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Collection: Roberts, John G.: Files

Folder Title: JGR/Endorsements by the President

(4 of 4)

Box: 20

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WASHINGTON

October 29, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Request for the President and the First Lady to Autograph Pictures which Appeared on the Cover of TV Guide for the Southern California Chapter of American Women in Radio/TV Auction

This is the item that prompted my inquiry at this morning's staff meeting. You will notice that these facts are a bit different than my hypothetical, since the request is that the President and First Lady autograph portraits that appeared on the cover of <u>TV Guide</u>. The attached draft for your signature advises Crispen that the request should be denied (although I readily concede that this is a borderline call).

Attachment

AASH MSTON

October 29, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR ELAINE CRISPEN

PRESS SECRETARY TO THE FIRST LADY

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Request for the President and the First Lady to Autograph Pictures which Appeared on the Cover of TV Guide for the Southern California Chapter of American Women in Radio/TV Auction

You have asked for my views on a request from the Southern California Chapter of American Women in Radio and Television that the President and First Lady autograph TV Guide cover portraits. The autographed portraits would then be auctioned off to benefit a children's hospital and a scholarship fund.

As a matter of policy we do not permit official memorabilia to be donated to be auctioned off to benefit charity. Such activity is, in essence, a marketing of the Office, and, in my view, diminishes the prestige of the Office. The President and Mrs. Reagan are free, if they choose to do so, to donate personal items, as opposed to official memorabilia, to be auctioned off to benefit charity. I would not encourage this practice, since it will inevitably precipitate a flood of requests from other charities for similar treatment.

It is not easy to determine into which category a request for an autograph on an item falls. The signature is at once official and personal. Since providing a White House photograph signed by the President would fall into the category of official memorabilia, it is my view that we should consider requests for autographs on submitted portraits in the same light. Accordingly, this request should be declined.

FFF:JGR:aea 10/29/85

co: FFFielding JGRoberts

> Subj Chron

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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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.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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TV GUIDE

9000 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, Ca. 90069 (213) 276-0676

October 22, 1985

Ms. Elaine Crispen
Press Secretary to the First Lady
White House
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Crispen,

On behalf of the Southern California Chapter of American Women in Radio and Television, I am enclosing some TV GUIDE cover portraits in hope that the President and Mrs. Reagan may autograph them.

These portraits will be auctioned off at a charity auction being held by A.W.R.T. on November 19, 1985. The auction will benefit A.W.R.T.'s Children's Hospital program "Soaring Spirits" and the A.W.R.T. scholorship fund.

We would be extremely grateful for your assistance in our efforts.

Please call me if you have any questions in this regard.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Nancy J. Logan

TV GUIDE

9000 Sunset Blvd., Suite 300

Los Angeles, CA 90069

(213) 276-0676

Enclosure NL: jt

m

WASHINGTON

November 5, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR ELAINE CRISPEN

PRESS SECRETARY TO THE FIRST LADY

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Request for the President and the First Lady to Autograph Pictures which Appeared on the Cover of TV Guide for the Southern California Chapter of American Women in Radio/TV Auction

You have asked for my views on a request from the Southern California Chapter of American Women in Radio and Television that the President and First Lady autograph TV Guide cover portraits. The autographed portraits would then be auctioned off to benefit a children's hospital and a scholarship fund.

As a matter of policy we do not permit official memorabilia to be donated to be auctioned off to benefit charity. Such activity is, in essence, a marketing of the Office, and, in my view, diminishes the prestige of the Office. The President and Mrs. Reagan are free, if they choose to do so, to donate personal items, as opposed to official memorabilia, to be auctioned off to benefit charity. I would not encourage this practice, since it will inevitably precipitate a flood of requests from other charities for similar treatment.

An autographed magazine cover falls within the category of personal items, and official memorabilia. The President and Mrs. Reagan are thus free to comply with this request, if they desire to do so.

WASHINGTON

November 6, 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR ELAINE CRISPEN

PRESS SECRETARY TO THE FIRST LADY

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Request for the President and the First Lady to Autograph Pictures which Appeared on the Cover of TV Guide for the Southern California Chapter of American Women in Radio/TV Auction

You have asked for my views on a request from the Southern California Chapter of American Women in Radio and Television that the President and First Lady autograph TV Guide cover portraits. The autographed portraits would then be auctioned off to benefit a children's hospital and a scholarship fund.

