

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 9, 1983

Dear Mac:

Thank you for your note and the book on Art West. You are right, Harry Jackson is an extremely unique and talented artist.

I've taken the liberty of passing the magazine on to the President.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike", written in a cursive style.

MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

The Honorable Malcom Baldrige  
Secretary of Commerce  
Washington, D.C. 20230

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE  
WASHINGTON

August 5, 1983

Honorable Michael K. Deaver  
Deputy Chief of Staff and  
Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mike,

For future reference, if anybody ever wants to  
commission a bronze of the Boss, the enclosed article  
on Harry Jackson shows why I think he is the best.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mac", written in dark ink.

Malcolm Baldrige

Enclosure

---

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 8, 1983

Dear Don:

Thank you for your letter expressing concern over certain punitive action being taken by the Forest Service against individuals in your area. Though you were not specific in your letter, I gather your concerns relate to mining activities on the Salmon Ranger District where you have property. I have looked into this subject and have found the following:

The Forest Service has issued an Order limiting the period of stay on the Klamath National Forest to 14 days due to camping abuse by some Forest users. Some of the users were living on the Forest for months at a time in trailers and tents while conducting suction-pump-mining in the Salmon River and creeks. They filled many of the better camping sites, prohibiting others from using them. In order to give all users an equal opportunity to enjoy the National Forest, a 14-day limit was imposed. However, the Order did list exceptions to this limit; e.g., logging operations, mining claims authorized by the United States mining laws, and approved operating plans stating length of stay, sanitation conditions, fire prevention, etc.

Mr. Ron Koenig, Ranger on the Salmon River District, mailed 400 letters to persons having mining claims explaining the 14-day limit and the exceptions. He has also met with the mining association in your area and explained the Forest Service position.

I understand that no court action has been taken against abusers of the 14-day limit at this time. The Forest Service position is to adequately inform the public of the Order and to use court action as a last resort.

You may wish to contact Ranger Ron Koenig at the Salmon Ranger District Office, Etna, California, and discuss any specific concerns you may have. He can also be contacted at (916) 467-5757. The Forest Service appreciates hearing concerns of Forest users and having the opportunity to discuss their concerns.

I am assured by the Forest Service that they do not intend to inconvenience anyone, but hope to afford all users an equal opportunity to enjoy the National Forest.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Mr. J. Donald Hanauer  
Executive Vice President  
Los Angeles Area Chamber of  
Commerce  
404 South Bixel Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90017

Mr. Deaver:

Would you like Craig Fuller to do a response?

Yes                     

*for MKD sig*

No                     

*Mike:*

*152826*

Mike, my wife and I just returned from a trip to Northern California to attend a sons wedding. We are property owners in the Klamath National Forest and this son rents our home there. While there we became aware of the punitive actions being taken by the Forest Service against individuals in this area, and if this practice is prevalent here one wonders where else people are being so severely harassed. It was reported to us that the incidents in this area have become so severe that local law enforcement officers involved in witnessing some of the incidents have been embarrassed enough to offer to testify on the other side of the table from the federal services.

It was our impression that if you and your associates knew what was happening, you would be encouraged to investigate.

*Best wishes, Dan Hansen*

THE WHITE HOUSE

Uncle Wirthlin

Had a fascinating lunch with Lou Harris yesterday and he left me the attached which looks a little like a gin score. He made similar points to yours but did give me some other points of emphasis I'll send on in a memo soon.

Mike

18	7	37	45	18	42	55	3	58	57	5	4
19	7	40	41	19	48	48	4	56	42	2	
22	6	51	35	14	55	48	2	53	48	2	
22	3	60	32	8	84	42	4	50	42	1	
21	3	27	10		52	42	4	42	42	2	

FROM  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. Richard Wirthlin  
6803 Poplar Place  
McLean, VA 22101

8/9/83

JAMES H. LAKE

August 4, 1983

The Honorable Mike Deaver  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mike,

Sheila Tate forwarded me a picture that Elaine Crispen found in her 1976 files and thought that I might be able to use it. I would truly appreciate it if both you and the President could autograph it appropriately.

