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January 18, 1983

I appreciate the opportunity to extend my congratulations on the grand opening and dedication ceremonies for the new headquarters building of the Paralyzed Veterans of America.

The completion of this building is a proud achievement for your organization, which is devoted to the fulfillment of human aspirations and goals. Over the years you have provided service, assistance, education, and inspiration to the physically impaired. In the planning and construction of this building, you have been sensitive to the needs of your members. You have set a fine example of barrier-free access.

You have my best wishes for continued success in the important work you do and, again, congratulations on this special day.

Sent To:

Ms. Jody Crawford
Paralyzed Veterans of America
801 88th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Encl. 8x10 glossy photo

(Call when signed to have picked up: 872-1300.)

RR:Livingston:-

cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/M.Rawlins(FYI)/M.Blackwell(FYI)/CF

DUE: ASAP EVENT: FEB. 9

Draft information provided by VA.

file

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

DATE: 8/13/82 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: Tuesday, August 17

SUBJECT: S.J. Res. 123 -- National Disabled Veterans Week

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	☐	☐	GERGEN	☐	☐
MEESE	☐	☒	HARPER	☒	☐
BAKER	☐	☒	JAMES	☐	☐
DEAVER	☐	☒	JENKINS	☐	☐
STOCKMAN	☐	☐	MURPHY	☐	☐
CLARK	☒	☐	ROLLINS	☒	☐
DARMAN	☐ P	☐ SS	WILLIAMSON	☒	☐
DOLE	☒	☐	WEIDENBAUM	☐	☐
DUBERSTEIN	☒	☐	BRADY/SPEAKES	☐	☐
FIELDING	☒	☐	ROGERS	☐	☐
FULLER	☒	☐		☐	☐

Remarks:

Please provide any comments/recommendations by 2:00 Tuesday, August 17.

Thank you.

DID NOT Receive UNTIL Regular
MAIL 8/18 - Have already replied

Richard G. Darman
Assistant to the President
(x2702)

Response:



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

AUG 13 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

Subject: Enrolled Resolution S.J. Res. 123 - National Disabled
Veterans Week
Sponsor - Sen. Hayakawa (R) California and 41 others

Last Day for Action

August 21, 1982 - Saturday

Purpose

Authorizes and requests the President to designate the week of November 7, 1982, as "National Disabled Veterans Week".

Agency Recommendations

Office of Management and Budget

Approval

Veterans Administration

Approval

Discussion

S.J. Res. 123 authorizes and requests you to issue a proclamation designating the week of November 7, 1982, as "National Disabled Veterans Week", and calling upon Government agencies at the Federal, State, and local levels and the people of the United States to observe the week with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities. It was passed by voice vote in both the House and the Senate.

The resolution notes that there are 2.3 million veterans with disabilities resulting from their service in the United States Armed Forces. This legislation is intended to give recognition to the contributions that these disabled veterans have made to our national security and welfare through their efforts to help preserve our freedom, strength, and prosperity. The VA, in its views letter, states that no group of its size is collectively so deserving of special recognition as the men and women disabled in America's defense.

An appropriate proclamation will be drafted and forwarded to the White House for issuance in a timely manner.

(Signed) James M. Frey

Assistant Director for
Legislative Reference

Enclosures

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 17, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR ELIZABETH H. DOLE

THRU: DIANA LOZANO

FROM: MORTON C. BLACKWELL 

SUBJECT: Staffing Memorandum - Proclamation on
National Disabled Veterans Week

I have cleared the wording of the referenced proclamation through the veterans organizations concerned. The Paralyzed Veterans of America like the wording and offered their congratulations to this Administration for getting the proclamation out in advance of the event which, according to them, has not happened in previous administrations.

Disabled American Veterans objects to the wording the second paragraph which refers to "lessened future contributions to our society" since rehabilitation to be a contributor to our society is one of their main aims.

There is a misspelled word in the middle of the next to the last paragraph which we have corrected on the draft. See attached.

June 30, 1982

I am delighted to send my warm greetings to all those gathered for the National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary.

This event presents me with a welcome opportunity to express my continuing high regard for the work of your organization. Your members have fully demonstrated their devotion to our nation through dedicated efforts to preserve American freedom and independence.

Disabled American veterans exemplify the long tradition of citizens who left their homes and families to defend our liberty and strive for peace in the world. All Americans are moved by your valor and sacrifice and will always hold you in a special place in their hearts.

You have my best wishes for an enjoyable and productive Convention.

SEND SPECIAL DELIVERY TO:
Mr. Sherman A. Roodzant
National Commander
Disabled American Veterans
807 Maine Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

RR:Wells:-

cc: K.Osborne/J.Wells/F.Ryan, JR. M. Shortley CF

EVENT: JULY 18-22

NEEDED: ASAP

(Draft information provided by VA)

June 23, 1982

Dear Mr. Roodzant:

I have been asked to thank you, on behalf of the President, for the cordial invitation you extended to him to attend and address the National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary which is being held in Las Vegas, July 18-22.

Your invitation has been carried forward and carefully considered as the President's calendar for July was under advisement. It now is certain, however, that, in view of the developments in his schedule, it will not be possible for him to join you. The President does plan to send a personal message to your convention, though, and this will come to you no later than July 18.

With the President's best wishes to you,

Sincerely,

Frederick J. Ryan, Jr.
Deputy Director
Presidential Appointments
and Scheduling

Mr. Sherman A. Roodzant
National Commander
Disabled American Veterans
807 Maine Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

FJR/MHR/las --

cc: w/inc to Dodie Livingston for message

cc: Maisele Shortley, Mr. Blackwell's office - FYI

DAV
June 23, 1982

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Mr. Sherman A. Roodzant
National Commander
Disabled American Veterans
807 Maine Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

FJR/MHR/las --

cc: w/inc to Dodie Livingston for message

cc: Maisele Shortley, Mr. Blackwell's office - FYI

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 18, 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR FLO RANDOLPH

FROM: MORTON BLACKWELL *MB*
SUBJECT: Meeting of Veterans Groups
with Mr. Meese

The executive directors of the three largest veterans groups have requested a meeting with Ed Meese regarding their dissatisfaction with the Administration's handling of veterans' affairs. They are Mylio Kraja, American Legion; Cooper Holt, Veterans of Foreign Wars; Gabby Hartnett, Disabled American Veterans

I understand the coming week is impossible but would appreciate having them scheduled as soon as possible. They represent large constituencies which have been largely supportive of the President.



Motto: "If I cannot speak good of my comrade, I will not speak ill of him."

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

NATIONAL SERVICE and LEGISLATIVE HEADQUARTERS
807 MAINE AVENUE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024
(202) 554-3501

February 26, 1982

Mr. Edwin Meese, III
Office of the Counselor
to the President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Meese:

I am writing this letter to bring a matter to your attention and hopefully, through you, to the attention of President Reagan.

The issue involves certain aspects of the Fiscal Year 1983 Veterans Administration Budget Request recently submitted to the U. S. Congress by the Administration. Specifically, it involves two legislative proposals contained in the request which, if adopted, would result in substantial VA disability compensation benefit reductions to service-connected veterans, many of whom would be combat disabled and of the Vietnam Era.

The first proposal would eliminate the dependency allowance portion contained in the compensation checks of service-connected veterans who are rated by the VA as being 30% and 40% disabled. There are approximately 314,400 veterans so rated nationwide. The Fiscal Year 1983 "savings" is estimated to be \$135.3 million.

The following is an example of the adverse impact of this proposal on an individual veteran:

A combat disabled veteran service-connected for a below the knee amputation of a leg, who has a wife and two children, would receive, effective October 1, 1982, a \$42 reduction in his monthly VA compensation check. This would occur despite the fact that his basic rate of compensation would be increased by 8.1%, effective the same date. (As also proposed in the VA Budget Request.)

Would you agree that this is a somewhat ill conceived "good news/bad news" joke?

