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**Folder Title:** Reserve Officers Association:  
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# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** BLACKWELL, MORTON: FILES

**Withdrawer**

RBW 8/11/2011

**File Folder** RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION: MEMOS AND  
CORRESPONDENCE (3 OF 3)

**FOIA**

F06-0055/07

**Box Number** 46

POTTER, CLAIRE

60

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	FORM	RE. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION	1	4/4/1981	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.

W. E. Thomas, Jr. (Ed)

5742 Monalee Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95819

Sept. 25, '81

Miss Maiselle Shortley  
c/o Mr. Morton Blackwell  
The White House  
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Maiselle,

As discussed  
today I enclose a copy  
of Morton's March 20 letter  
to me. I also am enclosing  
a copy of my April 20  
response - less 2 of the  
enclosures. I hope this  
will help you locate the  
whole file.

I will await Morton's  
call to me. Thanks for  
your help.

Sincerely,

ED

916-455-5340

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 20, 1981

Dear Ed:

As the staff member responsible for this area, I am requesting that the President be allowed to renew his membership in the Reserve Officers Association.

I apologize for the delay in responding on behalf of the President to your earlier correspondence and hope that the President's wish will be accomodated. If we can be of assistance to you or any of the members of the ROA, please feel free to call on me.

Sincerely,



Morton Blackwell  
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. W. E. Thomas, Jr.  
5742 Monalee Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95819



5742 Monitee Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95819

# Reserve Officers Association of The United States

April 20, 1981

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

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thank you for your letter of March 20, 1981. In this regard, I enclose a copy of my April 6th letter to General Roberts. I am sure processing of President Reagan's ROA membership is now in good hands and will soon be accomplished.

I have no way of knowing if you or President Reagan ever received my original letter of August 27, 1980 or first follow-up letter to Curtis Mack of October 22nd. Because the August 27th letter contains all the background information, I am enclosing a copy along with the October 22nd letter.

I think you also would want a copy of the checks and applications I made. It is enclosed. This, of course, will be a memorable souvenir for 2nd Lt. Roger Behringer who on March 31st was the newest lieutenant in the U.S. Army.

Thanks again for your response. Also, I Thank God for The President's rapid recovery. Please wish him well for me.

Most sincerely,

*Ed Thomas*

W. E. THOMAS, Jr.  
Col. USAR - Ret.

4 Encls

*Chapter reimbursed 1/2 of  
payment*





5742 Monalee Avenue  
Sacramento, CA 95819

# Reserve Officers Association of The United States

April 6, 1981

Major General J. Milnor Roberts, Jr.  
Executive Director  
Reserve Officers Assn. of the United States  
1 Constitution Ave., N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

Dear General Roberts:

This refers to our telephone conversation the morning of March 30th and a Life Membership for President Reagan. A short time later, while on my way to Rotary, I heard the terrible news about the shooting. Thank God it was not worse.

As I recall, you had a tentative appointment to meet at the White House about April 4th regarding President Reagan's ROA membership. I presume that has been postponed. As agreed, I enclose an application for President Reagan's Life Membership and my check for \$128.00. As discussed with you, our Board will decide at the next meeting what portion the Chapter will pay. In any case, I will pay the difference. Please note I did not have information for the application for date of birth, social security number, military status, and grade. I think it best that you complete those items.

I also enclose an application and check for newly commissioned 2nd Lt Roger A. Behringer. An interesting coincidence is that I had arranged for a commissioning ceremony on March 31st at the Sacramento Army Depot for Lt. Behringer. He graduated from ROTC, University of California, Berkeley, in December 1980 and had to be commissioned before going on active duty next month. The depot commander, Col. Herman L. Brooks, conducted a very impressive ceremony attended by depot officers, family and friends. As of 1630 hours, March 31st, Lt. Behringer was the newest commissioned officer in the U. S. Army. I had planned to buy his first year's membership in ROA and it seemed appropriate to me to send this application along with the one for The President.

I also enclose a copy of the March 20th letter I received from Morton Blackwell which I read to you. Please thank him for me.

Please keep me advised of progress. Thanks.

Sincerely,

W. E. THOMAS, Jr.  
Col. USAR - Ret.

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION: MEMOS AND  
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1 FORM

1 4/4/1981 B6

RE. MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 6, 1981

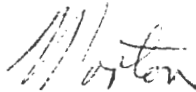
Dear General Roberts:

Thank you so very much for the picture with Ed Meese and yourself. I thank you so much for the invitation to the luncheon and the roast.

