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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON


October 8, 1981

MEETING WITH Representatives of the Italian
American Community and the Signing
of the Columbus Day Proclamation

DATE October 9, 1981

LOCATION Rose Garden

TIME 1:45-2:00 pm

FROM: Elizabeth H. Dole 

- I. PURPOSE To sign a proclamation designating October 12 as Columbus Day 1981 and to honor, in your remarks, the estimated 25-30 million Americans of Italian ancestry.
- II. BACKGROUND Columbus Day traditionally presents the occasion of honoring the Genoese navigator, Christopher Columbus, and also paying tribute to the contributions of Italian Americans. This is the ethnic holiday of the Italo-American community, and is marked by parades, banquets and other festivities throughout the United States, especially in those urban areas with significant Italian American communities.

Surveys indicate that you received 54% of the Italian American vote, a constituency that has been traditionally Democratic. They continue to support you because of shared values regarding family, neighborhoods, and a generally conservative outlook. This ceremony will help reinforce that support.

The audience will include the Ambassadors of Italy and Spain to the United States and their wives, members of the House and Senate, and representatives from all segments of the Italian American community.

- III. PARTICIPANTS See attached list.
- IV. PRESS PLAN Open press coverage.
- V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

1:45 pm You enter the Rose Garden from the West Garden Room and proceed to the platform on the North side.

Standing on the platform will be the Ambassadors, and the leaders of the four major Italian American organizations. You greet them and proceed to the lectern for your remarks.

1:55 pm Upon the conclusion of your remarks you sit at the table and sign the proclamation with two pens which you will then give to each of the Ambassadors.

2:00 pm When the proclamation is signed, you arise, thank everyone, and depart for the Oval Office.

Attachment: List of participants

Columbus Day Proclamation Signing Ceremony

October 9, 1981

DIPLOMATS

Ambassador of Italy, Renaldo Petrignani and Mrs. Petrignani
Ambassador of Spain, Jose Llado and Mrs. Llado

ADMINISTRATION APPOINTEES

William Gianelli, Asst. Sec./Defense
Louis Giuffrida, Dir./FEMA
Rudolph Guiliani, Assoc. Atty. Gen
Fred Villella, Dep. Dir./FEMA
Michael Fenello, Dep. Adm./FAA
Winifred Pizzano, Dep. Dir./ACTION
Donald Senese*, Asst. Sec./Education
Donald Santarelli, Bd. Mem./OPIC
James Quello, Comm./FCC
John Graziano, Insp. Gen./USDA
Nunzio Palladino, Ch./NRC
Robert P. Paganelli, U.S. Amb. to Syria

ITALIAN ORGANIZATIONS

Sons of Italy

Aldo A. Caira, Pres.
S. Joseph Avara, 2nd Vice Pres.
John A. Saladino
Peter M. Borromeo, Jr.
Judge Francis J. Valle
Martin Cornetta
Joseph Giordano
Richard Petta

Nat'l Italian American Foundation

Frank D. Stella, Pres.
 Art Gajarsa
 Peter Sammartino
 Donald Santarelli
 Gilbert Simonetti
 Philip Guarino
 Dominick Scaglione
 Adele Malone
 Dr. Robert DiPietro
 Robert D'Anniballe
 Arthur Decio
 Jim Scatena
 Edward Galletti

UNICO

Anthony Giampapa, 1st Vice Pres.
 Anthony Gaglioti
 John Pedone

Amerito

*(Donald Senese, Pres.)
 Dr. Maria Wilmeth
 Philip Thibideau
 Antonina Baccanari
 Ross Baccanari
 Benjamin Walthall
 James Rosapepe
 Raymond Amatuucci, Sr.
 Luigi Nero

Others

Father Caesar Donanzan
 Dr. Edmund Pellegrino
 Michael Balzano
 Robert Giorgine
 Dr. Leonard DeFiore
 Alfred Rapetti
 Ace Alagna (press)
 Carlo Scarsini (press)
 George Perna (press)
 J. J. Palumbo (press)
 Cleo Tavani