A second legislative proposal would discontinue current payments of additional compensation that are now provided to severely disabled service-connected veterans who cannot work because of their service-connected disabilities and who are also in receipt of any other federal benefit by reason of disability or retirement. Such other federal benefits would include: social security payments (both SSDI and OASI), black lung, railroad retirement, civil service retirement, etc. (Present law does preclude concurrent receipt of VA disability compensation benefits and military retirement pay.)

There are presently some 113,000 veterans determined to be totally disabled and unable to engage in gainful employment by virtue of their service-connected disabilities. The Fiscal Year 1984 "savings" associated with this proposal is \$282.5 million (the statutory change would be made this year, with an effective date of 10/1/83).

An example of this proposal's impact follows:

A service-connected wartime disabled veteran has the following disabilities: 60% for an above the knee amputation of the right leg, 30% for residuals of a gunshot wound to the remaining leg, and 40% for residuals of a gunshot wound to the pleural cavity of the chest--a combined 90% rating. He has been determined "unemployable" because of his service-connected disabilities and he therefore receives from the VA a total unemployability rating. Assuming he is married and has no dependent children, his VA check is presently \$1,254 per month. This veteran also receives \$324 per month in OASI payments. The Administration proposal would require that \$324 be eliminated from his monthly VA disability compensation check.

Should totally disabled service-connected veterans, indeed should any veteran, be required to forego earned social security entitlement?

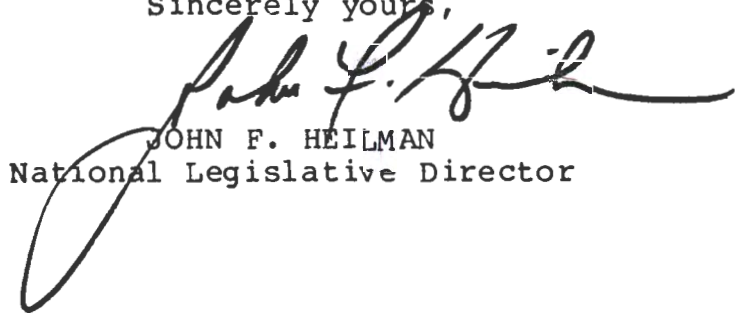
Administration witnesses will shortly be defending the VA Budget Request before the House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees and those of Appropriations and Budget. Hard questions will be posed to them concerning the economic and moral propriety of the above legislative proposals. Additionally, this organization intends to immediately commence a nationwide "grass roots" campaign aimed at informing our national membership and the general public of these legislative proposals.

Admitting the very parochial interest that the Disabled American Veterans has in this issue, and not (here) attempting to set forth our opposing arguments, my question to you is: Are you and the President aware of this aspect of the VA Budget Request and do you, after a realistic assessment of all factors, believe that these proposals should be retained in the Administration's Budget Request?

I am reminded of recent Administration "problems" associated with the issue of tax exemptions for private educational institutions and, quite simply, I am suggesting to you that this could prove to be an analogous situation.

May I close by saying that I have attempted to be frank and forthright in this letter and I trust that it has been received in that vein. I also hope that the subjects discussed will be given more than cursory attention and I would deeply appreciate being apprised of your views.

Sincerely yours,



JOHN F. HEILMAN
National Legislative Director

JFH:ah



Republican
National
Committee

file
DAV

July 31, 1981

Mrs. Elizabeth Dole
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Dole:

I thought you might be interested in seeing the attached. It represents a favorable acceptance by one major constituency -- veterans -- of the President's budget cuts. The response is made all the more favorable in light of the fact that the Disabled American Veterans tends to be one of the more vocal critics of most Administrations.

Sincerely,

Alfred Balitzer
Director
Coalition Division

AB:mw

enclosure

Veterans & Defense

Norman B. Hartnett, National Director of Services
807 Maine Avenue, S.W. Washington, D.C. 20024
Phone 202-554-3501



I've noticed that some in Washington, D.C., are beginning to see veterans' affairs and the national defense as related issues.

I found strong evidence of this positive trend in a recent issue of *New Beginnings*, a Republican National Committee (RNC) newsletter designed to support the economic policies of the Reagan administration.

Noting that "Victory for President Reagan's Program for Economic Recovery insures a strong national defense and strong veterans' benefits," the publication went on to promise, "National Defense and Veterans' Benefits will not be compromised!"

"President Reagan, honoring his campaign pledges, asked for restoration of several veterans' programs which were initially pared back" in the budget request prepared for him by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the flyer continued. It went on to comment that "Veterans did share; however, in the sacrifice of necessary budget cutting, but less than was first anticipated."

The *New Beginnings* issue was a direct pitch to veterans, asking them to support the President's overall economic policies. "The veterans' stake in the success of the Economic Recovery Program is immense," stated a cover letter attached to the flyer by RNC Chairman Richard Richards. "Pension and benefit payments, education and job training, and medical aid all require a healthy economy for funding."

Before I'm misunderstood, let me remind you that the DAV, its state departments, and its chapters are prohibited from taking stands on issues not directly related to veterans benefits and services. As an organization, we cannot and will not take a position on the President's overall tax and spending plans.

However, there are many ways in which veterans and military issues are related in ways that do affect benefits and services for disabled veterans and their families. And, while the RNC's *New Beginnings* didn't cite these relationships directly, I'm encouraged to see the RNC beginning to think about veterans' and defense issues as linked together.

If *New Beginnings* didn't make the linkage directly, its phrasing strongly implied that veterans' and defense issues are threads woven into the same fabric. During the 1970s, particularly after the Vietnam War, there was a growing tendency to view veterans' programs as elements of the nation's social welfare programs . . . as separate from the national defense.

This allowed our politicians to ignore the consequences that a new war would hold for veterans' programs. It permitted them to disregard the effects of shoddy treatment of veterans on the recruitment and retention efforts of our Armed Forces. And many politicians saw this attitude as a green light, making it somehow okay to gouge the VA and veterans' job programs for budget savings.

Of course, veterans' benefits and services are not social welfare programs. They're earned entitlements paid for by the sacrifices veterans were asked to make in the defense of our country.

All veterans, particularly those who served during wartime, have given up considerable time out of their lives to participate in the national defense. This set back their careers, their educations, their family lives and more. Our country owes something to these people.

And in no case is the entitlement aspect of veterans' benefits and services more clear than in the case of veterans with service-connected disabilities. Our government has a conspicuous moral obligation to those who spilled blood, lost their health, or suffer mentally as the result of their military service.

Unfortunately, the notion that veterans' programs are social welfare programs permeated the Carter administration, and cuts in the VA, particularly its health care system, resulted. Job programs for disabled and Vietnam era veterans were held at a low priority in the Labor Department, and veterans' preference in federal employment was viciously attacked.

Hopefully, things will improve during the Reagan administration, if the idea takes hold

that veterans' and defense issues go hand-in-hand in many respects. In this regard, I would strongly urge

two Republicans, OMB Director David A. Stockman and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman Alan K. Simpson of Wyoming, to pay close heed to the commitment their party's national committee made to veterans' programs in its *New Beginnings* bulletin.

Of course, the growing realization that veterans' and military issues are linked is not limited to the Republican Party or the White House. Many Democrats have recognized the vital connection of these issues for some time, and we've noted expressions of this idea by members of both major parties in recent proceedings in Congress.

A good example of this appeared in a recent letter sent to all U.S. Senators in support of a three-year extension of the VA's "Operation Outreach" psychological readjustment program for Vietnam era veterans.

"At a time when the military is plagued with manpower problems, and the All-Volunteer Force is facing increasing challenges in recruiting adequate numbers of qualified personnel, we must meet our obligations to the veterans of the last war," said the letter signed by Senators Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) and John H. Chafee (R-R.I.).

