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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 21, 1981

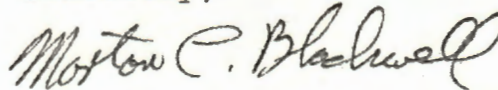
Dear Mr. Wolonsky:

On behalf of Mrs. Dole, I want to thank you for your letter of December 9.

The forwarding of your letters to the Veterans Administration was appropriate because Mr. Robert Nimmo, the Administrator of Veterans Affairs, was appointed by the President to handle such policy.

We are forwarding your letter directly to Mr. Nimmo. I hope Mr. Nimmo can help you resolve the problem you outlined regarding service-connected disabled veterans.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President

Stephen Wolonsky
Uniformed Services Disabled Veterans
5909 Alta Monte, NE
Albuquerque, N.M. 87110

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: *MORTON*

FROM: Diana Lozano

SUBJECT:

The attached is for your:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information | <input type="checkbox"/> Review & Comment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Direct Response | <input type="checkbox"/> Appropriate Action |
| <input type="checkbox"/> EHD Draft Letter | <input type="checkbox"/> Signature |
| <input type="checkbox"/> File | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Comments: _____

Please respond by
12/16/81

DEC 11 REC'D

UNIFORMED SERVICES DISABLED RETIREES

5909 Alta Monte N.E.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110

December 9, 1981

MB

Elizabeth Hanford Dole
Ass't to the President for Public Liaison
c/o The White House
1500 Pennsylvania N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Ms Dole,

I have written to the President on several occasions; only to have the letters referred to the Veterans Administration. If the President is unable to answer my requests; than the letters should have been referred to Congress as they are the guilty party, not the Veterans Administration, in enacting a law which is INEQUABLE.

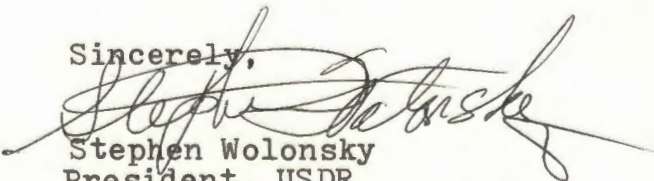
The subject that I write about pertains to the INEQUITY and INJUSTICE concerning receipt of Veterans Administration Compensation by the Uniformed Services disabled retirees who have EARNED their retirement pay through longevity.

This group of service-connected disabled veterans must waiver ALL or PART of said retired pay in order to receive VA Compensation. NO other service-connected disabled veteran is required to do so.

Other veteran and service organizations have supported for amendment through legislation in order to eliminate the INEQUITY. The attempts have been futile. Past Presidents, Congress, and Veterans Administration looked upon the requests with disapproval.

USDR desires your assistance to seek elimination of the INEQUITY and INJUSTICE; be it through your White House position and with Senator Dole, himself a disabled veteran. Thank you.

Sincerely,


Stephen Wolonsky
President, USDR

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

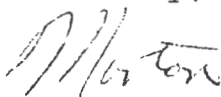
December 7, 1981

Bill
Dear Mr. Lazarus:

Thank you for your telegram concerning the article on commissaries that appeared in U.S. News & World Report. Your understanding and recognition of President Reagan's concern for the status of military personnel is deeply appreciated. The article to which you refer correctly points out that military personnel and their dependents view commissary privileges as an important benefit.

I know of no Administration plans to ask for a reduced level of appropriated fund support for military commissaries.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. William Lazarus
Executive Vice President
American Logistics Association
5205 Leesburg Pike
Falls Church, Virginia 22041



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

*to be
typed*

DEC 3 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR MORTON C. BLACKWELL
SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
FOR PUBLIC LIAISON

FROM: WILLIAM SCHNEIDER, JR., ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
FOR NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS *WS*

SUBJECT: Administration's Position on Funding for Commissaries

You asked me to draft a reply to a telegram asking that President Reagan repudiate a U.S. News & World Report article dealing with appropriated fund support for military commissaries.

