

# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

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**WHORM Subject File Code:** CO170

(Countries: Vatican City)

**Case File Number(s):** 400000-444999

**Box Number:** 220

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*Last Updated: 08/21/2024*

# WITHDRAWAL SHEET

## Ronald Reagan Library

**Collection Name** WHITE HOUSE OFFICE OF RECORDS MANAGEMENT  
(WHORM): SUBJECT FILE

**Withdrawer**

KDB 8/1/2007

**File Folder** CO170 VATICAN CITY (400000-444999)

**FOIA**

F05-150/1

**Box Number** 220

CAVALLI

9

ID	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
40087	LETTER	WILLIAM WILSON TO CARL ANDERSON RE POPE'S 1987 PASTORAL VISIT TO U.S. <b>R 6/27/2013 M347/1</b>	2	6/4/1986	B1
40088	MEMO	JOHN POINDEXTER TO REAGAN RE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE'S MEETING WITH POPE (W/NOTATIONS) <b>R 1/6/2012 M347/1</b>	1	ND	B1
40089	MEMO	CASPAR WEINBERGER TO REAGAN RE 10/19/86 MEETING WITH POPE <b>R 3/20/2018 M347/1</b>	2	10/22/1986	B1

The above documents were not referred for declassification review at time of processing

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-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]

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

BB

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

6/25/86

401550  
CO170  
FO002

Pat:

FYI - This is consistent with the  
information I've received from the  
Bishop's Conference here.

Carl CD

WES

**CARL A. ANDERSON**  
Special Assistant to the President  
for Public Liaison  
OEOB 197, Ext. 2164

Pastoral Visit of His Holiness  
Pope John Paul II to the US in 1987

Amb William A. Wilson



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
TO THE HOLY SEE

Rome, Italy

June 4, 1986

OFFICIAL-INFORMAL  
~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

Mr. Carl Anderson  
Assistant to the President  
The White House Office  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Carl:

During a recent visit to the White House, I was asked several questions concerning the proposed "pastoral visit" of His Holiness Pope John Paul II to the United States in 1987.

I thought it would be of interest for your office to be informed of what the Embassy knows of this trip to date. During the past few months, we have been "unofficially" informed by our Vatican contacts that the Holy Father will visit the United States in September of 1987. We understand that His Holiness has been invited to make a pastoral visit to our country. From a recent meeting here in Rome, I learned that the trip will begin on September 9, 1987, and that the tentative itinerary will include Miami, Florida; Columbia, South Carolina; New Orleans, Louisiana; San Antonio, Texas; Los Angeles, California; Monterey, California; and San Francisco, California. The Pope then plans to visit Yellow Knife, Canada, which he was unable to visit during his Canadian trip a few years ago, then return to Rome.

The Holy See normally sends official notification to the government of the nation to be visited by the Pope approximately four months prior to the visit.

The Embassy suggests it would be very premature for either the White House or the Department of State to make any public statement concerning the Pope's proposed U.S. trip. It should be kept in mind that the Pope visits nations

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DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M347/1 # 40087

BY KHL NARA DATE 6/27/13



2

~~LIMITED OFFICIAL USE~~

not as a Chief of State but as an invited guest of the host nation's bishops on a pastoral visitation.

Thus, it would certainly be inappropriate for any private group in the United States to attempt to arrange a meeting between His Holiness and President Reagan during the trip. I am confident that, in all likelihood, such a meeting will take place but suggest it is far too early to speculate regarding the details.

The Embassy will keep you posted on the Papal visit to the United States as more is learned about the project on this end.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

  
William A. Wilson  
Ambassador

Name	Date
Quatrone	5/14/87

THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

CO170

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JUNE 13, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. JAMES A. SCATENA

SUBJECT: SUPPORTS JOHN A. VOLPE FOR APPOINTMENT AS  
AMBASSADOR TO THE VATICAN

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)	ACTION		DISPOSITION	
	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK	ORG	86/06/13	RT A	86/06/18 TR
BP Freeman REFERRAL NOTE: _____	A	86/06/24	TR	C 86/07/29
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /
REFERRAL NOTE: _____		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	* OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	* CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*		* OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE *			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY *			*

\*\*\*\*\*

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(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590  
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING  
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



June 18, 1986

Dear Mr. Scatena:

This is to acknowledge your letter to President Reagan recommending John A Volpe for another appointment to the Reagan Administration.

