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WITHDRAWAL SHEET

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File Folder WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL - FUNDRAISING -
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FOIA

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DOC NO	Doc Type	Document Description	No of Pages	Doc Date	Restrictions
1	MEMO	RICHARD DARMAN TO EDWIN MEESE, JAMES BAKER, AND M. DEAVER RE THE WHITE HOUSE RESIDENCE	3	1/22/1981	B6
2	LETTER	TO REX SCOUTEN RE WHITE HOUSE RESIDENCE	6	1/7/1981	B6

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

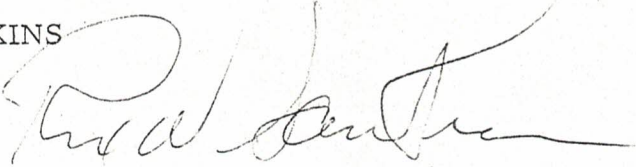
- B-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- B-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- B-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- B-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial 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]

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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 11, 1981

TO: ELMER S. ATKINS
FROM: REX SCOUTEN 
SUBJECT: Executive Residence Special Supplemental

Mrs. Reagan will announce today that private contributions through the White House Historical Association will be used to finance the restoration, repair and refurbishment of those areas of the Executive Residence at the White House commonly known as the First Family Living Quarters.

In light of this, will you please formally withdraw the Executive Residence's special supplemental request of \$50,000 for fiscal year 1981.

Thank you.

✓ cc: Michael Deaver
cc: Peter McCoy

file

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 9, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: MICHAEL K. DEEVER

FROM: JOHN F. W. ROGERS 

SUBJECT: Decorating the White House

Presently, there are two vehicles through which the White House receives funds to acquire furniture, paintings and decorative objects and to refurbish its upholsterings, curtains and rugs in its rooms.

The two nonprofit, privately funded vehicles are:

- I. The White House Historical Association
- II. The White House Preservation Fund

The White House Historical Association was established in 1961 to enhance understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of the President's House. The Association is publisher of four volumes concerning the White House and its occupants. Proceeds from the sale of the books assist the White House restoration project. (Note: in addition, this Association finances the official portraits of the Presidents and First Ladies.) The White House Historical Association was inspired by Mrs. John F. Kennedy and it was through funds from this Association that she was able to initiate a vigorous and important program to acquire fine antiques to redecorate as many White House rooms as possible. It was at this time that the nation awakened to the idea that a permanent collection needed to be assembled for the White House for the future. (Exhibit I identifies the Board of Directors and provides more background information.)

The White House Preservation Fund is a new, nonprofit organization which was chartered in the District of Columbia in May, 1979. Its purpose is to raise gifts of funds from public-spirited individuals, corporations and foundations to benefit the permanent White House collection of furnishings, paintings and other objects of art. The objective of the White House Preservation Fund is to build an endowment of \$25,000,000 in a few years to eliminate the recurring and special fund drives. (Exhibit II lists the Board of Directors and gives more information on this organization.)

It should also be mentioned here that a committee called The Committee for the Preservation of the White House was established by Executive Order on March 7, 1964 to advise with respect to the preservation and interpretation of the museum character of the principal public rooms on the ground floor and state floor of the White House and the remainder of the White House by invitation of the First Lady. The Committee also makes recommendations as to the articles of furniture, fixtures and decorative objects which are used or displayed in the White House, and as to the decor and arrangements best suited to enhance its historic and artistic value. Since the founding of The White House Preservation Fund, this committee, along with the White House Historical Association, cooperates with the White House Preservation Fund in its program to raise funds. (Exhibit IV lists the Board of Directors.)

PRESIDENT FORD'S POOL

In 1975, between May 15 and July 1, President Ford's White House pool was constructed at a cost of \$66,840. President Ford's pool was not funded by the White House Historical Association. The funds for construction costs were raised through public donations. The construction funds were raised by three separate groups, then channeled through to William Schniling, Chairman of the White House Pool fund of the National Parks Foundation. The Foundation was created to provide a vehicle for tax-exempt gifts for the benefit of federal parks...the White House is part of the National Park System.

A \$1,000 ceiling was placed on the tax exempt donations with no donations accepted from labor unions or corporations.

