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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

Ronald Reagan Library

Collection Name ROBERTS, JOHN: FILES

Withdrawer

RBW 8/4/2005

File Folder [CORRESPONDENCE - MISCELLANEOUS (09/17/1983 - 10/04/1983)]

FOIA

F05-139/01

Box Number

COOK

27RW

DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions	
1	MEMO	JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE. G. ADD LIGHTHALL	1	9/21/1983	B6	532
2	MEMO	JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE. DRUG PROBLEMS IN SIMPSON CNTY. [partial]	1	9/21/1983	B6	533
3	LETTER	JERRY H. BRIDGES TO PRESIDENT REAGAN RE. DRUG PROBLEMS IN SIMPSON CNTY.	3	9/7/1983	B6	534
4	MEMO	JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE. GARRETT VICTOR KINARD	1	10/3/1983	B6	535
5	LETTER	FRED F. FIELDING TO GARY E. GRIFFITH RE. HARRASSMENT OF PRESIDENT	1	10/3/1983	B6	536
6	CASE FILE	GARRETT VICTOR KINARD 173615	1	9/27/1983	B6	537
7	LETTER	GARY E. GRIFFITH TO PRESIDENT REAGAN HARRASSMENT INVESTIGATION	1	9/19/1983	B6	539

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- B-5 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(5) of the FOIA]
- B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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Collection Name

ROBERTS, JOHN: FILES

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RB 8/4/2005
W

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[CORRESPONDENCE - MISCELLANEOUS (09/17/1983 -
10/04/1983)]

FOIA

F05-139/01
COOK

Box Number

27RW

DOC Document Type

NO Document Description

*No of
pages*

Doc Date

*Restric-
tions*

1 MEMO

1 9/21/1983 B6

532

JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE. G.
ADD LIGHTHALL

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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E.O. 13233

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

2003
John

☐ O - OUTGOING☐ H - INTERNAL☐ I - INCOMINGDate Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1/

Name of Correspondent: J. Add Lighthall

☐ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) (B) (C)

Subject: Letter to Donald Foster re: his involvement
with the F.B.I.

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
CW4011	ORIGINATOR	8310911			1/1
CWAT 18	Referral Note: D	8310911	Cont. Corresp	S	83109129
	Referral Note: S				1/1
	Referral Note:				1/1
	Referral Note:				1/1
	Referral Note:				1/1

ACTION CODES:

A - Appropriate Action
C - Comment/Recommendation
D - Draft Response
F - Furnish Fact Sheet
to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
R - Direct Reply w/Copy
S - For Signature
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DISPOSITION CODES:

A - Answered
B - Non-Special Referral
C - Completed
S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments:

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS.

SUBJECT: Drug Problems in Simpson County

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] has written the President to ask for a federal investigation of an alleged dope ring in his county. According to rumors, the dope ring is responsible for several murders. [REDACTED] is allegedly involved, receiving \$15,000 for every plane load of narcotics brought in at the local airport. [REDACTED] letter should be referred to the Justice Department. I have prepared a transmittal letter and a brief reply to [REDACTED] telling him what we have done.

b6

Attachments

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 21, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR EDWARD C. SCHMULTS
DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FROM: FRED F. FIELDING *Orig. signed by FFF*
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: Drug Problems in Simpson County

The attached correspondence, raising serious allegations concerning drug trafficking in a Mississippi county, is referred to you for appropriate action.

Attachment

FFF:JGR:aea 9/21/83

cc: FFFielding
JGRoberts
Subj.
Chron

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 21, 1983

Dear Mr. Bridges:

This is in response to your letter of September 7, 1983, to the President. In that letter you expressed serious concern about possible narcotics trafficking in your county.

Please be advised that we have referred your letter to the Department of Justice for appropriate action.