I am not aware of any intention to propose reductions in such appropriated fund support. The attached draft response denies the intention stated in the article.

Attachment

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7039985400 TDMT FALLS CHURCH VA 209 11-10 0649P EST

PMS MORTON BLACKWELL SPECIAL ASSISTANT

MEMBERSHIP GROUP WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON DC 20500

DEAR MR PRESIDENT ON BEHALF OF OUR NATION'S MILITARY PERSONNEL AND THEIR FAMILIES, IT IS IMPERATIVE FOR YOU, PERSONALLY TO REFUTE ANY SUGGESTIONS OF REDUCING OR ELIMINATING THEIR WELL DESERVED AND VITAL COMMISSARY AND EXCHANGE BENEFITS. SUCH A SUGGESTION WAS CONTAINED IN A U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT STORY (11-16-81) ON PAGE 50, AND ATTRIBUTED TO YOUR ADMINISTRATION, CONCERNING THE COMMISSARY BENEF

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ITS.

LET THE MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM KNOW YOU HAVE NO INTENTION OF BACKING OFF YOUR COMMITMENT TO THEIR WELL BEING. YOU MUST IMMEDIATELY REJECT PUBLICLY ANY EFFORT TO CUT OR REDUCE MILITARY COMMISSARY FUNDNG.

MR PRESIDENT, YOU AND YOU ALONE, SET A BENCHMARK BY BEING THE FIRST PRESIDENT TO GIVE PROPER RECOGNITION TO THE PROUD STATUS OF THOSE WHO DEFEND OUR COUNTRY. YOU AND YOU ALONE HAVE SEEN TO IT THAT THEIR COMPENSATIONS HAVE BEEN INCREASED. YOUR REPUTATION FOR BEING STEADFAST IN YOUR COMMITMENT IS WELL KNOWN. DO NOT INIATE ANY "GIVE WITH ONE HAND AND TAKE AWAY WITH ANOTHER" POLICIES WHICH WILL SERIOUSLY DIMINISH YOUR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP IN BENEVOLENT THIS

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COUNTRY'S DEFENSE POSTURE AND THE MORALE OF THE MEN AND WOMEN IN UNIFORM.

I, AND EVEN MORE IMPORTANTLY, ARE MEN AND WOMEN IN THE SERVICE EAGERLY AWAIT YOUR POSITIVE REPLY

WILLIAM LAZARUS EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT AMERICAN LOGISTICS ASSOCIATION

1907 EST
NNNN



Veterans Cones

November 16, 1981

Dear Mr. Kokesh:

Thank you very much for your recent letter in which you share your views on House Joint Resolution 246 with us. I am sharing your letter and proposal with some people here in the White House who work on these types of events and we wish you the best of luck.

Again, thank you very much.

Sincerely,

Lou Gerig
Director of Media Liaison

Mr. Jim Kokesh
KHAS Radio
Nebraska Broadcasting Company
Box 726
Hastings, NE 68901

cc: Morton Blackwell ✓
LG:kdb-II=Al

KHAS



CBS RADIO

AFFILIATE

SERVING 32 MID-NEBRASKA, NORTHERN KANSAS COUNTIES

TRIBUNE BUILDING • HASTINGS, NEBRASKA 68901
(402) 462-5101

1 KW ♦ 1230 KHZ

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington D.C. 20500

15 October 1981

Re: House Joint Resolution 246

Mr. President;

Your concern with the welfare of the American military is well documented. I'm sure that concern envelopes the moral of both the military member and his family.

Since taking office, you have also demonstrated a desire to demonstrate a united, and firm, opposition to acts of international lawlessness.

House Joint Resolution 246, introduced by Nebraska Representative Virginia Smith, calls for a day of recognition for all Americans held captive, while in the honorable service of the United States. What would be encompassed by the resolution is outlined within a copy of the communication forwarded to each member of the House of Representatives.

