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1/26/74

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 19, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN *P.W.B.*

SUBJECT: Responsible Adviser to Decide
on Memberships and Endorsements

You approved my earlier recommendation (attached) that a responsible political adviser be appointed to decide requests for honorary memberships and endorsements that cannot be answered by a routine letter of rejection. I believe that Bill Casselman is well qualified to do this and recommend that you appoint him.

Approve *DR 7.*

Disapprove _____

Comment _____

*But I would like
opportunity to review decisions
before final action.
J.*

October 31, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: PHILIP BUCHEN

**SUBJECT: Honorary Memberships
and Endorsements for the
President and his Family**

The President continuously receives offers of honorary memberships and requests to join this or that organization or endorse a cause. The policy adopted by the previous Administration after the first year of struggling with such decisions was to reject them all, with a few exceptions.

I. General Policy to Decline Memberships and Endorsements.

The principal hazards in accepting such offers are (1) the uneven extension of Presidential favors, creating an appearance of favoritism and proliferating even more such requests, and (2) linking the President's name to solicitation of funds and the like.

The reason for rejection stated in the answering correspondence is that "the President receives so many requests of this kind that the only fair course is to deny them all." The words "of this kind" provide a hedge for whatever exceptions are made.

Many offers of honorary memberships are accompanied by cards or certificates. These are kept, even though the membership is declined "as a token of your thoughtfulness" in making the offer. The rationale for retention is (1) to avoid a seeming slap in the face by return of the entire package, and (2) the human interest value in the accumulation of such tokens.

Fund raising and commercial offers have been rejected on principle as inappropriate for the President, except as noted below.

II. Exceptions

A. Public and Quasi Public Organizations

Presidents have traditionally consented to honorary titles and patronage of official and quasi official organizations. Examples include the American National Red Cross, the United Fund, the United Nations Association, the Boy Scouts of America, and the like. A tradition of membership by past Presidents may sometimes be regarded as conferring a quasi-public character on an organization. For such organizations as the Red Cross and Boy Scouts, which have both national and local organizations, Presidential participation has been limited to the national organization.

B. Other Exceptions

An occasional exception is made because of associations that are personal to the incumbent President, such as his own membership in a golf club, or civic or professional affiliations pre-dating his Presidency and not inconsistent with the office. There may also be some personal or political interest or hometown associations that are distinguishable and can be dealt with on a case by case basis.

It is recommended that the same policies be followed by the members of your family.

The above policies are

Approved _____

Disapproved _____

Comment _____

III. Recommended Disposition of Offers and Requests

We have accumulated offers received since you took office pending adoption of a general policy, except for a few that required immediate action. On the basis of the policies described above they have been divided into three general groups as follows:

Tab A: Public and quasi-public organizations for which acceptance is recommended.

Tab B: (1) Possible approvals as exceptions depending on guidance from you or a designated adviser.

(2) For consideration on the same basis, all Masonic offers have been segregated under this tab.

Tab C: (1) Proposed rejections under the general policy.

(2) Proposed rejections subject to review in case an exception should be made for political reasons.

My recommendation would be that you authorize acceptance now for all organizations listed at Tab A. I believe the remainder should be reviewed by an adviser from a political standpoint under whatever general policy you direct in response to this memorandum. Any acceptance which may be thus recommended should be forwarded to the Counsel's office. Hereafter, I would propose that membership requests that cannot be handled by a routine letter of rejection be forwarded to the same person for political review, and then to the Counsel's office if acceptance is recommended.

Approve _____

Disapprove _____

Comment _____

DC:cg

Tab A Approval Recommended

Gallaudet College
The National Foundation-March of Dimes
People-to-People International
The Navy Ball
Washington Performing Arts Society, Honorary Patrons for
Salute to U.S.A. (President and Mrs. Ford).
United Service Organizations, Inc. (USO)
National 4-H Service Committee
Big Brothers of America
Sister Cities International
United Nations Association
Army Relief Society
State Bar of Michigan
Partners of the Americas (Gov. Milliken request, inter-American
Governors group)
United States Capitol Historical Society (Suggests designating a member
of the President's family)

NOTE: The Counsel's Office has received framed certificates from each of the following organizations, indicating that the President has already accepted:

National Geographic Society, Life Membership
Michigan Retired Officers Association
Distributive Education Clubs of America, Brandywine Chapter,
Wilmington, Delaware

Tab B(1) Possible Discretionary Approval

Saginaw Club of Saginaw, Michigan
Boy Scouts of America (Denver Area Council)
Army Navy Country Club (Arlington, Virginia)
Army and Navy Club (Grand Rapids, Michigan)
The Forest Park South Suburban Cook County Illinois Council of
the Navy League of the United States
Recording for the Blind, Inc. (New York, N. Y.)
Distributive Education Clubs of America (Rootstown, Ohio)

Note: John Nidecker has already accepted
on the President's behalf an honorary
membership in the Brandywine Chapter
of Wilmington, Delaware.

