

The original documents are located in Box 53, folder “1975/11/10 - Henry Loomis and Dick Parsons” of the James M. Cannon Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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MEETING WITH HENRY LOOMIS
and DICK PARSONS
MONDAY, November 10, 1975
JMC's Office
12:00 noon

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Sept. 2, 1975

JMC:

Re the attached

you should call Henry
Loomis, of Public Broadcasting.

(293-6160)

___ Cannon will call

___ Ask Parsons to call

p

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mon
Nov. 10

September 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JAMES CANNON

FROM: JIM CONNOR

Jim, attached is a copy of a letter to Dick Cheney from Henry Loomis, President of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Have you been in touch with him since your return from vacation? Dick asked to me make sure Loomis has a point of contact with your office. Thanks.

Encl.

Get together w/ you -
Memorandum ∇ *public* *opportunities*
for *public* *broadcasting.*

CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

*what
can we do
about it*

11 SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036 ■ TELEPHONE: (202) 293-6160

HENRY LOOMIS
President

August 1, 1975

Mr. Richard Cheney
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Cheney:

I appreciated the opportunity to meet with you the other day and discuss the opportunities and challenges facing public broadcasting.

We have had a discussion with Mr. Dudley Chapman in the Counsel to the President's Office regarding Senator Pastore's repeated requests for opinion letters from our General Counsel on "conflicts of interest" questions raised about some of the President's nominees to the CPB Board. As I mentioned, we will be asked for such an opinion on Mr. Coors. Unfortunately, from our point of view, Mr. Chapman maintained that Senator Pastore's requests were, in his opinion, appropriate. Our own view has been, as it must, that CPB is not a part of the Government, and that it is inappropriate for the Corporation to, in effect, redo or review fact-finding and conflict of interest opinions already made by the President's staff. To date, we have reluctantly complied with Senator Pastore's requests. It is our understanding that his request for an opinion on Mr. Coors will come only after his subcommittee has a fully developed record. That is some consolation, but our overall reservations remain.

On general liaison, I have not yet heard from Mr. Cannon of the Domestic Council with whom you indicated you would talk. I will be going on vacation the week of August 4 through 11 and will call him when I return.

We discussed the possibility -- desirability -- of the President meeting with the new and old Board members sometime in September or October. I think such a meeting would be most helpful to public broadcasting in the eyes of the public and Congress. It would also serve to continue the President's faith in public broadcasting and provide an opportunity for public broadcasting

to acknowledge again its gratitude for the Administration's historic Long-Range Financing Bill. I would think it would be particularly fitting if the President could give some special award, such as the Medal of Freedom, to Dr. James Killian at that time. Dr. Killian was Chairman of the Carnegie Commission which first recommended the creation of the Corporation and substantial federal assistance to noncommercial educational broadcasting. He has been Chairman of our Board and is generally considered the father of public broadcasting. As you know, he has served six Presidents in many fields: science, technology, intelligence, education and television.

I also mentioned to you the fact that three years ago, when new members of our Board were appointed and confirmed by the Senate, President Nixon failed to write outgoing, charter members -- including John Rockefeller -- to express the Nation's thanks for their work in establishing and guiding CPB in its infancy. The oversight was interpreted by many not only as a lack of courtesy, but as a sign of hostility to public broadcasting in general. That is why we were all so pleased that, when Dr. Killian resigned his chairmanship of the Board in December 1974, President Ford wrote him a meaningful and personalized letter of appreciation (copy enclosed). President Ford's letter received wide circulation throughout the public broadcasting community and contributed, along with other friendly Administration initiatives, to restoring a sense of acknowledged public service that had prevailed in public broadcasting until the early '70s.

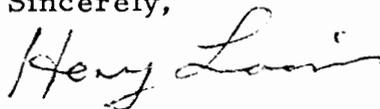
Seven of President Ford's nominees to our Board were confirmed by the Senate July 30. Jack Valenti, Frank Pace, and Al Cole are thus departing members. I feel certain that letters of appreciation for their service from the President would be deeply appreciated by each, and by all the public broadcasting community.

I have not yet heard from Doug Bennett of Personnel. You will recall that we discussed the desirability of my having a conversation with him to point out the rather unique status of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting and the importance of its Board. I will follow up by giving him a call when I get back from vacation.

I particularly appreciate your invitation to come back to you from time to time and keep you informed of our progress and problems.

Hope our paths cross again soon.

Sincerely,



Henry Loomis

Enc:

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 8, 1975

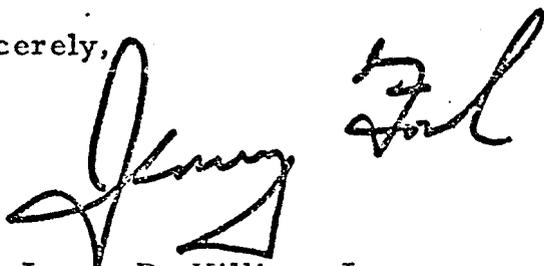
Dear Jim:

I wish to extend to you my sincere appreciation for your outstanding service as Chairman and a Director of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting. Thanks, in large part, to your foresight and leadership, the vision of public broadcasting is becoming a reality, improving the quality of our lives and responding to our highest aspirations. Your outstanding accomplishments represent a valuable legacy, not only for your successors on the CPB Board, but for our Nation as well.

On a more personal note, let me say that your long record of leadership and innovation in science and education is an inspiration to us all. Each President for the last quarter century has called upon your services, and you always have responded with enthusiasm and consummate skill. Thank you for your valuable contributions.

You have my gratitude and warm best wishes for the future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "James R. Killian, Jr.", written in dark ink.

Dr. James R. Killian, Jr.
Chairman
Corporation for Public Broadcasting
888 16th Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

CORPORATION FOR PUBLIC BROADCASTING

*initial
cover &
Smith*

SIXTEENTH STREET, N.W., WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036 ■ TELEPHONE: (202) 293-6160

LOOMIS
President

August 1, 1975

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The White House
Washington, D. C.

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WASHINGTON

January 8, 1975

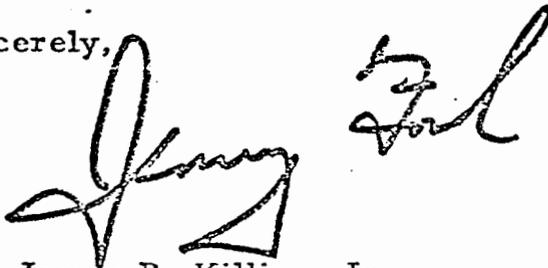
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