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**Collection:** Roberts, John G.: Files  
**Folder Title:** Correspondence, Miscellaneous  
(03/09/1984-03/31/1984)  
**Box:** 13

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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** ROBERTS, JOHN: FILES

**Withdrawer**

RBW 8/5/2005

**File Folder** CORRESPONDENCE, MISCELLANEOUS (03/09/1984 - 03/31/1984)

**FOIA**

F05-139/01

**Box Number**

COOK

37RW

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions	
1	MEMO	JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE. CORRESPONDENCE FROM JOHN STEEL	1	3/9/1984	B6	617
2	MEMO	JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE. MONEY OWED TO THE ACADEMIC FINAN. SVCS. ASSOC.	1	3/5/1984	B6	619
3	MEMO	JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE. RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ASSIST THE GOVT. AS AN UNDERCOVER AGENT AND GOVT. WITNESSES	2	3/27/1984	B6	621
4	MEMO	FRED F. FIELDING TO D. LOWELL JENSEN RE. RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ASSIST THE GOVT. AS AN UNDERCOVER AGENT AND GOVT. WITNESSES	1	3/27/1984	B6	622
5	LETTER	JOHN PATRICK RUSSELL TO PRESIDENT REAGAN RE. RIGHTS OF UNDERCOVER AGENTS	3	2/7/1984	B6	624
6	LETTER	FRANK W. DONALDSON AND MICHAEL V. RASMUSSEN RE. ASSISTANCE IN INVEST. AND PROSECUTION OF CASE	1	9/22/1982	B6	625

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

E.O. 13233

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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## Ronald Reagan Library

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DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions	
7	LETTER	WILLIS M. DEFFENBAUGH TO JOHN RUSSELL RE. APPRECIATION FOR ASSIST. IN CASE	1	2/3/1984	B6	627
8	NOTES		1	ND	B6	628

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RB 8/5/2005

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*FOIA*

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*DOC Document Type*

*NO Document Description*

*No of  
pages*

*Doc Date*

*Restric-  
tions*

1 MEMO

1 3/9/1984 B6

617

JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE.  
CORRESPONDENCE FROM JOHN STEEL

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JV

WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING  
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1

*JR - your advice, ps*

*Ed has handed previous copies forwarded to Schmeltz*

Name of Correspondent: John A. Steel

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Writes President regarding alleged "cover-up" of tampering with Government Records

ROUTE TO: Office/Agency (Staff Name)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CWHOLL</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>84,02,08</u>		<u>1/1</u>
<u>WAT18</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>84,02,08</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>84,02,18</u>
		<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>
		<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>
		<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>

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  - C - Comment/Recommendation
  - D - Draft Response
  - F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
  - I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
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  - Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: see 171025CW ~~202707~~ (+ other previous)

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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*Withdrawer*

RB 8/5/2005  
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03/31/1984)

*FOIA*

F05-139/01  
COOK

*Box Number*

37RW

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*DOC Document Type*

*NO Document Description*

*No of  
pages*

*Doc Date*

*Restrictions*

2 MEMO

1 3/5/1984 B6

619

JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE.  
MONEY OWED TO THE ACADEMIC FINAN. SVCS.  
ASSOC.

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 5, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR MAUREEN CORCORAN  
GENERAL COUNSEL  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *Orig. signed by FFF*  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Francis Reese Correspondence Concerning  
Money His Daughter Owes to the Academic  
Financial Services Association

The attached is submitted for whatever consideration and action you deem appropriate. We have not responded to Mr. Reese, and have no continuing interest in this matter.

Attachment

FFF:JGR:aea 3/5/84

cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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FI00503

WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING  
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1

JP

Name of Correspondent: Mrs. Francis J. Reese, Jr. (Mary)

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Towards information regarding money her daughter owes to the Academic Financial Services Assn.

