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Collection: Roberts, John G.: Files Folder Title: JGR/Seal of the President (3 of 9) Box: 48

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COURRIER DIPLOMATIQUE

King Carlos and Queen Sofia of Spain

John - 6/10/23 Dls. see Attached 25 per our thone conversation today. Montes for your help. 0.K. 2 6/10 gsa Done Powers Photo / x6709 Dione Towers Photo/x6709

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Collections

This is not a presidential record. This marker is used as an administrative marker by the Ronald W. Reagan Presidential Library Staff. This marker identifies that there was an object in this folder that could not be scanned due to its size.

WASHINGTON

June 15, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT: Another Letter on Use of the President's Name and Seal by the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped

Frank A. Tarbutton, who has attended over 20 of the annual meetings of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped (PCEH), has written to voice his disagreement with the new policy concerning invitations to the annual meeting. Tarbutton notes that past invitations were issued in the President's name and bore the Presidential Seal, and states that the new policy forbidding this is "obstinate and regressive."

Although his characterization provoked marginalia concerning my work, you will recall that the decision to which Tarbutton objects was made some time ago by Richard Darman, and only came to the attention of our office after the fact. We did concur in his decision and declined to reinstate the previous practice, explaining to the PCEH Chairman that "In light of the significant number of Presidential committees, commissions, and task forces, it is not possible to authorize any one group to take action in the President's name -- including issuing invitations -- without real risk of a broad expansion of the practice in a manner that would create the possibility of abuse and ultimately demean the Office of the Presidency by overuse." I have drafted a reply to Tarbutton.

Attachment

WASHINGTON

June 15, 1983

Dear Mr. Tarbutton:

Thank you for your letter concerning the invitations to the annual meeting of the President's Commission on Employment of the Handicapped. In that letter you indicated that you had reviewed my letter to Chairman Russell, explaining why we could not accede to his request to have the invitations issued in the President's name. As I advised Chairman Russell, it was our view that "it is not possible to authorize any one group to take action in the President's name -including issuing invitations -- without real risk of a broad expansion of the practice in a manner that would create the possibility of abuse and ultimately demean the Office of the Presidency by overuse." You suggested that a harmful precedent would not be created, because the Commission had been issuing invitations in the President's name for some time.

We appreciate your concern and recognize the significance of the annual meeting to the entire handicapped community. We simply do not think that exceptions can be made that would authorize particular commissions to take action on behalf of the President without engendering the difficulties mentioned in my letter to Chairman Russell. We receive similar requests from numerous commissions, committees, and the like, and the only fair way to deal with them is pursuant to a general rule. Past practice is not a persuasive reply to members of one commission who want to know why they are not accorded the same privileges as another.

I am sorry that you do not agree with our position, but I hope you will recognize, as I explained to Chairman Russell, that it in no way represents a change in the commitment of

the President to the work of the Committee on Employment of the Handicapped or to the concerns of the handicapped community. Thank you for your continuing efforts on behalf of the handicapped, and for taking the time to share your views with us.

Sincerely,

Crig Sugard by LPP Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mr. Frank A. Tarbutton
R.D. 3
Chestertown, Maryland 21620

FFF:JGR:aw 6/15/83

cc: FFFielding JGRoberts Subj. Chron

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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.

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RD 3 Chestertown, Md. 21620 May 23, 1983

Mr. Fred Fielding Counsel to the Fresident White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Fielding:

Last month I received a copy of your letter dated March 21, 1983 addr ssed to Harold Russell, Chairman of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

This may seem to be a case of "much to do about nothing"; however, it hit me as one of those little things which should not go unobserved. Having been invited and attending perhaps the last 20 to 25 of the annual meetings of the President's Committee on Employment of the handicapped since they were first held in the Labor Department auditorium, I have of course received annual invitations which up until this current administration has permitted the use of white House on their letters and invitations.

Therefore, in no way were you establishing a precedent-it has already been going on for a quarter of a century. If you did not care to have other committees, commissions or task forces use this if they here not already doing it, you could handle it by several rationalizations -- if anyone such as the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped has been using this for more than 20 years, they can continue to do so. If it is a new one, then "no soap".

I personally would attend whether it is a printed invitation issued by the White House or a hand written memo from one of the office workers advising me of the date and time. However, there are many people who are impressed and might make a special effort if they received an invitation from the White House. I know this to be the case having talked with people from far away places such as Arkansas and South Dakota with whom I have been associated. This is really something special to them and also to large corporations who otherwise might not send representatives.