Please be assured that your comments will be included in our personnel files, and as we endeavor to select the most qualified individuals to serve in the second term of the Reagan Administration, your recommendation will be given careful consideration.

Thank you for letting us know of your interest in this candidate.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Director of Presidential Personnel

Mr. James Scatena  
666 11th St NW #800  
Washington, DC 20001



JUN 24 1986

RECOMMENDATION ROUTING TICKET

CANDIDATE: Volpe, John

RCVD BY: PRR RECAGCY: ANB

RECPOS: NOBY SEE

LTR# SENT: 13 PROCESS?: Y N

TO AD: ANF BSW KAR SAB MXS SEP RHT

DATE TO AD: 800619 AD TO FILES: \_\_\_\_\_

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RACCNr: 742 FILESTAT: A/g

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INCOMPLETE RESUME

BAT: \_\_\_\_\_ LTR1 & FILESTAT W

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COMPLETE RESUME

BAT: \_\_\_\_\_ LTR1 & FILESTAT C

YOB: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

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AFTER REVIEW

FILESTAT: AD CF

POLRTG: P 1

PRORTG: P 1

RTGLVL: 1 (PAS) 2 (PA)

3 (SES) 4 (SKC)

PAS/SES-LEAD: ANF BSW KAR

MXS SEP

PA-LEAD: SAB

SKC-LEAD: ESP ERS

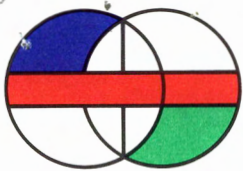
LTR2: Y N

PARTY: \_\_\_\_\_ 1980 DOM: \_\_\_\_\_

RECFOR: \_\_\_\_\_ AT: \_\_\_\_\_

— —





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Lucile DeGeorge

## Executive Director

Dr. Alfred M. Rotondaro

Please Reply To: Building C  
Fort Mason Center  
San Francisco, CA 94123

K.B.

June 10, 1986

The Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I humbly request that you give every consideration to naming Honorable John A. Volpe as United States Ambassador to the Vatican in Rome.

This man, as you know, not only has served as Governor of Massachusetts, as Secretary of Transportation, as U.S. Ambassador to Italy, and as past Chairman of the President's Commission on Drunk Driving, but is also an exemplary member of the Catholic Church. Most assuredly, he would be the logical American to be our Ambassador to the Vatican.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely yours,

*James A. Scatena*

James A. Scatena  
Regional Vice President

JAS:AM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

JUNE 10, 1986

MEMORANDUM TO KATHERINE LADD

FROM: CECI COLE MCINTURFF *CyC*

SUBJECT: ATTACHED LETTER FOR THE PRESIDENT FROM FORMER AMBASSADOR WILSON

For some reason, the attached letter was delivered to this office by former Ambassador to the Vatican, Bill Wilson. The letter is from a gentleman from France.

I pass it along to you for appropriate channeling to NSC or the State Department, or whatever route you think appropriate.

Thanks.

Sent to 6/10 → Fred Ryan

406578  
C0170  
F0002  
C0051





THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

00170

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 09, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MS. LUCY CONTRINO THOMAS

SUBJECT: ENDORSES THE NOMINATION OF JOHN VOLPE FOR  
APPOINTMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO THE VATICAN

R=742/A/g

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK		ORG	86/07/09	RT	A 86/07/12 AB
PP Foreman	REFERRAL NOTE:	A	86/07/12		C 86/07/15 AB
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /
	REFERRAL NOTE:		/ /		/ /

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-PEFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*		*OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY	*		*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE	*		*
*X-INTERIM REPLY	*		*

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MANAGEMENT.

July 12, 1986

Dear Ms. Thomas:

This is to acknowledge your letter to President Reagan recommending John A Volpe for another appointment to the Reagan Administration.

