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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

SCHEDULE PROPOSAL

December 9, 1981

TO: GREGORY J. NEWELL, DIRECTOR
PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS AND SCHEDULING

FROM: ELIZABETH H. DOLE

REQUEST: The Military Order of the Purple Heart for presentation of the "Peace Officer's" Award to Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy and Officer Thomas K. Delahanty, and to officially name President Reagan as their "Honorary National Commander-in-Chief."

PURPOSE: Recognition of McCarthy, Delahanty, and the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the veterans organization exclusively for combat wounded veterans.

BACKGROUND: The Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first award made available to the common soldier. The Purple Heart was created by General George Washington. The special designation of "Honorary National Commander-in-Chief" is provided for in the Preamble to the Order's Constitution, but they did not choose to give this honor to President Carter.

PREVIOUS PARTICIPATION:

DATE: Open (should coincide with the Legion of Valor award)

LOCATION: Oval Office or Roosevelt Room DURATION: 10 minutes

PARTICIPANTS: Secret Service Agent Timothy J. McCarthy
Officer Thomas Delahanty
Duane T. Brigstock, National Commander
Frank Athanason, Adjutant General

OUTLINE OF EVENTS: President welcomes, presents the awards, accepts the designation of "Honorary Commander-in-Chief," and poses for pictures.

REMARKS REQUIRED: Brief remarks

MEDIA COVERAGE: White House Press Corps photo opportunity

RECOMMENDED BY: Elizabeth H. Dole

OPPOSED BY:

PROJECT OFFICER: Morton Blackwell

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Talked with Mr. Athanasson
and gave him suggestions
as to how to proceed.
He will carbon copy us
on all the letters, then
we can proceed from there
with a schedule proposal
or whatever.

M
6/25/79

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Morton,

Why don't I
call & tell him the best
way to do this is to
write Meese, Weaver &
Baker & copy us on
all three letters. Then
we can proceed from
there

M

OTM
6/24

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

OFFICE OF: Adjutant General

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

5413-B BACKLICK RD. SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22151

(703) 642-5360

(FTS) 389-3953

June 2, 1981

Jerry L. Searles

Mr. Morton Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell,

I want to thank you for attending our CNVA Luncheon and speaking to the group. We welcomed the opportunity to meet you and to get a better understanding of your job. Your attendance was appreciated by all and I am certain that it will prove mutually beneficial.

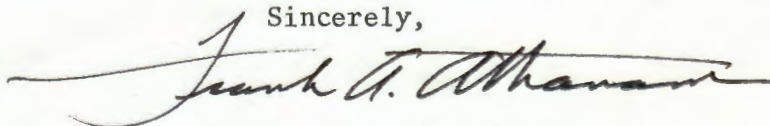
As per your suggestion, I am requesting that arrangements be made for the Military Order of the Purple Heart (M.O.P.H.), to officially name President Reagan as our "Honorary National Commander-in-Chief" as defined in the Preamble to our Order's Constitution. M.O.P.H. did not choose to take similar action with the last President.

If it is agreeable with the President, our National Commander would present the President with the cap of the National Commander-in-Chief and a Life Member card. At the same time, we would like to present our "Peace Officer's" Award (which we give to peace officers wounded in line of duty) to Agent McCarthy and Officer Delahanty. A different, but appropriate award (plaque) would be presented to the President for his wounds.

I would appreciate very much if you could make the arrangements at any time convenient to the President. I could have our National Officers come into Washington on a three or four day warning from you.

Please call me at 642-5360 if you have questions.

Sincerely,



FRANK A. ATHANASON
Adjutant General

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

OFFICE OF: National Service Director

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
5413-B BACKLICK RD. SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22151
(703) 642-5360
(FTE) 389-3953

August 27, 1981

Mr. Morton Blackwell
The White House
Room (191)
Washington, DC 20050

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

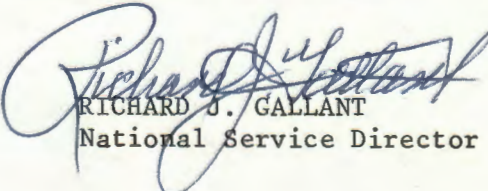
Enclosed is a copy of the telegram sent to President Reagan. You may use its contents as deemed appropriate.

I am looking forward to meeting you again, hopefully, in the not too distant future, to discuss veterans affairs. Two topics that I would like to discuss with you are, the proposed "White House Conference on Veterans Act", and periodic White House briefings for the veterans organizations.

The briefing for veterans organizations could have you as the moderator and representatives of governmental agencies such as OMB, OPM, DOL, H & W, Education, VA, and perhaps a representative from DOD. After each representative has presented their brief, the meeting could then be opened for questions from the attendees.

