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*Pres.*

*Message*

*Walter Orlinsky*

*I Am an  
American Day  
Bicentennial  
Parade*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

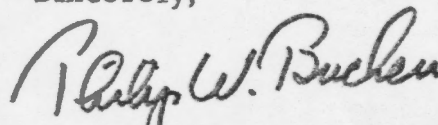
August 6, 1975

Dear Mr. Orlinsky:

President Ford is pleased to send warm greetings to all who will gather for Baltimore's 34th Annual "I Am an American Day Bicentennial Parade."

As we approach the third century of our independence as a nation, efforts such as yours take on a special meaning. The President has asked me to send you the enclosed copy of his recent Bicentennial message. He commends you for your patriotic spirit and civic pride, and wants you to know that he deeply appreciates your commitment to help make our 200th birthday a fitting tribute to America's great heritage.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Walter S. Orlinsky  
President  
Baltimore City Council  
Room 701  
26 South Calvert  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

Enclosure



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

I warmly commend all who participate in plans for the celebration of our National Bicentennial. Your efforts are symbolic of your deep sense of patriotism and civic pride. They also reflect the vitality and spirit of America.

I wholeheartedly welcome your commitment to help make our Nation's two hundredth birthday a fitting and memorable occasion for all of us.

*Gerald R. Ford*



Monday 8/4/75

3:05 Eliska Hasek called to say that they feel it would not be appropriate to send a Presidential Message for the "I Am an American Day Bicentennial Parade" on 9/14/75.

However, the usual practice is to send a letter from a staff member -- therefore, she is preparing one for your signature if that is acceptable.

OK

Presidents  
Messages

(see in  
Pres  
scheduling)  
+  
ordinarily





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 31, 1975

*President*  
*Message*

MEMORANDUM FOR: Eliska Hasek

FROM: Eva Daughtrey *Eva*

Mr. Buchen received the attached telegram from Walter S. Orlinsky suggesting a message the President should send for the "I Am an American Day Bicentennial Parade" to be held on September 14, 1975.

I checked with Central Files and am also attaching copies of the correspondence regretting an invitation for the President to participate in the parade.

I called Mr. Orlinsky's office to ask if they had contacted anyone else about a message, and I was advised that he had not.

Mr. Buchen asked if you would handle this.

Thanks so much.

Attachments



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Ask Elishka  
please to handle  
this. Maybe  
she should start  
out by calling  
Orlinsky to see what  
form the message  
should take. P.



MGMWSHT HSB

2-040560E209 07/28/75

ICS IPMTZZ CSP

3013964804 MGM TDMT BALTIMORE MD 100 07-28 0304P EST

ZIP



western union

Mailgram



HONORABLE PHILIP W BUCHEN  
COUNCIL TO THE PRESIDENT  
WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20500

DEAR MR BUCHEN

WE WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU WOULD AGREE TO THIS MESSAGE WE HAVE FORMED FOR PRESIDENT FORD RE. THE I AM AN AMERICAN DAY BICENTENNIAL PARADE. "EVERY AMERICAN SHOULD BE PROUD OF HIS GREAT HERITAGE AND SHOW HIS PATRIOTISM IN THIS BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION". PLEASE CONTACT ME AT YOUR EARLIEST CONVENIENCE CONCERNING YOUR APPROVAL OF THIS STATEMENT.

WALTER S ORLINSKY  
PRESIDENT CITY COUNCIL  
BALTIMORE MARYLAND  
301-396-4804

15:04 EST

MGMWSHT HSB



Jul/1975/5720/BX

PR14-12

June 14, 1975

Dear Mr. Orlinsky:

On behalf of the President, I wish to acknowledge and to thank you for your message of June 10 inviting him to attend the annual "I Am an American Day Parade" in Baltimore City and to serve as Grand Marshall, on September 14.

The President was pleased to receive this most appealing invitation. If circumstances permitted, he would like very much to do this but, regrettably, the scheduled commitments for September will preclude his acceptance. He has asked, though, that I express his appreciation for your thoughtfulness of him and his very best wishes for a successful event on September 14.

Sincerely,

William W. Nicholson  
Deputy Director  
Scheduling Office

<sup>m</sup>  
Mr. Walter S. Orlinsky  
President  
Baltimore City Council  
Room 701  
26 South Calvert  
Baltimore, Maryland 21202

WWN:mhr:jsb

10



RECEIVED

JUN 17 1975

CENTRAL FILES

6/11/75

Telegraph Office -

Can you get an address  
of sender for me, please.

Thank you.

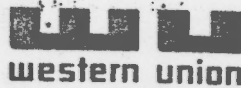
*Mary*  
Mary Rawlins

*Reg. Address 6/11/75  
@ 2:50 p.m.  
CM*





MGMWSHU HSC  
2-0551042161 06/10/75  
ICS IPMTZZ CSP  
3013964804 MGM TDMT BALTIMORE MD 137 06-10 0332P EST  
ZIP



western union

*for Sept preclude  
account*  
**Mailgram**



WILLIAM W NICHOLSON DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
SCHEDULING OFFICE  
THE WHITEHOUSE  
WASHINGTON DC 20500

NOTED  
T/D   
SCHEDULE BD. \_\_\_\_\_  
DATE RECEIVED  
JUN 11 1975  
MESSAGE \_\_\_\_\_  
SPEAKERS BUREAU \_\_\_\_\_  
OTHER \_\_\_\_\_  
APPOINTMENT OFFICE

ON SEPTEMBER 14 OF THIS YEAR 34TH ANNUAL "I AM AN AMERICAN DAY PARADE" WILL BE HELD IN BALTIMORE CITY. THIS PARADE, THE OLDEST IN THE COUNTRY, WAS INSTITUTED BY THE HEARST FAMILY AND DRAWS FROM BALTIMORE ALONE BETWEEN A 100,000 TO 135,000 PEOPLE ANNUALLY.

AS YOU CAN CLEARLY DETERMINE FROM THIS DESCRIPTION, THE "I AM AN AMERICAN DAY PARADE" HELD ON THE DAY WHEN THE NATIONAL ANTHEM WAS WRITTEN AT FORT MCHENRY IS A MOST IMPRESSIVE EVENT.

