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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

August 16, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: RUSS ROURKE
FROM: JIM CONNOR *JEC*
SUBJECT: Presidential Invitation from the
Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation

Confirming phone call to your office this morning, the President reviewed the question of acceptance of Honorary Chairmanship of this year's commemoration of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation and made the following decisions:

- Option 2: Decline invitation to serve as Chairman and send appropriate message to the Federation.
- Option 3: Decline invitation to serve as Chairman, but offer to greet officers of the Committee in a brief Oval Office ceremony (in addition to sending message).

As mentioned to you earlier General Scowcroft has offered to assist in the drafting of a Presidential message.

Please follow-up with appropriate action to implement the President's decisions.

cc: Dick Cheney
Eliska Hasek
Bill Nicholson
Brent Scowcroft

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 16, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

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FROM: JIM CONNOR JEC

SUBJECT: Presidential Invitation from the
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- Option 2: Decline invitation to serve as Chairman and send appropriate message to the Federation.
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As mentioned to you earlier General Scowcroft has offered to assist in the drafting of a Presidential message.

Please follow-up with appropriate action to implement the President's decisions.

cc: Dick Cheney
Eliska Hasek
Bill Nicholson
Brent Scowcroft

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1976

MEMORANDUM TO: JACK MARSH
DICK CHENEY
BRENT SCOWCROFT
ELISKA HASEK
BILL NICHOLSON
JIM CONNOR

FROM: RUSS ROURKE *Russ*

After checking with Brent Scowcroft's office, I reviewed the President's decisions on the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation matter with Dave Lovenheim, Rep. Frank Horton's A.A. (Horton is presently out of the City.)

Despite the turndown on the Chairmanship invitation, Lovenheim indicated that Horton would be elated over the Oval Office ceremony.

In response to my inquiry, Lovenheim indicated that an early October time frame for the Oval Office ceremony would be most appropriate. I have asked him to review the matter with Frank Horton, and to propose several alternate dates. I cautioned him to keep the number of attendees as small as possible (7-10).

It is my understanding that Eliska Hasek will now work in conjunction with Brent Scowcroft's Office in the preparation of the Presidential message to the Federation.

cc: MKuropas
CLEppert

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

8/14

Trudy,

Since no one was around to do anything, I didn't write memo on this. Anyway, I'd rather have the benefit of your views on how to handle. Since it was Rourke's baby, perhaps action should go to him. But Scowcroft said they would be glad to draft a Presidential message (in his Aug. 7th memo to Marsh); in addition, Nicholson has to be plugged in somehow so the meeting can be set up. All in all, I would think we would tell Rourke the decision and give him the responsibility for pulling it together with others, but I'm not too comfortable with that. This one has really been a mess. How do you stand it? E.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

August 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JAMES E. CONNOR *JEC*

SUBJECT: Invitation to serve as the Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation

You have received an invitation from Congressman Frank Horton to serve as the Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation. This proposal has caused some concern in the staff. Attached at Tab A is a paper explaining the circumstances, a copy of Congressman Horton's letter to you, a proposed letter of acceptance, and initial comments on the proposal from Brent Scowcroft and the Counsel's office (Barry Roth).

It was deemed that further staffing was required and the proposal was staffed to Messrs. Buchen, Baroody, Marsh, Friedersdorf, Lynn, Hartmann, Gergen and Gen. Scowcroft. Staffing resulted in the following: (Friedersdorf had no comment)

Option 1: Accept invitation to serve as Honorary Chairman.

Agree: Jack Marsh

Option 2: Decline invitation to serve as Chairman and send appropriate message to the Federation.

Agree: Buchen, Gergen, Scowcroft (he notes that no President has ever recognized any earlier anniversary of this organization)

Option 3: Decline invitation to serve as Chairman, but offer to greet officers of the Committee in a brief Oval Office ceremony (in addition to sending message.)

Agree: Baroody (Kuropas), Lynn, Hartmann.

DECISION:

Option 1: Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Option 2: Approve NR 7 _____ Disapprove _____

Option 3: Approve NR 9 _____ Disapprove _____

Depending upon which option you select, the appropriate papers will be prepared for your signature.