The ROA is certainly doing a great job in support of the President.

Thanks again.

Cordially,



Morton C. Blackwell  
Special Assistant to  
the President

General J. Milnor Roberts  
Reserve Officers Association  
First and Constitution N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

120-  
est





RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES  
1 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, NORTHEAST  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20002  
(202) 479-2200

*write note  
w/ of thanks  
to Gen. Roberts*

J. MILNOR ROBERTS  
MAJOR GENERAL, AUS RET.  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

1 October 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Special Assistant to Deputy Director  
of the office of Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Morton:

It was a pleasure to have you with us on September 16th, and I thought you might be interested in the enclosed photo which turned out rather well.

I am also sending a copy to Ed Meese, although I suspect that he will receive many similar ones!

Looking forward to seeing you again in the near future, and with best personal regards, I am

Cordially yours,

*J. Milnor Roberts*  
J. Milnor Roberts  
Major General, AUS (Ret.)  
Executive Director

JMR/gw  
Encl.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*File  
ROA*

August 3, 1981

TO: Billie Shaddix, Director White House Photographic Services  
FROM: Morton Blackwell

As Director of the White House Photographic Services we need your assistance in filling the following request from General Hultman of the Reserve Officers Association. The Association would like to obtain copies of the following photos:

1. 10 - 5X7 black and white photos #3046-09, 17 July 81
- ~~2. 2 - 8X10 color photos # C3055-10, 17 July 81~~

When they are ready please send them to the attention of Maiselle Shortley, Room 191.

Thank you for your assistance and prompt attention to this matter.

P.S. Would you also include in this order the following:

- ~~3. 4 - 8X10 color photos # 03053-18 A, 17 July 81~~

Thanks again.

*sent to Jane Stankowski 8/18 for*

*the 5X7's*

*sent to Rhoda Messer*

*8/20*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

DATE: 5/18

TO: Morton

FROM: Diana

For your <sup>recommendation</sup> info \_\_\_\_\_

Per our conversation \_\_\_\_\_

Other:

Should you attend?

To Diana

These are excellent people.  
We have done nothing yet for them  
by way of recognition. I think we  
should have someone go. I am available.  
Morton

sent 5/27/81





# Reserve Officers Association of the United States



National Headquarters • MINUTE MAN MEMORIAL BUILDING  
1 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, N.E., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002  
TELEPHONE 202/479-2200

ARMY \* NAVY \* AIR FORCE \* MARINE CORPS \* COAST GUARD \* PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE \* NOAA

18 May 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell  
Office of Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

*Please  
write as polite  
note of regret  
for missing  
MB  
5/24*

Dear Mr. Blackwell: *Morton*

Our Association's 1981 National Convention will be held the 8th through the 11th of July in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with headquarters at the Hilton Inn. Activities will begin with a "Welcome to New Mexico" Reception at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 8 July. The General Sessions will be held on the mornings of 9, 10, and 11 July, after which, on each day, the Service Sections will hold their separate meetings.

The Convention will be climaxed by ROA's Inaugural Banquet on 11 July, when Admiral Thomas B. Hayward, USN, Chief of Naval Operations, will be honored with the Association's Minute Man Hall of Fame Award. Vice Admiral Lee Baggett, Commander, Naval Surface Force, Pacific Fleet, will give the response.

This is a most cordial invitation to you and your lady to be our guests for the Inaugural Reception and Banquet on 11 July. You are, of course, invited to attend any of the other events scheduled, which will be addressed by senior military and civilian leaders representing all branches of the Service and the civilian sector.

Our Convention attracts about 1,200 representatives of our Association from throughout the United States and overseas areas, and will afford you the opportunity to meet with them and become informed of their viewpoints.

We hope very much that you can be with us. If you will let us know your time of arrival and length of stay we will be happy to assist you in making hotel reservations. A card is enclosed for your convenience in responding.