In encouraging this kind of philosophical linkage between veterans' and defense programs, the DAV recognizes that more is at stake than meeting commitments to current veterans. Here are some further considerations:

(1) Though we are not now at war, our country certainly does not exist in a peaceful world. One look at the evening news should be enough to convince anyone that at least the threat of U.S. involvement in conflict overseas is a fact of life.

The DAV is deeply concerned about the welfare of those veterans who would come home wounded or otherwise disabled if the United States were forced into some future conflict. We're particularly worried about the

te part of the VA health care system. We don't want a repeat of what happened during the early years of the Vietnam War when our VA hospitals were caught completely off-guard.

(2) Legislation is pending in Congress that would enable the VA and military medical systems to operate cooperatively in a number of ways. Those interested in reducing the cost of government should look closely at this legislation. The VA medical system provides health care at considerably reduced cost when compared to the private medical sector—approximately 15 percent less, according to former VA Administrator Max Cleland. This legislation has the potential to begin an expansion of this efficiency.

There is no doubt in my mind that the budget-cutting policies of the past few years, as applied to the VA health care system, are actually increasing federal health care costs.

Tens of thousands of eligible veterans have been denied VA care in recent years due to a lack of medical resources caused by budget constraints on the VA. Many of them were referred to other public sources of care that cost more than the VA, with the expensive Medicare and Medicaid programs leading the list. And the CHAMPUS health insurance program for military people and their dependents is in no way inexpensive, though benefits are frequently inadequate.

(3) Cooperative arrangements between the VA and military systems could make medical treatment more readily available to veterans, military people, and eligible military dependents. This would be added to the cost benefits of such arrangements.

(4) Finally, I want to expand on the idea that Senators Cranston and Chaffee mentioned, concerning the relationship of veterans' programs to military recruitment and retention, a situation that must be viewed realistically.

The Armed Forces today are highly technological. They need technicians and highly qualified people in other fields. They need the trained NCOs and middle-ranking officers who are leaving the services today in droves. In terms of new recruits, the uniformed services seldom get the kind of men and women needed to replace these people in sufficient numbers. This is a widely recognized problem.

I remember the old sergeant who said, "If the Marine Corps wanted me to have a wife, it would have issued me one." Realistically, that kind of soldier is rare. Military people have families. Regardless of how patriotic our service people may be, practical considerations come into play when we're talking about family people.

Why should a highly qualified person join or stay in the Armed Forces when civilian jobs offer a far better deal in terms of pay, benefits, and retirement? Veterans' programs are part of the deal offered to military people, and cutting those benefits and services back makes the deal that much less inviting.

The inability to attract enough qualified

VA Administrator Hearings Set

Hearings on the confirmation of Robert P. Nimmo as VA administrator will be held July 9 by the Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee.

No one anticipates any problems in the hearings, after which the committee is expected to recommend confirmation of the World War II and Korean War veteran to the full Senate. President Reagan's choice of the California rancher and businessman for the VA's top job was announced April 30.

Last month the President announced his nominations for the positions of deputy VA administrator and VA inspector general.

Chosen for the VA's second-in-command job was Allen B. Clark, Jr., a combat-wounded veteran of the Vietnam War, who currently works as a special assistant to Texas Governor Bill Clements. Frank S. Sato, the Department of Transportation's inspector general (IG), was picked for the IG job in the VA.



Clark

The Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee will hold confirmation hearings on Clark and Sato immediately following its hearings on the Nimmo nomination on July 9.

Former VA Deputy Administrator Rufus Wilson has gone to work with the House Veterans' Affairs Committee as its minority counsel. Also moving from the VA to the House committee staff is J.C. Peckarsky, who left his job as the VA's director of Com-

people to the military and retain them once they're in the service is costing our government money. And what good is a brand-new weapons system when there's no one there who knows how to operate it or fix it if it breaks down?

The DAV wants to reinforce the idea of a direct relationship between veterans and military programs, because we see the potential for improved services for disabled veterans. But these further considerations should be weighed by those in Washington who are making the decisions.

The idea of a direct relationship between veterans' and military programs hold the potential for improved services to veterans. In the DAV's opinion, such a relationship would certainly result in a strengthened VA medical system.

Our nation's leaders should give strong consideration to this idea, because it would demonstrate a commitment to good services to members of our Armed Forces, as well as a commitment to adequately care for these people should they become disabled veterans.

pensation and Pension Service to become a professional staff consultant for the majority of the House Committee.

The Reagan administration has still not nominated anyone to become assistant deputy secretary of labor for veterans' employment, a position which has been vacant since March.

Clark Withdraws Name

Allen B. Clark, Jr., withdrew his name from consideration for deputy VA administrator just as this issue of *DAV Magazine* was going to press. He made no public statements regarding the reasons for his withdrawal. However, informed sources say the Vietnam veteran was unhappy with the role planned for him in the VA's second highest office. *DAV Magazine* will report details when they become available.

Clark, the deputy VA administrator designate, served as a Green Beret captain during the Vietnam War. The 38-year-old Austin, Tex., resident holds a master's degree in business administration from Southern Methodist University, in addition to a bachelor of science degree from West Point.

Clark lost both legs due to combat in Vietnam, and is a life member of the DAV. His military decorations include the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, and two battle stars. He also holds the Combat Infantryman's Badge and Airborne Wings.

Prior to his appointment as special assistant to Governor Clements, Clark worked for Texas businessman Ross Perot, and later was employed by the Republic Bank in Dallas.

He served as president of the West Point Society of North Texas in 1973, president of the Young Executive Group of the Dallas Council on World Affairs in 1977, as chairman of the Horizons Committee in 1976.

The IG designate, Sato, developed a considerable reputation for combatting fraud and abuse in federal highway programs following his appointment as Transportation Department IG in 1979. Very well respected, he serves on several committees and boards of accounting and government auditing associations and other professional organizations.

From 1974 to 1979, Sato worked as deputy secretary of defense (audit) in the office of the assistant secretary of defense (comptroller). From 1977 to 1979, he was director of the Defense Audit Service. He held various positions with the U.S. Air Force auditor general and the office of the secretary of defense between 1953 and 1974.

Born in Puyallup, Wash., Sato holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Washington and did post-graduate work at the University of California in Los Angeles.

DAV

The official voice of the Disabled American Veterans and DAV Auxiliary

Photo



David H. Berry

— 1981 —

DISABLED VETERAN
OF THE YEAR

Pages 12 and 13

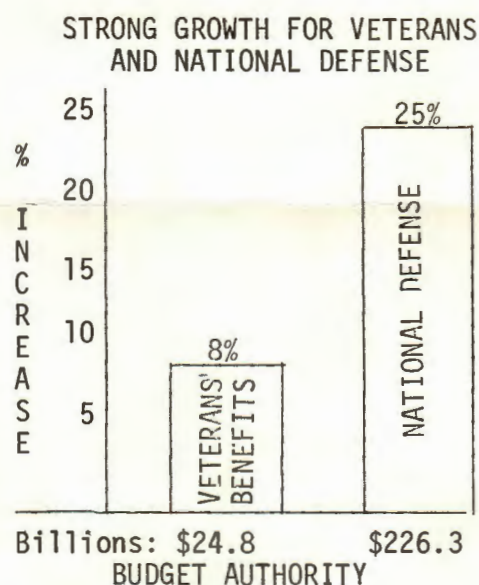
New Beginnings: A Tax and Spending Bulletin

This economic flyer explains the facts of President Reagan's Program for Economic Recovery. It is being sent to inform you of the actions needed now for the economic revitalization of America.

VOLUME I

Victory for Reagan Economic Recovery Program Strong Support for National Defense and Veterans' Affairs

Victory for President Reagan's Program for Economic Recovery insures a strong national defense and strong veterans' benefits. In the limelight this month has been the Gramm-Latta bipartisan budget resolution, which boasts the support of President Reagan, overwhelming majorities in Congress, and the backing of all the major veterans' organizations. In a series of historic votes in early May, the Reagan budget sped through Congress with unprecedented success. On the 7th, the House of Representatives passed the Gramm-Latta resolution (backed by the President) by a huge, 77-vote margin. On the 12th, the Senate seconded the vote on the President's budget by 78-20. And on the 14th, House-Senate Conference Committee members nailed down agreements for the First Congressional Budget Resolution, which will set spending targets for the years to come. One message that came back loud and clear: National Defense and Veterans' Benefits will not be compromised!



