

# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

---

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

---

**Collection:** Blackwell, Morton: Files  
**Folder Title:** Seventh-Day Adventists  
[and American Bible Society]  
**Box:** 40

---

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digital-library>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library inventories visit:

<https://reaganlibrary.gov/document-collection>

Contact a reference archivist at: [reagan.library@nara.gov](mailto:reagan.library@nara.gov)

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/citing>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** BLACKWELL, MORTON: FILES

**Withdrawer**

KDB 6/7/2010

**File Folder** SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS [AND AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY]

**FOIA**

F09-0043/01

**Box Number** 9086

STRAUSS, C

22

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	LETTER	G. M. ROSS TO BLACKWELL (PAGES 1-2, PARTIAL)	2	4/4/1983	B6

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]

B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]

B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

October 17, 1983

*file*  
*to*  
*Seventh Day*  
*Adventists*

Dear Mrs. Harris:

Nancy and I are delighted to send warmest greetings and congratulations as you are honored by the Adventist-Laymen's Services and Industries.

We were touched to hear the story of the Harris Home for Children and your lifetime of service to others. Since 1954, you have been caring for homeless and unwanted children. You have fed, clothed, and educated them, giving totally of yourself so that they may have a chance for the future. Many of your children have gone on to college and technical schools, and because of your love, they are prospering today.

I know it hasn't always been easy, but your inner strength and faith in God have sustained you. You are living proof of Paul's promise to the Philippians: "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." May God continue to bless the important work you have begun at Harris Home.

I commend you for the contributions you have made to your fellow citizens. What a special person you are to have dedicated your life to our most precious resource -- the children.

You have my very best wishes for continued success and, again, congratulations.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Chessie Harris  
Harris Home for Children  
P.O. Box 5183  
Huntsville, Alabama 35805

Sent to: Mr. G.M. Ross, Associate Director  
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists  
6840 Eastern Avenue, N.W.; Washington, D.C. 20012

(Call Holly Denton when signed to have picked up: 722-6687.)

RR:Hodge:rh

cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/M.Blackwell (FYI)/CF

DIE: OCT. 20 - EVENT: OCT. 22 (Huntsville)

STRAIGHT WIRE - OCTOBER 7, 1983

General Conference of Seventy-Day Adventists  
c/o Dr. B.B. Beach  
Director of Public Affairs  
6840 Eastern Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20012

I am delighted to send my warm greetings to all those gathered for the Annual World Council of the General Conference of Seventy-Day Adventists.

This occasion presents a special opportunity for your members to preside over church business, share their spiritual commitment, and proclaim the faith that strengthens their lives. The fellowship this event affords helps further the religious understanding of all in attendance.

May this be an enlightening and beneficial council which will serve as an inspiration to each of you.

RONALD REAGAN

RR:Wells:ck

cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/M.Blackwell/CF

Office of General Counsel

Telephone (202) 722-6320



General Conference of

# Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS: 6840 EASTERN AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20012  
TELEPHONE: (202) 723-0800 • CABLE: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON • TELEX: 89-580

November 16, 1983

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists recently learned that a Rev. Dr. Moses Ramirez has written to you (see attached photocopy) and other government officials on various matters and has identified himself, basically, as the president of the General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

That is not true. Mr. Moses Ramirez has no connection whatsoever with the General Conference as an elected officer or otherwise.

I thought you and your staffers should be made aware of the above.

Sincerely,

Robert W. Nixon, Esq.

hw

3186 18th St. N.W.  
Suite B-1266  
Wash., D. C. 20010

REVEREND MOSES RAMIREZ  
President of the General Conference  
of the Seven Day Adventist Church  
in the U. S. A. and Abroad

Tel. 202  
445-0547

06 July 1983

Hon. Ronald Wilson Reagan,  
President of the United States of America,  
The White House,  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.,  
Washington, D. C. 20005.

Dear Mr. President:

As ever, I want to express to you and your beautiful wife Nancy my expressions of sincere backing not only of me myself but of all my international congregation composed of over 2,700,000 adepts. I take this opportunity to wish your wife Nancy a belated HAPPY BIRTHDAY. In my daily orations I do pray for you and your wife and all your children and your loyal staff so that you do what commands you to do not only for America but for the whole world and praying for our enemies, known and unknown, I say to you, Mr. President, GOD BLESS YOU.