Attachments

(from Russ Rourke)

In behalf of Dr. Andras Pogany, President of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation, Representative Frank Horton has invited the President to serve as the Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration.

Representative Horton points out that this year's celebration is particularly significant in that the 20th Anniversary of the Hungarian uprising coincides with our own Bicentennial.

Representative Horton's office has verbally advised Russ Rourke that the following Members of Congress have already agreed to serve on this year's committee: Senators Dole and Inouye, Congressmen Horton, Zablocki, Derwinski, O'Neil and Speaker Albert.

Attached are the original letter of invitation from Representative Horton, a proposed letter of acceptance and initial comments on the proposal from Brent Scowcroft and Barry Roth.

The deadline for Presidential action on this proposal is 6 P.M., Friday, August 13.

Please indicate your position ASAP:

Option 1: President should accept invitation to serve as Honorary Chairman.

Agree _____ (Marsh)

Disagree _____

Option 2: President should decline invitation to serve as Chairman and send appropriate message to the Federation.

Agree GR _____ (Buchen, Gergen, Scowcroft)

Disagree _____

Option 3: President should decline invitation to serve as Chairman, but offer to greet officers of the Committee in a brief Oval Office ceremony (in addition to sending message).

Agree MR _____ (Baroody, Lynn)

Disagree _____ Hartmann

14
FRANK HORTON
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE
34TH DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

COMMITTEES:
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS,
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

JOINT COMMITTEE ON
ATOMIC ENERGY

DAVID A. LOVENHEIM
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

*Answered
7/27/76
J. Horton*

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

July 27
1976

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2229 RAYBURN BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4916

DISTRICT OFFICES:
314 FEDERAL BUILDING
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14614
(716) 253-6270

WAYNE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING
LYONS, NEW YORK

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

M/B
Ten years ago I had the privilege of serving as Chairman of the Citizen's Committee to Commemorate the Tenth Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian revolution.

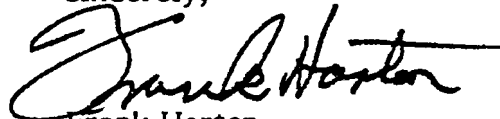
This year I was honored by the Hungarian Freedom Fighters' Federation to be asked to serve as Chairman of the committee that will commemorate the 20th anniversary of this valiant attempt of the Hungarian people to free themselves from Communist rule. Because of your long-standing friendship with the Hungarian-American community and because the 20th anniversary is especially significant to Hungarian-Americans in that it coincides with the American Bicentennial, the President of the Freedom Fighters, Dr. Andras Pogany, has asked me to extend to you his personal invitation to serve as an honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration.]

* || If you are willing to serve, your name will be featured on the commemoration committee's letterhead, which will be used to ask governors and mayors throughout the country to issue proclamations in honor of the Freedom Fighters' courage in the face of Soviet tanks twenty years ago. On Tuesday, August 3, a member of my staff will call your office to obtain your consent to serve as a leader of this year's commemoration.

In a year when all Americans are re-dedicating themselves to the principles of democracy and individual freedom, I hope you will honor the Freedom Fighters and the hundreds of thousands of Hungarian-Americans by serving as honorary Chairman of this group.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,


Frank Horton

FH:DAL:drmm

1 P.S. Similar invitations have been issued to Congressman John J. Rhodes, Congressman Edward J. Derwinski, Congressman Clement J. Zablocki, Senator Mike Mansfield, Senator Hugh Scott, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Senator Daniel K. Inouye, and Senator Robert Dole.

X

THE WHITE HOUSE


4495

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

August 7, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR JACK MARSH

FROM: Brent Scowcroft 

SUBJECT: Hungarian Freedom Fighters 20th Anniversary

It is clear from paragraph three of Representative Frank Horton's letter of July 27 (Tab I) that the Citizen's Committee to Commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters plans to generate considerable attention and publicity to the 20th anniversary events, all of which would feature the President's name on the Committee's letterhead.

Taking domestic considerations into account, I believe the President might wish to send a message to the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation on the occasion of the 20th anniversary commemoration. From the viewpoint of foreign policy, I recommend against the President's agreeing to serve as Honorary Chairman -- were he to do so, it would involve a Presidential endorsement of each and everyone of the Federation's pronouncements, publications and activities between now and late October - early November. This would probably evoke an adverse reaction in the Hungarian and Soviet press; this in turn might develop into a controversy in the U.S. press.

