

**The original documents are located in Box 63, folder “Veterans Administration” of the Philip Buchen Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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VA E va

November 22, 1974

FOR: Phillip Areeda  
FROM: Jay French  
SUBJECT: Statutory allowance of attorney's fees for VA claims

There is a statutory maximum limit of \$10 for attorney's fees for representing a claimant before the Veterans Administration. Section 3404, title 38 USC. Our office received a letter from an attorney asking about the wisdom of this statute. I referred his inquiry to the Domestic Council which in turn referred it to the VA.

The VA, in response, justified this \$10 limit upon the grounds that a) it saves veterans from unscrupulous lawyers who would seek to assist them in filing routine claims, and b) the claim process is not an adversary situation requiring the assistance of lawyers.

I find this response incomplete and would like to know if you would agree to my directing certain questions to the General Counsel of the Veterans Administration under my own name, or to the Director under Mr. Buchen's name. Generally, I would like to know how many claims the VA processes annually and how many are denied, appealed and subsequently litigated. Of those which are litigated, it would be interesting to know what percent are won, lost or settled. Finally, I would like to know if claims are ever settled by compromise within the VA proper.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

May 19, 1975

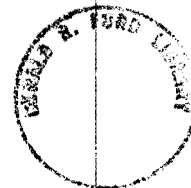
MEMORANDUM FOR: TED MARRS

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *PWB.*

Attached is a memo from Jay French to me  
on a subject about which I would like your  
views and suggestions.

Attachment

*MARRS  
7/8*



May 13, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Phillip W. Buchen

FROM:

Jay T. French

It might be worthwhile for the President to consider creating a committee for the purpose of advising him on the establishment of an appropriate national monument in honor of those who died or are missing in action as a result of service in Vietnam.



VA

THE WHITE HOUSE

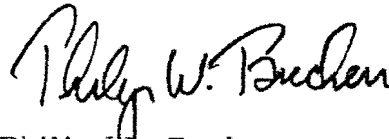
WASHINGTON

March 16, 1976

Dear Mr. Moore:

Thank you for the copy of your letter to Robert Richardson of my former law firm. While I appreciate your interest in this matter, it will be more appropriate and productive for Mr. Peter S. Miravalle to meet directly with the appropriate officials of the Veterans Administration, and, accordingly, I recommend that you contact them directly.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Donald C. Moore  
8727 Antler  
Richmond Heights, Missouri 63117



7/16  
7/17

February 5, 1976

Mr. Robert W. Richardson  
Law, Weathers, Richardson & Dutcher  
740 Old Kent Building  
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49502

Dear Mr. Richardson:

Thank you very much for your letter of December 22, 1975,  
and the letter from Mr. Philip W. Buchen, dated January 26,  
1976, which arrived just in time to be read at our Executive  
Committee meeting on January 30th.

Our Chairman, Mr. Peter S. Miravalle, as well as every  
one at that meeting, are very grateful for your cooperation.

We are hoping that some way, some how Mr. Buchen can  
arrange a five-minute conference with President Ford and  
Mr. Miravalle and I in order to acquaint him thoroughly  
with our project.