As a matter of policy we do not permit official memorabilia to be donated to be auctioned off to benefit charity. Such activity is, in essence, a marketing of the Office, and, in my view, diminishes the prestige of the Office. The President and Mrs. Reagan are free, if they choose to do so, to donate personal items, as opposed to official memorabilia, to be auctioned off to benefit charity. I would not encourage this practice, since it will inevitably precipitate a flood of requests from other charities for similar treatment.

An autographed magazine cover falls between the categories of personal items and official memorabilia. Accordingly, the President and Mrs. Reagan are free to comply with this request, if they desire to do so.

FFF:JGR:aea 11/6/85

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
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WASHINGTOL

February 18, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR PATRICE J. BUCHANAN

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

FROM:

RICHARD A. HAUSER Original signed by RAH

DEPUTY COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Angolan Resistance Stamps

Neal Blair has written both you and Linda Chavez, requesting that the President send a message indicating his interest in and support for a set of four stamps issued for UNITA. The stamps were issued in four different denominations. Two depict Jonas Savimbi, the others feature UNITA themes.

A Presidential message of the sort requested should not be sent. It is not clear to me whether the stamps are intended for actual postage in UNITA-held territory or simply as a fundraising device similar to Easter Seals. Endorsement of stamps intended for postage would be inconsistent with our recognition of the Luanda regime, at least for administrative purposes. Nor could the President endorse the stamps as postage without knowing if UNITA were capable of carrying the mails.

If, as seems more likely, the stamps are intended as a fundraising device, and not as postage, a Presidential message would be barred by the general policy against endorsement of particular private fundraising appeals. Occasional exceptions are made to this policy, but only for exclusively charitable 501(c)(3) organizations, not armed resistance movements.

RAH/JGR:jmk
cc: RAHauser
JGRoberts
subject
chron.

WASHINGTON

February 18, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD A. HAUSER

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Angolan Resistance Stamps

Attached are letters from Neal Blair, President of Free the Eagle Citizen's Lobby, to Pat Buchanan and Linda Chavez. The letters ask for a message from the President supporting the issuance of UNITA Angolan resistance stamps. Two of the stamps feature Jonas Savimbi, one a tiger, and the other the UNITA flag with clasped hands.

It is clear neither to me nor to the addressees whether these stamps -- issued in different denominations -- are simply a fundraising device, similar to Easter Seals, or if they are intended for use as postage in areas occupied by UNITA within Angola. Obviously the President should not endorse the stamps if they are intended for use as postage. So far as I am aware, we still recognize the Luanda regime, at least for administrative purposes such as carrying the mails. We have no way of knowing if UNITA could handle postage, and should not encourage others to use UNITA stamps for this purpose.

If, as seems more likely, the stamps are simply a fundraising device, established White House policy precludes Presidential endorsement of particular private fundraising efforts. Exceptions are made occasionally, but only for exclusively charitable 501(c)(3) organizations, not for armed resistance movements. Presidential participation in raising funds for the guerillas could also prejudice efforts to obtain appropriations for UNITA.

Attachment

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) Name of Correspondent: MI Mail Report	B. Blace User Codes: (A)		(B)	(C)
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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.

Free the Eagle

HOWARD J. RUFF

CHAIRMAN

January 29, 1986
HAND DELIVERED Hand A

Mr. Patrick J. Buchanan Director of Communications The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Pat:

Today the second set of known Resistance stamps since World War II was issued for the Angolan Freedom Fighters, UNITA. Enclosed are copies of a set of four stamps including two showing President Savimbi.

It would be extremely helpful if President Reagan would send a letter indicating his interest and support for the stamps and what they mean to freedom loving people around the world. Because President Savimbi is in the United States now, there is real urgency to receive this letter as soon as possible.

Attached is sample language for the President's letter. Pat, anything that you could do to help encourage the President to sign this letter would be a great step towards support of the cause of freedom.

With every best wish, I am,

Sincerely,

Neal B. Blair President

Enclosures NBB/pd Mr. Neal B. Blair, President American Angolan Public Affairs Council 214 Massachusetts Avenue Suite 510 Washington, DC 20002

Dear Mr. Blair,

I am very pleased to recieve the first issue of resistance stamps from Angola. The history of resistance stamps is an important chapter in the history of liberating people from their oppressors.

These stamps represent the bright and hopeful face of a free Angola. Angola, like our country, will have to establish itself by fighting for it's freedom. We know that freedom is the most powerful social force known to man. As President Savimbi has said to his people, "there isn't a weapon on earth able to forever silence the will of the people."

