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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 1, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR DIANNA G. HOLLAND

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Presidential Message for a
Tribute to Leon Jaworski

I have telephoned Jack Wells and advised him that Counsel's Office has no legal objection to the above-referenced proposed Presidential message.

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

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

Name of Correspondent: Modie Livingston

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Presidential Message for a tribute to Leon Jaworski

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>83103101</u>			<u>1 / 1</u>
		Referral Note:				
<u>W AT 18</u>		<u>D</u>	<u>83103101</u>		<u>S 83103101</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:				

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.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 1, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED FIELDING

FROM: JACK WELLS for DODIE LIVINGSTON

Attached for your review is a Presidential message for a tribute to Leon Jaworski. Please immediately review the draft and advise us of any suggested comments or changes you may wish to make. Unfortunately, time is of great essence as the University concerned is holding up the necessary printing of tribute in anticipation of this message.

We would appreciate your immediate attention for this matter.

I am pleased to join the Baylor Law Review of Baylor University School of Law in this well-deserved tribute to Leon Jaworski.

This occasion presents an opportunity for me to express my high regard for a truly outstanding American. Throughout his career Leon Jaworski repeatedly demonstrated his deep concern for the future and well-being of our nation. While he was a most distinguished and respected member of the legal profession, he came to symbolize much more to the American people. In a difficult era of our country's history, his resolute integrity and moral vision helped lead our nation out of that trying period.

All Americans are thankful for Leon Jaworski's historic service to the nation and the values he so ably championed throughout his life.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 23, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Request for Presidential Message
From Ray Scherer, RCA

The RCA Space Center is planning a celebration to commemorate its twenty-fifth anniversary on March 28, and Ray Scherer, RCA Vice President, has asked William F. Sittmann if President Reagan might send a congratulatory letter to the RCA Chairman and the General Manager of RCA Astro-Electronics. Mr. Scherer thought such a message would be in keeping with the President's recent tributes to high-technology industry.

The "Guidelines for Special Presidential Messages" circulated August 20, 1982, provide that events sponsored by a profit-making organization generally do not qualify for messages. I see no reason to depart from this policy in this case, and have drafted a memorandum to Sittman for your signature, reminding him of the established policy.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 23, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *Orig. signed by FFF*

SUBJECT: Request for President Message
From Ray Scherer, RCA

You have asked for our comments on the request from Ray Scherer for a Presidential message commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the RCA Space Center. The "Guidelines for Special Presidential Messages," circulated on August 20, 1982, provide that messages over the President's signature will be issued only for enumerated events and occasions. The event described in Mr. Scherer's letter does not fall within any of the accepted categories. In addition, the Guidelines provide that events sponsored by a profit-making organization generally do not qualify for Presidential messages. We see no reason to depart from established policy in this instance, and the request from Mr. Scherer should accordingly be denied. I have attached a copy of the Guidelines for your information and reference.

Attachment

FFF:JGR:aw 3/23/83

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 23, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM F. SITTMAN

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING

SUBJECT: Request for President Message
From Ray Scherer, RCA

You have asked for our comments on the request from Ray Scherer for a Presidential message commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the RCA Space Center. The "Guidelines for Special Presidential Messages," circulated on August 20, 1982, provide that messages over the President's signature will be issued only for enumerated events and occasions. The event described in Mr. Scherer's letter does not fall within any of the accepted categories. In addition, the Guidelines provide that events sponsored by a profit-making organization generally do not qualify for Presidential messages. We see no reason to depart from established policy in this instance, and the request from Mr. Scherer should accordingly be denied. I have attached a copy of the Guidelines for your information and reference.

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JGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

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

Name of Correspondent: William ~~Sittman~~ Ray Scherer

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Scherer requests letter from President to the RCA Space Center in honor of their 25th anniversary.

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>CVHolland</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>83 103 16</u>			<u>1 1</u>
<u>CVAT18</u>	Referral Note:	<u>D 83 03 16</u>		<u>S</u>	<u>83,03 26</u>
	Referral Note:				<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:				<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:				<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:				<u>1 1</u>

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Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

Roberts

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

10

Fred:

Mike would like your comments on
the attached.

Thanks.

WILLIAM F. SITTMANN

FF

130830 Cc



Mr. William F. Sittmann
Special Assistant to the President and
Special Assistant to the Deputy
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Ray Scherer
Vice President, Washington

Dear Mr. Sittmann:

February 23, 1983

I used to go to Joe Canzeri on matters like this. Joe tells me I might try it out on you.

Briefly, The RCA Space Center is celebrating its 25th anniversary on March 28, 1983. They are planning a big celebration and would very much like a letter from the President.

RCA Astro is a high tech outfit if there ever was one. We noted President Reagan's tribute to high tech in the State of the Union message and hope that such a congratulatory letter would be consistent with the kind of anniversary messages a president sends.

If this is possible, one letter should go to RCA Chairman Bradshaw and the other to Charles A. Schmidt, general manager of RCA Astro-Electronics.

The PR people from the space center have sent me a draft of the kind of letter they'd like. I find it a bit lyrical, but it will give your message writers the idea. I also enclose a memo on what RCA Astro-Electronics has accomplished in the years since 1958.

Please send me a copy of whatever letter you might send.

Yours,

and thovler
Ray Scherer

Enclosure(s)

THE WHITE HOUSE

Mr. Charles A. Schmidt
Division Vice President and
General Manager
RCA Astro-Electronics
P. O. Box 800
Princeton, New Jersey 08540

Dear Mr. Schmidt:

Congratulations on the 25th anniversary of RCA Astro-Electronics in Hightstown, N.J.

When RCA decided to open Astro-Electronics just after the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, your company demonstrated its commitment to help put America first in the space race.

You have proven equal to that challenge. It was RCA equipment that transmitted the first voice in space, President Dwight D. Eisenhower in 1958. Your equipment allowed millions of Americans to watch Neil Armstrong set foot on the moon in 1969. And today you are developing direct broadcast satellites to expand the entertainment available in our homes across the country.

As I said in the State of the Union message January 25, Americans are now pioneering in the miracle industry of high technology. Your space shuttle cameras and radio equipment serve to demonstrate that we are first in the world in space exploration. The satellites you build for the Air Force and the Navy keep our country's defenses strong.

This administration is committed to keeping America the technological leader of the world now and into the 21st century. We need more people like you and your employees.

(s) Ronald Reagan

THE WHITE HOUSE

Mr. Thornton F. Bradshaw
Chairman
RCA Corporation
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10020

Dear Mr. Bradshaw:

Congratulations on the 25th anniversary of RCA Astro-Electronics in Hightstown, N.J.

When RCA decided to open Astro-Electronics just after the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, your company demonstrated its commitment to help put America first in the space race.

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This administration is committed to keeping America the technological leader of the world now and into the 21st century. We need more people like you and your employees.

