

The original documents are located in Box 2, folder “Bicentennial” of the Loen and Leppert Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

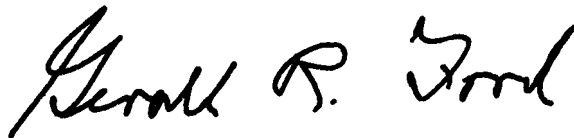
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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

I warmly commend all who participate in plans for the celebration of our National Bicentennial. Your efforts are symbolic of your deep sense of patriotism and civic pride. They also reflect the vitality and spirit of America.

I wholeheartedly welcome your commitment to help make our Nation's two hundredth birthday a fitting and memorable occasion for all of us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Gerald R. Ford". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style. The first name "Gerald" is written in a larger, more prominent script, while "R." is smaller and "Ford" is written in a similar cursive style. The signature is positioned below the typed text.

June
John Anderson x5676

Winnebago County Bicentennial
Commission

Judge Alford Penneman
Rockford, Ill.



Freedom Train
John Harner to speak

Marrs - Velma Shelton

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Gerald R. Ford

DECEMBER 19, 1974

OFFICE OF THE WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY
(Alexandria, Virginia)

THE WHITE HOUSE
REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
AT THE
AMERICAN FREEDOM TRAIN CERTIFICATION
ALEXANDRIA RAILWAY STATION

10:45 A.M. EST

Thank you very much, John Warner, Don Kendell.

Let me say at the outset I am most grateful for the participation by the Jefferson High School Band and the T.C. Williams High School Band, and I thank very deeply those who have participated and made it possible for this Freedom Train to undertake its journey throughout the United States.

Obviously I am tremendously pleased to participate in the official ceremonies recognizing the American Freedom Train as a major Bicentennial effort.

When this train begins its 17,000 mile journey through 48 of our 50 States this spring, the Freedom Train will serve as one of the hopeful points for our Bicentennial commemoration.

It will visit 76 cities and give Americans a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to view some of these historic national documents which relates directly to our history for the last 200 years.

I strongly urge parents and teachers to make sure that your children and students take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. The cargo on this train represents much of our Nation's past history and our hope for the future.

This exhibit touches virtually every phase of the American experience. The train will carry, for example, George Washington's personal copy of the Constitution. It will contain the handwritten draft of President Kennedy's first inaugural address. There will be moon rock samples, the first Bible printed in America, Paul Revere's saddlebags, as well as exhibits representing the Nation's culture, technological progress, professions and trades, sports and the arts.

During the next year and one half, 40 to 50 million Americans are expected to view these exhibits as we near our 200th birthday as a Nation.

MORE

(OVER)



I sincerely hope that every American, as he or she contemplates these historical reminders, will reflect on how far we have come through the short span of 200 years. And as we take a long look back, let us also take a long look forward. If we do, we will be able to see the problems facing us today in a much clearer perspective.

Our problems are serious ones -- especially our energy problems, and those of our economy.

But think of the problems our forefathers had. Think of those 13 tiny colonies taking on the mightiest nation, the mightiest empire in the world. And think of them winning their liberty as well as ours.

Very few people back in 1776 would have thought that in just 200 years those 13 colonies would provide the jumping off spot from which, eventually, 50 united states would span a vast continent and be ours -- tame a mighty wilderness -- construct a technological society of enormous scientific complexity -- and then set out to explore space itself. But if we look back over this span of time and see what we have today, that is exactly what took place and transpired.

As we reflect on these historic accomplishments, let us look ahead to the future that we are building. Let us reaffirm our faith in the American spirit.

As one of the great nations of the world -- spiritually, diplomatically, and economically, we in America have the best of many worlds. We have nearly all the resources which we desperately need. We have the technological resources. We have the human resources. Now, what we need in this period of critical times, we must have the will to win. And win we will in the months ahead.

By the year 2000, I see a people living in a community of peace with other nations, with a standard of living still the highest in the world, with disease greatly conquered, with individual liberty secure for everyone, with wide opportunities for good education and housing, and with our national will and spirit still climbing as we move toward celebration of our bicentennial.

MORE

I see the Bicentennial of 1976 as a rebirth as well as a birthday -- a rediscovery of our strength and of our potential. It will strengthen our resolve to fulfill the promises of our forefathers. It will fortify our determination to continue to build a freer, more just, and more humane society.

This American Freedom Train will be a fitting symbol for what the Bicentennial really represents. Since the day the golden spike was driven, the railroad has symbolized our unity as a nation.

On behalf of all Americans, I thank the American Freedom Train Foundation, and the corporations that provided grants for this Freedom Train. I know that your contributions will inspire others to participate in the Bicentennial. I would like to say a very special word, a special word of thank you to the people of Portland, Oregon, who provided the iron horse that will pull the Freedom Train.