Thank you for sharing your concerns with us.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Mr. Jerry H. Bridges
Supervisor, District Five
Simpson County, MS
Post Office Box 277
Harrisville, MS 39082

FFF:JGR:aea 9/21/83

bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj./Chron

172367

ID #

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

HE006-01
(Jen)

☐ O - OUTGOING☐ H - INTERNAL☐ I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: Jeery Bridges

☐ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: REQUESTS A FEDERAL INVESTIGATION OF DRUG
TRAFFICKING IN SIMPSON COUNTY, MS

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
IA	Howl	ORIGINATOR	83109112		C	83109116
✓ F Fielding		Referral Note:	830921			1 1
CW HOLL		Referral Note:	83109121			1 1
CWAT 18		Referral Note:	83109121		S	83110101
		Referral Note:	1 1			1 1
		Referral Note:				

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Box Number

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NO Document Description

*No of
pages*

Doc Date

*Restric-
tions*

3 LETTER

3 9/7/1983 B6

534

JERRY H. BRIDGES TO PRESIDENT REAGAN RE.
DRUG PROBLEMS IN SIMPSON CNTY.

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E.O. 13233

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 23, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Bernold M. Jacobsen

Bernold M. Jacobsen of Palm Coast, Florida, wrote his Congressman, William Chappell, asking Chappell to look into the trust fund which Jacobsen says has been held by every President since FDR for his benefit. According to Jacobsen, it was started with \$1,000,000 in 1937 from the "King Features Syndicated" estate, 90 percent in stock of 14 companies and 10 percent in bank accounts. Chappell asked B. Oglesby to help Jacobsen, and Oglesby referred the matter to us.

Rather than simply directing Treasury to issue Jacobsen a check, I decided to investigate further. One of the law clerks called Jacobsen, who was able to recite several details of the alleged trust fund, but stated he was not certain if there was any documentation. I recommend sending the attached letter asking for substantiation and further identification of the fund. Jacobsen probably is just off his rocker, but may also simply be confused and actually have some trust fund somewhere. We should at least give him a chance to send us proof.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 23, 1983

Dear Mr. Jacobsen:

Your letter to Congressman Chappell concerning your "trust fund" has been referred to this office.

We are unfamiliar with any such fund and have been unable to locate any records concerning it. If you will forward to us copies of any records you have substantiating your claims and supporting the existence of a trust fund of the sort you described, we will be happy to consider the matter further.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Mr. Bernold M. Jacobsen
56 Club House Drive
Post Office Box 741
Palm Coast, Florida 32037

FFF:JGR:aea 9/23/83

bcc: FFFielding/JGRoberts/Subj./Chron

cc: The Honorable William Chappell

SEP 26 1983

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

September 23, 1983

Dear Mr. Jacobsen:

Your letter to Congressman Chappell concerning your "trust fund" has been referred to this office.

We are unfamiliar with any such fund and have been unable to locate any records concerning it. If you will forward to us copies of any records you have substantiating your claims and supporting the existence of a trust fund of the sort you described, we will be happy to consider the matter further.

Sincerely,

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President

Mr. Bernold M. Jacobsen
56 Club House Drive
Post Office Box 741
Palm Coast, Florida 32037

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

- ☐ O - OUTGOING
☐ H - INTERNAL
☐ I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 / 1

Name of Correspondent: Bernold M. Jacobsen

☐ MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: writes Cong. Bill Chappell re: status of his,
ie. Jacobsen's, trust fund

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CU41011</u>	<u>DD</u> ORIGINAL	<u>83108126</u>		<u>1 / 1</u>
<u>CUAT 18</u>	<u>DD</u> Referral Note:	<u>83108126</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>83109107</u>
	Referral Note:		<u>DD</u>	
		<u>1 / 1</u>		<u>1 / 1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 / 1</u>		<u>1 / 1</u>
	Referral Note:			
		<u>1 / 1</u>		<u>1 / 1</u>
	Referral Note:			

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 25, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED FIELDING

FROM: M. B. OGLESBY, JR. 
SUBJECT: Correspondence from Congressman
Bill Chappell (D-Florida)

Congressman Bill Chappell has forwarded the attached letter from Mr. Bernold Jacobsen who claims to have an inheritance in trust with President Reagan.

Could you please look into this matter for us.

Thank you.