(s) Ronald Reagan

At Will

March 28, 1983

BACKGROUND: RCA ASTRO-ELECTRONICS

MARKS 25 YEARS OF INNOVATION

In March, 1958, a few months after the launch of Sputnik I, RCA established an "Astro-Electronics Products Division" at Princeton, N.J. It was the first time an electronics company committed itself to a major role in America's newborn space program.

RCA Astro-Electronics was given the responsibility to "develop and produce Earth satellites, space vehicles, and their associated ground equipment."

RCA Astro-Electronics has designed and constructed more than 100 satellites and subsystems which have logged more than 1,259 years of orbiting time, traveling over 183 billion miles, and circling the Earth more than six million times.

Here are some of RCA Astro's most notable achievements:

--1958 As part of Project SCORE, RCA Astro-built radio equipment placed aboard a suborbital Atlas rocket beams the first recorded message from outer space back to Earth. It was a Christmas message of peace from President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

--1960 Echo I, the first passive communications satellite, is launched. It carried tracking beacons and an associated power supply system built by RCA Astro.

--1960 TIROS I, the world's first meteorological satellite, is launched. Designed and built by RCA Astro, it remained operational for 89 days and returned more than 22,000 pictures of the Earth's weather.

--1961 TIROS III, launched in July, sets a dramatic precedent when it discovers a major hurricane before conventional radar or search aircraft spotted the storm.

--1962 Relay I, the first medium-altitude active repeater communications satellite, is developed by RCA Astro and launched by NASA. It establishes a standard for satellite reliability and longevity, operating for 26 months.

--1964 In tandem with Relay I, Relay II, launched in January, conducts 5,000 TV, voice, teletype and facsimile experiments and demonstrations. Among them: live transmission to the U.S. of a Soviet military parade in Moscow.

--1964 Before crash-landing on the moon, Ranger VII, carrying an RCA Astro-built TV system, beams 4,000 high-quality photos back to the Earth. Included are the first close-ups of the lunar surface.

--1965 TIROS IX returns more than 88,000 photographs, including the first complete view of the world's weather.

--1966 RCA Astro builds the first operational weather satellites for the Environmental Science Services Administration -- ESSA 1, 2, and 3.

--1967 For the three Lunar Orbiter missions, RCA Astro builds communications and power supply systems and assists in spacecraft design, systems engineering, environmental testing, and on-site technical support. The spacecraft provided high-resolution pictures of future Apollo lunar landing sites.

--1968 A hand-held TV camera built by RCA Astro makes possible live close-up views of Apollo 7 astronauts in their Command Module and, in Apollo 8, spectacular live views of the moon and Earth.

--1970 A second generation of operational meteorological satellites is introduced with the launching of ITOS I (Improved TIROS Operational System.)

--1971 Used for the first time on the Apollo 15 mission, RCA Astro's Ground Commanded Color TV Assembly (GCTA) provided home viewers with the sharpest pictures ever sent from the moon, including live coverage of the Lunar Module liftoff from the lunar surface.

--1971 RCA Astro provides high-resolution return beam vidicon TV cameras for Landsat I, first in a series of satellites using remote sensing devices to survey the Earth's natural resources and monitor man's impact on the environment. These cameras were the highest-resolution TV systems ever flown by NASA.

--1973 NASA launches the first of three Atmosphere Explorer satellites. Designed by RCA Astro, they collected data on the interaction between the sun's energy and the Earth's Upper atmosphere.

--1975 RCA Satcom I is launched, transmitting TV, voice, and other data signals throughout the U.S.

--1976 After a 450-million mile journey, two Viking spacecraft touch down on the surface of Mars and beam historic pictures back to Earth via communications subsystems developed and built by RCA Astro.

--1978 TIROS-N, the forerunner of a new TIROS series, is launched in October.

--1981 Two Dynamics Explorer satellites, built by RCA Astro, are placed in orbit by NASA. They provide scientists with a clearer understanding of the interaction between solar winds and the Earth's magnetic fields.

--1981 The Space Shuttle Columbia successfully completes its maiden voyage. A closed circuit TV system built by RCA Astro transmits live TV pictures back to Earth during the flight.

--1982 RCA Astro completes a study on the feasibility of placing a TIROS satellite into orbit around an asteroid (Asteroid Rendezvous Mission).


--1982 RCA Satcom V, the world's first operational all-solid state domestic communications satellite, is launched. RCA Astro selected to be the first supplier of Direct Broadcast Satellites (DBS).

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 20, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR WHITE HOUSE STAFF

FROM: RICHARD G. DARMAN 

SUBJECT: Guidelines for Special Presidential Messages

Attached for your information and use are Guidelines for Presidential Messages.

The guidelines note what messages and letters may be sent out over the President's signature to recognize various special occasions, events, and circumstances.

Presidential messages are handled either in the Office of Special Presidential Messages (SPM) or the Office of White House Correspondence (WHC). The guidelines also note the types of messages and letters for which each of these offices is responsible.

Dodie Livingston, Special Assistant to the President, is Director of the Office of Special Presidential Messages (SPM). She can be reached at x2941, Room 480-OEOB.

Anne Higgins, Special Assistant to the President, is Director of the Office of White House Correspondence (WHC). She can be reached at x7610, Room 94-OEOB.

If you have questions, please call their offices.

August 1982

GUIDELINES FOR SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

It is traditional that Presidential Messages be issued over the President's signature to recognize various special occasions, events, and circumstances.

These Guidelines reflect traditional practices dating back through several previous Administrations as well as new program initiatives undertaken by the Reagan Administration. Their purpose is to clarify what messages may be authorized, to assure there is no unnecessary duplication of effort, and to maintain proper standards for messages. As in all matters involving the use of the President's name, no message should be promised before it has been approved.

Two White House offices -- the Office of Special Presidential Messages (SPM) and the Office of White House Correspondence (WHC) -- have operational responsibility for the issuance of Presidential Messages.

In most instances, the Office of Special Presidential Messages (SPM) handles messages for public events while the Office of White House Correspondence (WHC) handles messages for individuals. However, for your convenience, the acronyms (SPM) and (WHC) will identify which office processes the messages explained in the categories that follow:

1. MESSAGES OVER THE PRESIDENT'S SIGNATURE USUALLY WILL BE LIMITED TO:

- a. Major national conventions, annual meetings, or events of significant national organizations. These include fraternal, religious, trade, ethnic, historical, military, educational, and other groups. Local, state, or regional branches or chapters of these organizations normally do not qualify. (SPM)
- b. Commemorative events. Certain annual observances that are not accorded Proclamations are recognized with a Presidential Message. These observances must be on a national scale. They include Black History Month; Crime Prevention, Brotherhood, Library, and Secretaries Weeks; and Lincoln's Birthday, St. Patrick's Day, etc. (SPM)
- c. Political/Congressional events. These are handled case by case in accord with guidelines jointly applied by the Office of Legislative Affairs, the Office of Political Affairs, and the Office of Special Presidential Messages. (SPM)