I look for the Freedom Train to provide a unifying symbol of the heritage that made America's great past a great one, and will make its future an even greater one.

Now if I might, I would like to pick up this and present it to the Freedom Train for display, which is a document of tremendous historical significance, symbolic of what America really stands for; freedom.

END

(AT 11:05 A.M. EST)



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 29, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: FRIENDS OF THE UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPS

SUBJECT: Bicentennial, United States Marine Corps

Monday, November 10, 1975, marks the Bicentennial of the founding of the United States Marine Corps. This is a date that has great meaning to every American citizen and it has a special meaning to those individuals who have had the honor to serve in this great military institution.

It is important to this country that when the events of 1976 are reviewed by American citizens of another generation that the manner in which this event was marked by the Marine Corps stand as a meaningful contribution not only to our past but to our posterity.

It is important that, in my opinion, the event not only be observed as a National occasion through appropriate ceremonies, but that in some way the groundwork be laid so that this event is the origin of some custom, some tradition that has special meaning to the Corps and which contributes to our National well-being in our Third Century.

I have no specific proposal to make in this regard other than to bring this proposition to the attention of some of my friends who have served or are presently serving in the Marine Corps. The proposition simply stated is that it is incumbent upon those who identify with the Corps to memorialize its Bicentennial observance. It is my thought that among them will emerge some form of recognition of the event that is responsive to the need that I have outlined.

Of a more immediate nature and something that can more easily be done, I ask that special attention be given to the following:

1. Special orders be taken in the Congress so that Members who have backgrounds of service in the Corps might make appropriate remarks on the occasion of the Bicentennial of the Corps.

2. That in the House several Members be requested to make comments during the one-minute rule at the opening of the session.

3. That Members of the House and Senate who served in the Corps are made aware of the above two proposals.

4. That those members of the Corps who now serve in the Congress be invited to attend and participate in the Commander-in-Chief's ceremonies at the Iwo Jima Memorial and any other ceremonies that might be planned at the White House or in the Washington environs.

5. That a Presidential statement marking this event be inserted in the Congressional Record on the day that the statement is made in both the House and the Senate.

6. That a Message of the Commander-in-Chief be directed to all Members of the Corps on active duty afloat and ashore.

7. That in addition to the efforts made by the Public Affairs Office of the Corps to bring this event to the attention of the public, that others interested in marking this anniversary similarly bring the event to the attention of the media.

8. That a fact sheet be prepared as to events planned in connection with this Bicentennial event and distributed to those who desire to join in marking the occasion.

In summary, it seems to me that this great service whose history and tradition goes from the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli and which has distinguished itself in the Argonne and Iwo Jima and wrote its military history from the Korean Peninsula to Southeast Asia be appropriately recognized and remembered for its accomplishments by the citizens it has so faithfully served.



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1. DEAR COLLEAGE

2. MARINE CORPS.



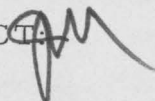
Rm 2212
KNOB

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 29, 1975

Joe Bartlett
Federal Executive
Institute
Charlottesville, Va.
(804) 296-0181
22903

MEMORANDUM FOR: FRIENDS OF THE UNITED STATES
MARINE CORPS

SUBJECT:  Bicentennial, United States Marine Corps

This coming Monday, November 3, 1975, marks the Bicentennial of the founding of the United States Marine Corps. This is a date that has great meaning to every American citizen and it has a special meaning to those individuals who have had the honor to serve in this great military institution.

It is important to this country that when the events of 1976 are reviewed by American citizens of another generation that the manner in which this event was marked by the Marine Corps stand as a meaningful contribution not only to our past but to our prosperity.

It is important that, in my opinion, the event not only be observed as a National occasion through appropriate ceremonies, but that in some way the groundwork be laid so that this event is the origin of some custom, some tradition that has special meaning to the Corps and which contributes to our National well-being over the long haul.

I have no specific proposal to make in this regard other than to bring this proposition to the attention of some of my friends who have served or are presently serving in the Marine Corps. It is my thought that among them will emerge some form of recognition of the event that is responsive to the need that I have outlined.

Of a more immediate nature and something that can more easily be done, I ask that special attention be given to the following:



Jack Brooks
Barbara Conable

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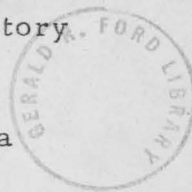
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Col. Guyer
Lt. Col. John
H. J. Res 707
Dorsey B. B. 11/11

Sen. Chris Coons
OL 41686

Mark Pini
Bob Wilson
Mary Holt
Marine Corps Barracks - tenant of navy - have P
est. MC befitting its tradition & dignity
at the appropriate site in the Nations Capital
an act which has been long overdue.
WW II tempo - MC has rep. of fixing more bang for
the buck.

