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Collection: Blackwell, Morton: Files
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RONALD REAGAN LIBRARY
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PRESERVATION CLASSIFICATION COLLECTION RD/FRD NATO SAP

FROM:

Collection Blackwell, Morton: Files

Series IV: Veterans Liaison

File Folder Title/Casefile #/NSC # Military Order of the Purple Heart (1)

Box Number 44

Description of Material:

50th Anniversary of the Military Order of the Purple Heart
medallion and file

TO:

Collection: Blackwell, Morton: Files

Series: IV

File Folder Title/Casefile #/NSC # Same

Box Number: Object Box 1 (~~1001-0-11~~) Box 44

Transferred by: K. Ulich

Date: 07/15/2011

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COLLECTIONS

FRONT



BACK



50th ANNIVERSARY
MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART
ALBANY, NEW YORK, AUGUST 2 - 6, 1982

1782



1982

1932
200th ANNIVERSARY
BADGE OF MILITARY MERIT
NEWBURGH, NEW YORK, AUGUST 7, 1982

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

December 9, 1981

TO: GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST: The Military Order of the Purple Heart for presentation of the "Peace Officer's" Award to Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty, and to officially name President Reagan as their "Honorary National Commander-in-Chief."

PURPOSE: Recognition of McCarthy, Delahanty, and the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the veterans organization exclusively for combat wounded veterans.

BACKGROUND: The Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first award made available to the common soldier. The Purple Heart was created by General George Washington. The special designation of "Honorary National Commander-in-Chief" is provided for in the Preamble to the Order's Constitution, but they did not choose to give this honor to President Carter.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:

DATE: Open (should coincide with the Legion of Valor award)

LOCATION: Oval Office or Roosevelt Room DURATION: 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy
Officer Thomas Delahanty
Duane T. Brigstock, National Commander
Frank Athanason, Adjutant General

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: President welcomes, presents the awards, accepts the designation of "Honorary Commander-in-Chief," and poses for pictures.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House Press Corps photo opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth H. Dole

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

June 29, 1983

General George Washington recognized the tremendous sacrifice of the individual soldier when he directed the creation of the Badge of Military Merit, now the Purple Heart. Selfless dedication and service were honored by our nation's first military award, and the Purple Heart remains a badge of distinction, one earned at great personal risk.

Those qualities of individual service and sacrifice ensured our freedom in the founding of our nation and have maintained that freedom despite great challenges.

Those who wear the Purple Heart have demonstrated to the world that we will defend our freedom with unstinting resolve.

I send warm greetings to all who gather for the fifty-first Annual National Convention of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

RONALD REAGAN

SENT TO:

Mr. Frank A. Athanason
Adjutant General
Military Order of the Purple Heart
5413-B Backlick Road
Springfield, Virginia 22151-3960

Enclosure: 8x10 glossy photo enclosed
Call when signed to have picked up: 642-5360

RR:Livingston: - 2livin
cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/M.Blackwell/CF
DUE: JULY 1
EVENT: AUG. 24 (Kansas City, MO)
Draft information provided by DOD

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS



*Given to Claudia
6/27*

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
5413-B BACKLICK ROAD
SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22151-3960
(703) 642-5360 (FTS-389-3953)

May 31, 1983

OFFICE OF: Adjutant General

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We sincerely invite you to participate in our 51st annual National Convention to be held in the Hyatt Regency Kansas City, Missouri, 24-27 August 1983.

Your presence during any part of our conclave would bring great honor to our Order. Special events that would offer you a platform are the Joint Opening Ceremonies at 9 a.m., August 24th, and the Commander's Banquet at 8 p.m., August 27th. But, be assured, if you were able to make an appearance, we would halt all other business to bring our delegates and those of our Ladies Auxiliary together to hear your remarks.

In any event, we do request a short message and picture of you to place in our convention program. This message will be given the place of honor in the booklet that is distributed to all of our delegates.

I would be most happy to work with your staff in providing additional information and making any arrangements that may be required.

Sincerely,

FRANK A. ATHANASON
Adjutant General

AG file

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

1782



1932

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
5413-B BACKLICK ROAD
SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22151-3960
(703) 642-5380 (FTS-389-3953)

OFFICE OF: National Service Director

June 16, 1983

*Printing
already done
June 30*

*no per
MCP
6/20
talked with
Dick 6/21
re letter from Pres*

The Honorable Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

First, thank you for your letter outlining President Reagan's stance as pertains to the issue raised over the Presidents Private Sector Survey on Cost Control pertaining to the Veterans Administration. I sent your letter under a separate cover to our membership and from all indications it has been favorably received. During my speaking engagements, the issue comes up and when I read your letter the usual remark is, "I knew the President wouldn't allow it to happen."