If this request had been a new one 1 might be able to see a point in refusing permission; however, after all of these years, I consider your decision to be obstinate and regressive.

Sincerelv.

WASHINGTON

March 22, 1983

Dear Mr. Russell:

Thank you for your recent letter requesting permission to issue invitations to the 1984 Annual Meeting of the President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped in the name of the President. In that letter you noted that use of the President's name on the invitation would have positive effects on volunteers active in the area and disabled citizens generally.

I regret that we cannot grant the permission you seek. In light of the significant number of Presidential committees, commissions, and task forces, it is not possible to authorize any one group to take action in the President's name -- including issuing invitations -- without real risk of a broad expansion of the practice in a manner that would create the possibility of abuse and ultimately demean the Office of the Presidency by overuse.

Let me assure you that the policy which has been adopted is being uniformly applied, and, as I hope and believe you know, in no way represents a change in the commitment of the President to the work of the Committee on Employment of the Handicapped or to the concerns of the handicapped community.

Thank you for writing. I am sorry that we cannot grant the permission you seek, but I am confident that your next Annual Meeting will be another success.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mr. Harold Russell Chairman President's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped Washington, D.C. 20210

FFF:JGR:aw 3/22/83
cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj./Chron

WASHINGTON

July 25, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT: Use of Great Seal on DNC Fundraising Pamphlet

Ronald Taylor of New York, New York has sent, for "your information and comment," a copy of a letter he sent to Charles Manatt on January 13, 1983. That letter objected to the appearance of "the Great Seal, the Seal of the President of the United States," on a DNC social security fundraising pamphlet. Mr. Taylor pointed out to Manatt that the logo of the Democratic Party was the donkey, and that misuse of the "seal of the government" violated federal law.

The seal that offended Mr. Taylor is the Great Seal, surrounded by the words "Democratic National Committee." Use of the Great Seal (as opposed to the Presidential Seal) is only prohibited if it is knowingly displayed "for the purpose of conveying, or in a manner reasonably calculated to convey," a false impression of government sponsorship. 18 U.S.C. § 713(a). Since the Seal in this case is surrounded by the words "Democratic National Committee," the DNC can readily argue that there can be no suggestion of official government sponsorship. I have drafted a reply to Taylor along these lines.

Attachment

WASHINGTON

July 25, 1983

Dear Mr. Taylor:

Thank you for your note of July 11. Along with that note you forwarded a copy of a letter you wrote earlier in the year to Mr. Charles Manatt of the Democratic National Committee. That letter questioned the use of the Great Seal of the United States on DNC fundraising material.

I cannot, of course, speak for the DNC or explain why that organization decided to use the Great Seal in its fundraising. The statute governing use of the Great Seal is codified at 18 U.S.C. § 713(a). That provision establishes criminal penalties for the knowing use of the Great Seal "for the purpose of conveying, or in a manner reasonably calculated to convey, a false impression of sponsorship or approval by the Government of the United States . . . " Of course, the Government of the United States does not sponsor or approve (or disapprove) of the DNC. I assume that those responsible for the use of this logo do not believe that it conveys an impression of government sponsorship or approval, perhaps because the words "Democratic National Committee"

I would point out that this seal is not the same as the Seal of the President of the United States. Although similar in many respects to the Great Seal, the Presidential Seal is discernibly different, and its use is more protected than the use of the Great Seal.

Thank you for writing. With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mr. Ronald Taylor P.O. Box 385 New York, New York 10011

FFF:JGR:aw 7/25/83
cc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj./Chron

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Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.

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

July 11, 1983 I Care ·`. 155767cu Dear Counsel Fielding; For your information and comment. Respectfully, Roffald Taylor PO Box 385 New York City New York, 10011

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January 13, 1983

from Ron Taylor Inc.

Post Office Box 385 New York City, 10011

Dear Chairman Manatt:

Why de you feel it is necessary for the Democratic Party (Democratic National Committee) to use the Great Seal on fundraising stationery?

Big as life on the literature of the Campaign for Fair Social Security there appears the Great Seal, the Seal of the President of the United States. Why?

The logo of the DNC is the Denkey.

Not the official seal of gevernment.

Misuse of the seal of government in any case ether than on official gevernment cerrespondence is a violation of federal law.

Corruption in government left unchecked today builds its foundations for its assaults on our institutions down the read.

Sincerely,

Renald Tayler

Mr. Charles T. Manatt Chairman Democratic National Committee 1625 Massachusetts Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20036

CC: Counsel to the President The White House



Is this a dankey ?