President Reagan, honoring his campaign pledges, asked for the restoration of several veterans' programs which were initially pared back. The approved resolution calls for \$450 million in additional outlays and \$600 million in increased budget authority over the earlier targets. The President supported the higher figures for veterans in the House, and moreover, made sure they were maintained in the work of the House-Senate Conferrees. The result? Medical and Department of Veterans' Benefits personnel will not be cut and funds are available for Readjustment Counseling Centers.

Veterans' programs will grow by almost \$1.5 billion in FY 1982. Veterans did share, however, in the sacrifice of necessary budget cutting, but less than was first anticipated. Cuts were made by eliminating programs earmarked by the Veterans' Affairs Committees and in the rescission and deferral of several hospital construction projects. Such adjustments allowed the Conference Committee to meet the economic objectives of the President while protecting veterans' health care, counseling and compensation plans.

BREAKDOWN OF VETERANS' PROGRAMS
(\$ OUTLAYS IN MILLIONS)

CATEGORY:	APPROX. AMOUNT	% OF TOTAL
OPERATING EXPENSES	670	3%
BENEFIT PROGRAMS	14,530	60%
MEDICAL PROGRAMS	7,260	30%
CONSTRUCTION	450	2%
PROPOSED LEGISLATION	840	3%
OTHER	400	2%
TOTAL	24,150*	100%

*To be reconciled to \$24,050. Program categories from House Veterans' Affairs

The approved resolution also achieves the President's goals for strengthening America's national defense. After a decade of decline when compared to the GNP, military programs will see real increases with outlays of \$188.8 billion in FY 1982. Budget authority, a better measure of the ability to buy new weapon systems and increase military preparedness, will similarly rise to \$226.3 billion, an increase of 25 percent.

Reaction in Congress Positive for Veterans' Programs

Reactions to the historic votes were quick in coming from leading Congressmen. It was apparent that veterans had done a good job in communicating their concern for specific programs. Congressman Delbert Latta (R-Ohio), co-author of the Gramm-Latta bipartisan resolution, was enthused by the 253-176 House vote. "This shows that a new attitude has taken hold in Congress", Latta said. "The fact is that government spending must be slowed and unnecessary programs eliminated. Unless inflation is brought under control, veterans and all others who retire on fixed incomes will continue to see the substance of their pensions eaten away." Latta was especially pleased that the House-Senate Conference Committee could meet the President's budget objectives while still providing sufficient funds for veterans' medical care. Earlier, Latta had been informed by the House Veterans' Affairs Committee that the amounts set forth in the Gramm-Latta resolution were adequate for the Veterans' Administration and that no change was anticipated in the number of hospital patients treated.

Congressman John P. Hammerschmidt (R-Arkansas) was pleased that, "Congress did not forget those who have served so valiantly to keep their fellow countrymen free." As the ranking minority member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Hammerschmidt played a pivotal role in seeing that necessary benefits were kept on track while carefully examining areas where some cuts could safely be made. Along with the House Veterans' Affairs Committee Chairman "Sonny" Montgomery (D-Mississippi), their meetings with veterans' organizations and then with Administration officials cleared the way for acceptance of the funding targets in the approved resolution. "With President Reagan's support", Hammerschmidt explained, "the House-Senate Conferrees needed only to dot the i's. "

The Budget Process

When President Reagan announced, on February 18, 1981, the dramatic changes in national priorities that were needed to return the country to economic sanity, a loud groan was heard from the cadre of budget analysts who serve Congress. Extra Congressional effort would, indeed, be necessary to enact the Program for Economic Recovery. This year, the First Congressional Budget Resolution contains "reconciliation instructions" directing the legislative authorizing committees to report the changes in law necessary to implement budget savings. The following highlights the time-frame of budgetary decision-making.

	MAY 15	JUNE 15	JULY 15	AUGUST	SEPT. 15	OCTOBER 1
CONGRESS:	ADOPT 1ST CON-CURRENT BUDGET RESOLUTION	ADOPT OMNIBUS RE-RECONCILIATION BILL			ADOPT 2ND CON-CURRENT BUDGET RESOLUTION	NEW F.Y. BEGINS
	PASS AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION AND SPENDING BILLS					
COMMITTEES:	REPORT ALL AUTHORIZING LEGISLATION FOR NEW F.Y.	REPORT SPENDING AND REVENUE BILLS				
		REPORT RECON-CILIATION BILLS OR RESOLUTIONS		NOTE: SPENDING BILLS EXCEEDING TARGETS SET IN 1ST RESOLUTION ARE NOT TO BE ENROLLED. BUDGET COMMITTEES ARE TO ENFORCE, ACTING THROUGH AMENDMENTS IF NECESSARY.		

The Veterans' Stake in the Economic Recovery Program

DEAR VETERAN:

THERE ARE OVER THIRTY MILLION OF US. VETERANS ARE OUR MOST RESPECTED CITIZENS. OVER NINETY PERCENT OF ALL VETERANS ARE REGISTERED TO VOTE, AND YOU PARTICIPATE LIKE NO OTHER GROUP IN THE POLITICAL PROCESS. YOU HAVE FOUGHT ON THE BATTLEFIELD FOR FREEDOM AND MANY OF YOU HAVE SUFFERED SILENTLY AT HOME WITH YOUR WOUNDS. YET ANOTHER BUGLE CALLS YOU.

NEVER BEFORE HAVE I COME TO YOU WITH A MORE URGENT MESSAGE. THE NEED FOR YOU TO TAKE QUICK ACTION IS GREAT. THE PRESIDENT IS DEPENDING UPON ALL OF US.

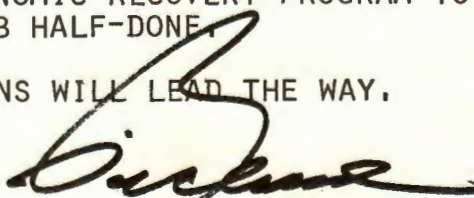
PRESIDENT REAGAN HAS CALLED THE PRESENT ECONOMIC CRISIS OUR NATION'S MOST SERIOUS SINCE THE GREAT DEPRESSION. WE MUST CHOOSE NOW WHETHER OR NOT WE ARE GOING TO PRESERVE AND RENEW THIS BLESSED NATION OF OURS. THE PRESIDENT HAS PROPOSED AN ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM WHICH WILL RENEW OUR COUNTRY AND GIVE US AGAIN THE INCENTIVES TO BE GREAT. YOU HAVE BEEN READING OF THE PROGRAM'S VICTORIES BUT MANY BATTLES LIE AHEAD.

THE PRESIDENT'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM CAN BE DESCRIBED IN FOUR PARTS: SPENDING REDUCTIONS, TAX CUTS, A STABLE MONETARY POLICY, AND THE ELIMINATION OF EXCESSIVE GOVERNMENT REGULATION WITH A RETURN TO THE BASIC BUILDING BLOCKS OF FEDERALISM. EACH PART IS INTEGRAL TO THE WHOLE. THERE ARE THOSE WHO WOULD HAVE YOU BELIEVE THAT YOU MAY PICK AND CHOOSE AMONG THE PARTS. BUT THAT IS EXACTLY HOW WE HAVE GOTTEN INTO THE MESS WE ARE IN -- BY ALLOWING BUREAUCRATS TO REGULATE OUR LIVES, BY LETTING GOVERNMENT PICK UP MORE AND MORE TAX DOLLARS EACH YEAR. WHAT HAVE BEEN THE RESULTS? FEDERAL DEFICIT SPENDING IS OUT OF CONTROL, PEOPLE ARE EARNING MORE BUT MUST BUY LESS, AND WE FACE A \$100 BILLION PRICE TAG TO MEET EACH YEAR FOR GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS ON BUSINESS.

