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May 22, 1987

Dear Mrs. Whitney:

I appreciate your letter and warm words of support, along with your kind invitation to visit in Lexington and Saratoga Springs. Thanks for thinking of me, but the heavy demands of my schedule make it impossible for me to visit.

Your assessment of John LeBoutillier and his work on the POW/MIA issue is appreciated. He has shown tremendous commitment to this cause and it would be difficult to find a more energetic advocate.

I must demur from your comments concerning any contemplated move of the primary responsibility for POW/MIA matters from the Department of Defense to the Department of State. Although this idea has been broached in various quarters, there is no active discussion of such a change in current policy either at the White House or at any of the departments at this time. Please know, however, that I am glad to hear of your interest in this matter.

Warm regards to you and Sonny.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt Whitney
Cady Hill House
40 Geyser Road
Saratoga Springs, New York 12866

HHB/LRC/JCT/jfc 5HHB

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 22, 1987

Dear Charlie:

Thank you for your letter regarding the POW/MIA issue.

Your assessment of John LeBoutillier and his work on the POW/MIA issue is appreciated. He has shown tremendous commitment to this cause and it would be difficult to find a more energetic advocate.

I must demur from your comments concerning any contemplated move of the primary responsibility for POW/MIA matters from the Department of Defense to the Department of State. Although this idea has been broached in various quarters, there is no active discussion of such a change in current policy either at the White House or at any of the departments at this time. Please know, however, that I am glad to hear of your interest in this matter.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Charles Z. Wick
Director
United States Information Agency
Washington, D.C. 20547

HHB/LRC/JCT/jfc 5HHB

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 22, 1987

Dear Mr. Woodyard:

Thank you for your letter enclosing the resume of William Whitlock.

I appreciate your clear concern for the vitality of the Republican Party, and I'm happy to circulate your recommendation to the appropriate officials. You can be sure Mr. Whitlock will be given every consideration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Harry "Babe" Woodyard
Senator of the
State of Illinois
Springfield, Illinois 62706

HHB/WJB/CAD/AVH/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

cc: Bob Tuttle

May 22, 1987

Dear Dr. Oppenheimer:

On behalf of the Chief of Staff, I want to thank you for your letters.

I am sorry this must be a disappointing response, but the heavy demands of the Senator's schedule make it impossible to comply with your request for a meeting. Nevertheless, the Senator appreciates having the benefit of your views.

If you would like to obtain a copy of the "Energy Security Report" issued by the Department of Energy, it may be ordered from the Superintendent of Documents, Government Printing Office, Washington, D.C. 20402-0325. The order number is 061-000-00695-8 and the price in $16.00. The matter of a gasoline tax is addressed in this report.

In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of a press release summarizing the President's views and recommendations on the energy and national security concerns related to oil import levels.

I hope you will find this information helpful.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Dr. Ernest J. Oppenheimer
Apartment 9D
40 Central Park South
New York, NY 10019

Enclosure

SW/LRC/CAD/emu 5HHB

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB
Enclosure: 5/6/87 Message to Congress

May 22, 1987

Dear Nelson:

Thank you for your letter informing me of your continued interest in serving on the Board of Foreign Scholarship.

You know that I am well aware of your distinguished background, and I'm happy to circulate your letter to the appropriate White House officials. You can be sure that you'll be given every consideration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Dr. Nelson V. Nee
Vice President for
International Services & Studies
United States International University
Building M-1
10455 Pomerado Road
San Diego, CA 92131

HHB/WJB/AGA/CAD/AVH/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 22, 1987

Dear Mr. Monroig:

Thank you for your letter recommending Hector Ramos for a position with this Administration.

It was good to hear from you. I've brought your assessment of Mr. Ramos' credentials to the attention of the Office of Presidential Personnel. You can be sure that he will receive every consideration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Antonio Monroig
Wolf, Arnold & Monroig, P.C.
1850 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB
cc: Bob Tuttle with copy of incoming

May 22, 1987

Dear Tom:

Thank you for your letter regarding the POW/MIA issue.

