

May 14, 1975

Dear Mr. Levins:

I have received your letter inquiring as to the discussion which took place at the November 29 meeting between the President and Mayor Rizzo and others regarding Frankford Arsenal.

It is my understanding that no consideration was given to keeping Frankford Arsenal open. The misunderstanding that exists in Philadelphia may simply be one of semantics. The Secretary of Defense announced the plan to close Frankford Arsenal on November 22, 1974. As a result of Mayor Rizzo's proposal, four options were considered -- the three options presented by the City and an additional option developed by the Army.

The options included the relocation of all of the present Frankford Arsenal missions and work force to the proposed new site, which was fully considered. To the Mayor and the people of Philadelphia, this option may mean "keeping the Arsenal open" since it essentially retains the present Frankford functions and work force in Philadelphia. To the Army, this option still closes the existing facility, Frankford Arsenal. Keeping the Arsenal open in its current location was not considered a viable alternative at the meeting, and the Army did not address it during its evaluation.

Thank you for writing, and I am hopeful this reply will be helpful.

Sincerely,

Ron Nessen
Press Secretary
to the President

Mr. Hoag Levins
Philadelphia Daily News
400 North Broad Street
Philadelphia, Pa. 19101

*Sent to
Pat O'Donnell
5-27-75
(for source list)*



May 14, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PAT O'DONNELL

FROM: RON NESSEN

Attached is the letter that I wrote to Mr. Slater in response to his request. You may wish to send a copy to Mr. Reigner.



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
November 5, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: RED CAVANEY
THRU: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: PATRICK O'DONNELLI *POD*
SUBJECT: West Virginia/November 11

Red, Chairman Jennings Randolph (D-West Virginia) of the Public Works Committee has requested that the President meet briefly with the editorial board of the Charleston Gazette. The editor and contact is Harry Hoffman of Charleston.

Doubtful?

cc: Ron Nessen ✓