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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 29, 1976

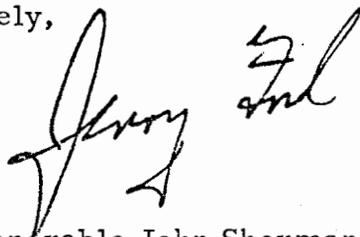
Dear John:

It was good to see you again early last month, and I greatly appreciate the thoughtfulness of your March 8 letter and newspaper clippings you enclosed. As always, it means a great deal to me to have your insights.

I agree that we have gotten off to a good start in the primaries, in spite of the disappointment of North Carolina. We can surely benefit in the months ahead, however, from your suggestions and experience. My Kentucky candidacy could have no better boost than the wholehearted support of John Sherman Cooper. I'm continually reminded how much I owe to the friendship and cooperation of long-time friends like you, and I just want you to know of my gratitude that you stand ready to help in this major undertaking.

Betty joins me in sending warmest personal regards to Lorraine and to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jerry Ford". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

The Honorable John Sherman Cooper  
American Ambassador  
Berlin

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 18, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR:

ROGERS MORTON

FROM:

JIM CONNOR *JEB*

SUBJECT:

Letter from Ambassador  
John Sherman Cooper

The attached letter was returned in the President's outbox with the following notation:

"Thank him profusely, etc."

Please prepare an appropriate response and return to this office for the President's signature.

cc: Dick Cheney

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 17, 1976

MR PRESIDENT:

The attached is for your information.  
It will be handled in a routine manner  
unless you indicate otherwise.

Jim Connor

*Thank him profusely  
etc.*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

3-16-76

TO: Jim Connor

For Your Information: \_\_\_\_\_

For Appropriate Handling: \_\_\_\_\_

Pres FYI file

RDL.

Robert D. Linder

March 8, 1976

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I want to thank you for seeing me during my recent visit in Washington and for the time you gave me, as I realize the many problems and responsibilities which bear upon you.

While not surprised at all, I am absolutely delighted with your victories in New Hampshire and Massachusetts and I am sure they will continue. I have no doubt at all about your nomination and your election.

It is my desire to do everything that I can to be of such assistance as you may determine. It is my intention to return to the United States prior to October 1 so that I can engage in the campaign as you may see fit. I think that I can be of some assistance in Kentucky and in some of the neighboring states where large numbers of Kentuckians are working.

During my visit to Washington in February for consultations in the Department of State I spent four days in Kentucky. I attended the Lincoln Dinner in Louisville on February 12 and Vice President Rockefeller made a very good speech supporting your Administration. It was well received by an audience of about six to seven hundred. While I did not speak at the meeting, I took the opportunity, upon being interviewed by WAVE, a television station in Louisville with large state coverage, to express my strong support for you and to urge the people of Kentucky to give you their full support. I am enclosing a copy of a report of an interview

The President

March 8, 1976

with a UPI reporter in Louisville which, while he dealt primarily with the work in this country, gave me an opportunity to express strong support for you. Also in my hometown of Somerset in Pulaski County, which County consistently gives the largest Republican majority in Kentucky, when Louisville does not lead, and is always in the top three in its Republican majority, I asked the people of the County, through the local newspaper, to give you their full support.

I am sending some recommendations to the Honorable Richard Cheney and the Honorable Rogers Morton regarding my views about Kentucky, which I hope will be communicated to you. I feel confident you will secure the delegates, but it does need some organization at this time.

With deep appreciation for your many expressions of friendship, and my best wishes always to you and Mrs. Ford, in which Lorraine joins, I am

Sincerely yours,

*John Sherman Cooper*  
John Sherman Cooper  
Ambassador to the German  
Democratic Republic

Enclosure

*If you want me to come home  
again, I stand ready at any  
time*  
*John Sherman Cooper*

# Welcome Home, Ambassador

Commonwealth  
Feb 18 1976

## John Sherman Cooper, Visiting From East Germany, Toured

U.S. Ambassador to East Germany John Sherman Cooper returned home over the weekend to visit with family and friends and to plug for President Gerald Ford's election campaign.