If Americans are ever going to be true to their values, they have to support their fellow men who are strong enough to seek out the same values they hold dear. These stamps are just a first step in transferring the legitimacy of government from the crudely imposed colonial forces of the Soviet/Cuban client in Luanda, to the people of Angola.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan President of the United States



Top-left stamp represents President Savimbi in his uniform, saying his famous quote:

"There are no weapons in the world with the capacity to forever stop the will of the people."

Top-right stamp shows a black and white hand shaking in friendship with the UNITA Flag in the background.

Lower-right stamp shows Savimbi's profile with the UNITA Flag in the background.

Lower-left stamp shows the face of a tiger to symbolize UNITA's determination.

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WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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Free

HOWARD J. RUFF

CHAIRMAN

January 29, 1986 380927 HAND DELIVERED

Ms. Linda Chavez Director of the Office of Public Liaison The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Linda:

Today the second set of known Resistance stamps since World War II was issued for the Angolan Freedom Fighters, UNITA. Enclosed are copies of a set of four stamps including two showing President Savimbi.

It would be extremely helpful if President Reagan would send a letter indicating his interest and support for the stamps and what they mean to freedom loving people around the world. Because President Savimbi is in the United States now, there is real urgency to receive this letter as soon as possible.

Attached is sample language for the President's letter. Linda, anything that you could do to help encourage the President to sign this letter would be a great step towards support of the cause of freedom.

With every best wish, I am,

Sincerely,

Neal B. Blair

President

Enclosures NBB/pd

John Honston 547-2122

January 30, 1986

Mr. Neal B. Blair, President American Angolan Public Affairs Council 214 Massachusetts Avenue Suite 510 Washington, DC 20002

Dear Mr. Blair,

I am very pleased to recieve the first issue of resistance stamps from Angola. The history of resistance stamps is an important chapter in the history of liberating people from their oppressors.

These stamps represent the bright and hopeful face of a free Angola. Angola, like our country, will have to establish itself by fighting for it's freedom. We know that freedom is the most powerful social force known to man. As President Savimbi has said to his people, "there isn't a weapon on earth able to forever silence the will of the people."

If Americans are ever going to be true to their values, they have to support their fellow men who are strong enough to seek out the same values they hold dear. These stamps are just a first step in transferring the legitimacy of government from the crudely imposed colonial forces of the Soviet/Cuban client in Luanda, to the people of Angola.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan President of the United States



Top-left stamp represents President Savimbi in his uniform, saying his famous quote:

"There are no weapons in the world with the capacity to forever stop the will of the people."

Top-right stamp shows a black and white hand shaking in friendship with the UNITA Flag in the background.

Lower-right stamp shows Savimbi's profile with the UNITA Flag in the background.

Lower-left stamp shows the face of a tiger to symbolize UNITA's determination.

* * * *

WASHINGTON

February 20, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR BARBARA WOOD

STAFF ASSISTANT

OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Correspondence from Representative

Fawell on White House Recipes

You have inquired concerning the status of our review of the January 24 letter from Representative Harris Fawell to you, requesting written permission to use White House recipes in a printed document. I telephoned Fawell's office several weeks ago for information on their intended use of the recipes. Jane in Fawell's office said she would investigate and get back to me. I never heard from her, and when I called again today Jane advised that Fawell had decided for various reasons of his own not to pursue the project. Accordingly, I consider this matter closed.

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

2/19/86

NOTE TO JOHN ROBERTS

ATTN: ANN

FROM:

BARBARA WOOD Barbare Wood
OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS
WEST WING, 2nd FLOOR, x2230

Can you tell me if a written response has been sent out on the attached.

If so, I would appreciate a copy for my files.

Thank you.

HARRIS W. FAWELL 13TH PISTRICT, ILLINOIS

EDUCATION AND LABOR

SUBCOMMITTEES: LABOR MANAGEMENT RELATIONS PLEMENTARY, SECONDARY, AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

SUBCOMMITTEES: ENERGY RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATIONS

> SELECT COMMMITTEE ON AGING

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Mashington, DC 20515

January 24, 1986

WASHINGTON OFFICE: CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

(202) 225-3515

HINSDALE, IL 60521

(312) 655-2062

BRESSIONAL DISTRICT OFFICE: 911 NORTH ELM STREET

Mrs. Barbara Wood White House Congressional Liaison The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Wood:

Last week I wrote your office asking for recipes that my office would like for a brochure we are having printed. You were kind enough to send them right away. The printer we are using requires a letter from you office stating that we have been given permission by the White House to use these recipes in a printed document.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

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(Jank)

J NFF .

