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Last Updated: 06/13/2025

061941
PR003

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 1, 1982

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Carney:

President Reagan has handed me your letter of January 27th for further response.

Unfortunately, we can't duplicate the communicating skills of the President, but we do have approximately 250 appointees who regularly accept speaking engagements around the country for the purpose of promoting the President's programs. In addition, we call on individuals outside of government to speak for us who are, like yourself, loyal to the President and his programs. This program is run by the White House Speaker's Bureau, which is also responsible for seeing to it that, as you suggested, we are all singing out of the same hymn book. The Bureau prepares speakers kits like the one attached and provides White House briefings for speakers on the programs we want them to promote. I hope that the information will be of some help to you when considering speakers for various functions.

Please feel free to contact Miss Judy Pond, Director of the White House Speaker's Bureau, for any assistance you may need.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. and Mrs. Otis Carney
Circle A Ranch
Paicines, CA 95043

February 23, 1982

Dear Otis and Teddy:

How wonderful it was to get your good letter and, I can tell you, you warmed Nancy's heart. She's been taking what I told the press one day was a "bum rap." There has been a concerted effort to build a false image of both of us, but using her as the means to bring that about.

Actually, she has brought to Washington some causes that were very close to her heart when I was Governor -- the Foster Grandparent Program and drug addiction among our young people. She just returned from a back-breaking trip in Florida and Texas on the drug problem, and literally has promoted the other program into a national effort from its humble beginning in California. So, you can rest assured, you made her feel very good.

You also made me feel very good with your kind words about what we're trying to do. Otis, we have a couple of hundred people here who are part of government who get out on the mashed potato circuit every once in awhile and do the speaking bit. But, you're right, there could be many more, and I'm going to pass your idea on here to our people. I know how effective you could be.

We really need some educating to counter the economic illiteracy that is being spawned every day by the opposition here in the capital. I get so sick of hearing that our plan has failed, when the first phase of it only went into effect in October, and there are continual phases coming up in this year and next. Ironically, the only thing they offer as an alternative to our as yet untried plan, is more of what they've been doing for the last thirty or forty years -- all of which has failed.

Well, as I say, I am going to pass your good words on, and I hope they will bear fruit.

Nancy sends her love, and a big thank you from both of us.

Sincerely,

Mr. Otis Carney
Circle A Ranch
Paicines, California 95043

RR:AVH:pps

RR Dictation

After dinner
give this to Mike
RR

Mr. Otis Carney
Circle A Ranch Paicines Calif.

27 January 1982

95043

Dear Ron and Nancy,

What a great speech last night! As a neighboring rancher said: "That man can sell himself better than anybody in the world...and he even does it without notes!" So congratulations, keep doing it with mirrors of whatever, but so far, in the green hills north of your ranch, the guys with mud on their boots are all rooting for you.

And we miss you out here, Teddy and me. I'm sure there are many times you'd rather be splitting logs at the Cielo than that buzzsaw back there. But thank God you are there, for the country's sake.

Forgive me a couple of thoughts. Though we're way out in the chamiso hills, I saturate in enough media and my own writing to be ticked off at some of the treatment you get from the press, Nancy. The fashion routine does not square with the superb wife and wonderful gal I've known all these years. And where they make it smart, the press, is that they wrap it in a "let 'em eat cake"-Reagan for the Rich routine that is not only tiresome old class-struggle baloney, but is a disservice to the authentic and dedicated people you are.

To make it worse, in the necessary economic belt-tightening, the moron can latch upon this kind of drivel as another reason to oppose your programs.

So how do we stop it? I know, Nancy, that your PR people must be aware of this, and one would hope that they're countering it by less visible coturier-presence and more...what? I don't mean stunts here, because someone as genuine as you knows that your main role is to be the best wife you can---and are---to the man with the world's most taxing job. But in your time left over, can there be tasteful initiatives by you that will seem, and you genuinely will feel, are in the best interests of the nation? I know these are tricky, but Ladybird Johnson, I think, hit on a good one in beautifying the landscape. Nobody can be against that! (except maybe the outdoor ad folks.) Anyhow, it's something to think about, and it's said in love.

Second, in my sagebrush opinion, Ron, you're the last best hope we've got. This country makes it under you, you turn it around, or in the great mythological media hall of mirrors in which we live, the pressures are such that the next turnaround we make will go way, way left. Because they'll say: see, you guys had your chance. Now we re-open the floodgates and let the kooks and the money-throwers fertilize the land again.

I happen to think your chance will work. You'll make it work, because your courage in sticking to your economic guns (even over the advice of counsel) is your finest hour so far. The feeling I get is that the people are with you, at least those that put you in office. Your immediate problem is to get those people to pressure the Congress to keep your program intact.

Now, you're the greatest salesman of all for what you're doing, and I'm pleased that you'll be taking your New Federalism case direct to the governors and state legislatures. I'm sure that your Cabinet will also be fanning out to hit their licks for the votes.

But Ron, it's a helluva big country, and there's a lot of people meeting every day from the lowest Rotary at the Holiday Inn, to the Attic or the Cloud Club. Unfortunately, they don't get you to bend their ear. They don't often get a Cabinet officer, or anybody else direct from the horse's mouth. //

So again, could we make carbon copies of you? Could this be done by some of us who respect you and want your program to pass Congress without emasculation? I'm talking simple person to group contacts. Speech-making, question and answer sessions: an OVERVIEW projection out to these people from Washington, and their concerns, their suggestions coming back to Washington.

I know many people, little or big, who never take time to write. They really don't think they count. But they do count to you, and for accomplishing your vital mission for the country. So why not go out and reach 'em'.