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CW Holland</u>		<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>84102113</u>		<u>1/1</u>
<u>CWAT18</u>		<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>84102114</u>		<u>584102124</u>
		<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>
		<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>
		<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>

**ACTION CODES:**  
 A - Appropriate Action  
 C - Comment/Recommendation  
 D - Draft Response  
 F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary  
 R - Direct Reply w/Copy  
 S - For Signature  
 X - Interim Reply

**DISPOSITION CODES:**  
 A - Answered  
 B - Non-Special Referral  
 C - Completed  
 S - Suspended

**FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**  
 Type of Response = Initials of Signer  
 Code = "A"  
 Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.  
 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.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 5, 1984

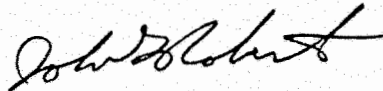
Dear Mr. Fant:

Your letter of February 14, 1984 to James A. Baker, III, Chief of Staff and Assistant to the President, has been referred to me for consideration and response. Along with that letter you enclosed a copy of a letter you sent to the judge who presided over litigation involving your company, New Process Steel Corporation. That letter noted your objections to the judge's decision to overturn a jury verdict in favor of New Process Steel, and announced your decision to appeal.

Please be advised that White House policy does not permit any intervention by members of the White House staff on behalf of private parties with respect to matters those parties have pending before the courts. The purpose of this policy is to maintain public confidence in the impartial administration of our laws.

I hope you will appreciate the reasons the White House cannot become involved in your pending litigation.

Sincerely,



John G. Roberts  
Associate Counsel to the  
President

Mr. Eugene R. Fant  
President, New Process  
Steel Corporation  
Post Office Box 55205  
Houston, TX 77055

bcc: Katherine Camalier

JV

# WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

*JR 002*  
*R - direct response to Fant*

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING  
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: Eugene R. Fant

MI Mail Report      User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Overturning of case by Judge David Hittner (letter to Jim Baker)

### ROUTE TO:

### ACTION

### DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CU Holland</u>	<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>84102124</u>			<u>1 1</u>
<u>CU ATIS</u>	<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>84102125</u>		<u>S</u>	<u>84103106</u>
	<u>Referral Note:</u>				<u>1 1</u>
	<u>Referral Note:</u>				<u>1 1</u>
	<u>Referral Note:</u>				<u>1 1</u>

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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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Fielding

*APD*  
NEW PROCESS STEEL CORPORATION

EUGENE R. FANT  
PRESIDENT

P.O. BOX 55205  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77055  
(713) 686-9631

February 14, 1984

James A. Baker, III  
Chief of Staff and Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

208639 *cu*

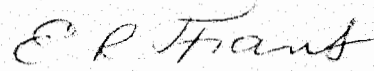
Dear Mr. Baker:

You might not remember, but we have met on a few occasions and my son, Richard, was a good friend of your son, Doug, when they attended Kinkaid. I have also written Vice-President Bush who might also be interested in the outcome of a lawsuit I have had recently.

I am enclosing a copy of a letter I am sending to Judge Hittner of the 133rd District Court of Harris County, and it is almost self-explanatory. We were involved in one of the longer trials in Harris County, and were pleased with the outcome when the jury sided with us, who were the plaintiffs. The jurors and I feel that the overturn by Judge Hittner was a gross miscarriage of justice, and I have started a campaign to let anyone know who might be interested.

Thank you for your time of reading my message, and being a staunch Republican supporter, I know you will be assisting President Reagan for another four years. If I can be of any help, please let me know.

Sincerely,



Eugene R. Fant  
President

ERF/pe  
Enclosure

# NEW PROCESS STEEL CORPORATION

P. O. Box 55205  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77055-5205  
TELEPHONE: 713/686-9631

February 14, 1984

The Honorable Judge David Hittner  
133rd District Court  
301 Fannin  
Houston, Texas 77002

Dear Judge Hittner:

I have been wanting to write you for several weeks now but have been waiting until such a time that the appeal on the SCOT lawsuit was filed and you would have no further responsibility on this case.

We were very pleased when we heard that you accepted to hear this case inasmuch as my attorneys, Don Richie and Roger Greenberg, informed me what a high regard they had for you. I personally was impressed on how fairly you handled the trial and gave each side, whether right or wrong, a fair day in court. If I felt in any way that New Process Steel Corporation and/or Gene Fant was wrong in any part of this lawsuit, I wouldn't be writing this letter.

