

The original documents are located in Box 47, folder “President - Medals Medal of Freedom - Rubinstein, Artur (2)” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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Wednesday 2/25/76

Medal of
Freedom

5:45 Bill Cook left more material on Artur Rubinstein.

659-7440

Mr. Rubinstein's schedule is tentatively:

2/26	Philadelphia
3/4	Houston
3/6	Washington
3/9	Columbus
3/15	New York (Carnegie Hall)

The remainder of the schedule is not definite
but he plans to leave by the end of March. (leave the country)

His first concert in Europe is on April 9th.

Mrs. Buchen thought perhaps we should try to let
the staff know that Mr. Rubinstein is leaving the
country at the end of March -- so waiting for the Honor
America celebration would be too late.



WILLIAM M. COOK

Feb. 25, 1976

Dear Mrs. Daughtrey,

Enclosed is material which should be helpful in honoring this great and distinguished American. I have learned today from Mr. Rubinstein's secretary that he will be in this country until at least the first of April. If you would be kind enough to keep the book for me, I would be most appreciative - Bill Cook



202 - TELEPHONE: 859-7438
1105 CONNECTICUT AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

MERRILL LYNCH, PIERCE, FENNER & SMITH INC

Wednesday 2/25/76

11:50 Mrs. Buchen said she had a call from Bill Cook and she told him that the Medal of Freedom Award was being seriously considered for Artur Rubinstein but that March 6th or whenever would be a little difficult. Mr. Cook said it's O.K. to award it later. He is going to find out exactly how long Mr. Rubinstein will be in this country. He will bring an envelope to the Southwest gate this afternoon with the information, along with an updated bio on Rubinstein.



[March 1976?] Rubinstein

Rubinstein: Astonishing

By Paul Hume

Where do you start when it's time

tant if this astonishing man did not play well. But on Saturday, before an audience that numbered around 4,000,



[March 1976]

room for the piano, the piano bench, and a smidgen of aisle to get Rubinstein out to play the one while sitting on, or sometimes leaping from, the other.

Nothing on the prosperous front had changed Sunday afternoon in Chicago's Orchestra Hall, when Rubinstein marked the 70th anniversary of his first appearance there. To celebrate such an anniversary at the age of 90 is a prodigious achievement, but then Rubinstein is a prodigious person.

AFTER RUEFUL reports about falling eyesight, it was reassuring to hear him play Chopin as no one else can play Chopin — especially in the heroic fire struck from the B flat minor Scherzo. Beginning with the Beethoven E flat Sonata (Op. 31, No. 3), through the foaming velocity of Villa-Lobos' "Polichinelle," and in the strange world of gauze and crystal he found in Ravel's "Valses nobles et sentimentales," it was glorious music.

When it was over he had a standing tribute, and a plaque from the City of Chicago to keep wherever he keeps his plaques, which must by this time be a sizeable place. It was a distinguished occasion, brushed but not blurred by sentiment.

Backstage, asked about future plans, Rubinstein said, "I will continue if I can, but never as an old man who can play the piano a little."

Glorious Rubinstein

Once not so long ago there was a man with what he thought was a problem. A group to which he belonged had a chance to get an Artur Rubinstein recital as a benefit, and what he wanted to know was this: "Does Mr. Rubinstein draw?"

For decades music's major problem in logistics has been how many seats you can put on a given (I mean sold) stage and still leave

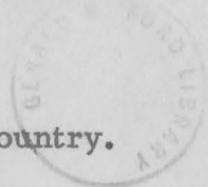
Monday 3/1/76

10:30 I have checked with Bill Cook and he indicates there is no schedule for Artur Rubinstein to return to this country.

659-7440

With his age of 90, it would be uncertain if he will be returning for future tours. After last year's tour, Mr. Rubinstein's wife had written Mr. Cook and indicated at his age, they were never sure whether future tours would be too tiring for him. (Mr. Cook has known Mr. Rubinstein since he (Mr. Cook) was 10 years old.)

So, it would be extremely helpful if such an award could be made while Mr. Rubinstein is still in this country.