I don't know government-ese or mechanisms. But why not, on some consultin; basis, set up a small group of carbon copies of yourself? People who had the expertise, stature to be able to go out to any kind of group and give a personal sell on your program, with the end product being: those people who listen write their congressmen, get the show on the road. Not only will such and such group be immensely flattered that somebody comes to them from the marble halls, but I suspect that the input some of these people will give, on an OVERVIEW basis---not Democrat, not Republican---but rising above party for the good of the nation---I suspect that you might hear some sound ideas out of the land---and some I doubt you'd get through your normal channels.

I note with interest that Bill Buckley is now on a council of yours. Bill would be excellent at this. So would others. In that number I would be preposterous enough to volunteer eagerly. Any of the speakers would of course have to have detailed briefings from your staff. Possibly too, a central speech theme ought to be approved, so nobody got off base or caused embarrassment. Beyond that, it would be people to people salesmanship of your programs, giving the Word and hopefully taking back some from the public.

Amen. We want to help you in any way we can. Nancy, I've addressed this to you, because Bunny Wrather suggested it might get thru the radar better that way! Anyway, we love you both, we thank you and we pray for you.

As ever,

Otis

P.S. Things are rough in the San Benito mountains---still don't have any ranch stationery. In case you didn't have the address (though your last kind letter got here...

Otis Carney
Circle A Ranch

End
case
File

064184
GI 002

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 4, 1982

Dear Councilman Rossberg:

Thank you very much for the picture and frame. I'm delighted to have it.

Thanks too for your generous words of support. You are very kind.

Please give my regards to Mrs. Rossberg and again thanks.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Ronald Reagan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

The Honorable Dick Rossberg
Councilman
City of Torrance
3031 Torrance Boulevard
Torrance, California 90503

Dear Councilman

Thank you very much for the picture & frame. I'm delighted to have it.

Thanks too for your generous words of support. You are very kind.

Please give my regards to Mrs. Rosenberg and again thanks.

Sincerely

RR



From the desk of
DICK ROSSBERG, Councilman

March 2, 1982

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

My wife and I have long been ardent admirers of you and Mrs. Reagan. I deeply appreciate what you are doing for our country and what you did for the State of California.

Thank you for providing the strong and moral leadership that our country needs.

We want you to know that we support you totally.

God bless you!

Respectfully,

Dick Rossberg
Dick Rossberg
Councilman

DR:cg

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End
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HANDWRITING

Mar. 1982



To Walter
With Best Wishes
Renele R...

President
Long tough!

Sen. Well...

End
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PR007-01

No date / File Mar 82

067204
PR 007-01

Man in
school chair

HOUSTON M. BURNSIDE, JR.

at Refers, Law
reception

2548 LEDGEVIEW PLACE
RANCHO SAN DIEGO, CA 92078

714-697-1219

HANDWRITING FILE

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ENCLOSURE FILE

Thar 82



March eighteenth

Alfred
12

Dear Very Special Friends,

Your beautiful basket of flowers - a magnificent arrangement of white gladiolas, huge white chrysanthemums and red carnations - was always at George's side throughout his memorial services. They lifted our sad hearts and I thank you both sincerely.

Later, when his award as "Giant in our City" was celebrated, your heartwarming words were a very compassionate and meaningful gift for me. I thank you both for your great homage to George. I am sure he would be honored that you gave him consideration in every way. The hundreds of listeners attending that tremendous program were extremely impressed, as I was, by your tribute.

I am the proud possessor of a video tape which I have shown to dozens of friends in Palm Desert who missed the award dinner. I am taking it to my former home in Houston to

show to old friends there.

Words cannot express the gratitude I feel
for your voicing so splendidly your friendship
and admiration for George.

May you both find happiness and success
in the awesome tasks ahead of you.

With affection and admiration,

Lolie

Eccles
Eccles

End
case
File

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PROH

2465 DUTING FILE

Mar 5 89

SPENCER F. ECCLES
79 SOUTH MAIN ST. P.O. BOX 30006
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84125

March 5, 1982

Handwritten: The Nelson
82

Dear President Reagan:

To follow up a most successful "Giant In Our City" presentation to George Eccles, I'm enclosing a copy of the program and clippings from the local press.

It was a touching and fitting memorial to an exceptional man; and, as I expected, your message at the end of the video presentation was a moving climax to the story of George's life. The audience was most impressed.

Again, thank you sincerely for your kind willingness to enhance the award to George with your personal tribute.

Best regards,

Spencer

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

Enclosures

Thousands Honor City Giant

By Robert H. Woody
Tribune Business Editor

"Our unequalled progress can be traced back to men and women of enterprise and foresight, and George Eccles stood tall among them."

—President Ronald Reagan.

George S. Eccles is dead. But man and spirit were praised not only by friends and the U.S. president, but celebrated by a thousand citizens Tuesday night.

The occasion: The "Giant in Our City" award banquet of the Salt Lake Area Chamber of Commerce at the Hotel Utah. He would have enjoyed it. It was in his patrician style — black tie, reception, a symphony consort, roast veal.

But he died Jan. 20 of heart complications after a half year battle against cancer. He was 81.

He had been picked for the honor two months earlier, according to selection committee chairman John Dahlstrom.

After all, even if he hadn't been able to come to the office, he had been working, writing letters and a book with typical energy right up until days before his death.

But if affection and respect of friends, associates and acquaintances are any measure, he was very much alive Tuesday night.

He was above all a banker, the

See Page B-13, Column 6

The Salt Lake Tribune, February 24, 1982 B-1

George S. Eccles Honored as Giant

Continued From Page B-1

chairman and chief executive officer of First Security Corp., Salt Lake City-based regional bankholding company.

But he also was so much more, as a profile of videotaped recollections indicated.