Your assessment of John LeBoutillier and his work on the POW/MIA issue is appreciated. He has shown tremendous commitment to this cause and it would be difficult to find a more energetic advocate.

I must demur from your comments concerning any contemplated move of the primary responsibility for POW/MIA matters from the Department of Defense to the Department of State. Although this idea has been broached in various quarters, there is no active discussion of such a change in current policy either at the White House or at any of the departments at this time. Please know, however, that I am glad to hear of your interest in this matter.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Thomas H. Kean
Governor of New Jersey
Trenton, New Jersey 08625

HHB/LRC/JCT/jfc 5HHB

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 22, 1987

Dear Mayor Flaherty:

Thank you for your letter of invitation in connection with the official opening of the Brother Industries facility on June 26. I understand and share the City of Bartlett's pride in this substantial addition to the local economy.

Although I will not be able to attend this event, I am happy to circulate your invitation to the appropriate White House officials so that your invitation to the President and Mrs. Reagan can be given every consideration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Bobby K. Flaherty
Mayor of Bartlett
Bartlett, Tennessee 38134

HHB/WJB/CAD/emu 5HHBC

cc: ~~Korraine Camarano,~~ 61 OEOB

cc: Fred Ryan

May 22, 1987

Dear Mr. Catell:

Thank you for your letter recommending that the Administration support a number of energy policy initiatives ranging from natural gas price decontrol to a large increase in the gasoline tax.

We in the Administration certainly agree with you that the Federal government should adopt policies which give the American people and American business market-based incentives to develop, produce, and use our domestic energy resources wisely and efficiently. That is the best formula, in our view, for assuring our national energy security and a strong and flexible economy.

We have made significant progress in pursuing this agenda since President Reagan decontrolled oil markets six-and-a-half years ago. But, as you point out in your letter, important work still needs to be done.

Earlier this month the President sent Congress a report listing the measures which we believe should be enacted into law to complete our unfinished energy business. I am pleased to say that decontrol of natural gas prices and removal of Government restrictions on the use of natural gas -- as called for in your letter -- are key items on that list.

We agree with you that current controls and restrictions on natural gas markets simply do not make any sense because they limit the production and use of a plentiful and economical domestic energy resource. Government controls are also counterproductive since they interfere with the creation of a healthy economy.

We also agree with your strong opposition to an oil import fee. A fee would raise prices to consumers and slow economic growth while making it harder for U.S. businesses to compete overseas.

As the Energy Security Report points out, an oil import fee would stimulate uneconomic domestic production and hasten depletion of domestic oil reserves. In order to protect consumers from the threat of higher prices, it would impose higher prices on them. As the economic assessment in the Energy Department report indicates, the costs of an import fee would be about four times as large as its benefits. The fee would also eliminate three times as many jobs as it created.

The same Energy Department report which you cite in support of your opposition to an oil import fee also attempts to present a balanced picture of the advantages and disadvantages of a gasoline tax increase. Like the assessment which Dr. Ernest J. Oppenheimer sent us, and which you cited, the Energy Department's analysis points out that a gasoline tax would increase Treasury revenues. It would lower gasoline demand and possibly the peak price in an oil supply disruption.

However, a gasoline tax would also have certain negative effects which, we believe, need to be weighed in the balance. It would increase inflation and unemployment, for example, and slow down economic activity. When the Energy Department assessed all the relevant effects of a gasoline tax, it concluded that "the gasoline tax is not a cost-effective way to increase energy security." In fact, based on the Department's estimates, the costs imposed by a gasoline tax are an order of magnitude higher than its benefits.

Now I am not a great believer in making decisions mechanistically by the numbers. At the same time I have had my staff include these estimates here to assure you we have attempted to assess these taxes in an objective and balanced way. Based on this analysis, it seems to us that both an oil import fee and a gasoline tax are not good policy.