Today I was at the office of Social Security in Washington, D. C. located at 21st and M St. N. W. and having arrived at 8:45 A. M. I got out at 12 noon and I have done this for 3 consecutive days and there ALL THE PERSONNEL of the office are working so SLOW that it looks deliberately INEFFICIENT and they are against our suffered people as we all, especially the disabled totally like me, caused by an accident at METRO, I must report to you this because when I requested attention to my request because of the enormous pain I was feeling in my legs and back, a white lady in the office called security to pull me out by force. Everyone in the place got up immediately and protested as they could not live the experience of seeing the prejudice of this lady. Three months have elapsed and I have not received yet my check. I moved from Miami, Florida to this area on May 3, 1983 and I immediately made a change of address and notified Social Security in Washington, D. C. at the same mentioned office AND THUS FAR I FIND THEY ARE UTTERLY NEGLIGENT.


Mr. President, I believe your re-election will be the symbol of UNITY AND PROSPERITY FOR THE CONTINENT ALL, NORTH, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN BASIN but you must put your finger on the wound to enable you to DEFEND ALL THE OPPRESSED AND FORGOTTEN PEOPLE OF OUR NATION pushing a law before Congress regarding the control of the rents of all the nation, starting with Washington, D. C. where I now live. For 2 room apartment I am paying \$650.00 which is not worth \$250.00 at the Woodner Hotel. I also have to pay \$50 parking fee per month and you know that the law of 1973 Congressionally enacted which is the Handicapped Law No. 504, which does not permit any disabled like me PAY ANY PARKING IN ANY PUBLIC PLACE, as the Woodner Corporation has a public place for parking, and I believe Woodner is violating Law No. 11,246 which Congress approved to favor the country of discrimination overt and covert of this and many other outfits in the U. S. A.

If your Honor work for a law to CONTROL THE RENTS NOT ONLY IN THE METROPOLITAN AREA BUT IN THE WHOLE COUNTRY I ASSURE YOU THAT ALL AMERICANS WILL VOTE FOR YOU, INCLUDING ALL THE NATURALIZED AMERICAN CITIZENS FROM AFRICA, EUROPE, ASIA, CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA, THE CARIBBEAN. Also controls must be Federally or Statewise placed on the exorbitant GAS, LIGHT, TELEPHONE AND UTILITIES BILLS WHICH BLEED THE POOR PEOPLE OF AMERICA AND INDEED OF THE WORLD. THE TELEPHONE COMPANY NOW DIVIDED INTO MANY OTHER SUBSIDIARIES IS REALLY RAQUETEERING AND MAKING MORE MONEY, EVEN SELLING THE TELEPHONES TO PEOPLE WHO CAN HARDLY PAY THEIR BILLS. YOU KNOW THAT YOU WERE FORCED TO CUT THE SOCIAL SECURITY CHECKS AND THIS LAW AFFECTED ME FOR \$400.00 BUT I THINK YOU WERE RIGHT AND NOW IS THE TIME TO PLACE CONTROLS ON ALL THE UTILITY COMPANIES TO PREVENT CHAOS FOR THE GREAT GOP AND YOUR IMMINENT RE-ELECTION.

DO IT, MR PRESIDENT, WITH THE COURAGE YOU HAVE ALWAYS SHOWN AND DEMONSTRATED AND IF YOU DO SO, YOU CAN COUNT WITH ALL THE VOTES OF OF MY AND YOUR BEAUTIFUL AMERICA.

GIVE ME YOUR VIBRATIONS TO PRAY TOGETHER: IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, OF THE HOLY GHOST, GOD BLESS MR. REAGAN, AMERICA THE POWERFUL AND RESPECTED AND THIS HUMBLE SERVANT OF GOD WHO ONLY WANTS TO CORRECT THE FAULTS THAT HE SEES SINCE I AM THE FATHER OF TWELVE CHILDREN, AND I AM TOTALLY DISABLED. AMEN.

As ever, loyalty at your service  
and in the service of GOD ALMIGHTY,



REV. Moses Ramirez

REV MR: oac/b

P. S. I take pleasure to enclose the picture for you personally that President Dr. Salvador Jorge Blanco of the Dominican Republic, thru me has sent to you; please try to visit him soon as I can personally can make the arrangements together with my Legal Counsel Mr. Octavio Augusto Costas-Brook who together with me will make the arrangements with the Hon. Dr. Blanco together with Dr. Jose Francisco Pena-Gomez Sindico and Mayor of Santo Domingo for your visit. We can be liasons. Our intention is just to serve as a bridge for peace and prosperity in strict line with your great hemispheric vision and the natural equilibrium that peaceful and democratic Santo Domingo can offer.

