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JUN 25 1976

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

June 24, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH

FROM: WILLIAM W. NICHOLSON *WVN*

SUBJECT: Approved Presidential Activity

Please take the necessary steps to implement the following and confirm with Mrs. Nell Yates, ext. 2699. The appropriate briefing paper should be submitted to Dr. David Hoopes by 4:00 p.m. of the preceding day.

Meeting: Greet the Members of the Bicentennial Advisory Council and the Bicentennial Board of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration

Date: Tues., June 29, '76      Time: 11:00 a.m.      Duration: 10 mins.

Location: The Rose Garden

Press Coverage:

Purpose: Opportunity to thank these two bodies deserving of recognition for the time devoted and the job done.

cc: Mr. Cheney  
Mr. Hartmann  
Dr. Connor  
Dr. Hoopes  
Mr. Nessen  
Mr. Jones  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. O'Donnell  
Mrs. Yates  
Col. Riley  
Mrs. Gemmell  
Mr. Keiser  
Dr. Marrs  
Mr. Mitler

*Milt has prepared briefing paper*



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 26, 1976

MEET WITH MEMBERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION BICENTENNIAL  
ADMINISTRATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ADVISORY COUNCIL  
AND THE MEMBERS OF THE FEDERAL AGENCY BICENTENNIAL  
TASK FORCE

Tuesday, June 29, 1976  
11:00-11:10 AM (10 Minutes)  
The Rose Garden

From: Theodore C. Marrs  
Milton E. Mitler

I. PURPOSE

To extend appreciation for the manner in which Bicentennial matters were coordinated by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration Board of Directors and Advisory Council and the members of the Federal Agency Bicentennial Task Force.

II. BACKGROUND, PARTICIPANTS AND PRESS PLAN

A. Background: The Board of Directors of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration (ARBA) consists of 11 members, four of whom are members of Congress (2-Senators and 2-Representatives) and was established on October 2, 1974. The Advisory Council consisting of 25 members was created by H.R. 7446 with membership covering all aspects of American life.

1. The Board was empowered to (1) receive advice and information from the Council and the Administrator with respect to the development of policy and guidelines to carry out the purposes of the Act establishing ARBA; and (2) give final approval to grants to be made under the authority of the Act; and (3) review, approve, disapprove, or ratify from time to time, all basic policy and guidelines, including the proposed annual budget to be presented by the Administrator. The Board also has the responsibility to make a continuing study of the activities of the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration with periodic reports to the responsible committees of both the House and the Senate.

2. The ARBA Council was empowered to assure a balanced Bicentennial program throughout the nation encompassing the three aspects of the celebration, "Heritage '76", "Festival '76", and "Horizons '76". The Council was also designed to advise the Administrator, on the basis of national interest and concern and also through the composition of the Council which covered the various aspects of American life, on the progress of the national celebration.
3. Both the Board and Council of the ARBA are meeting for the final time in joint session on June 28, 1976. While this will not be the final meeting for each body, the final joint session is significant in that it immediately precedes the July Fourth weekend during which so many Bicentennial programs and projects will take place and which represents a culmination of their joint efforts and dedication.
4. During their respective terms of activity, both elements have contributed immeasurably to the success of our national celebration in carrying out the mandates of the Administration as well as the citizens. The over 50,000 programs and projects which are taking place nationally, as well as the very many international commemorations, are evidence of the achievements of these two groups.
5. In addition, with over 13,000 communities recognized as Bicentennial Communities, virtually every member of our society has become involved in some Bicentennial activity.
6. Recognizing the need for coordination within the Federal Agency complex, there was formed in early 1975, a Federal Agency Bicentennial Task Force under the direction of Counsellor John O. Marsh, Jr. which is composed of Deputy and Assistant Secretary level individuals. The Task Force has met frequently exchanging information on the various Bicentennial programs and projects which each agency/department has planned and is conducting.
7. The results of the many meetings and the exchange of data has been a more meaningful and encompassing Bicentennial activity throughout the Federal system which has added immeasurably to our national celebration.



8. At the request of the Administrator, ARBA, in attendance at the Rose Garden function will be Dr. Sol Feinstone of Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania and representatives of the Mount Vernon Ladies Association. Earlier on the day of this activity, Dr. Feinstone will have given to Mount Vernon, on a permanent loan basis, the letters which George Washington wrote to William Pearce, Manager of Mount Vernon during the years of his Presidency. The collection is valued at \$225,000 and will be a very valuable accession to the Mount Vernon collection.

B. Participants:

List Attached.

C. Press Plan:

White House Photographer.

III. TALKING POINTS

Attached.



## TALKING POINTS

- I know Bicentennial activities will continue throughout this year and well into 1977, however, this weekend, I believe, will bring us to a peak of celebration that should send our Nation into the Third Century in fine style.
- While it is exciting and gratifying to know that there are over 50,000 programs and projects for the Bicentennial nationally and that almost every community in the Nation has developed some commemorative program, I know none of this would have occurred without the very dedicated and tireless efforts of all of you.
- It takes team work to produce anything worthwhile and the success of the Bicentennial commemoration is the result of great team work by the American Revolution Bicentennial Administration and your Board and Council. This same spirit of cooperation has existed in our Federal Agencies through the Task Force which we have had at the White House.
- I think we can all take great pride in the results of our collective efforts and in the manner in which Bicentennial became not just one grand project but a people oriented commemoration which really represents Bicentennial and the 200 years of our great Nation.
- I want also to express the appreciation of the Nation to Dr. Feinstone who earlier today loaned on a permanent basis letters written by our First President to the Manager of Mount Vernon. These letters are not only invaluable but will add appreciably to the current Mount Vernon collection and I compliment you for your generosity and congratulate the Ladies of Mount Vernon on their new acquisition.
- I am looking forward to my participation in a very exciting number of Bicentennial programs starting on July 1st and culminating with a significant naturalization ceremony at Monticello on July 5th. In between will be some very impressive activities which will help us enter the Tricentennial period in a manner befitting the inherited legacy of our founding fathers.



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WITHDRAWAL SHEET (PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARIES)

FORM OF DOCUMENT	CORRESPONDENTS OR TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
List	List of Participants in ARBA Board, ARBA Advisory Council, and Federal Bicentennial Agency Task Force Meeting with the President, 12 pgs.	6/29/76	C

FILE LOCATION  
John Marsh Files, Box 64, "ARBA - WH Reception, 6/29/76"

RESTRICTION CODES

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SD 12/9/76

Rec'd  
JUN 29 1976  
11:20 AM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 29, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK MARSH

FROM: MILT MITLER *MM*

Jack, the 11:00 a.m. Rose Garden ceremony with the President this morning will be attended by members of the ARBA Board of Directors and the members of the Federal Agency Bicentennial Task Force. In addition, the wives and children of Board and Council members will also be there.

Attached is a copy of the Briefing Paper which was sent to the President. I have since talked to Nell Yates and advised her that as of now Senators Brooke and Montoya and Congresswoman Boggs will be attending.

Attachment (Briefing Paper)