His only regret, he said Saturday night, was that he did not have more time to visit with his family and all of his friends in Somerset and Pulaski County.

He flew to Kentucky from Washington Thursday and attended the Lincoln Day Dinner in Louisville that night at which Vice President Nelson Rockefeller was the prin-

cipal speaker. He came home to Somerset Friday afternoon.

Following a family dinner Friday night, the ambassador struck out on foot to visit with his neighborhood friends on Harvey's Hill.

"I've been going to bed at 9 o'clock each night; I stayed up too late last night," he said Saturday morning when he stopped in at the First and Farmers National Bank.

He looks as fresh and trim as ever and was wearing his customary broad grin as he went from one teller's

window to the next, shaking hands and asking many of the younger tellers "Who's your father?" When told, he usually responded by recalling their grandparents — on both sides of the family — and even some great-grandparents.

He chatted with bank customers and officials for more than an hour and then walked around the Fountain Square, shaking hands with everyone he saw just like he so often had done in years past while campaigning for county, district or statewide office.

"I'm John Sherman

Cooper," he would say with outstretched hand as if the people didn't know him. "Hi, John," most greeted him, while others called him "Judge" or "Senator." A few addressed him by his current position, the United States' first ambassador to the German Democratic Republic, a Soviet-controlled, tightly organized communist country.

Again, he reminisced with his friends as he walked around Fountain Square Park, which he and Mrs. Cooper had rested a dozen years ago, working his way over to the new Pulaski

County Governmental Complex.

"Why, Senator ... er ... Ambassador ... come on in," Pulaski County Judge Jacob V. Garner greeted him.

Judge Garner gave the ambassador his chair in the judge's office, noting that Cooper had once served as Pulaski County judge. "That was a long time ago," Cooper said. "I was 28 years old when I took office. My father and my uncle served as county judge, too."

Reflecting on his term as county judge, he said "that was the greatest experience I have ever had." He placed

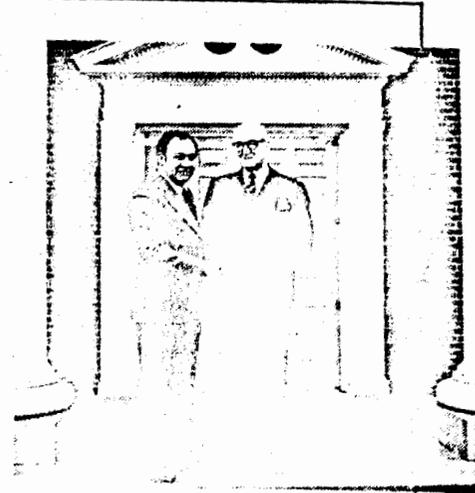
This article is a nice magazine article  
me - except that I took every 1/4

ambassador

*Commonwealth Source*

*Feb 18 1976*

# From East Germany, Tours The Town



**WELCOME HOME, AMBASSADOR**—Pulaski County Judge Jacob V. Garner, left, welcomes John Sherman Cooper, U.S. Ambassador to East Germany, back to Pulaski County for a short visit. (Photo by James Slaughter)

Cooper," he would say with outstretched hand as if the people didn't know him. "Hi, John," most greeted him, while others called him "Judge" or "Senator." A few addressed him by his current position, the United States' first ambassador to the German Democratic Republic, a Soviet-controlled, tightly organized communist country. Again, he reminisced with his friends as he walked around Fountain Square Park, which he and Mrs. Cooper had restored a dozen years ago, working his way over to the new Pulaski

County Governmental Complex. "Why, Senator ... er ... Ambassador ... come on in," Pulaski County Judge Jacob V. Garner greeted him. Judge Garner gave the ambassador his chair in the judge's office, noting that Cooper had once served as Pulaski County judge. "That was a long time ago," Cooper said. "I was 28 years old when I took office. My father and my uncle served as county judge, too." Reflecting on his term as county judge, he said "that was the greatest experience I have ever had." He placed

that above serving as Pulaski Circuit Court judge, a member of the state legislature, more than 20 years as a U.S. Senator, ambassador to the United Nations, ambassador to India and Nepal and now ambassador to East Germany. As he walked around Judge Garner's office looking at the pictures on the wall, he identified almost everyone in the pictures. When he came to a picture of the century-old courthouse, which was razed to make way for the new govern- (Continued on Page 24)

*article is a nice magazine article  
- except that I took every opportunity to speak for it.*

# Welcome Home, Ambassador

(Continued from Page 1)

mental complex, the muscles around his mouth tightened, and tears were almost obvious in his eyes.

