, our only hope in forcing the government to cut costs, control spending, and thereby limit the amount of money it can extract from we, the taxpayers.

For my part, I see much of the great work ahead of us as a continual attempt to enhance and enhance again the measure of freedom enjoyed by the men and women of our country. Like the Founders, like most people, I appreciate freedom as an abstraction, but I am also deeply aware of its practical benefits. When we reform our tax system — when we make it fairer and clearer and succeed in lowering the tax rates for the majority of Americans — then we will be moving toward more freedom for the people of our country. When we lower tax rates for small businesses, for instance, we will be increasing their power to reap profits and create jobs — and that, too, will be a contribution to personal freedom. This reform will, in my view, offer a Second American Revolution of hope and opportunity for all.

And so there is so much to do, so much is ahead of us. And in spite of the fact that our Constitution is almost 200 years old, America still has the vitality of a strapping young man and a vibrant young woman. As a matter of fact, I sometimes see

America as Mary Lou Retton going for a ten, her spirit and exuberance uncontained and uncontainable.

So you can put me down as bullish in the bully pulpit.

There are nights, now that the summer is here, when Nancy and I sit out on the Truman balcony and watch the sun set. The balcony offers a view of the rolling lawns of the White House, and the strong old trees that surround it, and sometimes I find my gaze drawn to an old magnolia that still yields the most beautiful blossoms. The tree was planted during the administration of Andrew Jackson, and I sometimes imagine how he took the seeds in his hand and worked a small place for them in the soil and pressed them in. And maybe he stood up then and regarded his work; and I wonder if he could have imagined that years later one of his successors — the successor, in fact, who would serve as President as our Constitution begins its third century — would be the beneficiary of his gentle work.

But then we all are the beneficiaries of his work, and the works of Jefferson and Madison and Adams and Franklin and Hamilton; and the nation whose seeds they so lovingly planted still yields the most beautiful blossoms; and for that we must truly be thankful.