THE VETERANS' STAKE IN THE SUCCESS OF THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM IS IMMENSE. PENSION AND BENEFIT PAYMENTS, EDUCATION AND JOB TRAINING, AND MEDICAL AID ALL REQUIRE A HEALTHY ECONOMY FOR FUNDING. THE DAYS AHEAD WILL CONTINUE TO BE DAYS OF HARD CHOICES, BUT WE HAVE NEGLECTED THE FISCAL FRAMEWORK OF OUR HOME FOR TOO LONG.

WITH YOUR HELP THE PRESIDENT'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM CAN SUCCEED. FIRST, PLEASE READ THIS ISSUE OF NEW BEGINNINGS AND LET US SEND YOU UPDATES. IT WILL KEEP YOU INFORMED OF THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM, WHERE IT STANDS IN CONGRESS, AND THE BENEFITS YOU CAN EXPECT FROM ITS SUCCESS. SECOND, WRITE YOUR CONGRESSMAN AND SENATOR, TELL THEM THAT YOU WANT ALL PARTS OF THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM TO BE ENACTED. DON'T LET THEM LEAVE THEIR JOB HALF-DONE.

AS IN THE PAST, I KNOW VETERANS WILL LEAD THE WAY.



RICHARD RICHARDS
CHAIRMAN, REPUBLICAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE

For a Great New Beginning...

DEAR CONGRESSMAN:

I SUPPORT THE PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM FOR ECONOMIC RECOVERY. ALL PARTS OF IT MUST BE ENACTED!

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

SEND THIS COUPON TO YOUR CONGRESSMAN IN CARE OF:

ALFRED BALITZER, DIRECTOR
COALITION DIVISION
310 FIRST STREET, S.E.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003

New Beginnings: A Tax and Spending Bulletin, is published periodically by the Republican National Committee. It provides the latest information on the President's Program for Economic Recovery. Additional copies are available from the Committee.



republican national committee

310 First Street Southeast, Washington, D.C. 20003.

New Beginnings
310 First St. S.E.
Washington, D.C. 20003

FIRST CLASS MAIL U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 6149 Washington, D.C.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Dear Mr. Heilman:

Attached in the autographed photo
you requested.

If we can be of any further
assistance, just let us know.

Cordially,

Maiselle

Maiselle Shortley
Confidential Assistant
to Morton Blackwell

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: Loesje Edwards

FROM: Maiselle Shortley x 2657

Please have the attached photo authographed with the President's signature. Just give a call when it is ready and I will come down and pick it up. Thanks for your help

DAV



Motto: "If I cannot speak good of my comrade, I will not speak ill of him."

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

NATIONAL SERVICE and LEGISLATIVE HEADQUARTERS
807 MAINE AVENUE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024
(202) 554-3501

August 13, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Public Relations Liaison Office
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Morton:

I recently received the enclosed picture from our immediate Past National Commander, Stan Pealer, who had the honor of meeting President Reagan last fall (I believe, at a VFW function).

Stan requested that I use my "influence" to obtain an autograph on the picture. In order to preserve my in-house image as a Washington "power broker" (I assure you that my tongue is appropriately positioned in my cheek), would you be so kind as to have the picture autographed and returned to me?

With warm regards, I remain,

Sincerely yours,

JOHN F. HEILMAN
National Legislative Director

JFH:ar
Enclosure



TO: FILE ROOM
FROM: MAIL SECTION

4/7/81 # 37 L. WATSON

REQ. FOR ☒ ANY or Entire File
☐ Letter referred to

☐ Secret Service Case
☐ File or Blue Card
☐ No Previous File
☐ Sent to _____ not
ackd. by White House

DISPOSITION OF FILE

☐ Mr. Linder
☐ Corres. Section
☐ Referral Section
☐ I.D. FOR REVIEW
☐ _____

DATE _____

FILE NO. _____

NAME _____

57
Morton Blackwell

Disabled American Veterans

DEPARTMENT OF VIRGINIA

Thank you

WALTER E. SANFORD, JR.
Past Department Commander

*this the Pres's
carries.*



20 March 1981

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

Dear Mr. President:

Your recognition of our Vietnam veterans at the Medal of Honor ceremony for Master Sergeant Roy P. Benavidez and on other occasions is deeply appreciated. Vietnam stands out as the most controversial of our wars and the longest.

While the average age of our Vietnam dead was 23 years; six out of ten had been in service less than two years and three out of ten were married. Nearly a third of the 303,000 wounded were seriously disabled.

The Commonwealth of Virginia has recently completed a structural addition to the Virginia War Memorial at Richmond to honor our 1289 Virginia Vietnam dead. Some minor details remain such as the placement of items in the Memorial coffers.

I have the pleasure to serve as a member of the Virginia War Memorial Commission and as plans are formulated for the dedication additional material will be sent to you.

Sincerely yours,

Walter E. Sanford, Jr.
Walter E. Sanford, Jr.
608 Woodland Terrace
Alexandria, Virginia 22302

*gen support P5
P22*

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

file
DAV

May 6, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Morton Blackwell

FROM: Gary Bauer

Re: Disabled American Veteran Opposition To Budget Cuts

As I am sure you are aware, the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) has been strongly opposing cutbacks in the Reagan budget particularly in the area of hospital closings. A recent edition of their monthly magazine pictured a crippled vet sitting in a wheelchair reading a newspaper with headlines about the cuts. The issue was filled with critical stories.

I today had lunch with an employee of DAV who would rather remain nameless. He works in their HQ and thus observe the situation there firsthand. He said that after that issue was received by the DAV members the national HQ received an avalanche of critical mail from veterans saying they supported the cuts in the budget even if it meant some of their programs would be hurt. Many threatened to drop their membership in DAV if the organization persisted in opposing the Reagan program. So vehement was the reaction that DAV decided to cancel a major mailing that was scheduled to go out to the entire membership to raise funds.

The above information is FYI only in the event you are dealing with the DAV leadership in the weeks ahead.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

May 21, 1981

George Rusnak III
Commander
Chapter 41 D.A.V.
911 Arena Drive
Trenton, NJ 08610

Dear Commander Rusnak,

The President has requested that I send you this form for Mrs. Korona to replace her gold star. The President and our office of public liaison for veterans affairs are very sorry that such tragic events have occurred in Mrs. Korona's life. We thank you for your letter and your interest. If we can be of any further help, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Morton C. Blackwell", is written over a faint, circular official seal of the White House.

Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the
President

APPLICATION FOR GOLD STAR LAPEL BUTTON
(THIS FORM IS FOR ONE APPLICANT ONLY)

FRONT



VIEW

IF DECEASED WAS A MEMBER OF: (Check appropriate address)

ARMY ☐ Address to:

Commanding Officer
US Army Administration Center, TAGO
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63132

NAVY ☐ (If application is made within one year from date of death) - Address to:

Chief of Naval Personnel (Pers-E)
Washington, D.C. 20370

MARINE CORPS ☐ (If application is made within one year from date of death) - Address to:

Commandant of the Marine Corps (Code DL)
Washington, D.C. 20380

NAVY ☐ (If application is made after one year from date of death) - Address to:

Center Manager
National Personnel Records Center, GSA
(Military Personnel Records)
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63132

MARINE CORPS ☐ (If application is made after one year from date of death) - Address to:

Center Manager
National Personnel Records Center, GSA
(Military Personnel Records)
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63132

AIR FORCE ☐ Address to:

Center Manager
National Personnel Records Center, GSA
(Military Personnel Records)
9700 Page Boulevard
St. Louis, Missouri 63132

COAST GUARD ☐ Address to:

Commandant (PS)
United States Coast Guard
1300 E Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20226

