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May 18, 1981

Dear Dr. Stone:

I want to thank you for your warm expression of friendship and concern. I am certain that, if not for the prayers and good wishes of so many wonderful people, the road to recovery would have been a lot longer and a lot more difficult.

With heartfelt thanks,

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN A

Dr. Ralph E. Stone
Executive Director
Thanksgiving Square
Post Office Box 1777
Dallas, Texas 75221

bcc: Anne Higgins ✓

RR/AVH/RCH/ba
P-27

^xTHANKSGIVING SQUIRE FOUNDATION

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810518

Enclosures filed in
Oversize Attachments # 1048

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 20, 1981

~~Anne:~~ *Anne*

Please do appropriate letters to Dr. Stone and send acknowledgement to those cards that include addresses.

Thank you.

Allen Locke

C-65 to

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 25, 1981

TO: Bob Anderson
FROM: Pat Gleason

Please arrange to send Dr. Stone
a P-28 and enclosed cards C-6s.

Thank you!

C-6's have
been sent
to those with
sufficient addresses.
Maureen
Hudson

THANKS
■ GIVING
SQUARE

April 7, 1981

Mr. Allen Locke
Executive Secretary
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Locke,

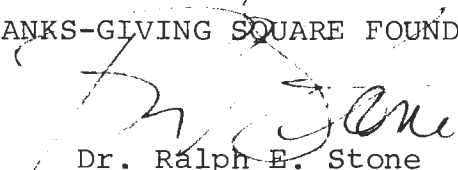
Following the assassination attempt last week cards were made available here at Thanks-Giving Square to visitors who would wish to express words of hope and concern to those injured. Enclosed please find these cards, which we hope can be forwarded to the President.

Thanks-Giving Square is a center for praise and gratitude in the heart of downtown Dallas. It is owned and maintained by the Thanks-Giving Square Foundation, a private inter-faith religious foundation. We have included a sample brochure so that you might gain a clearer understanding of the place and its purposes.


We join with all other Americans in offering the White House staff our sincere thanks for your courage and energy in fulfilling the responsibilities of the Executive Office, especially at this time of concern. We wish you good fortune in your future efforts.

Sincerely,

THANKS-GIVING SQUARE FOUNDATION



Dr. Ralph E. Stone
Executive Director



For the Gift of Life—THANKSGIVING!

CENTER FOR WORLD THANKSGIVING — NATIONAL THANKSGIVING COMMISSION



THE SPIRIT

Thanksgiving is the ancient wellspring of strength and happiness shared by people in all ages and in all continents. Gratitude is our deepest personal response to God's gift of life. It is at the heart of what it means to be alive.

THE PLACE

Thanksgiving Square honors universal Thanksgiving and becomes a happy crossroads for the peoples of the world. The inscription, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart," invites us into the Chapel Garden, a quiet place of sacred meaning and dignity for each individual. The trees, grass and the sound of rushing water shut off the confusion of traffic—reminding us that God loves us—here at the heart of a city. The Hall of Thanksgiving gathers the creations and traditions of mankind's thanksgivings to share them with the world and inspire new thoughts and acts of thanksgiving — "The Psalms of our own time."



Children represent four of America's many Thanksgiving traditions — the Pilgrim, the Latin, Black, and the native American.

The Chapel of Thanksgiving symbolizing our oldest tradition and our newest hope. The marble aggregate is seen as many things — a wall, a fence, a tower, unfolding — the infinite upreach of the spirit.



CELEBRATION

At Thanks-Giving Square the great Bells of Thanksgiving invite the world to give thanks to God. Gratitude is the root of all religions and its ancient truths from the Psalms are inscribed on the three bells—

- GOD LOVES US "O Give Thanks Unto the Lord for He is Good" *Psalm 136*
- WE LOVE GOD "Let Every Thing That Hath Breath Praise the Lord" *Psalm 150*
- SERVE GOD SINGING "O Sing Unto the Lord a New Song" *Psalm 98*



Peeling of the
Bells at the Dedication
Thanksgiving Sunday
declared the deep experience
of mankind,
"Thanksgiving unites



Birdseye — the trees, fountains,
grass and courts of the Chapel Garden
surround the Chapel of Thanksgiving.



Children — all ages find delight in
water and nature as the gifts of God —
peace at the heart of a city.



People — year-round
events of praise
with daily Chapel
the center-city.