In addition, of course, we are concerned that Congress might spend the proceeds of any tax increase and avoid needed cuts in Federal spending. Consequently, we continue to be strongly opposed to an oil import fee and to any increase in the gasoline tax.

With respect to the market for compressed natural gas (CNG) and autos that are CNG-fueled, I certainly agree with you that the Administration needs to treat all fuels, including CNG, in an even-handed way, allowing them to compete on their merits and not through special subsidies or in response to tax incentives.

As you know, in the interest of eliminating costly distortions in the economy, we have proposed that any exemption from the motor fuel tax be eliminated and, in fairness to competing fuels, we would have to extend this approach to CNG.

The Administration certainly shares your enthusiasm for CNG or any other technology which is able to compete in the market on its own merits. We are always willing to consider the need to adjust any regulations which have an unwarranted and unintended negative impact on competitive new technologies.

I trust that you will keep the Administration posted on developments in this area.

Thank you once again for sharing your perspective and expertise on these important issues.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Robert B. Catell
Executive Vice President
Chief Operating Officer
The Brooklyn Union Gas Company
195 Montague Street
Brooklyn, NY 11201-3631

HHB/OMB/CAD/LC/emu 5HHB
cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 22, 1987

Dear George:

I appreciate your letter and warm words, but I thought you knew that I work more than eight hours a day even when I'm on vacation, not to mention a working day.

Your assessment of John LeBoutillier and his work on the POW/MIA issue is appreciated. He has shown tremendous commitment to this cause and it would be difficult to find a more energetic advocate.

I must demur from your comments concerning any contemplated move of the primary responsibility for POW/MIA matters from the Department of Defense to the Department of State. Although this idea has been broached in various quarters, there is no active discussion of such a change in current policy either at the White House or at any of the departments at this time. Please know, however, that I am glad to hear of your interest in this matter.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. George Champion
1211 Avenue of the Americas
New York, NY 10036

HHB/LRC/JCT/jfc 5HHB

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 22, 1987

Dear Mr. Bower:

Thank you for your recent note concerning my appointment as White House Chief of Staff. I appreciate your generous support thoughout the years, and I look forward to working with President Reagan to complete the agenda he undertook when he came into office.

With my best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Glen L. Bower
Post Office Box 1106
Effingham, IL 62401

HHB/WJB/CAD/emu ~~5HHBC~~

cc: ~~Lorraine~~ Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 22, 1987

Dear Barney:

Thank you for your message recommending Joseph T. Lynyak for general counsel of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

I'm happy to circulate your recommendation to the appropriate White House officials. You can be sure he'll be given every consideration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Bernard H. Barnett
Barnett & Alagia
1000 Thomas Jefferson Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20007

HHB/WJB/CAD/AVH/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Young:

Thanks so much for your letters of April 8 and May 15. I am sorry that the heavy volume of mail delayed my response. It was good to hear from you and to have the benefit of your views.

My staff has relayed to me your request for a meeting. However, my schedule is directly related to the President's schedule, and I don't foresee a time when such a meeting could be arranged in the near future. I hope you will understand.

Nevertheless, I am happy to enclose the photograph which you requested. It comes with my best wishes to you and Mrs. Young.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Pat Young
Post Office Box 642
Narragansett, RI 02882

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/aav 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Enclosure: Autographed photo of Howard Baker

May 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Wellborn:

It was kind of you to send Senator Baker a synopsis of your book. He appreciates your thoughtfulness and extends his best wishes for your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Starnes R. Wellborn
1126 Winding Way
Nashville, TN 37216

SW/WJB/HHB/SW/CAD/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter inviting Joy and me to your get-together on September 9.