Please be assured that your comments will be included in our personnel files, and as we endeavor to select the most qualified individuals to serve in the second term of the Reagan Administration, your recommendation will be given careful consideration.

Thank you for letting us know of your interest in this candidate.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Director of Presidential Personnel

Ms. Lucy Thomas  
410 West Fayette St  
Baltimore, MD 21201



RECOMMENDATION ROUTING TICKET

CANDIDATE: Volpe, John

RCVD BY: PER RECAGCY: ANB

RECPOS: HOLY SEE

LTR# SENT: 13 PROCESS?: Y N

TO AD: ANF BSW KAR SAB MXS SEP RHT

DATE TO AD: 800714 AD TO FILES: \_\_\_\_\_

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RACCNr: 742 FILESTAT: A/g

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INCOMPLETE RESUME

BAT: \_\_\_\_\_ LTR1 & FILESTAT W

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COMPLETE RESUME

BAT: \_\_\_\_\_ LTR1 & FILESTAT C

YOB: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

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AFTER REVIEW

FILESTAT: AD CF

POLRTG: P 1

PRORTG: P 1

RTGLVL: 1 (PAS) 2 (PA)

3 (SES) 4 (SKC)

PAS/SES-LEAD: ANF BSW KAR

MXS SEP

PA-LEAD: SAB

SKC-LEAD: ESP ERS

LTR2: Y N

PARTY: \_\_\_\_\_ 1980 DOM: \_\_\_\_\_

RECFOR: \_\_\_\_\_ AT: \_\_\_\_\_

5  
RB  
STATE LODGE

410 W. FAYETTE STREET



409094  
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BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21201

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837-6500

July 3, 1986

Mr. Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

An Ambassador to the Vatican will soon be appointed by you. I have been informed that Ambassador John Volpe is among those Americans presently under consideration for the appointment.

As State President of the Maryland Order Sons of Italy in America, we take great pride in supporting Mr. Volpe for the Ambassadorship. The Americans of Italian descent laud the services that Ambassador Volpe has performed for his country at state, national, and international levels. He is not only a leading member of the Church, but also a distinguished son of Italy and a great diplomat.

We heartily endorse his appointment for he, indeed, is imminently qualified.

Our best wishes to you and your family.

Sincerely yours,

*Lucy Contrino Thomas*

Lucy Contrino Thomas  
State President

LOT:1m

*STA Pres MD Order Sons Italy*



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 410034

CO 170

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 25, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. EDWARD GALLETTI

SUBJECT: STRONGLY RECOMMENDS JOHN VOLPE AS THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR TO THE VATICAN IN ROME

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:		ACT	DATE	TYPE	C COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK		ORG	86/07/25	RT	A 86/08/05
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					
REFERRAL NOTE:					

COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES:

MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) (B) (C)

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*ACTION CODES:	*DISPOSITION	*OUTGOING	*
*	*	*CORRESPONDENCE:	*
*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION	*A-ANSWERED	*TYPE RESP=INITIALS	*
*C-COMMENT/RECOM	*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL	*OF SIGNER	*
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE	*C-COMPLETED	*CODE = A	*
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET	*S-SUSPENDED	*COMPLETED = DATE OF	*
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC		*OUTGOING	*
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY			*
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE			*
*X-INTERIM REPLY			*

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LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS  
MANAGEMENT.



RECOMMENDATION ROUTING TICKET

CANDIDATE: Volpe, John

RCVD BY: PRR RECAGCY: AMB

RECPOS: HOLY SEE

LTR# SENT: 14 PROCESS?: Y N

TO AD: ANF BSW KAR SAB MXS SEP RHT

DATE TO AD: 8/20/80 AD TO FILES: \_\_\_\_\_

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RACCNR: 742 FILESTAT: A/g

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INCOMPLETE RESUME

BAT: \_\_\_\_\_ LTR1 & FILESTAT W

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COMPLETE RESUME

BAT: \_\_\_\_\_ LTR1 & FILESTAT C

YOB: \_\_\_\_\_ SSN: \_\_\_\_\_

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AFTER REVIEW

FILESTAT: AD CF

POLRTG: P 1

POLRTG: P 1

RTGLVL: 1 (PAS) 2 (PA)