THANKSGIVING

THE STORY OF THE AMERICAN SPIRIT— NATIONAL THANKSGIVING COMMISSION

Prayers of humility and gratitude to the Creator for centuries by tribes and settlements all across this continent, resulted in the First National Thanksgiving in 1777 becoming our most beloved tradition. The Thanksgiving traditions of the world have come to flower in America.

The National Thanksgiving Commission is dedicated to rekindle the flame of this ancient heritage.



At Valley Forge the National Thanksgiving Commission was officially instituted on the exact 200th birthday of the First National Thanksgiving, December 18, 1777, where George Washington's army celebrated it with divine services in the bitter winter.



Enshrined in the Hall of Thanksgiving is the "story of the American spirit," Washington's sacrificial Thanksgiving at Valley Forge and "The Presidential Collection" of America's Thanksgiving Proclamations.



The "Living Tradition" of the signing of the Presidential Thanksgiving Proclamation was filmed in color for the first time by the Foundation with President Ford in 1974 establishing "The Presidential Collection."

The original document of the First National Thanksgiving written in 1777 by Sam Adams, "The Father of the Revolution," was displayed for the first time in America in the Hall of Thanksgiving (on loan from the National Archives.)

Echoing the Continental Congress, the President's Thanksgiving Proclamation and the Congress' joint Resolution celebrate the 200th National Thanksgiving reflecting Foundation research.



York, Pennsylvania shows one of the Foundation's historical markers where the Continental Congress proclaimed the First National Thanksgiving.



For the first time in history 50 governors issued special Thanksgiving Proclamations in 1977 honoring two centuries of national Thanksgiving – here symbolized by the flags of the states around the Chapel of Thanksgiving.



THANKSGIVING UNITES PEOPLE— CENTER FOR WORLD THANKSGIVING

To bring people together in praise and thanksgiving at any place or time, the Center has elected worldwide Fellows from many places who pioneer new frontiers of gratitude in religion, history, art, science and everyday life – a reawakening of gratitude to our Creator – people of all religions in all continents – celebrating our gift together.



Liberian Ambassador Francis A. Dennis, at the gate of the Chapel Garden, represents a nation who with Japan, Switzerland and Canada also have official Thanksgiving Days each year.



At the United Nations in 1975 the Meditation Center was the first "International Day of Thanksgiving" with Foundation assistance. Shown speaking from a Missionary Extraordinary to the United States of America.



United Nations Director and Deputy Undersecretary General, Dr. Robert G. Undersecretary General, makes a Fellow of the Center for World Thanksgiving at Thanks-Giving Square.



The Consecration of the Church of Thanksgiving at a special prayer for all mankind on Thanksgiving Day in 1976 was performed by distinguished representatives of world religions – Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Christian and Moslem in a spirit of unity in Thanksgiving.



Archbishop Iakovos, Greek Orthodox of North and South America, makes a Fellow of the Center for World Thanksgiving at Thanks-Giving Square.



The Institution of the National Thanksgiving Commission at Valley Forge in the Washington Memorial Chapel, concluded with a benediction by Jewish, Christian and Islamic representatives, symbolizing mankind's oneness in gratitude to God.





NATIONAL THANKSGIVING COMMISSION

is dedicated to rekindle this ancient flame of Thanksgiving in America. The Honorary President is Gerald R. Ford and the Honorary Vice President is Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson. National Trustees across America represent many cultures. The National Thanksgiving Committee is composed of leaders of religious denominations.

The National Thanksgiving Commission is headquartered at Thanks-Giving Square in Dallas. Here in 1861 community Thanksgiving celebrations started and by 1961 there emerged a vision to create a Center for World Thanksgiving. The development of Thanksgiving is funded through Thanks-Giving Square Foundation by gifts from individuals, foundations and corporations to this non-profit, tax deductible organization. We will be grateful for your help.

Some publications by the Foundation on world and national Thanksgiving appear below.



With gratitude to many, special mention is given to The National Archives; United Nations Meditation Group; Philip Johnson; John Hutton; Gabriel Loir; John F. Reed; John Rogers and Ralph Stone.

This publication is made possible by a grant from the Dresser Foundation, Inc.

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NATIONAL THANKSGIVING COMMISSION
Post Office Box 1777
Dallas, Texas 75221
214/651-1777



“... Our Oldest Tradition—
Thanksgiving to God”

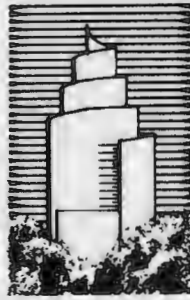


MEMO

DATE: April 27, 2009
FROM: Diane Barrie
RE: Alpha File, Thanksgiving Square
TO: The File

This correspondence included 83 notes referred to in the letter from Ralph Stone. We have sampled and retained 8 of these notes.