I'm looking forward to once again working with you and everyone else on the reelection effort. Hopefully, things will go more smoothly and just as successfully as in 1980.

Mike, I want you to know how much I truly appreciate your role in seeing that this opportunity was presented to me. I will always appreciate your friendship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Jim Lake', with a large, stylized initial 'J'.

Jim Lake

JHL:jak

THE WHITE HOUSE

Craig

I hope your enjoys this  
remembrance of an interesting time  
And a job very well done.

Cheers! Mike

FROM  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. Craig Claiborne  
New York Times Food Editor  
New York Times  
229 West 43rd Street  
New York City, New York 10037

8/9/83



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

MR. DEAVER:

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEND THIS  
TO CRAIG CLAIBORNE WITH A  
NOTE?

YES   /   NO       

*But can we get  
it calligraphed  
w/ signature*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

TO: Kathy Osborne

FROM: MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

☐ Information

☒ Action

Could you have the  
President sign and  
return to Mr. Deaver  
for his note.

Thanks.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 9, 1983

Dear Chardee and Tuck:

Thank you for sending my picture.  
It is a wonderful remembrance of  
a marvelous party.

I appreciate your thoughtfulness  
in sending it to me.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Mike", written over the word "Sincerely,".

MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Mr. and Mrs. Tuck Trainer  
952 North Alpine Drive  
Beverly Hills, California 90210

**CHARDEE  
TRAINER**

*Thank*

All the best  
to you and  
to Carolyn -  
Chardee & Rick

THE WHITE HOUSE

*Jim*

*Had we won a primary yet?*

*It all seemed so simple then.*

*Enjoy the remembrance.*

*Mike*

FROM  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Mr. James H. Lake  
Heron, Burchette, Ruckert &  
Rothwell  
Suite 420  
1200 New Hampshire Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

8/10/83

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 10, 1983

Dear George:

Thank you for your invitation to the President for the "Voting for Democracy" symposium. I've placed the proposal on the agenda for our next scheduling meeting to see if it would be possible. I will keep you informed.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

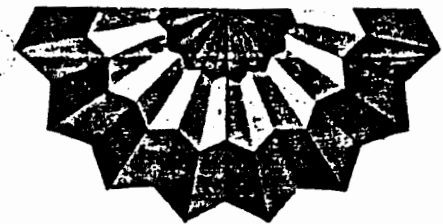
A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Mike", written in dark ink.

MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Mr. George Watson  
Vice President  
ABC News  
1717 DeSales Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20036

# VOTING FOR DEMOCRACY

A symposium on American Voter Participation sponsored by the John F. Kennedy School of Government of Harvard University and American Broadcasting Companies, Inc.,  
1717 De Sales Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036



*See  
Long Range*

August 8, 1983

*Shel acknowledge this*

Mr. Michael Deaver  
Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mike:

We greatly appreciated the opportunity this morning to explain why we hope President Reagan might wish to accept the invitation of Harvard University and ABC to speak before the "Voting for Democracy" symposium. The event promises to be a "summit" meeting of Congressional leaders, business and labor officials, communications industry executives and others who are concerned with increasing citizen participation in democracy and improving the quality of information available to voters.

Based on our conversation, we would be pleased to arrange the lunch for the participants on October 1 to accommodate the President's Saturday radio address. If he were willing, after the "live" portion, we would suggest that he take the balance of about thirty minutes either to extend his remarks and/or to answer questions from the invited guests. I would anticipate that about 100 persons would be present.

An alternative for us would be the large dinner on Friday night, September 30, at the Departmental Auditorium. Both former Presidents Ford and Carter will speak at that dinner, and we could easily arrange the program to include President Reagan's participation, if that seemed to be a preferable alternative. We expect several hundred persons including the participants and invited guests at the Friday dinner.