MAILGRAM SERVICE CENTER  
MIDDLETOWN, VA. 22645  
19AM

Western  
Union Mailgram



1-0163721353 12/19/83 TLX GEN CONF WSH WWSA  
01 WASHINGTON DC DECEMBER 19

THE HONORABLE MORTON C. BLACKWELL  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING, RM. 191  
17TH AND PENNSYLVANIA, N.W.,  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

DEEPEST THANKS FOR YOUR PERSEVERANCE IN ARRANGING WHITE HOUSE  
MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT NEXT THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22, AT 4:30  
P.M. THIS WILL CONFIRM PRESENCE OF CHARLES E. BRADFORD AS  
REPRESENTATIVE OF GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS.  
YOURS SINCERELY,  
G. M. ROSS, PH.D.  
GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SDA  
202/722-6688  
TELEX 89580 GEN CONF WSH

16:39 EST

MGMCCMP



TO REPLY BY MAILGRAM MESSAGE, PHONE WESTERN UNION ANYTIME, DAY OR NIGHT:

FOR YOUR LOCAL NUMBER, SEE THE WHITE PAGES

OF YOUR LOCAL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

OR

DIAL (TOLL-FREE) 800-257-2241

OR DIAL WESTERN UNION'S COMPUTER DIRECTLY:

FROM TELEX I

6161

FROM TELEX II (TWX®)

910-420-1212

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 7, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR MORTON BLACKWELL

FROM: CAROLYN SUNDSETH  
SUBJECT: Bibles for the President

*done  
Feb 183*

The only two groups I know of who have been turned down is the American Bible Society, with a Washington office and their headquarters New York. They asked at the time the suit was pending in Wisconsin on Year of the Bible.

At the time of the NRB last year, Ken Taylor, who is now a sick old man and who wrote the paraphrased Living Bible, wanted to present a special copy to the President. It may have been at the National Prayer Breakfast but it was all about the same time. We did not even propose it because we had turned down the other group.

Files on both of them should be in your files.

MAILGRAM SERVICE CENTER  
MIDDLETOWN, VA, 22645  
16AM

Western Union Mailgram



1-0071291228 08/16/83 TLX GEN CONF WSH WWSA  
01 WASHINGTON DC AUGUST 16

THE HONORABLE MORTON C. BLACKWELL  
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT  
OLD EXECUTIVE OFFICE BUILDING, RM. 191  
17TH AND PENNSYLVANIA, N.W.  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20500

*Do we have a file or a list of people wishing to present prayer w/bibles & other religious items?*

AS WE APPROACH THE AUTUMN OF THE YEAR OF THE BIBLE, THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS REMINDS YOU OF ITS DESIRE TO PRESENT THE BIBLE STORY TO PRESIDENT REAGAN AT YOUR DISCRETION. CORRESPONDENCE PERTAINING TO THIS REQUEST IS ON FILE WITH YOUR OFFICE.

YOURS SINCERELY,  
G.M. ROSS, PH.D.  
202/722-6688  
GENERAL CONFERENCE  
TELEX 89580 GEN CONF WSH

10:31 EST

MGMCCMP

*NO!  
not that has  
seen.*

*Ken:  
Can you answer?*

*10-25-83:  
MCB - Back in your court.*

5241 (R 7/82)

TO REPLY BY MAILGRAM MESSAGE, PHONE WESTERN UNION ANYTIME, DAY OR NIGHT:

FOR YOUR LOCAL NUMBER, SEE THE WHITE PAGES

OF YOUR LOCAL TELEPHONE DIRECTORY

OR

DIAL (TOLL-FREE) 800-257-2241

(EXCEPT IN NEW JERSEY 800-632-2271)

OR DIAL WESTERN UNION'S COMPUTER DIRECTLY:

FROM TELEX I..... 6161 FROM TELEX II (TWX®)..... 910-420-1212

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

*Collection Name*

BLACKWELL, MORTON: FILES

*Withdrawer*

KDB 6/7/2010

*File Folder*

SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTISTS [AND AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY]

*FOIA*

F09-0043/01  
STRAUSS, C

*Box Number*

9086

22

---

*DOC Document Type*

*No of  
pages*

*Doc Date*

*Restric-  
tions*

---

*NO Document Description*

1 LETTER

2 4/4/1983 B6

G. M. ROSS TO BLACKWELL (PAGES 1-2,  
PARTIAL)

---

**Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]**

**B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]**

**B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]**

**B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]**

**B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]**

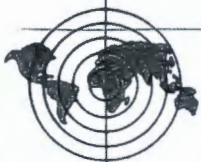
**B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]**

**B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]**

**B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]**

**B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]**

**C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.**



General Conference of

# Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS: 6840 EASTERN AVENUE NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20012 USA  
TELEPHONE: (202) 722-6000 • CABLE: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON • TELEX: 89-580