Next, we are having our 51st Annual National Convention in Kansas City, Missouri, August 24-27, 1983. The National Service Officer Seminar is on 26 and 27 August, from 1 PM to 5 PM each day. The evening of the 26th we are having a Western Cookout at Travel Town and Saturday evening is our Banquet. If your schedule will allow, we would greatly appreciate your addressing our Seminar and to be our guest that evening.

Hope your schedule will permit you to attend.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Richard J. Gallant".
RICHARD J. GALLANT
National Service Director

RJG/d
Enc.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart

Annual Dues \$10.00

Evidence of the Award of Purple Heart must be submitted
(eg. DD214, 53-55 etc)

Take this opportunity to become a Life Member of The Military Order of The Purple Heart. See the following chart for your dues:

If you are under 50 years of age	your Life Member dues are \$100
If you are 50 through 59 years of age	your Life Member dues are 75
If you are 60 through 69 years of age	your Life Member dues are 50
If you are 70 years of age or over	your Life Member dues are 25
*If you have a 100% service connected compensation and are 60 years of age or under	your Life Member dues are 50

Whether you become a Life Member or an annual member make certain that you join The Military Order of the Purple Heart today.

*Evidence of 100% SC rating must be submitted with application.

The road to glory in a patriot army and a free country is thus open to all.

George Washington

Membership in the Military Order of the Purple Heart is limited by public law to "...persons who have received the Purple Heart during combat...".

There is a proud history to an award which was created for "gallantry but also of extraordinary fidelity and essential service." The order to establish the first Purple Heart was issued by General George Washington during the Revolutionary War. The official papers, signed by Washington, were saved from burning during the War of 1812. The famous award was revived in 1932 by President Hoover and General Douglas MacArthur. Today, as in the past, the single bond that unites members of The Order is that each has sustained a wound, inflicted by an enemy, in combat. There is no exclusion by war, or by branch of service ... the members' common bond is that they have given of their own blood. The Order exists to serve, not only combat wounded, but all veterans and their dependents.

The Only Congressionally Chartered Veterans Organization Exclusively For Combat Wounded Veterans

PROUD
to be a
MEMBER

The Military Order of the Purple Heart, founded by George Washington, stands in the finest tradition of service to America.

Those who wear this unique decoration remind us that Americans have always been willing to sacrifice for their principles. Membership in the Order gives me great pride.

Alexander M. Haig, Jr.
General USA (Ret)

I am proud to be a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart. This group of patriots serves as a reminder to our nation and to the world that we have shed blood for our country, and we fight to defend our freedom. The Order deserves the full support of all those who are eligible for membership.

Strom Thurmond
United States Senate

The members of The Military Order of the Purple Heart are responsible for many of the freedoms that are enjoyed in our country today. I am pleased to be a member of this great organization and I encourage all Americans to give them your support.

LT Gen. LeRoy J. Manor, USAF (Ret)
The Retired Officers Association



The Military Order of the Purple Heart
5413-B Backlick Road • Springfield, VA 22151
(703)642-5360 • FTS 389-3953

For The Combat Wounded

The Military
ORDER
of the
PURPLE
HEART

The
Association
for Those
Honored with
The
Purple Heart

Congressionally Chartered

Reasons for belonging to The Military Order of the Purple Heart...

Your Voice in Washington The Military Order of the Purple Heart represents you in the Nation's Capitol. This means that the voice of the combat wounded veteran is heard in Congress, at the Department of Defense and at the Veterans Administration. We are constantly alert to any legislation which affects our members. The M.O.P.H. is working on your behalf.

The Purple Heart Magazine There is an official magazine of M.O.P.H. It is issued six times a year for the enjoyment of members. Each issue brings a series of timely and well written articles about the activities of The Order around the country. Members have written to say that they look forward to receiving The Purple Heart Magazine. The cost of your subscription is included in your modest dues payment.

Local Chapters All members of The Order are automatically eligible to participate in the activities of local chapters of M.O.P.H. These chapters offer programs which meet the needs and interests of local members. Many members enjoy the pride of participating in community based activities as members of M.O.P.H.

Annual Convention Once each year the Military Order of the Purple Heart holds a National Convention for the purpose of renewing goals and ideals. There is always a full roster of activities for members and their spouses. Between the official activities of the Convention, there is time for relaxation and a chance to renew old friendships and to make new ones.

Group Insurance Offers The Order is proud to offer a variety of insurance plans to meet the needs of members and their families. Several times each year members will receive material to advise them of different programs. Each program can be tailored to meet the specific needs of each member.

Patriotism We are proud to address each of our fellow members as a "Patriot" for who among the people of this country can say that they have given more of themselves than the members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart? This association is proud to stand up for America, and sponsors an award program, through The Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, which serves Armed Forces personnel.