As stated above, I feel each side had more than their fair chance to present their evidence. A jury of our peers was selected and they heard the evidence for almost 13 weeks, and we were naturally delighted with their verdict.

I never knew, nor did the jury realize, that a judge can overturn a verdict. After the trial was over, I had an opportunity to discuss your judgment with the jury and they were appalled. I have letters on my desk from several of them who said they were going to let it be known to their congressmen, senators, and the public, what a miscarriage of justice occurred when you overturned their verdict.

The jury had 26 issues to decide upon and they voted to go with the plaintiff, New Process Steel Corporation. These issues were prepared by both parties and the court over several days and I feel, as did the jury, that the issues and the verdict should have been adhered to.

As stated above, inasmuch as these issues were prepared by the court with the help of both plaintiff and defendant, the decision on these issues should stand. The damages outlined in the issues were only a part of what New Process and Gene Fant actually sustained. The legal fees that were granted were less than 30% of the legal fees that we had paid to our attorneys.

The Honorable Judge David Hittner  
February 14, 1984  
Page 2

You heard the evidence as did the jury and the parties in the lawsuit. Mr. Kiefer and I came to a very fair agreement and SCOT was foolish not to honor it. Before I came into the picture, SCOT had virtually nothing and I gave them an opportunity to get \$1.5 million five years later. When SCOT found out that they had a possibility of getting more, they became greedy and concocted the story that Bob Kiefer and I colluded to defraud SCOT out of their money. If they would have liquidated right before I came on the picture, they probably would have gotten less than \$.5 million. Mr. Kiefer was always acting on behalf of SCOT and we battled on many issues on which we came to a settlement.

SCOT and NVF are very rich companies and were in hopes, with their unlimited amount of resources for legal expenses, that they could make Mr. Kiefer and I bow to their wishes. The whole trial was proof that New Process and Gene Fant acted in good faith and that NVF and SCOT were telling lies.

As I told you above, the jury is very incensed with the fact that they spent almost 13 weeks of their time and the verdict was thrown out the window. I have been keeping them informed of the status of your judgment and naturally how unfair I thought it was.

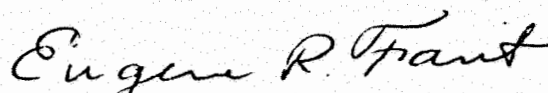
I believe from the bottom of my heart that you will be criticized for overturning this judgment and I am going to do everything in my power to let everyone that will listen to me, from the President of the United States down to every lawyer I know, what a miscarriage of justice, in my opinion, your judgment was. I know Vice-President George Bush, personally, who was my neighbor for many years and have a personal friendship with Governor Mark White. I am not saying these might do me any good, but I will bend everyone's ear because I just can't understand the final result of our trial.

We appealed in order to preserve our legal rights. Without this appeal, your abuse of your powers would go unchecked. At this point, I do not know what our opponents are going to do but your judgment is going to cost both of us many hundreds of thousands of dollars in unnecessary legal expenses. I am personally dedicated to see that justice prevails. If New Process or Gene Fant did anything that was improper, we should have lost.

I would like to spend a couple of hours of your time with or without my attorneys discussing this matter, if you would give me the privilege. I will be waiting your reply.

Sincerely yours,

NEW PROCESS STEEL CORPORATION



Eugene R. Fant  
President

ERF/wlh

The Honorable Judge David Hittner  
February 14, 1984  
Page 3

cc: Vice President Bush  
Governor Mark White  
Senator John Tower  
Senator Lloyd Bentsen  
James A. Baker, III, Chief of Staff & Assistant to the President  
All 13 jurors in trial: Dorothy B. Whitley  
Helen Bates Rider  
Walter Joseph Wilson, Jr.  
Marcia Crews Tait  
Bessie Christeen Weaver  
June W. Varner  
Barbara S. Boylston  
Joseph Herman Doucet  
Douglas Lane Hirsch  
Claudia Kay Aldridge  
Patricia Z. Slone  
Donald Wayne Cylark  
Robert William Alston

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS 

SUBJECT: Violation of Constitutional, Civil  
and Human Rights

You have received another letter from John J. Pelczarski of New Bedford, Massachusetts. Mr. Pelczarski writes government officials periodically with somewhat opaque complaints about violations of his various rights. On September 29, 1982, and March 4, 1983, our office referred Pelczarski's correspondence to the Deputy Attorney General, and I recommend doing the same with this latest -- but probably not last -- letter from him.

