

**The original documents are located in Box 48, folder “President - Personal Camp David” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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President  
Camp David

November 19, 1974

Dear Ms. Blythes

I would like to acknowledge your letter of September sixth, to the President, and thank you very much for offering to send the fawn "Frika" for Camp David.

Your story was very warming, and so much so that a response to your letter was delayed while several staff members tried to locate a proper and safe home for Frika. Unfortunately, we have been unsuccessful. Apparently there are a great many deer at Camp David and simply no room for one more.

The concern which you have expressed about Frika's safety during hunting season is shared by all of us. We hope, very much, that some solution will be found.

With deep appreciation,

Most sincerely yours,

Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Ms. Jeanne Blythe, Editor  
The Irregular at Rangeley  
Rangeley, Maine 04970

bcc: Sally Quenneville  
(Scheduling Office)

PWB:JF:em



Joanne Blythe, Editor  
The Irregular at Rangeley  
Rangeley, Maine

### SCHEDULING ROUTING MEMO

Subject: Present deer as gift  
to Camp David      Originator: S. Quenneville

To Individual      Processed      Comments

W. Nicholson      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

W. Rustand      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

Staff to:  
Legal Counsel      Requires legal answer

H. Donaldson      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

M. Widner      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

M. Rawlins      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

N. Gemmell      \_\_\_\_\_      \_\_\_\_\_

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

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



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 5, 1974

Mr. Nicholson -

All of this has to do with the offer  
of a "pet" fawn from some people  
up in Maine

You will note that they do not want  
it for Camp David.

Might this be something that Susan  
Ford could accept for the National  
Zoo?

*MR*

Mary Rawlins

~~Norm Ross 6554~~

*MR*  
After much work  
It would be illegal to  
transport the deer across  
state lines.  
THANK THEM FOR THE OFFER  
BUT DECLINE IT!



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 4, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: MARY RAWLINS

FROM: *for* LCDR STEPHEN TODD *WTF*

SUBJECT: Fricka

Mary, I am afraid we cannot be of any help to you with this one. The animal situation in the Camp David area is already one of serious over-population. In fact, the famous fawn already there is a victim of this circumstance and we will also be faced with a problem similar to the Blythe's when it's "adopted" owners are transferred next year. I would suggest, therefore, that a zoo would be a suitable home for Fricka and recommend that you contact Interior, or whoever handles those things. With apologies to Ogden Nash:

To add to my woe  
you send the tale of Fricka the doe.  
Another little vamp  
who wants to romp at the Camp.

Now besides pollution and erosion  
we must face a deer explosion.  
All these moosey mammals can play the devil  
with national life on every level.

To suggest the Camp for use as a ranch  
can only make me tremble and blanch.  
I see it not with amusement and awe  
only boggled mind and dangled jaw.

Forlorn they be, yet I speak not alone  
when I say another fawn we cannot own.  
What those sailors most want to get  
is not another Bambi to love and pet.

Should with this beast I them saddle  
Camp would surely shake and rattle.  
So, please heed what I have here pleaded  
else my name there be expletive deleted.

Thus, Mary my dear, little Fricka I fear  
should not come to settle with us here.  
I ask of you that this sweet little doe  
to the nearest damn zoo should go.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

October 1, 1974

NOTE FOR COMMANDER TODD

Commander Todd -

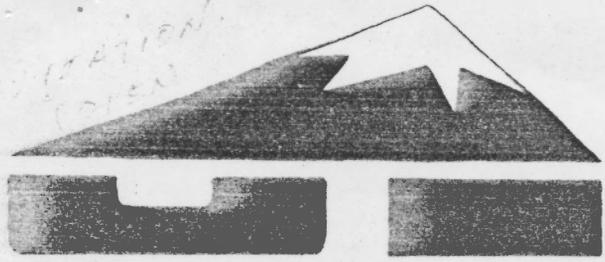
Can you handle this or tell me  
to whom it should be sent?

Thank you very much.

*Mary*

Mary Rawlins  
(Warren Rustand's Office)





# UPCOUNTRY INC.

carrabassett valley, maine 04947 (207) 235-2313

*Small Deer to Camp David*

ACTION
T/D <u>September 6, 1974</u>
SCHEDULE NO. _____
DATE RECEIVED
SEP 14 1974
MESSAGE _____
SPEAKERS BUREAU _____
OTHER _____
APPOINTMENT OFFICE

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the people of Rangeley, Maine, I would like to express the pleasure and optimism that we have felt since your inauguration. We are confident that you will bring a new era to our country and offer our whole hearted support.