Educational The Order is proud to promote much needed patriotic education in our nation's schools. All of our citizens, both young and old, must appreciate the blessing of freedom and accept the responsibility that comes with it. The Order's educational activities include a grant/scholarship program to institutions who encourage young people to enter into the field of being teachers for the handicapped. The Order also has started a scholarship program for sons and daughters of M.O.P.H. members.

Pride of Membership There is one important intangible benefit that members enjoy when they belong to the Military Order of the Purple Heart. Your membership helps to keep alive the ideals for which you were awarded the Purple Heart.

Fellowship The Order provides an opportunity for fellowship with other Purple Heart recipients.

National Service Officer Program The Order participates in the Veterans Administration National Service Officer Program which serves to assist America's veterans. This program works to make certain that veterans of the United States Armed Forces, and their dependents, receive all to which they are entitled.

Outreach Program The Order operates a mobile service program designed to reach veterans in remote areas. This program will be expanded with additional vans.

Other Benefits Support of the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service program at Veterans Medical Centers throughout the United States.

The Military Order of the Purple Heart is the only Congressionally chartered veterans organization exclusively for combat wounded veterans.

You are eligible for membership if you have been awarded the Purple Heart by the Government of the United States of America.

Clip along dotted line and return:

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
Military Order of the Purple Heart
 CHARTERED BY CONGRESS
 National Headquarters
 5413-B Backlick Road
 Springfield, Va. 22151
 (703) 642-5360 FTS 389-3963

NAME FIRST MIDDLE LAST PHONE CHAPTER NO.
 ADDRESS STATE ZIP
 CITY AIR FORCE MARINES OTHER
 SERVICE ARMY NAVY WWII KOREA VIETNAM
 WAR WOUNDED WWI
 MILITARY ORGANIZATION DATE OF BIRTH
 DATE ENLISTED DATE DISCHARGED SERIAL NO.
 DATE WOUNDED ENGAGEMENT V.A. CLAIM NO.
 NEXT OF KIN ADDRESS DATE
 APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE
 APPLICANT SIGNED UP BY
 EVIDENCE OF THE PURPLE HEART AWARD MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THIS APPLICATION.
 CERTIFYING OFFICER: TITLE:

Subscription to the Purple Heart Magazine
 Membership covers
 ANNUAL DUES \$10.00
 YOU ARE ELIGIBLE
 IF YOU HAVE BEEN AWARDED
 THE PURPLE HEART MEDAL
 BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA



~~State Army~~

51st Annual Nalt Convention
Aug 24 thru 27

Regency Hotel Kansas City

letter & picture

printing ~~June 20~~
June 20

Deck Garant - 642-5360

Military Order of the Purple

Reg of Vols 5/16

Heart

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Military Order
of the Purple Heart*

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

December 19, 1981

TO: GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST: The Military Order of the Purple Heart for presentation of the "Peace Officer's" Award to Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty, and to officially name President Reagan as their "Honorary National Commander-in-Chief."

PURPOSE: Recognition of McCarthy, Delahanty, and the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the veterans organization exclusively for combat wounded veterans.

BACKGROUND: The Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first award made available to the common soldier. The Purple Heart was created by General George Washington. The special designation of "Honorary National Commander-in-Chief" is provided for in the Preamble to the Order's Constitution, but they did not choose to give this honor to President Carter.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:

DATE: Open (should coincide with the Legion of Valor award)

LOCATION: Oval Office or Roosevelt Room DURATION: 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy
Officer Thomas Delahanty
Duane T. Brigstock, National Commander
Frank Athanason, Adjutant General

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: President welcomes, presents the awards, accepts the designation of "Honorary Commander-in-Chief," and poses for pictures.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House Press Corps photo opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth H. Dole, Max Friedersdorf, Lyn Nofziger, Ed Hickey

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 10, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR ELIZABETH H. DOLE

THRU: DIANA LOZANO

FROM: MORTON BLACKWELL *MB*

SUBJECT: Bob Nimmo - Military Order of the
Purple Heart Convention

Some good news: Bob Nimmo was a hit at
Dick Gallant's Purple Heart Convention.

Attached is the note to me from Carolyn on
this topic.

Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8-10-82

Morton:

Dick Gallant just called to thank us for getting the proclamation on Purple Heart winners to him in time for their convention.

He also said Nimmo spoke there and did a magnificent job. Several had said they planned to boo him and Dick told them they must show respect for the office if they had none for the man. Dick said Nimmo addressed each area on which he had been criticized head on and answered questions frankly and made a big hit. Some of the ones who had threatened to boo him came up to Gallant afterwards and said they would have to rethink their positions in view of his performance.

Carolyn

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 16, 1981

TO: Ed Hickey
FROM: Morton Blackwell
RE: Schedule Proposal

The Legion of Valor and the
Military Order of the Purple Heart
are two outstanding veterans
organizations.