Attachment



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR D. LOWELL JENSEN  
ACTING DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
Orig. signed by FFF

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Violation of Constitutional, Civil  
and Human Rights

On September 29, 1982, and March 4, 1983, this office referred to the Deputy Attorney General correspondence from John J. Pelczarski, for whatever action might be appropriate. Attached is further correspondence from Mr. Pelczarski. As with our earlier referrals, the correspondence is submitted for whatever action, if any, you consider appropriate. We have no continuing interest in this matter.

Many thanks.

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FFF:JGR:aea 3/15/84  
cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

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**WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

JR  
JL003

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: John J. Palazanski

MI Mail Report      User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Violation of Constitutional, Civil and Human Rights

ROUTE TO:		ACTION	DISPOSITION		
Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>W Holland</u>		ORIGINATOR	<u>8410312</u>		<u>1 1</u>
<u>CVAT18</u>		Referral Note:	<u>Cont. corresp</u>		
			<u>8410314</u>		<u>58410314</u>
		Referral Note:			
			<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		Referral Note:			
			<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		Referral Note:			
			<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		Referral Note:			

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Comments: See Previous IDs  
099917W, 124553CW, 056326

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT:

Media Requests for Copies of Reports  
on Alaska Railroads, Administrator of  
Veterans Affairs, and FEMA

In the last several months K. William O'Connor, Special Counsel of the Merit Systems Protection Board, has had occasion to send to the President three reports concerning allegations brought within his jurisdiction. In each case the reports reflected O'Connor's determination that the allegations had been dealt with in a satisfactory manner by the pertinent agencies, and no further action was necessary or taken by the President. As required by statute, O'Connor also sent copies of his reports to Congress, and this fact was noted in the Congressional Record. Those notices prompted a media request for the reports, and O'Connor complied with the request. O'Connor wrote you on March 7, simply to alert you to the media interest.

I have prepared a brief response to O'Connor, thanking him for advising us of the media request for the three reports. The reports themselves are not particularly noteworthy, and do not involve high-ranking Administration officials. I do not foresee any significant media interest.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1984

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your letter of March 7. In that letter you noted that you had, in response to a media request, released copies of reports referred to the President by you on December 20, 1983, and February 3 and 7, 1984.

We appreciate being advised of this action on your part. Again, many thanks.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding  
Counsel to the President

The Honorable K. William O'Connor  
Special Counsel  
U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board  
1120 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20419

FFF:JGR:aea 3/15/84  
bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 15, 1984

Dear Bill:

Thank you for your letter of March 7. In that letter you noted that you had, in response to a media request, released copies of reports referred to the President by you on December 20, 1983, and February 3 and 7, 1984.

We appreciate being advised of this action on your part. Again, many thanks.

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1120 Vermont Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20419

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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

*Collection Name*

ROBERTS, JOHN: FILES

*Withdrawer*

RB 8/5/2005  
W

*File Folder*

CORRESPONDENCE, MISCELLANEOUS (03/09/1984 -  
03/31/1984)

*FOIA*

F05-139/01  
COOK

*Box Number*

37RW

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*DOC Document Type*

*NO Document Description*

*No of  
pages*

*Doc Date*

*Restric-  
tions*

3 MEMO

2 3/27/1984 B6

621

JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE.  
RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ASSIST THE  
GOVT. AS AN UNDERCOVER AGENT AND GOVT.  
WITNESSES

---

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

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B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

E.O. 13233

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

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tions*

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4 MEMO

1 3/27/1984 B6

622

FRED F. FIELDING TO D. LOWELL JENSEN RE.  
RIGHTS OF INDIVIDUALS WHO ASSIST THE  
GOVT. AS AN UNDERCOVER AGENT AND GOVT.  
WITNESSES

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# WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

*HU*  
*JR*

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING  
Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1

Name of Correspondent: John Patrick Russell

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Rights of individuals who assert the government as an undercover agent and government witness.

