

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library

Digital Library Collections

This is a PDF of a folder from our textual collections.

Collection: White House Office of Records Management:
Presidential Handwriting File, 1981-1989 (COPY SET)

Series II: Presidential Records

Folder Title: Folder 105 (11/22/1983-11/28/1983)

Box: 8

To see more digitized collections visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/digitized-textual-material>

To see all Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Inventories, visit:

<https://www.reaganlibrary.gov/archives/white-house-inventories>

Contact a reference archivist at: **reagan.library@nara.gov**

Citation Guidelines: <https://reaganlibrary.gov/archives/research-support/citation-guide>

National Archives Catalogue: <https://catalog.archives.gov/>

Last Updated: 07/03/2025

1983 NOV 22 PM 2:07

CABINET AFFAIRS STAFFING MEMORANDUM ME 001-82

Date: November 22, 1983 Number: 175196CA Due By: --

Subject: Note of thanks from Secretary Bell to the President

ALL CABINET MEMBERS	Action	FYI		Action	FYI
Vice President	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CEA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
State	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CEQ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Treasury	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	OSTP	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Defense	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attorney General	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Interior	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Baker	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Commerce	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Deaver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Labor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Darman (For WH Staffing)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HHS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jenkins (ORIGINAL)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
HUD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	McFarlane	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Svahn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Energy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Education	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Counsellor	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OMB	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CIA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
UN	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
USTR	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GSA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCCT/Gunn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
EPA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCEA/Porter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
CPM	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCFA/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
VA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCHR/Simmons	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
SBA	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	CCLP/Uhlmann	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			CCMA/Bledsoe	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
			CCNRE/	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

REMARKS:

For appropriate action.

Thanks.

REPLY TO:

☐ Craig L. Fuller
Assistant to the President
for Cabinet Affairs
456-2823

☐ Katherine Anderson ☐ Don Clarey
☐ Tom Gibson ☐ Larry Herbolshaimer
Associate Director
Office of Cabinet Affairs
456-2800

'83 NOV 21 A11 :20



from the Secretary of Education. . . .

The President has seen _____

Mr. Bell

Dear Mr. President,

11-16-83

The pain of realizing that I
reached age 62 on November 11th
was relieved on receipt of
your telegram from Tokyo.
It's great to work for a
boss who always shows
he cares.

Many thanks and best
wishes,
Ted Bell

End
Case
File

189176
PR003

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 23, 1983

Aboard Air Force One

Dear Officer Hoar:

Some days are better than others and believe me you brightened the day for me that your letter arrived. Thank you and God bless you.

I remember very well sending the flag and wondering what motivated your request. I'm delighted to know what it meant to you and to those others who, in the words of a W.W. I poet, "will never grow old."

I have visited the Memorial here in Washington but next time I'll take the list you provided and look for their names.

You were fighting for a noble cause and the sacrifice you all made has instilled in me the determination to do everything I can to see that young Americans will never again be asked to fight and die in a war they are not allowed to win. Thank you for your prayers and your generous words.

Sincerely,

Officer John Hoar
4780 Romoca Avenue
La Verne, California 91750

67
SR

John Hoan L.A.P.D.
4780 Roma Ave.
La Verne Calif. 91750

August 20, 1983

Dear Mr President:

I write this letter in retrospect, as I feel it should have been composed some (14) years ago.

At that time; however we were both engaged in other duties.

The years that have transpired since then have aged and matured us both and it is only now that words seem to flow coherently and gratitude, with memories, seem even more intense.

Those fourteen years have been kind to us both - You are now my President and Commander-in-Chief and I am a Police Officer.

You are Sworn to my Protection

as my President and I have been
charged with your safety and
well being on your occasional
ventures to Los Angeles, as a mem-
ber of LAPD's metropolitan division.

Fourteen years ago; however,
I was a Platoon Sergeant in the
U.S. Army 25th Infantry Division,
Republic of South Viet Nam. and
you were the Governor of my home
state, California.

My Platoon requested, then,
that I write you and render our
simple request for a flag of the
State of California.

It was our intention to position
our States Colors over our fighting
positions each night as we man-
dered through "enemy country".

The flag would mean home to
us and foster pleasant memories
of times past. A beacon of sets.

Our request was formal, tersely worded in the official Sounding language conjured up in the mind of a 19 yr. old Staff Sergeant

In all seriousness, we never expected a response as we felt the war was most unpopular on the home front and our elected officials had simply "written us off"

It was with genuine surprise and utter amazement, coupled with curiosity that we gingerly opened a large package from the State of California, accompanied by a small, tiny letter, written in your hand.

Opening the package, we discovered, not only the flag of the State of California, but the United States Flag as well.

Along with these items was a handwritten letter from you expressing California's gratitude as well as your personal message of thanks and sincere well-wishes, along with a short paragraph on the concept of freedom and the burden should be those who defend it.

Your explanation did much to shore up the fears and misgivings of a group of 19 yr old soldiers fraught with fears of death and dying, along way from home and loved ones.

Those two bits of cloth, Symbols of America traveled with me throughout the hell that was Vietnam for two years, adorning my fighting position each night and accompanying me on combat operations each

day.

I never took the time to express our gratitude for your caring and upon my return to the United States, the flags were neatly stored and hence forgotten.

In the process of moving recently they were re-discovered still neatly folded and possessing hopes and fears along with memories long since silenced 14 years ago.

Unpacking them released memories long since repressed and at the same time, guilt for never having gratefully acknowledging their receipt.

The fighting that was Vietnam claimed the lives of most of those men and once again I find myself in the role of spokesman.

for long dead comrades whose
day was brightened long ago in
1967 by a package and personal
letter from their governor.

Although their sacrifices have
been somewhat tarnished their
memory lives with me, their leader.

In the memorial that honors
them, they will, however, live for-
ever, honored by their comrades,
even if somewhat forgotten by
those they chose to defend.

I now write this letter for
them, as they no longer can and
we, once again, as a platoon
gather to thank you for your
kindness, your caring, and
your leadership.

They, as I, am proud of
your accomplishments, your

unflagging devotion to the
principles of American freedom,
for which they gave their lives,
and your staunch support of
America's Viet Nam Veterans.

It truly was, "a noble
cause"

Those flags, symbols of a
great and honorable Country
mean more to me than any
ribbon of brightly colored cloth.

As Governor, you took the time
to express your heartfelt thanks
to a small, hallowed group of
American fighting men.

You, in my heart and
their souls represent all that
America stands for - Compassion,
Humility, Courage, and Greatness.

Should you find yourself at
their memorial, stop for a moment
and remember those whose
hearts you deeply touched

I now, belatedly, express our
thanks and gratitude to you,
as our President, and wherever
you may venture our
prayers will always walk with
you.

