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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
JANUARY 10, 1977
OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY

THE WHITE HOUSE
REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE
MEDAL OF FREEDOM PRESENTATION CEREMONY AND LUNCHEON

THE STATE FLOOR

12:20 P.M. EST

THE PRESIDENT: Distinguished honorees, ladies and gentlemen: Betty and myself are delighted to welcome all of you to the East Room of the White House today and it is a great privilege and pleasure for us to participate in this auspicious occasion where we have the opportunity of honoring such an outstanding group of men and women on this occasion.

Some of you we know personally. Others we are meeting for the first time, but you are all here because of your great contributions to American life.

It is a particular privilege for me because honoring extraordinary Americans on behalf of their fellow citizens is one of a President's most enjoyable duties.

The Medals of Freedom you are about to receive are the highest civilian honor that our country can bestow. Of course, excellence has its own reward not only to those who strive for it, but also to the free society which encourages it.

You are men and women who have used that freedom to achieve extraordinary excellence. Your outstanding accomplishments have made our lives better and set stirring examples for others to follow.

As we move from the Bicentennial year into our third century, America must remain a place where men and women are encouraged to create, innovate, to explore and to set the very highest standards, whatever their vocation.

Our country and all mankind will always need people like you whose energy, whose imagination, reveal our country's greatest potential.

With those remarks, let us proceed with the presentations.

MR. O'DONNELL: I. W. Abel. (Applause) Steelworker, social reformer, union organizer and labor statesman, I. W. Abel has forged a distinguished record of wise and firm leadership that exemplifies the very best tradition of the American labor movement. His many achievements and his unfailing concern for people have earned him not only the gratitude, but the esteem and respect of fellow citizens. (Applause)

John Bardeen, represented by his son, William Bardeen. (Applause) A physicist of genius, John Bardeen has combined
formidable and unique scientific insights with the mathematical ability to carry them through. His discoveries have revolutionized electronics and communications changing each of our lives for the better. We are proud to honor him as a creative master in the finest traditions of science and technology. (Applause)

Norman Borlaug. (Applause) Revolutionary scientist and eloquent prophet, he performed miracles with grain and saved untold millions from starvation. His work has pushed back the shadow of hunger on this planet and given us precious time to force its final retreat. (Applause)

General Omar N. Bradley. (Applause) Military hero, courageous in battle, and gentle in spirit, friend of the common soldier, General of the Army, first chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he embodies the best of the American military tradition with dignity, humanity, and honor. (Applause)

Admiral Arleigh Burke. (Applause) Combat commander, innovative naval strategist and tactician, inspiring leader, first three term Chief of Naval Operations, he made the sea a place of victory in war, a mighty fortress in peace. (Applause)

Bruce Catton. (Applause) Man of letters, preeminent historian of the War between the States, he made us hear the sounds of battle and to cherish peace. He made us see the bleeding wounds of slavery and hold man's freedom dear. (Applause)

Joe DiMaggio, represented by his brother, Dominick DiMaggio. (Applause) Superb athlete, coach, author and businessman, Joe DiMaggio stands tall among the ranks of genuine American heroes. Known and revered around the world as the "Yankee Clipper," he contributed many years of style and splendid ability to the sport which has come to be known as our national pastime. His character and grace both on and off the playing field have been a continuing source of inspiration to Americans of all ages. (Applause)

Ariel Durant. (Applause) Writer, historian and philosopher, Will Durant has provided an open window into the lives and thoughts of past ages. In collaboration with his wife, Ariel, he has helped lead us through the past to the meaning of the present. An eloquent apostle of social order and individual freedom, he is an enemy of chaos, a friend and invaluable guide to the millions of grateful readers. (Applause)

MORE
Judge Henry J. Friendly. (Applause) Honored student and servant of the law, man of intellect and wisdom, he brought a brilliance and a sense of precision to American jurisprudence, sharpening its focus and strengthening its commitment to the high goal of equal and exact justice for every American citizen. (Applause)

Lady Bird Johnson. (Applause) One of America's great First Ladies, she claimed her own place in the hearts and history of the American people. In councils of power or in the homes of the poor, she made government human with her unique compassion and her grace, warmth and wisdom. Her leadership transformed the American landscape and preserved its natural beauty as a national treasure. (Applause)