If you agree, we will staff forward a recommended message for the President's approval closer to the time of the event, and I would recommend that you revise the reply to Representative Horton to eliminate the link between the 20th and 200th anniversaries and to advise that rather than serving as Honorary Chairman, the President prefers and will look forward to sending a message to the Federation on the occasion of the 20th anniversary.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 13526, 13527, 13528, 13530, 13531, 13532, 13533, 13534, 13535, 13536, 13537, 13538, 13539, 13540, 13541, 13542, 13543, 13544, 13545, 13546, 13547, 13548, 13549, 13550, 13551, 13552, 13553, 13554, 13555, 13556, 13557, 13558, 13559, 13560, 13561, 13562, 13563, 13564, 13565, 13566, 13567, 13568, 13569, 13570, 13571, 13572, 13573, 13574, 13575, 13576, 13577, 13578, 13579, 13580, 13581, 13582, 13583, 13584, 13585, 13586, 13587, 13588, 13589, 13590, 13591, 13592, 13593, 13594, 13595, 13596, 13597, 13598, 13599, 13600, 13601, 13602, 13603, 13604, 13605, 13606, 13607, 13608, 13609, 13610, 13611, 13612, 13613, 13614, 13615, 13616, 13617, 13618, 13619, 13620, 13621, 13622, 13623, 13624, 13625, 13626, 13627, 13628, 13629, 13630, 13631, 13632, 13633, 13634, 13635, 13636, 13637, 13638, 13639, 13640, 13641, 13642, 13643, 13644, 13645, 13646, 13647, 13648, 13649, 13650, 13651, 13652, 13653, 13654, 13655, 13656, 13657, 13658, 13659, 13660, 13661, 13662, 13663, 13664, 13665, 13666, 13667, 13668, 13669, 13670, 13671, 13672, 13673, 13674, 13675, 13676, 13677, 13678, 13679, 13680, 13681, 13682, 13683, 13684, 13685, 13686, 13687, 13688, 13689, 13690, 13691, 13692, 13693, 13694, 13695, 13696, 13697, 13698, 13699, 13700, 13701, 13702, 13703, 13704, 13705, 13706, 13707, 13708, 13709, 13710, 13711, 13712, 13713, 13714, 13715, 13716, 13717, 13718, 13719, 13720, 13721, 13722, 13723, 13724, 13725, 13726, 13727, 13728, 13729, 13730, 13731, 13732, 13733, 13734, 13735, 13736, 13737, 13738, 13739, 13740, 13741, 13742, 13743, 13744, 13745, 13746, 13747, 13748, 13749, 13750, 13751, 13752, 13753, 13754, 13755, 13756, 13757, 13758, 13759, 13760, 13761, 13762, 13763, 13764, 13765, 13766, 13767, 13768, 13769, 13770, 13771, 13772, 13773, 13774, 13775, 13776, 13777, 13778, 13779, 13780, 13781, 13782, 13783, 13784, 13785, 13786, 13787, 13788, 13789, 13790, 13791, 13792, 13793, 13794, 13795, 13796, 13797, 13798, 13799, 13800, 13801, 13802, 13803, 13804, 13805, 13806, 13807, 13808, 13809, 13810, 13811, 13812, 13813, 13814, 13815, 13816, 13817, 13818, 13819, 13820, 13821, 13822, 13823, 13824, 13825, 13826, 13827, 13828, 13829, 13830, 13831, 13832, 13833, 13834, 13835, 13836, 13837, 13838, 13839, 13840, 13841, 13842, 13843, 13844, 13845, 13846, 13847, 13848, 13849, 13850, 13851, 13852, 13853, 13854, 13855, 13856, 13857, 13858, 13859, 13860, 13861, 13862, 13863, 13864, 13865, 13866, 13867, 13868, 13869, 13870, 13871, 13872, 13873, 13874, 13875, 13876, 13877, 13878, 13879, 13880, 13881, 13882, 13883, 13884, 13885, 13886, 13887, 13888, 13889, 13890, 13891, 13892, 13893, 13894, 13895, 13896, 13897, 13898, 13899, 13900, 13901, 13902, 13903, 13904, 13905, 13906, 13907, 13908, 13909, 13910, 13911, 13912, 13913, 13914, 13915, 13916, 13917, 13918, 13919, 13920, 13921, 13922, 13923, 13924, 13925, 13926, 13927, 13928, 13929, 13930, 13931, 13932, 13933, 13934, 13935, 13936, 13937, 13938, 13939, 13940, 13941, 13942, 13943, 13944, 13945, 13946, 13947, 13948, 13949, 13950, 13951, 13952, 13953, 13954, 13955, 13956, 13957, 13958, 13959, 13960, 13961, 13962, 13963, 13964, 13965, 13966, 13967, 13968, 13969, 13970, 13971, 13972, 13973, 13974, 13975, 13976, 13977, 13978, 13979, 13980, 13981, 13982, 13983, 13984, 13985, 13986, 13987, 13988, 13989, 13990, 13991, 13992, 13993, 13994, 13995, 13996, 13997, 13998, 13999, 14000