Sincerely,

- SP4 HOOD HUNT 25TH INF.
Killed in ACTION R.V.N. 1968
- SP4 JOSEPH MIRANDA 25TH INF.
Killed in ACTION R.V.N. 1968.
- SP4 "Doc" VAN FLEET 25TH INF
Killed in ACTION R.V.N. 25TH INF.
- Sgt. DAREYL FULLUM 25TH INF.
Killed in ACTION RVN 1967
- PFC JOHN WEIL 25TH INF.
Killed in ACTION R.V.N. 1968.

In Closing, I remain your
loyal citizen, Staunch supporter,
and ardent admirer.

John Star LAPD.

189175
PR 003

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 23, 1983

Aboard Air Force One

Dear Mr. Washington:

I'm sorry to be so late in answering your letter but it takes awhile for mail to get sorted and letters to arrive at my desk. I can't tell you how much your letter means to me. I've been frustrated and angered by the attempts to paint me as a racist and as lacking in compassion for the poor. On the one subject, I was raised by a mother and father who instilled in me and my brother a hatred for bigotry and prejudice long before there was such a thing as a civil rights movement. As for the poor, we were poor in an era when there were no government programs to turn to. I'm well aware of how lucky I've been since and how good the Lord has been to me.

Forgive me for telling you all this but I want you to know and understand how very moved I was by your kind letter. Again, my heartfelt thanks.

Sincerely,

Mr. Freddie Washington, Jr.
3306 Hall Avenue
Moss Point, Mississippi 39563

12
SAMPLE Mr. Freddie Washington Jr. 9-16-83
3306 Hall Ave.
Moss Point Mississippi 39563
(4085)

Dear Mr. President:

CAD
Let me start by telling you that I have never voted for a Republican Presidential Nominee before, however, I intend to vote Republican in 1984 if you seek re-election. The reason I am going to vote for you is because you have demonstrated your willingness to act in the best interest of the country and not do what in so many cases would be best for you politically. I see no other leader who is willing or able to give the United States of America this kind of wise and courageous leadership, therefore, I feel you would be doing the nation and the world a great disservice if you do not seek re-election.

I would like to say at this

point that I am a 39 year old black man who believes your policies are not in the least bit anti black or anti poor, as a matter of fact, it is my opinion that your fight against inflation, your war on the drug traffic, your tough stand against street crime, your vigilance in enforcing the voting rights act, your effort in revitalizing the nations economy, are all of great importance to us poor people and us black people in America.

Mr. Reagan, I know it must be painful to you and Mrs. Reagan for you to be accused of causing people to go hungry in this country, well, I don't know about the rest of the country but I do know about the town where I live, Mass Point,

Mississippi. It is about 65% black and 35% white with a total population of 19,000 and an unemployment rate of 31%, however, this unemployment is not, for the most part, recession related but is mainly the result of a reduction in the work force at the county's largest employer, Ingalls Shipyard in Pascagoula, who over the last 5 or 6 years has reduced the number of its employees from 25,000 to a present level of 10,000. But even with this kind of unemployment I feel very safe in saying that thanks ^{mainly} to the food stamp program nobody in this community is going hungry. Having received food stamps myself, I can testify to the

fact that the monthly allotment of stamps one receives will provide an adequate diet if they are used properly. I can also testify to the fact that it is not very difficult to get on the food stamp program. It is so easy as a matter of fact that here in Jackson County it is estimated that 10% of the food stamp recipients are receiving them fraudulently, moreover, several weeks ago scores of people were charged with food stamp fraud and one person who had received over \$1000⁰⁰ in stamps had a monthly income of \$2400⁰⁰, therefore, it is my opinion that if those who claim there are hungry people in America are really concerned about them, they should be looking for the real causes of the

problem instead of playing politics with the issue.

Let me confess that when I decided to write you a few weeks ago I had some questions concerning the amount of money you were spending on the military, however, as of September 1, all my questions were answered.

It is obvious that the only way we are going to maintain peace and preserve our way of life is to keep a strong military and from what I know about the Russians' racial policy we blacks have more to lose than anybody if the Soviet Union ever attains its goal of world domination.

It is my sincere belief that you are the best friend blacks have had in the White House in a long time.

I will be eagerly awaiting
your re-election announcement.

Respectfully yours,
Freddie Washington, Jr.

189174
PR003

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 23, 1983

Aboard Air Force One

Dear Mr. Banks:

God bless you for writing as you did. I can't tell you how grateful I am and how much you brightened my day.

Back here we'll keep battling for an amendment to the Constitution to prevent abortion unless it is necessary to save the mother's life. And we'll be back at Congress in January for the restoration of prayer in the school room.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Mr. Ed Banks
1003 Priscilla Lane
Bakersfield, California 93304

Pro-Life/VIEWS

Mr. Ed Banks
1003 Precilla Lane
Bakersfield Calif. 93304

ROX

Dear President Reagan,

I'm writing because I
want you to know not to believe all those
surveys they put on T.V. about how little support
you have among black folks. I'm black and noone
has asked me, anyone in my family or any of my
friends what they think of you. I think you're doing
a fine job. Stick by your guns. This country
is back on its feet again and going strong. I'm
so fed up with hearing about recession, unemployment,



gloom and doom. The only things I'd personally
like to see done is for abortions to be stopped
and for the 10-Commandments to be put back
up on all the classroom walls and principals
offices in American schools.

You don't have to write me back, I know
your staff has a lot of work to do already. I
just want you to know that the people who think
you're OK won't make a whole lot of noise . . .
til election day.

Sincerely,
Ed Banks

To Officer John Hoar 4780 Romosa Ave,
La Verne Calif. 91750

✓ Dear Officer Hoar

Some days are better than others and ~~believe~~ believe me you brightened the day ^{FOR ME THAT} your letter arrived. Thank you & God bless you.

I remember very well sending the flag and wondering what motivated your request. I'm delighted to learn what it meant to you & to those others who, in the words of a W.W.I. poet "will never grow old."

I have visited the Memorial here in Wash. but next time I'll take the list you provided and look for their names.

You were fighting for a noble cause and the sacrifice you all made has instilled in me the determination to do everything I can to see that young Americans will never again be asked to fight & die in a war they are not allowed to win. Thank you for your prayers and your generous words.

Sincerely RR

To Mr. Freddie Washington Jr. 3306 Hall Ave,
Moss Point Miss. 39563

✓ Dear Mr. Washington

I'm sorry to be so late in answering your letter but it takes a while for mail to get sorted and letters to arrive at my desk. I can't tell you how much your letter means to me. I've been frustrated and angered by the attempts to paint me as a racist & as lacking in compassion for the poor. On the one subject I was raised by a mother & father who instilled in me & my brother a hatred for bigotry & prejudice long before there was such a thing as a civil rights movement. As for the poor, we were poor in an era when there were no govt. programs to turn to. I'm well aware of how lucky I've been since & how good the Lord has been to me.