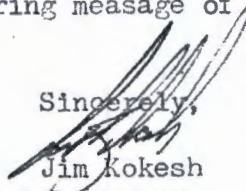
In order for a day of recognition to be meaningful, the day should be observed. We feel that the date of January 20th is a date recognized, by a majority of Americans, as a day of freedom, and great national relief and pride.

Please lend what support you can to this proposal.

Recent events have placed heavy burdens on your time, however, please take the time to help insure the recognition of those who have given so much.

Hopefully, someday the proposed day of recognition will be annual: insuring a recurring message of thanks!

Sincerely,


Jim Kokesh



TRIBUNE BUILDING • HASTINGS, NEBRASKA 68901
(402) 462-5101

CBS RAD 
AFFILIATE

SERVING 32 MID-NEBRASKA, NORTHERN KANSAS COUNTIES

1 KW • 1230 KHZ

September 24, 1981

United States House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

Fellow American:

On May 4, 1981, Nebraska's third district Congresswoman, Virginia Smith, introduced House Joint Resolution 246 to members of the 97th Congress. H. J. Resolution 246 calls on Congress to declare January 20th as a National Day of Recognition for all Americans held captive while in the honorable service of the United States.

Among other like commemorative proposals, J. H. Resolution #246 is unique because:

- 1.) H. J. Res #246 calls for recognition of not only ex-prisoners of war and persons listed as missing in action, it also asks for recognition of M-I-A families plus other loyal Americans (including, but not limited to, members of the U. S. Foreign Service, Merchant Marine, civilians, etc.) who have been held captive.
- 2.) H. J. Res #246 calls on the Day of Recognition to fall on a date readily recognizable by most Americans as a day of freedom from capture: January 20th, the date American captives were released from Tehran.

Currently, the United States recognizes the "mortal sacrifice" of those who have given their lives defending our Nation. The United States also recognizes those Americans who have honorably served their Nation, and have returned to their family and homeland. Both of these sacrifices are worthy of remembering.

However, there is another human sacrifice that is not fully commemorated by the nation as a whole: the "living sacrifice" of all loyal Americans who have been held captive while in the honorable service of the United States, and the "human sacrifice" of American families who do not know the fate of their loved-ones! Daily these Americans carry with them mental, and often physical, scars of their ordeal.

They can't forget. We, as a nation, should not forget!

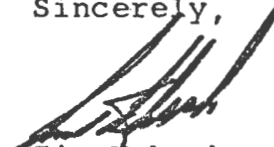
Before the sub-committee on Census and Population will consider the H. J. Res #246, 218 co-sponsors will have to affix their signatures to the proposal. After reviewing the information enclosed, I hope you will become a co-sponsor of H. J. Res #246, so the sub-committee can pass the proposal on its merits.

Since commemorative legislation is considered by the Census and Population sub-committee in October, I ask that you act quickly.

Please respond if you feel able to support this measure.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Jim Kokesh

Enclosure

WHAT IS HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 246?

H. J. Res #246 would commemorate the "living sacrifice" of loyal Americans who have been P. O. W.'s. In recent history, many Americans have had that unfortunate experience. Below is a partial review:

World War I	4,120
World War II	130,201
Korean Conflict	7,140
Viet Nam War	766

Today in the United States, there are 93,176 living ex-P. O. W.'s. None of the ex-P. O. W.'s can forget their sacrifice, should we?

H. J. Res #246 would commemorate the "living sacrifice" of those loyal Americans, and their families, who have been listed as lost in action, or missing in action. In recent history, the families of many loyal Americans have faced the daily anguish of not knowing the fate of a loved one. Though a "presumptive finding of death" has removed the names from the M. I. A. roster of past conflicts, the partial listing below reflects the number of families who have suffered the M. I. A. uncertainty:

World War I	3,350
World War II	78,773
Korean Conflict	8,177

Currently, the families of 2,497 Americans, including the families of 41 civilians, do not know the fate of loved ones who served their country in Viet Nam. These families, along with those listed above, will not forget their loved ones, or their own pain, should we?