TALKING POINTS -- COLUMBUS DAY SIGNING CEREMONY
OCTOBER 9, 1981

- Just the other day I learned that the Marine Band, which is known as "The President's Own," has some Italian blood in its background. Apparently, Thomas Jefferson was not pleased with the Marine Band that he found at the White House when he arrived as President. Jefferson told the Marine Commandant that he should look for musicians in Italy, which was noted, then as now, for its musical talent. The Commandant, taking Mr. Jefferson's remarks as an order, sent a representative to Italy, where the fellow persuaded Italian musicians of all ages to join the Marines and return with him to America. This Italian excellence has been the standard for the band ever since. And I can tell you that even after 183 years the band has not lost its Italian love and heart for music.
- If I'd thought of it sooner I would have had it come to play for us today. We really should have music because this is not just a solemn proclamation signing; it is a celebration of what the great mariner Christopher Columbus accomplished. And in recent years, Columbus Day has also become a day to celebrate what Italian Americans have accomplished.

- Columbus is symbolic of the millions of Italians who have come to the New World since its discovery. They too possessed courage; they too sought opportunity and endured hardship. No one who has ever seen the pictures of the immigrants landing at Ellis Island can doubt that their journey was as personally demanding as the one Columbus undertook. I remember John Volpe telling me his parents came across the Atlantic in steerage -- it took them 6 weeks and all they had was a battered suitcase when they arrived.
- Our immigrant ancestors worked long and hard. They adhered to solid, decent values. And they consequently prospered. Today, if it were not for a rightful pride of heritage, there would be no reason to identify Italian Americans as a separate ethnic group. For Italian Americans are integrated into all aspects of American life -- business, labor, arts, and the professions.
- I am going to sign the proclamation now; but as I sign it, I am commemorating not only the great navigator and explorer, Christopher Columbus, but those who, centuries later, followed him to the New World.

(PARVIN/TD)

1:45 PM

COLUMBUS DAY SIGNING CEREMONY, 10/9/81

JUST THE OTHER DAY I LEARNED THAT THE MARINE BAND, WHICH IS KNOWN AS "THE PRESIDENT'S OWN," HAS SOME ITALIAN BLOOD IN ITS BACKGROUND.

APPARENTLY, THOMAS JEFFERSON WAS NOT PLEASED WITH THE MARINE BAND THAT HE FOUND AT THE W.H. WHEN HE ARRIVED AS PRES. JEFFERSON TOLD THE MARINE COMMANDANT THAT HE SHOULD LOOK FOR MUSICIANS IN ITALY, WHICH WAS NOTED, THEN AS NOW, FOR ITS MUSICAL TALENT.

THE COMMANDANT, TAKING MR. JEFFERSON'S REMARKS AS AN ORDER, SENT A REPRESENTATIVE TO ITALY, WHERE THE FELLOW PERSUADED ITALIAN MUSICIANS OF ALL AGES TO JOIN THE MARINES & RETURN WITH HIM TO AMERICA.

THIS ITALIAN EXCELLENCE HAS BEEN THE STANDARD FOR THE BAND EVER SINCE. & I CAN TELL YOU THAT EVEN AFTER 183 YEARS THE BAND HAS NOT LOST ITS ITALIAN LOVE & HEART FOR MUSIC.

MUSIC LA SCALA

original in "The Liberty Bell"

IF I'D THOUGHT OF IT SOONER I WOULD HAVE HAD IT COME TO PLAY FOR US TODAY. WE REALLY SHOULD HAVE MUSIC BCUS THIS IS NOT JUST A SOLEMN PROCLAMATION SIGNING; IT IS A CELEBRATION OF WHAT THE GREAT MARINER CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS ACCOMPLISHED. AND IN RECENT YEARS, COLUMBUS DAY HAS ALSO BECOME A DAY TO CELEBRATE WHAT ITALIAN AMERICANS HAVE ACCOMPLISHED.

COLUMBUS IS SYMBOLIC OF THE MILLIONS OF ITALIANS WHO HAVE COME TO THE NEW WORLD SINCE ITS DISCOVERY. THEY TOO POSSESSED COURAGE; THEY TOO SOUGHT OPPORTUNITY & ENDURED HARDSHIP. FOR MANY, THEIR JOURNEY WAS AS PERSONALLY DEMANDING AS THE ONE COLUMBUS UNDERTOOK. I REMEMBER JOHN VOLPE TELLING ME IT TOOK HIS PARENTS 6 WEEKS TO CROSS THE ATLANTIC IN STEERAGE — & ALL THEY HAD WAS A BATTERED SUITCASE WHEN THEY ARRIVED.