Forgive me for telling you all this but I want you to know & understand how very moved I was by
(over)

your kind letter. Again my heartfelt thanks.
Sincerely RR

To Mr. Ed Banks 1003 Priscilla Lane
Bakersfield Calif. 93304

✓ Dear Mr. Banks

God bless you for writing as you did.
I can't tell you how grateful I am & how
much you brightened my day.

Back here we'll keep battling for an
amendment to the Constitution to prevent
abortion unless it is necessary to save the mother's
life. And we'll look at Congress again in Jan.
for the restoration of prayer in the school room.

Thank you again.

Sincerely RR

End
Case
File

189178
ME001

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 23, 1983

Aboard Air Force One

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Forgive my being late in answering your letter but it takes a while for mail to reach my desk.

First of all, congratulations on settling the mortgage -- I know the feeling. It was a long time ago, and I was the first in our family in three generations to ever own a piece of property. Paying off the debt was a milestone in my life.

You were kind to write as you did and to give some of the credit to our tax cuts, but the credit is yours. I'm sure there were other things you could have done with the money saved on taxes but you chose to make your family more secure. God bless you.

Again, thanks, and give my regards to Mrs. Thompson, Rebecca, Gretchen and Matthew.

Sincerely,

Mr. Buddy Thompson
716 East 33rd Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64109

also signed pic of RR

Dear Mr. President,

AD I am celebrating something that I never thought possible, and it became possible partially through your efforts: I have paid off the building + property I call home! I isn't much, but it's paid for! I make only \$15,000/yr and now have a family of 5, but yet this has happened. True, we don't live in a nicer part of town, or a suburb, but we ARE the only people we know that have paid their house off. Your tax breaks did a lot to help! Thank you.

I intend to vote for you again!

I thank God for you. Show this letter to your skeptics!

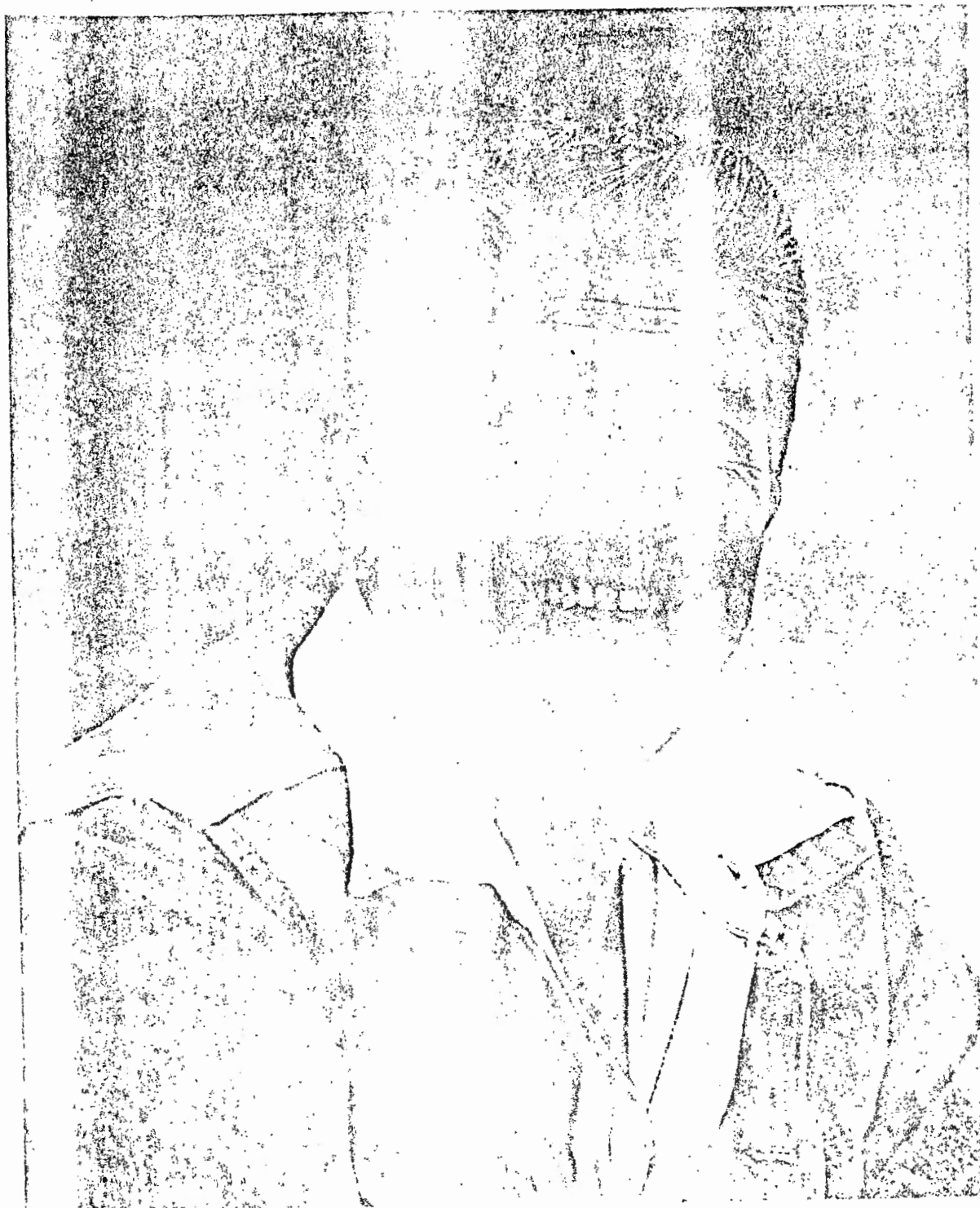
My wife Martha thanks you. We tell our 6yr. old Rebecca about you. Our 2yr. old, Gretchen; and our 1mo. old Matthew are too young, but we tell them "Mr. Reagan. the great president of our lifetime!"

Sincerely,

716 East 33rd St
H.C. Mo. 64109

Buddy Thompson







To Mr. Buddy Thompson 716 East 33rd St.
Kansas City Mo. 64109

Dear Mr. Thompson

Forgive my being late in answering your letter but it takes a while for mail to reach my desk.

First of all congratulations on settling the ~~first~~ mortgage - I know the feeling. It was a long time ago and I was the first in our family in 3 generations to ever own a piece of property. Paying off the debt was a milestone in my life.

You were kind to write as you did and to give some of the credit to our tax cuts. But the credit is yours. I'm sure there were other things you could have done with the money saved on taxes but you chose to make your family more secure. God bless you.

Again thanks & give my regards to Mrs. Thompson, Rebecca, Stephen & Matthew.