Eva:

Mr. Cook (?) left the following information for you about Mr. Rubenstein's schedule:

February 28	-	Boston
March 1	-	Montreal
March 4	-	Houston
March 6	-	Washington, D. C.
" 9	-	Columbus, Ohio
" 15	-	New York
" 21	-	Chicago
" 24	-	Philadelphia
" 26	-	Detroit
" 29	-	Cleveland
" 31	-	Cincinnati

Mr. Cook will call you on Monday.



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 1, 1976

*2
Rubinstein,
Arthur*

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CONNOR

FROM: PHIL BUCHEN *P.*

SUBJECT: Award of Presidential Medal
of Freedom to Artur Rubinstein

After receiving your memorandum of February 20 that Mr. Rubinstein is a suitable candidate for the Presidential Medal, I learned that he will be in Washington not only on March 6 but also 7 and 8, that he will be in this country only until shortly after the end of March. Then he goes to Europe for an extended concert tour, and it appears unlikely that he would be available to participate in a general awards ceremony in July.

Under these circumstances, I would appreciate your consideration of a date some time in March when this award could be made.

cc: Jack Marsh
Bob Hartmann
Jim Cannon



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 3, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JERRY JONES
FROM: DAVE GERGEN *DS*
SUBJECT: Medal of Freedom for
Artur Rubinstein

I would strongly support a presentation of the award to Mr. Rubinstein. (Several attempts were made to set this up in the previous Administration, but all came to naught.) If it were possible to arrange, I think it would also be excellent if Mr. Rubinstein could entertain here -- perhaps as part of a State Dinner. It would be a very classy and warm occasion for all participants.

* * * * *

Having been deeply involved in the Medal of Freedom selections over several years, I would also like to register a noisy, vociferous vote against setting up an advisory committee for these medals. Such a committee existed back in the 60s but it was abandoned -- and for good reason. If you turn the selection over to a committee, then the committee -- not the President -- tends to get credit for the awards. On the other hand, if the committee makes a lousy selection and the President says no, then we can create a flap and insult the recommended recipient. This is a prerogative of the office that should be preserved. Surely, an ad hoc group can be organized within the White House to consider and recommend recipients to the President.

Each presentation of an award represents, of course, an ideal opportunity for a "good Presidential event", and I would hope we can approach this as creatively as possible.

cc: ✓ Phil Buchen
Jim Cavanaugh
Jim Connor

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

For my 2^d worth--

Jessell could be
included in a
group (even more
appropriately)
near the 4th of
July.

Love
60a

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 5, 1976

TO: PHIL BUCHEN

FROM: RUSSELL A. ROURKE

RAR

_____ For Direct Reply

_____ For Draft Response

_____ For Your Information

 X Please advise

Phil, please see Jack's note.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 4, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH

FROM: RUSS ROURKE *RR*

Jack, despite Virginia Bacon's arguments to the contrary (letter attached), Arthur Rubenstein would not be my first choice for the Medal of Freedom award. I am concerned about how the award to him would be viewed by the Jewish community and the Congress. As you know, there are over one hundred Members of Congress who have recommended Georgie Jessell for the Medal of Freedom. Jessell, though somewhat afflicted with ego-mania, has made tremendous contributions to his country over a period of many, many years. He is, indeed, a true Jewish American super patriot.

Milt Mitler asked the question "what has Rubenstein really done beyond his chosen profession"?

In any event, I would not place Rubenstein ahead of Jessell.

*Bring
Jessell
to
problem
plus
m*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 1, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: ROBERT HARTMANN
JACK MARSH ✓
BRENT SCOWCROFT
DOUG BENNETT
JIM CANNON
JERRY JONES
BOB GOLDWIN
JIM LYNN

SUBJECT: Medal of Freedom to
Artur Rubinstein

Phil Buchen has proposed (see attached correspondence) that we consider giving the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Artur Rubinstein March 6, 7th or 8th. The President will be in Illinois on the 6th and has a private engagement on the 7th (which is also a Sunday), which would leave only March 8th, assuming there is some time for such a ceremony on his calendar and further assuming there is agreement among the WH staff that such an award would be appropriate.

I'd appreciate having your views, so that a proposal can be made to the President since we have no formal mechanism (in the absence of the Executive Order which is still awaiting completed staffing and comments from various offices) to make proposals for such Awards to the President.