*B*

*MS please get complete help + assemble list of request to present Bibles + related material to the Pres. MB*

April 4, 1983

Honorable Morton Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

*fall Annual Council 500 or more  
No fine 25  
out 5-13  
spoke to Dr. Ross  
4/22/83*

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

The General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists herewith requests the privilege of presenting THE BIBLE STORY to President Reagan. Details about our request follow:

*He will send letter of invitation to the Pres.*

**WHAT:**

This multi-illustrated work, which covers Genesis to Revelation, is the largest-selling Bible story set in the world (twenty million copies currently circulating in fifteen languages). It is produced by the church's publishing department, which supervises fifty publishing houses around the world, enjoys an annual output valued at \$120 million, and oversees nearly 2,000 salespeople (colporters or literature evangelists).

*a paraphrase  
The only complete paraphrased rendition of the bible for children*

**BY WHOM:**

The author is Arthur Maxwell, Adventism's best-known storyteller. Although he is now deceased, one hundred million copies of his various books are in circulation.

*in story form*

**WHO:**

The Seventh-day Adventist church--a conservative Protestant denomination--is headquartered in suburban Washington and numbers four million adult members worldwide (650,000 of whom are in North America).

In the requested presentation we propose that our church be represented by

1. Elder Charles E. Bradford  
Vice-President for North America, General Conference  
(Social Security number: [redacted])
2. Elder J. Clyde Kinder  
Director, Publishing Department, General Conference  
(Social Security number: [redacted])

*b(6)*

*more feedback  
Black church pastor*

Honorable Morton Blackwell  
April 4, 1983  
Page 2

3. Dr. Bert B. Beach  
Director, Public Affairs and Religious Liberty  
Department, General Conference  
(Social Security number: [REDACTED] b(6)

WHEN: Sometime in 1983, the Year of the Bible, at a time and place designated by the President.

WHY: To demonstrate to the President, and through him to the nation, that Bible-centered religion is a needed dynamic of society and the source of indispensable values.

Thank you for talking with me by telephone last Friday. Besieged as you are by matters of this kind you still maintain a most pleasant and reassuring demeanor. I am confident that you will do what you can regarding our request.

Phone me any time at 722-6688 (office) or 422-9253 (home).

Yours sincerely,



G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison


GMR/h1a

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 22, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR RED CAVANEY

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT: Scheduling Event for President to Receive Bible from the American Bible Society

We are awaiting correspondence from Dr. Bill Bright and Senator Armstrong on the topic of a proclamation signing designating 1983 as Year of the Bible per an Act of Congress recently signed by the President.

There is in the process of formation a Protestant - Catholic - Jewish committee especially intended to encourage observation of 1983 as the Year of the Bible.

I would recommend that the President not do this event requested by the American Bible Society but that we be sure to invite them to the proclamation signing.

It might be appropriate for the President to receive a Bible from them at that time, but the major events for the Year of the Bible should be those proposed by the group who were primarily responsible for the Congressional action.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 5, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR RED CAVANEY

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL

SUBJECT: American Bible Society Presentation of Bible

Fred Ryan has just told us that the presentation of the Bible by the American Bible Society is off the President's schedule for January 13. He has no idea how it got on the schedule.

The only paper work he had on the subject indicated that the organization was informed on December 13 that the President would not be able to accommodate their request. You may remember that you had sent a memo to Scheduling recommending against this event.

The major event relating to the Bible for now, clearly, is the Year of the Bible proclamation. The religious groups are showing increasing interest in whether or not the President will allow a single atheist in Wisconsin to prevent him from acting on a law Congress has passed and he has signed.

The coalition to encourage observance of 1983 as Year of the Bible is daily enlisting other major leaders.

Unless someone higher up has inserted the Bible Society's request on the President's schedule without Fred Ryan's knowledge, it appears that this was a clerical error in Scheduling.

To repeat: Fred Ryan says this presentation of a Bible by the American Bible Society on January 13 has been removed from the President's schedule.

EHD  
Red  
Morton B

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

TO: ELIZABETH DOLE 1/6/83  
*WJR for*  
FROM: WILLIAM K. SADLEIR  
SUBJ: APPROVED PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITY

PLEASE IMPLEMENT THE FOLLOWING AND NOTIFY AND CLEAR ALL PARTICIPANTS. THE BRIEFING PAPER AND REMARKS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED TO RICHARD DARMAN BY 3:00 P.M. OF THE PRECEDING DAY.

NOTE: AS PROJECT OFFICER FOR THIS ACTIVITY, IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SUBMIT A COMPLETE, CONFIRMED LIST OF STAFF AND ATTENDEES, IDENTIFIED BY TITLE, TO THE OFFICE OF PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING WITHIN FIVE (5) DAYS AFTER THE EVENT.

