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Folder Title: JGR/FDR

(Franklin Delano Roosevelt) Yacht (1 of 2)

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WASHINGTON

094619 WH009-03

August 16, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR JAMES A. BAKER, III

CHIEF OF STAFF

AND ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

The "Sequoia"

Per your request, attached is a memo for your use. may wish to discuss this with Mike before issuing, as I recall he had some feelings about the subject.

/Attachment

8/16/82

JAB spoke to Mike Deaver

+ signed

KC gave to John Rogers for clistorization.

WASHINGTON

August 16, 1982 ,

MEMORANDUM FOR THE WHITE HOUSE STAFF

FROM:

JAMES A. BAKER, III

CHIEF OF STAFF

AND ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

The "Sequoia"

In view of continuing questions about the attendance by White House Staff members at social functions on the yacht "Sequoia", I felt some clarification would be helpful.

There is no prohibition against attendance of events on the "Sequoia", which served as the Presidential Yacht for five presidents, until sold by President Carter. Rather, you should be guided by your own wishes and by the usual considerations as to propriety and appearances in accepting any social invitation or attending any function.

You should be aware that the "Sequoia" is presently privately owned.

COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

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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.

Comments: _____

WASHINGTON

October 14, 1981

Dear Mrs. Rosinski:

Michael Deaver has asked me to respond to your letter of August 23, 1981.

The United States Supreme Court has affirmed that the White House is not an agency subject to the Freedom of Information Act. Kissinger v. Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press, 445 U.S. 136, 156 (1980). Accordingly, we must respectfully decline to comply with your request under the Act for information concerning the possibility of a Presidential yacht.

However, you should know that neither the President nor the White House is associated in any way with the present ownership of the <u>U.S.S. Sequoia</u>, the yacht used by several earlier Presidents. The President and the White House also have no other plans to reinstate use of a Presidential yacht.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding

Counsel to the President

Mrs. Marion A. Rosinski 7860 40th Avenue, North St. Petersburg, Florida 33709



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Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mrs. Marion A. Rosinski 7850 40th Avenue, North St. Petersburg, Florida 33709



WASHINGTON

90 ->

September 30, 1981

FOR:

MICHAEL K. DEAVER

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM:

FRED F. FIELDING

COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT:

Freedom of Information Act Request

from Mrs. Marion A. Rosinski

re: Presidential Yacht

Thank you for forwarding the above-referenced Freedom of Information Act request and copies of your earlier correspondence with Mrs. Rosinski.

Attached is a draft of the letter I propose to send in response to the request, which you indicated you wanted to see before it was mailed.

Please advise.

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

September 30, 1981

FOR:

MICHAEL K. DEAVER

ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT

DEPUTY CHIEF OF STAFF

FROM:

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Orig. signed by HIL

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APPROVE	
DISAPPROVE	

FFF:PJR:sd 9/29/81

cc: FFFielding
PJRusthoven
Subject
Chron.

WASHINGTON

September 29, 1981

FOR: FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: PETER J. RUSTHOVEN

SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act Request

from Mrs. Marion A. Rosinski

re: Presidential Yacht

Michael Deaver forwarded to our office a handwritten letter from a Mrs. Marion A. Rosinski making a Freedom of Information Act request for "the names of heads of major corporations who furnished funds for the purchase of a yacht for the use of President Reagan and leading Republicans and also the 'private and government sources that urged your exploring the possibility' of purchasing or supplying a yacht for the use of the President." Deaver also attached earlier correspondence from Mrs. Rosinski, in which she criticized the whole yacht purchase idea. Her present FOIA request was apparently precipitated by a reply Deaver wrote to an earlier letter, in which he said that the White House had only been responding to persons who had urged looking into the possibility, and stated that "[a]t this time we have no plans to reinstate the use of a Presidential yacht."

Attached is a draft letter to Mrs. Rosinski. In addition to reciting the fact that the White House Office is not subject to FOIA (following basically the standard form letter prepared by Mary Lawton), I have added a paragraph disclaiming any White House involvement with the present ownership of the U.S.S. Sequoia and reiterating that the President has no other plans to purchase or use a Presidential yacht.

The attached letter is in draft form, because Mia Sanderson noted that Deaver wants to see the letter before it is sent. A short cover memorandum to Deaver is also attached for your review and signature.

Attachments

DOM- Subj.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

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PETER J. RUSTHOVEN

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8-23-86

irms p'adge funds for 'Sequoia'

ifteen major corporations have pledged at least 25,000 apiece to keep the former presidential yacht Sequoia on the Potomac River for use by President leagan and other conservative leaders, an officer of he Presidential Yacht Trust says. But Edgar Skinner, ead of the trust, refused to release the names of the ompanies. White House aides have said that in view f his proposed cuts in social spending, Reagan has no nmediate plans to use the refurbished ship. The 05-foot yacht was sold by President Carter in 1977 or \$286,000 as an austerity move. The trust, nore than \$5-million within the next five years to over the ship's \$1.1-million price tag and establish a 4-million endowment to pay for future maintenance osts. 57PETETIMEST-8-81

The result of the ship's \$1.1-million price tag and establish a drapt by the ship's \$1.1-mi irected by conservative businessmen, bought the

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

T0:

Fred Fielding

FROM:

MICHAEL K. DEAVER Assistant to the President Deputy Chief of Staff

Information

For suggested response.