JAMES E. CONNOR
SECRETARY TO THE CABINET

encls.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mrs. Clemens

(212) HA 10900

(Drake Hotel - Rubinstein's)



File

Wednesday 3/17/76

12:10 Bill Cook said he had given you the phone number (212) HA 1-0900 for Arthur Rubinstein's apartment at the Drake Hotel in New York and his secretary's name is Mrs. Clemens. (This number would be in the apartment with the Rubinsteins -- and in case you would want to call her in her own apartment, Mrs. Clemens could be reached at (212) HA 4-1149

According to the schedule he had given us, the final concert of Mr. Rubinstein's tour in this country will be on March 31st. They will remain in New York until probably April 5th.

He is to play in Europe on April 9th.



Eva:

Mr. Cook (?) left the following information for you about Mr. Rubenstein's schedule:

February 28	-	Boston
March 1	-	Montreal
March 4	-	Houston
March 6	-	Washington, D. C.
" 9	-	Columbus, Ohio
" 15	-	New York
" 21	-	Chicago
" 24	-	Philadelphia
" 26	-	Detroit
" 29	-	Cleveland
" 31	-	Cincinnati

Mr. Cook will call you on Monday.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Please clip
article on
Rubinstein.

P.
For Rubenstein file

Thursday 3/18/76

Award Ceremony
for Arthur
Rubinstein
APRIL 8

6:15 Eleanor called to say that -- although it isn't completely firm -- they are scheduling an award luncheon and ceremony in the East Room of the White House for Mr. Rubinstein ----- the President has agreed to the Medal of Freedom award for Arthur Rubinstein!!!!!!!

They are awaiting final confirmation from Mr. Rubinstein's secretary. They are scheduling it for April 8th.

This ageless hero, Rubinstein

He cannot go on like this forever (though some would not bet on that). In fact, there are now some troubling signs.

By Donal Henahan

though eventually quite sobering hours with him in his suite at the Drake Hotel. The first minutes, as usual, were taken up in making sure the visitor had the most comfortable, the softest seat

and was ready to receive me, had the flu, he said, and his calling him to tell him to can when I am at the piano, my si

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 25, 1976

Dear Mrs. Bacon,

Mrs. Buchen has very kindly forwarded your gracious letter to Mrs. Ford urging that the highest official recognition be given Artur Rubinstein. Mrs. Ford is indeed grateful for your comments and encouragement in this matter.

With appreciation and warmest best wishes,

Sincerely,

Susan Porter
Appointments Secretary
for Mrs. Ford

Mrs. Robert L. Bacon
1801 F Street
Washington, D. C. 20006

c: Mrs. Philip Buchen

METROPOLITAN 1801

1801 F STREET

Dear Mrs Ford;
I have long been disturbed by the fact that the Government of my country has failed to realize the importance of giving our recognition to its artists -

The most flagrant example of this oversight is the case of Arthur Rubinstein - Every Government of the civilized ^{World} has bestowed upon him its very top honors -

The Government of the United States - his own country by choice - alone has ignored this artist who, by public acclaim, is our greatest pianist and whose musicianship is matched only by his personality -

He has just had his ^{90th} birthday
and is giving our concert here
on Saturday, March 6th at Constitution
Hall - I do hope the President
will seize this occasion - perhaps
the last opportunity - to award him
our top honor -

That you are aware of the dramatic
effect of such perfect timing I am
confident and that a word from
you to the wise will be sufficient.
So here's hoping!

Affectionately
Virginia Bacon

22. II. 76

Rubinstein at 89

"Isn't it so, Nela?"

It was the day after one of the most remarkable recitals in the long history of New York's Carnegie Hall. Ever so gingerly Pianist Artur Rubinstein—at 89, four years older than Carnegie—was blowing his own horn. The huge hands (he can span a twelfth, which is an octave plus four white notes) were spread imploringly on the table. The gray-blue eyes gazed boyishly across the hotel room where his wife of 43 years, Aniela, his Nela, was reading on the sofa. In the inquiring way that some husbands have with wives they depend on, he was at once asking for confirmation and for permission to boast.

Nela: "What is it, darling?"

Artur: "I am saying that yesterday I play less wrong notes . . ."

Nela: "Fewer."

Artur: "... fewer wrong notes without eyes than I used to play with my big, big eyes wide open. Eh?"

Nela: "Possibly."

At this, Artur roars with laughter.

Nela: "I didn't count them."

Artur roars louder.