The construction cost was \$66,840, while the White House pool fund of the National Parks Foundation raised \$118,495 the surplus, \$51,655, was expected to be used in constructing a bathhouse facility. Remaining funds were to be donated to the U.S. Olympic Committee. President and Mrs. Ford contributed \$500.00 to the White House pool fund of the National Parks Foundation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Executive Residence should secure the \$50,000 authorized by Congress for new Presidents.
2. A special fund drive be launched through the White House Historical Association with the specific goal of raising \$200,000 for restoring unspecified rooms in the White House over the next four years. (It is important not to associate this goal with the immediate redecorating.)

3. The special fund committee designated by the White House Historical Association be chaired by a Republican and a Democrat (preferably East Coast establishment).
4. Contribution should be solicited not to exceed \$25,000 per person.
5. Certain former first ladies should be contacted for public support.

GUIDELINES:

1. A letter of authorization should be solicited from the White House Historical Association to the fund drive granting authority and designating offices.
2. Checks should be made payable to "The White House Historical Association Committee."
3. Specify on your donation: "For Current Use Only."
4. Gifts of securities are welcome and may provide certain tax advantages, especially on capital gains. A donor planning to make a gift of securities to The White House Historical Association Committee need simply notify his/her stockbroker to transfer the securities.

Stock certificates should be assigned in blank, with the signature of the donor attested to by a bank having a correspondent bank in the District of Columbia.

It is suggested that all securities be sent by registered mail to the Committee's office.

SELLING POINTS

1. Major redecorating and refurbishing has not been done since Mrs. Kennedy's time.
2. Financial Advantages. (Tax deductions)
3. Sense of pride in America.
4. Prestige in being part of elite group of contributors. (optional)
5. All patrons will receive a certificate of appreciation and will be invited to a reception at the White House. (optional)

NOTE ON TAX DEDUCTIBILITY AUTHORITY

Gifts to the White House Preservation Fund and White House Historical Association are considered to be gifts to the Government of the United States. The Fund has been designated as a qualifying charitable organization by the Internal Revenue Service and, as such, the contributions are tax deductible under Section 170 of the Internal Revenue Code.

The tax rules differ somewhat depending upon the type of property contributed. Donations in the form of cash are deductible in any one year up to a maximum limit of 50 percent of the donor's adjusted gross income. Gifts of other types of tangible and intangible property, such as gifts of stocks and securities, works of art, and furnishings may be deducted at their fair market value, regardless of the donor's cost, up to a limit of 30 percent of adjusted gross income. If either the 30 percent limit or the 50 percent limit is exceeded in the year of donation, the excess may be carried over and deducted in the succeeding five-year period.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

fill

February 3, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: RICHARD G. DARMAN
FROM: JOHN R. BOLTON *JRB*
SUBJECT: Refurbishing of the Residence

We have suggested certain changes in the letter to the decorator concerning a proposed refurbishing of the White House living quarters. We did so for two important reasons.

First, the Anti-Deficiency Act precludes the commitment or authorization of funds in excess of funds appropriated by Congress. With the expected \$50,000 of Federal funds not yet approved, any commitment of the money would violate the Act. Knowing violation of the statute brings a criminal fine of up to \$5,000.

Second, although private gifts for the benefit of the White House can be and have been accepted in the past, the present standards of conduct, embodied in Executive Order 11222, and the regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, set strict limits and prohibitions. Most importantly here, no gifts may be accepted that would create even the appearance of impropriety. Accordingly, certain changes in the letter have been made to reflect these standards and also to avoid violation of the prohibition against unauthorized or unlawful augmentation of appropriations.

If you have any questions, I would be happy to elaborate on these issues.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 3, 1981

Dear Ted:

This letter concerns the estimate you provided Rex Scouten, dated January 7, 1981.

On behalf of the White House, I hereby approve your estimate for the West Hall Sitting Room, the First Family Bedroom, the First Lady's Dressing Room, the President's Study, and the East Hall Sitting Room. I authorize you to proceed with the necessary work.

Because the Congress has not yet appropriated sufficient funds for this project, however, I must caution you that I am not authorized to commit to the payment of any Federal funds. We intend promptly to seek the \$50,000 customarily appropriated by the Congress for the refurbishment of an incoming First Family's residence. We will submit this appropriation request as part of our revised budget later this month. Because the request is both reasonable and consistent with past practice, and because it was included in the FY '81 Carter budget request, I would expect it to be approved.

