# The original documents are located in Box 19, folder "1/2/75 HR8322 Relief of William L Cameron, Jr." of the White House Records Office: Legislation Case Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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ACTION

THE WHITE HOUSE

Last Day: January 4

WASHINGTON

December 30, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR

THE PRESIDENT KEN COLH

SUBJECT:

FROM:

Enrolled Bill H.R. 8322 Relief of William L. Cameron, Jr.

Attached for your consideration is H.R. 8322, sponsored by Representative Evans, which authorizes the Secretary of the Army to consider, and if found meritorious, to pay the claim of William L. Cameron, Jr. for the destruction of his car on government property as if such claim was cognizable under existing law.

OMB recommends approval and provides additional background. information in its enrolled bill report (Tab A).

Max Friedersdorf and Phil Areeda both recommend approval.

RECOMMENDATION

That you sign H.R. 8322 (Tab B).



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

DEC 2 7 1974

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill H.R. 8322 - For the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior Sponsor - Rep. Evans (D) Colorado

### Last Day for Action

January 4, 1975 - Saturday

### Purpose

Authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Army to consider, and if found meritorious, to pay the claim of William L. Cameron for the destruction of his car as if such claim was cognizable under existing law.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Civil Service Commission Department of the Army Department of Justice Approval No objection Defers to Army

### Discussion

On August 29, 1970, Mr. Cameron was serving with the Red Cross at the U.S. Army Post in Baumholder, Germany. While on official duty as night duty officer, handling emergency requests from servicemen, he left his personal car parked in the Post Headquarters parking lot. Later that night, his car was set on fire by a group of rioting servicemen who also did considerable damage to U.S. Government property.

As a Red Cross worker, Mr. Cameron would ordinarily be prohibited from presenting a claim for the destruction of his car for consideration under existing law which is



limited to the claims of U.S. military personnel and civilian employees of the Government. The enrolled bill, however, would allow his claim to be considered and, if found meritorious, to be paid as if it were cognizable under existing statutory authority.

In its enrolled bill letter, Army states:

"The effect of the enrolled enactment would be to equate Mr. Cameron to military and civilian personnel . . . This result would be both just and equitable. Mr. Cameron was, at the time of the mishap, actually on duty, performing an important function for the direct benefit of service personnel. His car was parked in an authorized parking place on a government installation, and finally. . . the evidence is clear that the damage was inflicted on his property by military personnel."

Nutra HRound

Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Enclosures



### UNITED STATES CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20415

CHAIRMAN

December 26, 1974

Honorable Roy L. Ash Director Office of Management & Budget

Attention: Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Dear Mr. Ash:

This is in reply to your request for the views of the Civil Service Commission on enrolled bill H.R. 8322, "For the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior."

The bill would authorize and direct the Secretary of the Army to receive, consider, and if found meritorious, to pay the claim of William L. Cameron, Jr., for the loss of his automobile destroyed by fire at Baumholder, Germany, as if the claim was cognizable under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act of 1964, as amended.

As a Red-Cross worker, Mr. Cameron is not a claimant to whom the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act would apply. However, his automobile was destroyed while he was performing a function of direct benefit to military service personnel; it was parked in an authorized parking place on government property, and the damage resulting in its loss was inflicted by military personnel. The Department of the Army for those reasons considers the claim exceptional and one that merits adjudication under the procedures of the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act. We have no sound basis for disagreeing.

Accordingly, the Commission recommends that the President sign this enrolled bill.

By direction of the Commission:

Sincere Much Acting Chairman



### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY WASHINGTON, D.C. 20310



26 DEC 1974

Honorable Roy L. Ash Director, Office of Management and Budget

Dear Mr. Ash:

Reference is made to your request for a report on enrolled enactment of H.R. 8322, 93rd Congress, an Act, "For the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior."

On January 3, 1973, your office cleared a "no opposition" report of the Department of the Army on H.R. 8322, 93rd Congress, a bill seeking similar relief. Accordingly, the Department of the Army has no objection to the enrolled enactment.

