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Folder Title: Veterans Briefing: Reception with Mrs. Reagan and the Ladies Auxiliary Groups

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Hold witil

WASHINGTON

January 18, 1982

TO:

NINA WORMSER

FROM:

DAVID WRIGHT

SUBJECT:

American Legion Auxiliary Request

Attached, per our conversation this afternoon, are copies of the correspondence we have on the American Legion Auxiliary's request to present the President and First Lady with the Democracy in Action award and a limited edition crystal plate bearing the image of the Bald Eagle. It is my understanding that the original proposal to make these presentations at a White House tea (to be funded by the Auxiliary) has been formally declined.

Congressman Del Latta (R-Ohio) -- who has been one of the President's most active supporters in the House of Representatives as Ranking Republican on the Budget Committee (e.g., sponsor of the now famous Gramm-Latta Budget and Reconciliation measures) and as Second Ranking Republican on the Rules Committee -- is pushing for reconsideration of the request.

We would be most grateful if the First Lady could meet with members of the Auxiliary, along the lines we discussed today, when they are in Washington in mid-February. This has the strong support of Ken Duberstein, M.B. Oglesby and myself. Although Morton Blackwell is out of the office today on business, it is my understanding, through his staff, that Mort also would endorse the request. In addition, you might be interested in knowing that, according to Mort's staff, the President is scheduled to meet in February with the National Commander of the American Legion (counterpart to the Auxiliary) and with the head of the national AMVETS organization.

Thanks so much for your help in expediting a decision on this!

cc: M. B. Oglesby
Mort Blackwell

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Thems you for your latter of Wovescett's on beacht of the American Legion Auxiliary, the desting that their invitation to the Americanion to the Americanion by reconsidered.

Please know that I have contacted the President's Scheduling Office on your needs. I so some that this request will be carefully reviewed and that you will be notified as soon as a decision is made.

with cordial regard, I am

Sincerely,

Max L. Friedersdorf Assistent to the President

The Schotzbie Welbert L. Datt: Souse of Ropresentatives Fashington, D.C. 19515

MER: CMP: MDB

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

CERT

November 19,1981

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Honorable Max Friedersdorf Assistant to the President The White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Max:

On September 24, 1981 the National Secretary of the American Legion Auxiliary, Mrs. Miriam Junge, wrote to the President and then subsequently wrote also to the First Lady as well as Elizabeth Dole about the National American Legion Auxiliary National Security/Legislative Briefing planned for February 18-20, 1982 in Washington.

During that time, the Auxiliary would like to present the President with the "Democracy in Action" Award at a tea at the White House. There will be 300 to 500 leaders of the auxiliary represented. Mrs. Junge has offered their assistance with the cost of the tea.

On November 10, 1981 the American Legion Auxiliary President received a letter from Morton Blackwell declining the invitation.

Do you think, Max, that the invitation to the President could be reconsidered? Any effort on your part would be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours

DELBERT L. LATTA

Representative to Congress

DLL:jes

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

November 10, 1981

Dear Mrs. Roethel:

Elizabeth Dole has asked me to follow up on your request of October 1 for a White House tea to present the "Democracy in Action Award" to the President.

Unfortunately, such a meeting with the President could not be scheduled at this time. We are, however, working toward a meeting with the President and Mrs. Reagan with leaders of the veterans organizations auxiliaries. We hope such a meeting can take place early next year.

Again, I am sorry this meeting could not take place per your request.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell Special Assistant to

Mouton C. Blackwell

the President

Mrs. Romaine Roethel National President American Legion Auxiliary 777 N. Meridian Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46204





AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

MRS. JOHN J. ROETHEL NATIONAL PRESIDENT 777 N. MERIDIAN STREET INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

October 22, 1981

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Dole Assistant to the President for Public Liaison The White House Washington, DC 20415

Dear Mrs. Dole:

Thank you so much for your congratulatory letter of October 9. I assure you the cooperation and close liaison will be in evidence throughout my administration.

Mrs. Dole, on October 1, 1981 a letter was delivered to President Reagan requesting a visit to the White House. A copy of this letter is enclosed. We have had conversations with both Nina Wormser and Gregory J. Newell regarding this visitation. Any assistance you could give us in this regard would be deeply appreciated.

May I also extend an offer of assistance from our nearly one million members to you whenever we can be of service.

