

# Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

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*Last Updated: 06/03/2025*

164636

5100

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

DD

774001-02

PROCESSED

December 10, 1981

Dear Cousin Bess:

I've just been reminded of your birthday by Anabel. I hope this arrives by the 15th.

But, whether on time or late, please accept my best wishes on this 47th anniversary of your 39th birthday. Just between us, I've been using that system of counting for some time now. It makes me feel better.

Happy Birthday.

Love,

Ronald

Mrs. Bess Dillon  
Post Office Box 1504  
Estes Park, Colorado 80517

HANDWRITTEN FILE

copy of handwritten  
note to Mrs. Carol T. Wilkinson (Anabel)  
by the President checked

copy of correspondence held. to records  
mgmt. 8/82

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

164636  
11-2-81-02

December 10, 1981

Dear Anabel:

Thanks very much for letting me know about your mother's birthday. I wrote a letter and hope it gets there in time.

Strange how close our paths have come to crossing. We were in Iran in 1978.

Again, thanks, and all the best to you.

Sincerely,

Ron

Mrs. Carl T. Wilkinson  
9010 Landsdowne Drive  
Houston, Texas 77096

RR pens dict.

RR:150

End  
case  
file

12/15  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

TO:

*Greg Newell*

FROM:

MICHAEL K. DEEVER  
Assistant to the President  
Deputy Chief of Staff

- ☐ Information
- ☐ Action

# ORANGE BOWL

*Committee*

P. O. BOX 350748

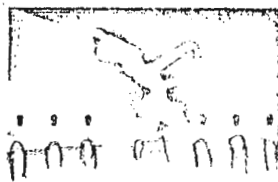
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33135

(305) 642-1515

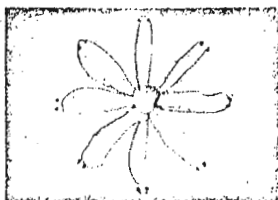
November 24, 198



P A G E A N T R Y



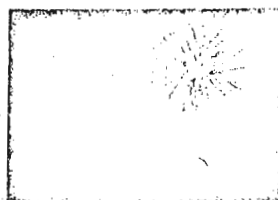
P O M P



B E A U T Y



T H R I L L S



S P E C T A C L E S

Mr. Mike Reagan  
4740 Allott  
Sherman Oakes, Calif. 91423

Dear Mike:

This may be crazy, but as they say, nothing ventured - nothing gained.

I need a favor. This year's Orange Bowl Game pageantry is all patriotic. The Pregame paystribute to the space shuttle program and the Halftime show "Get on Board the U.S.A." is dedicated to the spirit of the nation and its people.

The Halftime is choreographed by June Taylor and features our last shuttle crew, John Fagle and Dick Truly and stars Jack Jones. I am hopeful it will be the best show we've ever done.

There's only one element left that could really make it great, that being a video tape (or even an audio tape) of your dad asking the audience and television viewers to "get on board the U.S.A." with us. Something like: "Tonight, I would like to join all the folks in the Orange Bowl and across this great nation in a re-dedication to the spirit that has made our Country great. Yes, let's all get on board."

I don't know how to best follow thru on this. If there is anyway you can help me, you know how much it will be appreciated.

Love to Coleen and the kids. Florence, Helene, the Judge and Dixie send their love also. Stay well.

Sincerely,

Dan McNamara  
Executive Director

YOUR DEAR OLD UNCLE SAM HAS HAD HIS PROBLEMS HERE OF LATE,  
SOMETIMES IT REALLY TENDS TO GET YOU DOWN.  
THE BUREAUCRAT, THE VOTER AND THE WORRY CANDIDATE,  
ARE SOWING SEEDS OF DISCONTENT IN EVERY STATE AND TOWN.  
WE MOAN AND GROAN AT EVERY TURN,  
THEN MAKE THE NEIGHBORS BUSINESS OUR CONCERN.

THERE'S OPEC AND NARCOTICS, CITY RIOTS, WATERGATE.  
WHEN IT COMES TO ECONOMICS WE HAVE BEEN IN BETTER SHAPE.  
WITH THE WORD ASSASSINATION YOU FEEL DOWN ON ALL CREATION  
AND INFLATION AND POLLUTION WOULD OFFEND THE CONSTITUTION.  
GET ON BOARD AND TAKE A RIDE AND YOU'LL SEE THE OTHER SIDE.

