

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Library Collections

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

Collection: Blackwell, Morton: Files

Folder Title: Presidential Messages:
Presidential Greetings for Veterans and
Military Organizations

Box: 45

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

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

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

October 5, 1981

I am happy to have the opportunity to express my good wishes to the members of The Disabled Officers Association. However, I am saddened that the occasion for these good wishes is the closing of a fine organization.

As the second oldest veterans organization in the United States, The Disabled Officers Association has worked long and hard on behalf of disabled officers and their families.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my high regard and deep esteem for your dedicated efforts in defense of our country. A grateful nation joins me in thanking you for your many sacrifices.

While your association will officially cease operation in December, the memory of your services will live on. So, please accept my best wishes to each of you and be assured that this Administration pledges its continued support of all disabled veterans.

RONALD REAGAN

Sent to:

Brigadier General Alfred Freedman
National Commander
The Disabled Officers Association
Suite 6
927 South Walter Reed Drive
Arlington, Virginia 22204

RR:Wells:sew

cc: H.vonDamm/J.Wells/A.Locke/M.Blackwell/CF
Draft information furnished by VA.

DUE: OCT 5 for printing

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 17, 1981

TO: Claudia Korte
FROM: Maiselle Shortley

Attached is a request for a letter from the President for the Disabled Officers Association. They will be closing their offices at the end of December this year. Morton feels, that if at all possible, a letter should be sent.

Please note, they do have a publishing date of October 5.

Thanks for your help. Let me know if this can be done

~~Presidential
Message~~

File
Disabled Officers
Assoc.

If no file.
Vets Cares



The Disabled Officers Association

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
927 South Walter Reed Drive
Suite #6
Arlington, Virginia 22204
Telephone 703/521-8075

NATIONAL OFFICERS

COMMANDER

Brig. Gen. Alfred Freedman
711 Plato Street
Franklin Square, N.Y. 11010

VICE-COMMANDERS

Maj. Frank G. Hoffman
60 Shearer Drive
Atherton, CA 94025

Lt. Joseph G. O'Reilly
132 Charles Street
New York, N.Y. 10014

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

NORTHEAST

Capt. James J. Curran
130 West Main Street
Ayer, MA 01432

MID-ATLANTIC

Lt. Marvin H. New
1801 J.F. Kennedy Blvd.
Suite 1411
Philadelphia, PA 19103

SOUTHERN

Lt. John E. Binkley, Jr.
2447 Hoyt Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27103

CENTRAL

Capt. Robert W. Smith
730 Lehman Street
Orrville, OH 44667

SOUTHWEST

LtC. Howard Carleton, Jr.
1202 Preston Drive
Stillwater, OK 74074

WESTERN

Lt. Delbert F. Catron
14732 Van Buren Street
Midway City, CA 92655

IMMEDIATE PAST NATIONAL COMMANDER

Capt. Gilbert Chassy
3288 1/2 Main Street
PO Box 66
Lemon Grove, CA 92045

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Col. K. Lambert Kirk
155 Montgomery Street
San Francisco, CA 94104

SURGEON

Maj. Henry Simon, MD, Dr. PH.
2115 Montrose Avenue
Box 143
Montrose, Ca 91020

CHAPLAIN

Col. Donald M. Covington
132 N. Park Drive
Arlington, VA 22203

HISTORIAN

Capt. John J. Hudak, Jr.
610 Patton Avenue
Brookhaven, PA 19105

CHIEF OF STAFF

Col. Glenn W. Million
Suite #6
927 South Walter Reed Drive
Arlington, VA 22204

September 15, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell
The White House
Room #191
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

On 31 December 1981 the Disabled Officers Association will cease operations after more than 62 years of distinguished service to the disabled officer and their dependents in all branches of our Armed Forces.

Our membership has been declining for the past several years and has now reached the point that to continue on is not feasible. The Disabled Officers Association was formed at Walter Reed Hospital in 1919, and is the second oldest veterans organization in the United States.