- d. Tributes to outstanding national figures. (SPM)
- e. Local testimonials when specifically authorized by the President. (SPM)
- f. Significant anniversaries of non-profit service organizations and institutions. (SPM)
- g. Charitable or fundraising events -- only as follows: The President recognizes certain major fundraising organizations such as the American Red Cross, Cancer Association, etc., at their annual dinners or conventions. Unless the President or Mrs. Reagan or both have specifically endorsed an event, the Office of the President is not to be associated with a specific fundraising event. There is a limited exception to this stringent rule: In certain instances, when an event is consistent with the President's Private Sector Initiatives program, messages may be issued for fundraisers if cleared by the Director of Special Presidential Messages and the Special Assistant to the President for Private Sector Initiatives. (SPM)
- h. Autographed pictures: Available in connection with White House business. (WHC)
- i. Bar/Bath Mitzvahs, ordinations, confirmations, baptisms, etc.: Routine requests receive general religious card. Important members of Congress, White House staff, friends of the White House receive special letters. (WHC)
- j. Birthdays: 100 years and over, form letter; 80-99 years, card; members of Congress, form letter; White House staff, members of Cabinet, more important members of Congress, national celebrities, special letter. (WHC)
- k. Birth of baby: Routine requests, card; members of Congress, friends of the White House, White House staff, special letter. (WHC)
- l. Church, synagogue anniversaries: 50 years and over, form letter; less than 50, general religious occasion card. (WHC)
- m. City, town, county anniversaries: 50 years or more for large cities, form letter; centennials or more of large cities, form letter; centennials or more of small towns, cities, or counties, form letter. (WHC)
- n. Condolence cards and letters: Routine requests, card; friends of the President, firemen killed in the line of duty, etc., special letter. (WHC)
- o. Human interest: Special letters to those deserving of special attention on an individual basis. (WHC)

- p. Newspaper anniversaries: 50 years or more, form letter. (WHC)
- q. Radio station anniversaries: 50 years or more, form letter. (WHC)
- r. Religious anniversaries (nuns, ministers, rabbis, etc.): 35 years or more, form letter. (WHC)
- s. Religious retirements: 50 years or more, form letter. (WHC)
- t. Retirements: 35 years or more, form letter; under 35 years, card; special letters to White House employees, Congressional requests, Uniformed Division of Secret Service, volunteers, etc. (WHC)
- u. Scouting awards: Cards designating specific award. (WHC)
- v. Wedding anniversaries: 60 years or more, form letter, 50 years or more, card; special letters to members of Congress, friends of the White House, etc. (WHC)

2. THE FOLLOWING GENERALLY WILL NOT QUALIFY FOR MESSAGES

- a. Events of a commercial nature or events sponsored by a profit-making organization.
- b. Local testimonials (unless the individual is known by the President).
- c. Tributes to members of the Judiciary (other than standard letters on retirement or assumption of "senior status").
- d. Tributes to military personnel.
- e. Individuals or groups travelling abroad in an unofficial capacity or those who are not specifically authorized to speak for the President -- except as may be specifically approved by the National Security Adviser.
- f. Events sponsored by licensing bodies or local authorities.
- g. Ceremonies conferring honorary degrees.
- h. Presentation ceremonies, tributes, or awards to U.S. citizens by foreign governments or their consular services.

3. APPEAL PROCESS: If a staff member believes that an event or person not qualifying under these policies should receive a message with the President's signature, he or she should

consult with the Office of Special Presidential Messages or the Office of White House Correspondence -- whichever is applicable -- on the question. If not satisfied, he should pursue his inquiry through appropriate Senior Staff channels.

4. TIMING: Message requests should reach either the Office of Special Presidential Messages or the Office of White House Correspondence at least ten days ahead of the due date to allow time for research, preparation, and clearances. The staffs of both offices do their best to accommodate emergencies but cannot always guarantee delivery of messages to distant points without sufficient notice. When in doubt about timing, please consult the appropriate office.
5. SUGGESTIONS: The Office of Special Presidential Messages and the Office of White House Correspondence welcome background information and/or suggestions on the content and tone of messages when staff members have particular insights or information on the subject.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 20, 1983

FOR: FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Request for President to Recreate the
Signing of the Last Letter by General
Washington as Commander-in-Chief of
the Continental Army

Frank Finnegan, Press Director of the Steuben Society of America, has written Larry Speakes to request that the President "recreate" the signing of Washington's last letter as Commander-in-Chief to General von Steuben on December 23, 1783. General von Steuben is apparently something of a patron saint to German-Americans. Finnegan asks that the President sign his last letter of 1983 as close to December 23 as possible, and that it be sent to Steuben Society Chairman Robert Diedolf. Finnegan also offered to send down someone dressed as General von Steuben, and some singers and dancers to liven up the ceremony.

I see nothing wrong with the President sending a nice message on December 23 to Diedolf to commemorate the anniversary (if Research agrees with Finnegan's history), but I really do not see the point -- or the possibility -- of having this be the last Presidential letter of 1983. A draft memorandum to Speakes, copy to Higgins, is attached.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 24, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR LARRY M. SPEAKES
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
PRINCIPAL DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY

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

SUBJECT: Request for the President to Recreate the
Signing of the Last Letter by General
Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the
Continental Army

We have reviewed the letter sent to you by Frank Finnegan, Press Relations Director of the Steuben Society of America, requesting that the President "recreate" George Washington's signing of his last letter as Commander-in-Chief. According to Finnegan, Washington's last such letter was signed on December 23, 1783, and sent to General von Steuben. Finnegan proposes that the President sign his "last letter of 1983" as close to December 23 as possible, and have it be a letter to Steuben Society Chairman Robert Diedolf.

We would have no objection to observing the 200th anniversary of Washington's letter to von Steuben with a December 23 letter from the President to the Steuben Society, assuming verification of the historical facts. (This could also tie in with the 300th (Tricentennial) of German-American relations.) We do not, however, see much point in making this the last Presidential letter of 1983, even if that were feasible.

cc: Anne Higgins

FFF:JGR:aea 10/24/83

bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 24, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR LARRY M. SPEAKES
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
PRINCIPAL DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Request for the President to Recreate the
Signing of the Last Letter by General
Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the
Continental Army

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cc: Anne Higgins

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 20, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR LARRY M. SPEAKES
ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT AND
PRINCIPAL DEPUTY PRESS SECRETARY

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Request for the President to Recreate the
Signing of the Last Letter by General Washington
as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army

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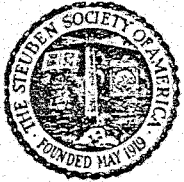
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cc: Anne Higgins

Home: 166 No. Bedford Rd
Chappaqua, N.Y. 10514

National Press Relations Director

Frank D.X. Finnegan



National Council
STEUBEN SOCIETY OF AMERICA

6705 FRESH POND ROAD
RIDGEWOOD, N. Y. 11385
Tel.: 212-381-0900

Home Phone: (914) 238-4291

ROBERT H. DIEDOLF, National Chairman
ILSE HOFFMANN, National Secretary

September 19, 1983

Mr. Larry Speakes
Presidential Press Sect.
The White House
Washington, D.C.

