

**The original documents are located in Box 49, folder “President - Personal Family - Mike Ford” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

### **Copyright Notice**

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the making of photocopies or other reproductions of copyrighted material. Gerald R. Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections. Works prepared by U.S. Government employees as part of their official duties are in the public domain. The copyrights to materials written by other individuals or organizations are presumed to remain with them. If you think any of the information displayed in the PDF is subject to a valid copyright claim, please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

2/17/75

To: Jay French  
From: Phil Buchen



Ford, Mike

February 17, 1975

Dear Mike:

Your note of appreciation that Dr. Lincoln has arrived in this country and, by this time, will have started teaching warmed my heart. I am pleased at this result of the very slight efforts on my part and those of Jay French on my staff.

Also, thank you very much for finding and sending me the booklet on the "Tyranny of the Urgent." It provides a lesson many of us can use but especially one who works in the White House where urgency operates in a most tyrannical fashion.

My most affectionate regards to you and Gayle.

Sincerely,

Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Michael Ford  
P. O. Box 77  
Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary  
South Hamilton, Massachusetts 01982

PWBuchen:ed



THE WHITE HOUSE

Feb. 13<sup>th</sup>

Dear Mr. Buckner,

Just a short note to say "thank you" to you and your staff for all the help you were in securing prompt arrival of Dr. Lincoln to the States. I believe he arrived in the country Wednesday and he begins his teaching Friday - a little late - but much sooner than if he would have had to go through the extensive check by the Philadelphia Police Dept. While your efforts were only known by a few, they are certainly appreciated by Dr. Lincoln and all the Gordon-Conwell community.

Your mentioning of that appropriate phrase "tyranny of the urgent" reminded me of



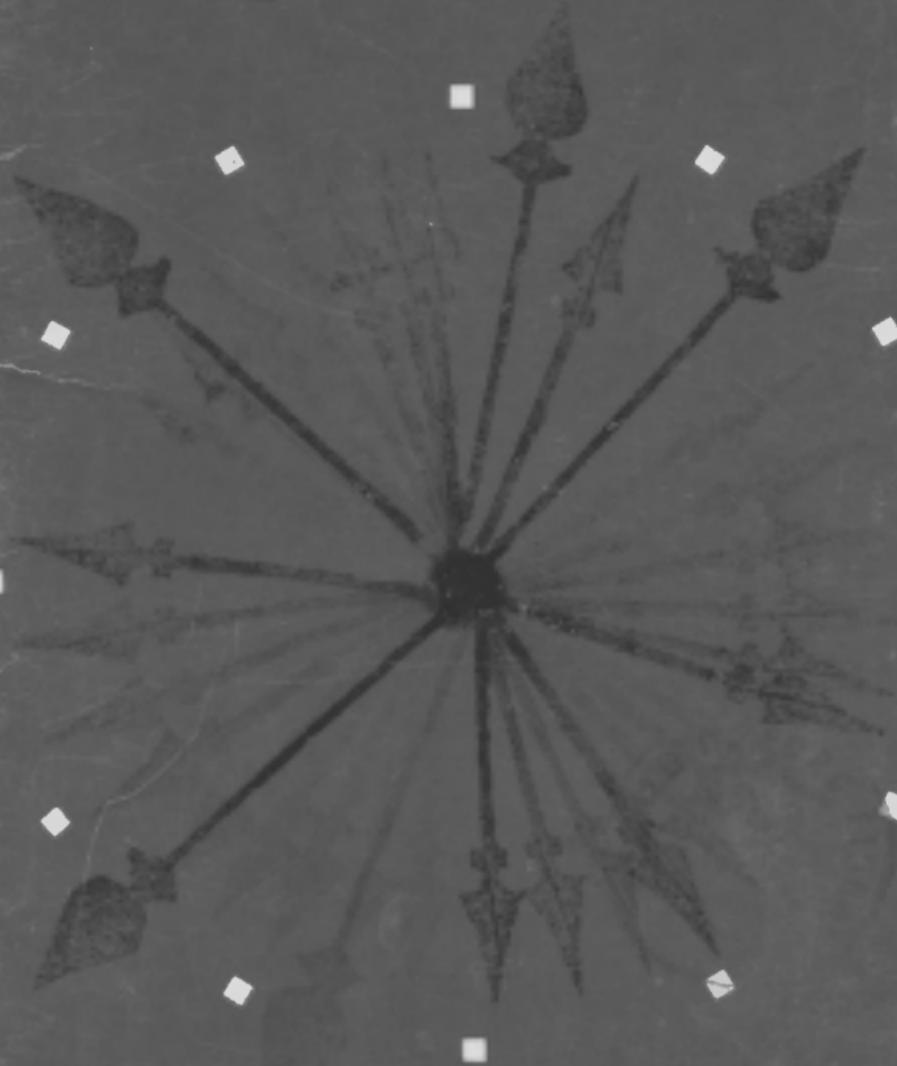
a short booklet which I had read a year ago and which I finally dug up in my mass of books. I just reread it and it came at a good time as Gayle and I have been resetting our priorities since the first of the year. We have been trying to shore up our spiritual foundations and thus seek to be more attuned to "the mind of Christ" in this high speed racetrack culture of ours. I just pass this booklet on for your interest as we are finished with it.