For years our association was in the forefront fighting for the disabled officer and his family, and while originally formed to help those who suffered crippling wounds in World War I we later expanded to include those disabled in World War II, Korea and Viet Nam.

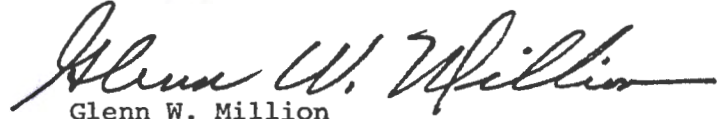
In early November we will publish for the last time our newsletter, The Bulletin, and we would deem it a high honor if we could feature a letter from President Reagan addressed to our members commenting on our closing operations on 31 December.

If the President will be so kind as to send us a letter, please send it to the address as shown below. If possible, we would appreciate his letter by 5 October.

Brigadier General Alfred Freedman
National Commander
Disabled Officers Association
927 S. Walter Reed Drive, Suite #6
Arlington, Virginia 22204

On behalf of all our national officers and members throughout the 50 states and foreign countries, we extend to President Reagan our best wishes for continued success throughout his administration.

Very sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Glenn W. Million". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Glenn W. Million
Col. USA (Ret)
Chief of Staff

*File
Presidential
Messages*

July 24, 1981

America draws its strength from the special quality of her many citizens who combine their pride in this nation with the pride of their cultural heritage.

The Italian American War Veterans exemplify a tradition of devoted service and sacrifice to those great principles of freedom and justice shared by all Americans.

Your valient record in times of war and your sense of responsibility toward your communities and your fellow citizens have earned you this nation's great respect and admiration.

It is a distinct privilege to send you greetings on your 46th Annual National Convention. My good wishes extend to all members everywhere for the accomplishments and progress which have made this past year so successful.

RONALD REAGAN

Sent to:

Miss Joan Fichera
Mr. Anthony Cuzzone
Convention Headquarters
Italian American War
Veterans of the U.S., Inc.
Post Office Box 56185
Chicago, Illinois 60656

RR:Livingston:kep
cc: H.vonDamm/M. Blackwell/D.Livingston/CF
EVENT: August 22
Draft information provided by VA.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

file
014
7/27
completed

July 24, 1981

TO: DODIE LIVINGSTON Presidential Greetings
FROM: MORTON BLACKWELL X. 2657 Room 191

We are requesting a RUSH job and certainly hope you can accomplish. This is very important.

The Mount Olive Township, N.J. Foreign Trade Zone is having a HUGE groundbreaking ceremony on TUESDAY, JULY 28 at the site of a two million square foot warehouse on 750 acres that will be built to give importers of goods an opportunity to store their goods duty free. This warehouse will provide approximately 3000 jobs in Morris, Sussex, and Warren counties in New Jersey. The major partner in this is the Rockerfeller Center, Inc.

Congressman Jim Courter's office has called us to request a greeting from the President; Cong. Courter will be speaking at this ceremony.

The telegram should be sent to

Mr. Les Smith, President
Mt. Olive Foreign Trade Zone,
4 Route 206
Flanders, New Jersey 07836

The site of this warehouse is at the intersections of Routes 80, 46, and 206 in Mt. Olive Township, N.J.

Thank you.



AUGUST 17 1981

Mr. Ray Mansell
State Chairman
Veterans Memorials and Cemeteries
Veterans of Foreign Wars of Massachusetts
14 Kingswood Drive
Abington, Massachusetts 02351

Dear Mr. Mansell:

On behalf of President Reagan, I am pleased to respond to your mailgram of July 12, 1981, regarding your proposal to donate a memorial monument to the Massachusetts National Cemetery.

Donations that involve the public in the process of building and enhancing their national cemetery are appreciated and encouraged. Each proposal of donation is reviewed separately for conformity with the objective and visual concept of the cemetery as provided in the master plan. We are happy to consider donations which attempt to complete elements in the master plan design for which Government funding is not available.

