

A. Background

1. The Big Brothers began in 1903 in Cincinnati, Ohio, when Mr. Irvin F. Westheimer determined that fatherless boys benefited from having an older "brother" to provide guidance on a personal basis. Mr. Westheimer is now 96 years old. In 1904 a similar group was established in New York City. The concept grew and in 1946 the Big Brothers of America was officially founded with 13 member agencies.

There are now 301 agencies in 49 states and the District of Columbia. There are also established agencies in 25 foreign countries. They have had particularly rapid growth in recent years - having doubled their membership in the last three years. They call themselves "the fastest growing youth serving movement in the United States."

They now have approximately 100,000 little brothers, and 100,000 big brothers. They have 5,000 Board Members, and a paid professional staff of 1,000.

B. Participants

Mr. Maurice Schwartz, Jr., President, Big Brothers of America.

Mr. Herbert Buchanan, National Big Brother of the Year. (He has worked for the Government Printing Office for 25 years. When he met his "little brother" who is deaf, he learned sign language and found that "Ricky" is quick to learn. He visited school board officials and others to "peel off" the mentally retarded label and got him admitted to the Maryland School for the Deaf. Soon Ricky became a teacher of sign language to others. The April 1976 issue of Ebony magazine has an article about Mr. Buchanan and Ricky.

Thomas "Ricky" Proctor, Mr. Buchanan's little brother.

- 3 -

Other Participants (in alphabetical order):

Mr. Bruce Akers, National Treasurer, BBOA, Pepper Pike, Ohio

Mr. James Barnes, President, Region 3, Silver Spring, Md.

Mrs. Anna Mae Buchanan, wife of Herbert Buchanan, the Big Brother of the Year, from Suitland, Maryland

Mr. John Frank, Vice President for Operations, Cincinnati, Ohio

Mr. Jon Outcalt, Member of the Board of Directors, Cleveland, Ohio

Mr. Lewis Reade, Executive Vice President, Philadelphia, Pa.

Mr. Stanley Sollins, National Secretary, Baltimore, Maryland

Mr. Louis Spiazzi, President, Region 2, New York City, N. Y.

Mr. Laurence Stinchcomb, Vice President, Region 3, Wash, D. C.

Mr. Alan Zimble, Member of Board of Directors, Birminton, Del.

White House Staff

The Honorable William J. Baroody, Jr., Assistant to the President for Public Liaison

Miss Pamela A. Powell, Director for Youth Affairs