If I can be of any assistance to you in this area of interest, do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours in Patriotism,


RICHARD J. GALLANT
National Service Director

RJG/d
Enc.

Set
up
appointment
Fri.
Sept. 11
3:30
PM

TELEGRAM

August 25, 1981

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As National Commander of the Military Order of the Purple Heart of the USA, Inc., I am pleased to report to you that on August 18, 1981 when our 49th Annual National Convention, convened in Tucson, Arizona, we passed unanimously the following resolution regarding the aerial engagement between two of our Naval Jets and two Soviet built fighters operated by the Libyan Government.

The resolution: The Military Order of the Purple Heart unanimously supports the action of the two U.S. Naval Jets, attached to the U.S.S. Nimitz, as one of defense and further that we support, unanimously, the decision taken by our Nation under the direction of our President Ronald Reagan.

Duane Brigstock
National Commander
Military Order of the Purple Heart
of the USA, Inc.

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

OFFICE OF:

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
5413-B BACKLICK RD. SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22151

(703) 642-5360

(FTS) 389-3953

September 3, 1981

Dear Morton,

*Please help us in anyway
you can. Our time is running out
and this may be our last shot
at it.*

best regards,

Frank Athanasios

*He will be talking to you
on Friday about what to do
re: the commemorative stamp*

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

OFFICE OF: Adjutant General

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
5413-B BACKLICK RD. SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22151

(703) 642-5360

(FTS) 389-3953

September 3, 1981

The Honorable William F. Bolger
Postmaster General
475 L'Enfant Plaza
Washington, D.C. 20260

Dear General Bolger,

As you know, 1982 will mark the 250th anniversary of George Washington's birthday. It is also the year during which our organization will celebrate the 200th anniversary of the signing of the Order, by George Washington, creating the Badge of Merit (Purple Heart), on August 7, 1782.

On August 7, 1982, we plan to re-enact the signing of that Order at Newburgh, New York, in conjunction with other events planned by the New Windsor Historic Commission.

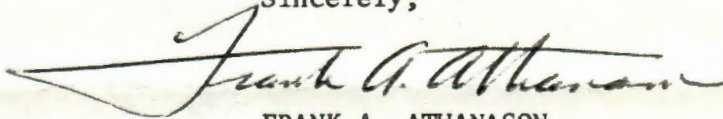
In an effort to have a commemorative stamp issued on the date of our celebration (August 7, 1982), we initiated efforts through the Citizen's Stamp Committee in early 1979. We understood that this would give us ample lead time and that our theme had a very good chance for approval, i.e., an occasion to honor the "combat wounded" of our nation on the 200th anniversary of the first Order establishing the Purple Heart. We have tried through several other sources to gain support. An example, is the enclosed Resolution submitted by the New York State Legislature.

Unfortunately, our efforts and those of others in our behalf, have failed so far and time seems to be running out. I understand that the committee, once again, turned down our proposed stamp in July and may be taking another look at our request on September 11, 1981.

I fully realize that the committee's task is most difficult in making selections among the hundreds of requests that are submitted. However, it is difficult to reconcile how stamps depicting birds, flowers, Savings and Loans, and alcoholism, can be considered better themes than the 200th anniversary of the awarding of the Purple Heart and the honoring of "combat wounded veterans" of WWI, WWII, Korea, and Vietnam.

The membership of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, in behalf of all combat wounded veterans, respectfully asks for your help. We ask that you support us in our effort to have an appropriate commemorative stamp issued on August 7, 1982, at Newburgh, New York. Our time is running out--please assist us in honoring this historical event and those who have shed their blood in the defense of our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Frank A. Athanason". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

FRANK A. ATHANASON
Adjutant General

FAA:he

Copy: Citizens' Stamp Committee

STATE OF NEW YORK

—●—
The Legislature

ALBANY

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION

Senate No. 377

Assembly No. 379

IN SENATE

By Senators Schermerhorn, Berman, Bruno, Daly, Dunne, Flynn, Johnson, Lack, Levy, Mega and Trunzo:

IN ASSEMBLY

By The Committee on Rules (at the request of Messrs. Larkin, Abramson, Behan, Branca, Butler, Cochrane, Mrs. Connelly, Conners, D'Andrea, Finneran, Green, Harenberg, Hinchey, Hoblock, Hochbrueckner, Howard, Kelleher, Kennedy, Kisor, Mrs. Lipschutz, Madison, Morahan, O'Neil, Orazio, Parola, Perone, Mrs. Rettaliata, Robach, Ruggiero, Seminerio, Skelos, Spano, Straniere, Ms. F.M. Sullivan, Talomie, Wertz and Yevoli):

Legislative resolution memorializing the United States Postal Service and the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to issue a stamp honoring the combat wounded veterans and the Military Order of the Purple Heart