1991



February 18, 1981

MR. PRESIDENT:

Paragraph 3 in the attached note accounts for its being presented to you now. You should know that this issue is being reviewed independently by your staff. We will forward an appropriate decision memorandum for your consideration at a later date.

Richard G. Darman

cc: Max Friedersdorf

Presidential Yacht

1230 1230 1230 1230 18032 Onia. Saik Brooks

WASHINGTON

February 14, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Max L. Friedersdorf M.,

SUBJECT: Presidential Yacht

Congressman Jack Brooks (D-Texas), Chairman of the House Government Operations Committee, strongly suggests the President have a yacht at his disposal.

Congressman Brooks has spoken to me personally about this on several occasions, and repeatedly mentions it to other members of your Legislative Affairs staff.

Brooks insisted that the President be made personally aware of his recommendation. (You will recall former President Carter sold the Presidential yacht Sequoia shortly after taking office.)

Brooks believes the Chief of Naval Operations' yacht would be ideal for short trips on the Potomac for the President, the First Lady, and their guests (including, of course, Members of Congress).

Chairman Brooks, you may recall, took the Nixon Administration to task for expenditures on San Clemente and Key Biscayne. He does not see the yacht as a similar unnecessary and costly extravagance.

Rather, he believes it would help the President be more effective. Coming from Chairman Brooks, that means something.

The Sequoia was a great resource for pleasure and business for past Presidents, and I can assure you nothing was more persuasive to recalcitrant Congressmen and Senators, than an evening cruise down the Potomac with the President.

I believe, if you decided to pursue this suggestion, there would be unanimous support on the Hill.

COPY

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

June 29, 1981

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Dear Mr. Napier:

Thank you for taking the time to write to Red Cavaney on May 18, 1981, regarding the Sequoia. We are appreciative of your interest and your generous offer. However, with the current emphasis on the budget, the subject of a Presidential yacht has become secondary.

Please be advised that your letter offering the services of the National Marine Manufacturers Association is on file and will be given consideration if the subject of a yacht arises in the future.

Sincerely yours

Gohn'F. W Rogers
Special Assistant to the President
for Administration

Mr. Jeff W. Napier
President
National Marine Manufacturers
Association
401 North Michigan Avenue
Chicago, IL 60611

bcc: Red Cavaney - FYI

JUL 0 1 REC'D

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

May 19, 1981

To John Rogers

For your information.

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON May 18, 1981

lu it

MEMORANDUM FOR ED HICKEY

FROM:

RED CAVANEY

Attached is a letter I received from the President of the National Marine Manufacturers Association. I am not sure whether any information contained therein is of any help, but I felt it worthwhile to pass it along.

This association is a good group and has been supportive of the President's economic program. I am a graduate of that industry.

Attachment

To Jahn Rogers La his info



National Marine Manufacturers Association

401 North Michigan Avenue Chicago IL 60611 (312) 836-4747 666 Third Avenue New York NY 10017 (212) 697-1100

May 7, 1981

Mr. Red Cavaney,
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
THE WHITE HOUSE
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Red:

When we were in Washington at the beginning of April and you spoke before our group we briefly discussed an idea circulating within the industry that NMMA sponsor a nationwide campaign of donations to purchase back the Presidential Yacht Sequoia and donate her to the U.S. government. I mentioned to you that I had written the President inquiring whether such a gift to the nation would be accepted but, after more than a month, had not received a response.

As you know, the <u>Sequoia</u> was given up by the Carter Administration as a typical gesture of moralistic symbolism which, among other things, did our industry no good. Ironically, one of President Carter's bigger entertainments was fishing from a Bertram owned by a friend near Sea Island, Georgia.

At any rate, the <u>Sequoia</u> is the latest of Presidential yachts, one of the classics, and fitting for government ownership and Presidential use.

Chviously, provision for her care and maintenance would have to be made. Whether this would be an endowment fund alongside the purchase or earning her keep through limited charter to visiting groups (perhaps through the American Society of Association Executives) is something we could figure cut if the basic idea of returning her to government ownership is acceptable.

Please let me know and, if the answer is affirmative, we can work out the details in virtually any manner desired by you.

Thanks for your help.

Sincerely

Jeff W. Napier,

Président

JMI/cac

Reply to

Chicago

☐ New York

MAY 1 1 REC'D

DOCUMENT No. 067802 PD

OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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REMARKS:

(OPD SENIOR Invites to Sequoia Ship DO NOT accept invitations to anything on the STAFF) FYI Sequoia.

> EDWIN L. HARPER ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT FOR POLICY DEVELOPMENT (X6515)

MG

DD2346 67003

Dear Jeff:

The primary trust of the search for a Presidential yacht has focused on contraband currently in government hands, thereby reducing the potential for claims of "Conflict of Interest."