3 (SES) 4 (SKC)

PAS/SES-LEAD: ANF BSW KAR

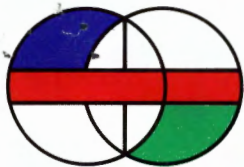
MXS SEP

PA-LEAD: SAB

SKC-LEAD: ESP ERS

PARTY: \_\_\_\_\_ 1980 DOM: \_\_\_\_\_

RECFOR: \_\_\_\_\_ AT: \_\_\_\_\_



# The National Italian American Foundation

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Please reply to: 187 Avila Street, San Francisco, CA 94123

410034

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Joseph T. Ventura

July 21, 1986

KB

The Honorable Ronald Reagan  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I would like to bring to your consideration to naming the Honorable John Volpe as United States Ambassador to the Vatican in Rome.

The Honorable John Volpe, as you know, served as Governor of Massachusetts, as Secretary of Transportation, as United States Ambassador to Italy, and as past Chairman of the President's Commission on Drunk Driving.

He is also a great believer and member of the Roman Catholic Church.

I would strongly recommend the Honorable John Volpe to you for the position of the United States Ambassador to the Vatican in Rome.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Edward Galletti  
Board Member of the NIAF  
Member of the Republican  
Presidential Task Force  
and Member of the United States  
Congressional Advisory Board as  
a Senior Advisor

August 6, 1986

Dear Mr. Galletti:

Thank you very much for your letter to President Reagan recommending John A Volpe.

Regretfully, we must inform you that the President has made a tentative decision to appoint another individual to this position.

Please be assured that your recommendation will be included in our personnel files, and as we endeavor to select the most qualified individuals to serve in the Reagan Administration, your candidate will be given every consideration as other positions become available.

We greatly appreciate hearing from you on this matter and thank you again for your letter of recommendation.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Director of Presidential Personnel

Mr. Edward Galletti  
187 Avila St  
San Francisco, CA 94123



THE WHITE HOUSE  
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID# 410042

00170

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JULY 25, 1986

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE DAVID M. WALTERS

SUBJECT: OFFERS HIS ASSISTANCE IN THE SELECTION  
PROCESS FOR THE AMBASSADOR TO THE VATICAN,  
AND RECOMMENDS JOHN VOLPE FOR THE POSITION

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
KATJA BULLOCK		ORG	86/07/25	RT A	86/08/06
PP Foreman	REFERRAL NOTE:		86/08/07		86/08/07
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
	REFERRAL NOTE:				

COMMENTS: FORMER AMBASSADOR TO THE HOLY SEE, VATICAN

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: \_\_\_\_\_  
MI MAIL USER CODES: (A) \_\_\_\_\_ (B) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

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\*ACTION CODES: \*DISPOSITION \*OUTGOING \*  
\* \* \*CORRESPONDENCE: \*  
\*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION \*A-ANSWERED \*TYPE RESP=INITIALS \*  
\*C-COMMENT/RECOM \*B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL \* OF SIGNER \*  
\*D-DRAFT RESPONSE \*C-COMPLETED \* CODE = A \*  
\*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET \*S-SUSPENDED \*COMPLETED = DATE OF \*  
\*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC \* OUTGOING \*  
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\*S-FOR-SIGNATURE \* \* \*  
\*X-INTERIM REPLY \* \* \*  
\*\*\*\*\*

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MANAGEMENT.

August 6, 1986

Dear Mr. Walters:

Thank you very much for your letter to President Reagan recommending John A Volpe.

Regretfully, we must inform you that the President has made a tentative decision to appoint another individual to this position.

Please be assured that your recommendation will be included in our personnel files, and as we endeavor to select the most qualified individuals to serve in the Reagan Administration, your candidate will be given every consideration as other positions become available.

