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**Collection:** Blackwell, Morton: Files  
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*Morton Blackwell*

*file*



**Billy James Hargis Ministries, P.O. Box 977, Tulsa, Ok 74102**

May 7, 1982

President Ronald Reagin  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20505

Dear Mr. President:

I wish to congratulate you for your stand on the need for prayer, and the right to pray in our public schools. I have faith in what you are striving for, and each morning at 7:45 AM you are remembered in our staff prayer session before we begin our days work.

The purpose of this letter is to inquire of you why a man who has stood by you with articles that he has written in our newspaper, through radio broadcasts that were heard over the United States, and in telecasts that are seen throughout the country..... a man who was the first person in this country to let his voice be heard in defense of prayer in the public schools.....the result being that the tax exemption of the organization which he founded and still heads was revoked..... a man who went to court and fought the battle all the way to the Supreme Court..... was not invited to participate in your Rose Garden ceremony and your announcement of intent to seek a constitutional amendment to permit prayer in the public schools on a voluntary basis.

The man of whom I speak is Billy James Hargis, founder and director of Christian Crusade. He has just returned from Africa where he spoke in your behalf. He is a man who holds you and all you represent in the highest regard.

I personally feel he is due some explanation as to why he was not invited along with others who have stood by you.

May God bless you.

Sincerely,

Charles V. Secrest  
Vice-President  
Church of the Christian Crusade, Inc.

CVS/sd

**Billy James Hargis Ministries**