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ID #

089049

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

☐ O - OUTGOING☐ H - INTERNAL☒ I - INCOMINGDate Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD)

82107 121

Name of Correspondent: William Brown☒ MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Urges the President to call for a Presidential Task Force, "to provide leadership and guidelines for the actions that already are being proposed to change the way to deal with the morally ill in criminal proceedings & address the broader nation's human issues that are now in public debate."

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>PT. H. Brown</u>	<u>GB</u>	<u>8207122</u>		<u>C</u>	<u>82107121</u>
<u>✓ DQ</u>		<u>8207128</u>		<u>A</u>	<u>8208119</u>

ACTION CODES:

A - Appropriate Action
C - Comment/Recommendation
D - Draft Response
F - Furnish Fact Sheet
to be used as Enclosure

I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
R - Direct Reply w/Copy
S - For Signature
X - Interim Reply

DISPOSITION CODES:

A - Answered
B - Non-Special Referral
C - Completed
S - Suspended

FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

Type of Response = Initials of Signer
Code = "A"
Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: BBAlso SEE ID 084658.

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

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CLASSIFICATION SECTION

No. of Additional Correspondents: 0001 Media: L Individual Codes: 4690 4900

Prime Subject Code: FG258 Secondary Subject Codes: HE 001-04
IL 003
IL 003-01

PRESIDENTIAL REPLY

Code	Date	Comment	Form
C		Time:	P-
DSP		Time:	Media:

SIGNATURE CODES:

CPn - Presidential Correspondence
 n - 0 - Unknown
 n - 1 - Ronald Wilson Reagan
 n - 2 - Ronald Reagan
 n - 3 - Ron
 n - 4 - Dutch
 n - 5 - Ron Reagan
 n - 6 - Ronald
 n - 7 - Ronnie

CLn - First Lady's Correspondence
 n - 0 - Unknown
 n - 1 - Nancy Reagan
 n - 2 - Nancy
 n - 3 - Mrs. Ronald Reagan

CBn - Presidential & First Lady's Correspondence
 n - 1 - Ronald Reagan - Nancy Reagan
 n - 2 - Ron - Nancy

MEDIA CODES:

B - Box/package
 C - Copy
 D - Official document
 G - Message
 H - Handcarried
 L - Letter
 M - Mailgram
 O - Memo
 P - Photo
 R - Report
 S - Sealed
 T - Telegram
 V - Telephone
 X - Miscellaneous
 Y - Study

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

REFERRAL

JULY 28, 1982

TO: DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

ACTION REQUESTED:

DIRECT REPLY, FURNISH INFO COPY

DESCRIPTION OF INCOMING:

ID: 089049

MEDIA: LETTER, DATED JULY 14, 1982

TO: PRESIDENT REAGAN

FROM: MR. WILLIAM BEVAN PH.D.
PRESIDENT
AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
1200 SEVENTEENTH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON DC 20036

SUBJECT: URGES THE PRESIDENT TO CALL FOR A
PRESIDENTIAL TASK FORCE, "TO PROVIDE
LEADERSHIP AND GUIDELINES FOR THE ACTIONS
THAT ALREADY ARE BEING PROPOSED TO CHANGE THE
WAY TO DEAL WITH THE MENTALLY ILL IN
CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS AND TO ADDRESS THE
BROADER NATIONAL AND HUMAN ISSUES THAT ARE
NOW IN PUBLIC DEBATE

PROMPT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL -- IF REQUIRED ACTION HAS NOT BEEN
TAKEN WITHIN 9 WORKING DAYS OF RECEIPT, PLEASE TELEPHONE THE
UNDERSIGNED AT 456-7486.

RETURN CORRESPONDENCE, WORKSHEET AND COPY OF RESPONSE
(OR DRAFT) TO:
AGENCY LIAISON, ROOM 91, THE WHITE HOUSE

SALLY KELLEY
DIRECTOR OF AGENCY LIAISON
PRESIDENTIAL CORRESPONDENCE

82-64
Received
7-28 OLP 19 82
JCR
cf:SJB File: Task Force
RLG re Assembly
TJF Defense

37
American
Psychological
Association

089049

July 14, 1982

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

Dear Mr. President:

We are writing on behalf of the 60,000 psychologists that this Association represents to offer our counsel and knowledge towards working on a problem that has touched you personally, and that has troubled both your family and your friends. Violent acts by the mentally disabled are not nearly as frequent or widespread as many Americans may believe, but they are nonetheless tragic for both the victim and the perpetrator.

