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BY ANNE V. HIGGINS
Folder Title: YA-77 – Children’s Messages re:
Challenger Disaster
Box: 29

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RE: Childrens Messages re Challenger disaster

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 16, 1986 (XXXY77)

7/29/86

Dear Mr. Ortega:

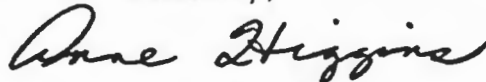
On behalf of President Reagan, I would like to thank you for sharing your thoughts with him about the tragic loss of the CHALLENGER.

When President Reagan received the report of the Commission on the Space Shuttle CHALLENGER Accident on June 9, he told the members of the Commission, "... today we see once again that our true faith as a nation lies in our free and open society. In America we learn from our setbacks as well as our successes. And although the lessons of failure are hard, they are often the most important on the road to progress. We've learned in these past few months that we're frail and fallible, but we have also learned that we have the courage to face our faults and the strength to correct our errors. Because we don't hide our mistakes, we're not condemned to repeat them. Because we're an open society, we have room to grow."

The President believes that the courage of the American people will pull us through the hard places. "We've suffered a tragedy and a setback," he said, "but we'll forge ahead, wiser this time, and undaunted -- as undaunted as the spirit of the CHALLENGER and her seven heroes."

With the best wishes of the President,

Sincerely,



Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

(7/16/86)

Mr. Michael Ortega
Evening Supervisor
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 60
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

AVH/CGM/CAD/AVH

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

anh/cgr/cnh/jk

July 14, 1986

AVHY77

On behalf of President Reagan, I would like to thank you for sharing your thoughts with him about the tragic loss of the CHALLENGER.

When President Reagan received the report of the Commission on the Space Shuttle CHALLENGER Accident on June 9, he told the members of the Commission, ". . . today we see once again that our true faith as a nation lies in our free and open society. In America we learn from our setbacks as well as our successes. And although the lessons of failure are hard, they are often the most important on the road to progress. We've learned in these past few months that we're frail and fallible, but we have also learned that we have the courage to face our faults and the strength to correct our errors. Because we don't hide our mistakes, we're not condemned to repeat them. Because we're an open society, we have room to grow."

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With the best wishes of the President,

CAP:
Aug 77. is in
the computer --
the attached is
a very rough of
what is in there
Text is based on
May 12, 1986 ROTP --
should be sufficient
to handle YATZ also

I didn't want
the robo to
show the attach-
ments because I
won't always
have these photos
but can we
send them out
anyway?

All but 2
can have the
photo -- the
others can have
the Memorium
shells. I have
more of these
too.

ya 77 REVISED

On behalf of President REagan, I would like to thank you for sharing your thoughts with him about the CHALLENGER.

~~While this response~~ We see once again that our true faith as a nation lies in our free and open society. In America, we learn from our setbacks as well as our successes. And although the lessons of failure are hard, they are often the most important on the road to progress. We've learned in these past months that we are frail and fallible. But we have also learned that we have the courage to face our faults and the strength to correct our errors. Because we don't hide our mistakes, we're not condemned to repeat them. Because we're an open society, we have the room to grow. We can count on the courage of the American people to pull us through the hard places. That is why we can look to the future and we will go on just as the crew of the space shuttle CHALLENGER would have wanted us to.

ya 79

On behalf of President Reagan, I would like to thank you for sharing your beautiful

DRAFT/Date _____ SPECIAL DEADLINE _____
[printing, e.g.]

RR/ _____ / _____ DATE OF EVENT _____
[drafter] [Rev.]
(Straight Wire/Telegram)
(Special Delivery/Express Mail)

RE: Childrens messages re Challenger disaster

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 26, 1986 (XXXY77)

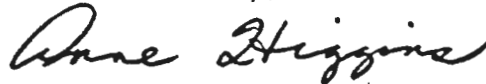
Dear Mr. Ortega:

On behalf of President Reagan, I would like to thank you for sharing your thoughts with him. The President and Mrs. Reagan were deeply saddened by the loss of the seven brave crew members aboard the CHALLENGER and they understand your deep sense of grief.

President Reagan believes that perhaps the best way for you to honor the memory of Christa McAuliffe and the other astronauts would be to work hard in school and in your community so that you can do as Christa always urged her students, "reach for the stars."

I've attached a copy of the President's address to our nation on the day of the shuttle tragedy. The President has asked me to send you his best wishes.

Sincerely,



Anne Higgins
Special Assistant to the President
and Director of Correspondence

(2/26/86)

Mr. Michael Ortega
Evening Supervisor
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 60
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 1/28/86 Address by the President

AVH/CAD/NSC/DC/AVH