Archibald MacLeish, represented by his nephew, Roderick MacLeish. (Applause) Poet and playwright, teacher and statesman, Archibald MacLeish has combined the vocation of man of letters with that of public spokesman. A poet of realities as well as dreams, his eloquent words are matched by his sensitive social conscience. He seeks truth inspired by love of his fellow men and of his country. We are proud to recognize his stature as a humanist, and artist, and an American. (Applause)

James Albert Michener. (Applause) Author, teacher and popular historian, James Michener has entranced a generation with his compelling essays and novels. From "Tales of the South Pacific," to "Centennial," the prolific writings of this master storyteller have expanded the knowledge and enriched the lives of millions. (Applause)

Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller. (Applause) Patriot, philanthropist, patron of the arts, diplomat, Governor of New York, Vice President of the United States, his long years of service to his country have yielded governmental, economic, social and cultural contributions beyond measure. (Applause)

Norman Rockwell, represented by his son, Jarvis Rockwell. (Applause) Artist, illustrator and author, Norman Rockwell has portrayed the American scene with unrivaled freshness and clarity. Insight, optimism and good humor are the hallmarks of his artistic style. His vivid and affectionate portraits of our country and ourselves have become a beloved part of the American tradition. (Applause)

Katherine Filene Shouse. (Applause) Katherine Filene Shouse has given her country half a century of invaluable voluntary service. A pioneer in job training for women, she herself is an outstanding example of what good taste and intelligence, pragmatism and persistence can accomplish. A working patron of the arts as well as a giving one, her keen interest and involvement have enriched immeasurably our nation's cultural life. (Applause)

James D. Watson. (Applause) Scholar, teacher author and scientific pioneer, James D. Watson has challenged the mysteries of life itself and charted a new path in mankind's endless search for truth. His intellectual courage and relentless pursuit of scientific knowledge have earned him the respect and admiration of his country and a permanent place as one of the great explorers of the 20th Century. (Applause)
Arthur Fiedler. (Applause) Violinist, conductor and musical innovator, Maestro Fiedler has bridged the gap between popular and classical music and given millions around the world a greater appreciation of America's rich cultural heritage. His spirit and zest for living have made an immeasurable contribution to the quality of American life.

Mr. President, that concludes the presentations. Lowell Thomas, who is on his way, has been delayed because of inclement weather.

THE PRESIDENT: We all regret that Lowell Thomas, because of inclement weather, couldn't make it. He is on his way and hopefully he will arrive before the luncheon is over.

But let me again congratulate each and every one of you. I regret that Irving Berlin, Alexander Calder, the late Alexander Calder, and Georgia O'Keefe were unable to be represented here today.

We will of course present their medals to them or to their families at a later date.

In closing, let me voice our country's deep gratitude and great appreciation, not only to you, but to all of those who helped you achieve what you have accomplished. Each of you has friends, co-workers, teammates, families who share in your achievements and in our pride today.

Again, congratulations and very best wishes.

Now, Betty and I will join the honorees in the Grand Hall so that the other guests may meet them and after which, we want you all to join us in the State Dining Room.

Thank you very much.

END (AT 12:40 P.M. EST)
OPENING REMARKS FOR MEDAL OF FREEDOM PRESENTATION

LET ME WELCOME ALL OF YOU TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

IT IS A GREAT PRIVILEGE FOR BETTY AND MYSELF TO HAVE SUCH AN OUTSTANDING GROUP OF MEN AND WOMEN HERE WITH US TODAY.
SOME OF YOU WE KNOW PERSONALLY -- OTHERS WE ARE MEETING FOR THE FIRST TIME -- BUT YOU ARE ALL HERE BECAUSE OF YOUR GREAT CONTRIBUTIONS TO AMERICAN LIFE.

I AM ESPECIALLY HAPPY TO HAVE YOU HERE TODAY, BECAUSE HONORING EXTRAORDINARY AMERICANS, ON BEHALF OF ALL THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS, IS ONE OF A PRESIDENT'S MOST ENJOYABLE DUTIES.
THE MEDALS OF FREEDOM YOU ARE ABOUT TO RECEIVE ARE THE HIGHEST CIVILIAN HONOR OUR COUNTRY CAN BESTOW.

OF COURSE, EXCELLENCE IS ITS OWN REWARD -- NOT ONLY TO THOSE WHO STRIVE FOR IT, BUT ALSO TO THE FREE SOCIETY WHICH ENCOURAGES IT.