On August 29, 1970, Mr. Cameron was a Red Cross worker stationed in Baumholder, Germany. While he was on official duty for the Red Cross, as night duty officer, handling emergency requests from servicemen, he parked his personal car in the Post Headquarters parking lot. In responding to an emergency, he used a Red Cross staff car to go to the Red Cross office. At approximately 2:00 a.m. the following morning, Mr. Cameron received a call from the desk sergeant at the military police station informing him that his personal car had been set on fire by a group of rioting servicemen who also did serious damage to property belonging to the United States Government.

As a Red Cross employee, Mr. Cameron did not fall within the purview of the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act, 31 USC 240-243. This statute was intended to compensate personnel of the Department for losses such as the one in question. The effect of the enrolled enactment would be to equate Mr. Cameron to military and civilian personnel of the establishment of the Department. This result would be both just



and equitable. Mr. Cameron was, at the time of the mishap, actually on duty, performing an important function for the direct benefit of service personnel. His car was parked in an authorized parking place on a government installation, and finally, as noted above, the evidence is clear that the damage was inflicted on his property by military personnel.

The cost of this Act, if approved, cannot be determined at this time.

Sincerely, Howard H. Callany

Howard H. Callaway Secretary of the Army

ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL LEGISLATIVE AFFAIRS

# Department of Justice

Washington, O.C. 20530

DEC 2 3 1974

Honorable Roy L. Ash Director, Office of Management and Budget Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Mr. Ash:

In compliance with your request, I have examined a facsimile of the enrolled bill H.R. 8322, "For the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior."

The bill would authorize the Secretary of the Army to consider, and if found meritorious, to pay the claim of William L. Cameron for the loss of a personal automobile. The loss is said to have been caused by acts of a group of rioting American servicemen at an Army post in Germany, while Mr. Cameron was on the post in the performance of his duties. Mr. Cameron is not eligible to seek compensation under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act of 1964, 31 U.S.C. 240-243, since he is an official of the Red Cross.

The Department of Justice defers to the Department of the Army concerning whether this bill should receive Executive approval.

Sincerely,

W. Vincent Rakestraw Assistant Attorney General

THE	WHITE HOUSE		
ACTION MEMORANDUM	WASHINGTON	LOC	5 NO.: 862
Date: December 27, 1974	Time:	7:00 p.m.	, · · ·
FOR ACTION: GeoffSRhppadd d Max Friedersdor Phil Areeda 190		nformation):	Warren Hendriks Jerry Jo <b>z</b> es
FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY			

DUE: Date: Monday, December 30 Time: 1:00 p.m. SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill H.R. 8322 - Relief of William Cameron, Jr.

ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

**x** For Your Recommendations

\_\_\_\_\_ Prepare Agenda and Brief

\_ \_ \_ Draft Remarks

**Draft Reply** 

REMARKS:

Please return to Judy Johnstnp, GGround Floor West wing

## PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

K. R. COLE, JR. For the President

## ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

Date: December 27, 1974

Time: 7:00 p.m.

FOR ACTION: Geoff Shepard Max Friedersdorf Phil Areeda cc (for information): Warren Hendriks Jerry Jones

## FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date:	Monday, December 30	Time: 1:00 p.m.	
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### SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill H.R. 8322 - Relief of William Cameron, Jr.

## ACTION REQUESTED:

—— For Necessary Action

x\_\_\_\_ For Your Recommendations

\_\_\_\_\_ Frepare Agenda and Briet \_\_\_\_\_ Draft Reply

\_\_\_\_\_ For Your Comments

\_\_\_\_\_ Draft Remarks

**REMARKS:** 

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West wing



If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Objelin,

harren K. Hendriks For the President



ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

Date: December 27, 1974

Time: 7:00 p.m.

FOR ACTION: Geoff Shepard Max Friedersdorf Phil Areeda

cc (for information): Warren Hendriks Jerry Jones

## FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Monday, December 30 Time: 1:00 p.m.

## SUBJECT:

Enrolled Bill H.R. 8322 - Relief of William Cameron, Jr.

