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Dear Mr. O'Loughlin:

Your thoughtful note of last Fall has just reached my desk. I'm sorry we did not respond to you by the time of your graduation ceremonies but trust that you have by now successfully completed your course of training -- congratulations on your achievement.

I enjoyed your reminiscences of last March. In thinking back on that time, I realize that not being fully aware of the seriousness of my wound on March 30 aided my bravery tremendously. Thanks to a lot of people, yourself included, I'm back here in the Oval Office in fully recovered health:

You have my best wishes for all good fortune and success in years to come. God bless.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

AOC Martin F. O'Loughlin, USNR Class 04-82 Battalion II NAVAVSCOLSCOM NAS Pensacola, Florida 32508

RR: PAG: KCS: AVH: ds--

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Bessage regraduation from Civiation Officer Candidate School comments: writer was on duty at George Washington of Hosp, as an anest here's monitoring specialist when Pres. orasidomitted

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THE WHITE HOUSE

12/8/81

NOTE FOR ANNE HIGGINS

Anne -

Could a letter from the President be sent to Aviation Officer Candidate O'Loughlin (he cannot accept his invitation)

Thanks

Mary Rawlins



## UNITED STATES NAVAL AIR STATION Persacola, Florida

Schoolulung 5,83

AOC O'LOUGHLIN, M.F., USNR CLASS 04-82 BATTALION II NAVAVSCOLSCOM NAS PENSACOLA, FL. 32508 21 NOVEMBER 1981

HON. RONALD REAGAN COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OVAL OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON, D.C.

## SIR:

I WAS AN ANESTHESIA MONITORING SPECIALIST AT THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER WHEN THE PRESIDENT WAS ADMITTED IN MARCH. IN THIS POSITION, I HAD THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ASSISTING THE CRITICAL-CARE PHYSICIANS WHEN THE PRESIDENT REQUIRED THEIR SERVICES. IN ADDITION, I WAS CHARGED WITH CERTAIN DUTIES IN THE TREATMENT OF MR. BRADY UNTIL THE DAY I RESIGNED. UNFORTUNATELY, THROUGH AN ADMINISTATIVE ERROR OF THE PART OF MY DEPARTMENT, I WAS NOT INVITED TO BID THE PRESIDENT FAREWELL UPON HIS RELEASE FROM THE HOSPITAL.

ALTHOUGH I HAD WORKED FOR MANY YEARS TOWARD BECOMING A PHYSICIAN, I ALSO DREAMED OF CHOOSING A CAREER THAT WOULD ALLOW ME TO SERVE MY NATION IN AN HONORABLE FASHION. FOR THIS REASON, I MADE A COMMITTMENT TO THE UNITED STATES TO BEGIN TRAINING AS A NAVAL AVIATOR. I AM NOW CLOSE TO COMPLETING AVIATION OFFICER CANDIDATE TRAINING AT THE NAVAL AIR STATION, PENSACOLA, FLORIDA. THE OTHER CANDIDATES OF MY CLASS AND I HAVE BEEN WORKING VERY HARD TO BECOME OFFICERS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY. I HAVE DONE NOTHING IN MY LIFE WHICH IS SO RIGOROUS AND REWARDING. WE ANTICIPATE GRADUATING THIRTY-FIVE OFFICERS ON FEBRUARY FIFTH, 1982.

I WOULD LIKE TO RESPECTFULLY INVITE THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF TO ATTEND THE COMMISSIONING EXERCISES.

HAVING OUR COMMISSIONS HANDED TO US BY THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF WOULD CERTAINLY BE THE MOST SIGNIFICANT EVENT OF OUR CAREERS. OF COURSE, IT IS BEYOND MY AUTHORITY TO EXTEND AN INVITATION ON BEHALF OF THE COMMAND, BUT IF THIS LETTER IS FAVORABLY RECEIVED, I WILL INITIATE A FORMAL REQUEST THROUGH THE CHAIN OF COMMAND.

SIR, I SAW A GREAT ACT OF PERSONAL COURAGE BY MY COUNTRY'S PRESIDENT THAT MARCH AFTERNOON. I HOPE ONE DAY TO BE AS COURAGEOUS IN THE FACE OF ANGUISH. IT IS EASY FOR US, THE LEADERS OF TOMORROW, TO EMMULATE THAT WHICH WE SEE IN OUR LEADERS. I WAS HONORED TO CARE FOR YOU AS MY PATIENT, AND I AM NOW PROUD TO SERVE MY COUNTRY WITH YOU AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

VERY RESPECTFULLY,

MARTIN F. O'LOUGHLIN

AVIATION OFFICER CANDIDATE UNITED STATES NAVY (RESERVE)