JOE BARTLETT
CLERK TO THE MINORITY

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

• • • • •

94TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 707

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

OCTOBER 22, 1975

Mr. BEARD of Tennessee (for himself, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. BURLISON of Missouri, Mr. CONABLE, Mr. CORMAN, Mr. COUGHLIN, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. DENT, Mr. EDWARDS of Alabama, Mr. HARSHA, Mr. JACOBS, Mr. JOHNSON of Colorado, Mr. KELLY, Mr. LATTI, Mr. McCLORY, Mr. McCLOSKEY, Mr. MURPHY of Illinois, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. PIKE, Mr. SHIPLEY, Mr. SYMINGTON, Mr. SYMMS, Mr. WHITE, and Mr. BOB WILSON) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize the President to issue a proclamation designating November 10, 1975, in commemoration of the two hundredth anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

Whereas the United States Marine Corps holds a unique place in the history of this country and in the hearts of our people; and

Whereas the United States Marine Corps has earned a distinguished reputation for readiness in its role, and faithfulness in its mission, both in times of war and in times of peace; and



Whereas tradition has it that the Marine Corps had its beginning at Tun Tavern in the city of Philadelphia on the 10th day of November 1775, now two hundred years since; and

Whereas this historic milestone permits the people of the United States a fitting opportunity to express their felicitations and gratitude to this great institution, the United States Marine Corps, and to all who have served therein: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the President is hereby authorized and requested to
4 issue a proclamation designating the 10th day of November
5 1975, as a national day of celebration and appreciation for
6 the two hundred years of exemplary service and sacrifice
7 of the United States Marine Corps.

JOINT RESOLUTION

To authorize the President to issue a proclamation designating November 10, 1975, in commemoration of the two hundredth anniversary of the United States Marine Corps.

By Mr. BEARD of Tennessee, Mr. BROOKS, Mr. BURLISON of Missouri, Mr. CONABLE, Mr. CORMAN, Mr. COUGHLIN, Mr. DELLUMS, Mr. DENT, Mr. EDWARDS of Alabama, Mr. HARSHA, Mr. JACOBS, Mr. JOHNSON of Colorado, Mr. KELLY, Mr. LATTI, Mr. McCLOREY, Mr. McCLOSKEY, Mr. MURPHY of Illinois, Mr. MURTHA, Mr. PIKE, Mr. SHIPLEY, Mr. SYMINGTON, Mr. SYMMS, Mr. WHITE, and Mr. BOB WILSON

OCTOBER 22, 1975

Referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil
Service

November 7, 1975

Dear Mr. Chairman:

In a series of discussions during the summer pertaining to plans and preparation for the Bicentennial, the President approved a proposal to develop as a part of the Bicentennial observations a Science and Technology Exposition at Cape Canaveral.

It is planned that the Exposition be held for three months beginning next June at the Kennedy Space Center, Cape Canaveral, Florida. Cape Canaveral is a world-recognized symbol of the remarkable achievements by this nation in science and technology. As a site, it offers many striking advantages including ample space, existing facilities and tourist attractions, and a unique relation between scientific and technological endeavors in a surrounding natural environment of a national wildlife refuge. Plans are being made to upgrade and expand existing scientific and technological displays. The focus of the Exposition will be in and around geodesic dome pavilions to be constructed against the backdrop of the mammoth and impressive Vehicle Assembly Building.

The Exposition will be national in scope with participation by Federal agencies and industry. International participation is not planned. In view of its role in science and technology, and with the location of the Exposition at Cape Canaveral, NASA has been designated as the overall manager and lead agency with management assistance to be provided by other Government agencies.

Funding for the Exposition is to be accomplished within currently approved agency budgets. The Exposition will be located in an area of high unemployment and \$3.0 million has been provided from the Department of Commerce Job Opportunities Program by the Economic Development Administration for construction of facilities. Government agency exhibits will be funded from currently approved appropriations.



There will be some reprogramming of individual agency budgets, which will be handled in accordance with normal procedures by the agencies involved and their respective subcommittees. Industry exhibit costs will be borne by participating companies. For the most part, actual direct operating costs will be met by either tour or admission fees. Additionally, there will be an objective of recovering as much as feasible of the original \$3.0 million initial outlays.

It is anticipated that over two million people will visit the Exposition. They will come from every state in the Union and from most foreign countries. The Exposition should serve as a major stimulus to a fuller appreciation of the benefit of science and technology to the quality of American life.

You will be informed periodically by NASA of the progress of the Exposition. Any assistance you might give this project will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

John O. Marsh, Jr.
Counsellor to the President

The Honorable John L. McClellan
Chairman
Appropriations Committee
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
JOMJr:bmr