I am sure that you receive many oddball letters, and you most likely will include this one among them; but it seems we have a small, but to us a major, problem. Last January we received five small deer from the state game farm in Gray to release into the wild. These deer had been raised from infancy at the farm and were accustomed to regular meals and plenty of affection. Luckily all but one of them quickly adapted to their new surroundings joining a herd. That one now is our problem.

Frika, as she is called, quickly made her way to a nearby preserve where she adopted a family there. For some months she enjoyed being the family pet and was even allowed into the house for treats. In the spring, however, she began to wander, and now is roaming the region - a friend to all she meets. She is trusting and affectionate, and we all have come to love our tame deer; but something will have to be done to protect her before the hunting season opens in November in order that her life may be preserved.

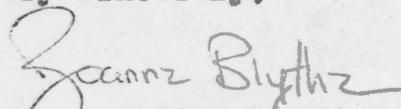
We would like to give her to a children's zoo where she can be petted and loved to her heart's content, but are not sure where a nearby one is located. Recalling your recent photo petting the fawn at Camp David, I took it upon myself to write and ask if you would like to include Frika in the Camp David wildlife. This may sound zany, but in 1955 we presented a fawn, Bambi, to the late President Eisenhower when he visited here for the children of Washington. Bambi must be long gone by now, and perhaps Frika could replace her.

This, I realize, is a very trivial affair, but we do love her and do not want her slaughtered by a callous hunter. We would therefore appreciate any suggestions that you and your staff might care to make.

RECEIVED  
SEP 14 1974

Thank you for your very kind consideration; and if you and your family ever wish to ski Maine, the doors at our own ski area at Saddleback are always wide open.

Very sincerely,



Joanne Blythe  
Editor  
The Irregular at Rangeley  
Rangeley, Maine

cc/ The Honorable William Cohen



September 23, 1974

Dear Bill:

Many thanks for your September 19 letter endorsing the offer made by Mrs. Joanne Blythe to present the President with a deer for Camp David.

I will be pleased to make your interest in this offer known to the appropriate members of the President's staff.

With kindest regards.

Sincerely,

Max L. Friedersdorf  
Deputy Assistant to  
the President

Honorable William S. Cohen  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C. 20515

MLF:nk

cc: Warren Rustand w/incoming for further reply  
cc: Bill Timmons - FYI

ACTIO.
T/D _____
SCHEDULE BD. _____
DATE RECEIVED
SEP 24 1974
MESSAGE _____
SPEAKERS BUREAU _____
OTHER _____
APPOINTMENT OFFICE



WILLIAM S. COHEN  
2D DISTRICT, MAINE

1223 LONGWORTH BUILDING  
(202) 225-6306

COMMITTEES:  
JUDICIARY  
MERCHANT MARINE AND  
FISHERIES

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

September 19, 1974

SEP 20 1974

The Hon. Max Friedersdorf  
Congressional Liaison  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Max:

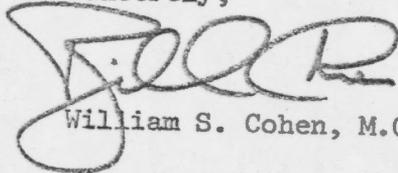
I have been contacted by Joanne Blythe, the Editor of Irregular at Rangeley, Maine.

On September 6th she wrote President Ford, wanting to present a deer to him for Camp David. They have also contacted me in this regard. I am enclosing a copy of both their letter to me and to President Ford.

In 1955 they presented a fawn, Bambi, to the late President Eisenhower, and are hopeful this can be done again. I would appreciate any attention you may be able to give their request.

I look forward to your reply and thank you.