We greatly appreciate hearing from you on this matter and thank you again for your letter of recommendation.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Tuttle  
Director of Presidential Personnel

Mr. David M Walters  
3000 Southwest 62nd Ave  
Miami, FL 33155





8  
AMBASSADOR DAVID WALTERS  
K.M., K.S.G.

410042

KB

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

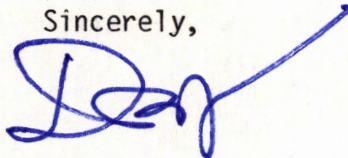
Mr. President:

Since dictating the enclosed letter I have learned through some indirect source, not from my good friend John Volpe, but a member of his family that he is interested in the post of Ambassador to the Vatican.

I know John very well since we are both Vice Presidents in the Knights of Malta, American Association, under Peter Grace's Presidency. I knew John in Italy. I know him as a person, and I know him as a highly qualified public servant, a dedicated American and a very religious man.

In my estimation, without him soliciting me, I would like to add my recommendation that you seriously consider John Volpe as your representative to the Vatican. I can think of no better selection or better nomination to the post.

Sincerely,



David M. Walters

DMW:acl



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July 22, 1986

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

**MIAMI CHILDREN'S  
HOSPITAL  
FOUNDATION**

Mr. President,

As I hope you may recall, as a registered Democrat, I was the first Democratic official to join "Democrats for Reagan" on a national level along with Leon Jaworski. At that time I had retired from the of President Carter's Personal Envoy to the Vatican. I found it, as a practising and devout Catholic, impossible to support a Democratic platform that supported abortion.

Later you honored me by asking me to serve as your personal surrogate and I followed candidate Mondale around various southern cities giving interviews on television, radio and other news media explaining why Mr. Mondale was not the proper candidate for President.

I have since supported your Administration in many ways inasmuch as our philosophies seem to agree. On such occasions as you have responded to my letters you have always reminded me that you were a Democrat. You have recently honored me as your Personal Representative on the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Commission. I fully support and commit myself to your need to have a supportive Republican Senate. I have committed to help my good friend Alec Courtelis, your Florida GOP Finance Chairman, in his endeavors.

Ambassador David M. Walters

The purpose of this letter is quite different. As a Vice President of the Knights of Malta American Association, as the first Catholic appointee as Personal Envoy to the Vatican, and further, as a Knight of St. Gregory which is a papal knighthood of the fourth highest Order, I think I understand the values and the protocols and the principles that are germane to our relationship of Americans to the Vatican.

3000 S.W. 62 Avenue  
Miami, Florida 33155  
Phone: (305) 666-2889

Variety Children's  
Hospital Foundation, Inc.  
MCMLXXVI



The President  
Page Two  
July 22, 1986

It may be that the knowledge that I gained as the first Catholic Ambassador to the Vatican, and my retention of very close personal relationships with various members of the Holy See, that I can be of some assistance to you in establishing some concepts important to the selection process. Please call on me if this is of value to you or your aides.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'D. Walters', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

David M. Walters

DWM:acl

NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

7679

ACTION

October 27, 1986

MEMORANDUM FOR JOHN M. POINDEXTER

FROM: TYRUS W. COBB *TWC*

SUBJECT: SecDef Meeting with the Pope, October 19, 1986

At Tab I is a memorandum from you to the President forwarding Secretary Weinberger's memorandum of his meeting with the Pope on Sunday, October 19th.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That you sign the memorandum to the President at Tab I.

Approve *[Signature]*

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

*[Signature]* Jack Matlock and *[Signature]* Steve Steiner concur.

Attachments

Tab I Memorandum to the President

Tab A Incoming from Secretary Weinberger



BB

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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CO170

F0006-11

CO068

F0013

F0008-01

F0006-12

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: JOHN M. POINDEXTER *JP*

SUBJECT: SecDef Meeting with the Pope, October 19, 1986

Issue

To read Cap's memorandum to you of his meeting with Pope John Paul II.

Facts

Cap met with the Pope in Florence to review the meetings you had with Gorbachev in Iceland and to continue discussions the Secretary has previously engaged in with Pope John Paul II regarding deterrence strategy and ethical questions involved in war.