Attachment

BILL CHAPPELL

4TH DISTRICT, FLORIDA

2468 RAYBURN OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515
(202) 225-4035

COMMITTEE:
APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
DEFENSE

ENERGY AND WATER
DEVELOPMENT

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION

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

August 23, 1983

DISTRICT OFFICES:

575 NORTH HALIFAX AVENUE
DAYTONA BEACH, FLORIDA 32018
(904) 253-7632

3015 HARTLEY ROAD
SUITE 13
JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA 32217
(904) 262-3570

25 AUG 1983

Mr. B. Oglesby
Deputy Assistant to the President for
Legislative Affairs
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20500

Re: Bernold M. Jacobsen - Estate

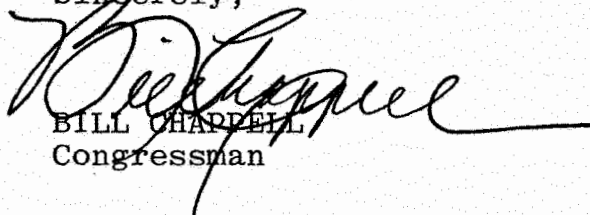
Dear Mr. Oglesby:

The attached letter from Bernold M. Jacobsen is forwarded
for your consideration.

Anything you can do to be of assistance to Mr. Jacobsen
will be deeply appreciated.

Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Sincerely,


BILL CHAPPELL
Congressman

BC:grs
enclosure

PLEASE RESPOND TO:

☐ WASHINGTON

☒ DAYTONA BEACH

☐ JACKSONVILLE

BERNOLD M. JACOBSEN
56 CLUB HOUSE DRIVE
P. O. BOX 741
PALM COAST, FLORIDA 32037

AUG 19 1983

Representative William Chappell Jr. 8/17/83
165877 CU
Dear Sir,

I am requesting you to represent me to Pres. Regan regarding my trust fund. The fund was inherited in 1937 from estate of Mr. King. "King Features Syndicated" in trust for Bernold M. Jacobsen (Sr.). I am retiring and would like to claim my inheritance which has been in trust for me, at my request, with Pres. Franklin Roosevelt and each succeeding President until I claim it. The fund was started with \$1,000,000.

I would like you to find out how I can claim it. How much it is worth? Do I have to personally go to Washington to claim it?

This fund has been started. 90% in stock in 14 companies and 10% in bank. over the years I have made many changes. I have sent mail to Pres. Regan in past which he hasn't answered. Please advise me if you need more information.

Sincerely,
Bernold M. Jacobsen Sr.

Phone 904-445-2219

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 26, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT: Continuing Correspondence From
Alfred J. Schweppe

Schweppe recently wrote you noting his constitutional objections to revenue sharing and his support for the President's views on federalism. You responded by sending Schweppe a copy of the President's recent address to the National Association of Towns and Townships on these subjects. Schweppe has now written again, objecting to the President's commitment to revenue sharing in the speech. Schweppe's theory - that federal tax dollars can only be used for national, not local purposes - is one of those, like strict interpretations of the interstate commerce clause and the non-delegation doctrine, that are sound in logic and history but have been, as it it were, overtaken by events.

I do not think we need to get into a debate with Schweppe, nor is it likely that he expects further correspondence from us on this point. I recommend no response.

Attachment

ID # 167222CU

FA

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

☐ O - OUTGOING☐ H - INTERNAL☐ I - INCOMINGDate Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1/1John has
outstanding
correspondenceName of Correspondent: Alfred J. Schweppe☐ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Unconstitutionality of general revenue
sharing

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>CW4011</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>83109123</u> ^{JWS}		<u>1/1</u>
<u>CWAT 18</u>	Referral Note: <u>A</u>	<u>83109123</u> ^{JWS}	<u>Continuing correspondence</u>	<u>5 8310112</u>
	Referral Note: _____	<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>
	Referral Note: _____	<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>
	Referral Note: _____	<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>
	Referral Note: _____	<u>1/1</u>		<u>1/1</u>

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Comments: See ID 112464 CW

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SCHWEPPE, KRUG, TAUSEND & BEEZER, P.S.

ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW

1600 PEOPLES NATIONAL BANK BUILDING
1415 FIFTH AVENUE
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98171

TELEPHONE
(206) 223-1600

MARGARET L. BARBIER
MARTHA J. DAWSON
RICHARD JOHN MORRISSEY III
JAMES M. RUPP
ANTHONY D. SHAPIRO
RICHARD C. TALLMAN

WARREN A. DOOLITTLE
JOHN N. RUPP
FREDRIC C. TAUSEND
OF COUNSEL

ROBERT R. BEEZER
MARK M. HOUGH
DAVID G. KNIBB
MARY ELLEN KRUG
DONALD H. MULLINS
KENNETH E. REKOW
ROBERT J. ROHAN
JEROME L. RUBIN
ALFRED J. SCHWEPPE
J. RONALD SIM
JUDITH B. STODER
REX B. STRATTON
JAMES B. STREET
DEXTER A. WASHBURN

September 17, 1983

Mr. Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Fielding:

Thank you indeed for the copy of the President's address to the National Association of Towns and Townships. It was, as usual, a delightful performance.

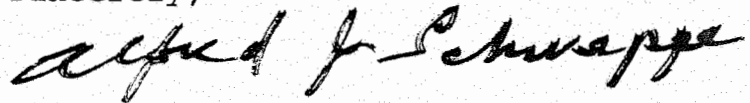
However, I am disturbed by his statement on page 6, last paragraph:

"I continue to support general revenue sharing and will oppose any changes."

That is the very thing that I showed in my American Bar Association articles to be unconstitutional along with all other grants for local purposes.

These unconstitutional programs were congressionally created with some presidential boosts, particularly from Lyndon Johnson; but it has been my hope that they would be sharply curtailed by this administration. Perhaps I can still hope.

Sincerely,



ALFRED J. SCHWEPPE

AJS:yn

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 13, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS

SUBJECT: Correspondence from Alfred J. Schweppe

Mr. Schweppe, an attorney from Seattle, is an occasional correspondent of yours. He has now written to object to revenue sharing and other federal grants for local purposes, stating that the President "is unalterably right in his concept of federalism." The President reviewed his concept of federalism in his recent address to the National Association of Towns and Townships, and I recommend simply sending Schweppe a copy. I do not know if Schweppe will agree with the President's support of block grants and revenue sharing, but he will approve of the more general sentiments.

Attachment

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 13, 1983

Dear Mr. Schweppe:

Thank you for your letter of September 1, concerning revenue sharing and other grants for local purposes. The President touched on federalism and related topics in his recent address before the National Association of Towns and Townships. In light of your interest in this area, I have taken the liberty of enclosing a copy of that address.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Orig. signed by FFF

Fred F. Fielding
Counsel to the
President

Mr. Alfred J. Schweppe
1600 Peoples National
Bank Building
1415 Fifth Avenue
Seattle, Washington 98171

Enclosure

FFF:JGR:aea 9/13/83 ✓
bcc: FFFfielding/JGRoberts/Subj./Chron

SEP 14 1983
SEP 1 " 1983

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

☐ O - OUTGOING☐ H - INTERNAL☐ I - INCOMINGDate Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD) 1/1/1Name of Correspondent: Alfred J. Schweppe☐ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Use of federal grants for local purposes
in Seattle, Washington

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>WHO11</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>83,09,07</u> ^{PR1}			<u>1/1</u>
<u>CVST 18</u>	Referral Note: <u>D</u>	<u>83,09,07</u> ^{PR1}		<u>PR5</u>	<u>83,09,17</u>
	Referral Note: _____	<u>1/1</u>			<u>1/1</u>
	Referral Note: _____	<u>1/1</u>			<u>1/1</u>
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KENNETH E. REKOW
ROBERT J. ROHAN
JEROME L. RUBIN
ALFRED J. SCHWEPPE
J. RONALD SIM
JUDITH B. STOUDE
REX B. STRATTON
JAMES B. STREET
DEXTER A. WASHBURN

September 1, 1983

167222 *cu*

Mr. Fred Fielding
White House Counsel
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Fielding:

This morning's Seattle Post Intelligencer has a long story about a congressional delegation being here to determine what federal funds should be allocated to repair of local streets and bridges.