MEETING: The presentation by the American Bible Society, previously scheduled for January 13, is cancelled for that date

DATE:

TIME:

DURATION:

LOCATION:

REMARKS REQUIRED:

MEDIA COVERAGE:

FIRST LADY  
PARTICIPATION:

cc: A. Bakshian M. McManus  
M. Brandon J. Rosebush  
R. Darman B. Shaddix  
R. DeProspero W. Sittmann  
D. Fischer L. Speakes  
C. Fuller WHCA Audio/Visual  
W. Henkel WHCA Operations  
E. Hickey A. Wrobleski

WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

"COPY"

NO  
Staff to  
Red Caraway  
FR  
11/13/82

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 82 10 130

Name of Correspondent: Edmund F. Wagner

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Subject: Supports the President regarding his signing of the Bill to designate 1983 as the "Year of the Bible". Requests a meeting with the President, sometime in January 1983, to present him a copy of the Society's own Good News Bible in Today's English Version.

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>St Paul</u>		<u>CJ</u>	<u>8210131</u>	<u>CE</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>8211275</u>
			<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
			<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
			<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
			<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>

- 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.

December 13, 1982

Dear Mr. Wagner:

On behalf of the President, I would like to thank you for your letter asking to present the President with a copy of the American Bible Society's Good News Bible in Today's English Version.

Your thoughtfulness of the President is most appreciated. Unfortunately, in view of the heavy demands on the President's schedule in the months ahead, a time is not foreseen when he could add your request to his calendar.

With the President's warm best wishes to you,

Sincerely,

WILLIAM K. SADLEIR  
Director, Presidential  
Appointments and Scheduling

Mr. Edmund F. Wagner  
President  
American Bible Society  
1865 Broadway  
New York, NY 10023


WKS:AMS:mlg

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 24, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR WILLIAM K. SADLEIR

FROM: RED CAVANEY 

SUBJECT: Scheduling Event for President to Receive  
Bible from the American Bible Society

We are awaiting correspondence from Dr. Bill Bright and Senator Armstrong re a proclamation-signing ceremony designating 1983 as Year of the Bible per an Act of Congress recently signed by the President.

A Protestant-Catholic-Jewish committee is in formation, especially intended to encourage observation of 1983 as the Year of the Bible.

Recommend the President not do this event rather invite them to the proclamation signing.

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

MR / HCD / EMJ

11/6/82

Is this statement true  
about every President  
continuing the custom  
of accepting this  
Bible?

Fred

I know that previous  
Presidents have accepted Bibles  
and, as I recall, from this group -

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 10, 1982

Fred-

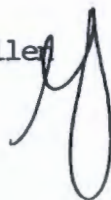
According to the Public Papers President  
Nixon met w/the American Bible Society  
the end of May 1969.

President Ford never met w/them.

President Carter met w/them on 9/14/77.

So, the letter's third paragraph is  
incorrect. Reagan would not necessarily  
be breaking "a continuing custom." If you  
should decide not to do this.

Elle



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM

November 17, 1982

TO: RED CAVANEY  
FROM: WILLIAM K. SADLEIR, DIRECTOR  
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING  
SUBJ: REQUEST FOR SCHEDULING RECOMMENDATION

REGRETTED  
Date 11/30/82 EJR

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR RECOMMENDATION ON THE FOLLOWING SCHEDULING REQUEST UNDER CONSIDERATION:

EVENT: Presentation of Good News Bible in Today's English Version by the President of the American Bible Society  
DATE: January 1983  
LOCATION: The White House  
BACKGROUND: See attached

YOUR RECOMMENDATION:

Accept \_\_\_ Regret \_\_\_ Surrogate \_\_\_ Message \_\_\_ Other   
Priority \_\_\_  
Routine \_\_\_

IF RECOMMENDATION IS TO ACCEPT, PLEASE CITE REASONS:

*See attached memo*

*Red*

RESPONSE DUE 11-24-82 TO <sup>782</sup> Fred J. Ryan



October 18, 1982

*Scheduling*

*Staff to  
Red Courney* 105196

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

My Dear Mr. President,

It is with great appreciation that we have received word that you have signed the Bill to designate 1983 as the Year of the Bible.

In recognition of your action, my fellow members of the Board of Managers of the American Bible Society and I will be truly grateful if you will accept a copy of the Society's own Good News Bible in Today's English Version.