*Sally
C. Shank
to Fred
Muller*

171233

Larry:

As an old Reagan supporter - worked on three press conferences during his NYC campaign including the great Al Smith dinner with Jimmy Carter - I am trying to keep a good portion of the 52-million German-Americans on the Republican line. And as a press agent for some 37-years I can say you are doing a great job in spite of the ultra-liberal press pounding you from all sides.

The Steuben Society of America, the largest civic, cultural and educational organization of Americans of German descent in the country, have a big favor to ask our great President Ronald Reagan.

This coming December 23rd is the 200th Anniversary of the signing of the last letter by General George Washington as Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army. He sent this letter to our patron Maj. Gen. Friedrich William Baron von Steuben thanking him for the contribution he made in training the Continental troops at Valley Forge which led to ultimate victory against the British in the Revolutionary War. The next day he left for his home in Mount Vernon.

We are proud of this letter (a copy hangs over my desk).

52-million German-Americans (the largest ethnic group in the country) would be proud as all heck if President Reagan would recreate this scene by signing his last letter of 1983 (before he goes on his Christmas vacation) nearest the Dec. 23rd date as a tribute to this historic date in American history.

Our National Chairman Robert Diedolf would be the recipient of this historic letter. Possibly we can bring down one of our members dressed as Gen. von Steuben, have singers and dancers liven up the ceremony. You are aware the Germans brought the Christmas tree to America and Silent Night is a German hymn.

I can assure you if President Reagan gives us this honor he'll get more German-American votes than any other ethnic group.

Enclosed is background material on General von Steuben.

Regards, Frank D.X. Finnegan

Duty, Justice, Charity and Tolerance!

Chappaqua, N.Y. - Home of the Steuben Society of America



National Council
STEUBEN SOCIETY OF AMERICA

6705 FRESH POND ROAD
RIDGWOOD, N. Y. 11385
Tel.: 212-381-0900

ROBERT H. DIEDOLF, National Chairman
ILSE HOFFMANN, National Secretary

Frank D.X. Finnegan
National Press Relations Dir.
Home: (914) 238-4291

*Frank Finnegan
National Secretary*

*Congressman had some nice
words to say about this Region.*

April 22, 1983

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KNOCKWURST-BRAIWURST-SAUERBRATEN TO REPLACE PIZZA AND SUSHI
AS NATIONAL FOOD FAVORITES DURING GERMAN-AMERICAN TRICENTENNIAL YEAR.
CONGRESSMAN STRATTON LAUNCHES SIX MONTH CELEBRATION EATING
SAUERBRATEN AT STEUBEN SOCIETY NATIONAL DINNER - BAVARIAN CHALET,
GUILDERLAND, N.Y., - APRIL 23, 1983.

Some 30-million knockwurst, bratwurst, weisswurst, bockwurst, schnitzles, frankfurters, sauerbraten and dumplings and apfel strudels will be eaten with over 50-million gallons of beer quaffed, wine, soda, tea and coffee consumed during 1983 the Tricentennial (300th Anniversary) of Germans coming to America according to a survey by the Steuben Society of America.

Robert H. Diedolf, Chairman of the Steuben Society of America, a national civic, patriotic and cultural fraternal society of Americans of German descent, said today, "What well may be the largest ethnic celebration in U.S. History will take place in the next six months when some 20-million German-Americans will take part in over 2,000 festivals, picnics, carnivals, musical, art and literary events and Lutheran and Catholic Kolping services in such places as New Braunfels, Texas, Nassau County, N.Y., Columbia, Ill., St. Petersburg, Fla., New Ulm, Minn., San Francisco, Ca., Frankenmuth, Mich., Saugerties and Hunter Mt. N.Y., Schuetzen Park in North Bergen, N.J., as well as ... such heavily populated centers of German-American activity as St. Louis, Chicago,

Duty, Justice, Charity and Tolerance!

Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, New York, Westchester and Putnam Counties, N.Y., Rochester, N.Y., and all over Florida."

The Steuben Society will launch this six month celebration of the Tricentennial at its Annual National Council Dinner to be held in the Bavarian Chalet in Guilderland, N.Y. (outside of Albany) with guest of honor Congressman Samuel S. Stratton (Dem.-Amsterdam, N.Y.), dean of the New York Congressional delegation and a high ranking member of the Armed Services Committee, taking repast in a sauerbraten and dumpling dinner. The 300th Anniversary celebration comes to a close during the Oktoberfest season with a gala banquet in Philadelphia on October 6, 1983, with President Ronald "Dutch" Reagan and Federal Republic of West Germany's President Karl Carstens as guests of honor.

It was 300-years ago October 6, 1683 when the first group of settlers (13 families - 33 people in all - mostly Mennonites) from Krefeld, Germany on the good ship "Concord" (considered by many to be the German-American "Mayflower") landed in Philadelphia, Pa. "Deutschstadt" was the name given to their first settlement, some six miles north of Philadelphia. Before long, the name was changed to Germantown which is an integral part of the bustling city of "Brotherly Love."

The 1980 figures of the U.S. Census Bureau list 52-million Americans, or 28.8 per cent of the total population to have some German ancestry. Only a small part of this the largest ethnic group in the U.S. was born in Germany. The vast majority are descendants of the seven million Germans who immigrated to America over the course of three centuries.

From the North Sea to the Rhine from the Elbe to the Baltic to the Bavarian Alps they came with their music, their festivals, their religious fervor, their colorful costumes, their industriousness, their *gemutlichkeit* (cordiality and friendliness) to make a contribution second to none as an ethnic group to the building of America.

They may have been Swabians, Hamburgers, Berliners, Cannstatters, Hanoverians, Plattdeutsches, Bavarians, Gottscheers and Silesians but in their adopted country they and their descendants were proud to be Americans.

A 20-cent commemorative stamp marking the 300th Anniversary year of the arrival of the first German immigrants in the U.S. will be issued April 29 in Germantown, Pa. The eyes of the world will be focused on the 100th Anniversary celebration of the birthday of the Brooklyn Bridge on May 24, 1983. The bridge's designer Johann Augustus Roebling was born in Mulhausen, Germany. A 20-cent commemorative stamp marking this occasion will be issued on May 17, 1983 in Brooklyn, N.Y.

Some of the top Tricentennial festivals during this summer and fall will be A German Summer Fest and the Visit of the German tall ship "Gorch Foch" to Penn's Landing in Philadelphia, the performance of "The Bamberg Symphony Orchestra" at Carnegie Hall in N.Y.C., the marching of some 50,000 German-Americans and guests from Germany up New York's Fifth Avenue in the annual Steuben Day Parade on September 24, 1983 the German Heritage Festival at the Garden State Art Center, Holmdel, N.J., the Bavarian Family Festival in Frankenmuth, Michigan, the St. Louis, Mo. Strassenfest (Street Festival), the Heritagefest in New Ulm, Minn., the huge Tricentennial fests at the 300th birthday of the founding of the Hudson Valley at Saugerties, N.Y., the German Alps Festival at Hunter, N.Y., the German Night at Eisenhower Park, East Meadow, L.I..