Please give our best to Mrs. Bucken and thank you again so much for your great help and support to my father.

Warmly,  
Mike

Some items in this folder were not digitized because it contains copyrighted materials. Please contact the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library for access to these materials.

# TYRANNY OF THE URGENT



NO CONTACTS  
NO CONTACTS  
NO CONTACTS

TYRANNY OF THE URGENT

By Charles E. Howell



TYRANNY OF THE URGENT

TYRANNY OF THE URGENT

by Charles E. Hummel

Printed in the United States of America



Ford,  
Michael

1/30/75

Mr. Buchen talked  
with Monroe Leigh at  
the State Dept.

Told Mike Ford  
everything was  
all squared away.



Send to  
Jay's files.

Thursday 1/30/75

3:15 Jay advises he needs:

Dr. Lincoln's date and place of birth

How long did he live in the U. S. -- dates  
Where?

We know he went to school in Philadelphia, but  
did he live anywhere else in the U. S.?

If he can get that information, Jay will go back  
to the lady and she will see what she can do.

Dr. Holm  
Arraras

Pittorelli  
632-1978

Monroe Leigh

(Spec. Asst. to the  
Director, visas)  
Offices



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

10:55

Mr B talked  
to Sgt  
Mc Dermott



*Name Check  
his name  
w/c name  
Phila. address*

Wednesday 1/29/75

5:00 Mike Ford said he got back to Dean Kerr, who tells him that the papers needed for the Consulate in London are papers from the Philadelphia Police Dept. showing he had no police record. Earlier Dr. Lincoln was in the U. S. as a student at Westminster. Once you have been in a country, they have to validate that you had no police record while here. Dean Kerr called the Philadelphia Records Dept. and inquired about the records. They say they have misplaced them.

Dr. Lincoln has requested the papers; they have to have a new set of fingerprints. According to Mike, Philadelphia had lost his request. Dr. Kerr was going ahead to call Dr. Lincoln. Dr. Lincoln needs to forward \$4 to them to get the fingerprint forms to be sent over.

Now this will just drag it on longer.

Mr. Buchen talked with Mike and then asked me to get

Sgt. McDermott  
Records Division  
Rm. 154

(215) MU. 6-3147

(If not there, he will talk to whoever is on the evening shift.)

Unable to get them to answer, I called the main number (215) MU.6-1776  
They in turn transferred me to MU.6-3147  
and I talked with Mrs. Glass, who was about to leave  
the office (hours are until 5 p.m.).

She indicated that all the requests routinely go through her desk. That's why they transferred me to her. (215) MU. 6-2291

She checked and said she had mailed out the forms to Dr. Lincoln today.

WE WILL CALL SGT. McDERMOTT ON THURSDAY

*Miss Corrigan*



Wednesday 1/29/75

12:35 Jane took a message from Mike Ford.

He wanted you to know that it isn't necessary at this time for you to call Dr. Lincoln.

Mike is leaving at 1:30 this afternoon to come to Washington and will be in touch when he gets here.



Tuesday 1/28/75

5:10 Jay advises that Edward Kennedy's office made a similar inquiry about the status of Dr. Lincoln's request for a visa. Under the circumstances, Immigration people send a cable to the consulate to check on the status.

*Andrew  
Westminster  
Theological  
Seminary*

The cable arrived today with the status. The Consulate has notified Dr. Lincoln that he needs to produce certain materials and come to the Consulate for a meeting with officials. As soon as Dr. Lincoln gets those papers together, he can request a meeting and, as soon as the meeting is scheduled, they will push the papers through and get him on his way. (Will assign a visa number to him and he's free to depart.)

How long it will take to get the papers together is something we wouldn't know and how long before they can schedule a meeting. Jay has only talked with people "down the line" so if we want any more definite information, he feels the inquiry should be made to the Director.

*Feb. 3 was the date the course was to start.*

6:30 I called Mike Ford to ask if he could get us the full address and phone number of Dr. Lincoln so you might call him tomorrow to be sure he is aware of the procedures.