You will remember that I pointed out several years ago in my articles in the American Bar Association Journal that revenue sharing and other grants for local purposes are unconstitutional, and that the President is unalterably right in his concept of federalism.

I have written the top state, county and city officials to stop completely relying on federal grants for local purposes. But here we are again!

Sincerely,

Alfred J. Schweppe
ALFRED J. SCHWEPPE

AJS:MBH

THE WHITE HOUSE

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT
TO THE
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS AND TOWNSHIPS

Capitol Hilton Hotel
Washington, D.C.

September 12, 1983

10:13 A.M. EDT

THE PRESIDENT: Thank you all very much.

Well, thank you, George Miller, Senator Percy, Congressman Horton and ladies and gentlemen. As I recall, back in World War II, that's what we fought the war for, mom's apple pie. (Laughter and applause)

It's a pleasure for me to be here with you today. Growing up as I did, as you were told, in Dixon Township, I know well the role that towns and townships play in America. Incidentally, between Tampico and Dixon there were two other small towns in Illinois in which I lived before I was about eight years old. Those towns are the cradle of democracy. And if anyone has any doubts about the vitality of American liberty, I would suggest that they visit some of your town meetings. I'm sure that Patrick Henry and Thomas Jefferson would feel right at home.

One aspect of town government is that people know each other. Some are even related. (Laughter) There's a story about town folk. Usually if you are going to tell a joke, you try to tie it into something that has to do with what you are talking about. The closest I can come is that this story is kind of typical of the humor and the flavor of small town America. It's about a fellow named Elmer. In his town, he fished and he made a living selling fish to the local restaurant. But he was able to provide so many fish every day that the game warden got a little suspicious and the sheriff, being Elmer's cousin, went to him and said, "Why don't you go fishing with him and find out how he's doing this." So they did. And they got out in the middle of a lake in a rowboat and the sheriff threw his line in and Elmer reached down in the tackle box and pulled out a stick of dynamite, lit the fuse, tossed it overboard, and with the explosion up came the fish belly up. And the sheriff said, "Elmer, do you realize you've just committed a felony?" Elmer reached down into the tackle box, took out another stick of dynamite, lit it, handed it to the sheriff and said, "Did you come here to fish or talk." (Laughter)

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But this gathering here today is testimony to the fundamental change that's taking place in our country, change for which many are unaware, or of which many are unaware, and yet it's altering the face of America. What we're experiencing is nothing less than a renaissance of small town life. I'm here to tell you that this Administration recognizes it and that the days when your role in our country was taken for granted are over.

Small towns and townships have always played a vital part in American life. And yet about the time of the Civil War, urban areas began to grow at a faster clip. I wasn't around at the time -- (laughter) but a little later I was witness to that move to the urban areas. Now, I'm certain that all of you are aware that that trend has reversed itself. In 1978, some rural areas continued to lose -- or grew at a rate that was far above that growth, 50 percent faster than the growth in urban centers. Today one out of four of our citizens lives in non-metropolitan areas. And some polls indicate that 60 percent of the American people would join them if they could find work in those smaller towns.

The influx of people into small towns and rural areas reflects not just material well-being or desire of that but the desire for a better, different quality of life. During the 1960s, there were those who scoffed at small town values, at family, the talk of family, God and neighborhood. And they said those things in which we believe are old-fashioned and corny. Well, there's been some growing up in this country in the last few years and people are discovering that those basic values we hold so dear are stronger than the fads that make a big splash one day and evaporate the next.

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Many of the problems we face today are the results of drifting away from principles that kept our country on a sound footing through most of its history. Our forefathers believed that government should be limited and power should be decentralized.

Calvin Coolidge, a President I deeply admire, put it well. "Our country," he said, "was conceived in the theory of local self-government. It has been dedicated by long practice to that wise and beneficent policy. It is the foundation principle of our system of liberty."