The Steuben Society of America was founded in 1919 and has a long record of activity in public, cultural and educational affairs. This national society of German-Americans is named after Maj. Gen. Friedrich Wilhelm Baron von Steuben (pronounced oy as in toy) - the Prussian born Revolutionary War hero who came to our shores in 1777 to train the ragged troops of General George Washington at Valley Forge in the Fight for Independence. Steuben is buried in a State Memorial site in Remsen, N.Y., outside of Utica, N.Y.

With his battle experience gained in Prussia under Frederick The Great, Steuben was the only officer in command at Yorktown who had ever been present at a siege. He had the honor of being Commander of the lead division in the trenches when the British flag was lowered. His manual on "rules and order of discipline" called the "Blue Book" were used by the U.S. Army for generations. He instituted

the first military maneuvers, inspection of troops, drills and military formation for an American Army. He was the creator of the discharge papers from military service. He instituted the first discipline in our armed forces and was organizer of its military system and economy. The first budget for military wares was drawn up by Steuben saving our Treasury over \$600,000 (a lot of money for Revolutionary times). He was both a military and economic genius.

Steuben proposed plans to George Washington for a military academy of officers who would have to take courses in Latin, Greek, Math., Science, literature, physical education, social graces as well as military science and training. This plan developed into the Citadel of the South and West Point. Of all the ethnic people after whom a parade is named in N.Y.C. St. Patrick, Columbus, Pulaski ... Steuben is the only person ever to live in N.Y.C. (at the Lourve on East 68 St. where now stands New York Hospital) and the only one to have become a citizen of the United States. He was honored with Alexander Hamilton, Generals Knox, Greene and Wayne and New York Mayor James Duane and Samuel Fraunces (owner) to be present at Washington's "farewell to his troops" speech at Fraunces Tavern in N.Y.C., now a historic museum.

He was chosen a regent of the State University of N.Y., and a founder of the Order of Cincinnati (the alumni organization of Revolutionary officers). Congress voted him a pension of \$2500 for his military service and the State of N.Y. gave him a gift of 16,000 acres in Remsen, N.Y. (outside of Utica) where he is buried in a memorial grove. Outside of Washington Steuben probably had more headquarters than any other Revolutionary general .. at Valley Forge, the battle of Monmouth, N.J., the James River in Virginia, the Siege at Yorktown, River Edge, N.J., West Point, N.Y., Knox Headquarters in Vails Gate, N.Y. (Orange Co. the Highlands overlooking the Hudson River. A huge statue and monument of Steuben stands in our nation's capitol (Washington, D.C.)

However distinct and valuable were the material contributions, such as

agriculture, its paper manufacturing, its weaving and milling industries, the German settlement in colonial Pennsylvania was still more remarkable for another feature,-a monument built more enduring than brass, erected for the cause of humanity, that will make Germantown forever memorable in the annals of the people of the United States. This was Germantown's protest against negro slavery, made in the year 1688, the first formal action ever taken against the barter in human flesh within the boundaries of the United States.

On the 18th of April, 1688 the Germans had the courage to petition in protest to the Quakers, the proprietors of the Colony of Pennsylvania, to take steps to abolish the barbarous institution of slavery. This document is still in existence. The Germantown Germans denounced slavery as immoral and against the laws of God and morality.

One of the most patriotic events ever chronicled in American history is that memorable scene which took place in the Lutheran Church in Woodstock, Va., when Pastor Peter Muhlenberg gave his last sermon in January 1776. At the close of his sermon the minister spoke of the duties we owe our country, saying with a fervor born of conviction that "there was a time for preaching and praying, but also a time for battle, and that such a time had now arrived." He pronounced the benediction threw off his clerical robe, and behold, minister no more, he stood in the uniform of a Colonel of the Continental Army. As he slowly descended from the pulpit the drums were beaten outside the church, for the mustering of the soldiers in the cause of freedom. Four hundred recruits were at once taken into the regiment of Muhlenberg which later distinguished itself at Brandywine, Germantown, Valley Forge and the battle of Monmouth N.J.

Duty, Tolerance, Charity and Justice are not only cornerstones of the Structure of the Steuben Society of America but are fundamental to the existence of the American Republic itself.

The contribution of Americans of German descent which will be highlighted during this Tricentennial (300th Birthday) Celebration is the top news story of 1983...



National Council

Frank D.X. Finnegan

STEUBEN SOCIETY OF AMERICA

6705 FRESH POND ROAD
RIDGEWOOD, N. Y. 11385
Tel.: 212-381-0900

Home Phone: (914) 238-4291

ROBERT H. DIÉDOLF, National Chairman
ILSE HOFFMANN, National Secretary

September 13, 1983

For Immediate Release

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE DEDICATES BUST OF GENERAL von STEUBEN
REVOLUTIONARY WAR HERO AT GERMAN-AMERICAN TRICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
VALLEY FORGE, Pa. - Saturday - September 17th - 3:00 p.m.

The Steuben Society of America, the largest national patriotic, civic and cultural organization of Americans of German descent, will have the honor of having the National Park Service dedicate a life size bust in honor of its patron Maj. Gen. Friedrich Wilhelm Baron von Steuben at Valley Forge National Park, Valley, Forge, Pa. on Saturday, Sept. 17th at 3:00 p.m. it was announced today by Robert H. Diedolf, National Chairman of the Steuben Society of America. (Mr. Diedolf hails from Patchogue, N.Y.)

The bust, paid for by the United States government, was executed by Hungarian-born sculpter Professor Josef Kendetagi Orsolya whose studio is in Norfolk, Va.

The ceremony at Valley Forge is sponsored by the Pastorius Unit No. 38 of Philadelphia whose chairlady is Ms. Kathe E. Kaiser.

Mr. Herman Witte, vice chairman of the Pastorius Unit will be master of ceremonies.

The Rev. Engelbert Michel of St. Henry's of Philadelphia will give the invocation. Wallace B. Elms, Superintendent of the Valley Forge National Park Service, will welcome Steubenites from throughout the country to the bust unveiling. The main speaker at the event

Duty, Justice, Charity and Tolerance!

Steuben Bust Dedication No. 2

will be Professor Russell F. Weigley of the History Dept. of Temple University .

The annual "Von Steuben Cadet Military Training Award" will be given to Nicholas L. Manthos of the Valley Forge Military Academy and Junior College.

Ms. Beth Woodward, of Huntingdon Valley, Pa. the Cornflower Queen of the Philadelphia Steuben Day Parade, to be held on Oct. 1, will unveil the bust along with Richard L. von Steuben, a student at Widener Univ., who is a direct descendant of General von Steuben's uncle.