Considering the President's previous engagement on Saturday evening, October 1, that probably rules out the Saturday dinner; however, we would also be happy to juggle times to make that possible if he preferred.

Part of this effort obviously involves attracting as much public attention to the problem as possible, and we are arranging maximum press coverage for all events for print, radio and television.

## Co-Chairmen

Derek Bok, President, Harvard University  
Leonard Goldenson, Chairman of the  
Board, ABC, Inc.

## Harvard Organizing Committee

Graham Allison, Dean, Kennedy School  
of Government  
Sidney Verba, Professor of Government,  
Harvard University  
Jonathan Moore, Director, Institute of  
Politics, Kennedy School of  
Government

Richard Neustadt, Professor, Kennedy  
School of Government  
Gary Orren, Associate Professor, Kennedy  
School of Government  
Kay Schlossman, Associate Professor,  
Boston College  
Heather Pars, Assistant to the Dean,  
Kennedy School of Government  
ABC Organizing Committee  
James Abernathy, Vice President for  
Corporate Affairs, ABC, Inc.  
Roone Arledge, President, ABC News

David Burke, Vice President & Assistant  
to the President, ABC News  
Richard C. Wald, Senior Vice President,  
ABC News  
George Watson, Vice President,  
ABC News

## Staff Directors

Kevin Gottlieb, Office of the Dean,  
Kennedy School of Government,  
(617) 495-1122  
Cecily Coleman, ABC News,  
(202) 887-7640

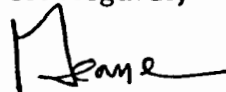
Mr. Michael Deaver  
August 8, 1983  
Page 2

We would, of course, be deeply honored if President Reagan could speak to "Voting for Democracy," and I believe we have enough scheduling flexibility on either Friday or Saturday to arrange the most convenient time and appropriate forum for the President's participation.

If there are further questions I can answer, please contact me at my office at (212) 887-4008 or Cecily Coleman at (202) 887-7640.

Thanks again for your interest and help.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "George", written over a horizontal line.

George Watson  
Vice President  
ABC News

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 10, 1983

Dear Congressman Hightower:

I very much appreciate your letter of July 28 discussing the importance of the U.S./China negotiations to our domestic grain industry.

As you know, on Saturday, July 30, the Chief of U.S. and Chinese textile negotiators initialled a Memorandum of Understanding for a new 5-year agreement, retroactive to January 1, 1983.

We will exchange notes on this new agreement shortly, hopefully within the month in Beijing. The exact numbers for the individual quotas and the details of the other provisions in the agreement will be made public at that time. We believe, specific to your concern, that resolution of this issue will result in a resumption of normal agricultural trade in grain and other products between the U.S. and China.

We feel that this is an excellent agreement which serves our nation well. Thank you very much for taking the time to express your views on this matter.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

The Honorable Jack Hightower  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515



HIGHTOWER  
DISTRICT, TEXAS

LYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
TELEPHONE: 225-3706

COMMITTEE  
APPROPRIATIONS  
COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE,  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT, AND  
RELATED AGENCIES  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON DEFENSE  
COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE  
BRANCH

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

July 28, 1983

159167  
DISTRICT OFFICES:  
109 FEDERAL BUILDING  
AMARILLO, TEXAS 79101  
AREA CODE (806) 376-2381

POST OFFICE BOX 1720  
VERNON, TEXAS 76384  
AREA CODE (817) 553-4321

208 POST OFFICE BUILDING  
WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS 76301  
AREA CODE (817) 767-0541

The Honorable Michael K. Deaver  
Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Deaver,

I am writing to express ~~my sincere appreciation for the~~  
~~help placed upon the wheat farmers of the U.S. by the~~  
~~Chinese government in the negotiations~~

I would ask that you recommend to the Representative handling these negotiations, that he seek to resolve the conflict during this round of talks. The wheat farmers of the U.S. have lost enough, approximately 550 million dollars, for such a comparatively small amount of textile trade.