Sincerely RR

End
Case
File

188825
PR 005-02

November 23, 1983

Dear Mrs. Ritchey:

Heather delivered your kind letter and holiday good wishes, and the beautiful card signed by the students. I asked Heather to please convey my thanks to all of you and I'm sure she has. But I wanted to write this brief note to express again my appreciation and to wish you all a very merry Christmas.

Meeting Heather and her family was a great pleasure and reading all your messages on your Thanksgiving card added to that pleasure.

Again thanks and very best wishes.

Sincerely,

RONALD REAGAN *A*

Mrs. Cheryl J. Ritchey
Teacher, Grade 4
Patrick Henry Local School District
6-900 S.R. 18
Hamler, Ohio 43524

RR/DICTATION/lme

831123

To Mrs. Cheryl J. Ritchey - Tchr. Grade 4
Patrick Henry Local School District 6-900 S.R. 18,
Hamber Ohio 43524

Dear Mrs. Ritchey

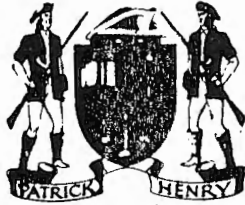
Heather delivered your kind letter & ~~good~~
holiday ~~greeting~~ good wishes, and the beautiful card signed
by the students. I asked Heather to please convey
my thanks to all of you and I'm sure she has. ~~But~~
I wanted to write this brief ~~note~~ note to ~~so~~ express
again my appreciation and to wish you all a very
merry Christmas.

Meeting Heather and her family was a great
pleasure and reading all your messages on ~~the~~
your Thanksgiving card added to ^{that} my pleasure.
Again thanks & very best wishes.

Sincerely RR

PATRICK HENRY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

6-900 S.R. 18, Hamler, Ohio 43524



BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ronald Gerken
Donald Badenhop
Florence Hagen
James Schortgen
Robert Panning

November 15, 1983

ADMINISTRATION

DANIEL B. ROSS
Superintendent
419-274-5451

DOLORES CRAMER
Treasurer
419-274-5966

LINDA KRAUSKOPF
Principal
Patrick Henry High
419-274-3015

NEIL R. FLICK
Principal
Deshler Elementary
419-278-1611

KIM A. LOCKHART
Principal
Hamler Elementary
419-274-3431
Malinta Elementary
419-256-7222

Dear Mr. President and Mrs. Reagan:

Heather's classmates were so excited about her invitation to the White House, that they could not stop discussing the coming event. I suggested they each send you a Thanksgiving message. The enclosed class card is their combined effort. We hope you like it, they certainly have enjoyed making it.

May you and your family have a restful Thanksgiving Holiday.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Cheryl J. Ritchey

Mrs. Cheryl J. Ritchey
Teacher, Gr. 4

CJR/ab
cc: file
encl.

End
case
File

189169
H0110

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Santa Barbara

November 25, 1983

Dear Mrs. Hynard:

Thank you very much for your holiday greeting and for the gift, we've been enjoying it. You were very kind and we're grateful for your generous words.

I'm delighted to have the Chinese phrase for "crisis". It certainly is a more positive approach than we normally associate with the word.

Again our thanks and we hope your Thanksgiving was a day of warmth and pleasure.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

Mrs. Madelaine A. Hynard
135A East Valerio Street
Santa Barbara, California 93101

Mrs. Madelaine A. Hyn. /
135A East Valerio Street
Santa Barbara, CA 93104

Dear Friends:

Once again, through the kindness of Coetta, this message of appreciation awaits your arrival to let you know that loving thoughts and prayers are ever with you. A fitting time of year to tell you so!

Thanksgiving has always been a special day in my family. Perhaps because some eleven or so generations ago our forefather, John Alden, had the wisdom and faith to build a new life in a new and unknown land; and the courage to "speak for himself", that together with Priscilla and their many children seeds of gratitude and good will might be planted in New England.

Then, in his turn, my father, Colonel Herbert W. Alden, exemplified the true values of his heritage by rendering devoted and, yes, sacrificial service to his country. Taking leave of absence from the company he founded in Detroit to become the chief designer of the American tank in WWI, and subsequently to join the British-American Team whose famous tank was not to be used at that time in history. As a founding member of The ARMY ORDNANCE ASSOCIATION, he continued to serve his country until retirement following WWII. Like you, Mr. President, he knew what selfless service is all about.

While in England this past summer, I attended the HUMAN UNITY CONFERENCE, held at Warwick University. Over 700 men and women from 28 nations came together as concerned citizens to ascertain what, as individuals and nations, might be done to, among many considerations, bring about a global understanding of 'unconditional love' so desperately needed to stabilize our beleaguered Planet. Our own Moorhead Kennedy, one of 67 speakers, gave a moving account of his personal agonizing experience. At the end of three days, Sir George Trevelyan, author, educator, lecturer beloved of all Britain, brought the conference to a close with these words: "There are two kinds of people in the world today: those who know and those who do not want to know, and it is increasingly evident that those who know will be called upon more and more to help those who don't want to know when the crunch comes. God is on the march and He knows what He is about."

Please forgive the personal recollections, but I wanted to share them as there is a kind of underlying comfort, if you will, in Sir George's message, particularly for you, Mr. President, who are constantly being confronted with the machinations of the many 'who do not want to know'. I just read in one of his books that in the Chinese language there is no word for 'crisis'. The closest Chinese approximation is 'opportunity for important decisions'. You are probably aware of this, but it seemed interesting considering your visit to China next spring.

Thank you for letting me chat with you; and most of all, my heartfelt thanks for the fine photograph sent me by Senator Lugar. How good of you to take the time and energy to autograph it; the sentiment is most heartwarming. I like the pose for it reminds one of the edict: "Look up, for your salvation draweth nigh."

Have a relaxed and happy holiday and keep your 'joy-bells' ringing. You and our lovely First Lady are very special. We love you, bless you and give thanks for you.

Madsfaine

*November 19
1983*

189171
ME001

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Santa Barbara

November 25, 1983

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Daniels:

Thank you very much for your kind letter. I'm happy your days of pain ended happily. Your generous words of support were more than kind and are greatly appreciated. Believe me, your letter makes me both humble and proud.

God bless you.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Daniels
Post Office Box 3015
Paducah, Kentucky 42001

189172
NP007

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Santa Barbara

November 25, 1983

Dear Ms. Leboff:

Thank you very much for your kind letter and for sharing your friend's letter with me. It is reassuring to have such confirmation of our decision to send our young men to that troubled area. I have learned there is no more painful task in the job I hold than to give the order that may result in the death of these splendid young men who have volunteered to serve our country.

Barbara, perhaps as you say, we do possibly have some policy differences, but we're agreed on the most important issue of all -- the need to achieve world peace. I promise you I'll do everything I can humanly do to bring that about.