In addition, we are taking specific steps to raise private funds for the improvement of the Residence. We will be doing this through the White House Historical Association, subject to acceptance by the appropriate government agency. Because the private quarters in the Residence have not been properly refurbished for over a decade, because the Residence clearly would benefit from the intended improvements, and because the benefit would accrue to the Government and to future Presidents, as well as the incumbent, I feel sure that the solicitation through the Historical Association will be fully successful. In this regard, I am particularly encouraged by preliminary conversations I have had with interested donors.

The combination of the expected public appropriation and the private solicitation will, I am confident, be more than adequate to cover your estimate. As sufficient funds are made available to the White House, we would then disburse them on an appropriate basis.

I trust the foregoing is satisfactory to you, and I will be happy to discuss this matter further at your convenience.

Sincerely,



Michael K. Deaver

Mr. Ted Graber
William Haines, Inc.
446 South Canon Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90212

February 3, 1981

COMMITTEE FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THE WHITE HOUSE

There are three organizations relating to the White House. The most important is the Committee for the Preservation of the White House which was created by an Executive Order in 1964. It is an outgrowth of the Fine Arts Committee of the Kennedy Administration.

The First Lady is the Honorary Chairman with the Director of the National Park Service as Chairman. The Curator of the White House, as the executive of the Committee, is the Acting Chairman in the absence of the Director of the National Park Service. The Director of the National Park Service, of course, is not so well informed on the White House and its collections and problems as the Curator must be. This Committee usually meets twice a year in the White House. Committee members are presidential appointees who are appointed by each new President at the beginning of each new administration. Members are usually about equally divided between Republicans, Democrats and those whose political affiliation are not known. It is basically a non-partisan committee with six permanent Federal members: Director of the National Park Service, the Curator of the White House, the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, the Chairman of the Commission of Fine Arts, the Director of the National Gallery of Art, and the Chief Usher of the White House. The most active and generous members of the Committee, regardless of their political affiliation, are usually reappointed. Members serve without compensation or reimbursement of travel expenses.

Members of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House oversee important additions to the permanent collection and any real changes in the decor of the rooms on the Ground Floor and State Floor of the White House. On the second floor of the White House, the following rooms, although technically in the private quarters, have in recent years usually been treated as State Rooms: Queens' Bedroom and Sitting Room, the

Lincoln Bedroom and Sitting Room, the East Sitting Hall, the Treaty Room and the Yellow Oval Drawing Room. These rooms are beautifully furnished and maintained in handsome 19th century styles.

Expenditures in these areas have been funded entirely with tax-deductible contributions, principally by members of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House. By invitation from the First Lady, the Curator and Committee for the Preservation of the White House are always pleased to lend their efforts to the second floor and third floor rooms as necessary and to assist in raising funds for White House activities by tax-deductible contributions. Tax-deductible contributions for current acquisitions and refurbishing programs are encouraged. Checks should be made payable to "White House Historical Association" and sent to Clement E. Conger, The Curator, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500: telephone 202/456-2550.

For further information call The Curator, Clement E. Conger, 202/456-2550.

February 2, 1981

THE WHITE HOUSE PRESERVATION FUND

The newest organization is the White House Preservation Fund, established in May, 1979, to take fundraising out of the White House. In the past the Curator has raised up to \$1,000,000 a year for White House acquisitions and refurbishing programs. The White House Preservation Fund has had organization difficulties. Under the direction of the Vice Chairman, Dr. Melvin Payne, Chairman of the Board of the National Geographic Society and of the White House Historical Association, the White House Preservation Fund will be reorganized and hopefully find a new chairman from the business world - a person of the stature of John de Butts, retired Chairman of A.T. & T., or William Milfred Batten, Chairman of the Board of the New York Stock Exchange.

Recommendations are needed for strengthening this board to get really active and generous people. The goal of the Preservation Fund is to raise a capital fund of \$25,000,000 or more over a five year period, so that in the future, First Ladies and Curators will not have to go out and ask for money as at present but will be able to pay acquisition and refurbishing expenses from income. The goal of \$25,000,000 may have to be raised to a much higher figure due to the fact that the cost of American antiques and American paintings has escalated much faster than originally estimated two years ago.