I'm sure you'll understand that a definite answer this far in advance is impossible. If you'd like to send a follow-up invitation, I'll be happy to reconsider your offer closer to the date of the event.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. George W. Wilson
Chairman and President
American Newspaper Publishers
Association
Box 17407, Dulles Airport
Washington, D.C. 20041

HHB/WJB/CAD/AVH/emu/aaw 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Harold:

Thanks for your letter recommending Arthur Levitt, Jr. for Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

I appreciate having assessments of Mr. Levitt's credentials from both you and Mr. Groves, and I've brought your letter to the attention of the Office of Presidential Personnel. You can be sure that your recommendation is valued and that he will receive every consideration. I'm glad you haven't forgotten that you still owe me a breakfast -- perhaps we'll be able to get to that before too long.

Joy and I send our best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Harold E. Walker
Ernst & Whinney
2400 Pauahi Tower
1001 Bishop Street
Honolulu, HI 96813

HHB/WJB/HHB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Bob Tuttle

May 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Wolery:

On behalf of Senator Baker, I want to thank you for your letter. Your kind words of encouragement meant a great deal to him.

I am sorry this must be a disappointing reply to your request. Because of the great number of similar appeals received at the White House, it is not possible to comply with all of them. I know you will understand.

Nevertheless, the Senator appreciates your interest in writing and sends his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Howard E. Wolery
1507 Stratton Avenue
Nashville, TN 37206

SW/LRC/AVH/aaw 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Roberts:

Thank you for your letter inviting Senator Baker to address the East Tennessee Education Association's Annual Convention in October.

I'm sure you will understand that a decision this far in advance is not possible. If you would like to submit a follow-up invitation closer to the date of the event, we will be happy to give it every consideration.

With Senator Baker's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Jack Roberts
Executive Secretary
Tennessee Education Association
P.O. Box 8478, University Station, UT
Knoxville, TN 37996-4800

SW/WJB/HHB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Jim:

Thank you for your letter attaching biographical information on James Tobin and recommending him for Chairmanship of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

I'll see to it that everyone involved is aware of your comments and support. You can be sure Mr. Tobin will be given every consideration.

Warm regards,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. James A. Rhodes
James A. Rhodes & Associates
Suite 1300
42 East Gay Street
Columbus, OH 43215

HHB/WJB/HHB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Bob Tuttle

May 26, 1987

Dear Phil:

It was good to talk with you on the phone. Thank you for your warm words of support and for your understanding of my abrupt change of schedule.

I am ever thankful for your political conversion some twenty years ago. Needless to say, it's good to have you on our side -- as the President himself likes to say, he didn't change, the other Party did.

Joy and I send best wishes to you and Jo.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Phil Regan
1123 South Orange Grove Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91105

HHB/WJB/AVH/emu 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Ryan:

Thanks so much for your letter. It was a special pleasure for me to address the White House Fellows Alumni gathering, and I deeply appreciate your kind words.

Please accept my best wishes for continued success. I look forward to further opportunities to work with the White House Fellows program.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Michael C. Ryan
Special Assistant to
the Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D.C. 20535

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emu/aaw 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Dr. Mallard:

Thank you for your letter inviting me to address the Southeastern Paralegal Institute. I congratulate you and your new graduates as you observe your fifth anniversary and your recent approval by the American Bar Association.

Regrettably, the month of June is booked clear through, and I will not be able to attend your banquet. I wish you a most successful occasion -- you have a lot to celebrate.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Dr. Bruce Mallard
President
Southeastern Paralegal Institute
Suite 202
112 21st Avenue, South
Nashville, TN 37203

HHB/WJB/CAD/AVH/lynn 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Kleinert:

On behalf of the Chief of Staff, I want to thank you for your letter and warm words of congratulations.

Although Senator Baker is unable to accept your kind offer, he appreciates your interest in writing.

With the Senator's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. William H. Kleinert
Assistant to the President
and Publisher
The Detroit News
Post Office Box 450
Washington, D.C. 20044

SW/LRC/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: ~~Lorraine~~ Camarano, 61 OEOB

Enclosures: ~~2 sets~~ of USA TODAY books returned

May 26, 1987

Dear Tommy:

Thank you for your letter inviting me to address the Tennessee Association of Broadcasters' annual meeting on August 14.