Cordially yours,

*J. Milnor Roberts*

J. Milnor Roberts  
Major General, AUS Ret.  
Executive Director

Banquet Dress: Black Tie

R.S.V.P. Mrs. Grace White  
(202) 479-2222



**RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION**  
1981 National Convention, 8-11 July  
The Hilton Inn, Albuquerque, New Mexico

**Please check events  
you plan to attend**

**Wednesday, 8 July**

6:00 p.m.  "Welcome to Albuquerque"  
Reception

**Thursday, 9 July**

8:30 a.m.  Convention Assembly  
10:30 a.m.  Service Section Meeting:  Army  
 Navy, MC, CG  Air Force  
6:30 p.m.  President's Reception

**I desire accommodations at the Hilton Inn**

Single  Twin  Double

Arrive \_\_\_\_\_ Depart \_\_\_\_\_  
(date & time) (date & time)

**Friday, 10 July**

8:30 a.m.  Convention Assembly  
12:15 p.m.  Service Luncheons:  Army  
 Navy, MC, CG  Air Force  
2:00 p.m.  Service Section Meeting:  Army  
 Navy, MC, CG  Air Force

**Saturday, 11 July**

9:00 a.m.  Convention Assembly  
6:45 p.m.  ROA Inaugural Reception &  
Banquet. My wife (escort)  
 will,  will not attend banquet

I am unable to attend the Conference

NAME (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If attending Conference please check in at VIP registration desk for registration materials.

Place  
Stamp  
Here

**Reserve Officers Association**  
1 Constitution Avenue, N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

ROA National Convention



# Reserve Officers Association of the United States



National Headquarters • MINUTE MAN MEMORIAL BUILDING  
1 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, N.E., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002  
TELEPHONE 202/479-2200

ARMY \* NAVY \* AIR FORCE \* MARINE CORPS \* COAST GUARD \* PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE \* NOAA

18 May 1981

The Honorable Elizabeth H. Dole  
Assistant to the President for  
Public Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

*Dianna*  
*No -*  
*Check with woman to*  
*see if he speaks*  
*in her*  
*place.*  
*No speaking*  
*for*

Dear Mrs. Dole:

Our Association's 1981 National Convention will be held the 8th through the 11th of July in Albuquerque, New Mexico, with headquarters at the Hilton Inn. Activities will begin with a "Welcome to New Mexico" Reception at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 8 July. The General Sessions will be held on the mornings of 9, 10, and 11 July, after which, on each day, the Service Sections will hold their separate meetings.

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We hope very much that you can be with us. If you will let us know your time of arrival and length of stay we will be happy to assist you in making hotel reservations. A card is enclosed for your convenience in responding.

Cordially yours,

*J. Milnor Roberts*  
J. Milnor Roberts  
Major General, AUS Ret.  
Executive Director

Banquet Dress: Black Tie

R.S.V.P. Mrs. Grace White  
(202) 479-2222

MAY 15 RECD

February 16, 1982

Dear Sonny:

Nancy and I are very proud to extend our congratulations as the Reserve Officers Association honors you with its Minute Man of the Year Award.

Presented to "the citizen who has contributed most to National Security," this award recognizes your service in the Congress since 1966 and, especially, your work as Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee and as a senior member of the House Armed Services Committee.

I want you to know how much I appreciate your leadership and support this past year and how much they have meant to the success of our program.

Again, congratulations. You have our best wishes and warm personal regard.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

The Honorable Gillespie V. Montgomery  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

(HAND CARRIED TO EVENT BY MORTON BLACKWELL)

RR:LIVINGSTON:vs

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

EVENT: FEB.16



ROA

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 1, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR GENERAL J. MILNOR ROBERTS  
RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL *MR*  
OFFICE OF PUBLIC LIAISON

SUBJECT: ROA's MID-WINTER BANQUET

I spoke with Jim Creegan at the State Department Italian desk regarding your idea of having the Italian Ambassador invited and introduced at your banquet on February 16th.

He thinks it would be a fine idea. He said the Ambassador has done well on T.V. shows since the rescue of General Dozier and that he speaks beautiful English.

Looks like a great idea!

cc. Elizabeth H. Dole



The first National Convention of ROA in the Willard Hotel, Washington, D.C. October 2-4, 1922. The opening session was addressed by General of the Armies John J. Pershing, shown standing behind the desk, top center.



More than 700 chapters of ROA exist throughout the world. This was symbolized in 1956 when Rear Admiral Richard E. Byrd, left, flew the ROA flag over his Operation Deepfreeze base camp at the South Pole. At right is Rear Admiral George J. Dufek, then commander of the U. S. Naval Support Force, Antarctic. The flag is now displayed at national headquarters in Washington.