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.

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

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

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

TO: Counsel's Ofc

FROM:

MELANIE BLESSÉ Office of Legislative Affairs

I am forwarding the attached request per your guidance -

HARRIS W. FAWELL

EDUCATION AND LABOR

SUBCOMMITTEES
LÄBOR-MANAGEMENT RELATIONS
ELEMENTARY, SECONDARY, AND
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

ENERGY RESEARCH AND PRODUCTION
ENERGY DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATIONS

SELECT COMMMITTEE ON AGING

Congress of the United States House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515

January 24, 1986

CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

(202) 225-3815

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OFFICE

911 NORTH ELM STREET

HINSDALE, IL 60521 (312) 665-2062

Mrs. Barbara Wood White House Congressional Liaison The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Wood:

Last week I wrote your office asking for recipes that my office would like for a brochure we are having printed. You were kind enough to send them right away. The printer we are using requires a letter from you office stating that we have been given permission by the White House to use these recipes in a printed document.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Sincerely,

Harris W. Fawell, M.C.

WASHINGTON

February 27, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR THOMAS F. GIBSON III

SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

ASSOCIATE COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Request for President's View of J.R. Ewing

for Great Britain Television Network

You have asked for guidance on responding to a request from "Television Today" for the President's quotable impressions of J. R. Ewing. "Television Today" hopes to use any quotation it receives in conjunction with the return of "Dallas" to British television.

Although it would doubtless make their day, I think you will recognize that it would be inappropriate for the President to comment on a character in a commercial television series, particularly when the comment would be used in promoting the series.

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WASHINGTON

February 19, 1986

383054 CC

MEMORANDUM TO COUNSEL'S OFFICE

FROM:

TOM GIBSON 76.

Please give us guidance on the attached request from the producer of "Television Today" located in Great Britain.

Thanks very much.



Television Centre-Southampton SO9 5HZ Telephone 0703 34211 Telex 477217

6 February 1986 CR/ts

Director of Public Affairs White House Office 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington DC 20500 United States

Dear Sir

An unusual request from Great Britain!

We are producing "TELEVISION TODAY" for the Independent Television Network in Britain. It is our brief each week to observe what is happening in the world of television - and, in March "DALLAS" returns to British screens after a 9 month gap. As part of celebrating this series' return, our viewers have asked us to write to President Reagan, as America's number one citizen, for his view of J R Ewing - as a man, as a businessman and as an American.

We (and the British public) would be delighted with even the briefest comment, which is quotable, as from the President.

Can you please make every effort to respond to this request - President Reagan's popularity is high in Britain and his comments would be well received.

Best wishes

Chris Riley Producer

"TELEVISION TODAY"

WASHINGTON

March 12, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

Orig. signed by FFF

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Request from Publishers of Gorbachev's

A Time for Peace for the President

to Publish a Similar Book

The publishers of Mikhail Gorbachev's A Time for Peace have written the President to express their interest in publishing a similar book by him. They propose to compile a selection of the President's speeches and commentaries, add a biography and some photography, and include a short introduction written by the President specifically for this book.

The publishers need no permission to reprint statements by or photographs of the President that are in the public domain, nor do they need any permission to write a short biography. All of the foregoing can be done, provided the final product does not convey the false impression of approval or endorsement by the President. If the President wishes to approve and endorse the project by providing the requested introduction, he may do so, but that decision is a policy one for your office to make.

We have previously denied a similar request involving the First Lady and Mrs. Gorbachev.

FFF/JGR:jmk
cc: FFFielding

JGRoberts subject chron.

WASHINGTON

March 12, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR RICHARD A. HAUSER

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Proposed Videotaped Message for Former President Nixon and John Akers, President and CEO of IBM

I have been asked to prepare a response for your signature to a request from the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports for a videotaped message from the President honoring this year's recipients of the Council's National Honor Award: Richard M. Nixon, who was the first chairman of the predecessor to the Council, the President's Council on Youth Fitness, and IBM President and CEO John F. Akers, who has been active in corporate health awareness efforts. I see no reason to object on legal grounds. There is apparently adequate basis for honoring both Nixon and Akers; a message would not constitute endorsement of fundraising; and the Council is of course affiliated with the Government.



WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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- A Appropriate Action C - Comment/Recommendation
- D Draft Response

ACTION CODES:

- 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

uling Recommendation nems

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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MEMORA	ANDUM		March	10, 1986				
TO:	FRED FIELDING				395228			
FROM:	FREDERICK J. 1 PRESIDENTIAL	IG						
SUBJ:								
			MMENDATION ON R CONSIDERATION		NG			
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	DATE:	To be shown	March 20, 1986					
	LOCATION:	State Floor						
	BACKGROUND:	See attached						
YOUR I	RECOMMENDATION							
Accept_		Regret	Surrogate Priority	Message	Other			

TO JEAN APPLEBY JACI RESPONSE DUE: ASAP

IF RECOMMENDATION IS TO ACCEPT, PLEASE CITE REASONS:





March 3, 1986

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

TO: FREDERICK J. RYAN, Jr., Director

Presidential Appointments and Scheduling

FROM: PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

REQUEST: A videotaped message honoring the National

Fitness Foundation award recipients.

PURPOSE: To provide a videotaped message for former

President Nixon and John Akers, President and

Chief Executive Officer for IBM.

BACKGROUND: On March 20th the National Fitness Foundation

will hold its annual awards banquet in New York. This 30th anniversary awards dinner will salute two men who have significantly contributed to the health and fitness of

Americans on the national level.

President Nixon served as the Council's chairman from 1956-58. He also initiated a cooperative effort between business and labor

to develop employee fitness and sports

programs. John Akers is active in supporting IBM's Health Education program and Personal Health Account program which offers employee

financial assistance.

Former award recipients are Mrs. Reagan, President Gerald Ford and Bob Hope. The message will congratulate this year's honorees and welcome the 1,000 guests attending the black-tie dinner.

PREVIOUS

PARTICIPATION: None

PARTICIPANTS: The President

OUTLINE OF

EVENTS: Standard videotaping session set-up.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Yes

MEDIA COVERAGE: None

PROJECT OFFICER: Elizabeth Board



THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20001

February 28, 1986

Dear Ms. Board:

The President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports will be honoring former president Richard Nixon and Mr. John Akers, president and chief executive officer of IBM, at the annual National Fitness Foundation awards banquet on March 20 at the Marriott Marquis Hotel in New York City.

We would like to request a videotape message from President Reagan congratulating the honorees and welcoming the approximate 1,000 guests at the black-tie event. As you know, Mrs. Reagan was the recipient of this award at last year's banquet.

I am enclosing a draft of a suggested statement with a marked place where President Reagan could insert personal remarks appropriate to Mr. Nixon. I also am enclosing a copy of last year's banquet program, a news release on the event and a biographical sketch of Mr. Akers.

I will call your office within a few days to find out if this is possible, arrange for the payment and clarify any points you may have. Thank you for your consideration, as always.

Sincerely,

Steve Guback

Director of Information

Ms. Elizabeth Board Television Scheduling The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Rm. 170 Washington, DC 20500

SG: kab



Contact: Steve Guback (202) 272-3430

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, D.C.--Former President Richard M. Nixon will receive the National Honor Award at the National Fitness Foundation's annual awards dinner March 20 at the new Marquis Marriott Hotel in New York City.

Nixon was the first chairman of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports in 1956-58 while serving as Vice-President of the United States under President Dwight Eisenhower. At that time the Council was known as the President's Council on Youth Fitness.

It was during Nixon's term as President in 1970 that the makeup of the Council was changed to its present format. Nixon disbanded the panel of high government officials and appointed a 15-member group consisting of physicians, school and university administrators, physical educators, business leaders, etc.

The Nixon Council also initiated the Presidential Sports Award program and launched a cooperative effort with business and labor to develop employee fitness and sports programs, among other achievements.

"It is particularly appropriate that President Nixon, the first chairman of the Council, be honored at this time, the 30th anniversary of the Council," said Chairman George Allen. "President Nixon's leadership gave the Council its early impetus and alerted the nation that improved physical fitness for people of all ages, and particularly the youth, should be a national goal."

The annual black-tie awards dinner salutes those who have made significant contributions to the health and fitness of Americans on the national level.

Among previous recipients were First Lady Nancy Reagan, Former President Gerald Ford and Bob Hope. Robert Beck, chief executive officer of The Prudential Insurance Company of America, is this year's banquet chairman.