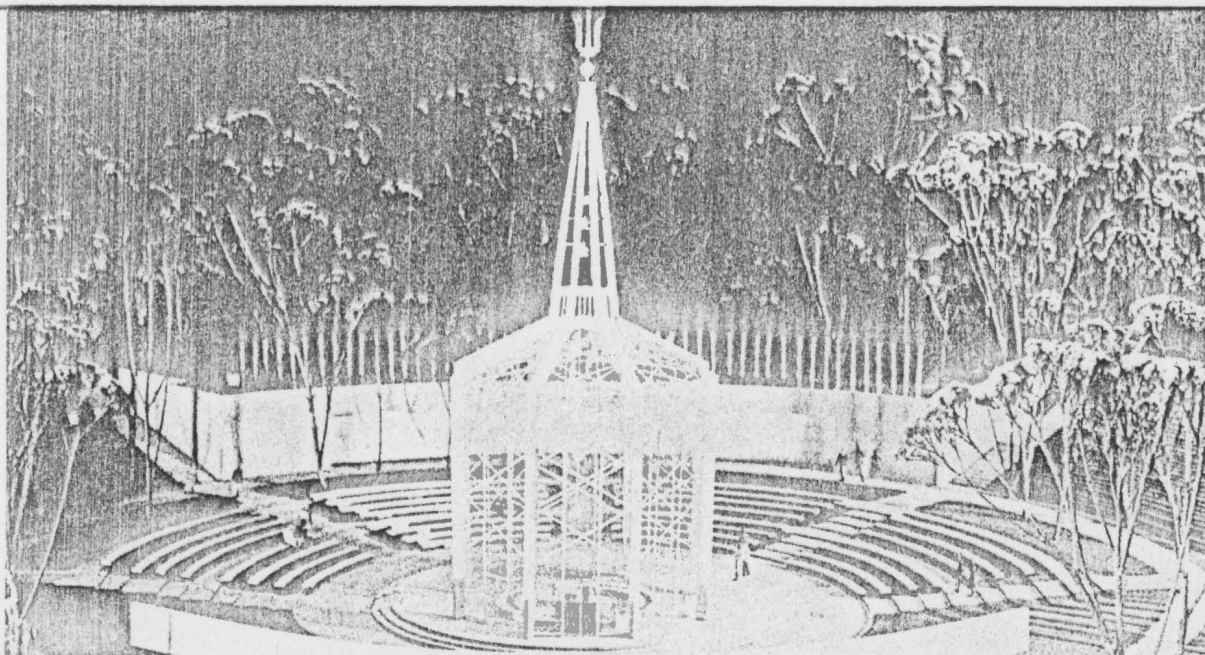
Again thanking you, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

Donald C. Moore

COPY: Mr. Philip W. Buchen ✓  
Mr. Miravalle





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*Presents America's Living Memorial to her War Dead of all Wars*

**JEFFERSON BARRACKS NATIONAL CEMETERY CHAPEL AND MEMORIAL AMPHITHEATER**



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 26, 1976

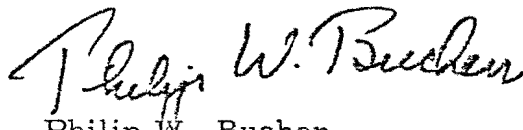
Dear Mr. Moore:

Your letter of December 16, 1975, has been forwarded to me by my former office.

I have been in touch with officials of the Veterans Administration and have learned they are very much aware of the interest in building a chapel at the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery. An architect has been engaged to develop preliminary plans for the proposed structure. Once these plans have been completed, they will be reviewed by the Administrator of the Veterans Administration who will have to consider the cost of the project in terms of national priorities.

I appreciate your concern for this worthwhile project and can assure you the Veterans Administration intends to give it the most careful consideration.

Sincerely,



Philip W. Buchen  
Counsel to the President

Mr. Donald C. Moore  
8727 Antler  
Richmond Heights, Mo. 63117





THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

PFIAB

August 11, 1976

NOTE FOR MR. BUCHEN

Phil,

Here is the 9 August Washington Star article on Connally. I neglected to mention that in the 2nd paragraph, Harrington states that he is sending letters to President Ford and Senator Inouye.

The same story is incorporated in an article by Eliot Marshall in the July 31 issue of The New Republic, a copy of which we sent you early last week.



Wheaton B. Byers

Encl: cy of 9 Aug. Star article



Private Group's Italian Connection

# Harrington Asks Probe Of Connally's 2 Roles

By Bill Choyke

Capitol Hill News Service

A liberal Massachusetts congressman will ask President Ford and the newly created Senate Committee on Intelligence to investigate whether the public and private roles of former Texas Gov. John Connally pose a possible conflict of interest

firm's clients. In order to avoid the appearance of any impropriety, Harrington maintains Connally should either resign one of the two posts or be removed by Ford from the President's advisory group.

The President's intelligence panel, created by former President Richard M. Nixon in 1969, is a

Washington Star

Aug. 9, 1976

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