I am pleased that a meeting has been arranged by you and Mr. Bob Heller of my Department of Memorial Affairs with the Joint Veterans Committee of the Massachusetts National Cemetery. Mr. Heller will outline our donation procedures and our criteria for acceptance of a memorial monument for placement in the national cemetery in Massachusetts.

Thank you for your interest in the veterans of New England and in the Massachusetts National Cemetery.

Sincerely,

Associate Deputy Administrator - In the absence of

ROBERT P. NIBB0
Administrator

cc: Mr. Morton Blackwell ✓
The White House

Director, Massachusetts N/C

Director, NCAO, Philadelphia, PA

US Secretariat
wait 3

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 27, 1981

TO: Dodie Livingston's office

FROM: Morton Blackwell's office

We received a request to schedule a Presidential bill signing ceremony for this group when the President signed the bill making them an officially Federally chartered organization. Unfortunately, there was not enough time to arrange this.

We have been in touch with VA - Dean Phillips who is in charge of the Federally chartered veterans groups - and he drafted this Presidential message to be sent to this group.

I am also attaching the message you just sent to another group that was officially chartered in the same way.

Please advise us as to the message you sent.

Thank you.

*Coordinate this
with Dean Phillips -
He is on top of this!
389-5333*



Come to the National Conventions

NATIONAL PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICER

Nov. 12, 1981

Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Room 191
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

This is to formally request what we conversed about on the telephone Thursday, namely a photo of the signing by President Reagan of SJ 195--a Federal Charter for the United States Submarine Veterans of World War II.

U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II have been seeking this charter for 21 years. And we are proud and thankful that our long battle has been won during the Reagan administration.

Senator Goldwater must be singled out for significant help in gaining our charter. It was not until he sponsored a bill in the Senate that our House bill began to move.

We understand that if the bill is left unsigned 10 days it becomes law-- and this would allow time to set up a photo.

Also--and this is more a matter of levity than anything else--we feel that one of filmdom's stellar movie submariners would enjoy meeting a few real ones in the flesh.

Cordially yours,

Frederick A. Judd
National Public Affairs
Officer
(The Baltimore Evening Sun
332-6160)

*Mr. Rawson -
530-0754
530-2981*

*Must be signed
by Nov. 24th*

Save Coupons for College

Dear Mr. Gaspar:

It was with great pleasure that I signed S. 195 into law. As you know so well, this measure grants your fine organization a congressional charter and culminates a twenty-one year effort toward that end.

As a World War II veteran, I am well aware of the many sacrifices of those Americans involved in submarine service - the loss of more than 3,500 men and 52 vessels.

I am in total accord with the objectives and purposes of the United Submarine Veterans of World War II as set forth in Section Three of S. 195 - patriotism and loyalty to the United States of America, establishment of memorials to the memory of your lost shipmates, promotion of spirit and unity, and fostering public awareness of life aboard submarines during World War II by displaying the submarines that were in service then.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

Mr. Andrew M. Gaspar
National President
The United Submarine Veterans
of World War II
14941 Ardara Drive
N. Huntingdon, Pennsylvania 15642

November 19, 1981

It is a pleasure to sign legislation granting a Federal Charter to the Italian American War Veterans of the United States.

It was almost fifty years ago in Hartford, Connecticut, that a comparatively small group of Italian American veterans of World War I joined together to form a group which has since expanded to an organization of some 10,000, including veterans of World War II, the Korean War, and Vietnam War.

I am aware of the many years of dedication shown by your organization ~~to veterans~~ and their families in so many ways, not the least being the thousands and thousands of hours of voluntary service given in medical centers of the United States.

I am pleased that Congress has bestowed the Charter as you look to the observance of your Golden Anniversary next August.

You have my best wishes for continued success and effectiveness in the important work you do.

To Charlie Ponticelli ASAP for delivery to
Senator John Chafee, who will hand-carry to event, Nov. 21

RR:Livingston:ck
cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/A.Locke/M.Blackwell/CF
Draft information provided by VA.