Again, my heartfelt thanks.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

Ms. Barbara Leboff
635 Princeton Road
Linden, New Jersey 07036

189173
NP007

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Santa Barbara

November 25, 1983

Dear Mr. Keegan:

As I write this letter your brother's name is not listed among the Lebanon casualties. I hope this is the final word and that he is homeward bound with the returning Marine detachment which has been relieved.

Thank you for your kind letter and for your generous words. I am most grateful.

God bless you.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

Mr. James Edward Keegan
Sepulveda Junior High School
1108 North Lima Street
Burbank, California 91505

✓ To Mrs. Barbara Leboff 635 Princeton Rd.
Linden N.J. 07036

Dear ~~Mr.~~ Mrs. Leboff

I thank you very much for your kind letter and for sharing your friends letter with me. It is reassuring to have such confirmation of our decision to send our young man to that troubled area. I have learned there is no more painful task in the job I hold than to give the order that may result in the death of these splendid young men who have volunteered to serve our country.

Barbara - perhaps as you say we do possibly have some policy differences but we're agreed on the most important issue of all - the need to achieve world peace. I promise you I'll do everything I can humanly do to bring that about. Again my heartfelt thanks.

Sincerely RR

✓ To Mr. James Edward Keegan - Sepulveda Jr. High School
1108 N. Lima St. Burbank Calif. 91505

Dear Mr. Keegan

As I write this letter your brothers name is not listed among the service casualties. I hope this is the final word and that he is homebound bound with the returning marine detachment which has been released.

I thank you for your kind letter and for your generous words. I am most grateful.

God bless you.

Sincerely RR

189140
ND007

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

Santa Barbara

November 25, 1983

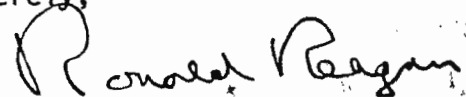
Dear Mr. and Mrs. Meyung:

Thank you very much for your letter of October 27th and forgive me for being so late in answering. It takes awhile for mail to reach my desk.

I know how happy you must be that your son is now on his way back to the States and I'm happy for you. This letter is much easier to write than the letters I've been writing these past few weeks. With all the sorrow and sadness, though, there is a pride in these wonderful young men who have volunteered to serve their country. And, yes, a pride in Americans like yourselves who so unselfishly see the need for what they are doing.

God bless you and again my thanks. Please express my thanks also to Lance Corporal Robert Meyung.

Sincerely,



Mr. and Mrs. Art Meyung
2024 Elm Avenue
Norwood, Ohio 45212

To Mrs. Madeline, A. Hyman

135 A East Valerio St. Santa Barbara Calif.

93101

✓ Dear Mrs. Hyman

Thank you very much for your holiday greeting and for the gift, we've been enjoying it. You were very kind and we're grateful for your generous words.

I'm delighted to have the Chinese phrase for crisis. It certainly is a more positive approach than we usually associate with the word.

Again our thanks & we hope your Thanksgiving was a day of warmth & pleasure.

Sincerely RR

✓ To Mr. & Mrs. ^{MEYUNG} Mayung 2024 Elm Ave.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Mayung Norwood Ohio 45212

I thank you very much for your letter of Oct. 27 and forgive me for being so late in answering.

It takes a while for mail to reach my desk.

I know how happy you must be that your son is now on his way back to the States and I'm happy for you. This letter is much easier to write than the letters I've been writing these past few weeks. With all the sorrow & sadness though ~~there is~~ there is a pride in these wonderful young men who have volunteered to serve their country. And yes a pride in Americans like yourselves who so unselfishly see the need for what they are doing.

God bless you & again my thanks. Please express my thanks also to Lance Corporal Robert Mayung.

Sincerely

RR

✓ To Mr. & Mrs. Dan Daniels P.O. Box 3015 Paducah Ky.

Dear Mr. & Mrs. Daniels

I thank you very much for your kind letter. I'm happy your days of pain ended happily. Your generous words of support were more than kind and ~~are~~ are greatly appreciated. Believe me your letter makes me both humble & proud.

God Bless you.

Sincerely RR

End
case
File

189330

MED01

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Nov. 28 1983

Dear Mas Oyama

My son has told me about your upcoming trip to Karate Tournaments in Japan. I wish you well and may I say - Good Luck & all the Best to you.

We have just returned from Japan. Our schedule should have been delayed a few weeks so we could have been present for the tournaments.

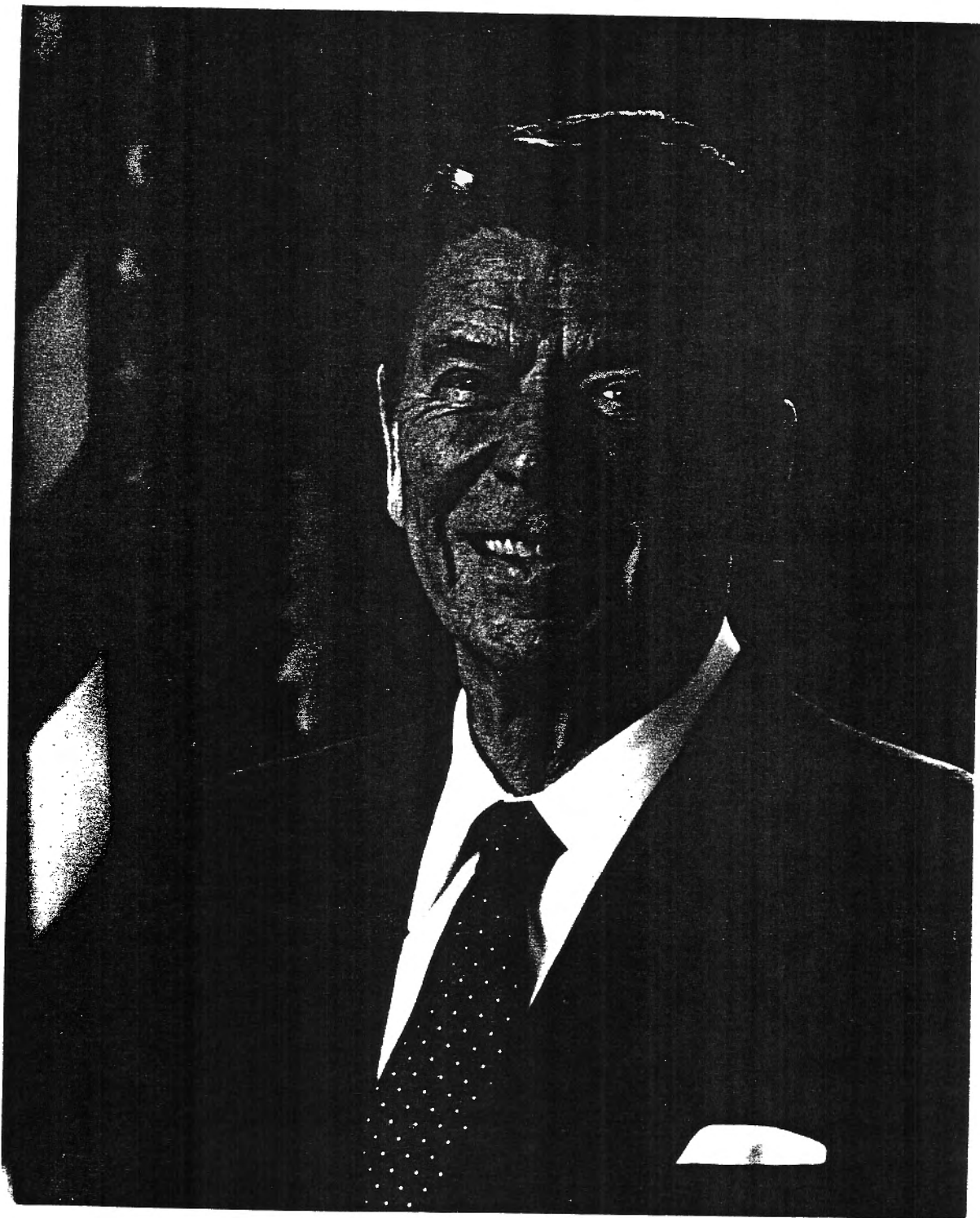
Again - best of everything.