H. J. Res #246 would commemorate the "living sacrifice" of loyal Americans who have been held captive while honorably serving the United States. Many are civilians; some are military men who are not classified as P. O. W.'s. Following is a partial summary:

23 January 1968

Crew of 83 officers and enlisted men, assigned to the USS Pueblo, captured by the North Korean government.
One man killed during capture.
The crew was released on 23 December 1968.
Days of captivity: 334

27 September 1975

U. S. Information Service employee, Barbara Hutchinson, captured by five armed terrorists outside her Dominican Republic office. Ms. Hutchinson was held, along with other captives, in the Venezuelan Consulate.
All hostages were released 10 February 1976.
Days of captivity: 136

12 May 1975

Crew of 39 officers and men of the U. S. merchant vessel "Mayaguez", captured by Khmer Rouge forces while sailing 60 miles off the Cambodian coast.
15 rescuers died; and 50 were wounded during crew rescue on 14 May 1975.
Days of captivity: 3

4 November 1979

66 U. S. diplomatic and military personnel, along with some civilians, detained within U. S. Embassy in Teheran. 5 women and 8 black men released in about two weeks. U. S. Foreign Service employee, Richard Queen, released on 10 July 1980.
Days of captivity: 250
The 52 remaining hostages released 20 January 1981.
Days of captivity: 444

27 February 1980

U. S. Ambassador Diego Asencio held hostage within Dominican Mission in Bogota, Columbia, by members of the M-19 terrorist group.
Mr. Asencio, along with 59 other captives, released 27 April 1980.
Days of captivity: 61

H. J. Res #246 will help to show both those who suffered, and the world that as a nation we will not forget. That is why it is proposed for a date recognizable as a day of both freedom, and great national pride: 20 January. Hopefully, the date will contribute to the rebirth of what was felt the day 52 Americans were freed from imprisonment!



NATIONAL GUARD ASSOCIATION OF THE UNITED STATES

ONE MASSACHUSETTS AVENUE, NORTHWEST • WASHINGTON, D.C., 20001 • (202) 789-0031

20 November 1981

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

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Thanks very much for sending us a copy of the President's proclamation for Veterans Day, 1981.

We are most grateful for the consideration which the Administration gives to the uniformed services -- active, Guard and Reserve; and to those who have proudly worn the uniform of our country in past years.

We look forward to working with you in the best interests of a strong national defense.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "F. Greenlief". The signature is stylized and written over the typed name.

FRANCIS S. GREENLIEF
Major General, NGUS (Ret.)
Executive Vice President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 5, 1981

Dear Mr. Gallagher:

On behalf of Mrs. Dole, I am responding to your letter requesting some information about our office and about the White House.

We are enclosing this and hope you find it helpful. We are also enclosing a copy for you of the President's proclamation for Veterans Day, 1981.

We thank you for your interest, and if we can be of any further help, please contact us.

Sincerely,

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

Peter J. Gallagher
325 Marine Ave. Apt. D6
Brooklyn, NY 11209

325 Marine Ave, Apt D6
Brooklyn, NY 11209
19 July 1981

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

JUL 22 1981

Dear Ms. Dole:

I trust this letter finds you and your staff all well.

As a result of active duty in the past three wars I became fascinated with all aspects of military and US history, including functioning of government. Presently, I do research in these areas. I feel the items requested below will benefit the US Government because:

(a) Through my personal research I will be a better informed soldier in the event of my recall to active duty under the US Army Retirement Recall Program.

(b) Since I am living on US Army retired pay I now volunteer my services as an advisor at the Ft Hamilton Retirement Information Center assisting fellow retirees from all branches. The requested items will enable me to better explain White House operations when the need arises.

Requested items are:

1. Any documents on history, organization and mission of White House offices and staff, and the White House itself.

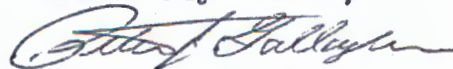
2. Organization chart.