YOU ARE MEN AND WOMEN WHO HAVE USED THAT FREEDOM TO ACHIEVE EXCELLENCE. YOUR OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS HAVE MADE OUR LIVES BETTER, AND SET STIRRING EXAMPLES FOR OTHERS TO FOLLOW.
AS WE MOVE FROM THE BICENTENNIAL YEAR INTO OUR THIRD
CENTURY, AMERICA MUST REMAIN A PLACE WHERE MEN AND
WOMEN ARE ENCOURAGED TO CREATE, TO INNOVATE, TO EXPLORE,
AND TO SET THE VERY HIGHEST STANDARDS -- WHATEVER THEIR
VOCATION.

OUR COUNTRY, AND ALL MANKIND, WILL ALWAYS NEED PEOPLE
LIKE YOU WHOSE ENERGY AND IMAGINATION REVEAL OUR
GREATEST POTENTIAL.

LET US NOW BEGIN THE PRESENTATION OF THE MEDALS OF
FREEDOM.

END OF TEXT
CLOSING REMARKS FOR MEDAL OF FREEDOM PRESENTATION

-1-

LET ME CONGRATULATE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.

I REGRET THAT IRVING BERLIN, THE LATE ALEXANDER CALDER

AND GEORGIA O'KEEFFE WERE UNABLE TO BE REPRESENTED HERE TODAY.

WE WILL BE PRESENTING THEIR MEDALS TO THEM OR TO THEIR

FAMILIES AT A LATER DATE.
IN CLOSING, LET ME VOICE OUR COUNTRY'S GRATITUDE --

NOT ONLY TO YOU, BUT TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED YOU ACHIEVE WHAT YOU DID. EACH OF YOU HAS HAD FRIENDS AND CO-WORKERS, TEAMMATES AND FAMILIES WHO SHARE IN YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS -- AND IN OUR PRIDE TODAY. ONCE AGAIN,

CONGRATULATIONS.

NOW BETTY AND I WILL JOIN THE HONOREES IN THE GRAND HALL TO MEET OUR OTHER GUESTS, AFTER WHICH YOU ARE ALL INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH IN THE STATE DINING ROOM.

END OF TEXT
MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN  
FROM: JACK MARSH  

Attached is the official list of Medal of Freedom recipients for whom it will be necessary to draft citations. In reference to the citations, both General Bradley and Admiral Burke can have theirs prepared by the Department of Defense if we task them to do so. Assistance can probably be obtained for those in the field of arts from Nancy Hanks.

Because of the calligrapher the citation should not exceed 70 words in length and 50-60 words would be desirable.

Many thanks.
MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: DICK CHENEY
FROM: JACK MARSH
SUBJECT: Medal of Freedom

December 30, 1976

Attached is a proposed press release announcing your selection of individuals for the Medal of Freedom. It numbers 21 recipients one of which will be a posthumous award.

All of the individuals have been contacted by phone and their selection confirmed by telegram. At the present time, it appears that the following persons may not be able to attend for health or other reasons:

1. Berlin -- Has agreed to a presentation by a Presidential representative in his home in New York. He is not permitted to travel for health reasons but does not want it disclosed that he has a health problem.

2. Bardeen -- Will be in India.

3. Ariel and William Durant -- Because of advanced years extended travel away from their home in California is not recommended.

4. MacLeish -- Will be in the West Indies. Doctor recommends against his traveling.

5. O'Keefe -- Cannot engage in extended travel. Would like for the Medal to be presented in Arizona by a Presidential representative.

6. Rockwell -- Doctor advises against travel.
In reference to the above absentees, arrangements are being made for a member of the family to stand-in and receive the same on behalf of Bardeen, Durants and MacLeish.

My recommendation would be that at this time there be no disclosure of specific absentees but in response to questions indicate arrangements will be made for awardees who find they cannot attend. It may well be that one or more of those who say they will be absent may attend and someone we do not expect will have to be absent. However, we have checked the record of previous ceremonies and have found there were also absentees and stand-ins used to receive the Medal.

The first of the week we will have to devote additional thought to the ceremonies, the luncheon and the guest list for both.