The verdict of the jury in the trial of your assailant, John Hinckley, that he was not guilty by reason of insanity has stirred up both public and Congressional emotions. Yet, as real as this emotional outcry is, it should not be permitted to cloud the real problems and issues that were reflected in Hinckley's terrifying acts. This nation needs to work toward addressing those problems and issues -- as your public statements of sympathy for the Hinckley family so profoundly demonstrate.

The facts are that too little is known about how to predict, prevent, or respond to the acts of the criminally insane. It is a continuing problem that few prisons have programs to treat emotional disturbance -- even of the relatively mild sort. Clearly we have a responsibility to the citizens of this nation to do all we can to stop the circle of crime and sickness that dwells within the minds of these individuals.

We join with Thomas C. Binkley, National President of the National Mental Health Association, who wrote to you on June 22 to call for a Presidential Task Force "to provide leadership and guidelines for the actions that already are being proposed to change the way we deal with the mentally ill in criminal proceedings and to address the broader national and human issues that are now in public debate." The growing number of psychologists trained in joint law/psychology programs attest to our discipline's concerns in this area. Our Association has recently authorized a new Division of Psychology and Law to serve as a focus of research and clinical knowledge about the interaction of these two increasingly important professions. In a unanimous vote of our Board of Directors, the APA has established its own Presidential Task Force on the Victims of Crime and Violence, which will serve as a fact-finding and priority-setting group to gather and summarize the expertise of psychology and related disciplines as it may be able to help rebuild lives torn apart by criminal acts.

President Ronald W. Reagan

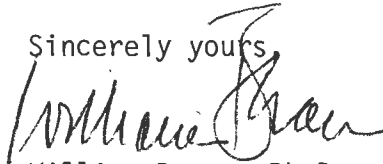
Page Two

July 14, 1982

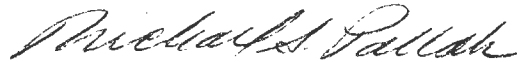
Your support of a national task force to examine and address these troubling issues, which need not involve significant government funds, would both help secure the brightest national minds and ensure a fair hearing of the task force's findings and recommendations.

By this letter we pledge to you our Association's expertise and assistance. We urge you to consider these issues carefully, and to take this action that may in some significant way prevent the national tragedy that focused on you, our President, as its victim.

Sincerely yours,



William Bevan, Ph.D.
President



Michael S. Pallak, Ph.D.
Executive Officer

Assistant Attorney General

Washington, D.C. 20530

August 19, 1982

William Bevan, Ph.D.
President
Michael S. Pallack, Ph.D.
Executive Officer
American Psychological Association
1200 Seventeenth Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

Dear Messrs. Bevan and Pallack:

The President has referred to the Office of Legal Policy your letter of July 14, 1982, in which you join with Mr. Thomas Binkley of the National Mental Health Association to advocate the appointment of a task force to study policies for the treatment of mentally ill persons who commit criminal acts.

We are glad to hear that your organization is actively working on this matter of national concern. However, we do not feel that it is necessary to appoint a task force to study the way our criminal justice system deals with the mentally ill. Such issues have already been carefully considered by the Administration and by criminal justice experts from across the nation. The Administration has endorsed a proposal to limit the insanity defense to those persons who, solely because of mental illness, lacked the state of mind necessary to commit a crime. We have also developed proposals to assure that persons found by a court to be mentally ill will receive needed treatment and supervision whether they were found guilty of the crimes charged or acquitted by reason of insanity.

We believe that our proposals will provide the needed balance between the right of society to protect itself and our concern for the welfare of the mentally ill. These proposals have been the subject of hearings before both houses of Congress, and it is likely that there will be more hearings in the future. The American Psychological Association is encouraged to share its perspectives with the Congress as it considers our proposals.

We agree that we have a long way to go before we will fully understand the causes of and treatments for mental illness. It is the job of health care professionals and researchers such as those in your organization to work to provide us with that understanding. It is the job of Congress to adopt long overdue reforms in the way the criminal justice system treats mentally ill offenders, so that verdicts such as those in the Hinckley trial cannot occur again.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Jonathan C. Rose".

Jonathan C. Rose
Assistant Attorney General