Sports writer Hack Miller: "He could have been the Johnny Miller of his time in golf, the Dick Durrance in ski racing, the Alf Engen in jumping, the McMahon in football, the Cap Thompson in basketball, Dave Freed in tennis. . . . But he became the world's best banker."

Salt Lake lawyer S. Joseph Quinney: "I often wondered why George did not become a lawyer. . . . his decision (to follow a banking career) left my profession the loser."

Comptroller of the Currency Todd Conover: "First Security (in 1956) soon became a model on how to manage and organize a multi-bank holding company with banks in several different states."

Senate Banking Committee chairman and Utah Republican Sen. Jake Garn: "Every place I have gone throughout international financial circles all over this world, people would ask me, 'Do you know George Eccles?'"

'Going to Miss Him'

Idaho industrialist J. R. Simplot: "I want to give George Eccles and the First Security Bank a lot of credit for my success. He is a great guy and the West is going to miss him."

Union Pacific Corp. chairman James Evans: "He (a UP director) was part of all our planning and all of our thinking for the future. More than that, he was a great personal friend. We love him. We always shall."

U.S. Vice President George Bush, a former

associate on the board of Texasgulf Inc.: "A star of the world of finance, humanitarian, and a friend. . . . I just felt richer and better and stronger every time I saw him."

Robert H. Hinckley, lifelong friend and participant in the Marshall Plan to put Europe back on its feet after World War II: "I had him go with me as an observer and adviser. . . . the best thing I ever did. . . . he immediately became involved and became the business spokesman for the Marshall Plan. George was convinced there were no boundaries to economic action."

'An Oak of a Man'

Retired Utah Symphony director Maurice Aronson: "An oak of a man. . . . We will always be grateful for his generosity and commitment to the arts."

William Christensen, founder and retired artist director of Ballet West: "I rented a ballet studio on the second floor of the old First Security Building and he claimed I tap-danced over his desk. . . . I do know the effect it had on the financial career, but the humor was very, very good. . . . Ballet West now an outstanding organization, and it wouldn't have been possible if it hadn't been for a person like George Eccles and the support of his wife, Lolie, who remains on our board."

Dr. John A. Dixon, former dean of the University of Utah Medical Center: "I think that patients in the area, the medical profession and particularly medical education are deeply indebted to George Eccles and Lolie for their contributions here."

Utah State University president Dr. Stanford Cazier: "He gave generously in helping to construct the Business Building and also underwriting significant lecture series for important decision makers in the world of business and industry."

'Feeling for Public Interest'

Federal Reserve chairman Paul Volcker: "He always struck me as a banker, who, while doing a very solid job as a private businessman, was knowledgeable about banking and financial markets, always had a feeling for the public interests as well."

Economist Milton Friedman who included George Eccles in his public television series, "Free to Choose": "He was a remarkable man, and I join in honoring his memory."

In the finale, the "Giant" award was presented to his widow, Delores, and his nephew and successor chairman, Spencer F. Eccles.

The "Giant" award was begun in 1970 with its first presentation to retired Mountain Bell executive Eric Aaberg.

Only Sixth Award

It is not given as a yearly ritual, however, but rather upon the merits of those selected. John Dahlstrom explained. Since its inception, only six awards have been made. The others were to Clarer Bamberger, E.M. Naughton, Mr. and Mrs. John Wallace, N. Eldon Tanner and John W. Gallivan.

Mr. Eccles' is the first award given posthumously.

Thursday, February 25, 1982

Leaders pay tribute to George S. Eccles

By Max B. Knudson

Deseret News business editor

It's unlikely that anyone who has lived in Utah very long would contest that the late George S. Eccles was a "Giant In Our City" — the appellation awarded him posthumously Tuesday night by the Salt Lake Area Chamber of Commerce.

But if any of the 900 persons in attendance at Hotel Utah for the banquet honoring the former chairman and chief executive of First Security Corp., had harbored doubts about Eccles' greatness, they were erased forever by a videotaped memoir of the banker's life and testimonials by 35 business and political leaders who paid him tribute.

Vice President George Bush, economist Milton Friedman, Federal Reserve Chairman Paul Volcker and dozens more paid homage to Eccles, who died Jan. 20. But the best was saved for last,

President Reagan:

"In my inaugural address and more lately in the State of the Union, I spoke of heroes all around us," said the president in his videotaped remarks.

"Tonight you honor George Eccles, truly a hero of American enterprise." Reagan noted that Eccles used his business expertise not only to build a financial empire, but to help build a strong American economy.

"He was instrumental, for example, in the formation of the International Monetary Conference. During his lifetime, he was always willing to lend his talents to make his community and country a better place to live.

"I knew George and Lolie (Mrs. Eccles) as good people, and good friends . . . his insights into the world of business and finance were a great asset to

See LEADERS on B-2



John A. Dahlstrom presents the "Giant in Our City" plaque to Mrs. George S. Eccles at banquet honoring her late husband.

Leaders pay tribute

Continued from B-1

me. Especially after assuming my current job.

"George wrote me several times during my first year as president. He was always highly supportive of our efforts to revitalize the American economy. His last letter, written from his hospital bed, was dated Dec. 22, 1981. On Jan. 20, the first anniversary of my inauguration, George passed away. But his legacy lives on."

Live comments were heard from Lt. Gov. David S. Monson and Salt Lake Mayor Ted Wilson.

The Chamber's "Giant in Our City" plaque, outlining some of Eccles' accomplishments during his long career, was presented to Mrs. Eccles by John A. Dahlstrom, chairman of the Chamber's "Giant In Our City" committee. She responded as did Spencer F. Eccles, George's nephew and the man who now heads the statewide bank holding company.