Happy New Year.
The President will present the Medal of Freedom on January tenth at noon to twenty-one distinguished Americans, including one to be honored posthumously. The recipients selected by the President are:

I. W. Abel, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, President, United Steelworkers of America, for his achievements in the field of labor-management relations.

John Bardeen, of Champaign, Illinois, physicist, co-recipient of the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1956 and 1972, for his achievements in the field of physics.

Irving Berlin, of New York, New York, composer, for his contributions to American music.

Norman Ernest Borlaug, of Mexico City, Mexico, agricultural scientist and Nobel Prize winner in 1970, for his achievements in the field of agricultural science.

General of the Army Omar Nelson Bradley, USA (Ret.), of New York, New York, former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, for his contributions to national security.

Admiral Arleigh Albert Burke, USN (Ret.), of Bethesda, Maryland, former Chief of Naval Operations, for his contributions to national security.

Alexander Calder, posthumously, sculptor, for his achievements in art.

Bruce Catton, of New York, New York, writer and editor, in recognition of his achievements as a writer and editor of American history.

Joseph Paul Dimaggio, of Atlanta, Georgia, retired baseball player for the New York Yankees, for his contributions to American sports.
Ariel Durant, of Los Angeles, California, writer and Pulitzer Prize winner, 1968, for her contributions to American literature.

William James Durant, of Los Angeles, California, writer and Pulitzer Prize winner, 1968, for his contributions to American literature.

Arthur Fiedler, of Boston, Massachusetts, conductor, for his achievements in the field of American music.

Henry Jacob Friendly, of New York, New York, judge, U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, for his achievements in the field of jurisprudence.

Lady Bird Johnson, of Stonewall, Texas, former First Lady, for her contributions to American beautification.

Archibald MacLeish, of Conway, Massachusetts, poet and Pulitzer Prize winner in 1932 and 1959, for his contributions to American literature.

James Albert Michener, of Pipersville, Pennsylvania, author, Pulitzer Prize winner, 1947, for his contributions to American literature.

Georgia O'Keefe, of Abiquiu, New Mexico, artist, for her contributions to American art.

Nelson Aldrich Rockefeller, of Tarrytown, New York, Vice President of the United States, for his contributions to American Government.

Norman Rockwell, of Stockbridge, Massachusetts, illustrator, for his contributions to American art.

Lowell Thomas, of Pawling, New York, author, radio and television commentator, for his contributions in the field of communications.

James Dewey Watson, of Cold Spring Harbor, New York, educator and biochemist, recipient of the Nobel Prize in medicine and physiology, 1962, for his contributions in the fields of medicine and physiology.

* * * *

Mrs. Shouse
The award was originally designated in 1945 to honor meritorious and war-connected acts of service by civilians. Then in 1963 the award was expanded to honor persons for meritorious contributions to the security or national interest of the United States, to world peace or to cultural or other significant public or private endeavors.

The persons currently being honored who are unable to receive the award on January tenth will be represented at the ceremony either by a family member on that date, or by a special presentation through a representative of the President at a later time.

Previous recipients of the Nation's highest civilian award from President Ford are Ambassador David K.E. Bruce, pianist Artur Rubinstein, athlete Jesse Owens, and dancer Martha Graham.

# # #
December 30, 1976

This is to confirm the phone message from Mr. Milt Mitler of the White House Staff advising you of your selection by President Ford as one of a group of distinguished Americans to be awarded the Medal of Freedom by him in ceremonies at the White House on January 10, 1977 at about noon. There will be a public announcement of your selection as a recipient of the Medal of Freedom to be announced at 12:00 p.m. EST on Friday, December 31. You will be given additional details on the awards ceremony the first of next week.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, please call me at (202) 456-6585 or my Assistant, Milt Mitler at (202) 456-2800.

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President
MEMORANDUM FOR: BOB HARTMANN
FROM: JACK MARSH
SUBJECT: Medal of Freedom Citations

I was much impressed by the citations; however, I did raise questions on several of them and these are set out below for your consideration:

-- Norman BORLAUG -- I question the use of the word "Revolutionary." I would reword this as follows:

"Benevolent and brilliant, this revolutionary scientist and eloquent prophet has performed..."

I believe the word "revolutionary" as it is now drafted conveys the wrong meaning.

-- General Omar N. Bradley -- I have a question on the use of the word "immortal." Can we use this word appropriately on an individual who is not deceased?