By WR NARA, Date 9/6/12

X

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 5, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: RUSS ROURKE

FROM: BARRY ROTH *BR*

As we discussed, attached is a possible acceptance letter should NSC recommend that the President serve as Honorary Chairman. Myron Kuropas indicates he has no objection to accepting this invitation. Jeanne Davis' office has indicated that "the whole question has been under consideration for some time at high levels" and that no decision has been yet reached. While Phil Buchen is concerned that acceptance might appear to be overly political, he will go along with whatever recommendation NSC makes.

X

PROPOSED LETTER

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Frank:

Many thanks for your thoughtful letter of July 27. I was interested to learn of the plans for commemorating the Twentieth Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. I appreciate your extending the cordial invitation to me, on behalf of Dr. Andras Pogany of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation, to serve as Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration.

Because the twentieth anniversary of the Freedom Fighters coincides with our Nation's Bicentennial observance, I am especially happy to accept the invitation to participate in this year's commemorative program in this manner. Please extend my thanks and very best wishes to Dr. Pogany and his associates in the Federation.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Frank Horton
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Trudy,

Hope memo is all right. I think we should have had the message to send up to him if he decided on that option, but didn't think we could find anyone to prepare one. So when it comes back down, I guess we will have to get it prepared then, depending on what he decides.

I could not find original of the Horton letter to President in your package--I couldn't find Russ Rourke to ask him about it. In fact, I couldn't find anybody, so just had to go ahead and hope for the best!

E. 8/14

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Eleanor -

Only one missing is Scowcroft

Comments are all here --

I think it would have to go up as

a Jim Connor memo to President

giving him the facts.

I did my ^{Trudy} test! That
a memo.

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: August 12, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

✓ Bill Barody

Dave Gergen

✓ Jack Marsh

✓ Phil Buchen

Bob Hartmann

Brent Scowcroft

✓ Max Friedersdorf

Jim Lynn

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, August 13

Time: 10 A.M.

SUBJECT:

Invitation to the President to serve as
Honorary Chairman of Citizens Committee
to Commemorate 20th Anniversary of
Hungarian Freedom Fighters

ACTION REQUESTED:

___ For Necessary Action

X For Your Recommendations

___ Prepare Agenda and Brief

___ Draft Reply

X For Your Comments

___ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

This subject is being staffed to obtain all possible
comments on this subject for the President.
He must make his decision tomorrow.
For this reason your prompt response would be
appreciated.

Buchen - option 2

Kurpas - option 3 (for Barody)

Marsh - option #1

Friedersdorf - no recommendations

Lynn - option 3

Hartmann - see comments (see change on letter)

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

Gergen - option 2

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a
delay in submitting the required material, please
telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Scowcroft - option 2

Jim Connor
For the President

FOR ACTION: Jack Marsh
Phil Buchen
Bob Hartmann
Jim Lynn
Max Friedersdorf
Brent Scowcroft
Jim Connor
Bill Baroody
Dave Gergen

SUBJECT: Invitation to the President to serve as Honorary Chairman
of Citizens Committee to Commemorate 20th Anniversary of
Hungarian Freedom Fighters

Time: Immediate turnaround since Presidential decision required
by 6 P.M., August 13.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

ACTION

August 14, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JAMES E. CONNOR *JEC*

SUBJECT: Invitation to serve as the Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation

You have received an invitation from Congressman Frank Horton to serve as the Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation. This proposal has caused some concern in the staff. Attached at Tab A is a paper explaining the circumstances, a copy of Congressman Horton's letter to you, a proposed letter of acceptance, and initial comments on the proposal from Brent Scowcroft and the Counsel's office (Barry Roth).