Nela: "I was ready with a basket to catch them."

Artur's face is now on the table, his shoulders shaking with glee.

There has never been much that could get Rubinstein down for long. He goes on despite the fact that he can no longer see well enough to read a note of music or see the keys beneath his fingers. Age has been weakening his eyes in recent years, and for the last four months he has had only peripheral vision. He can see his wife's scarf by looking at her nose, but the center of his field of vision is a dark, impenetrable cloud. The prospects of his learning new music are nil. "I must rely entirely on my memory," he says. Fortunately that memory is photographic and still in focus.

A passionate reader who sensed what was to come, Rubinstein last year went through all of Proust and Joyce's *Ulysses* ("By Jove, I had it, didn't I?"). He says his eye condition cannot be cured by surgery: "It is final, you see. But I am an optimist. I love life tremendously. I think to myself, what will I do with my time?"

He has found a solution, which he recounted last week to TIME Music Critic William Bender and Researcher Nancy Newman. "I was always lazy to practice the piano. I loathed it all my life, and somehow by miracle I got away with . . . er, without it. But now I practice more than ever before."

It shows. There was a time a few seasons back when Rubinstein was hitting so many clinkers that a basket would have been useful. Last week in Car-

gie Hall he played Beethoven's *Sonata No. 18 in E flat* with the same lithe rhythms and robust tone that brought him fame in the first place. He played a Chopin group—four of the *Preludes, Op. 28*, the *Scherzo in B flat minor, Op. 31*—as though he, Rubinstein, had invented rubato and the triplet. But most of all, he played Schumann's *Carnaval*, that paradigm of whimsy and frolic, as if only old age could understand the joy of being young. Cheered on by a sold-out audience, Rubinstein behaved all evening like a man who could not believe he had been given the marvelous present of playing in Carnegie Hall—where, in fact, he first played in 1906. At the end, he raised his hand and said: "For 40 years I came every year. You listened with marvelous affection for me. I love you."

Bitter Mood. Another love is the former Aniela Mlynarski. Though 22 years his junior when they were married in 1932, she transformed her husband from a playboy pianist into a great virtuoso. Recalls he: "I said to myself, no, I will never stand for it that people should say to my wife, 'Oh, if your husband had worked a little more he might have been quite a good pianist.'" Yet that is really when Rubinstein became Rubinstein.

Today he and Nela live quietly in their own house in the fashionable 16th *arrondissement* in Paris. He is justifiably proud these days of a sparkling new set (his third) of the complete Beethoven *Piano Concertos*, made last year in London. Accompanying him is the London Philharmonic under Pianist-Conductor Daniel Barenboim, 33. "I saw Barenboim from birth. Before even. His mother showed me that she's going to have a child. She said 'If he's a boy, I want him to be a pianist like you.'" The young have a way of inspiring Rubinstein. The day of his Carnegie Hall recital, he was grumbling about his piano ("I was in a bitter mood, I thought I chose the wrong

one"). Then his younger daughter Alina arrived and told him how eager she was to hear his *Carnaval*. "I thought, even if it's only for her, I will play everything out, and I did."

Contemplating the uncertain days ahead, Rubinstein says: "You take life as it is and you don't complain." He does not believe in God. If there is a hereafter, "I will be pleasantly surprised. When I was a little boy I wanted to see God," he recalls. "Moses had seen him. I was a good little boy. I begged him to come. He didn't and I think he was wrong."

Now Rubinstein is more philosophical: "Contrast makes everything alive. You know sadness only when you have been gay, and you know happiness only if you have been unhappy. Otherwise things become boring." But then Rubinstein would not know about that.

TAKING BOWS AT CARNEGIE HALL



RUBINSTEIN MUGGING NEXT TO BUST OF HIMSELF OFFSTAGE AT CARNEGIE HALL



U.S. to Decorate Rubinstein

Quotes and notes from Washington parties as uncovered for The Star by Ymelda Dixon.

At long last, Polish-born virtuoso Artur Rubinstein, an American citizen since 1942, will be decorated by the United States.

Rubinstein will receive The Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, from the President in a ceremony, to be followed by luncheon, at the White House Thursday. The artist's wife, children and ambassadors from 14 or more countries who have already decorated him — France, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Belgium, Sweden, Israel, Germany, etc., will be in attendance.