Whereas, The Order of the Purple Heart for Military Merit is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first award made available to the common soldier; and

Whereas, The Purple Heart was created by one of the foremost figures in American history, General George Washington in his General Orders of August seventh, seventeen hundred eighty-two issued at Newburgh, New York; and

Whereas, The first recipients of the Purple Heart were Sergeant Elijah Churchill, Sergeant William Brown and Sergeant Daniel Bissell; and

Whereas, The War Department revived the Purple Heart on February twenty-second, nineteen hundred thirty-two after the records had been lost for almost one hundred fifty years; and

Whereas, The Purple Heart is awarded to members of the armed forces who are wounded by an instrument of war in the hands of an enemy and posthumously to the next of kin in the name of those who are killed in action or die of wounds received in action; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That this Legislative Body memorializes the United States Postal Service and the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to issue a commemorative stamp celebrating the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the first awarding of the Purple Heart, August seventh, nineteen hundred eighty-two; and be it further

Resolved, That copies of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the postmaster general of the United States and the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee.



By order of the Senate,

Roger C. Thompson
Roger C. Thompson, Secretary

By order of the Assembly,

Catherine A. Carey
Catherine A. Carey, Clerk

ADOPTED IN SENATE ON
March 25, 1981

ADOPTED IN ASSEMBLY ON
March 23, 1981

June 30, 1982

I welcome the opportunity to extend my greetings and warm regards to members and guests of the Military Order of the Purple Heart as you convene your annual convention.

Throughout this great land, there is a spirit of appreciation for the sacrifices each of you has made in the defense of our country. The Purple Heart, our nation's first military award, recognizes your selfless dedication and the values which have proven to be so important to America for over 200 years.

Nancy joins me in sending our best wishes for a most enjoyable meeting and for continued success in the important work you do.

RONALD REAGAN

Sent via Morton Blackwell's office:

Mr. Frank A. Athanson
Adjutant General
Military Order
of the Purple Heart
5413-B Backlick Road
Springfield, Virginia 22151

RR:Livingston:-

cc: K.Osborne/D.Livingston/M.Blackwell/E.Hickey/CF

DUE: ASAP

EVENT: August 2-7 (New York)

Draft information provided by DOD.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

June 30, 1982

I welcome the opportunity to extend my greetings and warm regards to members and guests of the Military Order of the Purple Heart as you convene your annual convention.

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Nancy joins me in sending our best wishes for a most enjoyable meeting and for continued success in the important work you do.

Ronald Reagan

FROM

**MILITARY ORDER
of the PURPLE HEART**

5413-B Backlick Road
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22151

Message
Reply

DATE: 6/24/82

PRIORITY

- ☐ URGENT!
☐ SOON AS POSSIBLE
☐ NO REPLY NEEDED

FILE NO.

ATTENTION:

Caroline

SUBJECT:

Greetings from President
Photograph of President
For 50th Anniversary of
MOPH.

TO

Went to Doc 6/25 will check
+ call - read by 7/1
Mr. Morton Blackwell

MESSAGE

Please excuse the informality. Attached is a letter to President Reagan and a copy of his greetings last year. We also need a photograph of the President for the magazine.
1982 is the 250th year of General Washington's birth.
200th Year of the inception of the Purple Heart.
50th Year of the Military Order of the Purple Heart.
To address these events and the special sacrifice of the Combat-wounded veterans and the sacrifices of those men

SIGNED:

DATE OF REPLY:

REPLY TO:

REPLY

and women in serving their country is suggested.
The Military Order of the Purple Heart supports our President.
Thank you
SIGNED: Dick Gallant

SENDER: MAIL RECIPIENT WHITE AND PINK SHEETS.

FROM

**MILITARY ORDER
of the PURPLE HEART**
5413-B Backlick Road
SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22151

Message
Reply

DATE:

FILE NO.

ATTENTION:

SUBJECT:

PRIORITY

- ☐ URGENT!
☐ SOON AS POSSIBLE
☐ NO REPLY NEEDED

TO

Carolene -

MESSAGE

We expect several hundred participants, representation from Congress - Federal - and State and local government representatives. Also representatives from other veterans organization. Members of the press - radio, television, newspapers will be in and out during the Convention. At Newburgh, the reenactment of President then General George Washington's signing of the 1st General Order for the Badge of Military Merit now known

SIGNED:

DATE OF REPLY:

REPLY TO:

REPLY

as the Purple Heart is a significant highlight. If the President was there it would be a significant news coverage nationally and an opportunity to send a message to the 30 million veterans and all citizens of this continuing need for a strong defense and the support our nation has always provided to sustain our freedom.