It was deemed that further staffing was required and the proposal was staffed to Messrs. Buchen, Baroody, Marsh, Friedersdorf, Lynn, Hartmann, Gergen and Gen. Scowcroft. Staffing resulted in the following: (Friedersdorf had no comment)

Option 1: Accept invitation to serve as Honorary Chairman.
Agree: Jack Marsh

Option 2: Decline invitation to serve as Chairman and send appropriate message to the Federation.
Agree: Buchen, Gergen, Scowcroft (he notes that no President has ever recognized any earlier anniversary of this organization)

Option 3: Decline invitation to serve as Chairman, but offer to greet officers of the Committee in a brief Oval Office ceremony (in addition to sending message.)
Agree: Baroody (Kuropas), Lynn, Hartmann.

DECISION:

Option 1: Approve _____ Disapprove _____
Option 2: Approve _____ Disapprove _____
Option 3: Approve _____ Disapprove _____

Depending upon which option you select, the appropriate papers will be prepared for your signature.

Attachments

In behalf of Dr. András Pogany, President of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation, Representative Frank Horton has invited the President to serve as the Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration.

Representative Horton points out that this year's celebration is particularly significant in that the 20th Anniversary of the Hungarian uprising coincides with our own Bicentennial.

Representative Horton's office has verbally advised Russ Rourke that the following Members of Congress have already agreed to serve on this year's committee: Senators Dole and Inouye, Congressmen Horton, Zablocki, Derwinski, O'Neil and Speaker Albert.

Attached are the original letter of invitation from Representative Horton, a proposed letter of acceptance and initial comments on the proposal from Brent Scowcroft and Barry Roth.

The deadline for Presidential action on this proposal is 6 P.M., Friday, August 13.

Please indicate your position ASAP:

Option 1: President should accept invitation to serve as Honorary Chairman.

Agree _____ (Marsh)

Disagree _____

Option 2: President should decline invitation to serve as Chairman and send appropriate message to the Federation.

Agree _____ (Buchen, Gergen, Scowcroft)

Disagree _____

Option 3: President should decline invitation to serve as Chairman, but offer to greet officers of the Committee in a brief Oval Office ceremony (in addition to sending message).

Agree _____ (Baroody, Lynn)

Disagree _____ Hartmann

July 27

1976

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford
The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Ten years ago I had the privilege of serving as Chairman of the Citizen's Committee to Commemorate the Tenth Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian revolution.

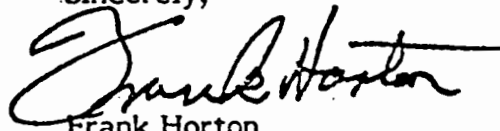
This year I was honored by the Hungarian Freedom Fighters' Federation to be asked to serve as Chairman of the committee that will commemorate the 20th anniversary of this valiant attempt of the Hungarian people to free themselves from Communist rule. Because of your long-standing friendship with the Hungarian-American community and because the 20th anniversary is especially significant to Hungarian-Americans in that it coincides with the American Bicentennial, the President of the Freedom Fighters, Dr. Andras Pogany, has asked me to extend to you his personal invitation to serve as an honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration. □

★ || If you are willing to serve, your name will be featured on the commemoration committee's letterhead, which will be used to ask governors and mayors throughout the country to issue proclamations in honor of the Freedom Fighters' courage in the face of Soviet tanks twenty years ago. On Tuesday, August 3, a member of my staff will call your office to obtain your consent to serve as a leader of this year's commemoration.

In a year when all Americans are re-dedicating themselves to the principles of democracy and individual freedom, I hope you will honor the Freedom Fighters and the hundreds of thousands of Hungarian-Americans by serving as honorary Chairman of this group.

With kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



Frank Horton

FH:DAL:drmm

P.S. Similar invitations have been issued to Congressman John J. Rhodes, Congressman Edward J. Derwinski, Congressman Clement J. Zablocki, Senator Mike Mansfield, Senator Hugh Scott, Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Senator Daniel K. Inouye, and Senator Robert Dole.


X

WASHINGTON

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

August 7, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR JACK MARSH

FROM: Brent Scowcroft 

SUBJECT: Hungarian Freedom Fighters 20th Anniversary

It is clear from paragraph three of Representative Frank Horton's letter of July 27 (Tab I) that the Citizen's Committee to Commemorate the 20th Anniversary of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters plans to generate considerable attention and publicity to the 20th anniversary events, all of which would feature the President's name on the Committee's letterhead.

Taking domestic considerations into account, I believe the President might wish to send a message to the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation on the occasion of the 20th anniversary commemoration. From the viewpoint of foreign policy, I recommend against the President's agreeing to serve as Honorary Chairman -- were he to do so, it would involve a Presidential endorsement of each and everyone of the Federation's pronouncements, publications and activities between now and late October - early November. This would probably evoke an adverse reaction in the Hungarian and Soviet press; this in turn might develop into a controversy in the U. S. press.

If you agree, we will staff forward a recommended message for the President's approval closer to the time of the event, and I would recommend that you revise the reply to Representative Horton to eliminate the link between the 20th and 200th anniversaries and to advise that rather than serving as Honorary Chairman, the President prefers and will look forward to sending a message to the Federation on the occasion of the 20th anniversary.

DECLASSIFIED

E.O. 13526, CONTROLLED BY 13526
NSC Memo, 8/2/76, Cont. Dept. Comments
By LR NARA, Date 9/6/12

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 5, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: RUSS ROURKE

FROM: BARRY ROTH *BR*

As we discussed, attached is a possible acceptance letter should NSC recommend that the President serve as Honorary Chairman. Myron Kuropas indicates he has no objection to accepting this invitation. Jeanne Davis' office has indicated that "the whole question has been under consideration for some time at high levels" and that no decision has been yet reached. While Phil Buchen is concerned that acceptance might appear to be overly political, he will go along with whatever recommendation NSC makes.

X

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: August 12, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Bill Baroody

Dave Gergen

Jack Marsh

Phil Buchen

Bob Hartmann

Brent Scowcroft

Max Friedersdorf

Jim Lynn

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, August 13

Time: 10 A.M.

SUBJECT:

Invitation to the President to serve as
Honorary Chairman of Citizens Committee
to Commemorate 20th Anniversary of
Hungarian Freedom Fighters

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

This subject is being staffed to obtain all possible comments on this subject for the President. He must make his decision tomorrow. For this reason your prompt response would be appreciated.

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jim Connor
For the President

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Representative Horton points out that this year's celebration is particularly significant in that the 20th Anniversary of the Hungarian uprising coincides with our own Bicentennial.

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Attached are the original letter of invitation from Representative Horton, a proposed letter of acceptance and initial comments on the proposal from Brent Scowcroft and Barry Roth.

The deadline for Presidential action on this proposal is 6 P.M., Friday, August 13.

Please indicate your position ASAP:

Option 1: President should accept invitation to serve as Honorary Chairman.

Agree _____

Disagree _____

Option 2: President should decline invitation to serve as Chairman and send appropriate message to the Federation.

Agree _____

Disagree _____

Option 3: President should decline invitation to serve as Chairman, but offer to greet officers of the Committee in a brief Oval Office ceremony (in addition to sending message).

Agree _____

Disagree _____

✓ D. Donaldson, Jr.
I concur with Scowcroft's comments.

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: August 12, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Bill Baroody

Dave Gergen

Jack Marsh

Phil Buchen

Bob Hartmann

Brent Scowcroft

Max Friedersdorf

Jim Lynn

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, August 13

Time: 10 A.M.

SUBJECT:

Invitation to the President to serve as
Honorary Chairman of Citizens Committee
to Commemorate 20th Anniversary of
Hungarian Freedom Fighters

ACTION REQUESTED:

 For Necessary Action For Your Recommendations Prepare Agenda and Brief Draft Reply For Your Comments Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

This subject is being staffed to obtain all possible comments on this subject for the President. He must make his decision tomorrow. For this reason your prompt response would be appreciated.