## ACTION REQUESTED:

 For Necessary Action
 x
 For Your Recommendations

 Prepare Agenda and Brief
 Draft Reply

 -x
 For Your Comments
 Draft Remarks

**REMARKS:** 

Please return to Judy Johnston, Ground Floor West wing

4/1.5.



# PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Warren K. Hendriks For the President

### THE WHITE HOUSE

### WASHINGTON

MEMORANDUM FOR: WARREN HENDRIKS MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF FROM: 'un Action Memorandum - Log No. 862 Enrolled Bill H.R. 8322 SUBJECT:

The Office of Legislative Affairs concurs in the attached proposal and has no additional recommendations.

Attachment

# EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

DEC 2 7 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Bill H.R. 8322 - For the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior Sponsor - Rep. Evans (D) Colorado

### Last Day for Action

January 4, 1975 - Saturday

### Purpose

To Hendrichs

Authorizes and directs the Secretary of the Army to consider, and if found meritorious, to pay the claim of William L. Cameron for the destruction of his car as if such claim was cognizable under existing law.

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Civil Service Commission Department of the Army Department of Justice Approval No objection Defers to Army

# Discussion

On August 29, 1970, Mr. Cameron was serving with the Red Cross at the U.S. Army Post in Baumholder, Germany. While on official duty as night duty officer, handling emergency requests from servicemen, he left his personal car parked in the Post Headquarters parking lot. Later that night, his car was set on fire by a group of rioting servicemen who also did considerable damage to U.S. Government property.

As a Red Cross worker, Mr. Cameron would ordinarily be prohibited from presenting a claim for the destruction of his car for consideration under existing law which is limited to the claims of U.S. military personnel and civilian employees of the Government. The enrolled bill, however, would allow his claim to be considered and, if found meritorious, to be paid as if it were cognizable under existing statutory authority.

In its enrolled bill letter, Army states:

"The effect of the enrolled enactment would be to equate Mr. Cameron to military and civilian personnel . . . This result would be both just and equitable. Mr. Cameron was, at the time of the mishap, actually on duty, performing an important function for the direct benefit of service personnel. His car was parked in an authorized parking place on a government installation, and finally. . . the evidence is clear that the damage was inflicted on his property by military personnel."

Wifred H Round

Assistant Director for Legislative Reference

Enclosures

93d Congress HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 2d Session

REPORT No. 93-842

### WILLIAM L. CAMERON, JR.

FEBRUARY 28, 1974 .-- Committed to the Committee of the Whole House and ordered to be printed

Mr. DANIELSON, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

### REPORT

#### [To accompany H.R. 8322]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to whom was referred the bill (H.R. 8322) for the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to authorize the Secretary of the Army to adjudicate the claim of William L. Cameron, Jr., of Fountain, Colorado, for the destruction of his 1968 Ford Falcon automobile on or about August 29, 1970, when it was set on fire while parked at the headquarters parking lot of the United States Army post at Baumholder, Germany. The bill would further provide that the claim is to be settled as if it were cognizable under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees Claims Act of 1964, as amended.

### STATEMENT

The Department of the Army in its report to the Committee on the bill stated that it does not oppose its passage.

On August 29, 1970, Mr. Cameron was a Red Cross worker stationed in Baumholder, Germany. While he was on official duty for the Red Cross, as night duty officer (handling emergency requests from servicemen he parked his personal car in the Post Headquarters parking lot. In responding to an emergency, he used a Red Cross staff car to return to the Red Cross office. At approximately 0200 the following morning, Mr. Cameron received a call from the desk sergeant at the military police station informing him that his personal car had been set on fire by a group of rioting servicemen who also did serious damage to property belonging to the United States Government.

The Department of the Army in its report to the Committee stated that the present case is an exceptional one and further stated that the

99-007

Army is of the opinion that it would be both equitable and just to compensate the claimant. It pointed out that he was at the time of the mishap actually on duty performing an important function for the direct benefit of service personnel. Further, his car was parked in an authorized parking place on a Government installation and the evidence available to the Army makes it clear that the damage was inflicted on his property by military personnel.

It is recommended that the bill be considered favorably.

### DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, Washington, D.C., 4 January 1974.

### Hon. PETER W. RODINO, Jr., Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request for the views of the Department of the Army with respect to H.R. 8322, 93d Congress, a bill "For the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior."

This bill provides: "That the Secretary of the Army is authorized and directed to receive, consider, and if found meritorious, to pay the claim of William L. Cameron, Junior, of Fountain, Colorado, for the destruction of his 1968 Ford Falcon automobile on or about August 29, 1970, when it was set on fire while parked at the headquarters parking lot at the United States Army Post at Baumholder, Germany, as if that claim was cognizable under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act of 1964, as amended (78 Stat. 767, as amended); and in the consideration of the claim under that Act, the said William L. Cameron, Junior, shall be held and considered to be a person eligible to be compensated under the Act."

The records indicate that on August 29, 1970, Mr. Cameron was a Red Cross worker stationed in Baumholder, Germany. While he was on official duty for the Red Cross, as night duty officer (handling emergency requests from servicemen) he parked his personal car in the Post Headquarters parking lot. In responding to an emergency, he used a Red Cross staff car to return to the Red Cross office. At approximately 0200 the following morning, Mr. Cameron received a call from the desk sergeant at the military police station informing him that his personal car had been set on fire by a group of rioting servicemen who also did serious damage to property belonging to the United States Government.

The Department of the Army does not oppose the passage of the bill.

The Department of the Army has generally been opposed to compensating non-governmental personnel for losses incurred through natural disasters or through the actions of third parties not connected with the United States Government because they do not fall under the provisions of the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. 240–243. The provisions of this statute are limited to servicemen and to civilian employees of the Government. The present case, however, is an exceptional one; and the Department of the Army is of the opinion that it would be both equitable and just to compensate the claimant for several reasons. He was, at the time of the mishap, actually on duty, performing an important function for the direct

H.R. 842

benefit of service personnel. His car was parked in an authorized parking place on a governmental installation, and finally, as noted above, the evidence is clear that the damage was inflicted on his property by military personnel.

The Department of the Army, however, is of the opinion that claims of this nature should be processed administratively. Accordingly, the Department proposes that the Secretary of the Army be granted authority to receive and adjudicate the claim. This procedure would also obviate the need for the Congress to secure necessary evidence such as confirming the circumstances of the loss, his ownership, and the market value of the car.

The cost of this bill, if enacted, cannot be determined at this time. The Office of Management and Budget advises that, from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the presentation of this report for the consideration of the Committee.

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Sincerely,

Howard H. Callaway, Secretary of the Army. SENATE

**Report** No. 93–1392

Calendar No. 1318

### WILLIAM L. CAMERON, JR.

DECEMBER 17, 1974.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. EASTLAND, from the Committee on the Judiciary, submitted the following

### REPORT

### [To accompany H.R. 8322]

The Committee on the Judiciary, to which was referred the bill (H.R. 8322) for the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon, without amendment, and recommends that the bill do pass.

#### PURPOSE

The purpose of the proposed legislation is to authorize the Secretary of the Army to adjudicate the claim of William L. Cameron, Jr., of Fountain, Colorado, for the destruction of his 1968 Ford Falcon automobile on or about August 29, 1970, when it was set on fire while parked at the headquarters parking lot of the United States Army post at Baumholder, Germany. The bill would further provide that the claim is to be settled as if it were cognizable under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees Claims Act of 1964, as amended.

#### STATEMENT

The facts of the case as contained in House Report 93-842 are as follows:

The Department of the Army in its report to the Committee on the bill stated that it does not oppose its passage.

93D CONGRESS

2d Session

On August 29, 1970, Mr. Cameron was a Red Cross worker stationed in Baumholder, Germany. While he was on official duty for the Red Cross, as night duty officer (handling emergency requests from servicemen) he parked his personal car in the Post Headquarters parking lot. In responding to an emergency, he used a Red Cross staff car to return to the Red Cross office. At approximately 0200 the following morning, Mr. Cameron received a call from the desk sergeant at the military police station informing him that his personal car had been set on fire by a group of rioting servicemen who also did serious damage to property belonging to the United States Government.