The Minute Man Memorial Building, across from the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C., is the headquarters of the Reserve Officers Association of the United States. The five-story building was dedicated in 1968. It was built at the cost of almost \$1.5 million and, due to the generosity of the members in a fund drive chaired by General Lewis B. Hershey, is mortgage-free.



# ROA 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY NEWS

RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES  
1 Constitution Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002

Contact: Herbert M. Hart  
(202) 479-2258/2257

Author: Edgar A. Falk  
FOR RELEASE AFTER OCT 1, 1982  
NOTE PHOTOGRAPHS ENCLOSED

## RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION AT 60; FIGHT FOR A STRONG NATIONAL DEFENSE CONTINUES

"I consider this gathering perhaps one of the most important from a military point of view that has assembled in Washington or anywhere else within the confines of this country within my time."

Those were the words spoken by General of the Armies John J. Pershing on October 2, 1922 at the founding meeting of the Reserve Officers Association.

One hundred and forty World War I reserve officers had assembled that day at the historic Willard Hotel in Washington, at Pershing's suggestion, to organize an association which would play a key role in implementing the National Defense Act of 1920.

The Congressional Act had created a National Citizens Army of 2-million, to be led by a 200,000-member Officers Reserve Corps. However, it was clear that the success of National Citizens Army and Officers Reserve Corps would depend entirely upon the patriotism and voluntary will of the people to participate.

Thus, General Pershing charged ROA with the responsibility to recruit the force, develop public support, and the support of Congress so that money would be appropriated to train it.

Overcoming the adversity of a dissident and indifferent civilian population and Congress, the citizen-soldiers of ROA were able to raise an Officers Reserve Corps of 125,000 by the outbreak of World War II. Though never satisfied with funding, or the amount of training the reserve officers received, ROA was nevertheless pleased with the comments made by General George C. Marshall in late 1940.

Marshall said, "In contrast with the hectic days of 1917 when the War Department, with no adequate reservoir of officers to draw upon, had hurried to select and train the great number of officers required for the vast expansion of the army, we now have available in the Officers Reserve Corps a great pool of trained men available for instant service."



An example of the dedication to service of these pre-war reservists occurred in 1933 when incoming President Franklin D. Roosevelt drastically cut the reserve officers' training budget. Yet, these men went on active duty never expecting to be paid. A meeting between five ROA members and President Roosevelt at the White House resulted in \$1-million allocated for this training, and they were eventually paid.

Suspended during World War II while its members were in service, ROA was reestablished following the war. It was welcomed back with open arms, especially at the White House where long-time ROA member Harry S. Truman was in command. Truman had founded one of the very first ROA chapters, in Kansas City.

President Truman set the pendulum in motion to strengthen the reserve structure, and its importance to national security. He not only ordered his Secretary of Defense to move aggressively to build a reserve structure, but took pride in seeing passage of a strong Armed Forces Reserve Act.

It was also during the Truman era that ROA was granted a charter by act of Congress, mandating it "to support a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national security, and to promote the development and execution thereof."

This mandate made ROA advisors to Congress on all legislation affecting national security, as well as matters affecting the military, both reserve and active.

ROA has used this advisory role to vigorously support legislation which it has felt was in the best interest of the nation's security. And, likewise, oppose legislation which it felt was not in the best interest of national security.

It has found itself lined up on both sides of issues favored by presidents. For example, during the Carter Administration, ROA opposed the Panama Canal Treaty, and the Salt II Treaty, while at the same time supporting the President on revitalizing the Selective Service draft, and lifting the embargo on the sale of arms to Turkey.

More recently, it supported President Reagan's stand on the AWACS sale to Saudi Arabia, but opposed the administration's move to decimate the Coast Guard and eliminate its national security mission.

It also supports an equitable nuclear freeze that is verifiable, but opposes a unilateral freeze as providing the Soviet Union no incentive to stop its nuclear program. It supports rebuilding America's industrial base as necessary to national defense in the event of mobilization.

A major concern has been to encourage legislation which will strengthen the Reserve forces. It has fought hard for legislation to improve conditions and benefits for reservists and the active military, and training and equipment for the reserve components.