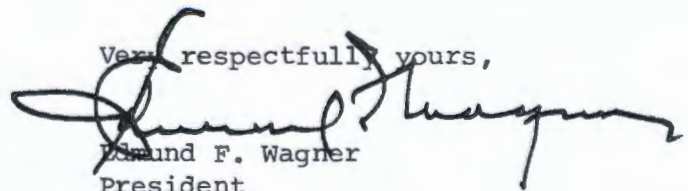
In so doing, we feel that you would further demonstrate to the nation the need to be guided by the Scriptures, and at the same time you would be continuing a custom which had its beginning 166 years ago. Each of your distinguished predecessors has been gracious enough to accept a special presentation Bible from this Society since its founding in 1816. //

It may interest you to know that Elias Boudinot was not only President of the Continental Congress but also the first President of the American Bible Society. Through the years many Presidents of the United States have been active in our organization. Presidents John Adams and John Quincy Adams were officers of the Society and did much to guide its growth in the early years.

We are an interdenominational, non-profit agency whose task is to distribute the Scriptures here at home and in over 150 countries and territories around the world. Through our continuing translation activity we are increasing the more than 1,739 languages in which the Scriptures are now published.

|| If your schedule permits me to present you with this special Bible in the White House sometime in January as the Year of the Bible commences, I will be most grateful.

Very respectfully yours,

  
Edmund F. Wagner  
President

EFW:rs

cc: The Honorable Claiborne Pell, Honorary Vice President, ABS  
Coleman Burke, Vice President, ABS

AMERICAN BIBLE SOCIETY



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

AM B. B. L. E  
SOCIETY

---

CLAIBORNE PELLETZ

Coleman Burke  
VP Bd  
FRIEND OF REYNOLDS

EDMOND WAGNER  
CHAIRMAN  
BD

ALICE BALL  
212-581-7400

Let know when  
Bible can be  
presented



OFFICE OF THE EDITOR ■ 6856 EASTERN AVENUE NW. ■ WASHINGTON, D.C. 20012

7<sup>th</sup>  
Day

Dec. 9, 1982

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

We very much appreciated President Reagan's letter of congratulations on our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary. It appears on the back page of the enclosed issue.

Best wishes,

Jan Wueritlin  
Asst. Editor

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 8, 1981

*file  
17<sup>th</sup> day  
Adventists  
Religious  
3*

Dear Miss Anderson:

I am pleased that the President was able to send a greeting to your 1981 annual council.

I regret that, per Gregory J. Newell's letter to Dr. Ross on August 27, we were not able to schedule a private meeting for your church leaders with the President.

As I pledged in a previous meeting with Dr. Ross and Dr. Beach in April, we will include leaders of your church in appropriate future meetings and briefings with White House policy makers, including meetings with the President.

Cordially,

*Morton C. Blackwell*  
Morton C. Blackwell  
Special Assistant to  
the President

cc. Dr. G.M. Ross

Miss Heidi L. Anderson  
Government Relations  
Seventh-day Adventists  
Church World Headquarters  
6840 Eastern Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20012



General Conference of

# Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS: 6840 EASTERN AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20012  
TELEPHONE: (202) 723-0800 • CABLE: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON • TELEX: 89-580

October 2, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell, Special Assistant to the  
President for Public Liaison  
Old Executive Office Building, room 191  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500  
ATTN: Kathy

Dear Kathy:

The following is a draft of a message that the President might send to the 1981 Annual Council of Seventh-day Adventists. Thank you for your help in obtaining the message. We would like to come pick it up to save time.

To President N.C. Wilson:

Greetings to all delegates of the 1981 Annual Council of Seventh-day Adventists, and welcome to Washington, D.C.

May hope and wisdom prevade your week-long deliberations October 6-14 as leaders of a world-wide and rapidly growing denomination.

I spoke with Dr. Ross and he feels that we would be more than interested in the meeting with top religious officials, President Reagan and Vice-President Bush.

Also enclosed are copies of letters from Dr. Ross to Mr. Blackwell that were never received. Please call us at 722-6687, or 6688 when the greeting from the President is ready to be picked up. Thank you, again.

Sincerely,

*Heidi Anderson*

Heidi L. Anderson  
Government Relations

*10/2/81  
OK  
Dodie Livingston's  
office  
will  
send*

*shall we  
include  
him?*

*he would like  
answers  
we will include  
in appropriate  
meeting*

July 17, 1961

Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you for including me in the briefings on the President's economic policy. This was insightful and useful, and you were tolerant of all opinions expressed.

After the meeting I spoke with you about the request of my church leaders for a five-minute visit with the President in October, the occasion being a major convening of our world officers at that time. You expressed your willingness to advance our chances for this meeting. To help you in this I am enclosing our correspondence with the White House.