Ronald Reagan Library & Museum
40 Presidential Drive - Simi Valley, CA 93065
800 - 410-8354



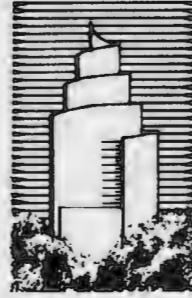
Words of hope
at this time of special concern

4/11/81

My thoughts are with
you. What Thanksgiving
to know about your
recovery.

Sincerely

Sue Ackley
5502 Comestone
Purke, Va 22015



Words of hope
at this time of special concern

I hope that you
will feel better soon.

Love you always
Melissa Lopez

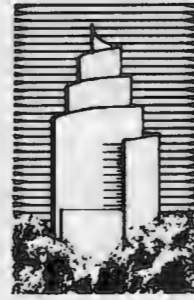
1606 MOVEL PLACE



Words of hope
at this time of special concern

To President Reagan and those
injured - you're in our prayers
everyday.

Mr. & Mrs. Frank S. Covard
4217 Goodfellow Drive
Dallas, Tx 75229



Words of hope
at this time of special concern

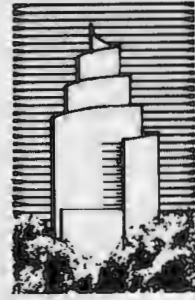
Dear Mr. President,

my thoughts and prayers
are with you always.

Take care and get well soon.

Sincerely,

Nancy McAnally



Words of hope
at this time of special concern

President Reagan -

We support you & the things you are doing for our country. We pray that your recovery is quick. We urge you to pray for guidance in the important decisions you must make.

God Bless You
& Our Country.

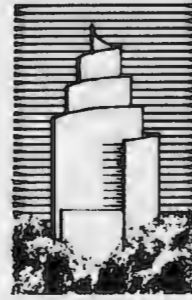
Phillip & Pamela Phelps - Mark Motz
Candy Sheeley & Gary Wehmer.



Words of hope
at this time of special concern

The Good Lord be with you all
and we all here in Dallas
wish you a speedy, complete
recovery.

Bob Bood
Dallas Tx



Words of hope
at this time of special concern

4/1/81

President Reagan,

My prayers are with you,
Press Secretary Brady, Agent McCarty
and officer Dilahanty. May
God's healing blessing be on
you all.

Janet Adams

Dallas, Tex



Words of hope
at this time of special concern

Our prayers are with
you all. May God
Bless you + Keep you all

Mr + Mrs W A Newman
Rt 2 Box 319
Scurry, Tex 75158

July 6, 1983

Dear Mr. Stewart:

On behalf of the President, I wish to acknowledge and thank you for your message, which was forwarded to me by the Vice President, inviting the President to sign the annual Thanksgiving Proclamation in Dallas at Thanks-Giving Square.

Although careful consideration has been given to this request, in view of the heavy schedule to which the President is committed through the coming weeks and months and added demands which are anticipated because of pending matters, it will not be possible to add this request to the President's calendar.

The President regrets me having to send you this reply, but asked that I extend to you and all those in whose behalf you wrote his warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

FREDERICK J. RYAN, JR.
Director, Presidential
Appointments and Scheduling

Mr. Peter Stewart
President
✓ Thanks-Giving Square
Post Office Box 1777
Dallas, TX 75221
FJR:JL:cm--
cc Vice President Bush - FYI

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

19, 1984

May 7, 1984

MISSION

Kathy:

We thought this Thanksgiving Square sounded familiar so we did a little digging. We found the attached correspondence in Ryan's office and Central Files. Additionally, Ryan had staffed it out already to McManus who suggested it be regretted. Margaret suggested we send it back your way for safe keeping!

Thanks, Kathy.

Julie

10
Central Files

JULIE BRINK
Office of Margaret D. Tutwiler
456-7620

Johnson

President signing the
gust at the one place

g of America" creates
ique symbolic place.
sgiving Proclamation
radition, this can be
the center of Dallas,
sgiving Proclamations

and signing the annual
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ea is sound. To our
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and yet the act would
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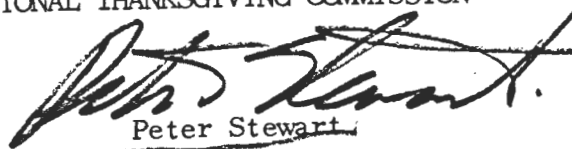
iotic event six blocks
all Texans and deeply
surface approaches aid

ving Square are: Ed
ker and Herbert Hunt;
James M. Collins; Ben
Green; Eric Jonsson;
es V. Prothro and many

Anne helped create Thanks-Giving Square originally and gain President Ford's support on a number of important occasions. The Vice President has been contacted on this matter and has reacted favorably.