In 1964, ROA faced what was probably its greatest threat, and was able to turn it around into its greatest victory. In 1964, Defense Secretary Robert McNamara decided that the Army Reserve should merge into the National Guard, with the single force to be commanded by the governors of the states, and administered by the chief of the National Guard. In addition, under the McNamara plan, 150,000 trained men would be dropped from the Army Reserve at a savings of \$150-million a year.

ROA waged a three year battle against the McNamara plan, developing strong public support as well as support in Congress. When the final votes were tallied, the McNamara plan was killed, and Congress had passed the "Reserve Bill of Rights and Vitalization Act." It was the most forward looking piece of reserve legislation in the nation's history, providing stability to the reserve forces.

In recent years, in addition to many achievements in legislation aimed at improving the effectiveness of the reserve, ROA has blocked attempts to eliminate the Coast Guard Reserve, the Navy Reserve's Air arm, to cut the Navy Reserve in half, and cut the strengths of the other reserve components.

Membership in ROA is limited to military officers from the reserves or regular services, active, retired or honorably discharged, and ROTC cadets and midshipmen. Officers of the Public Health Service and National Oceanic And Atmospheric Administration are also eligible for membership.

ROA celebrates its 60th anniversary this year with a membership of 125,000 in 700 chapters, and 55 departments. Although its rolls include 1,257 admirals and generals--including 42 four-star--, more than half of the membership is of the rank of major or below.

Each year, the national presidency of ROA is rotated among the services. This year's president is Coast Guard Reserve Captain Bennett S. Sparks of Hollywood, Calif. He is the first Coast Guard officer to serve as president.

National Headquarters for ROA are located in Washington in the Minute Man Memorial Building, on Capitol Hill. Its staff is headed by Maj. Gen. J. Milnor Roberts, who was Chief of Army Reserve prior to his retirement in 1975.

As ROA looks to the future, it sees a formidable task ahead. There is a need to provide modern equipment which is essential for the reserve components to perform both mobilization and training missions, to insure that the reserve components receive the necessary training to meet their role under the total force policy, and to build and maintain reserve component strength to meet mobilization manning requirements.

As its officers and staff testify before Congress for this, and other legislation, they will undoubtedly have in mind the warning General Pershing spoke to the founding meeting some sixty years ago: "It would be false economy to save a few dollars by neglecting common sense preparation in peace times and then to spend billions to make up for the deficiency when war comes."



"THE ROA STORY" PUBLISHED ON 60TH ANNIVERSARY

ROA

# 60<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY NEWS

RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES  
1 Constitution Avenue, N.E., Washington, D.C. 20002

Contact: Herbert M. Hart  
(202) 479-2258/2257

Author: Edgar A. Falk  
FOR RELEASE AFTER OCT 1, 1982

"THE ROA STORY"

PUBLISHED ON 60TH ANNIVERSARY

The Reserve Officers Association of the United States, one of the few organizations in the nation to be chartered by Congress, is celebrating its 60th anniversary this year.

In conjunction with the anniversary, a 620-page history of the association has been published, "The ROA Story." The authors are Colonel John T. Carlton, an ROA member for over 50 years who served as its executive director for 18 years, and John F. Slinkman, former editor of Navy Times.

The very comprehensive book provides not only the history of ROA, but also an in-depth look at the growth of the reserve forces of the United States.

It traces the influential association's history from its early days when it was organized at the encouragement of General of the Armies John J. Pershing to develop public and Congressional support for the National Defense Act of 1920, and assist in recruiting for its reserve forces, to ROA's role in support of President Reagan's sale of AWACS to Saudi Arabia.

Its pages contain material about the roles some of the most important names in American history played in developing the reserve structure. They include Generals Pershing, MacArthur and Eisenhower, and Presidents Coolidge, Roosevelt and Truman. The latter's role is covered not only as commander-in-chief, but also as one of the early members of ROA. Truman, as an artillery major in Missouri, was the founder of one of the first ROA chapters.

In addition to the organization's victories, the book also covers the defeats and frustrations faced by ROA over the years. Much space is devoted to Defense Secretary Robert McNamara's attempt to merge the Army Reserve into the National Guard, and the three-year fight waged by ROA to defeat the move. Not only was McNamara's plan killed, but the ROA ended up with the strongest pro-Reserve legislation ever to come out of Congress.



ROA STORY 2 - 2 - 2 - 2

There are more than 100 pages of historical photographs, including a picture taken at the founding meeting. General Pershing is in the picture.