Discussion

Cap emphasized that it was Soviet insistence on killing your SDI initiative that prevented our securing far-reaching and deep reduction agreements. The Secretary added that we sought no unilateral military advantage through SDI but, in fact, had offered to share the benefits with the Soviets. Pope John Paul appreciated the briefing and stressed that while he earnestly sought peace, he was not a "unilateral pacifist." The Pope also asked Cap to convey his best personal wishes to you.

Recommendation

OK

No

*RR*        That you read Cap's memorandum at Tab A.

Attachment

Tab A Incoming from Secretary Weinberger

N5C#8607679

Prepared by:  
Tyrus W. Cobb

DECLASSIFIED

NLRR M10-347#40088

BY RW NARA DATE 1/6/12

# THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON, D. C.



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

40089

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4



THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

22 OCT 1986

RR

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

SUBJECT: My Meeting with the Pope on Sunday, 19 October 1986

I met with the Pope as a result of Italian Defense Minister Spadolini's arrangements.

I had met with the Pope three years ago on my return from China, and we had talked about deterrence and some of the ethical questions involved in war, and I wanted to see him again. I had been told that he would not be in Rome because he was having a series of appearances in Florence. Minister Spadolini invited us to lunch at his villa above Florence, and knowing of my interest in seeing the Pope again, arranged, somehow, for us to meet with the Pontiff.

The meeting was held in the office of the Cardinal Archbishop of Florence, next to the world-famous Cathedral.

The Pope looked well and ruddy. He speaks very slowly. He asked to have his best wishes conveyed to you, and expressed interest in what had happened in Iceland. I gave him a general briefing, and emphasized the highest priority you quite properly assign to Strategic Defense. I emphasized that this was because you felt this was the most hopeful concept for mankind because it is the first strategic program that is designed to protect people and to destroy weapons, rather than destroy people -- that in fact it is not really a weapons system at all. I emphasized the fact that it was Soviet insistence on killing our system (which would leave them with a monopoly) that prevented your securing very far reaching and deep reduction agreements.

I expressed great gratitude for the meeting, and told him I felt it was important for him to know in more detail what had happened at Iceland, and why the Strategic Defense Initiative is a concept that we will, of course, continue to try our best to develop and deploy.

I emphasized again that there was no unilateral military advantage sought by you, but on the contrary, you had offered to share the benefits of the system with the Soviets so the shadow of these nuclear weapons could be lifted from the Earth.

CLASSIFIED BY: Secretary of Defense  
DECLASSIFY ON: OADR

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Sec Def Cont Nr.

X 40 953

BY DND  
M347 #40089  
3/20/89

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

5

He thanked me again, and then he said: "You know we are for peace, of course, but we are not for pacifists -- unilateral pacifists. We know that is not the way to keep the peace." I told him that was your belief entirely.

Again he expressed great appreciation that I had come to talk to him about these matters.

Defense Minister Spadolini emphasized to the Pope how closely the U.S. and Italy worked together, and how much he respected you and me.

Spadolini was delighted with the meeting, and as he told me later in Gleneagles, he was particularly delighted with the coverage and treatment of the meeting by the Italian press.

Warm regards,



~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



**NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL  
EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT STAFFING DOCUMENT**

TIME STAMP

SYSTEM LOG NUMBER: 7679

86 OCT 22 P 4: 35

ACTION OFFICER: \_\_\_\_\_

**COBB**

DUE: 23 OCT

☐ Prepare Memo For President

☐ Prepare Memo McDaniel to Chew

☒ Prepare Memo For Poindexter / Keel

☐ Prepare Memo McDaniel to Dolan

☐ Prepare Memo \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

**CONCURRENCES/COMMENTS\***

**PHONE\*** to action officer at ext. 5076

FYI

☐ ☐ Brooks  
☐ ☐ Burghardt  
☐ ☐ Burns  
☐ ☐ Cannistraro  
☐ ☐ Childress  
☐ ☐ Cobb  
☐ ☐ Danzansky  
☐ ☐ deGraffenreid  
☐ ☐ Dobriansky  
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☐ ☐ Grimes  
☐ ☐ Hanley  
☐ ☐ Kelly  
☐ ☐ Kissell  
☐ ☐ Kraemer  
☐ ☐ Laux