Campaign For Fair Social Security

I know the next few weeks are critical to the future of Social Security. That's why I'm rushing my emergency contribution to the Democratic Party's Fair Social Security Campaign.

My check is enclosed for:

□\$10 □\$15 □\$20 □\$50 □\$100 □ Other\$

RETURN WITHIN 10 DAYS

Please make your check payable to the Democratic Party and return it to 1625 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

Authorized and paid for by the Democratic National Co

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1983

FOR: FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT: Presidential Seal Inquiry

Congressman Timothy Wirth (D.-Colorado), on behalf of his constituent Perry Conway, has asked the Photo Office for a slide of the Presidential Seal. Conway has been commissioned by the Jefferson and Boulder County Schools to prepare an educational program about eagles, and would like to use the Seal in the program. Diane Powers of the Photo Office sent Wirth's letter, and a slide of the Seal, to us for direct response.

I have no objection to Conway's contemplated use of the slide of the Seal. The proposed use could be considered acceptable under subsection 1(c) of Executive Order 11649 (use in an "educational facility" incident to description of the Seal) or subsection 1(f) (reproduction in pictures of bona fide news content), and could be authorized under subsection 1(g) (exceptional educational purpose). There appears to be no danger of commercial exploitation of the Seal, and we can caution against this in our letter to Conway.

Attachments

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1983

Dear Mr. Conway:

You have requested, through your Congressman, a color slide of the Seal of the President. It is our understanding that you have been commissioned by the Jefferson and Boulder County Schools to prepare a program on eagles, and that you would like to include a slide of the Seal in the program.

Title 18 of the United States Code, Section 713 generally prohibits use of the Seal of the President except in accordance with regulations promulgated by the President. These regulations are embodied in Executive Order 11649. A copy of the statute and implementing regulations are enclosed for your information.⁴

We have no objection to your use of the Seal in connection with your program on eagles, solely for the purpose of demonstrating the appearance of the eagle on the Seal. We have enclosed a color slide, pursuant to your request, which may be used for this purpose. We would remind you that the permitted uses of the Seal are limited by law, and that the Seal may not be used by you for any purpose other than that specified above.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mr. Perry Conway Post Office Box 303 Louisville, Colorado 80027

4

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1983

Dear Congressman Wirth:

On August 12 you wrote the White House Photo Office on behalf of a constituent, Perry Conway, seeking to obtain a color slide of the Seal of the President. The permitted uses of the Seal are limited by law, but we have determined that Mr. Conway's contemplated use is acceptable. A copy of our letter to Mr. Conway, explaining the limits on the use of the Seal and forwarding the slide he requested, is attached for your information.

Please do not hesitate to let us know if we may be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

The Honorable Timothy Wirth U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515 TIMOTHY E. WIRTH 20 DISTRICT, COLORADO COMMITTEES: BUDGET



WASHINGTON OFFICE: 2454 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-2161

DISTRICT OFFICE:

8648 WEST COLFAX AVENUE LAKEWOOD, COLORADO 80215 (303) 234-5200

ENERGY AND COMMERCE CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES CHAIRMAN, SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECOMMUNICATIONS, CONSUMER PROTECTION AND FINANCE TELECON SUBCOMMITTEE ON FOSSIL AND SYNTHETIC FUELS

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515 August 12, 1983

Ms. Diane Powers White House Photo Office The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms. Powers:

I am writing on behalf of Mr. Perry Conway, a constituent, to request a Kodacolor slide of the Presidential Seal.

Mr. Conway, a freelance naturalist, has been commissioned by Jefferson and Boulder County Schools to prepare an educational program about eagles. The slide will be used as part of this program because of the American Bald Eagle represented in the Presidential Seal.

With thanks,

Sincerely yours, rth

TEW:jc

THIS STATIONERY PRINTED ON PAPER MADE WITH RECYCLED FIBERS

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1983

Dear Congressman Wirth:

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Please do not hesitate to let us know if we may be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

Orig. Stoud by ITP

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

The Honorable Timothy Wirth U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

FFF:JGR:ph 8/17/83 cc: FFFielding JGRoberts Subject Chron.

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1983

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Sincerely,

Crist, seguetary TOP

Fred F. Fielding Counsel to the President

Mr. Perry Conway Post Office Box 303 Louisville, Colorado 80027

FFF:JGR:ph 8/17/83 cc: FFFielding/ JGRoberts/ Subject Chron.

cc: The Honorable Timothy Wirth