

The original documents are located in Box C52, folder “Presidential Handwriting, 11/17/1976” of the Presidential Handwriting File 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 Gerald Ford donated to the United States of America his copyrights in all of his unpublished writings in National Archives collections.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.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 17, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: ANNE HIGGINS
FROM: JIM CONNOR JEF
SUBJECT: Incoming Presidential Mail for the
Weeks of November 1-12, 1976

Confirming phone call earlier today, the President reviewed your memorandum of November 12 on the above subject and made the following notation:

"Do we acknowledge all letters of congratulations etc? "

Please prepare an appropriate reply and return to this office.

cc: Dick Cheney

File

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 12, 1976

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN....

MEMORANDUM TO: THE PRESIDENT
THROUGH: THE STAFF SECRETARY
FROM: ANNE V. HIGGINS ~~PHH~~
SUBJECT: Incoming Presidential Mail for the
Weeks of November 1-12, 1976.

*Do we acknowledge
all this? computation
etc?*

Incoming mail for the two week period totalled 62,933 pieces. 30% of this was political, with approximately 20% (13,077 pieces) specifically expressing regret at the outcome of the election. These people also expressed appreciation for the "superb" job you have done: they thanked you for restoring decency and integrity to our public life, for giving direction to our nation and confidence to our people.

In addition, there were another 1,200 messages of appreciation for "all you have done" for the country. While these writers indicated that they had voted for Mr. Carter (most added that they did so because they believed the country "needed a change"), they also particularly wanted you to know of their admiration and appreciation for your leadership during the past years.

Beyond election mail, you received 4,076 messages of general support and 1,002 of political comment.

Mail also continued to comment on the most recent remarks of General Brown concerning Israel (pro: 43; con: 523).

Of social issues, abortion, busing and gun control continue to draw public attention. All of this mail roughly doubled in the weeks just before the election, and it has remained at relatively high levels:

1) Abortion:

pro: 75; con: 397;

2) Busing:

con: 694;

3) Gun Control:

pro: 508; con: 3,496.

Concerning the gun control mail, it should be noted that "Opinion Ballots" constitute approximately 85% of it. These are coming particularly from the South, Southwest and Midwest. And while they are forms, they are all signed, with addresses, and they all carry personal, handwritten comments.

cc: Bob Hartmann; Bob Orben; Ron Nessen