Several years ago when the great pianist was decorated at the Italian embassy here, considerable notice

was made of the glaring omission by this country. Friends have blamed the government's failure to recognize the artist on bureaucratic inefficiency and to being caught between power transitions.

Rubinstein, intimates note, has never spoken of the official neglect, but they are aware he and his family have felt it.

The award comes about partly because of a recent chance conversation between stockbroker Bill Cook, a close friend of the Rubinstein family, and Bunny Buchen, wife of the counsel to the President, Philip Buchen. When Cook pointed out how Rubinstein went unnoted only by his own country, Bunny Buchen, appalled, said, "I'll take this up with Phil."

In the assemblage will be colleagues of Rubinstein, including Eugene Ormandy, Leonard Bernstein, Mstislav Rostropovich, Zubin Mehta and Andre Previn.

Cook and Mrs. Robert Low Bacon, in whose F Street townhouse the Rubinsteins stay while here, will also witness the appropriate, albeit belated, Bicentennial recognition of their friend.



Wednesday 3/31/76

Rubinstein
Ceremony
4/1/76
12 noon

2:15 Dave Gergen called.

He recommended that you and Mrs. Buchen join the Rubinsteins and Fords for lunch tomorrow after the ceremony; however, it has been decided that it will be small -- so he wanted you to know that was the decision -- so you won't be wondering if you are or are not invited. Will be just the Fords and Rubinsteins.

He said they still don't have commitment on whether Mr. Rubinstein will play the piano or not. Mr. Gergen said his secretary has just left to go out to Cincinnati and pick Mr. Rubinstein up. It may be that Mr. Cook will fly out to Cincinnati but he isn't sure.

The plane will come back tomorrow morning and Mr. Rubinstein would be getting to the White House at 11:00 or 11:15, which will give him time to practice on the White House piano -- if he plans to play. Otherwise, he will have some free time. Mr. Gergen should talk with you about all of this at some point. Suggested we keep your calendar free between 11 and 12.

Mrs. Rubinstein will be at Mrs. Bacon's -- and they will be coming over around 11:45 -- Mr. Gergen said there would be a car to pick them up.



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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 13, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DAVE GERGEN

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *P.*

In accordance with our conversation, I am transmitting to you the original of Artur Rubinstein's letter to the President and Mrs. Ford and the records which have been supplied by RCA.

I would appreciate your taking over on this matter.

Attachments

APR 13 1976
FORD LIBRARY

ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN

April 2, 1976

The President and Mrs. Gerald R. Ford
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President and Mrs. Ford,

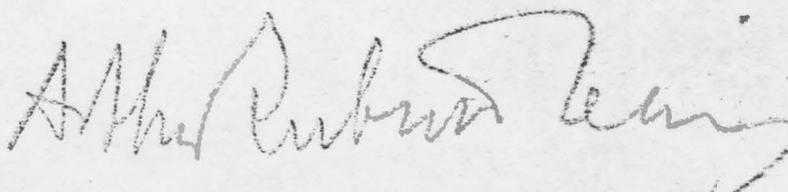
May I, in my name and that of my family, thank you with all my heart for the great honor and distinction you bestowed on me yesterday. I shall treasure it above all other decorations as it represents the recognition of my adopted country of which I am a proud citizen.

Receiving us in your personal apartments allowed us to enjoy your and Mrs. Ford's company in a more intimate way which was most delightful.

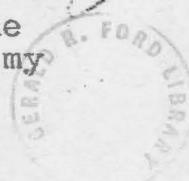
Flying us all to New York was another most gracious gesture.

This day of April 1st will remain forever in our grateful memory.

Most respectfully and cordially,



P. S. I have taken the liberty of instructing the RCA Company to send you and Mrs. Ford, on my behalf, a few albums of my recordings.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 28, 1976

Dear Mrs. Bacon:

After you had delivered to my office your letter to the President, I showed it to him. He was most delighted to receive it and very much appreciated your warm thanks and praise for the recognition which was given to Arthur Rubinstein.

I know that all who attended the award ceremony were deeply moved, and I thank you for your encouragement in making this event possible.

Bunny and I send warm personal regards.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

Ms. Virginia Bacon
1801 F Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

*Bacon
Virginia*



Friday 4/16/76

5:00 We have sent a copy of Mrs. Bacon's letter
to Dave Gergen.