Would we be able to add your name
to those next to the category:
RECOMMENDED BY:

Yes

Thank you.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 15, 1981

TO: Max Friedersdorf
FROM: Morton Blackwell
RE: Schedule Proposal

The Legion of Valor and the Military
Order of the Purple Heart are two
outstanding veterans organizations.

Would we be able to add your name
to those next to the category:
RECOMMENDED BY:

Thank you.

mf.
12-17-81

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

December 16, 1981

TO: Lyn Nofziger
FROM: Morton Blackwell
RE: Schedule Proposal

The Legion of Valor and the Military Order of the Purple Heart are two outstanding veterans organizations.

Would we be able to add your name to those next to the category:
RECOMMENDED BY:

Thank you.

ok - LN

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*Sent to Peal
12/22/81*

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

December 19, 1981

TO: GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST: The Military Order of the Purple Heart for presentation of the "Peace Officer's" Award to Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty, and to officially name President Reagan as their "Honorary National Commander-in-Chief."

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PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:

DATE: Open (should coincide with the Legion of Valor award)

LOCATION: Oval Office or Roosevelt Room DURATION: 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy
Officer Thomas Delahanty
Duane T. Brigstock, National Commander
Frank Athanason, Adjutant General

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: President welcomes, presents the awards, accepts the designation of "Honorary Commander-in-Chief," and poses for pictures.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House Press Corps photo opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth H. Dole, *Lyn, May, & Ed*

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

December 9, 1981

TO: GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST: The Legion of Valor of the U.S.A. for presentation of the award, Silver Cross for Valor, to Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty.

PURPOSE: Recognition of McCarthy and Delahanty and the Legion of Valor, the nation's senior organization of war veterans. Membership is limited to those who hold the two highest decorations for heroism in combat.

BACKGROUND: This is a veterans group with small numbers but with high prestige. The Legion of Valor Silver Cross for Valor award was established in 1957 and first awarded in 1959 when presentation of the first three Crosses was made to the Unknowns of World War I, World War II, and Korea. Since 1959, sixteen awards have been made and five of these presented posthumously. The Legion of Valor wishes to recognize the great gallantry of these two men and feels that each clearly meets the basic criteria for the award - risk of life in saving, or attempting to save, the life of another.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: General Alexander Haig holds membership in the Legion of Valor.

DATE: Open (should coincide with Military Order of Purple Heart award)

LOCATION: Oval Office or Roosevelt Room DURATION: 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy
Officer Thomas K. Delahanty
Brigadier General Robert J. Gaynor, Director of Awards
Neil Keltner, National Commander
Major James D. Doughtie, Past National Commander

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: President welcomes, presents the awards, and poses for pictures

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House Press Corps photo opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth H. Dole

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

December 9, 1981

TO: GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST: The Legion of Valor of the U.S.A. for presentation of the award, Silver Cross for Valor, to Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty.

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PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: General Alexander Haig holds membership in the Legion of Valor.

DATE: Open (should coincide with Military Order of Purple Heart award)

LOCATION: Oval Office or Roosevelt Room DURATION: 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy
Officer Thomas K. Delahanty
Brigadier General Robert J. Gaynor, Director of Awards
Neil Keltner, National Commander
Major James D. Doughtie, Past National Commander

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: President welcomes, presents the awards, and poses for pictures

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House Press Corps photo opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth H. Dole

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DATE: 7/13

TO: Mator
FROM: Diane

For your info _____
Per our conversation _____

Other:

Schedule proposal
needs to be redone
to include the
attached info.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Add to
Schedule
proposal

Reed,

Further information
on the Legion of Valor
per your request to
Morton.

Maude

Jim - Morton to re-do
w/ much more
detailed info.
as per
attached!

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 25, 1981

TO: RED

FROM: MORTON 

*Original
Return to
Morton*

Here is a schedule proposal for one of our Veterans groups and a memo to General Schweitzer who also wants this proposal to be scheduled.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 25, 1981

TO: GENERAL ROBERT SCHWEITZER
FROM: MORTON BLACKWELL
RE: Schedule proposal for
presentation by Legion of Valor

We are submitting this schedule proposal and understand that you are definitely recommending this and would like to attend.

It would be helpful if you could recruit other White House staff to endorse this proposal.

Thank you.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

JUNE 25, 1981

TO: GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST: The Legion of Valor of the U.S.A. for presentation of the award, Silver Cross for Valor, to Secret Service Agent Timothy J. Mc Carthy and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty.

PURPOSE: Recognition of the Legion of Valor, the Nation's senior organization of War Veterans. Membership is limited to those who hold the two highest decorations for heroism in combat.

BACKGROUND: This is a Veterans group with small numbers but with high prestige.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: General Alexander Haig holds membership in the Legion of Valor.