It is absurd to think that such an important market for agricultural exports would be threatened because of political commitments to the textile industry. We are faced with permanent damage to the Chinese wheat market if a solution is not reached soon. Please do everything possible to assure expeditious treatment of this matter.

Thank you for your consideration of this important issue.

Sincerely,

  
Jack Hightower

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 11, 1983

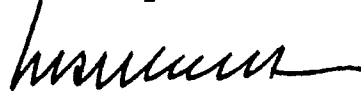
Dear Ms. Poindexter:

Thank you for your letter of support for the Advisory Committee on Women's Business Ownership and for Small Business Administration's National Initiative Program.

Women-owned businesses are the fastest growing area of the American small business community. Like the National Association of Womens Business Owners, we recognize the special demands and concerns that women planning to start or expand their own businesses must fare. We have announced these programs to better respond to these special burdens.

We are currently formulating plans for activities in recognition of American Women in Business Day. We hope that you will be able to participate.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Ms. Sharon F. Poindexter  
President  
National Association of Women Business Owners  
500 North Michigan Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois 60611



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN BUSINESS OWNERS  
500 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60611  
312-661-1700

June 27, 1983

152827

The President  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the National Association of Women Business Owners - the primary constituency group representing the three million women entrepreneurs in America - our congratulations on the new National Conferences for Women Business Owners and the Executive Order creating the first President's Advisory Committee on Women's Business Ownership.

We are delighted with both initiatives announced on June 22, 1983, at the National Federation of Independent Business Conference in Washington, D.C. We would hope to play an active role in both the conferences, and in having key NAWBO leaders represented on your pioneering Advisory Committee.

We are particularly pleased that you yourself made the announcement as an expression of your personal commitment to women's business enterprise.

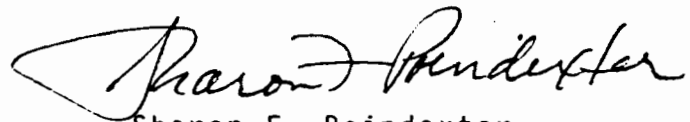
The only thing that would have made the announcement even better would have been if you, or a senior administration official, had been able to make the announcement at the NAWBO national convention which took place June 17 through 19, 1983 in Kansas City, Missouri, where we had understood the conferences were originally to have been announced. Because of the media attention focused on our convention and the formation of the new independent Women Business Owners Political Action Committee, endorsed by our Board of Directors on June 16th, a major administration announcement at our convention would have attracted a great deal more media attention.

The President  
Page Two

If the Reagan Administration plans to announce any other major initiatives in the area of women's business ownership in the next few months, September 22, 1983 seems a perfect date, as it is American Women in Business Day, and I feel certain that by working cooperatively we could jointly generate a great deal of favorable press attention for the administration.

We look forward to working closely with the Reagan Administration, the Small Business Administration and the private sector in a continuing partnership to nurture a stronger women's business enterprise sector and to hasten the movement of women business owners into the economic mainstream.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Sharon F. Poindexter". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Sharon F. Poindexter  
President

cc: Vice President Bush  
Michael Deavers  
Faith Ryan Whittlesey, Public Liaison  
Mary Jo Jacoby, Public Liaison  
Jim Sanders  
Carolyn Gray  
Sandra Cook  
Lourdes Miranda  
Virginia Littlejohn

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 11, 1983

Dear Murph:

Thank you for your letter of August 8th recommending Mr. George Luciano for the GSA position in Boston. I've taken the liberty of sending it to John Herrington, Director of Presidential Personnel for his consideration. You should be hearing from him soon.

The "Reagan Day" sounds very interesting, as we draw closer to the campaign I will be in touch.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

The Honorable George Murphy  
100 Worth Avenue  
Palm Beach, Florida 33480

GEORGE MURPHY

100 Worth Avenue  
Palm Beach, Florida 33480  
August 8, 1983

*Handwritten:*  
Lambert  
Send to  
Jerry Tom

~~PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL~~

Hon. Mike Deaver  
White House  
Washington, D. C.