OH WON'T YOU COME ALONG WITH ME THROUGH THIS GREEN AND GROWIN' LAND,  
OVER THE MEADOWS AND THE MOUNTAINS AND THE SAND,  
ALONG THE VALLEYS AND THE RIVERS AND THE PLAINS,  
LOOK TO THE SUN AND LOOK THROUGH THE RAIN.

(TRAIN EFFECTS -- TWO MEASURES)

GET ON BOARD THE U.S.A.

GET ON BOARD THE U.S.A.

GET ON BOARD THE U.S.A.

GET ON BOARD WITHOUT DELAY.

(TRAIN EFFECTS - TWO MEASURES)

SEGUE #1

WE GOT DEDICATION, SPIRIT, AND TENACITY  
FORTITUDE AND SPUNK AND CREATIVITY.  
TRAITS LIKE THESE STAND US APART  
BUT YA GOTTA HAVE COURAGE AND YA GOTTA HAVE HEART.

YOU'VE GOTTA HAVE HEART, ALL YOU REALLY NEED IS HEART  
WHEN THE ODDS ARE SAYING YOU'LL NEVER WIN,  
THAT'S WHEN THE GRIN SHOULD START.  
YOU'VE GOTTA HAVE HOPE, MUSTN'T SIT AROUND AND MOPE.  
NOTHIN'S HALF AS BAD AS IT MAY APPEAR, WAIT'LL NEXT YEAR AND HOPE  
WHEN YOUR LUCK IS BAITIN' ZERO, GET YOUR CHIN UP OFF THE FLOOR.  
MISTER YOU CAN BE A HERO  
YOU CAN OPEN ANY DOOR THERE'S NOTHIN' TO IT, BUT TO DO IT.  
YOU'VE GOTTA HAVE HEART, MILES 'N MILES 'N MILES OF HEART  
OH IT'S FINE TO BE A GENIUS OF COURSE BUT KEEP THAT OLD HORSE BEFORE THE CART.  
FIRST YOU'VE GOTTA HAVE HEART.

SEGUE #2 YOU CAN'T MINCE WORDS, YOU GOTTA TALK STRAIGHT  
WHEN YOU TALK-A-LOVE O' COUNTRY, YOU GOTTA START  
WITH A LOT O' DEDICATION POURIN' FROM YOUR HEART.  
GIVEN WORDS OF LOVE THAT ONLY YOU CAN GIVE  
PUTTIN' PLENTY OF ACCENT ON THE POSITIVE.  
YOU CAN'T MINCE WORDS, YOU GOTTA TALK STRAIGHT.

YOU'VE GOT TO ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE,  
ELIMINATE THE NEGATIVE  
LATCH ON TO THE AFFIRMATIVE,  
DON'T MESS WITH MISTER IN-BETWEEN.  
YOU'VE GOT TO SPREAD JOY UP TO THE MAXIMUM,  
BRING GLOOM DOWN TO THE MINIMUM  
HAVE FAITH, OR PANDEMONIUM'S LIBLE TO WALK UPON THE SCENE.  
TO ILLUSTRATE MY LAST REMARK,  
JONAH IN THE WHALE,  
NOAH IN THE ARK,  
WHAT DID THEY DO, JUST WHEN EV'RYTHING LOOKED SO DARK?  
"MAN", THEY SAID, WE BETTER ACCENTUATE THE POSITIVE,  
ELIMINATE THE NEGATIVE  
LATCH ON TO THE AFFIRMATIVE,  
DON'T MESS WITH MISTER IN-BETWEEN!  
NO! DON'T MESS WITH MISTER IN-BETWEEN!

SEGUE # 3 NOW THERE'S ONE THING FOR CERTAIN WE WOULD LIKE TO SAY  
WE'RE MIGHTY GLAD WE'RE LIVIN' IN THE U. S. A.  
WE'VE GOT SPUNK, HOPE, PERSEVERANCE, CONFIDENCE  
THE WILL TO WIN AT EVERYTHING WE TRY.  
AND THERE'S ONE THING SURE, NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE  
WHEN YOU'RE HOPES ARE REALLY FLYIN' HIGH.