Princesses Christina Roesler and Karin C. Hehlinger of the Steuben Day Parade will lay a wreath at the bust. Music at the event will be supplied by the Damenchor Heimatcho singing society of Philadelphia.

Ms. Ilse Hoffmann of Larchmont, N.Y., National Secretary of the Steuben Society of America will deliver the closing prayer.

Sept. 17th, the day of the bust dedication, is the 253rd anniversary of General von Steuben's birthday. A replica of his headquarters is at one end of Valley Forge National Park and a huge statue of Steuben overlooks the parade grounds where he drilled a ragged group of volunteers during the winter of 1778 into America's first organized army. Steuben's appearance at Valley Forge is hailed by historians as the turning point of the Revolutionary War-- without his service we Americans may well be under British rule today.

The Steuben bust dedication is one of several thousand ceremonies taking place across America during this the Tricentennial Year of the first organized immigration of German settlers to America- the 300th Anniversary celebration taking place in Philadelphia on Oct. 6th, 1983.:

*****Philadelphia contact:
Kathe E. Kaiser (215) 947-2596

MAY 20 -83

This is from your own Gonnett paper near me on White Plains.

Germans have lots to celebrate

By J. Franklin Jones *SJB*

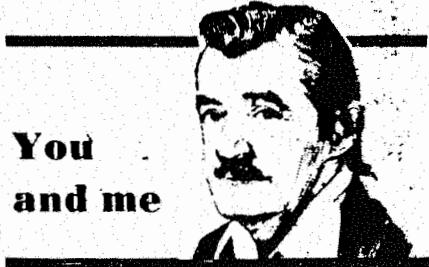
All surveys indicate that during the summer and early fall about 30 million knockwurst, bratwurst, weisswurst, schnitzeles, frankfurters, sauerbraten, dumplings and apfel strudeks — washed down with 50 million gallons of beer — will be eaten and drunk as we carry out part of the Tricentennial celebration. Especially in Brooklyn!

You see, all the beer and hot dogs are just the German part of the Tricentennial whing-ding and sponsored by the Steuben Society of America. The other nationalities undoubtedly will follow during the year and I'll get around to them as they happen.

Unfortunately, a lot of people, including me, are all mixed up with the Bicentennial we had seven years ago and this Tricentennial we're having now. The Bicentennial celebrated the time when the United States became a nation. The Tricentennial is to celebrate when Westchester became a political entity under the colonial government in the 17th century.

After browsing for three hours in the White Plains Library the other afternoon all I could come up with was this: "Westchester County as a unit of government MAY BE SAID to begin in 1683." However, that "maybe" is what we're celebrating this year. As I read on, "The County Town where the court was held was at first Westchester. The town which gave its name to the county is no longer a part of the county" It's in the Bronx

You
and me



Westchester County and the arrival of the first Germans in America coincide. They both came about in 1683. That's when the Germans joined up with us Irish and Welsh and French and Dutch and English and Scandinavians to build a new country of freedom and independence.

It was on Oct. 6, 1683 that the first German settlers — 13 families, 33 people — first came to this country. A hundred years later, when we were fighting our Revolutionary War, the Germans did their part. One of the generals who came over here to help out Washington, along with Lafayette, was Maj. Gen. Freidrich Wilhelm Baron von Steuben.

We gotta get one thing straightened out at the outset. The baron's name is NOT pronounced "stewben" like in oyster stew. It's pronounced "oy" like in toy or ship ahoy. Baron von Steuben as he was known in Prussia.

The baron was in all the major battles of the war and was at Valley Forge but he had more headquarters than anyone except George himself. At Monmouth, Yorktown, River's Edge, N.J.; West Point and Vails Gate in Orange County.

they did and defeated the British right across the river at Stony Point. It was the first battle ever won by the Americans without ever having fired a shot.

After the war, von Steuben proposed plans to Washington for a military academy at the Citadel of the South and for our own West Point. He was present when Washington delivered his "farewell to the troops" at the establishment of another German known as Fraunces Tavern.

But there's one strange thing we might call Ed Koch's attention to, and that is that of all the ethnic leaders for whom a parade is named in Manhattan — St. Patrick, Columbus, Pulaski — Steuben was the only one who lived in New York and who became a U.S. citizen.

It's to be noted that von Steuben was a regent of the State University of New York (SUNY) and founded the Order of Cincinnati. Later Congress gave him a pension of \$2,500 and the state gave him a gift of 16,000 acres at Remsen where he is buried.

Many Germans who migrated to America left their mark in the many contributions they left us. All of us newspaper ginks probably wouldn't have a job today if it weren't for another young fellow who came over from Germany and settled in Eastchester known as John Peter Zenger. He was a printer and journalist who came here in 1710 and started the "New York Weekly Journal" to oppose the policies of the provincial government. He was brought to trial for seditious libel in 1734, was defended by Alexander Hamilton and acquitted. The decision in his case

Next Tuesday is gonna be one helluva noisy, raucous day from the Gowanus to Greenpernt. Thousands of barrels of beer, millions of pretzels and miles of frankfurters will be unleashed as the burghers celebrate the 100th anniversary of "The eighth wonder of the world," as it was called in 1883 — the BROOKLYN BRIDGE!

This event is mentioned here because the bridge, the greatest suspension bridge of its time, was planned and built by a German named John Augustus Roebling. Unfortunately, he died of lockjaw while building it. However, his son Washington saw the bridge completed from his window in Brooklyn Heights after he suffered the bends. But he saw the Roebling family's dream come true.

They had quite a shebang in Brooklyn that day 100 years ago. President Chester A. Arthur and New York Gov. Grover Cleveland led the way across the bridge. Washington Roebling could only watch the culmination of 14 years work from his bedroom window. However, he lived to the ripe old age of 89, dying in 1926.

A week after the bridge opened, on Memorial Day, catastrophe struck. With 20,000 people on the bridge a woman fell on one of the stairways, another woman screamed, some nut shouted that the bridge was collapsing and a stampede broke out killing 12 people.

But today, 100 years later, the bridge still stands as a memorial to the Germans who built it — John A. and Washington Roebling.

J. Franklin Jones writes a twice-

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 21, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Request from Harry Dent, Billy Graham Lay Center, for a Presidential Message for Radio Station WMHK Regarding Year of the Bible

Radio station WMHK, a non-commercial "Christian" radio station in South Carolina, is planning to celebrate The Year of the Bible by reading the entire Bible over the air the last three days of 1983. Station director J.D. Morrison wrote the President to invite him to open the event by providing a taped reading of Genesis Chapter One. Harry Dent raised the matter with Lee Atwater, who told Dent WMHK may have to settle for a letter. Dodie Livingston sent the entire package to us, asking for our comments by close of business Monday.