There are people that down through the years have not expressed much admiration for Cal Coolidge, but I remember something that, I think, would strike all of you as typical of him. It was the summer and his son had a job working on the farm up in New Hampshire. It was hard and hot work and one day another kid that was working there at lunch time said to him as they were sitting there eating out of their brown paper bags, he said, "Boy, if my father were President, I wouldn't be doing this," and Cal's son said, "If your father were my father, you would." (Laughter)

The American system, decentralized and based on guaranteed individual rights, served our country well and yet in the last two decades or more, something went haywire. The people began turning to Washington with greater and greater frequency. Every problem became something of Federal concern. Worst of all, we were to believe that Federal money came free, and it's taken quite a while for us to realize that Federal money came out of the same pockets as did local and state taxes -- our pockets.

On the other end, well-intentioned individuals thought if they were only given the power, they could right every wrong. As I said, they were well-intentioned, but there's a well-known road paved with good intentions. No one likes to go where it takes you.

There's a story about a young fellow riding a motorcycle. He had good intentions, too. The wind was kind of chilly and coming through the buttonholes on his jacket, and so he got this idea. He stopped and put his jacket on backward and that eliminated the chill factor through the buttonholes, but it kind of restricted his arm movement, and down the road, his motorcycle hit a patch of ice. He skidded into a tree. When the police got there, a crowd had gathered and they elbowed their way through and they said, "What happened," and one of them said, "We don't know. When we got here, he seemed to be all right, but by the time we got his head turned around straight, he was dead." (Laughter and Applause)

I think that has a tie-in with some of the things the government does. (Laughter) But in the last two decades, government expanded with the best of intentions, but we paid a steep price. By the end of the 1970s, average citizens trying to solve even the simplest problems were frustrated by a conglomeration of interlocking jurisdictions and an absence of accountability. Unelected Washington officials were making decisions that rightfully should be made by local people working and talking together. Americans felt that they'd lost control of essential services like schools, welfare and roads.

The idealistic goals of those who centralized American government didn't change the nature of what we confronted. Supreme Court Justice Louis Brandeis once said that "Men born to freedom are naturally alert to repel invasion of their liberty by evil-minded rulers. The greatest dangers to liberty lurk in insidious encroachment by men of zeal, well-meaning but without understanding."

In the end, the growth of Federal power complicated our problems and threatened our freedom. Nowhere was that clearer than the grants-in-aid program. In 1950, the Federal Government had 132 categorical grant programs costing \$7 billion. Twenty years later, by 1970, the number had tripled to more than 400, costing \$90 billion, and it took 166 congressional committees just to keep track of this mishmash of programs, including 13 programs for energy, 36 for pollution control, 66 for social services and 90 for education.

The frustration of dealing with far away bureaucracy wasn't the only price that we were paying. Between 1976 and 1981, the Federal tax doubled, draining the private sector of money it needed for investment and the creation of jobs. And by the time the Federal tax vacuum was done, there was little left for local and state government.

The growth of Federal power was stagnating our economy and destroying our hopes for a better future. By 1980, inflation was running at double-digit levels for the second year in a row, robbing our senior citizens of the value of their savings. The poor and middle class working people saw their real wages and their standard of living begin to shrink.

The spirit of optimism, long the hallmark of our people, turned to pessimism and cynicism. Even our leaders were throwing up their hands claiming that we were in a malaise and that our problems were unsolvable.

Well, one should never sell the American people short. Once we put our minds to it, there's nothing Americans cannot accomplish if the Federal Government will just get out of the way.

When I got to Washington, we faced the awesome responsibility of changing the direction of government. And that's not easy, and it's not painless. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank George Miller and all of you in the National Association of Towns and Townships for the support that you've given over these two and a half years. I remember meeting George and your officers in the White House. Believe me, it was expressions of support like the ones I heard that day that kept me going. After our meeting, I told my staff they just had a dose of good old fashioned grass roots Americanism, and I sense that same spirit in this room today.

