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Central Filed

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *ly*

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 25, 1975

MEMORANDUM TO: THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: THE STAFF SECRETARY
FROM: ROLAND L. ELLIOTT *RE*
SUBJECT: *RR 7*
Incoming Presidential Mail for
Week of April 21-25, 1975

This week incoming Presidential mail totaled about 25,000 pieces. Southeast Asia issues continued to dominate, although there was marked increased interest in various domestic items.

Military aid and/or the direct use of U.S. forces in Vietnam received limited support:

PRO:	1,056
CON:	2,397

Humanitarian aid was more generally supported (PRO: 1,141). Many who oppose military aid do back the idea of food and medical assistance to the peoples of Indochina (567 pieces).

On the specific issue of refugee and orphan evacuation, there is still support (547 pieces), but also noticeably increased opposition (550 pieces). Concern centers mainly on the economics of absorbing these people into an already depressed employment area.

Your CBS interview drew 130 pieces of mail. The pro comments (75) generally expressed overall support and confidence; the con mail (45) was particularly critical of your remarks on US-Israeli policy (23).

Domestic mail ranged over a variety of subjects, but a common thread could be found in the general concern expressed about the future direction and purposes of our country.

Your Massachusetts visit to inaugurate the Bicentennial was well received (60 pieces). Writers thanked you for coming, approved your comments, and apologized for the "rudeness" of some in the crowd who were "unrepresentative."

Economic letters are on the increase again (356 pieces), with comment especially directed toward middle class inequities, Federal deficits and Federal controls, and toward what these portend for the future.

You have received 641 letters and telegrams requesting a Presidential pardon for Representative George Hansen. In arguing for a pardon, writers express strong skepticism about the Court System generally and about the "justice" of this particular sentence, since virtually "everyone" in Congress is "guilty" of campaign irregularities, but only Representative Hansen was charged.

Other domestic issues of concern were:

(1) The Farm Bill:

Pro: 250; Con: 21;

(2) Transfer of US Fish and Wildlife Game and Wildlife Ranges to BLM:

Con: 599;

(3) Federal gun and ammunition controls:

Pro: 2; Con: 268;

(4) Subsidies for Military Commissaries:

Pro: 271;

cc: Paul Theis