Gifts to the White House

Gifts of funds and gifts of objects for the White House Collection - 18th and 19th century American furniture, American paintings, etc. are encouraged. Gifts are tax-deductible in the year in which they are given. All are reviewed for acceptability, first by the Curator and then by the appropriate subcommittee of the Committee for the Preservation of the White House. Works by contemporary artists and artisans are not accepted so as to avoid the controversies of contemporary art. It has been learned the hard way that if a work by one living artist is

accepted, then hundreds more want their works in the White House.

Personal and state gifts to the President and First Lady are not handled by the Curator. There is a Gift Unit in the White House to receive these gifts. Policies determining the acceptance of domestic gifts will have to be established. Gifts to an eventual Reagan Library should be carefully reviewed by an appropriate staff officer. State gifts can go to a presidential library or to some other public repository such as the Smithsonian Institution.

Gifts of funds to be accumulated in interest bearing accounts may be made directly to the White House Preservation Fund, 740 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Tax-deductible gifts of valuable objects to be sold or traded to benefit the Fund, can be accepted by the Fund.

Requests for further information may be made to Clement E. Conger, The Curator, The White House, Washington, D.C. 20500; 202-456-2550.

February 3, 1981

THE WHITE HOUSE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

The next most important organization is the White House Historical Association. Chartered in 1961, the White House Historical Association is a private, non-profit organization established to interpret the history of the White House in various ways, and to enhance understanding, appreciation, and enjoyment of the President's House. The Association is publisher of four volumes concerning the White House and its occupants, namely, The White House: An Historic Guide; \$3.25, now in its 14th edition; The Living White House; \$3.25, now in its 6th edition; The Presidents of the United States of America; \$2.75, now in its 7th edition; and The First Ladies; \$2.75, now in its 2nd edition. All four books are available for sale in the East Colonnade, Ground Floor of the White House, Tuesdays through Saturdays.

Presently, the Association has undertaken the research and writing of a documented history of the White House. The Association accepts donations and gifts to support an ever-increasing variety of historical projects pertaining to the White House and its place in American History and culture. Board members serve without compensation.

For current White House acquisitions and refurbishing programs, tax-deductible contributions may be made to the White House Historical Association, 740 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006; 202/737-8292.

1981 FEB 2 AM 1 22

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

FRED:

THIS IS THE ARTICLE FROM
THE FEB 23, 1981 ISSUE
OF NEW YORK MAGAZINE
THAT YOU REQUESTED

VR
hany

Mike Deane

FFP

I thought you might find the
attached of interest. Likewise,
take special note of the portion
relating to the refurbishing - I
think the "look" of that
particular figure is quite
interesting.

INTELLIGENCER

'Gifted' First Lady Raises Question of Appearances

IN SOME CAPITAL QUARTERS, it's thought a president's wife should be just like Caesar's, so Nancy Reagan's willingness to accept free gifts and services has drawn sharp criticism.

"It's a troublesome pattern. If it doesn't lead to conflict-of-interest problems, it could lead to some extremely dicey appearances," warned one ethics-law expert. "It just isn't proper," said a former aide to Rosalynn Carter, whose views were echoed by officials from the Ford and Nixon administrations.

Los Angeles sources said the Reagans may have grown accustomed to accepting things during their California days, when they allegedly were the frequent beneficiaries of their friends' largess.

There's reason to believe this is continuing:



Party favors: Where did the tablecloths come from?

□ Designer Galanos donated a gown to Nancy for the inaugural.

□ Press reports said the First Lady's manicurist, Jessica (who runs a chain of stores), flew from Los Angeles at her own expense to do Nancy's nails free at the White House.

□ A Neiman-Marcus spokesman said Nancy asked the store to donate 25 tablecloths for President

Reagan's birthday party. The only regulation limiting gifts from private citizens or corporations to executive-branch members or their families is a 1965 order banning them from soliciting or accepting anything from anyone who does business with their government units.

"I'm not saying she's in any sense violated this [order]," one lawyer said. "But

the president is paid \$200,000 a year, and you'd think that would pay for his wife to have her nails done."

Last week, it was reported that Mrs. Reagan won't be using the \$50,000 in federal funds allocated to refurbish the First Family's quarters at the White House, but instead will solicit \$200,000 in private contributions to a redecoration fund.

The First Lady's press secretary, Sheila Patton, told *New York* that "the Reagans do not accept gifts." She added that Mr. Reagan plans to give the Galanos gown to the Smithsonian, that "she would never" have asked Neiman Marcus for the tablecloth and that, while the First Lady has not received a bill from manicurist Jessica, "she has a policy of paying for everything."