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY THEN TO INVITE PRESIDENT FORD TO SERVE AS GRAND MARSHALL OF THIS YEAR'S PARADE AND TO FOLLOW THIS WITH A MOTORCADE TO FORT MCHENRY AND AN ADDRESS TO THE SUBSTANTIAL GATHERING THERE. I WOULD GREATLY APPRECIATE YOUR REACTION TO THIS AND HOPE TO HEAR FROM YOU IN THE NEAR FUTURE. SINCERELY

WALTER S ORLINSKY PRESIDENT  
BALTIMORE CITY COUNCIL

15:32 EST

MGMWSHU HSC

Mary Rawlins:

6/11/75

Herewith complete address:

Room 701  
26 South Calvert  
Baltimore, Maryland  
21202



Telegraph Office

*Matthews,  
Vincent*

August 8, 1975

Dear Mr. Matthews:

News of your hospitalization has just reached me, and I wanted to join with your many friends here at the White House in sending you warmest wishes for a full and prompt recovery.

While it's never easy for one to have to spend time on the sidelines, I hope you will follow the doctor's orders and take good advantage of the care you are receiving. You may be sure that we are all pulling for you and that we look forward to the good news that you are making progress each day.

With my best regards always,

Sincerely,

**GERALD R. FORD**

Mr. Vincent Matthews  
1891 Alabama Avenue, SE.  
Washington, D. C. 20020

GRF:MAB:AVH:cjd

cc: Phil Buchen



July 31, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Margaret Bocak  
FROM: Phil Buchen's office

It would be very much appreciated if a get well greeting could be sent from the President to Vincent Matthews, Assistant Supervisor of the Messenger Service. Mr. Mathews was operated on Monday and is in Doctor's Hospital at 1815 Eye Street, N. W. We understand he may be leaving the hospital tomorrow or Saturday.

His home address is

1891 Alabama Avenue, S. E.  
Washington, D. C.





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

August 25, 1975

*President*

*Letters +  
messages*

*Barclay Ayers  
+ Bertsch*

Dear Peg:

My apologies for not responding to your note more quickly, but I have been waiting to seek the help of the unit in the White House which prepares messages of congratulations for the President to send. Unfortunately, I now find that it is not the policy of the White House to provide messages for business organizations. I trust you will understand that it is difficult for me to urge a departure from this policy much as I would like to do so for your sake and John's.

Very best regards to you and John, and I hope that I may be of better service to you on another occasion.

Sincerely yours,

*Phil*

Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mrs. John W. Bertsch  
Point Nipigou  
Cheboygan, Michigan



Monday 01/21/13

*Policy  
Messages*

2:10 Eliska Hasek called re your memo concerning a Presidential note of congratulations on the 100th anniversary of the firm of Barclay, Ayers, and Bertsch.

She said they have never done that. Presidents do not ever send messages to any profit-making organizations. Once the rules are relaxed, you have to be prepared to examine each request. There are times when a company might have a government contract and it would be bad if the President sent a message there. Lots of people would use such a message to promote business. Last year Barnum & Bailey celebrated 100 years and they didn't send a message.

If you agree, she will just let the request drop.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 31, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: ELISKA HASEK

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *P.W.B.*

A friend of mine and the President from the Grand Rapids area has asked whether the President would provide a note of congratulations on the 100th anniversary of the firm of Barclay, Ayers, and Bertsch.

Please let me know whether this is possible and, if so, I will get more information because the anniversary will not occur until September 25 or 26.

*Bertsch,  
John W.  
(the  
Hasek,  
Eliska)*



Mrs. John W. Bretsch  
Point Nipigon  
Cherbourg, Mich

62

66

Dear Phil -

This year is the one hundredth anniversary of John's company, Barclay, Ayers, and Bretsch. There will be an open-house at the plant at 1655 Steel, S.W. the 25th & 26th of September.

I know Jerry has thousands of requests for notes of congratulations





But I'm wondering if there is  
any chance for a line of recognition  
here? It would be a real thrill  
for John - as well as his employees -  
He is a great admirer of Jerry.

John does not know I am writing  
to you - so if this proves difficult,  
please don't give it another thought.

For been here at Tipigan all  
summer. I hope you and Bunny  
get back here soon!

Truly,  
Peg Bertsch



Office of the White House Press Secretary

THE WHITE HOUSE

EXECUTIVE ORDER

-----  
PRESCRIBING THE OFFICIAL COAT OF ARMS,  
SEAL, AND FLAG OF  
THE VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

By virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, it is hereby ordered as follows:

Section 1. The Coat of Arms of the Vice President of the United States shall be of the following design:

SHIELD: Paleways of thirteen pieces argent and gules, a chief azure; upon the breast of an American eagle displayed holding in his dexter talon an olive branch proper and in his sinister a bundle of thirteen arrows gray, and in his beak a gray scroll inscribed "E PLURIBUS UNUM" sable.

CREST: Behind and above the eagle a radiating glory or, on which appears an arc of thirteen cloud puffs gray, and a constellation of thirteen mullets gray.

Sec. 2. The Seal of the Vice President of the United States shall consist of the Coat of Arms encircled by the words "Vice President of the United States."

Sec. 3. The Color and Flag of the Vice President of the United States shall consist of a white rectangular background of sizes and proportions to conform to military custom, on which shall appear the Coat of Arms of the Vice President in proper colors within four blue stars. The proportions of the elements of the Coat of Arms shall be in direct relation to the hoist, and the fly shall vary according to the customs of the military services.

Sec. 4. The Coat of Arms, Seal, and Color and Flag shall be as described herein and as set forth in the illustrations and specifications attached hereto and made a part of this Order. These designs shall be used to represent the Vice President of the United States exclusively.

Sec. 5. This Order shall become effective immediately. Executive Order No. 10016 of November 10, 1948, is hereby revoked.

GERALD R. FORD



SPECIFICATIONS FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S FLAG

Flag base - white.

Stars, large - dark blue; stars, small - silver gray.

Shield:

Chief - dark blue.

Stripes - white and red.

Eagle:

Wings, body, upper legs - shades of brown.

Head, neck, tail - white, detailed silver gray.

Beak, feet, lower legs - yellow.

Talons - dark gray, white highlights.

Arrows - silver gray.

Olive branch:

Leaves - shades of green; stem - brown.

Olives - green.

Rays - yellow.

Clouds - silver gray.

Scroll - silver gray.

Letters - black.

All dimensions are exclusive of heading and hems.

Device to appear on both sides of flag but will appear reversed on reverse side of flag, except that the motto shall read from left to right on both sides.