OUR IMMIGRANT ANCESTORS WORKED LONG &
HARD. THEY ADHERED TO SOLID, DECENT VALUES.
AND THEY CONSEQUENTLY PROSPERED. TODAY,
IF IT WERE NOT FOR A RIGHTFUL PRIDE OF
HERITAGE, THERE WOULD BE NO REASON TO
IDENTIFY ITALIAN AMERICANS AS A SEPARATE
ETHNIC GROUP. FOR ITALIAN AMERICANS ARE
INTEGRATED INTO ALL ASPECTS OF AMERICAN
LIFE — BUSINESS, LABOR, ARTS, THE PROFESSIONS,
AS WELL AS HIGH POSTS IN THIS ADMIN.

I AM GOING TO SIGN THE PROCLAMATION NOW;
BUT AS I SIGN IT, I AM COMMEMORATING NOT
ONLY THE GREAT NAVIGATOR & EXPLORER,
CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS, BUT THOSE WHO,
CENTURIES LATER, FOLLOWED HIM TO THE
NEW WORLD.

#

PLATFORM GUESTS FOR COLUMBUS DAY SIGNING:

AMBASSADOR RENALDO PETRIGNANI,
ITALIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

AMBASSADOR JOSE LLADO,
SPANISH AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S.

FRANK D. STELLA,
PRES., NAT'L ITAL-AM. FOUNDATION

DONALD J. SENESE,
PRES., "AMERITO"
* ASS'T SEC'Y OF EDUCATION

ANTHONY GIAMPAPA,
VICE PRESIDENT, "UNICO"

MR. ALDO CAIRO,
PRES., SONS OF ITALY

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Sand
Duplicats*

Kathy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
THE PRESIDENT'S SCHEDULE
Friday, October 9, 1981

9:00 am (30 min)	<u>Staff Time</u> (Baker, Meese, Deaver)	Oval Office
9:30 am (10 min)	<u>Meeting with Senator Thad Cochran (Miss)</u> (Max Friedersdorf) (TAB A)	Oval Office
9:45 am (15 min)	<u>Senior Staff Time</u>	Oval Office
10:00 am (60 min)	<u>Personal Staff Time</u>	Oval Office
11:00 am (20 min)	<u>Brief Remarks to First Meeting of the National Commission on Excellence in Education</u> (Craig Fuller) (TAB B) (draft remarks attached)	Cabinet Room
11:25 am (10 min)	<u>Greeting and photo with Brenda Jo Buckley, the Epilepsy Poster Child</u> (Elizabeth Dole) (TAB C)	Oval Office
11:45 am (15 min)	<u>The President and Mrs. Reagan host Recep- tion preceding Medal of Freedom Luncheon</u> (Gregory Newell/Peter McCoy) (TAB D)	Blue Room
12:00 m (1 hr 40 min)	<u>Medal of Freedom Luncheon</u> (draft remarks (Gregory Newell/Peter McCoy) attached)	East Room
1:45 pm (15 min)	<u>Signing Ceremony for Columbus Day Proc- lamation</u> (Elizabeth Dole) (TAB E) (draft remarks attached)	Rose Garden
2:00 pm (90 min)	<u>Personal Staff Time</u>	Oval Office
3:30 pm	<u>To the Residence</u>	Residence
4:00 pm	<u>The President and Mrs. Reagan depart South Grounds for Camp David for Columbus Day Weekend</u>	South Grounds

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 8, 1981

MEETING WITH SENATOR THAD COCHRAN (R-MISSISSIPPI)

DATE: October 9, 1981
LOCATION: The Oval Office
TIME: 9:30 a.m. (10 minutes)

FROM: Max L. Friedersdorf

I. PURPOSE

To discuss the proposed Saudi AWACS sale and to provide Senator Cochran with an opportunity to publicly declare his support for the sale.

II. BACKGROUND

Senator Cochran privately committed to support the air defense sale to Saudi Arabia several weeks ago, but has not made a public comment. In an effort to show continuous momentum supporting the sale, we have asked him to come in to the White House, meet briefly with you and walk out and make a statement in support of the sale. Senator Cochran understands that this is the purpose of the meeting and is willing to cooperate.