Speculation Follows Nixon to Island

HAS RICHARD NIXON BEEN trying to cook up deals in the Dominican Republic with pals George Smathers and Bebe Rebozo? That was the speculation among some observers of Caribbean politics after the former president's unpublished trip to the island country last month.

On January 16, sources say, Nixon and Rebozo landed at Gulf & Western's La Romana airport in the Dominican Republic and spent several days at the conglomerate's resort, Casa de Campo. Also at the resort at the time were Senator Russell Long and Smathers, the former Florida senator who's now on the G&W board of directors.

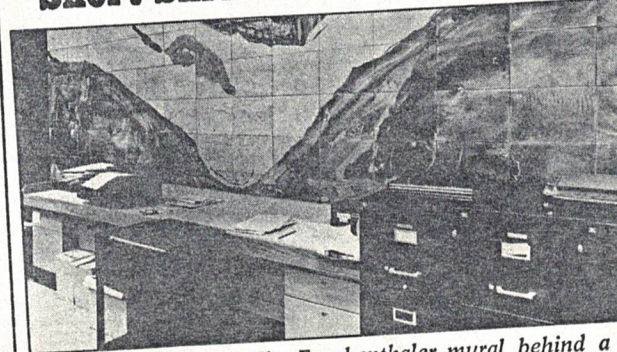
In New York, Nixon's chief of staff described the island trip as "personal" and said press reports that Nixon, Smathers, and Rebozo had Dominican holdings

were "highly inaccurate."

Caribbean specialists took particular interest in Senator Long's presence, noting that he is the ranking Democrat on the Senate Finance Committee, which plays a key role in regulating the export of sugar from the Dominican Republic to the United States. G&W has a large Dominican sugar plantation.

Said Larry Birns, director of the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, "For years [Long] has helped engineer sweet sugar deals for Gulf & Western, helping them export sugar at abnormally high prices from the Dominican Republic, and obtain, at the same time, price supports for [G&W's] sugar crop in Florida." Senator Long wasn't available for comment, but a staffer said he paid for his entire trip.

Short Shrift for Public Artwork



Buried treasure: The Frankenthaler mural behind a

A MAYORAL EXECUTIVE ORDER dating back fifteen years may have sparked the commissioning of some brilliant artwork for public places—as the *Times* reported last week—but not all of it gets classy treatment. Take Helen Frankenthaler's seven-by-seventeen-foot ceramic mural in the North Central Bronx Hospital, considered by some critics to be one of her finest works. In-

stalled in 1974, the mural now hangs partially obscured in a hospital corridor, stuck behind the main station.

"This is ridiculous," art critic Phyllis Tuchman said. "It's one of Frankenthaler's best pieces, and most impossible to see."

A spokesman for the city's Health and Hospitals Corporation said, "I'm fortunate, but it's a question of space."

BY CRAIG UNGER AND SHARON CHURCHER

no public funds state chain service / return 50,000

Mrs. Nancy Reagan will personally head a major private fund raising effort with a goal of \$500,000 for the purpose of restoring and repairing furnishings for the First Family living quarters and guest rooms of the White House.

The objective of the effort is to restore, refinish and reupholster many historic furnishings from past Administrations, currently stored under conditions not conducive to their long term preservation, and display and use them throughout the White House. Concurrent with the restoration of furnishings, rooms will be repainted and carpeting, curtains and drapes will be repaired or replaced. The last major refurbishment took place during the Kennedy Administration nearly twenty years ago.

The areas involved in the project are on the Second and Third Floors of the White House. The Second Floor, in addition to housing the Family quarters, is also where the President and First Lady officially receive visiting heads of state. The Third Floor contains guest bedrooms used by official and personal visitors. There are no plans to alter the most historic rooms on these floors, such as the Treaty Room and the Lincoln and Queen's Bedrooms.

Mrs. Reagan has personally conferred with the White House Curator and with representatives of both the White House Historical Association and the Committee for the Preservation of the White House on this program. All have pledged their full cooperation and support.

With this fund raising effort, which is to be directed at friends of the First Family, the Reagans will not ask for the special Congressional appropriation

of \$50,000 that has traditionally been made available to incoming Administrations for their living quarters. Congress routinely appropriates funds for the maintenance of the State and Ground Floors of the White House, but these appropriations are not sufficient for the magnitude of the work to be accomplished and it is Mrs. Reagan's specific desire that no Government funds be used for this project. Contributions from the general public will not be accepted.