JUST WHAT MAKES THAT LITTLE OL' ANT THINK HE'LL MOVE THAT RUBBER TREE PLANT?  
ANYONE KNOWS AN ANT CAN'T MOVE A RUBBER TREE PLANT.  
BUT HE'S GOT HIGH HOPES, HE'S GOT HIGH HOPES.  
HE'S GOT HIGH APPLE PIE IN THE SKY HOPES.



OOPS! THERE GOES ANOTHER RUBBER TREE,

OOPS! THERE GOES ANOTHER RUBBER TREE,

OOPS! THERE GOES ANOTHER RUBBER TREE PLANT. KERPLOP!!

SEGUE #4

WE'RE ENTERPRISING, SMART 'N TOUGH

WE REALLY GET GOIN' WHEN THINGS ARE ROUGH.

ONCE WE GET STARTED, WE DON'T STOP

STAND UP AMERICA, YOU'RE THE TOP!

YOU'RE THE TOP, YOU'RE THE COLOSSEUM.

YOU'RE THE TOP, YOU'RE THE LOUVR' MUSEUM.

YOU'RE A MELODY FROM A SYMPHONY BY STRAUSS.

YOU'RE A BENDEL DONNET, A SHAKESPEARE SONNET, YOU'RE MICKEY MOUSE

YOU'RE THE NILE, YOU'RE THE TOWER OF PISA,

YOU'RE THE SMILE ON THE MONA LISA.

I'M A WORTHLESS CHECK, A TOTAL WRECK, A FLOP.

BUT IF BABY I'M THE BOTTOM, YOU'RE THE TOP.

SEGUE #5

GET ON BOARD THE U. S. A.!

GET ON BOARD THE U. S. A.!

POSITIVELY, CONFIDENTLY, CERTAINLY WE'RE PROUD.

WHEN WE SING ABOUT OUR COUNTRY, WE LIKE TO SING OUT LOUD.

AMERICA! AMERICA! FOREVER MAY YOU RING!

HERE'S TO YOU OUR COUNTRY, OF THEE WE SING.

OF THEE I SING BABY. SUMMER, AUTUMN, WINTER, SPRING, BABY.

YOU'RE MY SILVER LINING, YOU'RE MY SKY OF BLUE.

THERE'S A LOVE LIGHT SHINING JUST BECAUSE OF YOU.

OF THEE I SING BABY. YOU'HAVE GOT THAT CERTAIN THING BABY.

SHINING STAR AND INSPIRATION, WORTHY OF A MIGHTY NATION

OF THEE I SING.

OF THEE I SING BABY. SUMMER, AUTUMN, WINTER, SPRING, BABY.

YOU'RE BY SILVER LINING, YOU'RE MY SKY OF BLUE.

THERE'S A LOVE LIGHT SHINING JUST BECAUSE OF YOU.

OF THEE I SING BABY. YOU HAVE GOT THAT CERTAIN THING BABY.  
SHINING STAR AND INSPIRATION, WORTHY OF A MIGHTY NATION  
OF THEE I SING.

SEGUE #6 WITH REMARKABLE COURAGE, THE WILL TO SUCCEED  
AND THE FIRM DEDICATION TO FINISH EACH DEED.  
WITH A LOOK TO THE FUTURE, WE'RE ALL A GREAT TEAM  
THAT DARES TO DREAM THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM.

TO DREAM THE IMPOSSIBLE DREAM  
TO FIGHT THE UNBEATABLE FOE.  
TO BEAR WITH UNBEARABLE SORROW.  
TO RUN WHERE THE BRAVE DARE NOT GO  
THIS IS MY QUEST, TO FOLLOW THAT STAR,  
NO MATTER HOW HOPELESS, NO MATTER HOW FAR,  
TO FIGHT FOR THE RIGHT, WITHOUT QUESTION OR PAUSE.  
TO BE WILLING TO MARCH INTO HELL FOR A HEAVENLY CAUSE!  
AND I KNOW IF I'LL ONLY BE TRUE TO THIS GLORIOUS QUEST,  
THAT MY HEART WILL LIE PEACEFUL AND CALM  
WHEN I'M LAID TO MY REST.  
AND THE WORLD WILL BE BETTER FOR THIS,  
THAT ONE MAN, SCORNED AND COVERED WITH SCARS,  
STILL STROVE WITH HIS LAST OUNCE OF COURAGE  
TO REACH THE UNREACHABLE STARS.