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

Jim Connor
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: August 12, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Bill Baroody

Dave Gergen

Jack Marsh

Phil Buchen

Bob Hartmann

Brent Scowcroft

Max Friedersdorf

Jim Lynn

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, August 13

Time: 10 A.M.

SUBJECT:

Invitation to the President to serve as
Honorary Chairman of Citizens Committee
to Commemorate 20th Anniversary of
Hungarian Freedom Fighters

ACTION REQUESTED:

 For Necessary Action For Your Recommendations Prepare Agenda and Brief Draft Reply For Your Comments Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

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I recommend Option 2.



Philip W. Buchen
Counsel to the President

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Jim Connor
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

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LOG NO.:

Date: August 12, 1976

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DUE: Date: Friday, August 13

Time: 10 A.M.

SUBJECT:

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to Commemorate 20th Anniversary of
Hungarian Freedom Fighters

ACTION REQUESTED:

- For Necessary Action
- For Your Recommendations
- Prepare Agenda and Brief
- Draft Reply
- For Your Comments
- Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

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Jim Connor
For the President

Date: August 12, 1976

Time:

FOR ACTION:

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DUE: Date: Friday, August 13

Time: 10 A.M.

SUBJECT:

Invitation to the President to serve as
Honorary Chairman of Citizens Committee
to Commemorate 20th Anniversary of
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ACTION REQUESTED:

For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

Prepare Agenda and Brief

Draft Reply

For Your Comments

Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

Letter edited by JC

This subject is being staffed to obtain all possible comments on this subject for the President.

He must make his decision tomorrow.

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*Has any President ever done this for this or a similar group with strong foreign orientation?
If not, I favor Option 3*

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Jim Connor
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Frank:

Many thanks for your thoughtful letter of July 27. I was interested to learn of the plans for commemorating the Twentieth Anniversary of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution. I appreciate your extending the ~~original~~ invitation to me, on behalf of Dr. Andras Pogany of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation, to serve as Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration.

Because the twentieth anniversary of the Freedom Fighters coincides with our Nation's Bicentennial observance, I am especially happy to accept the invitation to participate in this year's commemorative program in this manner. Please extend my thanks and very best wishes to Dr. Pogany and his associates in the Federation.

Sincerely,

The Honorable Frank Horton
House of Representatives
Washington, D. C. 20515

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: August 12, 1976

-Awaiting for DC

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

Bill Baroody

Dave Gergen

Jack Marsh

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Bob Hartmann

Brent Scowcroft

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FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Friday, August 13

Time: 10 A.M.

SUBJECT:

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Jim Connor
For the President

Account

In behalf of Dr. Andras Pogany, President of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation, Representative Frank Horton has invited the President to serve as the Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration.

Representative Horton points out that this year's celebration is particularly significant in that the 20th Anniversary of the Hungarian uprising coincides with our own Bicentennial.

Representative Horton's office has verbally advised Russ Rourke that the following Members of Congress have already agreed to serve on this year's committee: Senators Dole and Inouye, Congressmen Horton, Zablocki, Derwinski, O'Neil and Speaker Albert.

Attached are the original letter of invitation from Representative Horton, a proposed letter of acceptance and initial comments on the proposal from Brent Scowcroft and Barry Roth.

The deadline for Presidential action on this proposal is 6 P.M., Friday, August 13.

Please indicate your position ASAP:

Option 1: President should accept invitation to serve as Honorary Chairman.

Agree _____

Disagree _____

Option 2: President should decline invitation to serve as Chairman and send appropriate message to the Federation.

Strongly Agree No President has ever recognized any earlier anniversary of this organization. Brent Scowcroft

Disagree _____

Option 3: President should decline invitation to serve as Chairman, but offer to greet officers of the Committee in a brief Oval Office ceremony (in addition to sending message).

Agree _____

Disagree _____

In behalf of Dr. Andras Pogany, President of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters Federation, Representative Frank Horton has invited the President to serve as the Honorary Chairman of this year's commemoration.

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Agree _____

Disagree _____