George Eccles was born April 9, 1900, in Baker, Ore., son of pioneer financier David Eccles and Ellen Stoddard Eccles. His early years were spent in Logan where he attended Utah State University, and later the University of California and Columbia University School of Business.

Following his graduation, Eccles was named assistant cashier of the Eccles/Browning-owned First National Bank of Ogden. In 1928, the organization became the First Security Corp. He became executive vice president in 1931.

From 1945 until his death, Eccles held primary responsibility for the direction of First Security's affairs as president and general manager and subsequently as chairman and chief executive officer.

As Reagan concluded in his taped remarks: "Proverbs 13:22 tells us, 'A good man leaves an inheritance to his children's children.' Well, George was indeed a good man, and our children's children will be richer for it."

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March 8, 1982

Miss Margaret Tutwiler
3032 Cherokee Road
Birmingham, Alabama 35223

Nancy and I extend our deepest sympathy on the great loss you have suffered. We know there are no words to make your burden easier to bear, but at times like this we must believe in God's infinite wisdom and mercy and seek His comfort. Time will heal, the pain will lessen, and you'll have memories that will grow warmer with the years. Those of us who care can only stand by, share some measure of your sorrow, and pray for that healing ~~To~~ come. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your family,

RONALD REAGAN

Anne Higgins
456-7610

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Mr. President:

For your information, Margaret Tutwiler, Jim Bakers's Executive Assistant, lost both of her parents last week. She was with her mother because she was dying of cancer and wanted to spend her last few weeks with her. Very unexpectedly, her father died of a heart attack while she was there, then her mother died of cancer a few days later. We sent the attached telegram from you on Monday.

Kathy

*Thanks very much
RC*

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THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 8, 1982

Dear Mr. Eccles:

Thank you for devoting some of your time and energy, in spite of your current physical condition, to share your thoughts with me on ways to improve our nation's well-being. I very much appreciate your concern for these problems.

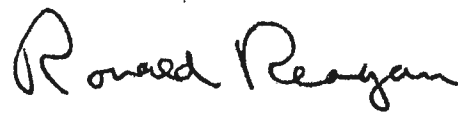
In this regard I know the problems confronting us economically may appear to be worsening, but these are problems resulting from many years of past actions. We cannot expect a dramatic reversal overnight from trends accumulating for many years. However, we are continuing our carefully designed plan for economic recovery, based on continued reduction of the growth of Federal spending; preserving the individual and business tax reductions to stimulate saving, investment and work effort; removing unnecessary Federal regulations that impede productivity; maintaining a sound currency; and eventually bringing the budget into balance at lower levels of taxing and spending.

Like you, there are those who see selected tax increases or deferral of individual and business tax reductions as a quicker and more assured way to curb inflation and balance the budget. I share your concern about the size of projected deficits. However, these deficits are largely a result -- not a cause -- of the current recession and of more rapid than expected progress in reducing inflation. Moreover, the current deficits -- unfortunate as they are -- should be kept in perspective. The deficit today is much smaller as a percentage of GNP than the deficits in 1975 and 1976 and will decline progressively as economic recovery boosts tax revenues and as additional spending control measures go into effect.

Raising taxes now will not necessarily solve our present problems. It will reduce the pressure on Congress to control Government spending and could signal that we are retreating from our long-run goal of reducing Federal spending and tax burdens. Any perception of retreat at this time could seriously hinder the incentive benefits from tax reduction and therefore impede the economic recovery that we both seek.

Thank you for taking the trouble to express your views so clearly and so well. Although we disagree on several points, I know we share a common commitment to a stronger and better America.

Sincerely,



Mr. George S. Eccles
Post Office Box 30006
Salt Lake City, Utah 84125

8203 8

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON


March 1, 1982

*See
changes
her
per
RWS*

MR. PRESIDENT:

The attached letter to
George Eccles, regarding
tax suggestions as a way
to improve the economy,
was prepared for your
signature by the Treasury
Department.

Richard G. Darman

Raising taxes now will not necessarily ^g resolve our present ~~situation~~ ^{problems}  ✓
It will reduce the pressure on Congress to control Government spending and could signal that we are retreating from our long-run goal of reducing Federal spending and tax burdens. Any perception of retreat at this time could seriously hinder the incentive benefits from tax reduction and therefore impede the economic recovery that we both seek.

Sincerely,

Mr. George S. Eccles
Post Office Box 30006
Salt Lake City, Utah 84125

④ Thank you for taking the trouble to express your views so clearly and so well. Although we disagree on several points, I know we share a common commitment to a stronger and better America.

GEORGE S. ECCLES

79 SOUTH MAIN ST. P.O. BOX 30006
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84125

December 22, 1981

Dear Mr. President:

I take the liberty of addressing this to you from the hospital where I am in the throes of constant and arduous treatment. I am not as strong as I would like to be and I am sure you will understand if I get directly to the point.

My concern for my own predicament is almost matched by my concern for your predicament with respect to the economy.

You have been doing a superb job in coming to grips with a misguided course that has, for too long, increasingly debilitated our economy. Your budget control program, while not all you might have wished by reason of Congressional resistance, is a giant step in the right direction.

But in the revenue area I believe you must take a very difficult but, in the long run, historic position.

As we discussed on two occasions in early 1980, the tax cut program was the right idea at the wrong time. Initial emphasis should have been targeted on budget control, with the tax cut program clearly set forth as the next step, to be implemented perhaps six or nine months down the line. The simultaneous implementation of the two programs violated the basic arithmetic that is necessary to the solution of our problem.

The supply-side theory is just that...theory. Under a somewhat different set of circumstances, it might well work. It might even work under present circumstances. But anyone who states positively that it will work is doing you and the country a disservice. There is no certainty to it whatsoever.