I HEREBY MAKE APPLICATION FOR THE GOLD STAR LAPEL BUTTON AS FOLLOWS: (Check type of fastener desired)

BACK VIEW



☐ PIN JOINT AND
SAFETY CATCH



☐ CLUTCH
TYPE

I AM THE ☐ WIDOW, ☐ WIDOWER, ☐ MOTHER, ☐ FATHER, ☐ STEPMOTHER, ☐ STEPFATHER, ☐ MOTHER THROUGH ADOPTION, ☐ FATHER THROUGH ADOPTION, ☐ FOSTER MOTHER IN LOCO PARENTIS, ☐ FOSTER FATHER IN LOCO PARENTIS, ☐ SON, ☐ DAUGHTER, ☐ STEPSON, ☐ STEPDAUGHTER, ☐ SON BY ADOPTION, ☐ DAUGHTER BY ADOPTION, ☐ BROTHER, ☐ SISTER, ☐ HALF BROTHER, ☐ HALF SISTER. (Check applicable relationship) OF:

(Last Name - First Name - Middle Initial)

(Grade)

(Service Serial Number)

WHO DIED ON _____, 19____ WHILE SERVING AS A MEMBER OF THE ARMED FORCES DURING ONE OF THE FOLLOWING PERIODS: 6 APRIL 1917 TO 3 MARCH 1921, 8 SEPTEMBER 1939 TO 25 JULY 1947, 27 JUNE 1950 TO 27 JULY 1954:

OR

WHO DIED ON _____, 19____ (after 30 June 1958) WHILE SERVING AS A MEMBER OF THE UNITED STATES

STATES _____ IN _____
(Specify branch of service) (Specify geographical Area)

SEND GOLD STAR TO:
(Type or print name and address in both spaces as this information is needed for record purposes and shipping purposes)

NAME

NAME

NUMBER AND STREET

NUMBER AND STREET

CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE

CITY, STATE, AND ZIP CODE

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT

37

not to Blackwell Incl.



*Pres's mail
VA?*

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
Joseph McNerney Chapter No. 41

911 ARENA DRIVE
TRENTON, NEW JERSEY 08610



10 March, 1981

Mr. President:

Enclosed is an article which I as Commander of Joseph McNerney Chapter 41, Disabled American Veterans, feel should be brought to your attention. You Mr. President are the only way this gold star can be replaced for this woman. Sir, if you can find the time to look into this matter, we members of the chapter would be very grateful. Mrs. Korona, a past Auxiliary Commander of our chapter and a very good friend of all veterans, has lost her husband just a short time ago and now this. A very small remembrance of her son, this gold star, but it was all she had to cling to for his memories. Mr. President, I sincerely hope you can give this matter some of your time and help a grieving woman who has some trying times as of late.

Thank you,

George Rusnak III

George Rusnak III
Commander
Chapter 41 D.A.V.



She lost son to war, now her Gold Star

Trenton Times

By DIANA KELLY
Staff Writer

When Mary Korona lost her 20-year-old son in the Vietnam War, she received a Gold Star from the federal government.

Fourteen years later, the star is gone, along with the medallions she and her late husband received for their work in veterans' organizations.

Last month, several youths broke into her South Broad Street home, taking jewelry, furs and money.

But the items, valued at much more than the star, are insignificant to Mrs. Korona.

What she really wants returned are the medallions and the cherished star she received after her son, Albert, died.

"You have got to understand about Vietnam War mothers. We never got anything for our sons who never returned. Only that pin," she said yesterday.

"Our sons never got credit, recognition. We were heartbroken and the government sent us the Gold Star." Although she wore it seldom — usually to attend Gold Star Mothers benefits and meetings — Mrs. Korona said she'll miss it like no other possession.

SHE IS EVEN considering writing President Reagan to ask for a duplicate, if possible.

Mrs. Korona, whose husband died last year, is president of the Gold Star Mothers of Trenton and second vice president of the Gold Star Mothers of New Jersey. She is also a past state commander.

The pins that signify those offices were also taken in the break-in.

Gold Star Mothers is a charitable

She lost son to war, now her Gold Star

From C1

organization which benefits veterans' hospitals across the state and nation.

Mrs. Korona said she was originally hopeful that the police would be able to recover the Gold Star memorabilia. But now she's taking her request to the community.

SHE THEORIZES the burglars who broke into her third-story bedroom gained entry by climbing onto the roof of her building and dislodging the glass pane. She said neighbors saw several youths in the alley behind her home discarding possessions as they ran from the scene.

The Gold Star is placed on a purple background and has a diamond chip at the center, Mrs. Korona said. Her name is not on it.

Also taken in the robbery were her diamond engagement ring and platinum wedding ring.

"I would ask people to be on the look-out for the items," she said.

Anyone with information should contact the Trenton Police Department.

3-9-81
Trenton is in

Robbery Victim Wants One Thing — The Gold Star

By RICK STINE

Staff Writer

When her neighbor called about a week ago and said she saw some teen-agers throwing jewelry in the alley, all Mary Korona was hoping to find was her gold star.

Korona's 20-year-old son, Albert, was killed in Vietnam on May 18, 1968, and the gold star the Army sent her was one of the last cherished remembrances she had of her son.

Korona, who lives on South Broad Street, searched the alley between Elm Street and Chestnut Avenue but was only able to find a "ripped apart" pair of cultured pearl earrings.

"I don't care about anything else that was stolen. What's important to me is the gold star. That's all that I really want back," she said last night.

On Feb. 27, Korona noticed that someone had tampered with several drawers in her bedroom while she had been out.

"They tried to put things back in place but some of them weren't where they belonged. That's when I realized someone had broken into my house," Korona recalled.

She called police and they showed her how the burglars had removed a third-floor storm window to get in her house.

"They took all my jewelry, including my wedding ring. They also took my mink stole," she said.

Korona said the gold star has a diamond chip in the center and is attached to a white ribbon. The ribbon is decorated with pins she received for being past president of the Gold Star Mothers and past commander of the Disabled Veterans Women's Auxiliary.

Anyone with information on the star is asked to call Trenton Police at 989-3900.



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

16 MAR 1981

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Mr. Arthur H. Wilson
National Service Director
Disabled American Veterans
807 Maine Ave., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20024

Dear Mr. Wilson:

This is in response to your request of February 27, 1981, regarding Armed Forces support for the Disabled American Veterans' National Convention, to be held in Bal Harbour, Florida, on July 12, 1981.

As you know, musical and ceremonial support are provided by the Military Services at no additional cost to the U.S. Government. A sponsor must be prepared to pay the cost of commercial transportation to and from the event, and the costs of meals and lodging if necessary. In addition, the Services' capability to support your event will depend upon official military requirements and their ability to provide the support requested at the time of the event. I have passed your request to the individual Services and asked that any unit available to provide support contact you directly to finalize participation details.

By providing your request to all the Military Services, we offer you the best opportunity for Armed Forces support, but this may also result in more than one unit contacting you to participate. If this should occur, we ask that you decline the additional offers of support, thus permitting our critical assets to be shared more equitably among the American public.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Charles H. Senn", is written over a horizontal line.

Charles H. Senn
Colonel, U.S. Air Force
Director for Community Relations

AMERICAN
DISABLED VETERANS

STAN PEALER
NATIONAL COMMANDER

PHONE 554-0501
AREA CODE 202

May 7, 1981

Major General K. C. Bullard
The Adjutant General
Florida Army National Guard
State Arsenal
St. Augustine, FL 32084

Dear General Bullard:

The Disabled American Veterans will hold its Annual Convention in Miami Beach from July 12 through July 17, 1981.

As part of our Convention activities we have consistently enjoyed uniformed services support. In this regard, I respectfully request that the Florida National Guard provide a band for our Opening Ceremonies.