SIGNED:

SENDER: MAIL RECIPIENT WHITE AND PINK SHEETS.

Dick Kellert

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

OFFICE OF: Adjutant General

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

5413-B BACKLICK RD. SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22151

(703) 642-5360

(FTS) 389-3953

May 10, 1982

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

Dear President Reagan,

You are sincerely and cordially invited to participate in the 200th Anniversary recognition of the Purple Heart. This week-long event will take place from August 2-7, 1982, at Albany and Newburgh, New York.

Your presence at either of our Joint Opening, the morning of 3 August, or our Commander's Banquet, the evening of 5 August, at Albany, or our all-day celebration at Newburgh, on 7 August, would be greatly appreciated.

Ceremonies are scheduled on 7 August at the historic site where George Washington signed the order establishing the Badge of Merit (Purple Heart) on August 7, 1782. We have invited Secretary Weinberger to be our speaker on that date and to participate in the "second day" issuance of an embossed envelope honoring the Purple Heart. We plan, also, for the presentation of the Purple Heart to veterans of WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam at the same time.

In the event you are unable to attend any part of our convention, please send us a message to be printed and distributed to our convention delegates.

I would be most happy to work with your staff in providing additional information and making any arrangements that may be required.

Sincerely,

FRANK A. ATHANASON
Adjutant General

FAA:he

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 5, 1981

It is a distinct honor for me to extend greetings and my warmest personal regards to members of the Military Order of the Purple Heart on this your 49th Annual National Convention.

Yours is an organization founded on the legacy of a man who helped lead us to independence and who, as our first President, set an indelible example for those who occupy this office. Thus we share George Washington's tradition and the special regard he had for his comrades and his fellow patriots.

Each of you know in a very personal way how we as a nation have come to earn the freedom and independence we enjoy today. Throughout our history, Americans have risen in defense of our cherished rights to maintain a land in which future generations could be spared war and its terrible consequences.

As you begin your fiftieth year of distinguished public service, please know of my deep esteem for your inspiring example of courage and your continued dedication to American ideals.

You have my best wishes for an enjoyable Convention and good luck in the future.

Ronald Reagan

MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART

AND

LADIES AUXILIARY

50th ANNUAL NATIONAL CONVENTION
THE ALBANY HILTON - ALBANY, NEW YORK
and
NEWBURGH, NEW YORK

OFFICIAL PROGRAM

Monday, August 2, 1982

<u>Event</u>	<u>Time</u>
Finance Committee Meeting	2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Executive Committee (Men)	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Executive Committee (Ladies)	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Registration	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 3, 1982

Joint Opening	9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Business Session (Men)	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Business Session (Ladies)	1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Reception	7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Registration	8:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.
	11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Wednesday, August 4, 1982

PNC-PNP Breakfast	8:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
Business Session (Men)	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Business Session (Ladies)	10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
SPECIAL EVENTS (Race Track and Dinner Theater)	7:00 p.m. -

Thursday, August 5, 1982

Business Session (Men)	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Business Session (Ladies)	9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Service Officer's Meeting	1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
VAVS Meeting	3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Reception	6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.
Banquet	8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

Friday, August 6, 1982

Business Session (ELECTIONS) Men	9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
Business Session (ELECTIONS) Ladies	9:00 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
INSTALLATION (MEN and LADIES)	10:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
Executive Committee Meeting (Men)	11:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Exeuctive Committee Meeting (Ladies)	11:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon
Tours	1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Memorial Service	7:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 7, 1982
(Newburgh)

Depart Hotel by Bus	8:15 a.m.
Arrive Newburgh	10:00 a.m.
Ceremonies at Hapsburgh House (Group will be transported to Cantonment Area)	10:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon
Picnic and Demonstrations	1:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Return Trip to Albany	5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 8, 1982

Finance Committee Meeting	9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.
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Notes:

1. National Headquarters, registration, meetings, and all meal functions will be located on the ballroom level.
2. National Headquarters will be in meeting room 1, hours of operation will be posted.
3. Registration will be held outside of National Headquarters (see times above).

4. Special events for Wednesday evening will include a choice of an evening at the Saratoga Race track with dinner (\$20.00) or at a dinner theater, "Sound of Music," (\$20.00). Those desiring to attend the race track or theater must pay for these events before or during registration. Transportation is included in the cost.

5. Those wishing to take one of the tours offered on Friday afternoon will be given the opportunity to sign up before close of business on Wednesday, August 4, 1982. Time and place for sign up will be announced.

6. Event tickets for 4 and 5 above will be made available on a "first come, first served basis."

7. Location and time for Ladies Tea will be announced.

8. Meeting room assignments will be published in front of National Headquarters.

9. Memorial Service will be held across the street from our hotel at the St. Peter's Church.