-- Admiral Arleigh Burke -- Substitute "Naval" for military (first line). Also substitute "place" for "field" in the last line.

-- Bruce Catton -- I have no disagreement with this citation. However, I believe his contributions in the field of history are recognized beyond the limited area of the Civil War.
Joe DiMaggio -- I raise a question on the length of this citation. The calligrapher gave us a limit of not more than 70 words.

Lady Bird Johnson -- I am strongly of the view that Mrs. Johnson did not emerge from her husband's shadow but was a great First Lady in her own right. Other than the first sentence I think the citation is most appropriate.

I would rewrite it to read:

"As one of America's great First Ladies, she claimed her own place in the hearts and history of the American people."

cc: Bob Orben
January 6, 1976

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FROM: JACK MARSH
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I would rewrite it to read:

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cc: Bob Orben

JOM/dl
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION:  I. W. ABEL

CITATION:

MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION:  JOHN BARDEEN

CITATION:

A PHYSICIST OF GENIUS, JOHN BARDEEN HAS

COMBINED FORMIDABLE AND UNIQUE SCIENTIFIC INSIGHTS WITH

THE MATHEMATICAL ABILITY TO CARRY THEM THROUGH.

HIS DISCOVERIES HAVE REVOLUTIONIZED ELECTRONICS AND

COMMUNICATIONS, CHANGING EACH OF OUR LIVES FOR THE

BETTER.  WE ARE PROUD TO HONOR HIM AS A CREATIVE

MASTER IN THE FINEST TRADITIONS OF SCIENCE

AND TECHNOLOGY.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: IRVING BERLIN

CITATION:

MUSICIAN, COMPOSER, HUMANITARIAN,

AND PATRIOT, IRVING BERLIN HAS CAPTURED THE FONDEST

DREAMS AND DEEPEST EMOTIONS OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE IN

THE FORM OF POPULAR MUSIC. HIS ENORMOUS TALENT,

TIRELESS ENTHUSIASM, AND BOUNDLESS COMPASSION HAVE

INSPIRED GENERATIONS OF HIS COUNTRYMEN. HIS SONGS

WILL INSPIRE GENERATIONS MORE. IN HIS LIFE --

IN HIS WORK -- WE HAVE TRULY SEEN GOD BLESS AMERICA.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: NORMAN BORLAUG

CITATION:

BENEVOLENT REVOLUTIONARY, BRILLIANT SCIENTIST, ELOQUENT PROPHET, HE PERFORMED MIRACLES WITH GRAIN AND SAVED UNTOLD MILLIONS FROM STARVATION.

HIS WORK HAS PUSHED BACK THE SHADOW OF HUNGER ON THIS PLANET AND GIVEN US PRECIOUS TIME TO FORCE ITS FINAL RETREAT.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: GENERAL OMAR N. BRADLEY

CITATION:

IMMORTAL MILITARY HERO, COURAGEOUS IN BATTLE AND GENTLE IN SPIRIT, FRIEND OF THE COMMON SOLDIER, GENERAL OF THE ARMY, FIRST CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, HE EMBODIES THE BEST OF THE AMERICAN MILITARY TRADITION WITH DIGNITY, HUMANITY AND HONOR.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: ADMIRAL ARLEIGH BURKE

CITATION:

COMBAT COMMANDER, INNOVATIVE MILITARY STRATEGIST AND TACTICIAN, INSPIRING LEADER, FIRST THREE-TERM CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS, HE MADE THE SEA A FIELD OF VICTORY IN WAR, A MIGHTY FORTRESS IN PEACE.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: ALEXANDER CALDER

CITATION:

SCULPTOR, PAINTER, ARTISTIC GENIUS

AND GENTLEMAN, ALEXANDER CALDER BREATHED NEW LIFE INTO

THE ANCIENT ART OF SCULPTURE AND ADDED SPIRIT

AND VITALITY TO HIS COUNTRY EVEN AS HE DID TO HIS WORK.