7-1  
4-1  
20

*Handwritten:* COB 4/8/11

Dear Mike:

My Boston friend advised me there is an important appointment to be made to the GSA in Boston.

They recommend a very strong Italian Mr. George Luciano. He is highly respected and well known and would be a great supporter of the President.

He is endorsed by John Volpe-Conte, Ed King and Sargeant and would be a very popular and effective selection.

Also my people have asked for a "Reagan Day" early on when the campaign starts. Paul May, my friend, was the organizer for Governor Ed King and is the best financial organizer in the state. He would put together all the ethnic groups, a visit with the Cardinal and a fund-raising luncheon that would be fantastic. His boss, Kenneth Lyons, is the president of the National Association of Government Employees and the International Brotherhood of Police. Lyons headed Labor for Nixon and for Reagan in 1980.

This could be a real block-buster in Tip's home town. I personally will lead the Irish from South Boston. It can be well organized and done in one day, a morning and a big luncheon. I recommend it highly.

Give my best to the family and let me know if I can be of help.

Best wishes,

*Handwritten signature: George Murphy*  
George Murphy

GM/lm

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 11, 1983

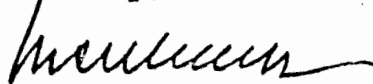
Dear Mr. Dunaskiss:

Thank you for your recent letter recommending Pearl M. Holforty for appointment to the President's Advisory Committee on Women's Business Ownership.

Please be assured that Ms. Holforty's credentials will be afforded careful consideration as we continue our efforts to select competent individuals to serve on Boards and Commissions.

President Reagan greatly appreciates your willingness to take the time to recommend qualified persons to join his Administration.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

The Honorable Mat J. Dunaskiss  
State Representative  
Michigan State House of Representatives  
Lansing, Michigan 48909

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON


August 11, 1983

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your August 8th letter on Dr. Benno Schmidt, Chairman of the Board of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center. I've submitted his name and when we next meet on the Medal of Freedom I will see what can be done.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



MICHAEL K. DEEVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

The Honorable Robert K. Gray  
Chairman  
The Power House  
3255 Grace Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20007





GRAY AND COMPANY

ROBERT KEITH GRAY  
CHAIRMAN

August 8, 1983

The Honorable  
Michael Deaver  
Deputy Chief of Staff  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mike:

Next time you are considering candidates for the ~~Medal of Freedom~~, may I recommend you consider Dr. Benno Schmidt, Chairman of the Board of Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center and for nearly a decade first chairman of the President's Cancer Panel. In these two capacities Schmidt has been the leader of both the government and private industry's search for cancer's cure.

This is Memorial Sloan Kettering's Centennial year and its board is considering a Washington kick-off to spotlight the federal government's support and interest in finding a cure for cancer. The Medal of Freedom for Dr. Schmidt would emphasize President Reagan's role in the drive to fight this dreaded disease, number one among citizens' health concerns.

All the best,

Enclosure

**SCHMIDT, CHRISTIAN GEORGE**, hosp. supply co. exec.; b. Dysart, Iowa, May 9, 1911; s. Charles W. and Elma (Blexrud) S. B.S.C., State U. Iowa, 1934, M.A., 1935; m. Artis Arlene Fenley, Mar. 21, 1945 (dec. Oct. 1969); children—Christian George, Charles

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 11, 1983

Dear Nick:

Thank you for sending me the vacation-time column. It's nice to know that the small gestures can and do make a difference.

I know the President was pleased with the response.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,



MICHAEL K. DEAVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

Mr. Nick Thimmesch  
Los Angeles Times Syndicate  
6301 Broadbranch Road  
Chevy Chase, Maryland 10015

F-11



Los Angeles Times

**SYNDICATE**

NICK THIMMESCH  
6301 BROADBRANCH ROAD,  
CHEVY CHASE, MARYLAND 20015  
(301) 652-1588

*Mike*

Aug. 9, 1983

Dear Mike--

I thought you would like to see this vacation-time  
column, particularly the section on page three.