# # # #





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 6, 1975

*Pres.  
(message)*

*Historic Roadside  
Marker (Valley Forge)*

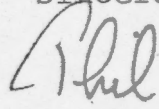
*James Gibbs*

Dear Jim:

In response to your letter requesting a letter from the President on the occasion of the dedication of the erection of a historic roadside Marker in honor of Major General William Alexander, Lord Stirling, and his Aide-de-Camp Major James Monroe, I regret to say that because of the frequency with which requests of this type are received, it is not possible to honor your request.

I do commend you for your efforts in supporting this project, and the President is always appreciative of projects which do honor to the history of the country, especially as we approach the Bicentennial Year.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. James W. Gibbs  
5450 Wissahickon Avenue  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19144





MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR PHIL BUCHEN

SUBJECT: Message Request for Dedication of Historic Roadside  
Marker, Valley Forge, Pa., DECEMBER 19

As I discussed with Eva, I have looked into the attached request and discover that these historic roadside markers are not at all unusual. Other state historical and national and local patriotic societies do this quite frequently, and it would not be proper for the President to single out one of these dedications among so many with special recognition.

In addition, as you know, there are hundreds of thousands of local Bicentennial events throughout the country, and the Bicentennial Office has been quite firm about giving Presidential recognition only to those that have some national focus and significance. We have a standard Bicentennial message (copy attached) which you may wish to send along to Mr. Gibbs with an explanation. However, if you wish to regret this altogether, I would be most happy to call for you and explain.

*Eliska*

Eliska Hasek

cc: Milt Mitler

Attachments



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

I warmly commend all who participate in plans for the celebration of our National Bicentennial. Your efforts are symbolic of your deep sense of patriotism and civic pride. They also reflect the vitality and spirit of America.

I wholeheartedly welcome your commitment to help make our Nation's two hundredth birthday a fitting and memorable occasion for all of us.

*Gerald R. Ford*



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 21, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: ELISKA HASEK

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *P.*

I would appreciate it if you would handle this. If you foresee some problem, please let me know.

Attachment



JAMES W. GIBBS  
5450 WISSAHICKON AVENUE  
PHILADELPHIA, PA. 19144

*Eliška*  
*wht - 10*

October 17, 1975

Philip A. Buchen, Esq.  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Phil:

Since the hectic early period of the Ford Administration you have certainly maintained a low profile. I have seen one article about you which appeared in PEOPLE MAGAZINE and one very short exposure on TV, the night of the near tragic incident in San Francisco.

The purpose of this communication is to ask you to persuade President Ford to write a letter for a very important occasion in this area. The Pennsylvania Society Sons of the Revolution has caused to be erected an historic roadside Marker in honor of Major General William Alexander, Lord Stirling and his Aide-de-Camp Major James Monroe who of course went on to be the fifth President of these United States. This has been erected in front of the home Stirling used as his quarters during the Valley Forge Encampment of 1777 - 1778 currently occupied by Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Ligget. Although not a part of Valley Forge State Park, it is immediately adjacent to it.

This Marker is to be dedicated with suitable ceremonies on December 19 and having played a part in the design and erection of the Marker, I thought it would be most fitting if the President could write a brief letter to be read at the dedication. It should be addressed to Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Ligget, Echo Valley Farms, Valley Forge, Pennsylvania 19401.

If this can be accomplished I am sure it would be most gratifying to Mr. & Mrs. Ligget and meet with the high approbation of those assembled.

Most sincerely

*Jim*

jwg:arl



*Pres. message*  
*Conference*  
*of Ethics*  
*Counselors*

November 21, 1975

I welcome this opportunity to express my enthusiastic support for the critically important efforts of those who participate in this Conference of Ethics Counselors. While I regret that I cannot be with you personally, I am pleased that my own legal staff will be represented.

Our system of government is founded on a respect for law and ethics. Its successful operation depends on mutual trust. Each American has the right to expect the highest standards of conduct from our public officials. And, in turn, those of us who hold the public trust must honor and live up to it. It is up to us to ensure the integrity of our governmental processes.

Sessions such as this provide a useful forum for the free and candid exchange of ideas on how better to implement our present laws and regulations while seeking new approaches toward developing even higher standards.

As ethics counselors of the various departments and agencies, you have the major responsibility in this area. In the final analysis, maintenance of the highest standards of conduct requires a knowledgeable and informed workforce. You perform an invaluable service by offering important guidance and direction to the employees of your respective departments and agencies.

I wish you a most productive and rewarding Conference, and I look forward to the recommendations that will result from your deliberations.

To Barry Roth to handcarry to Conference.

GRF:Hasek:jmc

cc: D. E. Downton/R. Nessen/P. Buchen/E. Hasek/J. Connor/CF

EVENT: NOV. 24-25

Requested by Robert Hampton



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 19, 1975

*Pres.  
(message)*

MEMORANDUM FOR: ELISKA HASEK  
FROM: PHIL BUCHEN *P.W.B.*  
SUBJECT: Presidential Message

Attached is a request from Bob Hampton for a Presidential message of greetings to next week's meeting of Government ethics counselors. I have suggested some modifications to their draft proposal.

Barry Roth, of my staff, is attending the conference on my behalf, and I would appreciate your giving the message to him by this Friday so he can take it to the conference.

Attachment





Proposed Message of President Ford  
to the Ethics Conference

I wish to stress my full support for the efforts of the participants in the Conference of Ethics Counselors. Our system of Government is a ~~fragile~~ <sup>sensitive</sup> one that depends upon the trust of the people to operate effectively. As public officials, we all can have no greater concern than insuring the integrity of our governmental processes. Sessions such as this -- which provide opportunity for the free and candid exchange of ideas to improve the implementation of our present system, as well as the consideration of new approaches for assuming this public trust -- go far toward helping us to achieve this common goal. I look forward to any recommendations that the conference develops.

As the ethics counselors of the various agencies, you have central responsibility in this area. ~~For~~ <sup>In</sup> the final analysis, maintenance of the high standards of conduct which our system of government mandates, requires a knowledgeable and informed work force. You perform an invaluable service when you share with the employees of your respective agencies the insights which sessions such as this are designed to generate.

I wish you well and extend my thanks for your continued efforts on behalf of an extremely important program.





UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20415

CHAIRMAN

Nov. 17, 1975

Honorable Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

*Phil*  
Dear Mr. Buchen:

You will recall our conversation of recent date in which we discussed the possibility of the President attending the conference of Government ethics counselors to be held at the Airlie House, on November 24-25, 1975. You told me that the President's schedule would not allow his presence but that he would send a message of greetings to the Conference.