Sincerely, yours,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
& Associate Director

GMR/hla  
enclosure

September 3, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Enclosed is correspondence relating to our request for a White House meeting. I discussed this ~~personally~~ with you at your recent symposium, and you agreed to do what you could to reinforce our invitation. I now request that you do so, and I thank you in advance for any efforts that you can make in our behalf.

Yours sincerely,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
& Associate Director

GMR/hla

July 17, 1981

Mr. Gregory J. Newell  
Special Assistant to the President  
Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Newell:

This letter will reiterate our request of April 15, 1981 for a meeting between the officers of our church and the President on the occasion of their world convocation here in Washington next October. We are sharing our correspondence regarding this matter with Mr. Morton Blackwell of Elizabeth Dole's office, and I am sure that he would be happy to talk with you further about our desires. As the fall approaches we will write you again.

Yours sincerely,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
& Associate Director

GMR/hla

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 27, 1981

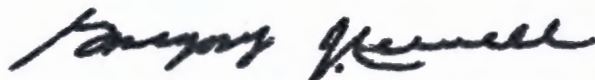
Dear Dr. Ross:

This is in reply to your letter of July 17th renewing your earlier request that a meeting be arranged between the officers of the Seventh-day Adventists Church and the President during the annual conclave of the church leadership in Washington, October 6-14.

I am sorry I must now advise that, as the President's schedule has developed for that period, it will not be possible for him to meet with your group.

He wanted me to express his appreciation for your interest in asking, nevertheless, and best wishes for a successful convocation.

Sincerely,



Gregory J. Newell  
Special Assistant  
to the President

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
and Associate Director  
General Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists  
6840 Eastern Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20012



file

STRAIGHT WIRE - OCTOBER 6, 1981

President N.C. Wilson  
General Conference  
of Seventh-day Adventists  
Church World Headquarters  
6840 Eastern Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20012

they are very thankful - 10/7  
Heidi Anderson  
722-6680

I am pleased to have this opportunity to send greetings to all those participating in the 1981 Annual Council of Seventh-day Adventists.

Since its beginnings, the Seventh-day Adventist Church has demonstrated a deep commitment to the spiritual and moral well-being of its adherents and a deepfelt commitment to the principle of religious freedom for all people.

At this particularly sad time all Americans join in prayer for peace and brotherhood. May faith and wisdom guide your ~~weekend~~ deliberations and all of us during this week and the days ahead.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

RR:Silverman:ck  
~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~  
cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/M.Blackwell/CF

M.Blackwell/CF



General Conference of

# Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS: 6840 EASTERN AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20012  
TELEPHONE: (202) 723-0800 • CABLE: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON • TELEX: 89-580

file

April 14, 1981

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President  
White House, EOB, room 136  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

It was a pleasure for Dr. Beach and me to visit with you in your office this afternoon and to learn of your enormous responsibilities. We want you to know that the leadership of Seventh-day Adventists respects you and wishes you well in your work.

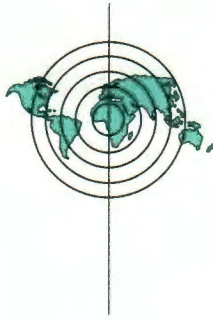
Please "count us in" on the briefings which you are planning to hold for various religious groups. This would be a valuable experience that we would not want to miss. And accept our condolences for the death which your family has recently sustained.

Yours sincerely,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
& Associate Director

/hla

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



General Conference of

# Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS: 6840 EASTERN AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20012  
TELEPHONE: (202) 723-0800 • CABLE: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON • TELEX: 89-580

*file*  
↓

September 3, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Enclosed is correspondence relating to our request for a White House meeting. I discussed this personally with you at your recent symposium, and you agreed to do what you could to reinforce our invitation. I now request that you do so, and I thank you in advance for any efforts that you can make in our behalf.

Yours sincerely,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
& Associate Director

GMR/hla

April 15, 1981

Mr. Gregory J. Newell  
Special Assistant to the President  
Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Newell:

During the next annual conclave of the leadership of the Seventh-day Adventist church, set to occur here in Washington on October 6-14, 1981, several of our officials would appreciate having a five minute conversation with President Reagan. I am authorized to initiate a request for this on their behalf and would like to be kept abreast of your efforts to schedule us. The persons attending, in addition to myself, would be N.C. Wilson, President; G. Ralph Thompson, Secretary; C.E. Bradford, Vice-President for North America; and B.B. Beach, Director of the Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty.