Sincerely

Ronald Reagan

HANDLING FILE

Sent to Ron Reagan, N.Y.



To Mrs Oyama - With Very Best
Wishes & Best Regards
Ronald Reagan

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

TO: *Befj*

FROM: KATHY OSBORNE
Personal Secretary
to the President

DATE: *11-28-83*

Please mail for

RIC -

FROM
THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Ron Reagan
20 West 10th Street, #
New York, New York 100

8 831128

DON'T LET THE TURKEYS GET YOU DOWN.

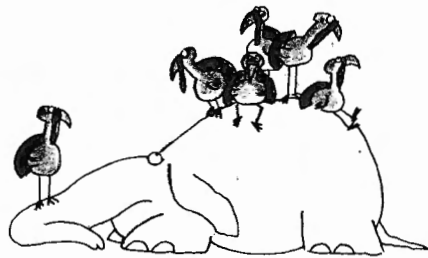
8X10

Mas Oyama -

Note Good Luck on the open world
Karate Tournaments

Send this to one
Sam Rone in N.Y.

RA.





Mas Oyama's Karate

North American Headquarters for the International and US Kyokushin Karate Organizations

November 30, 1983

189330

MEP

*I've answered
RR*

President Ronald Reagan
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to pledge to you our unqualified support in the implementation of your domestic as well as foreign policies.

United States Kyokushin Karate organization members and I are of firm conviction that a strong military posture is essential for the United States in dealing with its adversaries around the globe.

Since your assumption of the presidency, you have, through wisdom and statesmanship, helped the nation take giant steps toward economic and military superiority in the world. Under your capable leadership, American people are witnessing a remarkable economic recovery. Internationally, your policies have restored in the friends and allies of the United States long overdue confidence. The same policies have appropriately demonstrated to their foes the American people's determination to defend freedom and democratic values worldwide.

Your most recent heroic decision to save American lives on the island of Grenada and rid that nation of Communist infiltration is a shining example of your farsightedness. In the Middle East, you have managed to establish credibility for the United States with your balanced approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict in search of a peaceful solution to the problem of the Middle East. Through strengthening of United States military might, you have founded a new sense of confidence and pride in the American people. Your determination to fortify North Atlantic Treaty Organization's military capability has clearly exhibited to the Soviet Union that the United States will negotiate for peace and disarmament only from a position of strength.

Mr. President, on behalf of the thirty thousand members of the U.S. Kyokushin Karate organization engaged in the practice of karate (an old Japanese art of self defense) through out fifty-eight branches and my own behalf, I respectfully offer to you our unconditional support in carrying out your constitutional duties.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Shigeru Oyama
Chairman

U.S. Kyokushin Oyama Karate

350 AVENUE OF AMERICAS NEW YORK, NY 10011

End
Case
File

191368
WE 001

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

November 28, 1983

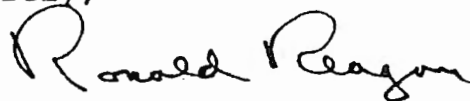
Dear Mrs. Ford:

Thank you very much for your letter and for sharing your experience with us. I wasn't able to find the medical information you asked for regarding "Baby Jane," and since the government is involved in the legal action connected with this case, we don't even have access to the parents name to ask them about this.

I appreciate very much your writing and sending me the press story. It was most heartwarming. We'll continue doing what we can to protect these innocent lives but I have a feeling the real answer will come from you and others who have experienced the pain and the love.

God bless you and God bless Jennifer.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Cynthia Ford
56 Mosswood Drive
Suisun City, California 94585

82.11.30

Nov. 9, 1983

Dear Mr. President and Mrs. Reagan -

My name is Cynthia Ford and I have a 1 yr. old daughter named Jennifer born October 16th '82 with spina bifida. I'm 27, mother of 3, and Jennifer was my last child.

I'm writing in regards to "Baby Jane Doe" in New York. I feel so sad for the couple of Baby Jane Doe because I truly believe that they really don't know much about the birth defect known as Spina Bifida.

I found out during my pregnancy that my child would be born with the birth defect. Needless to say, I was terrified and searched for a Dr. to abort the baby in my 7th month and in the state of California, not a Dr. would touch me at such a late date - so this baby was to be born - like it or not!

It breaks my heart to talk about this mainly because Jennifer is now my heart and soul. She had a terribly awful time at birth, due to extra problems outside of the Spina Bifida, and I honestly believed I'd never take her home.

Anyway, she was born at UCSF and never once, did any of her Dr.'s ever tell me that she would be severely handicapped or bedridden. And believe me -- I asked, but they couldn't tell me because there was no real way of knowing until the child was older. We have gone through tests after tests with our Jennifer but she's still too young to tell us what she feels in her legs, or to know if she'll walk -- you see, that's what I don't understand. How can those Dr.'s in New York offer such opinions of Baby Jane?

Here in Fairfield, California, we have started our own Spina Bifida Family Support Group and it's so informative. I will send you an article done in Spina Bifida month (Oct.- thanks to you we have that month). I wish the parents of Baby Jane could see. Mr. Reagan, is there any way you could let me know where the bubble is on the baby. Maybe you would like to read about it. I will send you a book to go through.

Please help save this baby. Let her have a chance to live and possibly show this world that, no matter how life comes to you -- let her enjoy it the best way she can - But she needs that surgery!!

Thank you so much for listening
to me.