"The ROA Story" is available from Reserve Officers Association, One Constitution Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C., 20002, at \$12.95 per copy, plus \$1.65 for postage and handling.

- ROA -

NOTE TO EDITORS: If you would like a copy of the book for review purposes, please call us at (202) 479-2258 or send a request on your letterhead to ROA (PA), One Constitution Ave., N.E., Washington, D.C., 20002. We would appreciate a clip of any reviews.



# *Reserve Officers Association of the United States*

National Headquarters • MINUTE MAN MEMORIAL BUILDING  
1 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, N.E., WASHINGTON, D.C. 20002  
TELEPHONE 202/479-2200



ARMY ★ NAVY ★ AIR FORCE ★ MARINE CORPS ★ COAST GUARD ★ PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE ★ NOAA

October 1, 1982

## MEMORANDUM TO EDITORS

It is a pleasure to send you the enclosed material on the 60th Anniversary of the Reserve Officers Association of the United States. This will be marked during the month of October, 1982, and continue until October 1, 1983.

As the nation's leading Congressionally chartered organization conceived to support an adequate national security, ROA has a 60-year history of significant accomplishments in Washington. General of the Armies John J. Pershing conceived the idea for the founding of ROA. Harry Truman was one of the founders. Today more than 125,000 officers of all services, reserve and regular, follow their footsteps in assuring an adequate national security.

The attached material tells our story. I hope that you will find it interesting and factual enough to draw upon it for coverage in your publication. Photographs also are enclosed. Added is a short item telling of the publication of a 624-page history of ROA; please note that review copies are available upon request.

ROA will be happy to cooperate if you would like additional facts or material. Please call me at 202-479-2258 for immediate assistance.

Sincerely,

Herbert M. Hart  
Colonel, USMC (Ret.)  
Director of Public Affairs

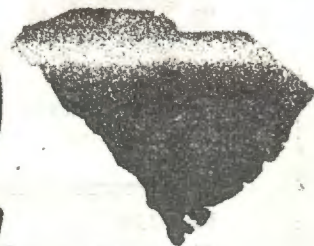
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# Strom THURMOND

News Release

United States Senator • South Carolina



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September 29, 1982

WASHINGTON-- Senator Strom Thurmond today introduced a Sense of the Senate Resolution commending the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) for "its outstanding contribution to the national security of our country. Thurmond introduced the resolution in recognition of the ROA's 60th anniversary.

The ROA, consisting of 125,000 regular and retired officers from all branches of the uniformed services, was founded on October 2, 1922, and is based on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Noting the ROA's contributions to the security of the United States in its first sixty years, Thurmond said in a speech on the Senate floor that the "ROA will continue to serve unselfishly in this same cause that protects the freedoms that we enjoy today."

Thurmond, a Major General in the Army Reserve and past president of the ROA, quoted World War I General of the Armies John J. Pershing, who was instrumental in the establishment of the ROA in 1922. Stating that the formation of the ROA was a direct result of the tragedies of World War I, Pershing said, "never again shall our untrained boys be compelled to serve their country on the battlefield under the leadership of new officers with practically no conception of their duties and responsibilities."

The Republican Senator praised the ROA, emphasizing that its membership "can truly lay claim to representing the viewpoint of the officers of America's military forces."

The Senate unanimously approved the resolution Wednesday night. Joining Thurmond as co-sponsors of the resolution were Robert C. Byrd (Democrat, West Virginia), Senate Minority Leader; Howard H. Baker, Jr. (Republican, Tennessee), Senate Majority Leader; John C. Stennis (Democrat, Mississippi), Ranking Minority Member of the Appropriations and Armed Services Committees; and Mack Mattingly (Republican, Georgia).

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United States  
of America

# No. 132—Part II Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 97<sup>th</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

Vol. 128

WASHINGTON, WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1982 No. 132—Part II

## SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

Mr. BAKER. Mr. President, the next item on my list is a resolution to be offered by the distinguished President pro tempore of the Senate, for himself and the distinguished Senator from Mississippi (Mr. STENNIS).

Does Senator THURMOND wish to submit the resolution at this time?

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I send the resolution to the desk and ask for its immediate consideration.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The resolution will be stated by title.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

A resolution (S. Res. 486) expressing the sense of the Senate that the Reserve Officers Association of the United States deserves public recognition upon the sixtieth anniversary of its founding for its dedication to the development of a strong national defense.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the resolution?