We have informed Mr. Morton Blackwell in Mrs. Dole's office of our intention to write you in this regard.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we are looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
& Associate Director

/hla

July 17, 1981

Mr. Gregory J. Newell  
Special Assistant to the President  
Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Newell:

This letter will reiterate our request of April 15, 1981 for a meeting between the officers of our church and the President on the occasion of their world convocation here in Washington next October. We are sharing our correspondence regarding this matter with Mr. Morton Blackwell of Elizabeth Dole's office, and I am sure that he would be happy to talk with you further about our desires. As the fall approaches we will write you again.

Yours sincerely,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
& Associate Director

GMR/hla

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 27, 1981

Dear Dr. Ross:

This is in reply to your letter of July 17th renewing your earlier request that a meeting be arranged between the officers of the Seventh-day Adventists Church and the President during the annual conclave of the church leadership in Washington, October 6-14.

I am sorry I must now advise that, as the President's schedule has developed for that period, it will not be possible for him to meet with your group.

He wanted me to express his appreciation for your interest in asking, nevertheless, and best wishes for a successful convocation.

Sincerely,



Gregory J. Newell  
Special Assistant  
to the President

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
and Associate Director  
General Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists  
6840 Eastern Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20012

U August 27, 1981

Dear Dr. Ross:

This is in reply to your letter of July 17th renewing your earlier request that a meeting be arranged between the officers of the Seventh-day Adventists Church and the President during the annual conclave of the church leadership in Washington, October 6-14.

I am sorry I must now advise that, as the President's schedule has developed for that period, it will not be possible for him to meet with your group.

He wanted me to express his appreciation for your interest in asking, nevertheless, and best wishes for a successful convocation.

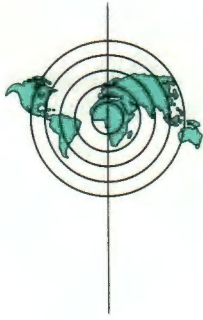
Sincerely,

Gregory J. Newell  
Special Assistant  
to the President

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
and Associate Director  
General Conference of  
Seventh-day Adventists  
6840 Eastern Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20012

cc: Morton Blackwell of E. Dole's office  
GN:hcd:emb-30a

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY



General Conference of

# Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS: 6840 EASTERN AVENUE, NW, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20012  
TELEPHONE: (202) 723-0800 • CABLE: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON • TELEX: 89-580

July 17, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you for including me in the briefings on the President's economic policy. This was insightful and useful, and you were tolerant of all opinions expressed.

After the meeting I spoke with you about the request of my church leaders for a five-minute visit with the President in October, the occasion being a major convening of our world officers at that time. You expressed your willingness to advance our chances for this meeting. To help you in this I am enclosing our correspondence with the White House.

Sincerely yours,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
& Associate Director

GMR/h1a  
enclosure



April 15, 1981

Mr. Gregory J. Newell  
Special Assistant to the President  
Old Executive Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Newell:

During the next annual conclave of the leadership of the Seventh-day Adventist church, set to occur here in Washington on October 6-14, 1981, several of our officials would appreciate having a five minute conversation with President Reagan. I am authorized to initiate a request for this on their behalf and would like to be kept abreast of your efforts to schedule us. The persons attending, in addition to myself, would be N.C. Wilson, President; G. Ralph Thompson, Secretary; C.E. Bradford, Vice-President for North America; and B.B. Beach, Director of the Department of Public Affairs and Religious Liberty.

We have informed Mr. Morton Blackwell in Mrs. Dole's office of our intention to write you in this regard.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and we are looking forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely yours,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Congressional Liaison  
& Associate Director

/hla



General Conference of

# Seventh-day Adventists

CHURCH WORLD HEADQUARTERS: 6840 EASTERN AVENUE NW, WASHINGTON, DC 20012 USA  
TELEPHONE: (202) 722-6000 • CABLE: ADVENTIST, WASHINGTON • TELEX: 89-580

May 9, 1983

Honorable Morton Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President  
White House EOB, Rm 136  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

- RE: 1. Seventh-day Adventists Leadership  
Conferences at which President  
Reagan might appear.
2. The presentation of a book to  
President Reagan in the spirit of  
the Year of the Bible.

Thank you for inquiring about the above. In our telephone conversation recently, I failed to mention that our Director, Dr. Bert Beach, is chiefly responsible for White House liaison, and that I am only secondarily so. Therefore, I have spoken to him about the matter and will leave it to him to contact you directly.

On the other item, which is "in the works," the presentation of a book to President Reagan in the spirit of the Year of the Bible, you may also work with Dr. Beach. He would in any case be the one to accompany Elders Bradford and Kinder in any such meeting.

Yours sincerely,

G. M. Ross, Ph.D.  
Associate Director

GMR/h1a