At your suggestion, we have drafted a proposed statement for the President, a copy of which is attached.

Sincerely yours,

*Bob*  
Robert E. Hampton  
Chairman

Attachment





Proposed remarks of President Ford  
at the Ethics Conference

I wish to stress my full support for the efforts of the participants in the Conference of Ethics Counselors. Those of us in Government should have no greater concern than ensuring the integrity of governmental processes. Sessions such as this—which provide opportunity for the free and candid exchange of ideas—go far toward helping us to achieve this common goal.

As the ethics counselors of the various agencies, you have central responsibility in this area. For, in the final analysis, maintenance of the high standards of conduct which our system of government mandates, requires a knowledgeable and informed work force. You perform an invaluable service when you share with the employees of your respective agencies the insights which sessions such as this are designed to generate.

I wish you well and extend my thanks for your continued efforts on behalf of an extremely important program.



Wednesday 11/26/75

5:20 Eliska Hasek called concerning a wax impression of the seal of the President on White House stationery, which was going to be sent out over your signature. Apparently Mark Decker was going to prepare a letter to send it out. She said she had never seen anything like that going out before. Wanted you to take a look at the way it is done. (Said she had discussed this with you at another time and you were "down on doing it.")

She attended a meeting in Mr. Hartmann's office discussing messages, etc., and has prepared a policy memo on such. She said she had checked on some fund-raising events and tributes to the Judiciary with you, and had so mentioned in her memo ----- so she wanted you to have a copy to be sure you were in agreement.

*Have Barry review  
& comment to Eliska  
through me.  
J*

*Barry has a copy of  
the replacement  
pages*



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 26, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR EVA DAUGHTREY

Eva, as I mentioned to you by phone, I am attaching for Mr. Buchen's information a copy of a memo on Message Office policies which I just did for Mr. Hartmann. The reference to Mr. Buchen appears on page nine.

In addition, as I also mentioned, I would greatly appreciate your flagging for him the Presidential Seal matter involving Mr. Heinz.

Thank you.



Eliska Hasek

Att.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

ADMINISTRATIVELY ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

November 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CONNOR  
RUSS ROURKE  
JACK MARSH  
TED MARRS  
BOB WOLTHUIS  
PAUL THEIS/MILT FRIEDMAN

FROM: BOB HARTMANN

Attached is a copy of Eliska Hasek's report on the Presidential Message operation.

I would appreciate your studying it in preparation for another meeting when the President returns from China.

Please keep the contents confidential until that date.

Attachment

ADMINISTRATIVELY ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR BOB HARTMANN

FROM: ELISKA HASEK

SUBJECT: Presidential Message Office

In giving you the requested run-down on guidelines regarding Presidential messages, I can only speak of those policies that have to my knowledge and experience been followed since the Eisenhower Administration.

I. PRESENT MESSAGE OFFICE PERSONNEL -  
JOB DESCRIPTIONS:

- A. Claudia Korte - Research Assistant
- B. Shirley Rock - Mail Analyst. Secretary. Prepares majority of referrals to departments/agencies.
- C. Jill McAulay - Secretary-Typist. Keeper of telephone log.

Naturally, the responsibilities of Claudia, Shirley and Jill are interrelated, and they assist each other as the workload demands.

I personally draft all Presidential messages handled by my office, frequently drawing upon information and advice provided me by appropriate departments/agencies. I send approximately fifty such statements out weekly. I have attached a few samples for your information.



II. VOLUME OF MESSAGE REQUESTS RECEIVED:

In an average week my office now receives approximately two hundred requests for messages. These come to me directly from the White House Mail Room, from other White House staff offices and through the White House Congressional Office from Congressmen and Senators.

III. TYPE OF MESSAGE REQUESTS RECEIVED:

There are around one thousand national organizations that receive Presidential messages each year. Here is a general run-down of the matters under which these organizations fall.

Agriculture - Rural  
Arts - Culture - Entertainment  
Awards - Testimonials  
Business - Professional Organizations  
Civic - Humanitarian Groups  
Commerce - Trade - Travel  
Communications Media  
Congressional  
Consumer Affairs  
Defense - Armed Forces  
Economic - Fiscal Matters  
Education  
Energy  
Ethnic Groups  
Environment  
Foreign - International  
Fraternal Organizations  
Government - Administration  
Health  
Holidays - Commemorative Events  
Housing - Urban Affairs  
Labor  
Law - Crime  
Religious Organizations, individuals  
Retirements  
Science - Space - Technology  
Sports - Fitness  
States - Territories - Local Government  
Transportation - Safety  
Veterans  
Weddings - Social events  
Welfare - Poverty  
Women  
Youth



To give you an example of what one of these categories covers, here is a list of some of the organizations that fall under the Business and Professional category above.

American Advertising Federation  
National Society of Public Accountants  
National Pest Control Association, Inc.  
(National Pest Control Month, 1975)  
Sales and Marketing Executives International  
(National Salesman's Month - February, 1975)  
International Association of Printing House Craftsmen, Inc.  
(International Printing Week, 1975)  
National Society of Professional Engineers  
(National Engineers Week - February 16-22, 1975)  
American Society for Industrial Security  
Executives' Secretaries, Inc.  
National Bankers Association  
Interracial Council for Business Opportunity  
American Automobile Association  
National Security Traders Association  
American Land Title Association  
Small Business Service Bureau, Inc.  
National Savings and Loan League  
National Business League

IV. HANDLING OF MESSAGE REQUESTS TO DATE:

Mail received in my office is analyzed and sorted into various action categories.

- A. Routine correspondence is acknowledged over my signature on behalf of the President. These acknowledgements are prepared for me by the White House Correspondence Section following instructions I provide.

These letters extend the President's good wishes to very small local groups or to individuals. They are carefully proofread and reviewed by my office before I sign them.

- B. A great bulk of correspondence I receive is forwarded by my office to departments or agencies by White House referral slip (copy attached for your information) over my signature for:

1. draft for President's signature
2. advice and guidance
3. reply on behalf of the President by an appropriate Cabinet Secretary



Copies of the referrals to departments or agencies sent for drafts or advice are retained in a Suspense File in my office. As the date for the particular event approaches, and if we have had no response, we check with the department/agency to see if our referral is being appropriately acted upon. This system enables us to meet deadlines and to keep anyone who calls my office regarding the status of a particular message request informed on what is being done and when they can expect it.