3. How liaison with other branches of government operates.

4. Any releasable 8x10 glossies of the White House, grounds and interior. Also, it would be an honor for me to have one of President Regan since I hoped and prayed for his victory in 1968, 1976 and 1980. On 22 January 1981 I wrote to him expressing my joy at his inauguration I can easily understand why I did not hear from him due to the thousands of letters he receives. My prayers and hopes are still with him.

Any assistance in the above will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely Yours,



PETER J. GALLAGHER
SFC US Army-Retired

OCT 29 1981

JAMES E. RUSH

4701 CHATHAM LANE
SIOUX CITY, IOWA 51104
PHONE (712) 239-3135

10-26-81

*Morton -
please write
is necessary*

File MB

The White House
Elizabeth Dole
Asst. to the President for Public Liaison
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs Dole:

I received James A. Baker III's letter dated 23 Oct 81, regarding my status top U.S. appointment.

I have contact Sen. Chuck Grassley or his staffer Bob Inschütz in regard to the Veterans of the North Central V.S. concern's about Republican veterans political attention.

Mrs Dole, I am in a wheel chair, sev. Committed and do not want a job. You know from Bob's disability the V.A. system.

OCT 30 1981

Your Fellow Republican
James E. Rush



Veterans
Cases

October 23, 1981

Dear Mr. Rush:

Thank you for your letter of September 24.

Mr. Baker appreciates your advising him of your interest in bringing the key Veterans' issues to the attention of the President. He has asked me to forward your letter to Elizabeth Dole, Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, for her information and attention. Please be assured that Mrs. Dole's office is giving serious consideration to the concerns of our Veterans today.

Mr. Baker thanks you once again for your interest in bringing your views to his attention.

Sincerely,

Katherine Camalier
Staff Assistant to
James A. Baker, III

Mr. James E. Rush
4701 Chatham Lane
Sioux City, Iowa 51104

✓ cc: Morton Blackwell--FYI

Morton Blackwell

JAMES E. RUSH
4701 CHATHAM LANE
SIOUX CITY, IOWA 51104
PHONE (712) 239-3135

9-24-81

The White House
James Baker, Counsel to the President
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Baker:

It is important to the veterans of the
North Central U.S. for you to confer with
Senator Charles Grassley or Airl Bert
Ludwig.

The issue is veterans' health problems
and we need the President's ear.

Your Faithful Republican
James E. Rush



V. L. C. Case

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 8, 1981

Mr. John B. Ferron, Co-Chairman
The Greater Baltimore Coalition
for Veterans
Suite 1008 / Mondawmin Mall
Baltimore, Maryland 21215

Dear Mr. Ferron:

This office does not ordinarily schedule Administration speakers. I have taken the liberty of forwarding your request to Mr. Gregory Newell, the Special Assistant to the President in charge of scheduling. I have also sent a copy to Judy Pond of the White House speakers bureau. I am sure that you will be hearing from them regarding this request.

You have a very impressive, broad-based coalition, and your program appears to be excellent. Please accept my best wishes for a successful event.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to
the President

cc: Gregory Newell
Judy Pond



THE GREATER BALTIMORE COALITION FOR VETERANS

SUITE 1008 / MONDAWMIN MALL
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21215
396-0932
597-1296

MR. R. RICHARD RUDOLPH, Treasurer
416 York Road / Baltimore, Maryland 21204

September 29, 1981

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

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

The Greater Baltimore Coalition for Veterans (GBCV) is writing to seek assistance from your high office in obtaining President Ronald Reagan or the Secretary of Defense, Casper Weinberger, to address a ceremony we have scheduled to take place at Fort McHenry in Baltimore, Maryland at 5:30 p.m., November 11, 1981.

Veterans Day (handwritten note with arrow pointing to the date in the previous block)

The Coalition has planned a one-month event to constructively highlight the contributions that veterans have made to America. Public service announcements over local radio and television stations will run for approximately four weeks and seminars and assemblies are to be held in the churches and schools, culminating with the ceremony scheduled for the evening of Veterans Day.