And if it doesn't work, we will have to replace our present predicament with a new one of perhaps greater magnitude.

A deficit in the neighborhood of 100 billion dollars must and can be avoided. I say this despite the fact, and this may surprise you, that I don't believe such a deficit, in and of itself, is grotesquely high. It isn't when it is projected, in terms of today's inflated dollars, against either our gross national product or national debt.

But, unfortunately, such a deficit is perceived as inordinately high by too many. And it is this perception which will inevitably fuel a negative psychological atmosphere that will trigger horrendous results, greatly damaging your basically well-conceived program.

I foresee the possibility of inflation rising again to perhaps as high as 18%. Interest rates will also resume an upward course. And the accompanying generally negative psychology will inhibit the renewed dynamics of American business which is your goal.

All this can be avoided. And you are the first President in a long while who has the capacity to do what is needed.

You must make a very difficult decision and then go to the people personally and clearly explain that decision and the reasons therefor.

Very simply, the revenues to the government must be increased at the earliest possible moment.

It is understandable that, after having promised a tax cut and having achieved it, you are reluctant to seem to renege upon that executed promise. I'm sure that some of your advisors will suggest that it would be politically damaging.

I disagree. I believe that, astutely structured and presented to the American public as only you can, it would turn out to be one of the hallmarks of a great Presidency.

We are in this mess because too many past administrations, having embarked on a course, simply refused to acknowledge that corrections in course were necessary, even in the face of mounting evidence to the contrary. And they went ahead, compounding our problems.

End
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PR 007-0

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

March 9, 1982

Dear Leighton:

Thanks very much for your letter. It was good to hear from you after so many years.

You are right about broadcasting those Cub games from Des Moines. I don't recall the broadcast well enough to know whether Barbara said Davenport or not. If she did, maybe it was confusion over the fact that I actually started in Davenport when it was WOC-WHO Davenport and Des Moines. And, yes, it was Curly Waddell on the wire.

Hubert Peewee^X Williams lives in Escondido, California.

Best regards,

DUTCH

^X
Mr. Leighton Holush
5828 Pleasant Drive
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

Television interview by Barbara Walters

820310

March 9, 1982

Dear Leighton:

Thanks very much for your letter. It was good to hear from you after so many years.

You are right about broadcasting those Cub games from Des Moines. I don't recall the broadcast well enough to know whether Barbara said Davenport or not. If she did, maybe it was confusion over the fact that I actually started in Davenport when it was WOC-WHO Davenport and Des Moines. And, yes, it was Curly Waddell on the wire.

Peewee Williams lives in Escondido, California.

Best regards,

Mr. Leighton Holush
5828 Pleasant Drive
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

15 January 1982

President Ronald Reagan,
The White House,
Washington, D.C., 20013

Dear Dutch:

I think you and Barbara Walters were confused in your recent television interview when you retold that story of broadcasting Cub games. You did it from Des Moines, not Davenport, and the operator you called Curly was Curly Waddell.

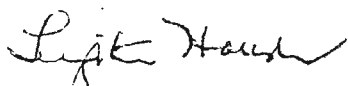
I know because I am a contemporary of yours -- a few months younger, but retired since 1977 as sports editor of The Des Moines Register and Tribune. Curly also worked a lot for us in those days before the technicians took over.

I recall seeing you at the Moonlight Inn run by Cy Griffiths several times and at Vee Green's Drake football practices as well ^{as} at the Drake Relays. I have been a member of the Drake Relays committee since 1952, and worked on the R and T for 45 years. Years ago See Taylor, my predecessor, told me Mike Cowles was impressed by your broadcast work and commissioned him to take you to lunch and offer you a job with our two stations, KRNT AND KSO. He said you declined because WHO was a clear channel station, though a skimpy payer.

One more thing: Whatever happened to Hubert //Peewee// Williams, a neighborhood friend and fellow ATO? When you went west I understood Peewee and another guy or two existed out of your refrigerator for a time.

I believe in the tooth fairy so trust this letter will work its way through layers of secretaries until it lies among your important papers.

Sincerely,



Leighton Housh
5828 Pleasant Drive
Des Moines, Iowa, 50312

March 9, 1982

064398

4200

4721

HO 016

PR 011

PR 008

Dear Ozzie:

It was good to hear from you after all these years and to know you were at the game in Pasadena. Doing that tape aroused a great nostalgia and many warm memories.

One such memory was of an opening game between Iowa and Nebraska in Iowa City. The score was 14 to 0 Nebraska with two minutes of the first half remaining. In those two minutes a new young Iowa halfback named Ozzie Simmons broke loose twice on dazzling runs to make the score at halftime 14 to 14.

Thanks again for your letter and for your good wishes and prayers.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan
(Dutch)

X

Mr. Ozzie E. Simmons
3001 Martin L. King, Jr. Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60616

Refers to the taped msg for Rose Bowl game

RR/AVH/lme
Sample

820810

March 9, 1982

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~~3001~~ 3001 Martin L. King Jr. Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60616

Pasadena. Doing that tape aroused a great
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half remaining. In those two minutes a new



January 10, 1982

3001 DR. MARTIN L. KING, JR. DRIVE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60616
Apt. 917

Honorable Ronald Reagan
President of the United States of America
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

My dear Mr. President:

New Year's Day, January 1, 1982, will always be an outstanding day in my book of memories: - a day that the University of Iowa played in the "Rose Bowl" - and the honor of having my name mentioned as one of the "Iowa Greats", by the President of the United States of America before thousands of people. Both filled me with gratifying pride and nostalgia! Thank you for remembering!

By the way, I see "The Hawks" play at least 2 or 3 games each year and make "Home-Coming" as often as possible. In fact, I was there for October 1981 Home-Coming.