This fund raising effort is separate and distinct from that of two other organizations involved in the conservation and enhancement of the White House. The White House Historical Association, a non-profit educational organization, will continue to provide funds donated by public-spirited Americans for the refurbishment of the Ground and State Floors. The White House Preservation Fund is a trust, providing an annual income which is used to acquire period furnishings and art objects for the White House collection.

The completed project, which does not have a timetable due to the careful and methodic nature of the work, is expected to be appreciated by visitors to the White House for many years to come.

national park service

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

RESTORATION OF WHITE HOUSE EXTERIOR ANNOUNCED

The National Park Service today announced the award of a \$98,000 contract to Rudco Air Maintenance Co. of Hartford, Connecticut for historic preservation work on the exterior sandstone walls of the White House.

Scheduled to begin August 11, the work will include removal of all paint from the East Wall of the Residence, stone repair and repointing, and application of a coating system to the entire residence.

The work should be completed by the end of November. Restoration work on the north, west and south walls will be scheduled for future years.

Historic records indicate that the White House was first painted in 1798. In recent times, it has been painted about every four years with extensive touch-ups in between.

The new restoration work comes after a two-year study by the National Bureau of Standards, which was commissioned by the (NPS) to study problems and recommend measures that would improve appearance of the White House exterior and at the same time lower the cost of maintenance.

The (NBS), considered as America's foremost paint chemists, concluded that there were too many layers of incompatible coatings of paint on the building. In some places, scientists found up to 30 layers of paint,

National Capital Parks

Washington, D.C.

(202) 426-6700

whitewash and other coatings. The (NBS) recommended complete removal of all paint down to bare stone and provided detailed specifications for accomplishing this work. The specifications also provide instruction on stone repair, repointing and recoating with an oil-alkyd masonry sealer and finish coating. All the (NBS) recommendations are based on extensive testing in the laboratory and on test surfaces at the White House. These recommendations will be published in the next few weeks as a technical guide for similar historic preservation projects.

Extremely valuable review of the (NBS) recommendations was provided by the Architect of the Capitol, (NPS) historical architects, preservation experts from the Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service of United States Department of the Interior, and the National Paint and Coatings Association. Assistance also was received from the Painting and Decorating Contractors of America and other industry experts.

The (NPS) administers the White House as a national monument and will be supervising the restoration work.

Rudco is a Hartford-based building restoration firm with many years of experience on projects throughout the United States and Great Britain. Known for their expert craftsmen and technicians, they recently completed paint removal and chemical cleaning of the walls and ceiling of the rotunda of the U.S. Capitol. This work was performed while tours proceeded below.

Press Contact: George Berklacy

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 28, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Mike Deaver
FROM: Max Friedersdorf *W.B.*
SUBJECT: Representative Ed Roybal (D-California)
\$50,000 Redecoration Hearing

I think we are finally getting to the bottom of the \$50,000 redecoration hearing episode.

Representative Edward Roybal (D-California), a Hispanic Congressman from California, has succeeded to the Chairmanship of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on the Post Office and Treasury, which controls the White House appropriations.

Roybal called today about his strong interest in the retention of Ambassador Julian Nava to Mexico until a replacement succeeds him. This apparently is a hot issue in Roybal's District and Mexican-Americans have been picketing the Congressman's office.

Royball also feels that Nava's retention until the President names a successor can be justified on the grounds that a vacancy in the office is poor relations with Mexico and Nava's retention will facilitate a continuity that is advantageous to Mexican-American relations.

I spoke to Dick Allen about the Congressman's request, and the sensitivity of his Chairmanship, and he is working to keep Nava on board for a limited period of time.

We are going to have to live with Roybal, and giving some assistance at this time will pay dividends.

cc: Dick Allen

P.S.: The Congressman made no reference to the hearing next Teusday, and offered no quid pro quo, but I feel certain any cooperation we can provide will be reciprocated.