Cynthia Ford

Cynthia Ford

56 Mosswood Drive

Suisun City, California 94585

Dear Mr. President & Mrs. ^{Chief with Spina Bifida} Reagan - 00
My name is Cynthia Ford & I have
a 1 yr. old daughter name Jennifer born
October 16th-82, with Spina Bifida. In
mother of 3, & Jennifer was my last
id.

In writing in regards to "Baby Jane Doe"
N.Y. I feel so sad for the couple of
Baby Jane Doe because I truly believe that
I really don't know ^{much} ~~my~~ about the birth
defect known as Spina Bifida.

I found out during my pregnancy that my
child would be born with the birth defect.
Needless to say, I was terrified & searched
for a Dr. to absorb the baby in my 7th
month & in the State of Cal., not a Dr.
would touch me at such a late date
if this baby was to be born - like it or not!

over

It breaks my heart to talk about this,
mainly because Jennifer is ^{now} my heart + soul.
She had a terribly awful time at birth, &
to extra problems outside of the Spina Bifu
& I honestly believed I'd never take her
home.

Anyway, she was born at UCSF + never
once, did any of the Drs. ever tell me that
she would be severely handicapped or bed ridden.
And believe me - I asked, but they couldn't tell
me because there was no real way of knowing
until the child was older. We have gone
through tests after tests with our Jennifer
but she's still too young to tell us what
she feels in her legs, or to know if she'll
walk - you see, that's what I don't under-
stand. How can those Drs. in NY offer
such opinions of Baby Jane?

~~the next~~

3

Here in Fairfield, Ca. we have started our own Spina Bifida Family Support Group + its so informative. I will send you an article done in Spina Bifida month. (Oct - thanks to you we have that month). I wish the parents of Baby Jane could see. Mr Reagan, is there any way you could let me know where the bubble is on the baby. Maybe you would like to read about it. I will send you a book to go through.

Please help save this baby. Let her have a chance to live + possibly show this world that, no matter how life comes to you - let her enjoy it the best ~~any~~ way she can - But she needs that surgery!!

Thank you so much for listening to me.
Cynthia Ford

CYNTHIA FORD
56 Mosswood Dr.
Suisun City, CA. 94585

To Faith W,
I answered a letter
from Cindy Ford.
I thought you'd like
to see this.
R.R.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 1983 DAILY REPUBLICAN

Three mothers who love their special children

By AMY MAGINNIS
Family Focus editor

Every hour, 24 hours a day, a child is born somewhere in the United States with spina bifida. This year alone, the number of

children born with spina bifida will be much greater than the total number of people who have contracted polio in the past 20 years.

Spina bifida is seven times more common than muscular dystrophy and five times more common than multiple sclerosis.

In fact, spina bifida occurs more frequently than muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, polio and cystic fibrosis combined.

Three local mothers are well-acquainted with spina bifida and its effects on children — Brenda Horton's 2-year-old son Justin, Sally Tracy's 16-month-old daughter Jennifer and Cindy Ford's daughter Jennifer, who will be a year old in October, all live with the birth defect.

All are members of the Solano County Parents of Children with Spina Bifida, an organization founded by Sharon Jobson of the Me Too program.

The support from the group has helped each in a different way.

"It's helped me meet other people and other kids with the defect to kind of compare," said Horton. "It gives me a lot of support."

Tracy feels it's helped her because, "you think your whole world has fallen apart and then you see the other parents and kids and see how well they're doing."

"It gives you hope."

Ford, who found out in her seventh month of pregnancy that her child would be born with the defect said, "I didn't know a thing about it (spina bifida.)"

"It feels so much better knowing there's someone I can call. Just that makes me feel so much better."

When doctor's informed Ford that her child would be born with the defect, she says she "went to the library and checked out every book that mentioned spina bifida."

She also wrote to the Spina Bifida Association of America in Chicago for information.

"It scared me, but I was prepared for it," she adds.

Tracy found out shortly before she delivered that her baby would face problems.

"I found out a few hours before she was born that she would have a large head. I didn't know what they would find."



DR Photos by Gary Goldsmith

Brenda Horton, top left, and Cindy Ford, top right, are pictured with their children Justin, bottom left, and Jennifer, bottom right. Justin and Jennifer were both born with spina bifida.

Horton didn't have an easy time either.

"For me it was extra hard, my husband and I were splitting up at the same time."

Justin was born in a military hospital in Hawaii.

"They took him away right away. I was kind of in shock."

"I didn't have a reaction until I saw him in the nursery."

"My knees felt like rubber. I sat with him all night and cried and cried."

Ford, Tracy and Horton all say they experienced guilt over their children's condition.

"I blamed myself," Ford tells.

usually controlled by a surgical procedure relieving the fluid pressure.

Tracy has had to catheterize her daughter since she was four months old because of infections.

And, at present, doctors aren't sure whether Jennifer's left kidney functions at all.

"I'm real squirmy about this," Tracy shares. The number one killer of these kids is kidney failure."

Jennifer is facing surgery and her mother says, "I'm ready for that surgery because I don't want to lose her."

As for the day-to-day extra care

bladder infections and three hernias.

While Horton does work, she spends as much of her free time as possible with Justin.

"Sometimes I feel guilty about having to work," she says. "But, I have to."

Ford gets help from the other four children in the family, in addition to Jennifer.

"The doctors told me to make sure she wasn't treated any different than the other children."

While Ford says Jennifer will be her last child, Horton and Tracy ponder the issue knowing they run the risk of another baby being



Sally Tracy and daughter Jennifer take time out to look at book. The Tracy's were assigned to Travis so Jennifer would have the care she needed.

October is Spina Bifida Month

The Spina Bifida Association of America in Chicago for information.

October is Spina Bifida Month

The Spina Bifida Association of America has announced that October will be National Spina Bifida Month. The month will focus national attention on recent advancements made in the areas of research, education, legislation and treatment of the most serious birth defect compatible with life.

"Spina Bifida Month will highlight the significant progress made in recent years in the treatment of spina bifida," said Wayne Killingworth, president of the Spina Bifida Association of America.

"Although spina bifida is the most common cripple of newborns, many people have never heard of it. We need to change that — it's time spina bifida stopped being the secret birth defect."

The treatment of spina bifida has improved dramatically in recent years. Whereas 30 years ago, 80 percent of babies born with the defect died.

Revolutionary surgical techniques and mechanical aids now make it possible for 90 percent of children born with the defect to live healthy, productive lives.

Further information about spina bifida can be obtained from the Spina Bifida Association of America, a national network of over 100 local chapters dedicated to bring the problems and needs of individuals with spina bifida into the public spotlight.

Write the SBAA, 343 S. Dearborn St., Suite 317, Chicago, Ill. 60604. Or call toll free 1-800-621-3141.

she was born that she would have a large head. I didn't know what they would find.