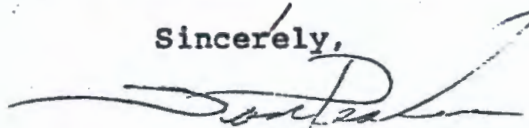
Through earlier informal coordination, it has been learned that the nearest band is the 13th Army Band located in North Miami, Florida and is under your command.

I have also been informed that July is an awkward month for band support. It seems that the only military bands that are not committed during that month are in Georgia and points north which place those bands out of the normal range of support.

Our desires would be to have your 13th Army Band provide the music for our Opening Ceremonies on Sunday, July 12, 1981. As this matter is of the utmost concern to us, may we have your response by May 22, 1981.

The members of the Disabled American Veterans would be greatly appreciative of the Florida National Guard support.

Sincerely,



STAN PEALER
National Commander

SP:ah

STATE OF FLORIDA
DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

STATE ARSENAL, ST. AUGUSTINE
32084

ADM

14 May 1981

Mr. Stan Pealer
National Commander
Disabled American Veterans
807 Maine Avenue, S. W.
Washington, D. C. 20024

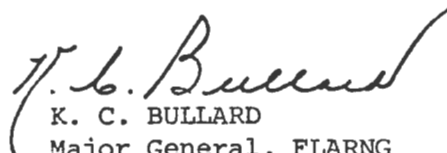
Dear Mr. Pealer:

In reply to your letter of 7 May 1981 requesting the Florida National Guard's 13th Army Band to provide the music for your Opening Ceremonies at your Annual Convention in Miami, the following information is furnished.

The scheduling of our band is accomplished for the most part six to twelve months in advance due to the limited number of dates available for their performance. At the time the initial request for the Band was received, several weeks ago from Public Affairs, National Guard Bureau in Washington, effort was made to schedule your request but it was not possible.

I sincerely regret we are unable to support your Annual Convention and wish you the very best for a successful meeting.

Sincerely,


K. C. BULLARD
Major General, FLARNG
The Adjutant General



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20301

REQUEST FOR
ARMED FORCES PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC EVENTS

PUBLIC AFFAIRS

This form is used to request Armed Forces musical unit, personnel and/or exhibit participation in public events. The information provided is required to evaluate the event. Please complete all sections.

This form should be submitted to the appropriate unit (see back page) not less than 30 nor more than 90 days in advance of a scheduled program. Please realize that all Armed Forces units have specific military missions and training requirements. Participation in public programs will only be authorized when such support is in the best interests of the Department of Defense and the Armed Services and does not interfere with mission or training programs. In all cases, operational commitments must take priority and could preclude a previously scheduled appearance at an approved public activity.

Department of Defense policies require that Armed Forces participation in public events will be provided at no additional cost to the Government. The sponsor is required to pay, when necessary, the standard Military Services allowance for quarters and meals for all Armed Forces participants and for other services which have been determined in advance by the Military Services and agreed to by the sponsor. Transportation and meal costs are not usually incurred when support is provided from a local military installation. However, circumstances may dictate that reimbursement for any or all of these costs may be necessary. All costs are binding after a unit, personnel, or exhibit have arrived at an event site, even though weather conditions or other unforeseen circumstances force the event to be cancelled.

Armed Forces musical units are organized for ceremonial and traditional purposes and to support recruiting activities. However, they may be authorized to provide certain specified presentations, such as patriotic ceremonies, for public programs. Armed Forces musical organizations are not permitted to provide entertainment, background, dinner, dance or other social music at public or private events in competition with the customary or regular employment of local civilian musicians.

SECTION A: GENERAL

1. Sponsoring Organization: DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
2. Event: NATIONAL CONVENTION
3. Town or City: BAL HARBOUR, State: FL
Site: Sheraton-Bal Harbour Hotel
4. Date: Sunday, July 12, 1981 Time: 8:00 a.m.



This request is for: (State what Armed Forces units, personnel, exhibits, etc., are desired. Include specific Military Service where appropriate.)

Military Band

To Provide: (State what the above units/personnel, etc., are to do at the event)

Several musical selections for Memorial Service and
Opening Ceremonies.

Purpose: (State why Armed Forces participation is desired for the event)

* Use additional sheets if necessary

SECTION B: PROGRAM

1. Purpose of this event: Annual National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans

2. Is the event a broadly-based community occasion?

Yes

a. Does the event have the official backing of the Mayor?

Yes

b. Will admission, seating, and all other accommodations and facilities connected with this event be available to all persons in the community without regard to race, creed, color, sex, or national origin?

3. What is the expected attendance for the event?

2,000

4. Admission Charge: \$ 0 Charge for parking: \$

a. Charge for seating (if not included in admission charge): \$ 0

b. Is the event used to promote funds for any purpose? No

No

c. Disposition of profits which may accrue: _____

5. Is the event considered a national or international program, or because of its nature, could it be expected to bring national news media coverage?

Yes

a. Please specify that portion of the event which might attract media attention:

Opening Session

6. Will the sponsor consult with local military service recruiters and provide support, at no charge, for military recruiting activities at the site of the event?

Previous National Conventions

7. Have the Armed Forces supported the event before? Yes When?

What support was provided?	Military Bands

SECTION C: SITE

1. The site of the event is: Indoors: ☒ Outdoors: ☐

Military installation or property
belonging to a local, State, or
Federal Government: ☐

Property belonging to
private or commercial
interests: ☐

2. Exact location of the site of the event: Sheraton-Bal Harbour Hotel, Bal Harbour, FL

3. Type of electric current available: 110v: ☐ or 220v: ☐ Amps:

4. If a musical unit is requested, is there a Bandstand? ☐ Stage? ☐

Will chairs be provided? YES

5. If an exhibit is requested:

a. Area available for exhibit is feet long and feet wide.

b. Can a forklift, C-2 wrecker and/or crane be made available for handling exhibit?

c. Outdoors: Type of surface (sod, paved, gravel, etc.):
Obstructions to hinder unloading (curbs, wires, etc.)

d. Indoors: Ceiling height:

Type of floor:

Floor Loading Capacity:

Size of doorway through which exhibit
can be brought into the building: ft high x ft wide

Size and load limits of freight elevators
if event is on other than ground floor: ft high x ft wide

x ft deep. Load limit lbs

SECTION D: SUPPORT

Please indicate, by answering "yes" or "no", if the sponsor is prepared to provide the following support incidental to Armed Forces participation in the event:

1. If required, the standard Military Services allowance for quarters and meals for all Armed Forces participants (\$25.00 per person/per day): _____
2. If required, transportation, meals and hotel accommodation costs for representatives of the requested unit to visit the site prior to the event: _____
3. If required, transportation costs from home station to the event and return for all participants: _____
4. If required, transportation costs for all participants while at the site of the event: _____
5. Telephone facilities for necessary official communications at the site of the event: YES
6. Security for personnel and equipment (to include crowd control) at the site during the entire event: YES
7. Police escort through congested areas for vehicles and exhibits: _____
8. Electric power, necessary services for connections and other required utilities at the site of the event: YES
9. Space for parking official vehicles transporting participants and related equipment: YES

SECTION E: SPONSOR

1. Does the sponsoring organization specifically exclude any person from its membership or practice any form of discrimination in its function based on race, creed, color, or national origin?

NO

2. Please check the appropriate block to define the sponsoring organization:

☐ Professional, Trade, or Labor

☐ Civic

☐ Public Education or Youth

☐ Federal, State, or Local Government

☐ Charitable

☐ Commercial or Business

☐ Religious

☐ Political

☒ Veterans, military-service related, or auxiliary thereof

☐ Other

3. Sponsor's Representative: (Authorized to complete arrangements for Armed Forces participation at the event and responsible for reimbursing the Treasurer of the United States for accrued expenses when required.)

Name: Arthur H. Wilson, National Service Director, Disabled American Veterans

Address: 807 Maine Ave., SW City, State: Washington, DC 20024

Position with sponsoring organization: National Service Director

Telephone: Office: (202) 554-3501 Home: (301) 262-7014

4. Name of any Armed Forces representative or government official with whom you have discussed possible participation:

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information provided herein is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that representatives of the Military Services will contact me to discuss arrangements and costs involved prior to final commitments.