DATE: OPEN

LOCATION: Oval Office or Rose Garden DURATION: 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy
Officer Thomas K. Delahanty
Brigadier General Robert M. Gaynor, Legion of Valor
General Robert Schweitzer

OUTLINE OF EVENT: President welcomes, presents the awards or observes the presentation of the awards, and poses for pictures.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks, welcome and thanks for support

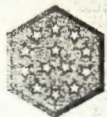
MEDIA COVERAGE: White House Press Corps opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth Dole; General Schweitzer

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

*file
Legion of
Valor*



LEGION OF VALOR

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.

FOUNDED AS MEDAL OF HONOR LEGION-1890

CHARTERED BY ACT OF CONGRESS 1955

621 South Taylor Street, Arlington, VA 22204

5 June 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell
White House Liaison Office
Room 134, Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

This is in reference to a matter we touched upon briefly during our phone conversation of 1 June. I mentioned further details while on the phone with Kathy Christianson today.

The purpose of the Legion of Valor in both conversations is to recognize the great gallantry of Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy, and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty of the Metropolitan Police, in their efforts to save the life of President Reagan when he was attacked on 30 March 1981. Enclosed are copies of correspondence with officials of each organization confirming that both officers risked their lives in efforts to preserve the life of our President. Clearly, each meets the basic criteria for award of the Legion of Valor Silver Cross for Valor - risk of life in saving, or attempting to save, the life of another. We are not aware of any other national action to recognize the heroism of Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Delahanty, but we would not be surprised if the Carnegie Commission takes note of their bravery.

The Legion of Valor Silver Cross for Valor was established in 1957 and was first awarded in 1959 when presentation of the first three Crosses was made to the Unknowns of World War I, World War II, and Korea. Since 1959, sixteen awards have been made. Including the awards conferred on the Unknowns, five have presented posthumously.

(more)

LEGION OF VALOR

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.

FOUNDED AS MEDAL OF HONOR LEGION-1890
CHARTERED BY ACT OF CONGRESS 1955

621 South Taylor Street, Arlington, VA 22204

5 June 1981

-2-

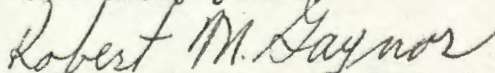
Mr. Morton Blackwell, White House Liaison Office (continued)

The Legion of Valor will appreciate your assistance in arranging a ceremony during which the President could present, or observe the presentation of, Silver Crosses to Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Delahanty. We do not wish to burden the President with lengthy proceedings, extended remarks, or more than a few minutes of his time. The audience could consist of the persons to be honored, their families, senior officials of their organizations, Captain A. J. Bouchardon who is National Commander of the Legion of Valor, and a few members of the Legion of Valor who reside in this vicinity. Captain Bouchardon holds the Army's Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism while serving with the Office of Strategic Services in World War II. He resides at 548 Belle Meade Boulevard, Gretna, LA 70053.

The Legion of Valor, the Nation's senior organization of war veterans came into being on 23 April 1890 when veterans of the Civil War and the Indian Campaigns formed the Medal of Honor Legion. Membership was limited to those who held a Medal of Honor granted by the Army or Navy. Later, membership was extended to those who hold the next-ranking decorations for heroism in combat, the Army's Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, and the Air Force Cross. Among those who may be known to you, the names of General Haig and Major General Schweitzer come to mind as each has held membership in the Legion of Valor.

National Commander Bouchardon has asked that Major James D. Doughtie, DSC, USA (RET), SSAN 238-56-6544, 4221 Bel Pre Road, Rockville, MD 20853 and I seek your help in honoring the two officers who offered their lives during the attack on President Reagan. We hope that the idea meets with approbation at the White House. We are available to meet with you to discuss the matter should you find such a step desirable.

Sincerely yours,



Robert M. Gaynor, DSC, USA (RET)
Brigadier General, Director of Awards
Phone: 892-5984. SSAN 207-01-6958

Enclosures: Letters to and replies from Secret Service and Metropolitan Police; extracts from "General Orders", Legion of Valor, April-May, 1977; Explanatory brochure; photo, Silver Cross.

MEMORANDUM

file

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

June 8, 1981

TO: GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST: The Legion of Valor of the U.S.A. for presentation of the award Silver Cross for Valor to Secret Service Agent Timothy J. Mc Carthy and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty

PURPOSE: Recognition of the Legion of Valor, the Nation's senior organization of war veterans. Membership is limited to those who hold the two highest decorations for heroism in combat

BACKGROUND: This is a veterans group with small numbers but with high prestige.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: General Haig holds membership in the Legion of Valor.