It seems clear that the President should not participate directly in the WMHK program by providing a taped segment. While I would have no serious objection to a brief message concerning WMHK's program, there is always the danger that the station would use the message to promote itself and the program. Since the station competes for listeners with other stations, I do not think the fact that it is "non-commercial" makes much of a difference. The safest course would be simply to let the Proclamation on the Year of the Bible speak for itself, and to advise WMHK that the President's thoughts on the subject are contained in the Proclamation. The attached drafts implement this course of action.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 21, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR DODIE LIVINGSTON
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR, SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

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

SUBJECT: Request from Harry Dent, Billy Graham
Lay Center, for a Presidential Message
for Radio Station WMHK Regarding Year
of the Bible

You have asked for our views on WHMK's request that the President participate in its reading of the Bible over the air during the last three days of the year in commemoration of the Year of the Bible. In the alternative it has been suggested that the President send a message to WMHK concerning the program.

We recommend that the President neither provide a taped reading nor send a special message. There is, in our view, too great a danger that the President's name will be misused in promotional efforts should it become associated with a particular radio station or particular radio program. The Year of the Bible Proclamation was carefully crafted to convey the President's views on this subject, mindful of the sensitivities involved, and we should let it speak for itself. I propose to send the attached response to Mr. Morrison.

Attachment

FFF:JGR:aea 10/21/83

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
Subj
Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 21, 1983

Dear Mr. Morrison:

This is written in response to your letter of September 20 to the President. In that letter you described the plans of radio station WMHK to celebrate the Year of the Bible by reading through the entire Bible over the air during the last three days of 1983. You invited the President to participate in the program by preparing a taped reading of Genesis Chapter One.

We appreciate the kind sentiments expressed in your letter, but we must decline your gracious invitation. I trust you will appreciate the difficulties that would arise were the President to participate in your program. Such action would in all likelihood generate a flood of similar requests from other stations, and we would be hard-pressed to distinguish them. Accordingly, fairness dictates that we adhere to a policy of not accepting such invitations, however laudable the program in question. The President's views on the subject of your planned program were of course conveyed in the Proclamation he signed designating this year as the Year of the Bible.

Thank you for writing. I am sorry our reply could not be more favorable.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Mr. J. David Morrison
Post Office Box 3122
Columbia, SC 29230

FFF:JGR:aea 10/21/83
bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 21, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Request from Harry Dent, Billy Graham
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of the Bible

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Attachment

enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own . . . we have become too proud to pray to the God that made us!" Well, isn't it time for us to say, "We're not too proud to pray"?

We face great challenges in this country, but we've faced great challenges before and conquered them. What carried us through was a willingness to seek power and protection from One much greater than ourselves, to turn back to Him and to trust in His mercy. Without His help, America will not go forward.

I have a very special old Bible. And alongside a verse in the Second Book of Chronicles there are some words, handwritten, very faded by now. And, believe me, the person who wrote those words was an authority. Her name was Nelle Wilson Reagan. She was my mother. And she wrote about that verse, "A most wonderful verse for the healing of the nations."

Now, the verse that she'd marked reads: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven . . . and will heal their land."

I know that at times all of us—I do—feel that perhaps in our prayers we ask for too much. And then there are those other times when we feel that something isn't important enough to bother God with it. Maybe we should let Him decide those things.

The war correspondent Marguerite Higgins, who received the Pulitzer Prize for International Reporting because of her coverage of the Korean war, among all her writings had an account one day of the Fifth Company of marines who were part of an 18,000-man force that was in combat with a hundred thousand of the enemy. And she described an incident that took place early, just after dawn on a very cold morning. It was 42 degrees below zero. And the weary marines, half frozen stood by their dirty, mud-covered trucks, eating their breakfast from tin cans.

She saw one huge marine was eating cold beans with a trench knife. His clothes were frozen stiff as a board; his face was covered with a heavy beard and crusted with mud.

And one of the little group of war correspondents who were on hand went up to him and said, "If I were God and could grant you anything you wished, what would you most like?" And the marine stood there for a moment, looking down at that cold tin of beans, and then he raised his head and said, "Give me tomorrow."

Now I would like to sign a proclamation which will make 1983 the Year of the Bible. And I want to thank Senator Bill Armstrong and Representative Carlos Moorhead and all those inside and outside of Congress who assisted them and made this all possible. Thank you, and God bless you. And I'm going down and sign the proclamation.

Note: The President spoke at 9:03 a.m. in the International Ballroom at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

Year of the Bible, 1983

Proclamation 5018. February 3, 1983

By the President of the United States of America

A Proclamation

Of the many influences that have shaped the United States of America into a distinctive Nation and people, none may be said to be more fundamental and enduring than the Bible.

Deep religious beliefs stemming from the Old and New Testaments of the Bible inspired many of the early settlers of our country, providing them with the strength, character, convictions, and faith necessary to withstand great hardship and danger in this new and rugged land. These shared beliefs helped forge a sense of common purpose among the widely dispersed colonies—a sense of community which laid the foundation for the spirit of nationhood that was to develop in later decades.

The Bible and its teachings helped form the basis for the Founding Fathers' abiding belief in the inalienable rights of the individual, rights which they found implicit in the Bible's teachings of the inherent worth and dignity of each individual. This same

sense of man patterned the convictions of those who framed the English system of law inherited by our own Nation, as well as the ideals set forth in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution.

For centuries the Bible's emphasis on compassion and love for our neighbor has inspired institutional and governmental expressions of benevolent outreach such as private charity, the establishment of schools and hospitals, and the abolition of slavery.

Many of our greatest national leaders—among them Presidents Washington, Jackson, Lincoln, and Wilson—have recognized the influence of the Bible on our country's development. The plainspoken Andrew Jackson referred to the Bible as no less than "the rock on which our Republic rests." Today our beloved America and, indeed, the world, is facing a decade of enormous challenge. As a people we may well be tested as we have seldom, if ever, been tested before. We will need resources of spirit even more than resources of technology, education, and armaments. There could be no more fitting moment than now to reflect with gratitude, humility, and urgency upon the wisdom revealed to us in the writing that Abraham Lincoln called "the best gift God has ever given to man . . . But for it we could not know right from wrong."

The Congress of the United States, in recognition of the unique contribution of the Bible in shaping the history and character of this Nation, and so many of its citizens, has by Senate Joint Resolution 165 authorized and requested the President to designate the year 1983 as the "Year of the Bible."

Now, Therefore, I, Ronald Reagan, President of the United States of America, in recognition of the contributions and influence of the Bible on our Republic and our people, do hereby proclaim 1983 the Year of the Bible in the United States. I encourage all citizens, each in his or her own way, to reexamine and rediscover its priceless and timeless message.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this third day of February, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and eighty-three, and of the Independence of

the United States of America the two hundred and seventh.