DRAFT, President Reagan's Message for Videotape

Welcome to the 1986 National Honor Awards Banquet.

I am pleased to have an opportunity to congratulate this year's distinguished award recipients and to recognize all of you for your outstanding contributions to the fitness and health of the American people.

This awards program has special meaning to me. As you know, I have a personal interest in one of last year's honorees.

Recipients of the National Honor Award have, in some unique and outstanding way, provided inspirational leadership in a national campaign to improve the well-being of people of all ages, in all walks of life. Although some are not directly associated with physical fitness, all have chosen to promote positive, vigorous living in their professional, recreational or personal pursuits.

Tonight's primary award recipients have made invaluable contributions to the fitness of this great nation and its people. As the first chairman of the President's Council on Youth Fitness, Richard Nixon gave the Council its early impetus and alerted the nation that improved physical fitness for all people, particularly our youth, should be a national goal. As President, he gave new direction to the Council, revamping its makeup from government officials to outstanding private citizens—a structure that continues today. It is particularly fitting that we honor Mr. Nixon during the Council's 30th anniversary year.

I am pleased, too, that John F. Akers, the president and chief executive officer of IBM, also is being honored tonight. IBM has a long-standing tradition of excellence in service to the nation, to the community and to its employees. IBM's health education program, its voluntary health assessment program and its personal health account are leaders in fitness among business and industry. But then physical fitness always has been an important part of John Akers' personal life through childhood, his days as an all-star hockey player at Yale and now as a busy corporate executive who still finds time to jog, ski and play tennis and golf.

Events such as this banquet bring people who share a common goal together under a banner of festivity and celebration. But they mean more. They allow us to focus on a mutual effort; in this case improved national fitness, with renewed enthusiasm and a heightened sense of importance.

Nancy joins me in congratulating all of you. The work you do to promote a strong, healthy America is vital, and our heartfelt thanks go to you for your concern and dedication. I wish we could be there with you. Nancy told me what a wonderful time she had last year. Best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable evening. Stay healthy, stay fit and God bless you.

National Fitness Award

For many years IBM has focused on the overall well being and health of its employees and their families. Several programs emphasizing the importance of maintaining good health and fitness have been created. IBM's Health Education program, for example, uses community resources to provide courses for employees in aerobic exercise, smoking cessation, and other health related areas. The Voluntary Health Assessment program goes beyond standard screening examinations to provide employees with a convenient means of identifying and controlling health risk factors unique to their own particular lifestyles. IBM's Personal Health Account offers financial assistance for preventive medical expenses as well as for eye and hearing care.

Physical fitness has always been an important part of John Akers personal life. An ivy league all star hockey player at Yale, he now jogs, skiis, plays tennis, and golfs.

John Akers joined IBM in 1960 as a sales trainee, following active duty as a Navy carrier pilot. After holding a variety of assignments, he was elected IBM vice president in 1976. In 1982 he became senior vice president and a year later was elected IBM president and a director of the company. He became chief executive officer in February, 1985.

Mr. Akers is on the board of directors of the New York Times Company and the Council for Financial Aid to Education. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, The California Institute of Technology, the Institute for Advanced Study, the Advisory Board of the Yale School of Organization and Management, and the Board of Governors of the United Way of America.

JOHN F. AKERS

President and Chief Executive Officer International Business Machines Corporation

John F. Akers, president and chief executive officer of IBM, is chairman of the Corporate Management Board and IBM's Management Committee.

Mr. Akers joined IBM in 1960 as a sales trainee in San Francisco, following active duty as a Navy carrier pilot. Following various marketing assignments, he was appointed vice president of the Data Processing Division in January 1973 and became president of the division in April 1974. He was elected IBM vice president in July 1976 and a month later was named assistant group executive, plans and controls, Data Processing Product Group. He was appointed group executive of the Data Processing Marketing Group in April 1978. In October 1981 he became group executive, Information Systems and Communications Group. He was elected senior vice president in May 1982 and was elected IBM president and a director in February 1983. In September 1984, he was elected chief executive officer effective February 1985.

Mr. Akers holds a B.S. degree from Yale University. He is a director on the boards of the New York Times Company and the Council for Financial Aid to Education; a member of the Board of Trustees, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, California Institute of Technology, the Institute for Advanced Study, the Advisory Board of the Yale School of Organization and Management, and the Board of Governors of United Way of America. He and his wife, Susan, have three children.

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