The Department of the Army in its report to the Committee stated that the present case is an exceptional one and further stated that the Army is of the opinion that it would be both equitable and just to compensate the claimant. It pointed out that he was at the time of the mishap actually on duty performing an important function for the direct benefit of service personnel. Further, his car was parked in an authorized parking place on a Government installation and the evidence available to the Army makes it clear that the damage was inflicted on his property by military personnel.

It is recommended that the bill be considered favorably.

In agreement with the views of the House of Representatives the Committee recommends favorable consideration of H.R. 8322.

Attached to and made a part of this report are the views of the Department of the Army.

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, Washington, D.C., January 4, 1974.

Hon. PETER W. RODINO, Jr., Chairman, Committee on the Judiciary, House of Representatives.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Reference is made to your request for the views of the Department of the Army with respect to H.R. 8322, 93d Congress, a bill "For the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior."

This bill provides: "That the Secretary of the Army is authorized and directed to receive, consider, and if found meritorious. to pay the claim of William L. Cameron, Junior, of Fountain, Colorado, for the destruction of his 1968 Ford Falcon automobile on or about August 29, 1970, when it was set on fire while parked at the headquarters parking lot at the United States Army Post at Baumholder, Germany, as if that claim was cognizable under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act of 1964, as amended (78 Stat. 767, as amended); and in the consideration of the claim under that Act, the said William L. Cameron, Junior, shall be held and considered to be a person eligible to be compensated under the Act."

The records indicate that on August 29, 1970, Mr. Cameron was a Red Cross worker stationed in Baumholder, Germany. While he was on official duty for the Red Cross, as night duty officer (handling emergency requests from servicemen) he parked his personal car in the Post Headquarters parking lot. In responding to an emergency, he used a Red Cross staff car to return to the Red Cross office. At approximately 0200 the following morning, Mr. Cameron received a call from the desk sergeant at the military police station informing him that his personal car had been set on fire by a group of rioting servicemen who also did serious damage to property belonging to the United States Government.

The Department of the Army does not oppose the passage of the bill.

The Department of the Army has generally been opposed to compensating non-government personnel for losses incurred through natural disasters or through the actions of third parties not connected with the United States Government because they do not fall under the provisions of the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. 240–243. The provisions of this statute are limited to servicemen and to civilian employees of the Government. The present case, however, is an exceptional one; and the Department of the Army is of the opinion that it would be both equitable and just to compensate the claimant for several reasons. He was, at the time of the mishap, actually on duty, performing an important function for the direct benefit of service personnel. His car was parked in an authorized parking place on a government installation, and finally, as noted above, the evidence is clear that the damage was inflicted on his property by military personnel.

The Department of the Army, however, is of the opinion that claims of this nature should be processed administratively. Accordingly, the Department proposes that the Secretary of the Army be granted authority to receive and adjudicate the claim. This procedure would also obviate the need for the Congress to secure necessary evidence such as confirming the circumstances of the loss, his ownership, and the market value of the car.

The cost of this bill, if enacted, cannot be determined at this time. The Office of Management and Budget advises that, from the standpoint of the Administration's program, there is no objection to the presentation of this report for the consideration of the Committee.

O

Sincerely,

Howard H. CALLAWAY, Secretary of the Army.

# Rinety-third Congress of the United States of America

AT THE SECOND SESSION

Begun and held at the City of Washington on Monday, the twenty-first day of January, one thousand nine hundred and seventy-four

# An Act

For the relief of William L. Cameron, Junior.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of the Army is authorized and directed to receive, consider, and if found meritorious, to pay the claim of William L. Cameron, Junior, of Fountain, Colorado, for the destruction of his 1968 Ford Falcon automobile on or about August 29, 1970, when it was set on fire while parked at the headquarters parking lot at the United States Army Post at Baumholder, Germany, as if that claim was cognizable under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act of 1964, as amended (78 Stat. 767, as amended); and in the consideration of the claim under that Act, the said William L. Cameron, Junior, shall be held and considered to be a person eligible to be compensated under the Act.

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Vice President of the United States and President of the Senate.