ROUTE TO: Office/Agency (Staff Name)	ACTION Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	DISPOSITION	
			Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CW Holland</u>	<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>8410216</u>		<u>1/1</u>
<u>CW AT18</u>	<u>Referral Note:</u>	<u>8410217</u>		<u>58410227</u>
	<u>Referral Note:</u>			<u>1/1</u>
	<u>Referral Note:</u>			<u>1/1</u>
	<u>Referral Note:</u>			<u>1/1</u>

- ACTION CODES:**
- A - Appropriate Action
  - C - Comment/Recommendation
  - D - Draft Response
  - F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure

- I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
- R - Direct Reply w/Copy
- S - For Signature
- X - Interim Reply

- DISPOSITION CODES:**
- A - Answered
  - B - Non-Special Referral
  - C - Completed
  - S - Suspended

**FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**  
 Type of Response = Initials of Signer  
 Code = "A"  
 Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.  
 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.

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37RW

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*DOC Document Type*

*NO Document Description*

*No of Doc Date Restriction*  
*pages* *tions*

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5 LETTER

3 2/7/1984 B6

624

JOHN PATRICK RUSSELL TO PRESIDENT  
REAGAN RE. RIGHTS OF UNDERCOVER AGENTS

---

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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*DOC Document Type*

*NO Document Description*

*No of Doc Date Restriction*  
*pages* *tions*

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6 LETTER

1 9/22/1982 B6

625

FRANK W. DONALDSON AND MICHAEL V.  
RASMUSSEN RE. ASSISTANCE IN INVEST. AND  
PROSECUTION OF CASE

---

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*DOC Document Type*

*NO Document Description*

*No of  
pages*

*Doc Date*

*Restric-  
tions*

7 LETTER

1 2/3/1984 B6

627

WILLIS M. DEFFENBAUGH TO JOHN RUSSELL  
RE. APPRECIATION FOR ASSIST. IN CASE

---

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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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RB 8/5/2005  
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CORRESPONDENCE, MISCELLANEOUS (03/09/1984 -  
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*DOC Document Type*

*NO Document Description*

*No of  
pages*

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*Restric-  
tions*

8 NOTES

1

ND

B6

628

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 30, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT:

Card With Cover Picture of  
The First Lady

The attached letter contains your revisions to my draft of March 26. You asked whether I was certain the drug depicted on the card was cocaine. Carlton Turner advises that drug abusers rarely inhale heroin and that the card doubtless depicts the vastly more common practice of inhaling cocaine.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 30, 1984

Dear Ms. Leiser:

Thank you for your recent note to the First Lady. That note was written on a hideous card depicting the First Lady preparing to inhale cocaine, and you urged Mrs. Reagan to sue the company responsible for the card.

It goes without saying that we share your view that the card is "trash." Enclosed for your information is a copy of a letter I wrote to the President of Rockshots, Inc., which published the offending card. I do not know if this letter will cause the company to remove its grotesque card from the market, but at least the company will not be in doubt as to our views on this subject.

Thank you for calling this unfortunate matter to our attention. We appreciate your concern.

Best wishes,

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding  
Counsel to the President

Ms. Cathleen M. Leiser  
1700 Ashton Drive  
Virginia Beach, VA 23464

FFF:JGR:aea 3/30/84  
cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 30, 1984

Dear Mr. Rock:

A citizen complaint has alerted us to the existence of your card entitled "Nancy Snorts." This card depicts the First Lady preparing to inhale a proscribed substance, ostensibly cocaine. Needless to say, we share the view of the citizen who complained to us and described the card as "trash."