Sincerely,



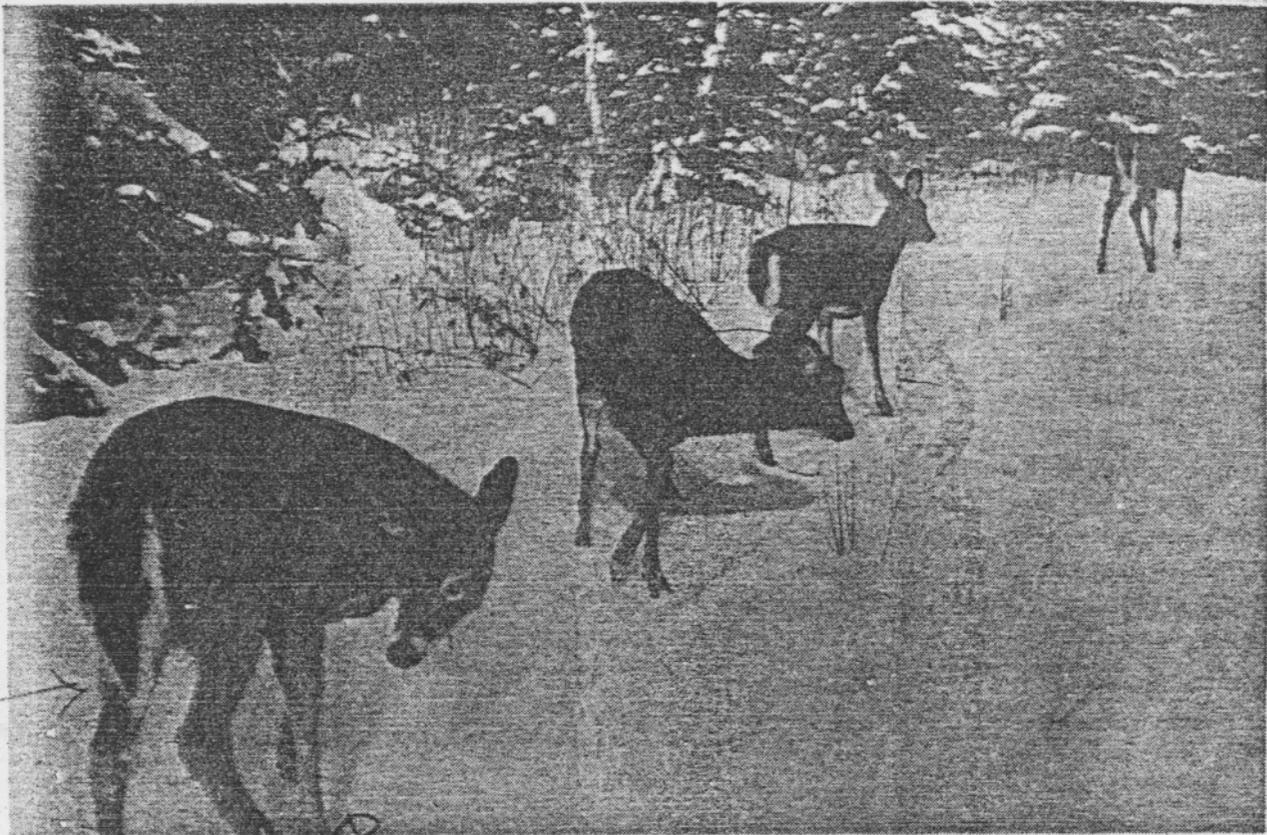
William S. Cohen, M.C.

WSCss

Enclosures

~~His checking 9/21/74~~



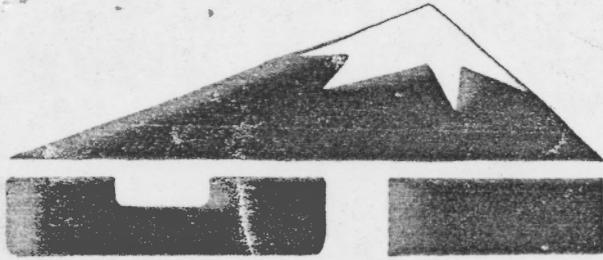


FRIKA ♀

"Git along little dogies."

GERALD R. FORD LIBRARY

SEP 10 1974



**UPCOUNTRY INC**

**carrabassett valley, maine 04947 (207) 235-2313**

September 6, 1974

The Honorable William Cohen  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cohen:

Enclosed you will find a copy of a letter I am sending to President Ford. Although, I realize this is presumptive of me, we are indeed worried about "our deer." Over the past five years the Department of Inland Fisheries and Game have gradually curtailed the hunting season in Maine with the dwindling deer herds in mind, yet they released those yearlings in our woods to sink or swim.

January is not the best of times for such animals to adapt to a wild condition, but the state's excuse was they had to make room for this spring's new crop of foundlings.

Two of our local businessmen went into the woods each day to feed the orphans, and through their efforts and the generosity of the Guides' and Sportsmen's Association, all but one of the deer survived. Three learned to adapt, but Frika did not. The tamest one of the bunch, she would not leave us upon her release and only through a lot of subterfuge and a merry chase through the woods did we elude her.

Because she was put in our custody, so to speak, and because she is now known and loved throughout the region, we feel responsible for her welfare. A children's zoo is the only solution, because she thrives on people and their affection. She is gentle and tame and loves children. I believe that the Washington zoo has a children's section where the youngsters can pet and play with the animals, so therefore we would like to present the doe to the President for the children, or if he would like Frika at Camp David. Either way we would know she will be well cared for.



pleasure to others.

Thank you for your kind attention to this matter, and good luck on your forthcoming election.

Very sincerely,

*Joanne Blythe*

Joanne Blythe  
Editor  
Irregular at Rangeley  
Rangeley, Maine

2 encls.