People-to-People Sports Committee, Inc.
The New York Association for the Blind
USO (Los Angeles Area)
Woodrow Wilson Birthplace Foundation
Grand Rapids Bar Association
Colorado Couples for Carih (Childrens Asthma Research Institute and
Hospital) Note: Visit requested Nov. 2
A Presidential Classroom for Young Americans (Former President Nixon
declined, but the President served on the Board of Advisors
when Vice President. Mike Farrell is familiar with this one).
J.C. Alhambra Telethon for the Mentally Retarded, Westland, Michigan,
(Senator Griffin request)
Kent County Farm Bureau (Honorary Life Membership; The President
has belonged for 24 years)
The New York Historical Society (Claims as honorary members all
Presidents since John Adams, with two unidentified exceptions).
Hellcatchers Club (President belonged as a member of Congress)
Honorary Chairman, United States Ski Association Fund Raising Benefit
(for the U.S. Olympic Ski Team. Rustand notes
invitation must be regretted, but honorary chairmanship
could be accepted. President approved choice of
Michigan as chairman).
Honorary Chairman of Doral Eastern Open for 1975. (Prior acceptance
indicated)
The Americas Foundation (Former President said to have held
this honorary title)
University Club, Grand Rapids, Michigan
Grand Rapids Lodge, Fraternal Order of Police (Plaque received.
Already accepted?)

Tab B (2) Possible Discretionary Approval--Masonic

Zem Zem Pipes & Drums (Erie, Penna.)
National Sojourners, Inc. (Golden Gate Chapter No. 18, San Francisco, Calif.)
Topper Brothers Invertments (appointed by the Al Malaikak Temple of the
Los Angeles Jurisdiction to head drive to raise funds to erect building
for the Youth of DeMolay in the California Jurisdiction)
Sphinx Temple, A. A. O. N. M. S. (Hartford, Connecticut)
Al Amin Temple (Corpus Christi, Texas)
High Noon Luncheon Club of Dallas
Wahabi Temple (Jackson, Mississippi)
High Twelve Club (San Mateo County, California)
Saladin (Northwest Shrine Club - Rapid City, Michigan)
Pioneer Lodge No. 70 F. & A. M. of Hackensack, N. J.
Anezeh Temple of Mexico and Guatemala
Sarasota Shrine Club (Sarasota, Florida)
El Jebel Temple (Denver, Colorado)
Jamil Temple U. D. (Columbia, S. C.)
Hollywood Shrine Club (Hollywood, Calif.)
Moslem Temple, Detroit, Michigan
Ararat Temple, Kansas City, Missouri
Woodlawn Chapter, Order of De Molay, Mother's Club
Quincy Lodge - No. 161 (Bicentennial theme)
Greuter Cincinnati Fire Department Masonic Club

Note: Framed Certificate indicates already accepted:

Crescent Temple of Trenton, Jew Jersey

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 26, 1974

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: PHILIP BUCHEN
FROM: JERRY H. JONES
SUBJECT: Responsible Adviser to Decide
on Memberships and Endorsements

Your memorandum to the President of November 19 on the above subject has been reviewed and your recommendation approved with the following notation:

-- But I would like opportunity
to review decisions before final
action.

cc: Don Rumsfeld

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 6, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: JERRY JONES
FROM: *for* WARREN RUSTAND *WR*
SUBJECT: Honorary Memberships

I concur with Mr. Buchen's recommendation on
honorary memberships and endorsements.

11/6 - WR/P

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Date 11/4/74

TO: WARREN RUSTAND
FROM: JERRY H. JONES

Could we have your comments
and recommendations on the
attached as soon as possible.

Thank you.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 1, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: Jerry Jones

FROM: Phil Buchen *P.W.B.*

SUBJECT: Proposed memorandum
to the President on Honorary
Memberships, etc.

Kindly review, suggest any changes, and process.

This is a complex problem, but I am at a loss as to how
to simplify the presentation.

Attachment