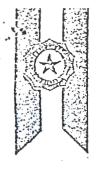
Sincerely)

Mrs. Romaine Roethel

National President

RR/sis

Enclosure



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS • 777 NORTH MERIDIAN STREET • INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
(317) 635-8411

OFFICE OF THE .
NATIONAL SECRETARY

October 1, 1981

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

My dear Mr. President:

The National American Legion Auxiliary will conduct a National Security/ Legislative Briefing in Washington, D.C., February 18-20, 1982. Our one million member volunteer organization has always been in the forefront as advocates of a strong economic and military posture for the United States. The American Legion Auxiliary's National President, Mrs. John J. Roethel, a Navy veteran and former Mayor of Novi, Michigan, who has been described as all-Navy, all-politician, and above all, all-American, will preside.

We anticipate an attendance of 300 to 500 women leaders who will represent every state in the union. Dynamic speakers covering economics, displaced homemakers, foreign relations, current legislative issues, and military manpower will be among the topics being programmed with a goal of motivating our leaders at the "grass roots" level.

In recognition of your outstanding leadership and dedication to rekindle the "spirit of patriotism in the interest of national security," you have been selected to receive the American Legion Auxiliary's prestigious "Democracy in Action" Award. Our group would appreciate the opportunity to visit the Presidential Mansion, the most historic house in America, and at that time make the presentation. Mrs. Reagan would also be presented one of the National President's limited edition commemorative plates. This beautiful plate of mezzo-etched French crystal is an original work of art which features America's national symbol of freedom, the magnificent bald eagle.

Is it possible for such presentations to be made during a tea at the White House. The American Legion Auxiliary would be willing to assist with underwriting the cost.

We realize both you and Mrs. Reagan have an extremely busy schedule; however, we can adjust ours accordingly. We would like to program the White House tea and presentations on Friday afternoon, February 19, 1982; second choice, Thursday afternoon, February 18, 1982; third choice, Saturday morning, February 20, 1982.

The President Page 2 October 1, 1981

In order to better familiarize yourself with the American Legion Auxiliary, we have enclosed brochures explaining our organization.

Thank you for your consideration of this request. A reply at your earliest convenience will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Miriam Junge National Secretary

777 North Meridian Street Indianapolis, IN 46204 Telephone: (317) 635-6291

MJ/jb

Enclosures

cc: Miss Nina Wormser

bcc: Mr. Erle Cocke, Jr. Mrs. John J. Roethel Mr. Layton K. Hurst Dear Mrs. Junge:

On behalf of the President, I wish to acknowledge and thank you for your letter of October 1 advising him the National American Legion Auxiliary will conduct a National Security/ Legislative Briefing in Washington, February 18-20, and at that time the Auxiliary wishes to present him their prestigious "Democracy in Action Award" and possibly at a tea at the White House when you also would present to Mrs. Reagan one of the National President's limited edition commemorative plates.

Your letter has been carried forward and carefully considered as the schedules of both the President and Mrs. Reagan for next month were under advisement. I now must advise you, however, that, they both have had such a heavy schedule to develop for them in February that they will be unable to have you and others come to the White House for these presentations.

Both the President and Mrs. Reagan are deeply grateful to all of you at the American Legion Auxiliary and have asked that I convey to you their kind regard and very best wishes.

Sincerely,

Gragory J. Newell Special Assistant to the President

Mrs. Miriam Junge National Secretary American Legion Auxiliary National Headquarters 777 North Meridian Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

GJN:mhr:ms--

info cy to Morton Blackwell Info cy to Nina Wormser, East Wing Ruher & Cong. Lack

WASHINGTON

November 10, 1981

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Unfortunately, such a meeting with the President could not be scheduled at this time. We are, however, working toward a meeting with the President and Mrs. Reagan with leaders of the veterans organizations auxiliaries. We hope such a meeting can take place early next year.

Again, I am sorry this meeting could not take place per your request.

Sincerely,

Morton C. Blackwell (KAC)
Special Assistant to

the President

Mrs. Romaine Roethel
National President
American Legion Auxiliary
777 N. Meridian Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

November 10, 1981

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Morton C. Blackwell (K.K)
Special Assistant to

Mordon C. Blockwell

the President

Mrs. Romaine Roethel National President American Legion Auxiliary 777 N. Meridian Street Indianapolis, Indiana 46204





AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

MRS. JOHN J. ROETHEL NATIONAL PRESIDENT 777 N. MERIDIAN STREET INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204

October 22, 1981

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May I also extend an offer of assistance from our nearly one million members to you whenever we can be of service.