*What is
file here
?*

*meeting
at 11:05
1-29-81*

File
Jan. 27, 1981

Historical notes relative to White House appropriations

Statement one: background in political thought

The White House was conceived by the founding fathers in the early 1790s as an American version of a palace, to be built and furnished as palaces were in the Old World. It must be remembered that the age of the democratic revolutions had only just begun when the new nation got started; that some kingly notions would be present even in independent America is quite understandable. But before the walls of the mansion were half-finished, the Congress started showing increasing resentment toward anything "monarchical" or "royal," as for example state ceremony and presidential pomp. Accordingly, by the time the "palace" was completed at Washington, it had been dubbed the "president's house" and was expected to be occupied as just that, a house! The Congress did recognize the need for providing an allowance to purchase furniture, but would consider neither "state" furniture nor fine art, those being particular properties of royal houses.

From the outset the president, occupying this same house conceived as a palace, nevertheless used his obligatory domicile for public as well as private purposes. Through time the Congress has held fast to its original view that the White House is, insofar as funding is concerned, the president's home only. That it serves as the stage for many of the nation's grandest events is traditionally unrecognized in dollars. The appropriations for furnishings and decorations are surprisingly low, reflecting the current market prices of ordinary and not exceptional furnishings.

The appropriations have appeared faithfully, however, reflecting a constant interest on the part of the Congress that the president be adequately housed. Several widely publicized incidents in the past seem to have made presidents shy about making very large requests: In the 1830s Van Buren was made a public joke by the orations of one Congressman Ogle of Pennsylvania, who took the White House inventory and described in high comedy "The Sultan's Palace of Little Van;" in the early 1880s President Arthur's effort to double the size of the mansion met with scorn; efforts under both Harrison and Cleveland, and then another under McKinley met with disfavor and rebuke. Under Theodore Roosevelt the White House was renovated totally and entirely refurnished to TR's famous "Imperial" tastes. Even here the budget was trim, and the "Imperial" furnishings came from furniture stores.

All along the Congress has been willing to furnish the White House as an adequate and comfortable mansion for the president. As for fine furnishings and works of art, the Congress has been far less willing to spend on the White House than on its own headquarters, which houses one of the finest collections of historical art in the world. The root of this feeling lies in the split that took place early in the Federalist Age, the split often symbolized in the views of Jefferson and Hamilton.

Statement two: background regarding the appropriations and policy.

There was no set policy at the outset of the nation in 1789 regarding funds for the furnishing and appointments of the presidential house. Dwellings were rented for President Washington and remodeled, added-to, and furnished where necessary. Washington, a rich man,

brought large quantities of furniture in crates and porcelains packed in bran to the capital with him. The government supplemented these materials as he required it; he submitted the bills and was reimbursed. This practice Washington had followed as a general during the Revolution. While the practice was not continued by his successors (though Monroe tried it), it did establish the precedent for the president's being in personal charge of appropriations for the White House.

The first formal appropriation for furnishing the president's house, though not the White House, was made in behalf of John Adams two days before his inauguration. The amount was \$14,000, and included in the bill was the provision that the president could, according to his wishes, sell off any of the existing public furniture that he did not want, and revenue from this sale could be added to the appropriation. There were no "strings." In the bill, the Congress noted that the money was "for the accommodation of the household of the President, to be laid out and expended for such articles of furniture as he shall direct."

Thus the personal authority of the president over the appropriation continued from the outset. Only a single time, in the appropriation of April 24, 1800, was this authority placed elsewhere, and this was when the money was to be spent on the present White House, some months before the president actually occupied it. While the appropriations through the years were often specified in print as "repairs" in fact what they were for was routine interior decorating, as painting and wallpapering, and furnishings, as the purchase of chairs and tables and window-hangings.

Over the years the amount varied, but it became a custom to

provide an incoming president with a fund through which he could rearrange the quarters and state sections of the White House to suit himself. This has never been lavish funding, and on many occasions it had to be supplemented in the final outcome.

By the late 1850s it had become customary to make an annual appropriation for the maintenance of the house and grounds. The practice of appropriations as a courtesy at the beginning of each administration continued, but this was increasingly augmented by special appropriations for specific needs, which today read to us like minutae-- heat system, fountain, wallpaper, china, etc. The first special appropriation was that in 1829 for decorating the unfinished East Room.

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RICHARD DARMAN TO EDWIN MEESE, JAMES
BAKER, AND M. DEAVER RE THE WHITE HOUSE
RESIDENCE

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2 LETTER

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TO REX SCOUTEN RE WHITE HOUSE RESIDENCE

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