We sincerely feel that the positive and supportive approach we are taking will serve as a welcomed catalyst, to constructively coalesce the larger community and lend much needed support to our veterans for the valuable contributions they have made to our society, in contrast to the occasional feelings of guilt which seem to pervade among us.

For your information, I am including the following tentative program which can be adjusted by several hours each way, to accommodate the schedule of the visiting Dignitary:

- (1) Fort Meade Band Music.....10 minutes
(2) Greetings and the Occasion.....10 minutes
(3) Speaker.....15 minutes
(4) Selection from the Band.....5 minutes

PARTICIPANTS


Mayor's Office, Baltimore City • American Legion • Anne Arundel Trade Council • Baltimore Afro-American Newspaper • Baltimore City Municipal Employees/AFL-CIO • Baltimore City Public Schools • Baltimore Community Relations Commission • Baltimore County Chamber of Commerce • Baltimore County Community Relations Commission • Baltimore Gas and Electric Company • Baltimore News American • Baltimore Sunpapers • Catholic War Veterans • Central Clergy of Baltimore • Disabled American Veterans • Employment Securities Administration of Maryland • Federal Executive Board • Fort George G. Meade • Health and Welfare Council of Central Maryland • Jewish War Veterans • Maryland National Bank • Maryland Retired Military Officers Association • Maryland Veterans' Commission • McCormick and Company • Metropolitan Baltimore Council/AFL-CIO Unions • Morgan State University • National Association of Concerned Veterans • Social Security Administration • U.S. Department of Labor • University of Baltimore • University of Maryland at Baltimore • University of Maryland, Baltimore County • Veterans Administration • Veterans of Foreign Wars • Veterans of World War I, Inc. • WBAL-TV • WJZ-TV • WMAR-TV

Honorable Morton Blackwell
Page Two
September 29, 1981

- (5) Award For Best Banner.....5 minutes
- (6) Taps and Lowering of the Flag.....5 minutes
- (7) Retiring of Flag - Color Guards.....5 minutes
- (8) Dismissal and Motorcade to War Memorial
Building.....Total 55 minutes

Your much needed assistance is respectfully and urgently requested and, of course, will be highly appreciated. Should you need further information, I urge you to contact me on (301) 396-3141.

Respectfully,



John B. Ferron
Co-Chairman

JBF:mag

FACT Sheet
Fall Budget Program

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Phoned &

9/25

Sent to:

Cooper Holt

Myles Kraja

Bob Ashworth

Gabby Hartnett

Jack Rowell

John Fales

Veterans
Correspondence

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

*File
Veterans
Cases*

August 31, 1981

Dear Mr. Ring:

Your letter of July 16th to Mrs. Dole has been forwarded to me.

David G. Speck, a member of the Virginia House of Delegates, sent a similar letter. I am enclosing a copy of the response sent to Mr. Speck by Robert P. Nimmo, the Administrator of the Veterans Administration.

Thank you for your interest.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President

Mr. Carlyle C. Ring, Jr.
Member of Council
City of Alexandria, Virginia



**Veterans
Administration**

AUGUST 24 1981

Honorable David G. Speck
Commonwealth of Virginia
House of Delegates
201 South Washington Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Mr. Speck:

Your letter of July 31 to the Honorable Elizabeth N. Pole, Assistant to the President for Public Liaison, was referred to me for response. You wrote in behalf of Messrs. Walter Sanford, Raymond Evans, Jr., and Edmond Campbell, concerning the Alexandria National Cemetery.

The Alexandria National Cemetery consists of 5.5 acres of land and contains 4,128 interments. It is in a closed status and has been that way for many years. The only interments that are accomplished are second interments in occupied gravesites. During the past fiscal year, only five interments were accomplished. The inactive status of the cemetery does not warrant the assignment of a full-time caretaker.