Date: February 27, 1981 Signature: _____

RETURN THIS FORM TO:

If the event is to be held in the National Capital Area:

The Director for Community Relations
OASD(PA)
Rm 1E-790, The Pentagon
Washington, D. C., 20301

If the event is to be held elsewhere in the United States:

Headquarters of the appropriate
Military Service in Washington D. C.
(see title & address in fact sheet)

OR

The Commander of the nearest
Military Installation to the event

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 22, 1981

Secretary Caspar Weinberger
Secretary of Defense
Department of Defense
Washington, D.C.

Dear Secretary Weinberger:

Enclosed is a request from Mr. Norman B. Hartnett of the Disabled American Veterans for an Armed Services Band at their annual convention, on July 12 in Miami.

The Disabled American Veterans is the third largest veterans group in the country. If it can be arranged, I hope you can provide what they ask.

I hope that this won't be the first DAV convention without an Armed Services Band.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President

DAV



Motto: "If I cannot speak good of my comrade, I will not speak ill of him."

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS

NATIONAL SERVICE and LEGISLATIVE HEADQUARTERS
807 MAINE AVENUE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024
(202) 554-3501

June 15, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant for Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building, Rm. 191
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

This will supplement our recent conversation concerning the participation of an Armed Services Band at our National Convention to be held in Miami, Florida, July 12-16, 1981.

The Department of Defense has traditionally provided, at government expense, the DAV with this type of support at all previous National Conventions, including our Miami Convention in 1976. In February 1981 we formally requested the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense to provide a military band for our Convention (copy attached). This request was acknowledged on March 16, 1981 (copy attached).

It was brought to our attention, during the first week of May 1981, that military bands were not available for the date requested, July 12, 1981. As a result and at the suggestion of the Department of Defense, the Florida Army National Guard was formally requested to support our Convention (copy attached). This request was denied on May 14, 1981 (copy attached).

Since that time we have been attempting to resolve this situation through informal contacts at the Department of Defense. Most recently the Office of Assistant Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs has advised us that the only alternative would be to fly a band to Miami and all expenses incurred would be the responsibility of the Disabled American Veterans.

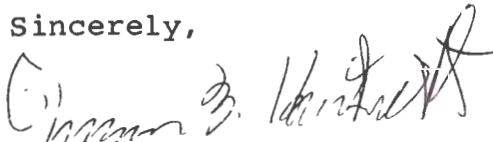
This suggestion is not acceptable to us in view of past participation of military units at our National Conventions. We believe the military should not be reluctant to provide support to an organization whose membership is composed solely of this nation's service-connected disabled veterans.

Mr. Morton Blackwell
June 15, 1981
Page 2

Following your review of the attached information, we are requesting your intervention to assist us in securing a military band for our Convention, specifically for Sunday, July 12, 1981 from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. and 1:15 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

In view of time constraints, expeditious action would certainly be appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Norman B. Hartnett", with a stylized flourish at the end.

NORMAN B. HARTNETT
National Director of Services

NBH:W:ah

DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
NATIONAL SERVICE & LEGISLATIVE HEADQUARTERS
807 MAINE AVENUE, S.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20024

March 6, 1981

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

Dear Mr. President:

On behalf of the 683,000 members of the Disabled American Veterans I extend a cordial invitation to you to attend the National Convention of the Disabled American Veterans and Auxiliary, July 12-16, 1981 in Bal Harbour, Florida.

We would be pleased if you could address the 4,000 delegates and guests at the Joint Opening Session on Sunday afternoon, July 12. However, if that date and time are inconvenient, appropriate accommodations may be made to adjust to your schedule.

Our members -- all of whom are service-connected disabled veterans -- will be extremely interested in your remarks about the future of veterans' benefits and programs administered by federal agencies such as the Veterans Administration, Department of Labor, Social Security Administration and the Office of Personnel Management. They will be particularly interested in any remarks you may make about the VA medical care system especially as to its funding and staffing levels.

The men and women of the Disabled American Veterans and its Auxiliary will be honored by your presence at our National Convention.

Sincerely,

Stan Pealer
STAN PEALER
National Commander

SP:bc

cc: Elizabeth Dole ✓
Special Assistant to the
President - Public Liaison

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 27, 1983

Mr. Thomas F. Marker:
Junior Vice Commander
Chapter 64
Gloucester County, N.J.
Disabled American Veterans
P.O. Box 61
Deptford, NJ 08096

Dear Mr. Marker:

On behalf of the President, I am responding to your letter of May 2, 1983.

The President is a very strong supporter of the national defense and of veterans. During the period you discuss, he attended a memorial ceremony at National Cathedral. He held a ceremony awarding the Medal of Freedom to the founder of Veteran's Day. This White House ceremony was attended by leaders of the major veteran's organizations, including many Vietnam veterans.

The President does have the concerns and interests of veterans close to his heart. It is my hope that when you make lists, you will add his name to the list of those who are always present in spirit, even when they cannot be present in person.

Sincerely,



Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison

Draft
response
pre did attend at National
ceremony at Cathedral
He held a ceremony awarding the
Medal of Freedom to the
founder of Veterans Day
included leaders of all the
major veteran
organizations
MAY 2, 1983

TO MR. RONALD REAGAN -
PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA AND COMMANDER IN CHIEF
OF OUR ARMED FORCES IN WAR AND PEACE.

AS A FORMER MEMBER OF
THE ARMED FORCES DURING WORLD WAR TWO,
YOU MR. PRESIDENT ARE FAMILIAR WITH
THE TRADITIONS AND DISCIPLINE OF THE
ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES.
SECOND ONLY IN TRADITION TO VICTORY
IN BATTLE, IS THE STANDARD FORMATION
AT PRESENT ARMS AND SOLEMN CEREMONY,
TO PAY A LAST SALUTE AND HUMBLE RESPECT
TO OUR COMRADES WHO WERE KILLED IN ACTION.
IN THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, NINETEEN
HUNDRED AND EIGHTY TWO, SUCH A FORMATION
WAS HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C. IN THE
IMMEDIATE AREA OF YOUR HEADQUARTERS.
THIS SOLEMN CEREMONY WAS IN HONOR
OF THE THIRTY FIVE THOUSAND AMERICANS
WHO WERE KILLED IN ACTION IN VIETNAM.
AS A RESULT OF THE ROLL CALL TAKEN
ON THAT DAY, YOU MR. PRESIDENT ARE
NOW LISTED AS "A. W. O. L." OR MEANING

#

THE COMMANDER IN CHIEF IS
"ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE"!

IN VIEW OF THE FACT OF YOUR POSITION
AS THE TOP LEADER IN THE ARMED FORCES,
YOU HAVE, BY SETTING THE WORST POSSIBLE EXAMPLE,
SERIOUSLY WEAKENED THE DISCIPLINE
AND MORALE OF NOT ONLY THE MEN ON
ACTIVE DUTY, BUT HAVE CAUSED A
WAVE OF EXTREME DISAPPOINTMENT
TO THE MILLIONS OF VETERANS IN THE
UNITED STATES. JUST AS EVERYONE
IN THIS COUNTRY HAS A RIGHT TO REPLY
TO ANY AND ALL CHARGES BROUGHT AGAINST
HIM MR. PRESIDENT, YOU ALSO HAVE THE
DUTY AS COMMANDER IN CHIEF TO FULLY
EXPLAIN IN A WRITTEN REPLY TO

CHAPTER No. 64

GLOUCESTER COUNTY, NEW JERSEY
DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS
P.O. Box # 61 DEPTFORD, NEW JERSEY

08096

SINCERELY

MR. THOMAS F. MARKER

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

P.S.

THE MEMBERSHIP WOULD APPRECIATE AN ANSWER
BY JUNE-1ST-1983