HERE IS A LAND FULL OF POWER AND GLORY.  
BEAUTY THAT WORDS CANNOT RECALL.  
OH HER POWER SHALL REST ON THE STRENGTH OF HER FREEDOM.  
HER GLORY SHALL REST US ON ALL.

End  
case  
File

050387

ME001

PR005-02

RECEIVED

Dec 81

U.S. A. 100

12/18/81

*Mr. B. B. B.*

Dear Ron;

Your warm and wonderful letter arrived in time to be read to the audience of our Fifth Telethon. I'm sure you won't mind --- I was so proud. It will now go under glass to impress my progeny.

A short story. When you were campaigning for the presidency, Nell and I, naturally, were intensely interested. Nell had been battling cancer for quite a few years but the ailment played a poor second in importance to your success. And when you won! In over forty-seven years of marriage I had never seen her so uncontrollably bubbling over with jubilation!

And then she relaxed. We had a lovely Christmas with relatives and grandchildren. Then early in January '81, as I sat by her bed, she squeezed my wrist, hard, and left me. The squeeze said everything.

So thank you again, dear Nancy and Ron, not only for accomplishing all you have so far but also for what you will do in the future -- for America and for the world.

And for what you did for Nell. We all must die, but we're not all fortunate enough to leave as content and exalted as Nell was. God bless you both.

Please don't answer -- I already have my Christmas present.

Sincere love from

*Doyl*

End  
case  
File

038949 SC  
FI009

December 3, 1981

Dear Mrs. Rosenstiel:

We have pursued the matter raised in your recent letter with Don Regan, Secretary of the Treasury. He advised me that not only is your suggestion of personal contributions to reduce the public debt a welcomed idea, but it is now being practiced by a number of your fellow citizens. During the past five years the Treasury has received over \$2 million dollars in contributions. These donations to the Public Debt Reduction Fund, which was established in 1961, are deductible as charitable contributions under the Federal tax law.

If you wish to make a donation to the Fund it would be happily accepted by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Thank you for your help and willingness to do a little extra.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

Mrs. Lewis S. Rosenstiel  
1350 West 29 Street  
Miami Beach, FL 33140

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 8, 1981

Dear Mrs. Rosenstiel:

The enclosed letter from the President is in response to your letter of November 2nd to Mrs. Reagan regarding contributions by citizens to reduce the public debt.

After checking into the matter for her, President Reagan decided to reply to you directly.

Sincerely,

Kathy Osborne  
Personal Secretary  
to the President

Mrs. Lewis S. Rosenstiel  
1350 West 29 Street  
Miami Beach, Florida 33140



The President has seen \_\_\_\_\_

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 3, 1981

NOTE FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: Craig L. Fuller *CLF*

Secretary Regan has provided a follow-up to a letter Mrs. Reagan received concerning contributions by citizens to reduce the public debt.

A letter has been drafted for either you or Mrs. Reagan to send.

*Cathy could  
you just put a  
little note attached  
saying this is in  
reference to letter to  
Mrs. Reagan.  
RA*

81-17737

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

November 17, 1981

NOTE FOR SECRETARY REGAN

FROM: CRAIG L. FULLER 

The President wanted you to see the attached letter. Would you please provide him with a brief reaction to the suggested "Citizen's Fund" to repay the national debt.

Attachment

*Mrs. Lewis S. Rosenstiel*

\* *Winter:*  
1350 WEST 29 STREET  
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33140  
(305) 532-3351

*Summer:*  
ROUTE 1, BOX 202  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22901  
(804) 296-1228

November 2, 1981

Mrs. Reagan  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mrs. Reagan:

It was very kind of you to take a moment of your time and talk with me the other day in New York. I was greatly encouraged by your interest in my idea of launching a campaign to create a "Citizen's Fund" to repay the National debt.