"That was a beautiful building," he said. "I hated to see it go down, but I think the new one looks pretty good ... I'm very happily pleased."

He apologized to Judge Garner for not being able to return to Somerset last December 6 to dedicate the new governmental complex. "East Berlin is just too far away," he noted, "and, after all, I've got a job to do over there." He had been invited to deliver the dedicatory address at the formal grand opening ceremony of the complex but was unable to return.

Judge Garner took the ambassador on a tour of every office in the courthouse, insisting that he sit behind the bench in both the county courtroom and the circuit courtroom.

In the circuit courtroom he stopped in front of each portrait of former judges, reminiscing about those he knew personally and relating stories he had heard about the older ones.

Most of the afternoon he spent visiting and chatting with friends around town, and even after another family dinner Saturday night, he went out in the neighborhood visiting.

After attending church at the First Baptist Church Sunday, he left for Louisville where he was to meet his two brothers and their wives for a short visit before flying back to Washington. His brothers had been out of state and flew to Louisville to meet him.

He had been called to come to Washington from

East Berlin two weeks ago for consultation at the State Department. He is scheduled to return to East Germany tomorrow.

How does he like his assignment in East Germany? "It's not a matter of liking it," he said. "It is tremendously interesting."

"They (the East Germans) have been very accommodating to us. They have provided us with nice living quarters and have treated us correctly and properly.

The ambassador noted that East Germany is a highly industrialized country, ranking 10th in the world in manufactured products. "The Germans always have been workers, and they work to produce. You don't tell them they have to work, they know it and they want to work."

During his first year as ambassador to East Germany, he said he feels he has "accomplished a lot." Cooper is the only ambassador from the Western World the leaders of East Germany will talk with, and he considers this a major accomplishment.

"They're getting tougher now, though," he remarked. "They look at us and see economic and political problems within the United States, and they see trouble in Spain and Portugal. They think we are weakening. They don't understand that we are a free country and that we hang together."

He is high in praise of Secretary of State Henry Kissinger. "He is well respected, and he is smart," Cooper said. "I can think of no one who could replace or equal him."

Both at home and in Louisville, Cooper spoke for President Ford's election. "I'm strong for Ford, and I hope he carries Kentucky with a big vote," he said. "It would be a calamity if Ford doesn't get it."

## Ex-Sen. Cooper Stumps For Ford

By RICHARD WALKER  
United Press International

Ambassador John Sherman Cooper, the many some call "Mr. Kentucky Republican," was back in his native state last week to see relatives and friends and to plug for President Gerald Ford's election campaign.

Cooper, the first U.S. ambassador to East Germany, attended the Lincoln Day Dinner in Louisville Thursday night before returning to his native Somerset for a brief visit. Only four years ago, Cooper made a farewell appearance before the Lincoln Club to say he wouldn't run for re-election to the U.S. Senate.

Cooper is something of a "living legend" in state politics due to his phenomenal vote-getting ability with Kentucky's usually Democratic electorate. He holds the record for the largest majority ever achieved in a race for the U.S. Senate.

"I'm here to see friends, visit my family and say I'm for President Ford," the

white-haired ambassador said after hearing a speech in which Vice President Nelson Rockefeller lauded the actions of the Ford administration.

Cooper said he feels a sense of accomplishment since becoming ambassador to the German Democratic Republic and added that U.S. - East German trade is a key to better relations between the two countries.

"It's a small, highly organized productive power," he said. "Very efficient. The strict discipline is a typical Communist tactic, though the Germans always were well-disciplined. But they haven't got the freedom of speech like they've got here tonight."

"The results are very slow," he said, "but I think cultural and economic progress between us will continue. We're not going to change them and they're not going to change us. But we can engage in more trade and have better relations"

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