Sincerely)

Mrs. Romaine Roethel

National President

RR/sjs

Enclosure



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS • 777 NORTH MERIDIAN STREET • INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
(317) 635-8411

OFFICE OF THE .
NATIONAL SECRETARY

October 1, 1981

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

My dear Mr. President:

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In recognition of your outstanding leadership and dedication to rekindle the "spirit of patriotism in the interest of national security," you have been selected to receive the American Legion Auxiliary's prestigious "Democracy in Action" Award. Our group would appreciate the opportunity to visit the Presidential Mansion, the most historic house in America, and at that time make the presentation. Mrs. Reagan would also be presented one of the National President's limited edition commemorative plates. This beautiful plate of mezzo-etched French crystal is an original work of art which features America's national symbol of freedom, the magnificent bald eagle.

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We realize both you and Mrs. Reagan have an extremely busy schedule; however, we can adjust ours accordingly. We would like to program the White House tea and presentations on Friday afternoon, February 19, 1982; second choice, Thursday afternoon, February 18, 1982; third choice, Saturday morning, February 20, 1982.

The President Page 2 October 1, 1981

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Thank you for your consideration of this request. A reply at your earliest convenience will be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Miriam Junge National Secretary

777 North Meridian Street Indianapolis, IN 46204

Telephone: (317) 635-6291

MJ/jb

Enclosures

cc: Miss Nina Wormser

bcc: Mr. Erle Cocke, Jr.
Mrs. John J. Roethel
Mr. Layton K. Hurst

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

October 23, 1981

TO:

GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM:

ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST:

Luncheon with the national commanders of the veterans and military organizations and their spouses, and the national presidents of the women's auxiliaries and their spouses.

PURPOSE:

This Veterans Day luncheon will show special concern

for U.S. veterans.

BACKGROUND:

Many major veterans and military groups held their annual conventions over the summer and elected new commanders and presidents. This community has been strongly supportive of the President's legislative program including AWACS. At a time when these leaders are nervous about V.A. and Defense budget cuts, this event will be

reassuring.

PREVIOUS

PARTICIPATION: A policy briefing for national commanders of 28

of these groups was held in the Cabinet Room on

July 17.

DATE:

Wednesday, November 11, 1981 Veterans Day

LOCATION:

State Dining Room

TIME:

1 P.M. (to follow the 11 A.M. wreath laying

ceremony at Arlington Cemetery)

PARTICIPANTS:

See attached list. Maximum total: 120

OUTLINE OF EVENTS:

President and the First Lady welcome, make

brief remarks, have lunch, and pose for pictures

with each organization head and spouse.

REMARKS REQUIRED:

Brief remarks

MEDIA COVERAGE:

White House press corps photo opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY:

Elizabeth H. Dole

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER:

Morton Blackwell

WASHINGTON

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS: plus their spouses

American Legion Veterans of Foreign Wars AMVETS Disabled American Veterans Reserve Officers Association Blinded Veterans Association Paralyzed Veterans Association Catholic War Veterans Jewish War Veterans Italian American War Veterans Legion of Valor of the U.S.A. Veterans of World War I Marine Corps League Naval Reserve Association Air Force Association Air Force Sergeants Association Association of U.S. Army National Black Veterans Org. Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund Vietnam Veterans of America National Association for Uniformed Services Fleet Reserve Association Non-Commissioned Officers Assn. Retired Officers Association Congressional Medal of Honor Military Order of the World Wars Marine Corps Reserve Officers Assn. President John Quigley Assn. of Retired Intelligence Officers. Navy League of U.S. Naval Enlisted Reserve Reserve Enlisted Association U.S. Army Warrant Officers Army and Navy Union Disabled Officers Association National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in S.E. Asia United Spanish War Veterans American Ex-Prisoners of War American Logistics Association American Security Council United States Defense Committee National Guard Association

Military Chaplains Association

National Commander Jack Flynt Commander-in-Chief Arthur Fellwock National Commander Donald Russell National Commander Sherman Roodzant National President Evan Hultman National President Ellsworth Sharpe National President Michael Delaney National Commander George G. Baran National Commander Robert Zweiman National Commander James Cuzzone Polish Legion of American Veterans National Commander Ralph Chrapkowski Military Order of the Purple Heart National Commander Duane Brigstock National Commander Andre Bouchardon National Commander Winston Roche National Commandant Joseph Mammone National President Phillip Smith President John G. Brosky President Lewis Spence President Norman R. Augustine Chairman Dr. Aaron E. Henry President Jan C. Scruggs Executive Director Robert Muller

> Chairman of the Board Oren Hurlbut National President Lawrence Cummings President Normand M. Gonsauls President Charles S. Minter President Charles W. Davis Commander-in-Chief Jack N. Rogers

President Richard Stilwell President Vincent Thomas President George Lange President Joe Wasson President Donald Hess National Commander Earl Charity President Alfred Freedman