Copies of direct replies by departments/agencies are always forwarded to my office. Again, they are carefully reviewed to make sure that they have been properly handled. We are in constant touch by telephone with the Public Affairs Officers in each Executive Department/Agency to run quick checks when time does not permit inquiry by memo or referral and to trace materials already referred to speed their processing.

We run checks on every request. My office receives many seemingly innocuous requests for greetings which, after researching, we discover might be potentially embarrassing for the President to comply with. This has made careful checking a vital necessity.

- C. Congressional requests receive special handling by my office. Wherever possible, we stretch the limits of established message policy. If a request is totally out of line (i. e., fund-raising, commercial or otherwise controversial), I personally call the Congressman's office (after consulting with the responsible member of our White House Congressional Office) to regret. I call instead of writing so that there is no record of a negative response to pass on to constituents, so that the Congressman feels that special consideration has been given to his request and so that the White House Congressional Office is never in the position of having to say no directly to a Congressman on whom we depend for support.



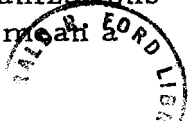


V. PROJECTED EXPANSION OF PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGES:

A. Organizations

As I have mentioned previously in this memo, up till now, individually drafted Presidential messages have generally been sent only to national organizations or for special anniversaries of local, state or regional groups. Messages for regular events/meetings of state and local chapters of national organizations have been acknowledged by me or by an appropriate Cabinet Secretary on behalf of the President. These replies on behalf of the President could, if you so desired, be upgraded to messages directly from the President. Let me give you a few examples.

1. Traditionally, messages have been sent upon request to the Automobile Manufacturers Association, which is the umbrella organization for the whole industry. At the advice of the Department of Commerce, requests for component organizations (such as the Automotive Parts Distributors Association) have been handled by messages from the Secretary of Commerce on behalf of the President. This was done to ensure fairness of treatment to all such component organizations so that one did not receive more than another and also because it was felt that, since many of these organizations are highly technical and specialized in nature, the President would not -- and should not be expected to be -- conversant with the details of their operation. This is an area where, if you should want to change existing policy, we could expand and send Presidential messages to all responsible national organizations regardless of size.
2. Lions International has traditionally had annual messages from the President. This organization is, as you know, very actively organized at state and local levels. Messages directly from the President have gone only to the International Organization's annual conventions, and staff greetings on behalf of the President have been sent to all others. This could now be changed so that local requests receive direct Presidential messages as well. A possible problem with this is that, once it becomes known, it will snowball. And since there are, as I've mentioned, close to one thousand similar organizations also organized at the state and local level, it will mean



tremendous increase in the volume of messages. I am sure you will agree that, once we start this, we will have to be consistent and handle all such requests as Presidential and not play favorites with some. Another possible setback is that annual messages to the national organization will lose in meaning and significance if Presidential messages are sent on request to all state and local chapters.

3. In the past, messages have generally not been done for the President's signature for dedications of buildings, organization headquarters, town halls, schools, etc. This is one area in which I see definite room for expansion since these are mostly bonafide, one-time-only local events and could mean a lot to the people who worked hard to realize their completion.

#### B. Individuals

In the past, Presidential messages have been sent to individuals who have completed an impressive number of years of voluntary service or who have been honored by prestigious national organizations or national awards. We receive a number of requests each week for messages to individuals honored by local organizations or chapters of national organizations. These have traditionally been acknowledged by a White House staff letter or Cabinet Secretary letter on behalf of the President. Often an inscribed autographed photograph of the President has been sent to the honoree with a covering letter over my signature. Here, too, there is room for expansion for direct Presidential reply should you wish to do so.

However, in the area of tributes to individuals, there are certain requests that have NEVER been acknowledged over the President's signature. These are:

1. Government retirements. There are approximately 100,000 Federal Government employees who retire each year, many not necessarily of their own choosing. Each department or agency has its own system of recognition for these retiring Government workers. At the request



of the Civil Service Commission, we have refrained -- to date -- from sending Presidential greetings to these individuals. In this same vein, if no messages are sent to Federal Government employees, none can be sent to state or local government employees on their retirements. Naturally, exceptions have been made in both cases where a certain individual was personally known to the President, worked on his staff or handled some special project on the President's behalf. In such cases, letters from the President have been sent privately to the home of the retiree -- not to any event where the publicity might cause jealousy and ill will among others with a similarly long tenure of service and accomplishment who have not been recognized in this way. I do not frankly see how this policy can effectively be changed.

2. Retirements from salaried positions. Given our population of 210 million and under our system of private enterprise, it is to be assumed that the majority of our adult population holds a lifetime job which ends in retirement at some point. It is impossible for the President to know the circumstances surrounding each of these retirements or how the particular job has been beneficial to society. It has in the past been thought better to avoid any messages to individuals for purely retirement ceremonies. Again, I might stress that exceptions have been made where the individual was personally known to the President or of such national prominence (such as Chairman of GM or Chairman of the National Red Cross) so that the President could commend him for public service rather



than just his paid career. Because the obvious volume makes any research effort in this area impossible, I feel this would be a difficult one for expansion.

3. Testimonials for state and local officials. In the past these have generally not received Presidential messages. The reason for this policy is that in most cases we have no idea from the incoming and no way of checking the party affiliation, true popularity, reputation or integrity of the individuals to whom such tributes are paid (i. e., city councilmen, town treasurers, county auditors, real estate board members, school board members, etc.). Here, too, I see potential difficulties if we were to expand. Having a flat policy of not recognizing any of these events is often an advantage when we have to turn down a specific request which might needlessly involve the President in some local controversy or where we know that the person has a controversial or unsavory reputation. When we can hide behind the cloak of a broad, long-established and firm policy like this, such events are far easier to turn down.

4. Commercial Endorsements. In the past it has been felt that it is totally inappropriate for the President to endorse any commercial or profit-making endeavor. This includes anniversaries of banks, companies, etc., as well as messages for board or sales meetings. The reasons for this policy are obvious. There is no guarantee that such messages from the President would not be used to advertise the companies' products or as part of their public relations effort. Also, as you know, many of these organizations are under contract to the Government, and the chances of being caught in the middle by sending a message during some delicate contract negotiations of which we may be unaware could be embarrassing. I feel quite strongly that this is an area where the policy should remain firm as is. If exceptions are made in this general policy, it ceases to be a policy.