"I was petrified because all they said was 'she has a big head.'"

The ordeal was extremely difficult for Tracy because Jennifer was born in a civilian hospital in Missouri. (At the time Tracy and her husband were stationed at a small Air Force Base in Missouri.)

"The base was real small and I worked at the BX. Everyone knew everyone.

"Everyone wanted to know about the baby. It was hard to tell them when you didn't know yourself what was happening."

Immediately after birth, Jennifer was transferred to a hospital in Kansas City. The Air Force transferred the Tracy's to Travis AFB when Jennifer was four months old so she could get the care necessary.

children's condition.

"I blamed myself," Ford tells. "I didn't know what to think."

Tracy's doctor told her husband the first thing "don't blame her. It wasn't anything she did."

While her husband repeated these words constantly, Tracy says she still wondered what she had done to have her baby afflicted with spina bifida.

Horton says, "I felt very guilty at first.

"My biggest question was why. 'It's hard to accept. At times I get to feeling sorry for myself.'"

While being a mother is a full-time job in itself, Ford, Tracy and Horton face special tasks and worries each day with their children.

The long-term effects of spina bifida include weakness or paralysis of the legs and problems with bowel and bladder control.

It is often accompanied by hydrocephalus (accumulation of fluid within the brain), which is

to lose her."

As for the day-to-day extra care Jennifer needs, her mother adds, "it's not so bad — it's a little bit of an extra hassle.

"But if that's what it takes to keep her healthy, I'll do it."

The Tracy's do have respite care through North Bay Regional Center in Vallejo and Sally says the nurse "has become one of the family."

But, Tracy feels she's limited in some respects.

"I don't have the freedom to go out and work. I couldn't expect a virtual stranger to take care of all of Jennifer's needs.

"I'm glad I'm home with her — she needs a little extra help.

"I wouldn't trade her for a truckload of healthy babies. But, sometimes I wonder if something happened to me who would treat her like I do."

Presently, Justin requires help emptying his bowels everyday and has survived two

ponder the issue knowing they run the risk of another baby being born with the birth defect.

"You have to be realistic," Tracy says. "I know the suffering Jennifer has gone through.

"I wonder what it will be like when she's five or six and has to go to school in a wheelchair.

"You look at this little kid crying because of the way society looks at them."

Hortson says, "I'd love to have more kids. But, it's a scary decision."

The Solano County Parents of Children with Spina Bifida will have a picnic Saturday at Hillview Park on Atlantic Avenue in Fairfield.

The fun begins at 4 p.m. and runs until dusk.

Those attending should bring their own meat to barbecue, drinks and a potluck dish.

For more information, contact Pam Nicholson, 426-5717 or Sharon Jobson at 429-5075.

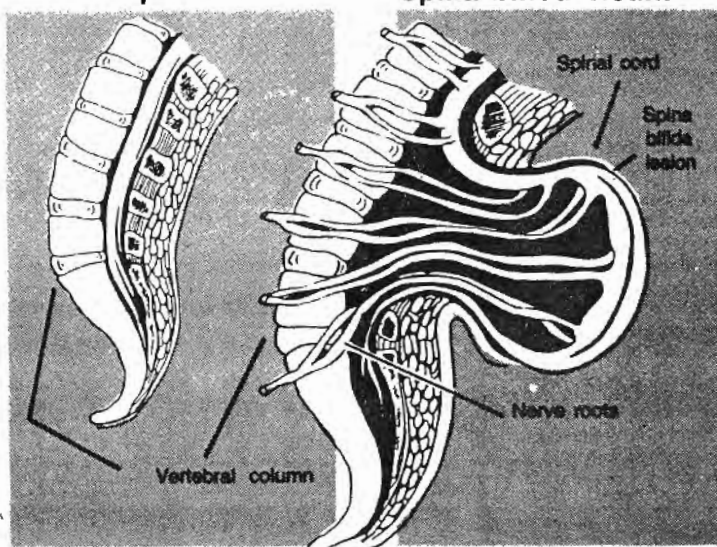
All families of children with spina bifida are invited.

What spina bifida does

Spina bifida is a birth defect in which there has been incomplete formation and fusion of the spinal canal. A rupture occurs in which the spinal cord and nerves protrude through the back and appear under the skin.

Normal spinal canal

Spina bifida victim



Chicago Tribune Graphic;

Source: New American Medical Dictionary and Health Manual

Facts about spina bifida

Spina bifida is a defect in the spinal column resulting from the failure of the spine to close properly during the first month of pregnancy. In severe cases, the spinal column protrudes from the back at birth.

Prenatal diagnosis of spina bifida and similar defects is possible through amniocentesis, withdrawal of fluid from the uterus by a needle passed through the abdominal wall. While the cause of spina bifida is now known, it appears that the condition results from multiple environmental and genetic factors.

Studies have shown a high occurrence of spina bifida in urban areas and more births during certain months of the year. Some research has indicated a possible relationship between spina bifida and industrial pollution.

Parents with one child with spina bifida have an increased chance of having a second child with the defect. In the United States, this risk appears to be about two percent. An unusually high incidence of the defect is found among Celts, occurring most frequently in England, Ireland and Scotland.

Until recently, spina bifida was called the "secret" birth defect

because despite its frequent occurrence, many people had never heard of it. Few had any idea, for example, that most of the March of Dimes and Easter Seal poster children have spina bifida.

Many parents of children with the defect were unfamiliar with it before encountering it in the delivery room. Even now, only a few cities in the United States have proper care centers, specialized professionals that can provide the most effective, aggressive treatment for children and adults with spina bifida.

Through its active public awareness program, the Spina Bifida Association of America is working to raise public awareness about spina bifida and the much improved treatment available to infants born with the condition.

Revolutionary surgical techniques and mechanical aids developed within the last two decades now make it possible for the majority of children born with spina bifida to grow to adulthood and live happy, productive lives. Whereas 30 years ago, 80 percent of children born with the defect died, 80 to 90 percent survive today.

The Chicago-based Spina Bifida Association of America is a na-

tional network of over 100 local chapters dedicated to bringing the problems and needs of individuals with spina bifida into the public spotlight.

Chartered in 1975, the non-profit organization consists of persons with the defect, their families and the professionals who treat the condition. The goals of the SBAA are to provide information on progress in the areas of medicine, education, legislation and financial support, to help fund research and medical facilities and to encourage the training of professionals involved in treatment.

The SBAA, along with many physicians, believes that aggressive treatment of babies born with spina bifida is essential, and strongly advocates the lifelong care of all persons with the condition. The SBAA believes that it is ethically irresponsible for any medical professional to "predict" the future of a child with spina bifida. Research shows that active early treatment improves their abilities for self-sufficiency as children and adults.

The SBAA also actively pursues training and advocates activities to insure educational opportunities for every individual born with spina bifida.