In view of the historical significance of the lodge, we are seeking a non-profit organization in the Alexandria area that would be willing to occupy the lodge and provide normal maintenance. Should Mr. Sanford know of such an organization, it would be appreciated if he would put them in contact with my Department of Memorial Affairs. The cemetery lodge can be made available to veterans, clergy and others by prior arrangement.

At present, the Cemetery Director of the Winchester National Cemetery is responsible for the maintenance of the Alexandria National Cemetery, utilizing staff assigned to Winchester. He makes periodic visits to the cemetery to accomplish routine maintenance and to check on the security of the buildings.

The Director of the VA National Cemetery Area Office in Atlanta, Georgia, who is responsible for the supervision of the Alexandria National Cemetery has been advised to work closely with local officials in providing security checks and to insure that the Director

2.

Honorable David G. Speck

of the Winchester National Cemetery continues periodic visits to the cemetery.

I appreciate your personal interest in this matter.

Sincerely,

SIGNED

ROBERT P. NIMMO
Administrator

✓ cc: Agency Liaison
Room 33
The White House

cc: Director, NCAO, Atlanta, GA

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

FROM: GAY W. SHANAHAN

TO: *Deana Howard*
Morton Blackwell

Incoming mail forwarded for your
handling and disposition.

Advise if action required by EHD
or RC..

*Send sure letter to
Reig with copy of attached
letter from VA re the
cemetery
MCR sig*



CARLYLE C. RING, JR.
Member of Council

City of Alexandria, Virginia

July 16, 1981

JUL 20 RECD



All-America City

The Hon. Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Dole:

With reference to the enclosed letter of July 5, 1981, from Messrs. Sanford, Campbell and Evans, I would hope that the White House could give favorable consideration to ways and means of implementing the suggestions made for the Superintendent's Lodge at the Alexandria National Cemetery.

With kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Carlyle C. Ring, Jr.
Carlyle C. Ring, Jr.



6 July 1981

Certified Mail P09 2388430

Honorable Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President
for Public Liason
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Ms. Dole:

Literature provided to us by the Reagan Bush Committee during the recent election told us, "With a President Reagan, every veteran will have a friend whose back will never be turned, and whose administration will always be wholeheartedly supportive." With this in mind the undersigned write for their respective organizations to have President Reagan preserve a part of our war veteran heritage at Alexandria, Virginia at no cost to the government. Traditionally the war veteran organizations near a National Cemetery have served as spokesmen when matters arose that concerned the care, management or operation of the cemetery. The National Cemetery at Alexandria is one of the oldest in the system having been founded in 1862 before Arlington National Cemetery.

In recent months the war veterans have secured Alexandria City Council action to remove a commercial loading dock that encroached on the dignity of the national cemetery; with increased crime and vandalism in the area of the national cemetery we have added Virginia State Police patrols under an 1872 State Code provision; efforts of the veterans have resulted in the Alexandria National Cemetery being published in the "Federal Register" as an eligible site for the "National Register" and is now protected under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as amended; and, last month the Alexandria City Council approved entry of the Superintendent's Lodge as now protected under City Ordinance No. 2180 to register buildings over 100 years old outside the Historic District.

The Superintendent's Lodge since its construction by the U. S. Army over 100 years ago and continued with its transfer to the Veterans Administration as the residence of the Superintendent or caretaker. When the Lodge was designed one room was provided as an office, with an outside entrance, separate and apart from the living quarters. The individual assigned to the Lodge paid a monthly rental to the government.

As an older National Cemetery there is no Chapel or Assembly Room at the Alexandria National Cemetery. The Office served the government as a place to maintain the burial records; cemetery plats and work area for the caretaker to complete the administrative duties of his office. For the war veterans the Cemetery Office has been a place where the clergy could put on vestments for special memorials; where war veterans and widows could wait inside from any

6 July 1981

inclement weather for their party to arrive; with the historical importance to the Alexandria National Cemetery more of our visitors each year will come to the cemetery, etc. The Cemetery Office has always been opened by the assigned Superintendent or caretaker so no additional personnel was required.