Executive Director Ann Griffiths Commander-in-Chief Harry Embree President Charles Morgan Executive Director William Lazarus President John Fisher President Daniel Graham President Edward Fry President William Emery

WASHINGTON

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS: plus their spouses

Air Force Sergeants Association American Legion AMVETS Army & Navy Union, USA, Inc. Blinded Veterans Association Catholic War Veterans Disabled American Veterans Disabled Officers Association Fleet Reserve Association Italian American War Veterans Jewish War Veterans Legion of Valor Marine Corps League Military Order of the Purple Heart Polish Legion of American Veterans Reserve Officers Association United Spanish War Veterans Veterans of Foreign Wars Veterans of Wordl War I

Auxiliary President Willa Hyde Auxiliary President Romaine Roethel Auxiliary President Margaret Rummel Auxiliary President Anna Mae Limper Auxiliary President Pat Miller Auxiliary President Eleanor Gerini Auxiliary President Betty Hall Auxiliary President Rita Hudak Auxiliary President Gloria Eswine Auxiliary President Lena Alfano Auxiliary President Bernyce Ford Auxiliary President Bertha Doughtie Auxiliary President Elizabeth Lenington Auxiliary President Leona Townsend Auxiliary President Jane Pendzich Auxiliary President Virginia Drewry Auxiliary President Maynie Marsh Auxiliary President Marion Watson Auxiliary President Martha Peterson

WASHINGTON

August 25, 1981

TO: PETER Mc COY

FROM: MORTON BLACKWELL

RE: Meeting for the First Lady and Ladies Auxiliaries

Several months ago, your office asked me my view on the value of a meeting between Mrs. Reagan and a ladies auxiliary group of one of the major veterans organizations. I suggested that the most useful sort of meeting would be one involving the leaders of all of the ladies auxiliary groups, rather than the membership of just one.

I think that now would be an excellent time to arrange just such a reception for the First Lady to host, as a means of rallying support for the President's legislative program. It would be of real help to the Administration.

The veterans groups are politically important; because they have chapters in almost every community, they are in a unique position to influence both Congress and local public opinion. The endorsement of the President's budget package by some of the largest veterans organizations (despite some cuts in funding for the Veterans Administration) was of considerable use; their opposition would have made passage much more difficult.

To date, while there have been many meetings, briefings and receptions for the veterans organizations, there has been no high level attempt to meet with their ladies auxiliaries. A reception hosted by Mrs. Reagan would fill that gap, and bring the veterans more solidly into the political coalition the President is forming.

I would be happy to discuss details with you.

AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS OF VETERANS ORGANIZATIONS

Air Force Sergeants Association

Jacqueline B. Hopkins Auxiliary President P.O. Box 31050 Washington, D.C. 20031 (301) 899-3500 Willa Hyde -Tay

American Legion

Mrs. Lyle Seymour
National Auxiliary President
700 North Pennsylvania Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206
(317) 635-8411

AMVETS

Anne Brown
National Auxiliary President
4647 Forbes Boulevard
Lanham, Maryland 20810
(301) 459-9600

Army and Navy Union, USA, Inc.

Mabel H. Redmond

Ladies Auxiliary President
1391 Main Street
Lakemore, Ohio 44250
(202) 245-6039

Blinded Veterans Association

Mrs. Ronald L. Miller
Auxiliary President
1735 DeSales Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 347-4010

Catholic War Veterans of the United States of America, Inc.

Florence C. Murphy
National Auxiliary President
Two Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
(202) 737-9600

Page Two ..

Disabled American Veterans

Maria Tedro
National Auxiliary Commander
807 Maine Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024
(202) 554-3501

Betty Hall

Disabled Officers Association

Mrs. Rita Hudak
Auxiliary President
927 S. Walter Reed Drive
Suite 6
Arlington, Virginia 22204
(703) 521-8075

8/ Retarbedak

Fleet Reserve Association

Thelma Groom
National Auxiliary President
1303 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 785-2768

gloria Eswine

Italian American War Veterans of the United States

Lena Alfano
National Auxiliary President
1721 So. Linden Avenue
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068
(312) 825-8178

Jewish War Veterans of the United States of America

Evelyn Mermonstein
National Auxiliary President
1712 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009
(202) 265-6280

Bernyce Ford

Legion of Valor of the U.S.A.

Mrs. L. Rennebaum National Auxiliary President 621 South Taylor Street Arlington, Virginia 22204 (703) 892-5984

Mrs Janes & Doughtie

Marine Corps League

Nita Overton National Auxiliary President 933 North Kenmore Street Arlington, Virginia 22201 (703) 524-1137/5206 Elizabeth Tenington

Mexican Border Veterans, Inc.