DATE: Open

LOCATION: Oval Office or Rose Garden DURATION: 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Secret Service Agent Timothy J. Mc Carthy
Officer Thomas K. Delahanty
Brigadier General Robert M. Gaynor , Legion of Valor

OUTLINE OF EVENT: President welcomes, presents the awards or observes the presentation of the awards, and poses for pictures

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks = welcome and thanks for support

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House Press Corps opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth Dole

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

JUNE 25, 1981

TO: GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST: The Legion of Valor of the U.S.A. for presentation of the award, Silver Cross for Valor, to Secret Service Agent Timothy J. Mc Carthy and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty.

PURPOSE: Recognition of the Legion of Valor, the Nation's senior organization of War Veterans. Membership is limited to those who hold the two highest decorations for heroism in combat.

BACKGROUND: This is a Veterans group with small numbers but with high prestige.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION: General Alexander Haig holds membership in the Legion of Valor.

DATE: OPEN

LOCATION: Oval Office or Rose Garden DURATION: 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy
Officer Thomas K. Delahanty
Brigadier General Robert M. Gaynor, Legion of Valor
General Robert Schweitzer

OUTLINE OF EVENT: President welcomes, presents the awards or observes the presentation of the awards, and poses for pictures.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks, welcome and thanks for support

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House Press Corps opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth Dole; General Schweitzer

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 25, 1981

TO: GENERAL ROBERT SCHWEITZER

FROM: MORTON BLACKWELL

RE: Schedule proposal for
presentation by Legion of Valor

We are submitting this schedule proposal and understand that you are definitely recommending this and would like to attend.

It would be helpful if you could recruit other White House staff to endorse this proposal.

Thank you.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 25, 1981

TO: RED

FROM: MORTON

Here is a schedule proposal for one of our Veterans groups and a memo to General Schweitzer who also wants this proposal to be scheduled.



LEGION OF VALOR

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.

FOUNDED AS MEDAL OF HONOR LEGION-1890
CHARTERED BY ACT OF CONGRESS 1955

892-5984

621 South Taylor Street, Arlington, VA 22204

5 June 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell
White House Liaison Office
Room 134, Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

This is in reference to a matter we touched upon briefly during our phone conversation of 1 June. I mentioned further details while on the phone with Kathy Christianson today.

The purpose of the Legion of Valor in both conversations is to recognize the great gallantry of Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy, and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty of the Metropolitan Police, in their efforts to save the life of President Reagan when he was attacked on 30 March 1981. Enclosed are copies of correspondence with officials of each organization confirming that both officers risked their lives in efforts to preserve the life of our President. Clearly, each meets the basic criteria for award of the Legion of Valor Silver Cross for Valor - risk of life in saving, or attempting to save, the life of another. We are not aware of any other national action to recognize the heroism of Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Delahanty, but we would not be surprised if the Carnegie Commission takes note of their bravery.

The Legion of Valor Silver Cross for Valor was established in 1957 and was first awarded in 1959 when presentation of the first three Crosses was made to the Unknowns of World War I, World War II, and Korea. Since 1959, sixteen awards have been made. Including the awards conferred on the Unknowns, five have presented posthumously.

(more)

LEGION OF VALOR

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.
FOUNDED AS MEDAL OF HONOR LEGION-1890
CHARTERED BY ACT OF CONGRESS 1955

621 South Taylor Street, Arlington, VA 22204

5 June 1981

-2-

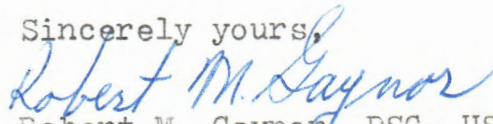
Mr. Morton Blackwell, White House Liaison Office (continued)

The Legion of Valor will appreciate your assistance in arranging a ceremony during which the President could present, or observe the presentation of, Silver Crosses to Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Delahanty. We do not wish to burden the President with lengthy proceedings, extended remarks, or more than a few minutes of his time. The audience could consist of the persons to be honored, their families, senior officials of their organizations, Captain A. J. Bouchardon who is National Commander of the Legion of Valor, and a few members of the Legion of Valor who reside in this vicinity. Captain Bouchardon holds the Army's Distinguished Service Cross for extraordinary heroism while serving with the Office of Strategic Services in World War II. He resides at 548 Belle Meade Boulevard, Gretna, LA 70053.

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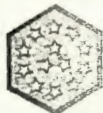
National Commander Bouchardon has asked that Major James D. Doughtie, DSC, USA (RET), SSAN 238-56-6544, 4221 Bel Pre Road, Rockville, MD 20853 and I seek your help in honoring the two officers who offered their lives during the attack on President Reagan. We hope that the idea meets with approbation at the White House. We are available to meet with you to discuss the matter should you find such a step desirable.

Sincerely yours,



Robert M. Gaynor, DSC, USA (RET)
Brigadier General, Director of Awards
Phone: 892-5984. SSAN 207-01-6958

Enclosures: Letters to and replies from Secret Service and Metropolitan Police; extracts from "General Orders", Legion of Valor, April-May, 1977; Explanatory brochure; photo, Silver Cross.