Best,

*Nick T.*

THE NICK THIMMESCH COLUMN

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (Dist. 8/5/83)

ON POLITICIANS AND SYMBOLIC GESTURES

By Nick Thimmesch

(c) 1983, Los Angeles Times Syndicate

WASHINGTON -- In this town, the Public Person must be careful when making gestures or statements designed to carry a message or project an idea. Jackals might attack. When the mayor of, say, Peoria, donates blood, he might rate huzzahs. If a politician here does the same, he could be denounced for unfairly competing with professional donors.

What brings this to mind is the criticism that Agriculture Secretary John Block got when he limited his family's spending on groceries to about the same as the food stamp program, which he administers, provides weekly to a family of four.

The secretary bought \$54 worth of groceries, \$4 less than the food stamp maximum for four people. The secretary did not claim that for his family to live on that limited lot of groceries was either

good or bad. He just wanted to find out how this \$11 billion annual program works.

"If I was selling tractors," he told one press panel, "I would want to drive one around so I would know how it works."

Fair enough. But editorialists and so-called anti-hunger outfits, like the Food, Research and Action Center, got very huffy about Secretary Block's personal week with the food stamp program.

He was reminded that the \$54 he spent made his family better off than 80 percent of people on food stamps. He was urged to move his family out of his comfortable house into one occupied by welfare recipients. There were other such catcalls, and one would think that this man Block had announced: "Let them eat cake!"

The secretary did no such thing, of course. He wants the food stamp program funded adequately enough to take care of its 22 million beneficiaries. By drawing attention to it, he at least got people talking about it, and maybe even thinking. He showed

that he is on board and believes in it. That could be a message to some conservatives who don't like the food stamp program. Block wants one, but wants it to run right. Who doesn't?

If some liberal Democratic congressman or presidential aspirant had gone through the same food stamp drill that Block did, he might well be praised these days for his sensitivity in relating to poor folks. So maybe the real lesson here is the old one about whose ox is being gored.

A couple of weeks ago, President Reagan made a plea on the radio on behalf of Ashley Bailey, that 11-month-old infant desperately in need of a liver transplant. The President put an Air Force jet on standby, so any donated liver could be rushed to the Minneapolis hospital where infant Bailey was being treated.

Now the President's motives were probably a blend of altruism and good politics, but a greater good was served. The Living Bank of Houston, Texas, which specializes as a clearinghouse for desperately

needed human organs, got 5,000 calls of inquiry -- a record -- as a result of the President's plea. He raised a great deal of interest in the urgent need for such human organs, and demonstrated that the private sector and individual help are often more important than federal funds when it comes to dealing with medical problems.

Once again, however, there were jackals who complained that if the President would spend more time pushing for increased federal funding of medical research, and less on heart-rending pleas, the health of the citizenry would be greatly improved. That is a dubious argument.

Gestures and symbolic actions can be magnificent, unforgettable, good, mediocre, stupid or empty. Certainly the symbolic acts of Jesus in the New Testament were momentous enough to sustain a religion for 20 centuries. The Boston Tea Party was one great show of defiance. The symbolic challenges to segregation during the civil rights period changed America forever. Who wasn't profoundly moved by Egyptian President Anwar



on the television screens.

That was the case in 1968, when Dr. Martin Luther King was assassinated. Presidential aspirants in both parties virtually broke their legs getting to Atlanta for Dr. King's funeral. Candidate Richard Nixon even found a friend, Wilt-the-Stilt Chamberlain, the celebrated basketball star, to go with him to the church.

One candidate, Eugene McCarthy, didn't join the pack. I asked him why, and he replied: "I only go to funerals of people I know. I didn't know Dr. King."

(c) 1983, Los Angeles Times Syndicate