I will be travelling with the President during that time and am thus unable to accept your kind invitation. Nevertheless, please accept my best wishes for a successful and enjoyable conference.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Thomas R. King
Executive Vice President
Tennessee Association of Broadcasters
Post Office Box 40185
Nashville, TN 37204

HHB/WJB/HHB/AGAIII/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Helen:

Thanks for your letter and for sending the advance copy of the new book on Scoop, Staying the Course: Henry M. Jackson and National Security. I especially appreciate your thoughtfulness.

With warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Ms. Helen H. Jackson
The Henry M. Jackson Foundation
1145 Washington Building
1325 Fourth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Hennessy:

Senator Baker asked me to thank you for your letter inviting him and Mrs. Baker to the Opening Night performance of the Bolshoi Ballet Company on July 21. They are honored by your thinking of them in connection with the return of this famed company to Washington.

While Senator and Mrs. Baker would truly enjoy being with you on this occasion, they are unable to accept your kind invitation. You have their best wishes for what they know will be a most successful evening.

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Edward L. Hennessy, Jr.
Chairman of the Board
Allied-Signal Inc.
Post Office Box 3000R
Morristown, NJ 07960-2496

SW/WJB/HHB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Gill:

Thank you for letter inviting the President to visit your office during his recent trip to Chattanooga. I am sorry that the demands of his schedule did not allow for that cup of coffee. It would have been an enjoyable time.

Thanks also for your warm words of encouragement, as well as those of Doris Vineyard. It is an honor to serve this President, and I appreciate your kindness.

With warm best wishes to you and Doris,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable John W. Gill, Jr.
United States Attorney
Eastern District of Tennessee
U.S. Department of Justice
359 Federal Building
Chattanooga, TN 37402

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Ms. Flowers:

Thank you for your note inviting Senator Baker to address an Agency Heads Staff meeting at the Department of Agriculture on some future date.

Mr. Baker has expressed an interest in meeting with you, but his schedule does not currently permit this. Please be assured that we will inform you when Senator Baker is able to join you.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Ms. Delores Flowers
Assistant to the Secretary
of Agriculture
Department of Agriculture
Washington, D.C. 20250

SW/WJB/HHB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Sue Walkup

May 26, 1987

Dear Mrs. Findley:

I am delighted to send my congratulations on your 100th birthday. It is clear to me that, in addition to a long life, you have been blessed with a wonderful and loving family. I hope that your celebration on June 8 is a special one and that you will experience the joy of knowing what an inspiration you are to all of us.

With warmest wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mrs. Florence Findley
Spring Creek Health Care Center
1000 East Stuart
Fort Collins, CO 80525

HHB/CAD/ckb 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB
cc: Kathleen Hogan-FYI

May 26, 1987

Dear Lamar:

Thanks so much for your letter. I enjoyed hearing from you and having the benefit of your observations.

I've asked Frank Carlucci to help with arranging a meeting with Soviet officials as you requested.

I'm also looking forward to seeing you sometime during the week of July 20. Please call my office to confirm.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Lamar Alexander
2A Coronation Avenue
Mosman 2088
New South Wales (Sydney)
Australia

HHB/LRC/CAD/emu 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letters of April 7 and May 1. I'm sorry for the delay in responding. It was good to hear from you, and I appreciate your kind words of encouragement.

The President vetoed the highway/transit bill because it authorized spending which exceeded the President's budget by $10.1 billion over five years and because it contained spending for numerous special interest projects. In general, completion of these projects would require additional Federal spending beyond that authorized during the time period of the bill.