It's taken time, but I'm proud to tell you that together we've turned around a desperate situation and we're never going back to the policies of tax, spend and inflate that brought our country to the edge of disaster. (Applause)

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Together we've brought inflation from double digits down to 2.4 percent over the last twelve months, and that's the best twelve-month's record in nearly 17 years. I don't have to tell you -- I don't have to tell you what this means to the cost of doing business for our towns and townships.

There's also been progress with interest rates, which are as important to you as they are to business. Just before I took office, they were going through the roof. The prime at the time was 21-1/2 percent. Today it stands at 11 percent. There will be slight fluctuations in this recovery, but if the Congress acts responsibly, interest rates are going to come down even more, and not too far in the future. (Applause)

We're getting the Federal spending and taxing juggernaut under control. Spending was growing at a rate of 17 percent a year when we got here. We've cut that by nearly 40 percent. And let me say that still isn't good enough.

There is an old saying that in levying taxes, as in shearing sheep, it's best to stop when you get to the skin. (Laughter) Well, by 1980, taxes were making our economy bleed. We've cut the income tax rate of the American people 25 percent across the board. And in 1985, they'll be indexed so that never again will the Federal Government profit from inflation at the people's expense. (Applause)

There's one part of our tax reform program of which I'm particularly proud, and that is by raising the exemption on the inheritance tax and by eliminating it altogether for surviving spouses, we've restored the right to American people of passing on their family farm or small business to their children. (Applause)

From the start, we recognized that excessive Federal regulation was not only strangling American enterprise but preventing you folks at the local level from doing your job. Since we took office, we've freed the business community as well as state and local government of 300 million man hours, man and woman hours of needless paperwork. And this will save Americans billions of dollars and free you to handle local problems as you see best.

Returning power to levels of government closer to the people has been one of the guiding principles of this Administration. Decentralizing remains one of our utmost goals, as George told you, and don't let anybody tell you that we are satisfied with what has been done so far. Phase One of our Federalism program may be accomplished, but that's just Phase One.

Again, with your help, we managed to get through the Congress a block grant package that consolidated 57 programs into nine block grants that in 1982 eliminated some 5.4 million hours of work for state and local officials and in subsequent years will eliminate some 5.9 million hours a year. We continued this effort with the enactment of the Job Training Partnership Act and the urban mass transportation grants program. This year we've proposed legislation that will consolidate over \$22 billion of spending in 34 programs into four block grants. Included among these is the Rural Housing Block Grant, which will give you more control and flexibility over programs costing \$850 million annually.

The significance of the block grant, as most of you well know, is that it isn't tied to all the rules and regulations and specifics as to how the program must be managed, as is true in the individual or specific grants. It gives you the flexibility to set the priorities and determine how best that money can be spent.

The biggest resistance to our efforts has been from politicians who simply don't believe that local government is competent to do the job. Their opposition seems to be based on the notion that the Federal bureaucracy has a monopoly on compassion and efficiency, which I think you'd find mighty strange. It's been said that, "A man's intelligence does not increase as he acquires power." What does increase is the difficulty in telling him that. (Laughter)

If it was ever true that Federal employees had greater capabilities than their local counterparts, those days are rapidly coming to an end. Today modern technology is opening up greater and greater opportunities for state and local governments. Even small towns have computer services available to them that were out of reach only a decade ago. I know your own organization is moving forward with great training and communication programs that will open up broad, new horizons at the local level.

Today, local government across the country is proving itself efficient and responsive to the will of the people. I'd like to see some of the politicians here in Washington who don't think you can do the job try to handle some of your responsibilities. Bart Russell tells me that as head of the local township, you've got to be a parliamentarian, bookkeeper, business manager, ombudsman and government liaison expert all at the same time. Plus, you've got to do all that while keeping the hometown folks happy. (Laughter and Applause) And I thought dealing with Capitol Hill was hard. (Laughter)

I can assure you that this Administration knows and appreciates the job you are doing. We are taking every care so that in transferring programs back to levels of government closer to the people, you also receive the resources to get the job done.