LEGION OF VALOR

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.

FOUNDED AS MEDAL OF HONOR LEGION-1890

CHARTERED BY ACT OF CONGRESS 1955

621 South Taylor Street, Arlington, VA 22204

21 April 1981

Special Agent James Boyle, US Secret Service
1800 G Street, NW (805)
Washington, DC 20223

Dear Mr. Boyle:

Pursuant to our phone conversation of today concerning criteria for award of the Legion of Valor Silver Cross for Valor, I'm enclosing material that may be of help should the Secret Service decide to recommend Mr. James McCarthy for the decoration. The basic qualifications are simply stated: the recipient should have risked his life in an attempt to save or preserve the life of another. Mr. McCarthy's efforts at the time the President was under attack seem to meet these criteria. A recommendation describing the events, certified by a senior member of the Secret Service, would permit me to seek the concurrence of other officers of the Legion of Valor in the expectation that a Silver Cross for Valor, with proper certificate, could be presented to Mr. McCarthy at a time and place to be selected later.

As shown in the enclosed copy of "General Orders" for April-May, 1977 (the national periodical of the Legion of Valor) the first three Legion of Valor Silver Crosses were presented to the Unknowns of World War I, World War II, and Korea. They are on display at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington National Cemetery. Since that time the design of the Cross has been simplified and a photo of the Cross now in use is enclosed. It is possible that the Metropolitan Police Department of the District of Columbia may recommend Officer Thomas Delahanty for award of the Legion of Valor Silver Cross for Valor because of his part in the defense of the President. Should this be the case, we will keep you informed.

Please let me know of your intentions in respect to this matter. We'll do our best to cooperate.

Sincerely yours,

Robert M. Gaynor, DSC, Brigadier General
Director of Awards, Legion of Valor

cc: National Commander. Encl: APR-MAY 1971-"General Orders" & Br

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE



WASHINGTON, D.C. 20223

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

May 13, 1981

Brigadier General Robert M. Gaynor
621 South Taylor Street
Arlington, Virginia 22204

Dear General Gaynor:

Thank you for your recent letter concerning the Legion of Valor Silver Cross for Valor Award.

On behalf of the Secret Service, I would like to recommend Special Agent Timothy James McCarthy for this decoration. We feel Agent McCarthy meets the criteria in that on March 30, 1981, he did in fact risk his life in an attempt to save the President of the United States who was being fired on by an attempted assassin.

The actual events may be documented by the enclosed newspaper clippings and are certified to be true by this writer.

If further information is needed, please contact me.

Thank you for your interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John R. Simpson".

John R. Simpson
Assistant Director

Enclosure (The bulk of the enclosures suggested that they be retained in Legion of Valor files.

Robert M. Gaynor)



LEGION OF VALOR

OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, INC.

FOUNDED AS MEDAL OF HONOR LEGION-1890

CHARTERED BY ACT OF CONGRESS 1955

621 South Taylor Street, Arlington, VA 22204

22 April 1981

Mr. Burtell Jefferson
Chief of Police, District of Columbia
300 Indiana Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Jefferson:

This is in reference to a recent phone conversation with Inspector James Shugart concerning criteria for award of the Legion of Valor Silver Cross for Valor during which we discussed the courage displayed by Officer Thomas Delahanty when President Reagan was under attack. Briefly stated, the recipient of the Cross must have risked his life in an attempt to save or preserve the life of another. Press accounts of the conduct of Officer Delahanty at the time the President was wounded suggest that his efforts meet these criteria. A recommendation describing the event, certified by a senior officer of the Metropolitan Police, would permit me to seek the concurrence of other officers of the Legion of Valor in the expectation that a Silver Cross for Valor, with proper certificate, could be presented to Officer Delahanty at an appropriate time and place.

As shown in the enclosed copy of "General Orders" for April-May, 1977 (the national periodical of the Legion of Valor), the first three Legion of Valor Silver Crosses for Valor were awarded to the Unknowns of World War I, World War II, and Korea. They are on display at the Tomb of the Unknown in Arlington National Cemetery. Since that time, the design of the Cross has been simplified and a photo of the Cross now in use is enclosed. It is possible that Special Agent James McCarthy, US Secret Service, may be recommended for the Cross because of his actions on that fateful day. Should this be the case, we will keep you informed.

Please let me know of your intentions in this matter. We'll do our best to cooperate

Sincerely yours,

Robert M. Gaynor, DSC, Brigadier General
Director of Awards, Legion of Valor

cc: National Commander A. J. Bouchardon, 548 Bellemeade
Gretna, LA 70053

ENC: "General Orders", April-May 1971, explanatory brochure.



GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, D. C., 20001

COMMUNITY RELATIONS DIVISION

May 5, 1981

Robert M. Gaynor
621 South Taylor Street
Arlington, Virginia 22204

Dear Brigadier General Gaynor:

This is in reply to your recent correspondence requesting specific information on the sequence of events leading up to and including the assassination attempt on the life of President Reagan.

I am pleased to provide the following information to you in the hope that it will serve as a sufficient basis by which to decide on the awarding of the Legion of Valor Silver Cross to Officer Thomas K. Delahanty, of the Metropolitan Police Department.

In planning a Presidential detail, this Department often coordinates with several units of the Secret Service who have separate and distinct responsibilities, such as, traffic direction, crowd control, and physical security. One of these duties, crowd control, was the area in which Sergeant Herbert Granger, Officer Leon Swain, Officer Thomas Delahanty, and four (4) other officers were participating.

At about 10:00 a.m., the morning of March 30, 1981, Sergeant Granger and Sergeant Donald Bell met and discussed deployment of Sergeant Granger's manpower for crowd management at the Washington Hilton that afternoon where the President would be addressing the Legislative Conference of the Building and Construction Trades Department of the AFL-CIO.

At that time it was decided that one officer would be positioned over top of the V.I.P. or ballroom entrance to the Hilton and the rest of the officers, as usual in the area of the V.I.P. entrance to the Hotel for crowd control.

The motorcade arrived at the Hilton without incident. The President entered by the V.I.P. entrance, followed by the press corps that accompanied him in the motorcade.

After entering the Hotel, Sergeant Granger, Officer Swain and Delahanty, and the rest of the detail were deployed approximately on the sidewalk between the waiting spectators and press and the V.I.P. entrance. This was done in anticipation of the President's leaving the Hotel after his speech.

The stanchions and rope were appropriately positioned on the sidewalk some 30 feet from the V.I.P. entrance and just beyond a retaining wall. Therefore, all pedestrian traffic had been excluded from the immediate area of the V.I.P. entrance. An area for the press and public was established behind the stanchions and rope. It should be noted that this area is customarily reserved for both the press and the general public who may want to view the President at some distance.

There was a small crowd of spectators and reporters in this area that remained orderly and on the sidewalk, Sergeant Granger, Officer Delahanty, and the rest of the detail observed the crowd for suspicious activity and did, in fact, direct the Secret Service Agents' attention to two subjects, who were checked and determined not be a threat to the President.

Among the crowd was John W. Hinkley. But, contrary to published reports, he did nothing to attract the attention of the police or Secret Service.

At approximately 2:25 p.m., President Reagan and his party exited the Washington Hilton and walked towards the limousines, parked about 12 feet from the V.I.P. entrance. Meanwhile the press exited the Hotel via the public entrance and created confusion by rushing towards the President in an attempt to gain his attention and comments.

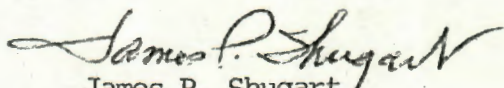
As the President neared the limousine, he turned and waived at a mixed crowd of spectators and press behind the roped off area. At this time the suspect, John W. Hinkley, from a crouched position fired what is believed to be six shots from a .22 caliber handgun. Hinkley was in the first row of the crowd, but still behind the ropes some 20 feet from the President.

It is difficult to determine who was shot first and what the sequence is of those individuals wounded. However, what is clear is that the reason why the President was the last to be shot from a ricochet bullet off the limousine door; the reason why the agents were able to push the President into the limousine, vacate the area, and take the President to G.W. University Hospital for emergency treatment; the reason why six shots were fired, this allowing time for apprehending and subduing the suspect was because Officer Delahanty and Special Agent Timothy McCarthy had positioned themselves directly in the line of fire between the President and the suspect. Thus both of these officers served as obstacles to Mr. Hinkley's clear line of fire to the President. The suspect was thus forced to repeatedly fire shots in his attempt to assassinate the President. Their positions subjected them to sustaining injuries meant for the President of the United States.

The total of six shots fired took a span of time of only about two seconds. Almost immediately, Sergeant Granger, Officer Swain, a civilian spectator, and several Secret Service Agents descended upon the suspect, overpowered him, and prevented any further attempt on the life of the President or additional injuries to innocent by-standers.

In considering this particular incident, the reaction of all law enforcement personnel on the scene was immediate, professional, and heroic in that there was no thought of their own self-protection. Officer Delahanty and Special Agent McCarthy placed themselves in the line of fire to protect the life of the President. Sergeant Granger and Officer Swain were among the first to reach the suspect and were willing to charge into the face of gunfire without regard for their own safety in order to subdue this potential assassin.

In conclusion, by all standards not enough can be said of these officers and the degree of bravery and unselfish devotion to duty then exhibited on the afternoon of March 30, 1981.



James P. Shugart
Inspector/Director
Community Relations Division