We recently resolved a dispute between him and Trent Lott about which both of them spoke to you. Cochran wanted you to nominate a man named Grady Jolly to the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals and Lott was adamantly opposed to it. We reached a compromise by elevating a District Court Judge, who happened to be a Democrat, to the Court of Appeals and are nominating Cochran's candidate to the District bench. The District Court Judge has not given his final consent, so the deal is not completely sealed, but it looks good and it could come up.

III. PARTICIPANTS

The President
Senator Thad Cochran

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House photographer only inside the Oval Office; press statement by Senator Cochran on the driveway following the meeting.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

Senator Cochran arrives at the Northwest Gate, enters through the West Lobby and is escorted to the Oval Office for a 10-minute meeting with the President.

Following the meeting, he will leave the West Wing and make a statement to reporters who are assembled on the driveway outside.

Attachment: Talking Points

SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS FOR MEETING WITH
SENATOR THAD COCHRAN

- You may want to quip that since he is a committed supporter, you hesitate to say anything for fear that he might change his mind.

- Thank him for his support of the air defense sale and tell him you hope he will persuade his colleagues to do likewise.

- Thank him for his general support for the Administration's program. It is reassuring to know that we can count on his vote when we need it. You could in this case use the squeaky wheel analogy, since he is so dependable you seldom need to call on him.

B

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 9, 1981

MEETING WITH THE NATIONAL COMMISSION ON

EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

DATE: October 9, 1981

LOCATION: Cabinet Room

TIME: 11:00 am (20 minutes)

FROM: Craig L. Fuller *CS*

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this meeting is to provide a forum for the President to express his support for the newly-appointed National Commission on Excellence in Education in its mission to promote improved quality in American education.

II. BACKGROUND

Members of the National Commission on Excellence in Education were appointed by Secretary Bell on August 26, 1981, in response to the widespread public perception of a decline in the quality of American education in the last decade. The Commission, chaired by David Pierpont Gardner, President of the University of Utah, is charged with analysing the condition of American education, including an assessment of those programs which have been particularly successful in raising levels of student achievement. A report to the American people will be made within 18 months. The membership of the Commission reflects a broad spectrum of leadership from our schools and universities, and from the ranks of private industry. The 19-member Commission is meeting for the first time in Washington, D. C. on October 9 and 10.

III. PARTICIPANTS

A list of participants is attached.

IV. PRESS PLAN

There will be coverage by the White House Press Pool.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The President will be introduced to the sixteen members of the Commission by its Chairman, David P. Gardner. The President has personally met Yvonne W. Larsen of San Diego and should note that Annette Kirk is the wife of Dr. Russell Kirk, the distinguished conservative author (the President sent a congratulatory message to a dinner honoring Dr. Kirk on October 1, 1981).

The President will then suggest that the members of the Commission be seated at the table. He will make appropriate remarks (talking points attached) and then recognize Secretary Bell for a brief response.

PARTICIPANTS

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

(Chairman) David Pierpont Gardner, President, University of Utah

(Vice Chairman) Yvonne W. Larsen, President, Board of Education
San Diego, California

William O. Baker
retired Chairman
Bell Telephone Laboratories

Francisco D. Sanchez, Jr.
Superintendent of Schools
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Anne Campbell
Commissioner of Education
State of Nebraska

Glenn T. Seaborg
University Professor of Chemistry
University of California, Berkeley

Charles A. Foster, Jr.
President
Foundation for Teaching of Economics
San Francisco, California

Jay Sommer
Foreign Language Department
New Rochelle High School
New Rochelle, New York

Norman C. Francis
President
Xavier University

Richard Wallace
Principal
Lutheran High School East
Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Shirley Gordon
President
Highline Community College
Midway, Washington

Robert V. Haderlein
President
National School Boards Association
Girard, Kansas

Gerald Holton
Professor of Physics
Harvard University

Annette Y. Kirk
Mecosta, Michigan

Margaret S. Marston
Member
Virginia State Board of Education

Albert H. Quie
Governor
State of Minnesota

continued

Participants continued

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION OFFICIALS

Secretary Bell

Elam K. Hertzler, Executive Assistant/Chief of Staff

Mary Jean LeTendre, Special Assistant

William C. Clohan, Under Secretary

Donald J. Senese, Assistant Secretary for Education Research and Improvement

Edward A. Curran, Director, National Institute of Education

Milton Goldberg, Executive Director

Peter H. Gerber, Staff Assistant

James J. Harvey, Staff Assistant

WHITE HOUSE DOMESTIC POLICY STAFF

Martin Anderson

Robert Carlson

Anne Fairbanks

Gary Bauer

C

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 9, 1981

MEETING WITH: National Epilepsy Poster Child,
her family, and Epilepsy Foundation
of America (EFA) Officials

LOCATION: Oval Office
TIME: 11:25 a.m. - 11:35 a.m.