Many friends of mine, and myself, applaud President Reagan for his efforts to solve the Country's economic difficulties, and are of the firm opinion that we must take a more active role in this vitally important endeavor. We believe that an enthusiastic drive aimed at repaying the National debt could provide a psychological lift to the Country in this trying time. The willingness of thousands of citizens, who have benefited from our system, to give back to the Country in this hour of need, could be a stimulus in lowering interest rates, thus giving new life to the automobile and housing industries, and other sectors and in general bring about a measure of economic stability that has eluded us for so long.

The creation of the Fund to repay the National debt is an idea whose time has come.

Tax-exempt contributions from individuals, organizations, and other sources could be handled by the Treasury Department personnel with no additional cost to the tax payer. I am confident that the News Media would offer free advertising for such a worthy cause.

*Don R.  
Don't worry  
acknowledged getting  
this letter - telling  
her she'd see that I  
got it etc.  
?.  
Ran*

*Mrs. Lewis S. Rosenstiel*

*Winter:*

1350 WEST 29 STREET  
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33140  
(305) 532-3351

*Summer:*

ROUTE 1, BOX 202  
CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA 22901  
(804) 296-1228

Many of us came here (I came from Poland in 1956) believing in this great Country's freedom and opportunities, and achieved success. Today, we as American citizens, consider it a privilege to help the country we love.

Please accept my heart-felt willingness to participate with my time and effort, and know that I am prepared to be the first to send a sizeable donation as soon as I hear that you will go ahead with the "Citizens' Fund".

I remain at your disposal --

Most sincerely,

*Blanka Rosenstiel*  
Mrs. Lewis S. (Blanka) Rosenstiel

End  
case  
File

285040

H0016-01



# Southwest Investment and Trust

6560 N. Scottsdale Rd. Bldg. J Suite 202  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85253

December 3, 1981

President Ronald Reagan  
Attention: 16991  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ron:

Met with our fellow Ranchero, and your unofficial roving Ambassador, Mike Kelly, last Saturday in Beverly Hills. Sure and it's nice to see you've got all us Irishmen in the fields. Now if you could just convert Tip O'Neil.

People in the street are still upset over the economy. Shouldn't you remind them again in a Christmas message that you didn't do us in? Your program just got going in October, and pound that message home. We've been giving away money we didn't have on programs we didn't need. (The interest alone monthly must be mind-boggling.) That's where our money is going -- to pay interest on loans we didn't need.

Also, it keeps popping up that a public execution of presidential assassins might just detour crazies, or is that just wishful thinking?

You are looking great. Keep taking your vitamins. All our best to Nancy and you two have a very, very Happy Holiday Season.

As always,

Thomas M. O'Brien

TMO'B/jj

*12-10-81 signed & mailed "Dear Tom, s/Ron"*

End  
case  
File



164720

PL 672

**HANDWRITING**

PL 4 198



## National Governors' Association

**Richard A. Snelling**  
Governor of Vermont  
Chairman

December 4, 1981

**Stephen B. Farber**  
Executive Director

*File*

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

Dear Mr. President:

As your first year in the White House draws to a close, I want to express, on behalf of the nation's Governors, continued support for your goals of strengthening both our federal system of government and our national economy. As you noted in a recent interview, the Governors were of significant help to you in both areas this year.

Although we did not obtain as much flexibility to administer federal programs as we (and you) would have liked, and although we did not see eye-to-eye on all budget issues, the numerous meetings we have had with you have been useful and productive from our viewpoint, and I hope from yours. We appreciate the progress that has been made in consolidating grant programs and in streamlining federal regulations, and we want to continue to work with you in pursuing these important objectives.

At the same time, we must report to you that while we continue to support your broad goals, we disagree in some specific areas, as we indicated to you on September 24, on the best means of achieving them. There is strong bipartisan concern among the Governors that further drastic reductions in federal domestic programs cannot be pursued without inflicting additional hardships on those in need. Similarly, while we fully support your goal of strengthening our military defense capability, we also believe that a sound economy, an adequate transportation system, and a well-educated and highly-trained workforce are also essential to our national security.

In accordance with these concerns, our Executive Committee and Standing Committee Chairmen would like to emphasize the following points:

1. To help control federal spending and to provide needed stability in state budgeting, we propose -- as your budget plan of March 10 suggested -- level funding in nonentitlement grant programs in FY 1983 and 1984 with no adjustment for inflation.