Quite apart from questions of taste, your knowing publication, distribution, and sale of a false representation of the First Lady raise serious concerns. Creating and publishing such a false representation exceeds the appropriate bounds of even the broadest conception of "humor" or commentary. Certainly Mrs. Reagan's strong activity in programs to combat drug abuse among our Nation's youth is well known; her prominence and interest in dealing with this problem hardly confers a license for the grotesque misrepresentation on your card.

We are deeply offended by the card and disappointed that your company would include such an item among its products, and strongly urge that you reconsider its use.

I will await your response.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Michael Rock  
President, Rockshots, Inc.  
51 West 21st Street  
New York, New York 10010

FFF:JGR:aea 3/30/84  
bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 30, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES S. ROSEBUSH  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Card With Cover Picture of  
the First Lady

You forwarded to this office a card sent to the First Lady by Cathleen M. Leiser of Virginia Beach. The cover of the card depicted Mrs. Reagan preparing to inhale cocaine, and Ms. Leiser urged that the company responsible for the card be sued.

I doubt that such a suit would be successful, and in any event it would simply generate publicity for the hideous card and the company responsible for it. I have, however, written the company to express our strong objections to the card. Copies of that letter and a response to Ms. Leiser are attached for your information.

Attachments

FFF:JGR:aea 3/30/84

cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 26, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT:

Card With Cover Picture of  
the First Lady

Cathleen M. Leiser of Virginia Beach sent Mrs. Reagan a supportive note on a card depicting Mrs. Reagan sniffing cocaine, and urged that Mrs. Reagan sue the company responsible for the card. The card, entitled "Nancy Snorts," was copyrighted in 1982 by Rockshots, Inc., of New York. In light of your previous decision to write to the company responsible for the "Queen Nancy" postcard, I assume you will want to object to this considerably more offensive card as well, and appropriate drafts are attached. As was the case with the "Queen Nancy" postcard, however, my own view continues to be that objecting to such distasteful parodies does little good and that it is better simply to ignore them.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 26, 1984

Dear Mr. Rock:

A citizen complaint has alerted us to the existence of your card entitled "Nancy Snorts." This hideous card depicts the First Lady preparing to inhale cocaine. Needless to say, we share the view of the citizen who complained to us that the card is "trash."

Quite apart from questions of taste, your knowing publication, distribution, and sale of a false representation of the First Lady raise serious concerns. Creating and publishing such a false representation exceeds the appropriate bounds of even the broadest conception of "humor" or commentary. Certainly Mrs. Reagan's activities in such areas as promoting the Foster Grandparents Program or combatting drug abuse among our Nation's youth have subjected her to some publicity, but her prominence hardly confers a license for the grotesque misrepresentation on your card.

We are deeply offended by the card and disappointed that your company would include such an item among its products.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Michael Rock  
President, Rockshots, Inc.  
51 West 21st Street  
New York, New York 10010

FFF:JGR:aea 3/26/84  
cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 26, 1984

Dear Ms. Leiser:

Thank you for your recent note to the First Lady. That note was written on a hideous card depicting the First Lady preparing to inhale cocaine, and you urged Mrs. Reagan to sue the company responsible for the card.

It goes without saying that we share your view that the card is "trash." Enclosed for your information is a copy of a letter I wrote to the President of Rockshots, Inc., which published the offending card. I do not know if this letter will cause the company to remove its grotesque card from the market, but at least the company will not be in doubt as to our views on this subject.

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FFF:JGR:aea 3/26/84  
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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 26, 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES S. ROSEBUSH  
DEPUTY ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF THE FIRST LADY

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING  
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Card With Cover Picture of  
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Attachments

FFF:JGR:aea 3/26/84

cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

JV

# WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

PR014-09

JR

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1

Name of Correspondent: Cathleen M. Seiner

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Card with cover picture of Mrs. Reagan (forwarded by Jim Rosebush)

### ROUTE TO:

### ACTION

### DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CW Holland</u>	<u>ORIGINATOR</u>	<u>DD 84 10 28</u>		<u>1 1</u>
<u>CWAT18</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>DD 84 10 29</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>84 10 31 09</u>

#### ACTION CODES:

- A - Appropriate Action
- C - Comment/Recommendation
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Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

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