There being no objection, the Senate proceeded to consider the resolution.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, today, I am submitting a sense of the Senate resolution commending the Reserve Officers Association (ROA) on the occasion of ROA's 60th anniversary on October 2, 1982, for its outstanding contribution to the national security of our country.

Mr. President, it was on October 2, 1922, that General of the Armies John J. Pershing addressed several hundred officers assembled in what was then the "New Willard Hotel" in downtown Washington. At this meeting to establish ROA, General Pershing noted that before World War I the number of Reserve officers was practically negligible and, as he said, "there was no conception of even the possibility of such a society."

"But the war brought home to us in a very striking manner the advisability of reasonable precaution," he continued, "completely vindicated the advocates of military training and preliminary organization, and demonstrated beyond question the fallacy of pacifist theories."

General Pershing said that World War I taught the Nation a lesson. On October 2, 1922, he said "that never again shall our untrained boys be compelled to serve their country on the battlefield under leadership of new officers with practically no conception of their duties and responsibilities."

## Senate

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 1982

Today, the Reserve Officers Association of the United States is our neighbor on Capitol Hill. Their headquarters is the beautiful Minute Man Memorial Building across Constitution Avenue from the Senate Office Buildings, directly northeast of this Chamber. Members of the ROA come from all over the World. The 125,000 officers on the current rolls represent all branches of the uniformed services. Today, the membership is not confined to reserves. There are also regular officers and retired officers and the ROA can truly lay claim to representing the viewpoint of the officers of America's military forces.

Mr. President, ROA is not an organization which emphasizes the rights and benefits of military officers. The charter which the Congress gave the ROA in 1950 gives it one responsibility and that is "to support a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national security and to promote the development and execution thereof."

It is that objective that steers ROA's course. When we seemed to be veering away from legislation providing adequate national security, we can be certain that ROA will sound the alarm.

It has contributed significantly in its 60 years to the security of these United States of America. As it opens its second six decades of service to the country, ROA will continue to serve unselfishly in this same cause that protects the freedoms that we enjoy today.

Mr. ROBERT C. BYRD. Mr. President, will the distinguished Senator from South Carolina yield?

Mr. THURMOND. I yield.

Mr. ROBERT C. BYRD. It is my understanding that Mr. STENNIS is a cosponsor. Am I correct?

Mr. THURMOND. Senator STENNIS is a cosponsor of the resolution.

Mr. ROBERT C. BYRD. Will the distinguished Senator add my name as a cosponsor?

Mr. THURMOND. I ask unanimous consent that the name of the distinguished minority leader be added as a cosponsor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. BAKER. I ask the distinguished Senator from South Carolina that my

name be added as a cosponsor.

Mr. THURMOND. I ask unanimous consent that the name of the distinguished majority leader be added as a cosponsor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

Mr. THURMOND. Mr. President, I also ask unanimous consent that the name of the distinguished Senator from Georgia (Mr. MATTINGLY) be added as a cosponsor.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is on agreeing to the resolution.

The resolution was agreed to.

The preamble was agreed to.

The resolution (S. Res. 486) with its preamble, reads as follows:

S. Res. 486

Whereas on October 2, 1922, the Reserve Officers Association of the United States was organized in Washington, D.C. at the urging of General of the Armies John J. Pershing, with the objective to support a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate national security and to promote the development and execution thereof; and

Whereas on June 30, 1950, this objective was reaffirmed in a Charter granted to the Reserve Officers Association by the Congress of the United States; and

Whereas for the past 60 years, the Reserve Officers Association has acted as a catalyst between the military, citizen-soldiers, and Congress to educate and insure that the nation's defense remains strong and visible through coordinated efforts on both local and national levels; and

Whereas for the past 60 years, the Reserve Officers Association has not only voiced its position on national security matters, but also influenced the passage of legislation to strengthen this nation's security; and

Whereas the 125,000 members of the Reserve Officers Association are commemorating the 60th Anniversary of the founding of the Reserve Officers Association of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the Senate that the Reserve Officers Association of the United States is deserving of public recognition and commendation upon the occasion of the sixtieth anniversary of its founding on the second day of October, 1922, and that the people of the United States should observe this date with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities which pay tribute to the men and women who are members of this organization and to the principles of a strong national security policy to which this organization is dedicated.