2. Pursuant to our sorting out agenda, we propose that any further cuts in discretionary grant programs be accompanied by comparable increases in the federal share of Medicaid and AFDC. We oppose efforts to reduce the federal responsibility for these income security programs.
3. Cuts in entitlement programs to date have been focused disproportionately on those based on need, particularly the state-federal programs, AFDC and Medicaid. As further spending reductions are considered, we believe that defense, indexed entitlements, and tax expenditures must all receive close scrutiny.
4. If the economic recovery program is to succeed, we believe that the nation's public works and capital infrastructure needs must be more effectively addressed. The current impasse over funding for the wastewater treatment construction program for FY 1982 must be resolved immediately.

Finally, because we believe that the potential for cooperation between the federal government and the states has not yet been fully tapped, we propose that your Administration join with us in a domestic summit to develop a consensus for achieving the goals that we share. This summit could involve the bipartisan leadership of the Congress and the National Governors' Association, as well as elected local officials. Its purpose would be to agree on specific goals for reducing the federal deficit and to devise an equitable distribution of resources and responsibilities among the federal, state and local governments.

Under your leadership, I believe that a domestic summit could significantly aid you in developing a consensus on what will be otherwise intensely divisive issues in the years ahead. As such, it will bring the nation tangible benefits in terms of a stronger economy and a more responsive political system. Equally important, it would dramatize, as few other steps could, the depth of your commitment to restoring our federal system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Snelling". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping "S" at the end.

Governor Richard A. Snelling

End  
case  
File

THE EPISCOPAL CHAPLAINCY  
AT THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY

THE REV. DERALD W. STUMP, CHAPLAIN

210  
~~205~~ EISENHOWER CHAPEL  
UNIVERSITY PARK, PA. 16802

11/4/81

My dear Mr. James:

Since we are fellow Lawrenceville Parents, I've taken the liberty of sending, under separate cover, a copy of a biography of Nile Kinnick, the 5<sup>th</sup> Heisman Trophy winner and contemporary in Iowa at the time of President Reagan. I was born in West Moenes & was raised in Van Meter (pop. 600) Bob Teller's home town and I know President Reagan will remember Bob. (In a Cousin of Kinnick and also, through marriage, of Bob Teller).

I will remember "Dutch" Reagan's sports program after school each day. P.T.O.

I think he will enjoy the story of Nile's short but active life (~~he~~ crashed at sea in WW II), since it mentions so many people "Dutch" will remember from the Les Moines days.

Mr. Kinnick Sr. is still living and very spry 84! He seems about 50. My sister, who lives near us, dated a T.K.E. (Pres. Reagan's fraternity, I believe) and recalls dancing with him at the T.K.E. house at Drake University. I trust you will see that the President receives the book. And I hope you don't mind this gratuitous request.

Most cordially,  
(The Rev.) Gerald A. Stump

051369  
GI002  
PR005-02

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 4, 1981

Dear Reverend Stump:

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your Nile Kinnick biography. I'm looking forward to reading it and have it bedside.

I've long been an admirer of someone who truly was an extraordinary young man. I recall the Notre Dame coach declaring there should be a rule against his playing, "because he was more than a player -- he was a coach".

Pen James showed me your letter and it brought on a wave of nostalgia. I recall going to a TKE party at Drake. And, yes, I know Bob Feller and was there when he was discovered by the Cleveland Indians.

Again, my heartfelt thanks.

Sincerely,

*Ronald Reagan*

The Reverend Dr. D. W. Stump  
The Episcopal Ministry  
At The Pennsylvania State University  
210 Eisenhower Chapel  
University Park, Pennsylvania 16802

RR pers. dict.  
RR:Kb

**HANDWRITING FILE**

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

Dec. 4

Dear Rev. Stump

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of your Bill Kinnick biography. I'm looking forward to reading it ~~to the~~ and have it bedside.

I've ~~been~~ long been an admirer of someone who truly was an extraordinary young man. I recall the Notre Dame coach declaring there should be a rule against his playing, because he was more than a player he was a coach."