Ann Vohwinkel
National Auxiliary President
4248 Dryden Sircle
Sarasota, Florida 33583
(813) 371-2916

Military Order of the Purple Heart Of the U.S.A., Inc.

Anola Hacker
Auxiliary President
5413-B Backlick Road
Springfield, Virginia 22151
(703) 642-5360/3361

Polish Legion of American Veterans, U.S.A.

Jane Pendzich
Auxiliary President
4022 South Brust Avenue
St. Francis, Wisconsin 53207
(414) 744-7510

Reserve Officers Association of the United States

Mrs. J. Hubbard Davis
National Auxiliary President
One Constitution Avenue, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20002
(202) 479-2200

Mes Joseph 5 Dreway fr.

United Spanish War Veterans

Dr. Virginia Lee Johnson National Auxiliary President P.O. Box 1915 Washington, D.C. 20013 (202) 347-1898 Mrs Maynie March.

Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.

Jeanette Frank National Auxiliary President 34th at Broadway Kansas City, Missouri 64111 (816)756-3390

Veterans of World War I of the U.S.A., Inc.

Elsie Keating
National Auxiliary President and Executive
Director
916 Prince Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
(703) 836-3060

Mrs Marion Watson

WASHINGTON

April 10, 1981

Mortan about

Markan about

Marken meeting

Maybe should be included

with Ladies antilianes

Dear Chaplain McRobbie:

Thank you for your letter inquiring about the possibility of a meeting of the President with the Presbyterian clergy in the Washington metropolitan area or the women military chaplains of the area.

I have referred your letter to the appropriate member of the President's staff, who would propose a meeting like the one you suggest. My responsibilities are confined to working with the United States Senate.

With cordial regards,

Sincerely.

Powell A. Moore

Deputy Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs (Senate)

Elaine McRobbie Chaplain, Captain USAF Department of the Air Force Headquarters 1776th Air Base Wing (MAC) Andrews Air Force Base, D.C. 20331

cc: Morton Blackwell, Public Liaison Received September 29, 1981



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

HEADQUARTERS 1776TH AIR BASE WING (MAC)
ANDREWS AIR FORCE BASE, DC 20331

7 April 1981

Mr. Powell Moore Deputy Assistant to the President White House Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Moore,

As a Presbyterian minister, it is indeed a pleasure to have a fellow Presbyterian once again in residence in the White House. I was wondering if it might be possible for the Presbyterian clergy in the D.C. area to have either lunch or breakfast with Mr. Reagan sometime this spring. I realize this might be a rather large group, and I certainly wouldn't want to expend tax dollars for it—it could be accomplished no host.

If it is not possible for the President to meet with local Presbyterian clergy, would it be possible for him to meet with the women military chaplains in the D.C. area? There are only three of us, and two of us are Presbyterian. I would be particularly interested in hearing his views on the role women will play in the future of the military.

I join a grateful nation in celebrating the ongoing recovery of Mr. Reagan. It is still difficult to believe the kind of insanity which led to the attempt on his life.

I look forward to hearing from you regarding my proposals. If there is any way in which the Air Force Chaplains at Andrews may be of help to you in your work, please feel free to call on us.

Sincerely,

Elaine McRobbie

Chaplain, Captain USAF

Elamo Mc Robbe



NATIONAL LADIES AUXILIARY

Jewish War Veterans of the U. S. A., Inc.

1712 NEW HAMPSHIRE AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, D.C. 20009 PHONE: (202) 667-9061

INA HALPERIN Executive Director

September 10, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell Office of Public Liaison Room 191 Old Executive Office Bldg. Washington, D.C. 20505 Att: Cathy

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

The National Ladies Auxiliary, Jewish War Veterans of the United States is planning a nationwide campaign to sell poppies on Veterans Day this year (November 11). The funds will benefit the nation's veterans, especially those in veterans hospitals.

In a recent phone conversation with Cathy, I learned that we could have a parchment message from the President commemorating this occasion. I am attaching a "message" for your use.

We would like to publicize this event nationally. Would it be possible for President Reagan to personally present the message to our national president, Bernyce Ford, who lives in San Diego, California. The ceremony could take place there or in Washington, depending of course, on Mr. Reagan's schedule. And he would receive the first poppy! Mrs. Ford will be Washington for Veterans Day ceremonies at Arlington Cemetary and this would be a good time for the presentation.

I am enclosing some literature about our organization for your information. We would also like to be included on your invitation list for ceremonies or receptions which concern issue such as veterans, American Jewry, and Israel.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

IH/sdc

cc: Bernyce Ford, Nat'1. Pres.

Enc. 5

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Auxilian

W/ Mrs. Rougan