May I take this opportunity to wish you continued success, and you and your family the very best of health, with God's blessings.

Very respectfully yours,

Ozzie E. Simmons

Ozzie E. Simmons

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 9, 1982

Dear Waite:

I'm sorry to be so late in answering your January letter, but it takes awhile for letters to get through the mill and reach my desk.

Thanks very much for sending me the article on that final series game in '26. I have to confess, when I made the picture I wasn't aware that you were on the mound for the Yankees. Nor did I know about the errors that robbed you of a win that day. Maybe it's just as well because I don't think I'd have enjoyed playing "Old Alex" as much had I known.

I really got a kick out of reading Harrison's article, and thank you again for sending it. Thanks, too, for your generous words of support.

Best regards,

X
Mr. Waite Hoyt
3787 Ashworth Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45208

RR pers. dist.

16382:
4721
RE 001
PL

March 9, 1982

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Best regards,

Mr. Waite Hoyt
3787 Ashworth Drive
Cincinnati, Ohio 45208

78
WAITE HOYT
3787 ASHWORTH DRIVE
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45208

January 12th, 1982.

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

Dear Mr. President:

Back on March 27th, 1981, I was among the fortunates at the luncheon you so kindly tendered to the members of the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

In fact, you mentioned a humorous incident in which I was involved; that in which it was described "Hurt is hoit", by a Brooklyn fan in Brooklynese.

But later, you described so effectively the role you played in the movie depicting the life of old Grover Cleveland Alexander, especially the scene in which you struck out Tony Lazerri with the bases loaded in the last game of the 1926 World Series.

After the luncheon, in the corridor, I mentioned that I was the losing pitcher in that game. I am taking the liberty of sending you an account of that game, and Alex's feat. I thought you might enjoy Jim Harrison's recollection

With every good wish, and a pleasant memory of that luncheon in March, and a more saddened memory of that fateful October game, I remain a faithful and enthusiastic Reagan fan and booster,

Sincerely

Waite Hoyt

enclosure

FOR sheer dramatics, it's hard to beat this one in all baseball annals. Old Pete Alexander coming in to pitch to Lazzeri . . . bases loaded . . . two out . . . Remember?

1926:
St. Louis Cardinals 3,
New York Yankees 2

JAMES R. HARRISON

*From
Waite Hoyt
to President
Ronald Reagan*

THE CARDINALS WON. The baseball drama had a happy ending after all, or as the last reel faded out the sentimental favorites were holding the championship. They beat the Yankees and the Yankees beat themselves, and between the two the greatest game of the series went to St. Louis, to 2.

The old story can be written again. The breaks of the game decided. To baseball history can be added one more chapter where the seventh game of the big series was decided, not by skill or courage, but by fate.

After millions of words had been scribbled and tons of white paper covered with expert calculations, the World Series worked itself down to our short words: Koenig's fumble, Meusel's muff.

If Mark Koenig, the Yankee shortstop, had gripped his fingers round the grounder in the fourth inning; if the veteran Bob Meusel had caught an easy fly that bobbed out of his hands in the same round, the Yankees would have won and would be world champions this morning.

If the Cardinals had not scored three unearned runs on those two devastating errors, Waite Hoyt would not have been robbed for the second time in his career of the glory of a shutout in the final game of the World Series. Babe Ruth would not today be mourning the fact that his home run in the third did not bring the championship to New York singlehandedly and unaided.

And St. Louis last night and through the early hours of the morning could not have been celebrating the happy ending to its wait of thirty-eight years.

Everything was incidental to those two errors. It was incidental that Herb Pennock came back to pitch in a hopeless cause. It was incidental, even though highly dramatic, that in the seventh inning, with the bases full and two out, Alexander the Great came out of the shadows of the bullpen to strike out Tony Lazzeri and throttle the Yankees' last great rally.

It was incidental, too, that Tommy Thevenow, Cardinal shortstop, drove in the winning runs with a single in the fourth.

Alexander wrote finis to the hopes of the surging Yanks with an old hand but a steady one. To his already superb work in the series he added this one climax. His pitching in the series was probably the greatest since the days of Matty and Babe Adams, but if Meusel and Koenig had held on to the ball, Alex would have been merely a gallant old pitcher on a losing ball team.

Fate made a hero of Alexander and a victim of Hoyt. Fate was the scene shifter who set the stage in the seventh, out upon which Alexander shuffled. His cap was perched on one side of his head and he was slowly chewing a quid of tobacco. He was a quaint, almost humorous, figure with his jaunty cap, his old man's gait and his quizzical face, but when he wound up his arm and threw, the Yanks had reached the end of the trail.

There was nothing more left for them. They had battled through six games and now had the championship at the ends of their fingers when suddenly they came face to face with Alex. While 40,000 went wild with delight at Yankee Stadium, he stood across the path and the Yanks took a detour to second-place money in the greatest money series of all time.

In the third, Babe Ruth hit his fourth homer, setting a new record for a single series. With Hoyt pitching the game of a lifetime, this run looked enough to win. But in the fourth Koenig fumbled and Meusel muffed, and the Yanks found themselves two runs behind.

Miller Huggins reorganized his scattered battalion and the Yanks charged on. They swirled at Jesse Haines in the sixth and luck was with them this time, for Chick Hafey played a line drive rashly and Dugan scored with the second run.

Only one to go now, and Haines, his pitching hand bruised, was weakening. In the seventh, Combs opened with a single. The Yanks were coming again. Koenig sacrificed Combs to second and Ruth was walked intentionally.

Meusel, the unfortunate lad with the feeble fingers of an earlier inning, had his chance to wipe the slate clean, but his grounder to Bell was turned into a force-out of Ruth at second while Combs dashed on to third.