Regarding the claim that the bill's programs are financed by the Highway Trust Fund, you should know that $11.7 billion of the bill's total authorization level of $87.5 billion is derived from general taxpayer revenues, not the Trust Fund. Additionally, the fact that most of the spending comes from the user-fee-financed Highway Trust Fund makes no difference on the budget impact of the legislation. All receipts collected by the Federal government, either through its sovereign taxing power or through business-type or market-oriented activities, are Federal revenue that influence the economic well-being of this country. All spending financed by these receipts provides services to the public that are the responsibility of the Federal government. The difference between receipts and outlays affects the Federal deficit. To avoid any impact on the deficit, the President's budget and the Administration's highway/transit legislative proposal limited highway and transit spending to the user-fee receipts deposited in the Highway Trust Fund. Regrettably, Congress did not follow this deficit-neutral approach.

Thank you for taking the time to write, and I trust that this explanation addresses your concerns.

Warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Robert G. Becker
173 Earle Avenue
Lynbrook, NY 11563
HHB/OMB/LC/CAD/emu 5HHBC
cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Muffie:

Thank you for inviting Joy and me to the opening dinner and premiere of the Wyeth Art exhibition at the Corcoran Gallery of Art.

Regrettably, due to the heavy demands of my schedule, I'm unable to accept this invitation. I appreciate your thinking of me, however, and I am certain you will have a most memorable premiere.

Joy and I send our warmest regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Ms. Mabel H. Brandon
Suite 305
2550 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20037

HHB/PF/CAD/lynn/aaw 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your kind note and words of support.

For my part, I am happy to comply with your request. I must tell you, however, that the President affixes his signature only to his own correspondence.

Warm regards,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. William C. Cook
President
Hartmann Luggage Company
Hartmann Drive
Lebanon, TN 37087

HHB/WJB/CAD/AVH/efr 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 26, 1987

Dear John:

Thanks for your message. It's always a pleasure to see you, and it was a special delight to see you and the President together. I also enjoyed meeting your friend James Hemphill.

I hope you enjoyed the photos. Joy and I send our best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable John Sherman Cooper
Covington & Burling
Post Office Box 7566
Washington, D.C. 20044

HHB/PF/CAD/emu/aaw 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear Mr. Yassukovich:

It was good to hear from you. Your kind words mean a great deal to me.

My association with the Advisory Council holds special memories for me, and I am pleased to learn of your continued success.

I look forward to seeing you again in the future and send warm regards to you and everyone at Merrill Lynch Europe.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Stanislas Yassukovich
Chairman and Chief Executive
Merrill Lynch Europe Limited
Merrill Lynch House
27 Finsbury Square
London EC2A 1AQ
England

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear Miss Wright:

Thank you for your note and resume.

I am sorry to send a disappointing response, but there is no position available at the White House to meet your career goals. Nevertheless, your interest in writing is appreciated.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Miss Gretchen Wright
Apartment 103
7305 Riggs Road
Hyattsville, MD 20781

SW/LRC/CAD/AVH/aaw -- 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear George:

Thank you for your message recommending Richard D. Stobbs for the position of United States Marshal for the Northern District of West Virginia.

I'm happy to circulate your recommendation to the appropriate White House officials. You can be sure he'll be given every consideration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable George V. Voinovich
Mayor of Cleveland
Cleveland, Ohio 44114

HHB/WJB/HHB/AGAIII/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

A. B. Culvahouse

May 27, 1987

Dear Mr. Stansberry:

Thank you very much for the editorial cartoon by Dick Locher. I appreciate your thoughtfulness and send my warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Frank R. Stansberry
The Coca-Cola Company
Post Office Box 22176
Lake Buena Vista, FL 32830

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emu/aaw 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear Mr. Seitelman:

Thank you for your kindness in sending the Chief of Staff copies of International Defense Images. He appreciates your thinking of him, and he looks forward to reviewing your publication. The additional set you enclosed for the President is also appreciated.

With Senator Baker's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Mi Seitelman
Editor-in-Chief
International Defense Images
Post Office Box 2477
Alexandria, VA 22301

SW/WJB/HHB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear Irby:

Thanks for your letter. I'm sorry to hear that the FAA position did not work out.