HIS WIT AND IMAGINATION GRACED A BROAD RANGE OF

DISCIPLINES AND CREATED A TRULY PUBLIC ART. THE FACE

OF AMERICA IS RICHER AND MORE BEAUTIFUL FOR THE MANY

EXAMPLES OF HIS IMAGINATION WHICH COVER IT.
CITATION:

CITATION:

SUPERB ATHLETE, COACH, AUTHOR AND BUSINESSMAN, JOE DIMAGGIO STANDS TALL AMONG THE RANKS OF GENUINE AMERICAN HEROES. KNOWN AND REVERED AROUND THE WORLD AS THE "YANKEE CLIPPER," HE CONTRIBUTED MANY YEARS OF STYLE AND SPLENDID ABILITY TO THE SPORT WHICH HAS COME TO BE KNOWN AS OUR NATIONAL PASTIME.

HIS CHARACTER AND GRACE, BOTH ON AND OFF THE PLAYING FIELD HAVE BEEN A CONTINUING SOURCE OF INSPIRATION TO AMERICANS OF ALL AGES.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: ARIEL DURANT

CITATION:

WRITER, HISTORIAN AND PHILOSOPHER,

ARIEL DURANT HAS COMBINED A SENSITIVE AND SWEEPING VISION WITH UNIQUE LITERARY TALENTS. HER LIFELONG COLLABORATION WITH HER HUSBAND WILL, HAS HELPED MAKE HISTORY ACCESSIBLE, POPULARIZING BUT NEVER CHEAPENING ITS LESSONS.

THE STYLE AND SUBSTANCE OF HER WRITINGS HAVE MADE THE PAST MORE VIVID, AND ENRICHED OUR LIVES IN THE PRESENT.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: WILL DURANT

CITATION:

WRITER, HISTORIAN AND PHILOSOPHER,

WILL DURANT HAS PROVIDED AN OPEN WINDOW INTO THE LIVES AND THOUGHTS OF PAST AGES. WITH THE COLLABORATION OF HIS WIFE ARIEL, HE HAS HELPED LEAD US THROUGH THE PAST TO THE MEANING OF THE PRESENT. AN ELOQUENT APOSTLE OF SOCIAL ORDER AND INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM, HE IS AN ENEMY OF CHAOS, A FRIEND AND AN INVALUABLE GUIDE TO MILLIONS OF GRATEFUL READERS.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: ARTHUR FIEDLER

CITATION:

VIOLINIST, CONDUCTOR AND MUSICAL INNOVATOR, ARTHUR FIEDLER, HAS BRIDGED THE GAP BETWEEN POPULAR AND CLASSICAL MUSIC AND GIVEN MILLIONS AROUND THE WORLD A GREATER APPRECIATION OF AMERICA'S RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE. HIS SPIRIT AND ZEST FOR LIVING HAVE MADE AN IMMEASURABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE QUALITY OF AMERICAN LIFE.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION:  HENRY J. FRIENDLY

CITATION:

HONORED STUDENT AND SERVANT OF THE LAW,

MAN OF INTELLECT AND WISDOM, HE BROUGHT A BRILLIANCE

AND A SENSE OF PRECISION TO AMERICAN JURISPRUDENCE,

SHARPENING ITS FOCUS AND STRENGTHENING ITS COMMITMENT

TO THE HIGH GOAL OF EQUAL AND EXACT JUSTICE FOR EVERY

AMERICAN CITIZEN.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION:  LADY BIRD JOHNSON

CITATION:

SHE EMERGED FROM THE TOWERING SHADOW

OF A REMARKABLE PARTNER TO CLAIM HER OWN PLACE IN THE

HEARTS AND HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. IN COUNCILS

OF POWER OR IN HOMES OF THE POOR, SHE MADE GOVERNMENT

HUMAN WITH HER UNIQUE COMPASSION AND HER GRACE,

WARMTH AND WISDOM. HER LEADERSHIP TRANSFORMED THE

AMERICAN LANDSCAPE AND PRESERVED ITS NATURAL BEAUTY

AS A NATIONAL TREASURE.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: ARCHIBALD MACLEISH

CITATION:

POET AND PLAYWRIGHT, TEACHER AND STATESMAN,

ARCHIBALD MACLEISH HAS COMBINED THE VOCATION OF MAN
OF LETTERS WITH THAT OF PUBLIC SPOKESMAN. A POET OF
REALITIES AS WELL AS DREAMS, HIS ELOQUENT WORDS ARE
MATCHED BY HIS SENSITIVE SOCIAL CONSCIENCE. HE SEeks
TRUTH, INSPIRED BY LOVE OF HIS FELLOW MEN AND OF HIS
COUNTRY; WE ARE PROUD TO RECOGNIZE HIS STATURE
AS A HUMANIST, AN ARTIST AND AN AMERICAN.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: JAMES ALBERT MICHENER