Mike doesn't have it -- but is sure Dr. Kerr (of Gordon Cronwell Theological Seminary) would have the phone numbers since he has talked with him on at least two occasions, he thinks.

Mike has an exam tomorrow morning from 9 to 11 or 11:30 and will get the information and call us -- so we can get in touch with Dr. Lincoln. (Will probably be after noon before he can call us.)

*\$4.00*

*Phil<sup>2</sup>, Police  
Sgt McDermott  
Records 17  
MU 6-3147  
Rm 154*



4:50 Jay to  
check & call

---

Mr. Buchen  
wants to talk to Mike

Tuesday 1/28/75

2:25 Mike Ford called Dorothy Downton, who referred him to us.

*South  
Hamilton,  
Mass.*

He advises that his school, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary, is to have a visiting professor to come from England to teach a course in the next term.

Dr. Andrew Trevor Lincoln (who has been at Cambridge) filed his petition for a visa on September 4, 1974. He has 6th preference. Apparently all the forms and things needing to be filled out have been taken care of. They have gotten a clearance or authorization through the Justice Department. (Verification in Justice has been cleared and passed upon) Now the petition is at the U. S. Consulate in London waiting to be acted upon there.

There seems to be no reason for holding -- as everything seemed to be in order.

Mike had talked with Dr. Kerr, Dean of the Faculty at Gordon Conwell, and said he would check with us to see if it would be appropriate for us to intervene.

They had hoped he would be here next week to start his tenure at the school.

We can call Mike through Signal.



# Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

SOUTH HAMILTON • MASSACHUSETTS • 01982

(617) 468-7111

*Ford  
Michael*

April 2, 1975

Mr. Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President  
The White House  
Washington

Dear Mr. Buchen:

We are most deeply indebted to you personally for coming to our rescue by hastening the issuance of a visa for Professor and Mrs. Andrew Lincoln. If he had not been so enabled to arrive at Gordon-Conwell in February it would have seriously hindered our program not only for this school year but for the next as well. Professor Lincoln is a remarkably fine scholar and an able teacher who brings us something of the best of Continental Biblical Theology. Since we are an active member of the Boston Theological Institute, a consortium of nine seminaries, the arrival of Professor Lincoln was appreciated beyond our campus. So not only GCTS thanks you but the B.T.I. as well.

This was undoubtedly an extra burden upon you in the midst of an already crowded schedule. Mike has told us of your effort and I am sure he has shared with President Ford how very much this meant to the Gordon-Conwell community.

We move to the close of a good year with a graduating class of some 155 students. In our student body we have some of the finest potential available for ministry and we feel a commitment through them and provide leadership for the churches of our nation.

Dr. Harold John Ockenga, President of our school, joins me in expressing the sincere hope that you will soon be able to visit our campus on the Boston North Shore.

With Every Good Wish,

*William Nigel Kerr*

William Nigel Kerr  
Academic Dean

WNK:jdc



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

*Jones  
Michael*

March 27, 1975

Dear Dr. Kerr:

The President has read your letter to him expressing gratitude for the assistance given to speed the issuance of a visa for Professor Andrew Lincoln.

He found your comments about Mike and Gayle very heartwarming, and he very much appreciated your expressions of support for him.

Inasmuch as my office was involved in the problems which Professor Lincoln had, I want you to know that we were very happy to have been of assistance in this regard.

Sincerely,

*Philip W. Buchen*

Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Dr. William Nigel Kerr  
Academic Dean  
Gordon-Conwell Theological  
Seminary  
South Hamilton, Massachusetts 01982





Eva

Mike sent this letter to his Dad and the President has seen it. He asked me to "give it to the person who handled it." I believe that was Mr. Buchen. If I am mistaken, pls. let me know!!

Dorothy

# Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary

SOUTH HAMILTON • MASSACHUSETTS • 01982

(617) 468-7111

March 11, 1975

President Gerald Ford  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Ford:

As Dean of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary may I express thanks for the valuable assistance which you gave in speeding issuance of a visa for Professor Andrew Lincoln. It was most important to us that Professor Lincoln be with us for the second term for he had two large classes scheduled.

We are pleased to have Mike and Gayle on our campus. They are a fine, mature, pleasant and bright young couple and are an example to our community.

Be assured of our prayer and concern for you as our President and as a Christian gentleman. We do daily uphold you before our Father's throne that in these trying times special wisdom and grace may be yours.

Cordially,



William Nigel Kerr  
Academic Dean

WNK:jdc



Wednesday, May 26, 1976

The Washington Star

## Snow Strands President's Son, Three Guards

LAKE PLACID, N.Y. (UPI) — Michael Ford, the President's oldest son, was stranded, along with three Secret Service guards, in a freak May snowstorm on one of New York's highest