I have a dream that some day we can provide you with the revenue sources that have been co-opted by the Federal Government, so that local money no longer has to make a round trip through Washington before you can use it back in your local area -- minus a certain carrying charge. (Laughter) In the meantime, you can count on us to be sensitive to current obligations. I continue to support general revenue sharing and will oppose any changes -- (Applause) -- I will oppose any changes in the revenue sharing formula that unduly impact on towns and townships. And if I remembered all the lessons of my previous occupation, I would quit right there after that response. (Laughter)

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Of course, transfer of revenues is not going to bring lasting change. Real progress will come as a result of creative approaches that harness the power of the marketplace. With this in mind, we've proposed legislation to create enterprise zones to encourage private business to locate in disadvantaged areas. And one-third of the 75 zones in the bill that we've suggested would be in rural areas.

There is enormous support for this concept. Already 20 States have passed State enterprise zone legislation. The Senate has already passed this bill once, and although it was dropped in conference, we're confident they'll support it again in the House. And in the House we have 181 Members, nearly a majority, who have co-sponsored the legislation this time. So far, of course, the House has failed to act and only recently has the House Leadership even agreed to hold hearings. I'd like to take this opportunity to ask you to join us in escalating efforts to pry this legislation out of the House. Just remember, we don't have to make them see the light, just make them feel the heat. (Laughter and Applause)

I'll square that with present company later. (Laughter)

It's about time that you had a fair say in the Federal policies that affect you. I want to assure you that I continue to support strongly legislation that would provide for a member nominated by your organization to be placed on the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. (Applause)

Over the last two and a half years, we've had to make some tough decisions, and I fully appreciate that the townships you represent have felt the pain of reducing the growth of Federal spending. We couldn't have gone on the way things were, and you've done more than your share. As we move forward, I have instructed my staff to be diligent that your good citizenship is now not taken advantage of, and when it comes to budget control, towns and townships are treated equally with other segments of American society. (Applause)

We must always remember that on our shoulders rests the responsibility of our country's future. In less free societies, the burden rests only on the head of state. The freedom of -- to enjoy places a heavy burden on all of us, in and out of government. Together we've overcome an economic threat that could well have destroyed the America that we know and love. The signs suggest that we're over the hump, but, as is engraved on our National Archives building, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty."

There is every reason for us to be confident. We are still the same people who conquered a wilderness and turned it into a dynamo of freedom and abundance. I think that today there is a greater understanding of the miracle of America, of what made her great and kept her free.

John Foster Dulles once said that, "If we are faithful to our past, we shall not have to fear our future." Well, together we've proven that we can do what is necessary to keep faith with those who came before.

I thank you for all that you've done, and I thank you for having me here with you today. Thank you all, and God bless you all. (Applause)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 26, 1983

MEMORANDUM FOR FRED F. FIELDING

FROM: JOHN G. ROBERTS *JGR*

SUBJECT: Continuing Correspondence From
Alfred J. Schweppe

Schweppe recently wrote you noting his constitutional objections to revenue sharing and his support for the President's views on federalism. You responded by sending Schweppe a copy of the President's recent address to the National Association of Towns and Townships on these subjects. Schweppe has now written again, objecting to the President's commitment to revenue sharing in the speech. Schweppe's theory - that federal tax dollars can only be used for national, not local purposes - is one of those, like strict interpretations of the interstate commerce clause and the non-delegation doctrine, that are sound in logic and history but have been, as it it were, overtaken by events.

I do not think we need to get into a debate with Schweppe, nor is it likely that he expects further correspondence from us on this point. I recommend no response.

Attachment

*but this is
not to mean no
further responses to
his future letters
from him* 9/26

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4 MEMO

1 10/3/1983 B6

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JOHN G. ROBERTS TO FRED F. FIELDING RE.
GARRETT VICTOR KINARD

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]

B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]

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B-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]

B-7 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]

B-8 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]

B-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

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5 LETTER

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FRED F. FIELDING TO GARY E. GRIFFITH RE.
HARRASSMENT OF PRESIDENT

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

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GARRETT VICTOR KINARD

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7 LETTER

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GARY E. GRIFFITH TO PRESIDENT REAGAN
HARRASSMENT INVESTIGATION

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