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THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Am 2 not going  
to Concord?

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 25, 1975

Dear John:

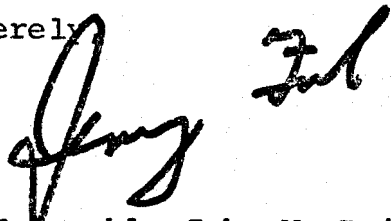
It was good to hear from you recently, although I was saddened to learn of Mrs. Bricker's illness. With your care and attention, I am confident she will continue to make fine progress and soon be back to normal.

Many thanks for your congratulations on my being presented the Gourgas Medal. It is an honor of which I am deeply proud. I was pleased to learn that you will be attending the dedication of the Museum and Library at Concord in April. Knowing you will be there makes me wish all the more that I, too, could be present on this very special occasion. However, my schedule at that time makes it impossible for me to attend.

Needless to say, I am grateful for your frank and encouraging comments. These are challenging times, but I have great confidence in the American people. I'm glad you are keeping track of the record, and I hope you'll have an opportunity to put some plus marks on our side of the ledger in the days ahead.

You have my warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John W. Bricker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

The Honorable John W. Bricker  
100 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

John W. Bricker  
100 East Broad Street  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

January 30, 1975

The Honorable and Mrs. Gerald Ford  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President and Mrs. Ford:

We are deeply honored to be included in the list to which you forwarded the fine Christmas greetings.

You know, I am confident, how deeply we are pulling for your success. I hope you enjoy the year to come with good health and much happiness. Fight it out with this Congress on principle and let them take the blame if they do not go along.

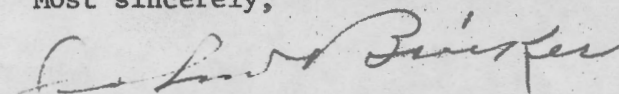
Ohio is truly friendly country and, as you know, we did about as well as any state in the union in the last election. Already some disgraceful things have been done in the Congress. I am keeping a record of some of the disgraceful things already done and will in the future be done by this Congress in the hopes that we can reverse the whole trend under your leadership.

I wanted very much to come down when you are to be given the Gourgas Medal, but I have not been away from home of a night since August because of Mrs. Bricker not being very well. She is greatly improved now and I hope she will soon be back to normal. I do congratulate you on the Gourgas Medal. I am gratified to be one of the six now living, along with you, who can wear it. I feel it is a great honor. I was there when Harry Truman received it and only wish I could be with you, but we will have a fine representation.

I do look forward to seeing you and hearing you at the Dedication of the Museum and Library at Concord in April.

With all good wishes to you and your family, I am

Most sincerely,



John W. Bricker



THE SUPREME COUNCIL 33° A. A. SCOTTISH RITE

NORTHERN MASONIC JURISDICTION, U. S. A.

OFFICE OF THE

SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

P. O. BOX 518, LEXINGTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02178

TELEPHONE: 617-862-4410

January 24, 1975

GEORGE A. NEWBURY, 88°  
SOVEREIGN GRAND COMMANDER

Ill.: George A. Goodling, 33°  
Loganville  
Pennsylvania 17342

Ill.: and dear Brother Goodling:

I enclose a copy of the Dedication Ceremony which we will use at the Dedication of our Museum and Library in Lexington, Massachusetts, on Sunday, April 20, 1975, together with a copy of the Brochure describing our Museum and Library and its purpose. I believe these documents will be helpful to the President and his Staff in preparing his remarks for that occasion. We are very hopeful that he will be present. Both the Town of Concord and the Town of Lexington have invited him to speak at their Bicentennial celebrations. That at the Bridge at Concord will be on Saturday, April 19th. That at Lexington will be on the morning of Sunday, April 20th. We have invited the official party to have lunch with us in the basement of our new Museum and Library and they have accepted. Following the lunch, we will hold the Dedication Ceremony for the Museum and Library.

The members of the cast for this Ceremony have been assigned their several parts which they will memorize. We also have a backup for each part in the event of emergency.

Of course, the arrangements with respect to the President's appearance will be wholly subject to his approval. He can join the group at the lunch in the basement of the Museum. If he prefers, he and a select few can have lunch in a private room in the basement. In this connection, we are inviting the Governor of Massachusetts, the two United States Senators, the local Congressman, and local State officials, who I am sure would expect to be included if there is to be a private group. If the President prefers, any other arrangements can be made for his luncheon that he desires.

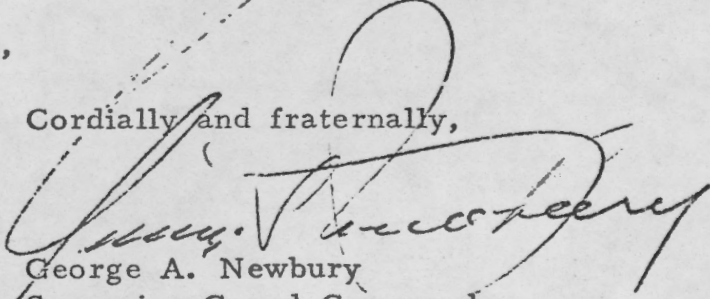
We have assumed that he would not want to be on the stage in the Auditorium with us during the Masonic ceremony. Although we would love to have him if he would so wish. Our suggestion would be that he rest in quarters that will be provided for him during that ceremony and will be escorted on the stage from the wings at its conclusion. However, all this is completely flexible and we will adopt whatever procedure he and his Staff desire.

We are hopeful that you and Mrs. Goodling will be our guests on this occasion. We have reserved a block of rooms at the Howard Johnson "57" downtown motel and one will be made available to you.

I would appreciate it if you would get the enclosed copy of the Dedication Ceremony, the Brochure, and a copy of this letter which we enclose for that purpose in the hands of the appropriate official on the President's Staff.

With every good wish,

Cordially and fraternally,



George A. Newbury  
Sovereign Grand Commander

GAN:emb  
Enclosures