Cehrig was now at bat. His single had won one game and his double helped to win another. Haines faltered after he had thrown two strikes on the native-born New Yorker. Something suddenly went wrong with the Haines right arm. He floated three bad balls up to the plate, and another high one sent Cehrig to first and filled the bases.

Rogers Hornsby called his men into a huddle. Hornsby, O'Farrell, Haines, Bottomley, Bell, Thevenow—they were all there. When the conference broke up, Haines took off his glove and walked to the bench.

The Cardinals were going to try a new pitcher. Forty thousand pairs of eyes peered anxiously through the gray mist toward the bull pen out

in deep left. There was a breathless pause, and then around the corner of the stand came a tall figure in a Cardinal sweater. His cap rode rakishly on the corner of his head. He walked like a man who was going nowhere in particular and was in no hurry to get there. He was a trifle knock-kneed and his gait was not a model of grace and rhythm.

Any baseball fan would have known him a mile away. It was Grover Cleveland Alexander. Alexander the Great was coming in to pull the Cardinal machine out of the mudhole. The ancient twirler, who had gone nine full innings the day before, was shuffling in where younger men feared to tread.

On any other day he would have been sitting contentedly on the bench, chewing his quid and ruminating on life. This time he was plucked out from the bull pen and thrust into the limelight as the last hope of the Cardinals.

He warmed up in that leisurely, methodical way of his, and as he faced Tony Lazzeri, fresh young slugger from the Coast, he was outwardly as unconcerned as if it were a spring exhibition game. Throughout the park there came a silence. The fans slid forward to the edge of their seats. Hardly a mother's son of them seemed to be moving a muscle, but, although the crowd was rigid with the thrill of the moment, old Alex was undisturbed.

He had been through all that before. Apparently there wasn't a nerve in his body. Ball one to Lazzeri was low and the crowd stirred, but Alex calmly carved the outside corner with a strike, like a butcher slicing ham.

Another one outside and Lazzeri fouled it into the stand. The Yankee was now in the hole. "This lad is in a tighter fix than I am," thought Alex, and so he essayed a low curve that one of the Singer midgets couldn't have hit. Lazzeri swung and missed. The deed was done. Alex took off his glove and shuffled again to the bench. The Cardinals, young and impetuous, pounded his back and hugged him madly, but old Alex took it with placid good humor—not the shadow of a smile on his face.

Only once did he turn his head and send a half-smile toward the stand and we suspect that that was his only gesture of triumph.

In the eighth the Yanks went out one, two, three. The old arm of Alexander was now rising and falling with a steady beat, tolling off the last minutes of the World Series. Against him was Pennock, but Alex had a one-run lead and there was nothing in his mellow past which made anyone believe that Alexander would lose a one-run lead in the ninth inning of the last World Series game.

Combs and Koenig were child's play for him, as the Yankees' final turn began. Combs grounded to Bell and was out. Koenig gave the same fielder an easy roller.

And now the drama was almost done. There was only one more scene. Ruth was at bat—the Yankees' last hope. Would Alexander pitch to him as he had to lesser men?

It would have been the last great story of the series if Alex had fanned him. But Alex was not concerned with great stories, drama, climaxes, headlines or anything else of the sort. He pitched carefully and deliberately to Ruth. He brought the count to three and two, but Alex just missed the corner of the plate on the next one and the Babe walked.

Meusel rather than Ruth was on the program, but before Meusel could settle the issue Ruth did it for him by breaking for second base. O'Farrell whipped a fast throw to Hornsby and the series was over.

Now Rogers Hornsby can go back to Texas, where his mother lies dead, and Alexander the Great can go back to his easy chair, his slippers and a winter fireplace and dwell pleasantly on the October afternoon when Tony Lazzeri swung at a low ball which a Singer midget could not have hit. If Alex wants to chuckle, he is clearly entitled to it.

He can look back to the series which saw him winning two masterful victories and helping to win a third. The man who was fired by Joe McCarthy, manager of the Cubs, in midsummer, came back in October to fashion one of the greatest World Series pitching achievements.

Matty, Babe Adams, Combs and Coveleskie twirled three victories in other baseball classics, but they were all young men and full of strength. Alex was not only old but he was a baseball discard, tossed onto the scrap heap as an antique without worth.

Rogers Hornsby can go back to Texas with the comforting thought that he "stayed with the team" and won. The young man who caught the imagination and sympathy of the country as only Walter Johnson before him had done is undoubtedly glad the series is over. Not for him any triumphant celebrations; he has discharged one duty only to take on another.

The series set nineteen playing records and was the greatest ever in total receipts and attendance. Although yesterday's crowd was a miserable disappointment, with only 38,093 paid, it was enough to send the attendance up to 328,051, and the receipts to \$1,207,864. When 63,600 paid to see the second game in the stadium, all marks for a single day's attendance were also passed. The total of winning and losing players' share was bigger than anything before.

The weather man is being blamed for yesterday's financial slump. Showers and an overcast sky in the morning made it certain that the crowd would be small.

Hoyt pitched fine ball all the way through. For a short spell he was again the Hoyt of 1921, when his work against the Giants earned him the brief sobriquet, a "second Matty." His fast ball was a work of art and his curve the best he has shown in five years—both wonderfully controlled and hopping through like the wind.

Hoyt came through in magnificent style, but it was again his misfortune to be beaten by the breaks of the game. His mind must have wandered back to 1921. In the last ill-fated game of that series Roger Peckinpaugh booted a ball away and Hoyt lost, 1 to 0. Once again fate came along to kick him on the shins.

Ruth had hit his homer, and when the fourth opened Hoyt was in front of Hornsby's easy grounder. Bottomley singled to left. Hoyt forced Bell to ground to Koenig, who had an easy double play in sight.

