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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 12, 1976

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: MAX FRIEDERSDORF
FROM: JIM CONNOR JEC
SUBJECT: Congressional Mail

The President reviewed your memorandum of October 9 concerning Congressional Mail received on October 8 and made the following notation:

House #4 from Benjamin Gilman "OK"

Please follow-up with appropriate action.

cc: Dick Cheney
Jerry Jones

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 9, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: MAX L. FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT: Congressional Mail

For your information, I am attaching the log of Congressional mail received on October 8, 1976.

This mail is being handled routinely by my office.


cc: Richard B. Cheney

Senate

- 1S Walter Huddleston Writes as chief sponsor of S. 2081, the Agricultural Resources Conservation Act of 1976, to urge that it be signed.
- 2S James Abourezk Requests that the President use his authority "under the Disaster Relief Act of 1974 to direct the Department of Agriculture to purchase sufficient grain stocks for the Emergency Livestock Feed Program in all Presidentially declared disaster counties. Farmers have been led to believe that there would be at least 75 million bushels of grain in this program as is the intent of the present law and expect your assistance to see that the present ASCS programs are fulfilled."
- 3S Lowell Weicker Forwards articles concerning alleged intervention by Senator Thurmond which resulted in Army Secretary Callaway having the name of Lt. Col Wilfred Ebel dropped from a promotion list. Says "the allegations contained in the attached articles, I believe, merit your personal review."
- 4S Pete Domenici Urges, on behalf of his constituents, that S. 507, the Resource Lands Management Act, be vetoed.
- 5S Ted Stevens Sends results of a poll regarding the Senate and Presidential races in Michigan.
- 6S Pete Domenici Writes in detail about the situation facing the livestock producers. Urges quotas on imports of meats subject to the Meat Import Law. Also urges that the authority to negotiate voluntary restraint agreements for meat imports be transferred back to the Department of Agriculture.
- 7S Hugh Scott Sends detailed letter urging that Dorothy Parker, who is scheduled to be sworn in as a member of the U.S. Parole Commission on October 19, also be designated as Chairman.
- 8S William Scott Sends congratulations on the debate performance.

House

1. Clarence Brown Urges signing of S. 400, which directs the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior to undertake suitability/feasibility studies of several projects, one of which is a National Museum of Afro-American History and Culture in his district.
2. Nine GOP Members of the House Interior Committee (Congressmen Young, Ruppe, Symms, Lagomarsino, Sebelius, Pettis, Clausen, Johnson, Skubitz)

 Strongly urge signing of S. 507, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976.
3. Ron Paul Writes in detail about the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973, saying it has become "a bone of contention in the rural areas of my district . . . and will become equally controversial in other states when its provisions are more fully understood. There is great hostility to the program from those who are supposedly the beneficiaries, small farmers. . . The Federal bureaucracy will be able to shove practically any program down the throats of local governments simply by threatening to stop the flow of capital into a particular area."
4. Benjamin Gilman Writes on behalf of the widow of Major Arthur G. Bonifas, who was killed in hostilities in Pan Mun Jon, Korea. The widow "would like to have you personally present to her the Bronze Star Medal which was posthumously awarded to her husband."
 |
5. Larry Pressler Recommends that Congressmen Albert Quie or Mark Andrews be appointed as Secretary of Agriculture.
6. Paul McCloskey Encloses a proposed Presidential statement on Indian education "prepared by an expert on the subject, John Ehrlichman. I commend it to your attention because concern for Indians is a major interest on the campuses where you have a great vote potential. . . I have spoken on an average of two campuses per month for the past five years. Nearly always, someone asks 'What are you doing to help the Indians'."
7. Richard Ottinger Writes with regard to William Niehouse, an employee of Owens-Illinois, who was kidnapped in Venezuela over seven months ago.
8. Philip Ruppe Urges signing of H.R. 9719, to provide public lands payments to State or local governments. Says it would benefit Michigan as well as Western States.

House

9. Alan Steelman Urges a lowering of the beef import quota.
10. William Stanton Endorses James J. Copham for the special Postal Commission provided for by P.L. 94-421.
11. Margaret Heckler Recommends that Arthur Fiedler be considered for the Medal of Freedom.
12. Edward Beard Requests greetings for Thomas B. Heaney on his 100th birthday October 30.
13. Frank Becker
Former Member Sends detailed letter about the campaign and debates. Also recommends that the President visit Senator Humphrey in the hospital in New York.
14. O'Dell Lewis and David Ruffin, on behalf of Black Congressional Staff Members

Send letter signed by 80 other Black Congressional staffers and employees of Members of the Congressional Black Caucus. Feel comments by Earl Butz are "representative of a deeper, more pervasive attitude toward Black Americans which cannot be ameliorated by the Secretary's resignation. In addition, your failure to dismiss Mr. Butz immediately upon his confirmation of those racist remarks, your uncharacteristic silence on this question, and your acceptance 'with regret' of his resignation, raise equally serious questions about your personal commitment to egalitarian principles of non-discrimination and equality under the law. It is our belief that any President should be as morally outraged as the number of individuals and groups which have expressed their sentiments to you. Your comments that Mr. Butz 'remains a close personal friend' and that the day of his resignation marked 'one of the saddest days' of your Administration are insulting to every Black American. Because of this incident, the unsatisfactory resolution, and the history of your Administration in its failure to address the needs of Blacks in this country and throughout the world, we expect from you a public and prompt apology for Mr. Butz and for your unwillingness to take action. We await your reply."

October 12, 1976

MEMORANDUM FOR:

BILL NICHOLSON

FROM:

MAX FRIEDERSDORF

SUBJECT:

M.C. Ben Gilman (R-NJ)

With regard to the attached letter to the President from Congressman Gilman, please note the President's indication that he would like to do this sometime.

cc: Dick Cheney
Brent Scowcroft
✓ Jim Connor ✓

October 12, 1976

Dear Ben:

Thank you for your October 6 letter to the President, suggesting that he arrange to present personally the posthumous Bronze Star Medal to the widow of Major Arthur G. Bonifas, who was killed at Pan Mun Jon.

Please be assured your recommendation will be called promptly to the attention of the President and the appropriate Presidential advisers.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

Max L. Friedersdorf
Assistant to the President

A

The Honorable Benjamin A. Gilman
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

~~_____~~
bcc: w/inc to Bill Nicholson

for further handling
per MLF 10/12 memo

MLF:JEB:VO:jem

bcc: w/inc to Cheney fyi
" " Scowcroft "
✓ " " Canner "

BENJAMIN A. GILMAN
25th DISTRICT, NEW YORK

COMMITTEE:
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE:
INTERNATIONAL RESOURCES,
FOOD, AND ENERGY

SELECT COMMITTEE ON MISSING
PERSONS IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

10-8
Interest
Presentation

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

COMMITTEE:
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

SUBCOMMITTEE:
EMPLOYEE POLITICAL RIGHTS AND
INTERGOVERNMENTAL PROGRAMS

USMA BOARD OF VISITORS

October 6th, 1976

M/E

The President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. President:

The wife of Major Arthur G. Bonifas, who was killed in hostilities in Pan Mun Jon, Korea, would like to have you personally present to her the Bronze Star Medal which was posthumously awarded to her husband.

I would be greatly appreciative if arrangements could be made for this presentation.

Very truly yours,

Benjamin A. Gilman
BENJAMIN A. GILMAN
Member of Congress

BAG:RG

PLEASE REPLY TO:

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1226 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
☒ TELEPHONE: (202) 225-3776

DISTRICT OFFICE:
24 ROBERTS STREET
MIDDLETOWN, NEW YORK 10940
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