Within the past two weeks we find that the Superintendent's Lodge has been vacated and the Office closed. Since the nearest occupied residence is three blocks away we are concerned about the safety of this Superintendent's Lodge which has recently been declared a historical site at the federal, State and local levels. Further, the immediate assignment of an occupant to the Lodge would return it to the rental income rolls of the federal government.

We further feel it reasonable to have the Cemetery Office opened again at the Alexandria National Cemetery, as no additional staff was required, to function as it has for over 100 years. It would appear that the Veterans Administration has relegated the war veterans and clergy to use the cemetery garage which is not acceptable when a suitable room already exists. The assignment of the Cemetery Director to Alexandria, Virginia would place him in an equal distance to the Winchester and Culpeper National Cemeteries.

Your response as to the assistance extended by President Reagan will be deeply appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

Walter Sanford

Walter Sanford
Chaplain
Russell Mitchell Post 609
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S.
P. O. Box 155
Alexandria, Virginia 22313

Edmond Campbell

Edmond Campbell
Commander
William Thomas Post 129
The American Legion
207 North West Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Raymond Evans Jr

Raymond Evans, Jr.
Senior Vice Commander
Disabled American Veterans
Department of Virginia
419 South Adams Street
Arlington, Virginia 22204

*File
Veterans
Cases.*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 29, 1981

Dear Mr. Tooms:

Thank you for your letter of April 8, expressing your support for the inclusion of the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service (PHS) in the Department of Defense draft bill authorizing a 5.3% pay raise for members of the uniformed services, effective July 1.

The Department of Defense draft bill was revised by the Office of Management and Budget to pertain only to the Armed Forces. It is our understanding, however, that no congressional action is planned on this proposed legislation. Instead, another bill, S. 1181, is currently under review in the Congress. This bill would authorize an average increase of 14.3% in the basic pay and allowances for uniformed services members, effective October 1, 1981. As the bill is now drafted, these pay raises would also pertain to the PHS Commissioned Corps.

Please be assured, therefore, that the Administration will review carefully the personnel needs of the PHS before submitting its recommendations concerning enactment of S. 1181 or other proposed legislation that would authorize pay increase for uniformed services personnel.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth H. Dole
Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Mr. Leighton H. Tooms
2803 East Sherran Lane
Phoenix, Arizona 85016

2803 East Sherran Lane
Phoenix, Arizona 85016
April 8, 1981

Elizabeth Dole
Special Assistant
To The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

022221

Dear Ms. Dole,

I am a Commissioned Officer with the U.S. Public Health Service. I have served for 19 years with the Indian Health Service program. Our job is to provide direct health care to American Indians residing on reservations throughout the country.

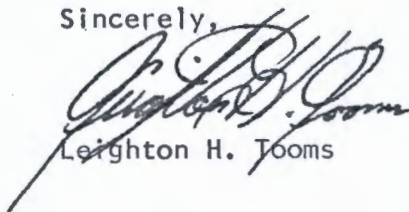
It is extremely difficult to find competent health care professionals to enter the service and provide health care to our Indian citizens. One of the primary factors that causes the problem is the great difference in pay, our officers receive and what is paid in the private sector.

As one of the Uniformed Service of our country, we, along with the other branches are scheduled for a 5.3 percent raise this July. It is my understanding that the Office of Management and Budget is recommending to The President that the Commissioned Officers of the U.S. Public Health Service be excluded from the small pay increase.

We are barely holding on to our officers now, and if this small raise does not go through, I feel we will suffer severe problems in carrying out our services to the Indian people. I believe, The President is supportive of health care programs for American Indians and would not wish to demoralize and lose the officers that provide these services.

I have never written a letter to The President before, and I do not want to be out of line in so doing, but excluding the Public Health Officers from this raise will be a serious blow for those who serve well and in very important direct health care programs.

Sincerely,



Leighton H. Tooms

cc:

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant
To The President

APR 16 REC'D