But the kid shortstop played the ball to one side, and in his eagerness to kill two birds with one stone fumbled the roller. One bad break for Hoyt followed another. With two strikes and no balls against Hafey, the left fielder lifted a weak fly which fell in left between the scurrying figures of Koenig and Meusel.

The bases were full and only one out, and fate was saving its best prank for the last. O'Farrell raised a fly to left center. Meusel, having a stronger arm than Combs, waved the Kentuckian away so that he could make the throw to the plate. There was only an outside chance of keeping Bottomley from scoring, but Meusel did not even catch the ball.

The white pill hit his outstretched hands and popped out again, like a rabbit from the magician's hat. For a minute there was a stunned silence. Even the Cardinals were so taken aback that they hardly knew what to do. Bottomley, of course, was lighting out for the plate, and the others finally got into action and ran for the next base.

There is only one explanation for the Meusel muff. He tried to throw the ball before he got it, and thereby made himself the greatest World Series goat since Fred Snodgrass of Giant fame.

With the score tied and bases still full, Hoyt settled gamely down, but the "breaks" had beaten him. He laid two strikes over on Thevenow and was pitching stanchly when the boy shortstop happened to tap the ball with the end of his bat and loop a safe hit to right center, which scored two more runs.

Hoyt, pitching like Matty of old, was beaten nevertheless. He was beaten like Matty of 1912, when Snodgrass muffed an easy fly. You have heard of the famous "\$100,000 muff." You know about the time Hank Cowdy tripped over his mask and lost the deciding game of the 1924 series. You know about Peckinpaugh of last October, but they were as nothing compared to the fumble of Koenig and the muff of Meusel.

For this was the biggest money series of all, with the spoils bigger and the stake greater. There has never been a 7-game World Series without the seventh game producing its Meusels and Snodgrasses and Cowdys. Hoyt now joins the unhappy ranks with Mathewson, Virgil Barnes and Walter Johnson.

John McGraw can sympathize with Miller Huggins, for it happened to him twice.

There has also never been a full-limit series which ended satisfactorily—never a seventh game decided strictly on its merits. Invariably the breaks have decided it. For three straight years this has happened, and in each case the winner was the winner because on that afternoon the run of the cards was with him.

To Ruth as well as to Hoyt should go the heartfelt condolences of Yankee rooters. The playboy of baseball might have heard his name go

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and inside.

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Barrell's terrific line drive in his glove. For t
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In another inning his apathetic subjects wer
Yankees—the greatest tribute possible to th
ing George.

over. The Yanks were outbatted and outfielded
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until Ruth completely turned the tide with h
three pitched balls almost cost the Cardinal
the Yankee team. The Cards made great
but in the deciding game they walked him

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except in spots. The breaks were evenly divide
ed what they got and old Alex earned a qu

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SP230-8

PR00:

March 9, 1982

Dear Kami:

Thanks very much for your kind letter and generous words. You have made me very proud, and I'm most grateful.

Forgive me for being so late in answering, but it takes awhile for mail to get to my desk.

There is much to love in this land of ours, but by far the most heartwarming thing is to be found in our people -- people like you, Kami, who take the time and trouble to write kind words as you did.

Thank you again, and bless you.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN

X

Kami R. Martin
30031 Villa Alturas Drive
Temecula, California 92390

RR/AVH/lme
Samole

320310

Support for State of the Union Speech

January 26, 1982

Dear Mr. Reagan,

This letter may seem very small and very unimportant among the many hundreds of letters that you get each day. But I am writing it with much honesty and sincerity.

I am a fifteen year old high school student from Temecula California; and presidential speeches, in my opinion are much too long and sometimes boring to listen to. I thought this, only until I watched your State of the Union address on television. I found your speech very honestly and proudly done. Not at all boring! I was very touched by the way that you love your country. I especially love it when you say "God Bless America!" I could close my eyes and still feel the intense sincerity in your words.

Well, in return, I, a simple ninth grader from your home state would just like to say God bless you, and I love you Mr. President!! Keep up the good work!

Sincerely yours,

Kami R. Martin

30031 Villa Alturas Drive
Temecula, California 92390

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Sincerely Yours,

Kami R. Martin

To Leighton House 5228 Pleasant Dr.
Des Moines Iowa 50312

Dear Leighton

Thanks very much for your letter, it was good to hear from you after so many years.

You are right about broadcasting those Owl games from Des Moines. I don't recall the broadcast well enough to know whether Barbara said Davenport or not. If she did maybe it was confusion over the fact that I actually started in Davenport when it was WOC-WKO Davenport & Des Moines.

And yes it was Curley Waddell on the wire.

Patricia Williams lives ~~here~~ in ~~Calif~~ in Escondido Calif.

Best Regards ~~RR~~ Dutch

Mr. Ozzie F. Simmons 3001 Dr. Martin Luther King Dr.

Dear Ozzie

Chi. Ill. 60616

It was good to hear from you after all these years and to know you were at the game in Pasadena. Doing that tape aroused a great nostalgia and many warm memories. One such memory was of an ~~opening~~ opening game between Iowa & Nebraska in Iowa City. The score was 14 to 0 Nebraska with 2 min. of the first half remaining. In those 2 min's. a new young Iowa halfback named Ozzie Simmons broke loose twice on dazzling runs to make the score at half time 14 to 14.

Thanks again for your letter & for your good wishes & prayers. Sincerely

RR

To Mr. Waite Hoyt 3787 Ashworth Dr.

~~Cincinnati Ohio~~ Cincinnati Ohio

Dear Waite

45208

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Thanks. Nor did I know about the errors
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Tamacula Calif. 92390.

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Sincerely
RR