Pen James showed me your letter and it brought on a wave of nostalgia. I recall going to a TKE party at Drake. And yes I know Bob Feller and was there when he was dismissed by the Cleveland Indians.

Again my heartfelt thanks.

Sincerely

RR



End  
case  
File

FINANCIAL WORLD

ALFRED H. KINGON

*Editor-in-Chief*

November 25, 1981

The President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I thought you would like to see the "before" and "after" of the editorial we discussed. I remain, as ever, ready to oblige you and your Administration in any way that I can.

With very best wishes.

Sincerely,



AHK/lh  
Enc.

Dear Al

Thank you very much for sending the before & after editorials. But most of all thanks for your willingness to make the change. It was more than kind of you and I'm in your debt.

Have a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Best Regards  
Ron

Dg

048087  
4620  
PU  
PR16  
PR005-00

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 4, 1981

Dear Al:

Thank you very much for sending the before  
and after editorials, but most of all thanks  
for your willingness to make the change. It  
was more than kind of you, and I'm in your  
debt.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Best regards,

Ron

X  
Mr. Alfred H. Kingon  
Editor-in-Chief  
X Financial World  
150 East 58th Street  
New York, New York 10155

11204

End  
case  
File

12-4-81 Central File  
MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

To Mr. Bill Bliss  
444 East 57<sup>th</sup> St.  
N.Y. - N.Y. 10022

Dear Bill

Thank you very much for that handsome & practical coat. It is the first time in my life I've ever found myself looking forward to a ~~bad~~ blizzard.

You were more than kind to provide us with such a wonderful "his & her's" outfit.

Thanks again Sincerely  
Ran

Dg



051370

4000

GI002

December 4, 1981

Dear Bill:

Thank you very much for that handsome and practical coat. It is the first time in my life I've ever found myself looking forward to a blizzard.

You were more than kind to provide us with such wonderful "his and her's" outfits.

Thanks again.

Sincerely, *Ra*

x

Mr. Bill Blass  
444 East 57th Street  
New York, New York 10022

051370

End  
case  
File



04713055  
WE007

811204

Dear Mr. Kilroy:

Thank you for the opportunity to clarify the situation regarding Railroad Retirement benefits.

Since October 1, the Railroad Retirement Board has been paying benefits to recipients based on funding levels provided for under the Omnibus Reconciliation Act. In addition to the industry-financed benefits, the Social Security-equivalent benefit has continued to be paid, since neither of these benefits is subject to the appropriations process.

The appropriations process has, however, affected our ability to pay the Treasury-financed portion of Railroad Retirement benefits. In October and November, we made payments to retirees based on the \$350 million annual level of benefits provided in Reconciliation. The November 20 expiration date of the first stop-gap funding resolution left us unable to process these so-called "windfall benefits" as part of the December pension checks. The extension of the resolution, however, has resolved this problem. In addition to receiving the full Treasury-financed benefit for January, eligible beneficiaries will receive a catch-up payment to compensate them for the reduction in their December benefit check. This catch-up payment will not be reduced by 12%, or in any other way.

As soon as a full-year appropriation is available, we will make whatever adjustment is necessary to ensure that railroad retirees receive the full level of benefits provided by the Congress for this fiscal year. If the appropriation provides funding in excess of the \$350 million level for the Treasury-financed portion of benefits, further catch-up increases will be provided. You can be sure that I will do whatever is necessary to ensure that railroad retirees receive the full amount they are due.



Thank you again for the opportunity to set the record straight. I am pleased that you called this matter to my attention. I hope you will continue to let me know of your concerns in the months and years ahead.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

Mr. R. I. Kilroy  
International President  
Brotherhood of Railway, Airline and  
Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers,  
Express and Station Employees  
Fifth Floor  
815 16th Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20006

**WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM**

DATE: 12/3/81 ACTION/CONCURRENCE/COMMENT DUE BY: TOMORROW  
 SUBJECT: Letter from R. I. Kilroy of Railway Union re: Social Security

	ACTION	FYI		ACTION	FYI
VICE PRESIDENT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JAMES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEESE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	JENKINS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BAKER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MURPHY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DEAVER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NOFZIGER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
STOCKMAN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WILLIAMSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ALLEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	WEIDENBAUM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ANDERSON	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	HICKEY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
BRADY/SPEAKES	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	MC COY	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CANZERI	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CEQ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DOLE	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OSTP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FIELDING	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRIEDERSDORF	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	ROGERS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
FULLER (For Cabinet)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	DON MORAN, OMB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GERGEN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HARPER	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Remarks:

Don, would you please have an appropriate -- positive, responsive -- response prepared for the President's signature ASAP. I gather from Dave Stockman that there is in fact no basis for the concern expressed in paragraph 2. At a minimum the letter should be reassuring on this point.