Attached is the original, which you said you
wanted to take to the President.



Thursday 4/15/76

2:20 I had a call from Barbara in the Social Office.
She had had a call from Larry Culp, who works
for Mrs. Robert Bacon.

2510

He said they had hand delivered a letter this morning
thanking the President for the Arthur Rubinstein
Ceremony bestowing the Medal of Freedom on him.

It was Mrs. Bacon's wish that the letter get into
your hands.

I have tracked it down -- and it is attached.



15
METROPOLITAN 1801

1801 F STREET
14 April 1976

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

PB-1
Dear Mr. President:

I know that I speak for innumerable music
lovers throughout the land when I express our thanks
to you for bestowing the Medal of Freedom to Arthur
Rubinstein.

In our country we are practically unique in
our lack of a national Academy or Institute whose
concern would be to recognize excellence in the field
of musicology and recommend awards.

All the more praise be due to you for your
vision, notwithstanding an all-important campaign,
to realize that this was a case which could not be
ignored or postponed. I am particularly happy that
YOU should be the one to do it.

Ever gratefully yours,

Virginia Bacon



Rubenstein

May 5, 1976

To: Dave Gergen

From: Eva Daughtrey

On April 13, Mr. Buchen sent you the original of Arthur Rubinstein's letter to the President and Mrs. Ford, as well as the records that were supplied by RCA.

He also sent you the letter from Mrs. Clemans advising that several of Mr. Rubinstein's personal recordings were omitted and that they would be sent shortly (copy of letter attached).

The records have now been received and are attached.



Loews Drake

PARK AVENUE AT 56TH STREET • NEW YORK, N.Y. 10022 • (212) 421-0900

April 20, 1976

Mr. Philip Buchen
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Buchen,

I am writing to let you know that in connection with the RCA records recently sent to President and Mrs. Ford, at the request of Mr. Rubinstein, it was found that several of Mr. Rubinstein's personal recordings were inadvertently omitted from the collection. These are being sent as soon as possible, to your attention, and we apologize for the delay.

Sincerely,

C. H. Clemans
(Mrs. J. N. Clemans)
(Secretary to
Mr. Arthur Rubinstein)



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 6, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: MRS. FORD

FROM: PHIL BUCHEN *P.*

Attached is a lovely note to you from Arthur Rubinstein and the beautiful picture of the two of you taken when he was awarded the Medal of Freedom on April 1st.

It was sent to my attention so that I might make sure it got directly to you.

O. S. Hope you have a quick recovery from your cold. The dinner on Wednesday was beautiful, and Bunny and I were deeply grateful to be there.
P.

Medal of Freedom

SECRET
JUL 10 1976
MRS. FORD

ARTHUR RUBINSTEIN

June 30, 1976

Dear Mrs. Ford,

I was very touched and most delighted to receive your photograph, with such a lovely dedicace for which I am very grateful.

I am enclosing the picture which you so graciously wanted me to sign

With my great respect,
very cordially,

Arthur Rubinstein



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 10, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: DAVE GERGEN

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *P.*

SUBJECT: Medal of Freedom Award

Congressman Paul Findley (Illinois) has strongly recommended that the President award a Medal of Freedom to Clarence K. Streit. In Paul's words:

"Clarence K. Streit has devoted his life to the cause of freedom of individual liberty. He was the originator of the Atlantic Union idea and heads the movement. . .

He's in his 80's, and I feel he should have this recognition."



Tuesday 12/7/76

5:50 Cong. Paul Findley (Illinois) 225-5271
will be leaving his office in a few minutes. Advised you would be out of town tomorrow and asked if I might help.

He said he has just learned that the President is considering making some Medal of Freedom awards before his term expires and the people who come to mind in his lifetime of experience -- the one best qualified to get such an award would be Clarence K. Streit who has devoted his life to the cause of freedom of individual liberty. He was the originator of the Atlantic Union idea and heads the movement. Formerly N. Y. Times correspondent in the 30's. Out of the experience of the League of Nations, he came up with the idea of the Atlantic Union. He has worked all his life for the strengthening of individual liberty in the industrialized world.

He's in his 80's, and feels he should have this recognition.

He would very much appreciate a call from you on Thursday when you are back in the city.