5. Fund-raising. A number of serious problems resulting from the sending of messages to fund-raising events early in the Johnson Administration led to the formulation of a policy that precludes any messages to such events. To give you just one example: I think it was in 1966 that a major event was launched in Washington, D. C., to raise money to feed under-privileged youngsters on Thanksgiving Day. A number of very prominent individuals endorsed or contributed to this event. President Johnson sent a message of support. In a newspaper article that came out after the event, it was revealed that, of about \$15,000 raised, only about \$650 was actually used for Thanksgiving dinners for these needy youngsters. The rest was allegedly pocketed by those who organized the charity. The article stressed the President's endorsement of this project. Since there is no practical way of checking out each of these many local, fine-sounding charitable efforts, I feel that it is wise to have a general policy of not sending Presidential messages to any of them. President Nixon followed this policy, and Phil Buchen has advised me that we should continue to follow it in this Administration.

6. Tributes to Members of the Judiciary. Ever since I can remember, there has been a very strict policy precluding messages to tributes or other public functions honoring members of the Judiciary. Because of the separation of powers under the Constitution and the time-honored independence and integrity of the Judicial Branch of the Federal and State Governments (and because Federal judges being honored might be sitting on cases in which the Executive Branch is either a plaintiff or defendant), this policy, too, is very sound. It has in this Administration been endorsed by Phil Buchen.

7. Tributes for Members of the Armed Forces. The Defense Department and the Military Aide's office have both requested that no Presidential messages ever be sent for members of the military services, regardless of rank or accomplishment. The only exception that has ever been made to this has been for retired officers of the caliber of Omar Bradley, who is, as you



know, the only living five-star general. DOD has stressed the importance of adhering to this policy since the President, as Commander-in-Chief, should not be in a position of extending special recognition to one member of the Armed Forces over another. The Defense Department has its own strictly-controlled system of honors, decorations and recognition for these deserving individuals. Requests of this type are sent through the White House Military Aide's office to DOD to be regretted in accordance with their policy.

8. Letters to Individuals or Groups Traveling Abroad. With the full support and insistence of the National Security Council and the Department of State, we have always refrained from sending messages to groups or individuals traveling abroad unless they are on official Government missions. According to State Department, this has been a policy since the Teddy Roosevelt Administration. There is obvious danger that such letters might be used by these individuals or groups to gain access to officials of foreign governments. In addition, an individual armed with a Presidential letter can wave it around in ways that could prove embarrassing to the President and to our country. Again, I cannot stress the importance of having a broad, firm policy here with no exceptions.

9. Tributes to Individuals or Groups Licensed by State or Local Authorities. This includes lawyers, doctors, real estate boards, zoning commissions, etc. Here again the reasons are obvious. For example, it would be impossible for us to know for certain that a doctor or lawyer who is being honored locally for his professional achievements is really in good standing within his profession. If you think this is far-fetched, you might recall the case of the famous society physician in New York who received many messages from Presidents Kennedy and Nixon and who recently lost his license for the indiscriminate dispensing of amphetamines to his patients. Regarding local licensing bodies, you can imagine the myriad local controversies they engage in daily. There seems to be no reason to involve the President in needless controversies at this level.



10. Individuals Receiving Honorary Degrees at College Commencements. No messages from the President are sent to any of these since there are hundreds of cases like this every spring and usually more than one person is honored at each commencement exercise. Quite often we get requests like this for individuals who are well known to the President. However, we often find that a well known opponent of the President or his policies is receiving an honorary degree at the same commencement. In the past, we have sent friends of the President who are honored at commencements nice congratulatory "after-the-fact" notes from the President.

11. Sillies. Each year a number of requests for Presidential messages are made for such absurd events as pie-throwing contests, pancake races and beauty pageants. To send messages to these would be inviting ridicule on the President and possibly demeaning to his Office. (Naturally, we make exceptions for things like "Red Flannel Day" in the Grand Rapids area.)

I have gone through this long list of no-no's to show you that there are problems in enough of these categories to make the policies necessary and, for the sake of fairness, to preclude any exceptions. One of the recurring problems I have had in turning down messages like the above made by White House staff members is that the staff member who receives the request from a reputable, reliable source of friend, does not see why it could possibly damage the President in any way. This may be true of his particular case. But if we abandon the policy for some, it becomes impossible for me to explain to others that there is in fact a policy of not sending messages for such requests. And I cannot very well say that one deserves an exception over another. This could do the President more harm than good.

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Finally, I would like to point out that, with my limited staff and my additional responsibility (in which I am assisted by Jim Brown) of reviewing all materials for the Presidential autopen, it is quite difficult for me to expand the volume of Presidential messages in any appreciable way without doing violence to the quality of the messages now being sent. I fear that an added volume would far more resemble form letters rather than thoughtful and individually prepared statements.

I welcome your suggestions as to how far a Presidential message expansion ought to go and in what area.

###





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*File*

*Burkin*

ADMINISTRATIVELY ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

November 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH  
JIM CONNOR  
TED MARRS  
RUSS ROURKE  
PAUL THEIS/MILT FRIEDMAN  
BOB WOLTHUIS

FROM: ROBERT T. HARTMANN

Attached is a copy of Eliska Hasek's report on the Presidential Message operation.

This will enable you to study it and consider necessary changes in preparation for another meeting, which I will set up when the President returns from China.

Please keep the contents confidential.

Attachment

ADMINISTRATIVELY ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



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I welcome your suggestions as to how far a Presidential message expansion ought to go and in what area.

# # #





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 12, 1976

*President  
Letters +  
messages  
Judge Homer  
Ferguson*

Dear Homer:

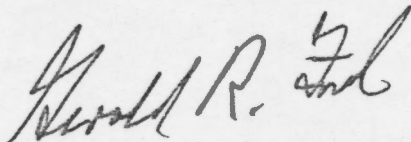
To honor your long and distinguished public service is to recognize the finest qualities of integrity and civic responsibility.

It must give you endless pride and satisfaction to look back on your rewarding life. Those of us who have been close to you over the years especially regret that a man of your caliber is retiring. But at the same time, we are strengthened and encouraged by the inspiring example which you have set and by the dedication which you have brought to your many challenging positions.

As a fellow Michigander, I will always cherish the great credit you have brought to our State, and I will be forever grateful for the friendship and kindness you have extended to me throughout the years.