FYI

☐ ☐ Lavin  
☐ ☐ Lenczowski  
☐ ☐ Levine  
☒ ☐ Linhard  
☐ ☐ Mahley  
☐ ☐ Major  
☐ ☐ Mandel  
☐ ☐ Matlock  
☐ ☐ May  
☐ ☐ Mingle  
☐ ☐ Morton  
☐ ☐ Murdock  
☐ ☐ North  
☐ ☐ Perry  
☐ ☐ Platt  
☐ ☐ Pugliaresi  
☐ ☐ Raymond  
☐ ☐ Reger

FYI

☐ ☐ Ross  
☐ ☐ Sable  
☐ ☐ Sachs  
☐ ☐ Saunders  
☐ ☐ Sestanovich  
☐ ☐ Small  
☐ ☐ Sommer  
☐ ☐ Soos  
☐ ☐ Stark  
☐ ☐ Steiner  
☐ ☐ St Martin  
☐ ☐ Tahir-Kheli  
☐ ☐ Teicher  
☐ ☒ Thompson  
☐ ☐ Tillman  
☐ ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ ☐ \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

**INFORMATION**

☐ McDaniel

☒ Rodman

☐ Poindexter (advance)

☒ Pearson

☒ Cockell

☐ Keel (advance)

☒ Secretariat

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMENTS**

*Return to Secretariat*



National Security Council  
The White House

System #

Package #

DOCLOG A/O

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Pearson	<u>1</u>	<u>P</u>	
Rodney McDaniel			
Rodman/Cockell			
Al Keel			
Paul Thompson	<u>2</u>		
Florence Gantt			
John Poindexter			
Rodney McDaniel			
NSC Secretariat	<u>3</u>		<u>stg</u>
Situation Room			

I = Information    A = Action    R = Retain    D = Dispatch    N = No further Action

cc: VP    Regan    Buchanan    Other

COMMENTS

Should be seen by:

(Date/Time)

PBF, 10/22

FR PDB?

BL

adm: FC

circum: REL

National Security Council  
The White House

H.B.C.

System # \_\_\_\_\_

Package # 7679

DOCLOG H.B.W. A/O \_\_\_\_\_

RG OCT 28 11:33

	SEQUENCE TO	HAS SEEN	DISPOSITION
Bob Pearson	<u>1</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>A</u>
Rodney McDaniel	_____	_____	_____
Rodman/Cockell	_____	_____	_____
Al Keel	_____	_____	_____
Paul Thompson	<u>2</u>	<u>S</u>	_____
Florence Gantt	_____	<u>J</u>	<u>A</u>
John Poindexter	<u>3</u>	_____	_____
Rodney McDaniel	_____	_____	_____
NSC Secretariat	<u>4</u>	_____	_____
Situation Room	_____	_____	_____

I = Information    A = Action    R = Retain    D = Dispatch    N = No further Action

cc: VP    Regan    Buchanan    Other \_\_\_\_\_

COMMENTS

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(Date/Time)

Will put in Thurs. PDB.

J

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RECEIVED 22 OCT 86 20

TO POINDEXTER

FROM WEINBERGER, C

DOCDATE 22 OCT 86

COBB

27 OCT 86

KEYWORDS: VATICAN

JOHN PAUL II

SUBJECT: MTG W/ THE POPE 19 OCT 1986

ACTION: PREPARE MEMO FOR POINDEXTER DUE: 23 OCT 86 STATUS X FILES WH

FOR ACTION

FOR CONCURRENCE

FOR INFO

COBB

LINHARD

RODMAN

THOMPSON

PEARSON

COCKELL

COMMENTS

REF# 40953

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( CF )

ACTION OFFICER (S) ASSIGNED ACTION REQUIRED DUE COPIES TO

C 11/5

Noted by Pres

JK

DISPATCH

W/ATTCH FILE

W/ (C)