Sincerely,

NATIONAL THANKSGIVING COMMISSION



Peter Stewart
President

THANKS
■ GIVING
SQUARE

file

October 25, 1985

Dear Linda,

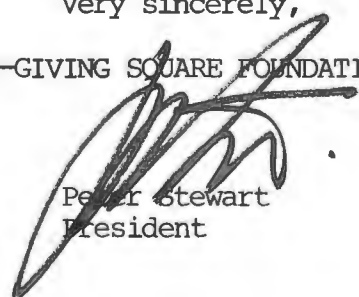
Told your Mother and Dad about your sweet letter and the success of the presentation Monday.

I understand Mrs. Reagan will send out 200 copies of the official picture chiefly to Dallas people and we are certainly grateful for this.

You are sweet to take an interest in Thanks-Giving Square.

Very sincerely,

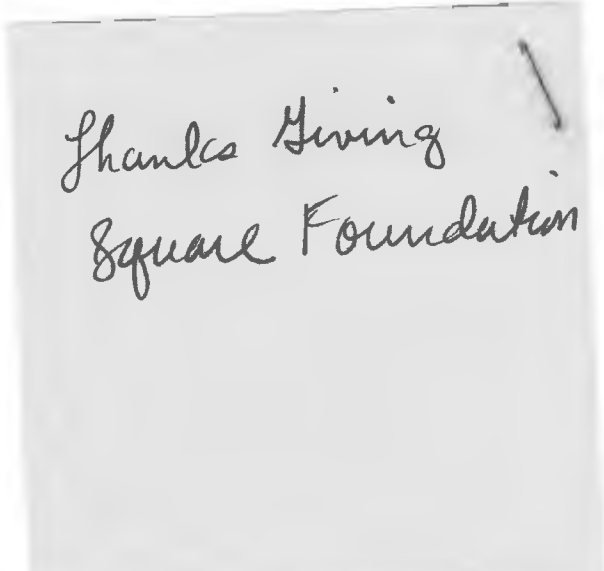
THANKS-GIVING SQUARE FOUNDATION



Peter Stewart
President

Miss Linda Faulkner
Social Office
East Wing
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

PS: pc
att.



THANKS
GIVING
SQUARE

October 25, 1985

Mrs. Reagan
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Reagan,

Your gracious words in presenting the American gift to the Secretary-General at the United Nations are especially appreciated by the donors of "The Golden Rule" the Thanks-Giving Square Foundation.

In America, we take for granted being a people "united in prayer" for two hundred years with our ancient Thanksgiving tradition.

But, you gave the final world insight of Norman Rockwell's vision of the future:

"the peoples of the world,

all races and creeds united together in prayer"

This is the new great hope - a healing of the human spirit worldwide.

It will inspire future generations as they daily pass by this gift of the American people.

Our heartfelt thanks.

The Directors of Thanks-Giving Square Foundation

Hassan I. Bukhari *James F. Chambers, Jr.* *Charles G. Cullum*
Hassan I. Bukhari James F. Chambers, Jr. Charles G. Cullum

Henry Exall, Jr. *E. R. Haggar* *John M. Stemmons*
Henry Exall, Jr. E. R. Haggar John M. Stemmons

Peter P. Stewart *Thomas W. Taylor*
Peter P. Stewart Thomas W. Taylor

February 19, 1986

Dear Peter:

Thanks for your letter of February 4, 1986 concerning "The Golden Rule" mosaic at the United Nations.

I have ordered copies of the photographs taken at that event and will send them to you as soon as they are processed. Also, a letter from the First Lady will be sent with the photographs that may be distributed to the contributors.

It was great to be in Dallas this past week, I just wish my schedule had not been so hectic, I would have enjoyed visiting you.

Please continue with your fine work and let me know if there is anything I can do for you in the future.

Sincerely,



Kenneth L. Barun
Director of Projects and Policy
Office of the First Lady

Mr. Peter Stewart
President
Thanksgiving Square
Post Office Box 1777
Dallas, Texas 75221