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE 

PURPOSE: To greet and be photographed with the National Epilepsy Poster Child.

BACKGROUND: For the past decade EFA's Poster Child has been received at the White House to help promote November as Epilepsy Month. Six-year old Brenda Jo Buckley, of Bountiful, Utah, the 1982 Poster Child, represents the one million American children with epilepsy. Brenda's seizures started two-and-a-half years ago, but now on medication, she is seizure free and leads a normal, active life. In all, over two million Americans have epilepsy, with over 100,000 new cases each year. EFA is a private non-profit organization which raises approximately \$4 million annually. During National Epilepsy Month, EFA conducts a public education campaign to increase the public's understanding about the disease. EFA's symbol is a lighted candle.

PARTICIPANTS: See attached list.

PRESS COVERAGE: Press photo coverage.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

- 11:25 a.m. You and the First Lady will be joined in the Oval Office by the Poster Child, her family, and EFA officials for a brief conversation prior to photographs.
- 11:30 a.m. The Press Pool enters the Oval Office for photographs. The Poster Child presents you with a lighted candle, the symbol of EFA. You express your congratulations and support for the voluntary efforts of EFA.
- 11:35 a.m. The EFA group departs the Oval Office.

Attachments: Participants/Talking Points

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS -- NATIONAL EPILEPSY POSTER CHILD

PARTICIPANTS

BUCKLEY, Mr. Lon L. (Father of Epilepsy Poster Child)
BUCKLEY, Mrs. Jeannine H. (Mother of Epilepsy Poster Child)
BUCKLEY, Brenda Jo (Poster Child)
BUCKLEY, Lon Thomas (Brother of Poster Child)
GOLDENSOHN, Dr. Eli (President, Epilepsy Foundation of America)
McLIN, Mr. William M. (Executive Director, Epilepsy Foundation
of America)
MADSEN, Mr. Frank A. (Administrative Assistant to Senator Hatch)

ADMINISTRATION OFFICIALS

The President
The First Lady
Virginia H. Knauer

D

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 8, 1981

PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM LUNCHEON

DATE: FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1981

LOCATION: BLUE ROOM AND EAST ROOM

TIME: 11:45 A.M. (2 HOURS)

FROM: GREGORY  NEWELL

I. PURPOSE

Reception and luncheon honoring the six Presidential Medal of Freedom recipients: Charles B. Thornton, Morris I. Leibman, Walter H. Judd, Bryce N. Harlow, posthumous award for Ella Grasso received by her husband Thomas A. Grasso, and Eubie Blake. (See citations at Tab A.)

II. BACKGROUND

The Presidential Medal of Freedom is the highest civilian honor given in the U.S. and recognizes contributions to the national interest or security of the U.S., the advancement of world peace or endeavors in the field of culture or other public or private endeavors beneficial to the nation. The gold medal is presented in White House ceremonies.

III. PARTICIPANTS

See Tab B.

IV. PRESS PLAN

White House photographer Blue Room; writing pool and pool photographers East Room.

V. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

11:44 am THE PRESIDENT arrives Residence from Oval Office to join Mrs. Reagan.
11:45 am THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Reagan enter Blue Room to greet recipients and their escorts and have photographs taken.
11:58 am THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Reagan depart Blue Room for receiving line.
12:10 pm THE PRESIDENT and Mrs. Reagan proceed to East Room to be seated.
12:11 pm Invocation by Bishop John Walker. Lunch is served.
1:05 pm THE PRESIDENT proceeds to the platform and gives remarks.
1:15 pm THE PRESIDENT reads citations and presents medals. Each recipient responds.
1:40 pm THE PRESIDENT makes concluding remarks and departs with Mrs. Reagan.

E

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 8, 1981

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