I appreciate your request for a meeting, but I'll be traveling with the President in Europe on June 9. Please don't hesitate to call the next time you're in Washington, and we'll see what can be arranged.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Irby Seay
Irby Seay Company
661 Madison Avenue
Memphis, TN 38103

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear George:

Thank you for your letter expressing your continuing interest in being a part of the team. I'm delighted that you have had positive feedback, especially from Frank Lavin.

While there's no spot on my immediate staff, I particularly appreciate your offer of help to this Administration. Please be assured that I'm keeping your resume on hand should an opening occur in the future.

With warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. George Pendleton
607 Somerset Place
Chillum, MD 20783

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear Harry:

Thank you for your message recommending Robert Gooch for a position on the Securities and Exchange Commission.

I'm happy to circulate your recommendation to the appropriate White House officials. You can be sure he'll be given every consideration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Harry J. Phillips
Chairman of the Board and
Chief Executive Officer
Browning-Ferris Industries
Post Office Box 3151
Houston, TX 77253

HHB/WJB/HHB/AGAIII/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Bob Tuttle

May 27, 1987

Dear Mr. Melendez:

Thank you for your letter to the Chief of Staff. Although your interest in requesting a letter of recommendation is appreciated, Senator Baker cannot comply with such requests. I hope you will understand.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Felipe Mendez Melendez
Apartment 101
6195 West 18th Avenue
Hialeah, FL 33012

SW/LRC/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear Mr. Lanzaro:

Senator Baker has asked me to thank you for your letter requesting an opportunity to be photographed with the President.

Mr. Baker appreciates your kind words and has sent your message to the appropriate White House staff members for their review. I am returning the photograph you enclosed with the thought that you might like to have it among your mementos.

With Senator Baker's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. William M. Lanzaro
Sheriff of Monmouth County
Post Office Box 1263
Court House, Monument Park
Freehold, NJ 07728-1263

SW/WJB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Fred Ryan

Enclosure: Photograph for return

May 27, 1987

Dear Gabriel:

Thank you for your warm note of encouragement. It is indeed a pleasure for me to serve this President during these challenging times.

It was good to hear from you and to receive your commencement address at the University of the Ozarks. Courage and integrity are important values, and I'm pleased that you emphasized them. I also appreciate your kind words about me, but they are far too generous.

Thanks again for writing. Please accept my warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Gabriel Lewis
Post Office Box 494
Panama 1
Panama

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Cleared w/NSC

May 27, 1987

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your message recommending Louis Gasper for the post of President of the Government National Mortgage Association.

Your endorsement carries a lot of weight around here, and I will keep your words in mind.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Paul Laxalt
Finley, Kumble, Wagner, Heine,
Underberg, Manley, Myerson & Casey
1120 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

HHB/WJB/HHB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB
Bob Tuttle

May 27, 1987

Dear Mel:

Thank you for sending a copy of the lecture you recently delivered to the Thomas Jefferson Center Foundation. It was good of you to think of me, and I look forward to reading your address.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Melvin R. Laird
Reader's Digest
1730 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

HHB/WJB/HHB/AGAIII/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear Margaret:

Thank you for your letter recommending John Norris for a position on the White House staff. I apologize for the delay in responding.

I appreciate learning of Mr. Norris' distinguished service as Deputy Commissioner at the Food and Drug Administration. I've brought your assessment of his qualifications to the attention of the Office of Presidential Personnel. You may be sure he will be given every consideration if it appears we have a spot he might fit.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Margaret M. Heckler
American Ambassador
Dublin

HHB/LRC/AGAIII/CAD/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

cc: Bob Tuttle with copy of incoming

May 27, 1987

Dear Mr. Geismar:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter in which you recommend a one percent fee on transactions earmarked for reduction of the national debt. I have taken this long to respond to you because I wanted others on the White House staff to see and discuss your idea.

As a very successful businessman, you know that debt cannot rise forever and leave a business, or a country, economically strong. That is why the President has made reduction of the budget deficit one of his top priorities.