Ronald Reagan

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 10:10 a.m., February 3, 1983]

Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation

Appointment of Three Members of the Board of Directors. February 3, 1983

The President today announced his intention to appoint the following individuals to be members of the Board of Directors of the Pennsylvania Avenue Development Corporation. The President also intends to designate Henry A. Berliner, Jr., as Chairman and Arthur A. Fletcher as Vice Chairman.

Henry A. Berliner, Jr., to serve for a term expiring October 26, 1988. He will succeed Thomas F. Murphy. He has been a senior partner in the law firm of Berliner & Maloney, Washington, D.C., since 1969. He is married, has three children, and resides in Washington. He was born February 9, 1934.

Arthur A. Fletcher to serve for a term expiring October 26, 1988. He will succeed Leonard A. Haft. He is president of Arthur A. Fletcher & Associates, Washington, D.C. He is married, has five children, and resides in Washington, D.C. He was born December 22, 1924.

Carl L. Shipley to serve for the remainder of the term expiring October 26, 1984. He will succeed Nathaniel Alexander Ownings. He is a senior member of the law firm of Shipley, Smoak & Henry in Washington, D.C. He is married, has two children, and resides in Washington. He was born December 16, 1919.

National Institute of Justice

Appointment of Bishop L. Robinson as a Member of the Advisory Board. February 3, 1983

The President today announced his intention to appoint Bishop L. Robinson to be a member of the National Institute of Justice Advisory Board for a term expiring January 11, 1986. This is a reappointment.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 21, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR DODIE LIVINGSTON
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR, SPECIAL PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Request from Harry Dent, Billy Graham
Lay Center, for a Presidential Message
for Radio Station WMHK Regarding Year
of the Bible

You have asked for our views on WHMK's request that the President participate in its reading of the Bible over the air during the last three days of the year in commemoration of the Year of the Bible. In the alternative it has been suggested that the President send a message to WMHK concerning the program.

We recommend that the President neither provide a taped reading nor send a special message. There is, in our view, too great a danger that the President's name will be misused in promotional efforts should it become associated with a particular radio station or particular radio program. The Year of the Bible Proclamation was carefully crafted to convey the President's views on this subject, mindful of the sensitivities involved, and we should let it speak for itself. I propose to send the attached response to Mr. Morrison.

FFF:JGR:aea 10/21/83

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
Subj
Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 21, 1983

Dear Mr. Morrison:

This is written in response to your letter of September 20 to the President. In that letter you described the plans of radio station WMHK to celebrate the Year of the Bible by reading through the entire Bible over the air during the last three days of 1983. You invited the President to participate in the program by preparing a taped reading of Genesis Chapter One.

We appreciate the kind sentiments expressed in your letter, but we must decline your gracious invitation. I trust you will appreciate the difficulties that would arise were the President to participate in your program. Such action would in all likelihood generate a flood of similar requests from other stations, and we would be hard-pressed to distinguish them. Accordingly, fairness dictates that we adhere to a policy of not accepting such invitations, however laudable the program in question. The President's views on the subject of your planned program were of course conveyed in the Proclamation he signed designating this year as the Year of the Bible.

Thank you for writing. I am sorry our reply could not be more favorable.

Sincerely,

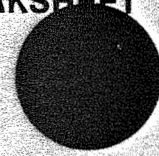
Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Mr. J. David Morrison
Post Office Box 3122
Columbia, SC 29230

FFF:JGR:aea 10/21/83
bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj/Chron

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

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



JR (with date request)

Name of Correspondent: Dodie Livingston

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Request from Harry Dent, Billy Graham Lay Center, for a Presidential message for Radio Station WMHK re: Year of the Bible

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CUBOLL</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>83110120</u>
	Referral Note:	
<u>CWAT 18</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>83110120</u>
	Referral Note:	
		<u>1 / 1</u>
	Referral Note:	
		<u>1 / 1</u>
	Referral Note:	
		<u>1 / 1</u>
	Referral Note:	

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| ACTION CODES: | DISPOSITION CODES: |
| A - Appropriate Action | A - Answered |
| C - Comment/Recommendation | B - Non-Special Referral |
| D - Draft Response | C - Completed |
| F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure | S - Suspended |
| I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary | |
| R - Direct Reply w/Copy | |
| S - For Signature | |
| X - Interim Reply | |
- 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, OEOP).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 19, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR: FRED FIELDING
FROM: DODIE LIVINGSTON *D.L.*
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE FOR
RADIO STATION WMHK

Please review the attached request from Harry Dent and return to us with any comments by COB on Monday, October 24.

Many thanks.

The Billy Graham Lay Center

A MINISTRY OF THE COVE

9/28/83

Lee -

I realize this request
Ain't easy, but do you
think the President might
just do a one or two-
minute recording saying
that he commends

Wmthk-Fm for pushing
The Year of the Bible by
reading thru the Bible
on the radio?

Maybe Mrs. Reagan
might do something

The Appearance in
Columbia & the ST
dinner hit the bull's
eye. I was in
California -

Harry



THE BILLY GRAHAM LAY CENTER

BEN LIPPEN SCHOOL, CONFERENCE & CAMPS

Suite 200 • 170 Woodfin St • (704) 298-0166 • PO Box 19010 • Asheville, NC 28815



September 21, 1983

Mr. Harry Dent
The Cove
c/o Ben Lippen School
10 Ben Lippen School Road
Asheville, N.C. 28806

Dear Harry:

Pursuant to our phone conversation on the land line, here is a copy of my letter to the President with attached enclosure just as I submitted it to him.

Thanks again for anything you can do.

In Him we live and move,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "J.D. Morrison", is written over the typed name.

J.D. (David) Morrison

JDM/cj

Enclosure





September 20, 1983

Mr. Ronald W. Reagan
President, United States of America
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

By way of personal comment, let me highly commend you for your service to our country. I congratulate you especially for your designation of 1983 as the Year of the Bible.

We are presently making plans to celebrate the Y-O-T-B by reading through the entire Bible over WMHK during the last three days of the year. I can think of no better way to usher in 1984 and we expect to have many listeners even on New Year's Eve.

Would you do us the honor of opening the event by preparing a taped reading of Genesis Chapter One? The remainder of the reading would be done by clergy and laypersons from our community selected specifically to communicate that the Scriptures are applicable across racial and ethnic lines and for young and old alike.

We don't need an immediate answer but if the idea appeals to you we would appreciate one of your aides getting back to us at an early date and will be awaiting a tape from the White House at your convenience but hopefully sometime in October as we will have a monumental tape editing task before us prior to the year's end.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration of this request. God bless you, Mr. President!

In Him we live and move (Acts 17:28),

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. D. Morrison', written in a cursive style.

J. D. (David) Morrison
Director, WMHK

PS: WMHK is a 100,000-watt non-commercial station heard throughout the Midlands of South Carolina and of course we would share the broadcasts with any other stations wishing to go the full three days with us or wishing to use other lesser portions of the broadcast.



A Columbia Bible College Media Ministry
P.O. Box 3122 • Columbia, S.C. 29230 (803) 754-5400