Having "opened doors" with labor this week, it would be nice to have a response back tomorrow.

Thank you.

Richard G. Darman  
 Assistant to the President  
 and  
 Deputy to the Chief of Staff  
 (x-2702)

**BROTHERHOOD OF RAILWAY, AIRLINE AND STEAMSHIP CLERKS,  
FREIGHT HANDLERS, EXPRESS AND STATION EMPLOYEES**

**AFL-CIO — CLC**



*J. D. Darmin*

R. I. KILROY,  
International President

December 2, 1981

*This was handed to me  
by Pres. Kilroy's  
What is this situation?  
RR*

The President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

On Tuesday, December 1, 1981, some 400,000 railroad retirees who had earned a Social Security benefit, and under normal conditions and expectations, would have received benefit checks, did not. Total elimination of a Social Security benefit, if only for a short period of time and three weeks before Christmas, is both inhumane and violates the spirit and intent of the Railroad Retirement Act. The actions occurring in December precede reductions of 21% in October and November benefit checks.

While there are plans to make supplemental payments sometime in December, those benefits should not be reduced by 12%, or any other amount.

My main purpose in bringing this to your attention is to pinpoint how individuals having earned a Social Security benefit become victims of the budget process. For more than five years, over our objections, OMB has requested and Congress appropriated less than is necessary to pay dual benefits as were arranged through 1974 amendments to the Act. As the 1982 Budget was reconciled and fiscal 1982 began, dual benefit payments were reduced by an average amount of \$20 - \$30 per month.

While I'm sure the denial of Social Security benefits to railroad retirees is sufficient to bring to your attention, I also refer to your November 16, 1981 memo to agency heads requesting "consideration to organized labor's interests and concerns." Four hundred thousand retirees are concerned that their benefits are being reduced and eliminated.

It is also necessary to point out that dual benefits, while arbitrarily treated as a budget item, are, in reality, benefits

The President

- 2 -

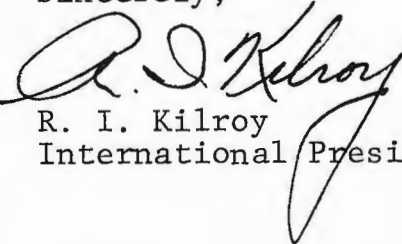
December 2, 1981

earned under the Social Security system, a fact entitling the beneficiaries to those benefits.

Finally, in requesting restoration of full treasury funding to pay dual Social Security benefits, I would like to point out that they were never unintended, historical mistakes. The federal government, including Congress and the executive branch, created both systems to which 400,000 rail workers contributed and are now vested. Retirees should be treated as humans, removed from the budget/appropriations process.

I would appreciate your immediate consideration of the problem and help in rectifying it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. I. Kilroy". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

R. I. Kilroy  
International President

### **Open Letter to Reagan**

*Editor's Note: The letter which follows was sent as an 'open letter to Ronald Reagan':*

I am 81 and still active. I have to buy gas to get to the doctor's office and to the stores and take my 15-year old granddaughter to school activities. My wife was ill last November. That cost about \$15,000.

Social Security and Medicare deductions are increasing all the time. Doctors raise fees that take more out of pensions. The allowable charges from Medicare do not change, making a larger spread between what is billed to us and what Medicare pays. This means we must pay more from our pension checks. Now you want to cut our benefits still further . . .

We older citizens paid into the social insurance fund and were happy for it. We have stood up and been counted in war or peace. Now, when we need the help of our country, we are let down by greedy politicians and live our last days in fear instead of sharing in some of the better things of life we have earned.

Otis W. Hern  
Santee, California

End  
Case  
File