Betty and I hope that the future will bring you and Myrtle all the happiness you both so richly deserve.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Homer Ferguson  
Judge of the United States Court  
of Military Appeals  
Washington, D. C. 20442



3

January 12, 1976

Dear Homer:

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Sincerely,

**GERALD R. FORD**

The Honorable Homer Ferguson  
Judge of the United States Court  
of Military Appeals  
Washington, D. C. 20442  
TO BE HAND-CARRIED BY TED MARRS  
GRF:Hasek/PBuchen:ed

cc: D. Downton/R.Nessen/J.Connor/P.Buchen/T.Marrs/  
E.Hasek/CF

EVENT January 12

Requested by Ted Marrs





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 12, 1976

Dear Homer:

To honor your long and distinguished public service is to recognize the finest qualities of integrity and civic responsibility.

It must give you endless pride and satisfaction to look back on your rewarding life. Those of us who have been close to you over the years especially regret that a man of your caliber is retiring. But at the same time, we are strengthened and encouraged by the inspiring example <sup>which have</sup> you set and by the dedication <sup>which have</sup> you never ceased to bring <sup>brought</sup> to the many difficult and challenging positions <sup>by you</sup> you have held <sup>your</sup>.

As a fellow Michigander, I will always cherish the great credit you have brought to our State, and I will be forever grateful for the friendship and kindness you <sup>have</sup> extended to me throughout the years.

Betty and I hope that the future will bring you and Myrtle all the happiness you both so richly deserve.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Homer Ferguson  
Judge of the United States Court  
of Military Appeals  
Washington, D. C. 20442



*Letters  
and  
messages*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

January 12, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR

ELISKA HASEK

FROM

TED MARRS *gm*

I will appreciate your calling me as soon as this has been prepared for the President's signature so that I can hand carry it to Phil Buchen who is going to have the President sign it. I am sorry about this disturbing the procedure, but it is responsive to the President's wishes.

Thank you.

Attachment





*Hatcher, Allen  
judge*

Monday 1/12/76

Retirement Cer  
Dr. Marrs' atax  
1/12/76  
2 p. m.

11:00 Dr. Ted Marrs will attend the retirement ceremony  
for Judge Homer Ferguson at 2 p. m. on Monday 1/12.

Eliska Hasek is preparing a letter for the President's  
signature, which Dr. Marrs will hand carry but which  
will not be read at the ceremony.



Fletcher, Albert  
Chief Judge

Monday 1/12/76

Inv.  
1/12/76  
2 p. m.

9:40 Chief Judge Fletcher called to ask if anyone from the White House might be going to the retirement ceremony for Judge Homer Ferguson this afternoon (Monday 1/12) at 2 p.m. at the Military Court of Appeals.

Ox. 3-1904

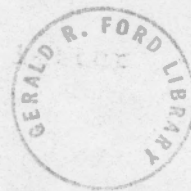
Prior to Judge Fletcher's meeting with you on the 6th, Bill Nicholson had sent a letter dated the 3rd advising the President would not be able to attend. However, after his visit, he thought maybe you had spoken to the President and that someone might have been asked to attend from the White House. ferg (Courtroom in the Court of Appeals, Fifth and E Streets, N. W.) who has recently been appointed to the Court of Military Appeals. He asks that we involve the President in recognizing, at the time of Judge Ferguson's retirement on January 12, his long and distinguished service starting with his election to the Senate in 1943 from the State of Michigan. He also asks that we try to go ahead with the proposal that Judge Ferguson be awarded a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

I understand that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to act on the request for a Medal of Freedom before January 12, but that we should have Eliska Hasek, based on the attached, to prepare a laudatory letter for the President to sign personally for delivery to Judge Ferguson on January 12.

I also understand that such a tribute is normally given in the case of people coming from a Federal Judgeship, but I think that the case of Judge Ferguson is unique by reason of his long and varied public service and the fact that he has been a close friend of the President for many years.

I would appreciate having a copy of the letter as it is drafted.

Very respectfully

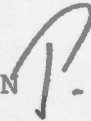


THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 8, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: TED MARRS

FROM: PHIL BUCHEN 

Confirming my conversation of January 7, I am attaching copies of earlier material which had been sent to you by William H. Cook regarding Judge Homer Ferguson. This material was given to me by Judge Fletcher who has recently been appointed to the Court of Military Appeals. He asks that we involve the President in recognizing, at the time of Judge Ferguson's retirement on January 12, his long and devoted service starting with his election to the Senate in 1943 from the State of Michigan, and he also asks that we try to move ahead on the proposal that Judge Ferguson be awarded a Presidential Medal of Freedom.

I understand that it would be difficult, if not impossible, to act on the request for a medal of freedom before January 12, but that you will have Eliska Hasek, based on the attached material, prepare a laudatory letter for the President to sign personally for delivery to Judge Ferguson on January 12.

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I would appreciate having a copy of the letter as it is drafted.

Attachment





Tuesday 1/6/76

Meeting  
1/6/76  
4 p. m.

10:30 Chief Judge Fletcher's office advises he will be accompanied by Ward Mundy (his Commissioner) to the meeting this afternoon (Tuesday 1/6) at 4 p. m.

Ward Mundy 693-1905

(Please call if we need any further information.)



Monday 1/5/76

Meeting  
1/6/76  
4 p.m.

4:10 Chief Judge Fletcher of the Court of Military Appeals would like to meet with you tomorrow (Tuesday 1/6) concerning the retirement of the Honorable Homer Ferguson - Senior Judge of the Court. I have scheduled the meeting for 4 p.m. on Tuesday 1/6 -- if that's O.K.

693-1904

(Mrs. Bissi)



Jan 12 <sup>12</sup>/<sub>5</sub>

January 3, 1976

Ed:

① Invite only

② See slip re:

Judge -- close friend of Pres.

③ Just file for no action since msg never sent to

judges? ✓

Jan 1/8

Dear Judge Fletcher:

The President has asked me to thank you for your kindness in inviting him to join you and your associates on Monday afternoon, January 12, as you honor Judge Ferguson.

Due to his heavy schedule commitments, the President will be unable to join you on this occasion. He does want you to know, though, how very much he appreciates your thoughtfulness of him and that he sends you his warm, best wishes.