I have passed along your letter and expression of willingness to help to the President's Military Assistant, Mr. Edward Hickey, who is coordinating the Administration's search in this area.

High interest rates aside, I understand the season has been quite good. I hope to see you when you are in town for testimony. Please pass along my best to everyone.

Warmest regards,

Red Cavaney

Mr. Jeff W. Napier NMMA 401 North Michigan Avenue Chicago, IL 60611

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SEE TO 116426

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

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Comments: Oversise Attachments						

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.

WASHINGTON

July 6, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM:

JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT:

Proposed Use of Presidential Seal in

Fundraising for Presidential Yacht Potomac

J. Rock Tonkel of the public relations firm Jerold Panas, Young & Partners, Inc., has written requesting permission to use the Presidential Seal in fundraising to restore FDR's Presidential yacht, the Potomac. The ship is now docked in Oakland, and a committee has been formed to restore it and operate it as a monument to FDR. The committee hopes to raise \$5 million to restore the yacht and establish an endowment for its annual upkeep. The yacht is actually owned by the Port of Oakland. The Port and the restoration committee, a non-profit corporation, have entered into an agreement whereby the committee will restore, maintain, and operate the vessel. The Port has already committed \$400,000 to the project.

The seal would be used on the cover of the fundraising booklet, to "establish[] the magnitude of the project and identif[y] the project with the U.S. Presidency." Despite the good intentions of those involved in this effort, I do not think we can sanction the proposed use of the seal. While we could readily permit its use on the finished product -- and should express our willingness to do so -- we should not permit the seal to be used in fundraising. To do so would convey the false impression of governmental or Presidential involvement with the private fundraising effort. Mr. Tonkel admits as much in describing the purpose behind his contemplated use of the seal, "to identify the project with the U.S. Presidency."

I have drafted a reply for your signature. Mr. Tonkel notes in his letter that he will direct a request for a Presidential letter in support of the fundraising to Mr. Meese. Presumably Meese will refer that to us, but the issue of the use of the seal is a separate one and we need not synchronize the responses.

Attachment

2/1

1479/3cm

2504 PACIFIC AVENUE SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94115 415-921-1900

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

Dear Mr. Fielding:

Our firm has been retained to assist the Board of Directors of the Association of the Restoration of the Presidential Yacht Potomac in conducting a worldwide campaign to raise funds for the restoration of the ship and insure an endowment to cover future operating costs. President Roosevelt's eldest son, James, is Chairman of the governing body.

As the enclosed Case Statement points out, this project when completed is to be a living memorial to Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Other than the Roosevelt family headstone at Hyde Park and a small replica of the headstone adjacent to the archives in Washington, D.C., no real similar tribute has been made to mark this great man's contribution to this nation. James Roosevelt says, in fact: "While our family certainly supports the efforts to dedicate something in Washington, D.C. to father, we believe an operating U.S.S. Potomac is the memory he would want most."

The vessel will be berthed at the Port of Oakland and will be open to the public at all times. More than one-half million visitors are expected each year. School teachers from northern California who have visited the Yacht have already begun planning a full program of off-campus learning experiences for their students. Finally, the Potomac will be operational; calling on other cities and ports in this area and used regularly on the San Francisco Bay.

We would like to use a facsimile of the Presidential Seal in the campaign even if President Reagan does not sign the suggested letter in the Case Statement. The request for the President's signature is being channeled through Mr. Meese.

Section 1-G of Executive Order 11649 suggests that the Seal may be used for exceptional historical, educational, or newsworthy purposes as authorized by your office. We have the opinion that this project qualifies and hope that you will grant the required information.

An early reply will be greatly appreciated.

Cordially,

Nock Tonkel Managing Partner

June 9, 1983



WASHINGTON

July 6, 1983

Dear Mr. Tonkel:

Thank you for your letter on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Association for the Restoration of the Presidential Yacht Potomac. In that letter you requested permission to use the Seal of the President in connection with a campaign to raise funds to restore, maintain, and operate the Potomac.

I regret to inform you that we cannot grant the permission you seek. Our decision is in no sense a reflection on the praiseworthy effort to restore President Roosevelt's yacht. The project, as described in the materials you forwarded to us, is very exciting and filled with great possibilities for average citizens and serious students of FDR's era. We cannot, however, agree to any use of the Presidential Seal in connection with private fundraising efforts. To do so would convey the misleading impression of official sponsorship of the fundraising.

We would be happy to consider requests for permission to use the Presidential Seal in historically appropriate ways on the yacht itself. Such use on the finished monument to President Roosevelt does not present the difficulties that inexorably accompany any use of the Seal in connection with fundraising.

Thank you for advising us of the efforts to restore the Potomac. You have our best wishes for success.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mr. J. Rock Tonkel
Managing Partner
Jerold Panas, Young
& Partners, Inc.
2504 Pacific Avenue
San Francisco, California 94115

FFF: JGR: aw 7/6/83

cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj./Chron