CITATION:

AUTHOR, TEACHER AND POPULAR HISTORIAN,

JAMES MICHENER HAS ENTRANCED A GENERATION WITH HIS

COMPELLING ESSAYS AND NOVELS. FROM

TALES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC TO CENTENNIAL, THE PROLIFIC

WRITINGS OF THIS MASTER STORYTELLER HAVE EXPANDED

THE KNOWLEDGE AND ENRICHED THE LIVES OF MILLIONS.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: GEORGIA O'KEEFFE

CITATION:

PAINTER, TEACHER, AUTHOR, AND ARTISTIC PIONEER, GEORGIA O'KEEFFE HELPED TO SHAPE AND DEFINE THE HISTORY OF MODERN ART IN AMERICA. FOR OVER SIX DECADES HER SENSITIVITY AND SKILL PRODUCED WORKS OF STRIKING BEAUTY THAT SPAN A BROAD RANGE OF CONTEMPORARY STYLES. HER COUNTRY IS PROUD TO RECOGNIZE HER AS AN AMERICAN OF SPECIAL DISTINCTION.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: NELSON A. ROCKEFELLER

CITATION:

PATRIOT, PHILANTHROPIST, PATRON OF THE ARTS, DIPLOMAT, GOVERNOR OF NEW YORK, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES, HIS LONG YEARS OF SERVICE TO HIS COUNTRY HAVE YIELDED GOVERNMENTAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CONTRIBUTIONS BEYOND MEASURE.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: NORMAN ROCKWELL

CITATION:

ARTIST, ILLUSTRATOR AND AUTHOR, NORMAN ROCKWELL HAS PORTRAYED THE AMERICAN SCENE WITH UNRIVALLED FRESHNESS AND CLARITY. INSIGHT, OPTIMISM AND GOOD HUMOR ARE THE HALLMARKS OF HIS ARTISTIC STYLE.

HIS VIVID AND AFFECTIONATE PORTRAITS OF OUR COUNTRY AND OURSELVES HAVE BECOME A BELOVED PART OF THE AMERICAN TRADITION.
CITATION:

CATHERINE FILENE SHOUSE HAS GIVEN HER COUNTRY HALF A CENTURY OF INVALUABLE VOLUNTARY SERVICE.

A PIONEER IN JOB TRAINING FOR WOMEN, SHE HERSELF IS AN OUTSTANDING EXAMPLE OF WHAT GOOD TASTE AND INTELLIGENCE, PRAGMATISM AND PERSISTENCE CAN ACCOMPLISH.

A WORKING PATRON OF THE ARTS AS WELL AS A GIVING ONE, HER KEEN INTEREST AND INVOLVEMENT HAVE ENRICHED IMMEASURABLY OUR NATION'S CULTURAL LIFE.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION:  LOWELL THOMAS

CITATION:

PIONEER RADIO AND TELEVISION COMMENTATOR,
WAR CORRESPONDENT, AUTHOR AND EXPLORER, LOWELL THOMAS
HAS LIVED AND FULFILLED MANY DREAMS.  HIS ELOQUENT
VOICE, HIS ZEST FOR LIVING, HIS SUPERB PROFESSIONALISM
AND HIS PATRIOTISM HAVE LEFT A LEGACY OF EXCELLENCE WITH
THE MILLIONS WHO HAVE SEEN AND HEARD HIM OVER THE YEARS.
MEDAL OF FREEDOM CITATION: JAMES D. WATSON

CITATION:

SCHOLAR, TEACHER, AUTHOR, AND SCIENTIFIC PIONEER, JAMES D. WATSON HAS CHALLENGED THE MYSTERIES OF LIFE ITSELF AND CHARTED A NEW PATH IN MANKIND'S ENDLESS SEARCH FOR TRUTH. HIS INTELLECTUAL COURAGE AND RELENTLESS PURSUIT OF SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE HAVE EARNED HIM THE RESPECT AND ADMIRATION OF HIS COUNTRY AND A PERMANENT PLACE AS ONE OF THE GREAT EXPLORERS OF THE TWENTIETH CENTURY.