Sincerely,

William W. Nicholson  
Director  
Scheduling Office

The Honorable Albert B. Fletcher, Jr.  
Chief Judge  
United States Court of Military Appeals  
Washington, D. C. 20442

WWN:MHR:em

bcc: and incmg to Eliska Hasek for msg. cons.  
: two for Nancy Gemmell

PREPARATION OFFICE

JAN 7 PM 2 29



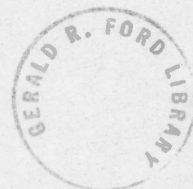
Invita to the P to attend meeting and reception  
of U.S. Court of Military Appeals honoring  
Judge Homer Ferguson on Monday afternoon,  
January 12

**SCHEDULING ROUTING MEMO**

<b>Subject:</b> _____		<b>Originator:</b> <u>Judge Albert B. Fletcher, Jr., Chief Judge</u>
<b>To Individual</b>	<b>Processed</b>	<b>Comments</b>
___ W. Nicholson	_____	_____
___ W. Rustand	_____	_____
___ Staff to:	_____	_____
___ _____	_____	_____
___ _____	_____	_____
___ _____	_____	_____
___ H. Donaldson	_____	_____
<u>1.</u> M. Widner	<u>1/2</u>	_____
<u>2</u> M. Rawlins	_____	<u>letter turning down</u>
___ N. Gemmell	_____	<u>cc: Elisha Hasek</u>
___ _____	_____	<u>for possible msg</u>
___ _____	_____	_____

Return to: \_\_\_\_\_

Action: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_





4  
Invitation  
Jan. 12, 1976

UNITED STATES COURT OF MILITARY APPEALS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20442

ALBERT B. FLETCHER, JR.  
CHIEF JUDGE

December 30, 1975

ACTION	
T/D _____	FILE NO. _____
DATE RECEIVED	
9 1975	
MESSAGE _____	
SPEAKERS BUREAU _____	
OTHER _____	
APPOINTMENT OFFICE	

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
President of the United States  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I extend to you an invitation to be present at a meeting of this Court and reception in honor of our most distinguished Senior Judge, The Honorable Homer Ferguson of Michigan, at 2 o'clock p.m. on January 12, 1976.

I know that you are fully aware of Judge Ferguson's distinguished service on the bench of this Court, as a member of the United States Senate, as a United States Ambassador, and as a member of the bar and bench of the State of Michigan. We would consider your participation in these ceremonies a high honor for the Court and one that would be greatly appreciated by Judge Ferguson as a token of the signal esteem in which this beloved man is held by the government, the bench, and the bar that he has so ably served for 63 years.

Recognizing your busy schedule, I certainly hope that you will be able to accept this invitation and honor us with your attendance.

Sincerely yours,

*Albert B. Fletcher, Jr.*

Albert B. Fletcher, Jr.  
Chief Judge



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

RECOMMENDED TELEPHONE CALL

TO: Judge Homer Ferguson  
Senior Judge, Court of Military Appeals

DATE: At the President's convenience

RECOMMENDED BY: William Nicholson

PURPOSE: To honor Judge Ferguson's request to  
speak with the President over the telephone.

BACKGROUND: Judge Ferguson called the Scheduling Office  
last Friday to request an opportunity to speak  
with the President soon. He did not disclose  
the topic of his conversation. Mildred Leonard  
advises that he is a close friend of the President.

TALKING POINTS: 1. Judge Ferguson, thank you for calling last  
week. What did you want to discuss.

Telephone number: OX 3-1903

Date submitted: December 17, 1975

ACTION: \_\_\_\_\_





UNITED STATES COURT OF MILITARY APPEALS

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20442

June 3, 1975

WILLIAM H COOK  
JUDGE

Honorable Theodore C. Marrs  
Special Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ted:

On May 7, 1975, after our telephone conversation of that date I wrote to you concerning the possibility of the highest Presidential award being given to Judge Ferguson upon his retirement from the Court of Military Appeals, possibly with Presidential participation. In that letter I told you that I would send you a proposed citation as soon as one could be worked out. I am now enclosing a copy of that citation. I have also heard rumors that a name of a successor to Judge Quinn might soon be named by the President. Therefore, time now might be of the essence.

Thanks again for your continuing friendship and splendid cooperation.

Sincerely,

*Bill*  
William H. Cook

Enclosure

CF  
File  
Action Complete  
Shannon  
2 July 75





THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA  
AWARDS THIS  
PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM  
WITH DISTINCTION  
TO  
HOMER FERGUSON

In 32 years of Federal service, as Legislator, member of the Executive Branch, and Judge, by precept and example, Homer Ferguson explicated the rule of law in expanding the Nation's dedication to justice and to domestic and international tranquility. During World War II, when the Nation was confronted by an extraordinary threat to its institutions and its people, as a United States Senator from Michigan he served on the Senate Committee to Investigate the National Defense Program, of which President Truman, then a Senator from the State of Missouri, was the Chairman. The Committee's extensive investigations into inefficiencies and improprieties in Defense spending resulted in estimated savings of about a billion dollars and greatly accelerated war production. In the



aftermath of the war, he reaffirmed the Nation's heritage of faith in the laws of God by bringing about the addition to the pledge of allegiance to our Flag of the phrase of grace, "One Nation Under God"; and his searching inquiry into the tragedy of Pearl Harbor contributed significantly to needed restructuring of the Defense establishment. Later, in the Executive Branch, he served as a member of the Second Hoover Commission, whose review of the operations of the Executive departments led to reorganizations that enabled the Executive to better deal, during the next quarter century, with the changing patterns of economic and social conditions in the United States and with the new political systems that emerged in the international community. As Ambassador to the Phillipines, he functioned at a time, and in an area, of explosive potentialities. His exemplary adherence to the rule of law as a basis for creating economic and cultural coexistence for all countries of Southeast Asia provided a climate of peace. Since 1956, he has served as a Judge of the United States Court of Military Appeals, the first civilian court created by Congress for the military justice system of the Armed Forces of the Nation.



When the country became involved in armed conflict in defense of the Republic of South Vietnam, the unconventional conditions of that conflict provided a singular challenge to the rule of law, as applied to our Armed Forces under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. In discharging his responsibilities as a Judge of the Court of Military Appeals, he again demonstrated that commitment to the rule of law serves the Nation in war, as well as it does in peace. As a member of the legal profession for more than 60 years, his contributions, in each branch of our government, to the reality of the principle of the rule of law will endure as an ineradicable part of the American Creed.