The President has been a consistent champion of spending restraint. He supports a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution and the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings targets for deficit reduction. The President has always believed that the problem is not that the government taxes too little, it is that we spend too much.

We believe, Mr. Geismar, that this is the appropriate focus of our policies. If we can eliminate budget deficits, we can stop the growth of national debt. But, without spending control, any effort to reduce the outstanding debt balance could serve as an incentive for future deficits, because there is no guarantee that Congress would spend the proceeds of the transactions fee on deficit reduction. Further, it is possible that the fee may discourage some consumption and place downward pressure on economic growth.

As an aside, I wish on behalf of the President to congratulate you on your recent 94th birthday. You have seen and experienced much in your lifetime. I am gratified that you would share that experience with us.

Again, thank you.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Sylvan Geismar
150 East 69th Street
New York, NY 10021

May 27, 1987

Dear Mr. Frydendal:

On behalf of the Chief of Staff, I want to thank you for your letter.

Regrettably, the photograph you request is not available. I am, however, enclosing for you a photograph of President Reagan which I hope you will enjoy having.

I am also returning your check because the White House is not allowed to accept monetary items.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Cornelius Paul Frydendal
Apartment 206
2025 West El Camino Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95833

Enclosures

SW/LRC/CAD/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Enclosures: Check #499 for $25.00 payable to Howard Baker returned: #26

After Signature return to Steve Porcelli (Room 60) to attach two enclosures

May 27, 1987

Dear Mr. Folsom:

On behalf of Senator Baker, I want to thank you for sending him the tearsheet of your photographs.

He appreciates your thoughtfulness and sends his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup
Special Assistant
to the Chief of Staff

Mr. William B. Folsom
Apartment 104
7600 Tremayne Place
McLean, VA 22102

SW/LRC/CAD/AVH/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear John:

Thank you for your letter recommending David Copus for an appointment to the commission to study AIDS-related issues.

Solving the myriad of problems associated with the AIDS crisis will require all the talent and initiative we can muster, and it's encouraging to have your suggestion. I will make sure that the appropriate people are aware of Mr. Copus's impressive credentials.

I'll keep your own offer in mind as well. The President truly appreciates the assistance you have provided him and his Administration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable John N. Erlenborn
Seyfarth, Shaw, Fairweather
& Geraldson
1111 19th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20036

HHB/WJB/HHB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear Keith:

I am sorry to take so long in answering your letter and to have missed you at the RNC luncheon on March 9.

It would be good to meet with you in the not too distant future. At present, my schedule is hopelessly full, but I hope we can set up an appointment sometime after the Economic Summit in Venice.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Keith L. Brown
Chairman
Republican National Finance Committee
310 First Street, SE
Washington, D.C. 20003

HHB/WJB/HHB/CAD/AVH/aaw 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Sue Walkup

May 27, 1987

Dear Howard:

It was a pleasure to receive your letter earlier this month. Viewing those photos brought back fond memories. I would love to see the yearbook -- only on loan. I promise to return it if you send it to my office.

I especially appreciate your kind words. It is an honor to serve this President and your encouragement means a great deal.

I've also passed the letter to Carl Rowan.

Thanks again for writing. Please accept my warm regards.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Howard E. Bergstrom
Chancellor
Minnesota Community Colleges
203 Capitol Square Building
550 Cedar Street
St. Paul, MN 55101

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

May 27, 1987

Dear Mr. Chief Justice:

Thank you for your letter requesting that the President participate in "A Celebration of Citizenship" Program in September. I apologize for the delay in responding.

As you know, the President wants to support your efforts in any way he can. I've brought your note to the attention of Fred Ryan in the Office of Appointments and Scheduling and you should hear from him very soon.

Warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.
Chief of Staff to the President

The Honorable Warren E. Burger
Supreme Court of the United States
Washington, D.C. 20543

HHB/LRC/AGAIII/CAD/emu 5HHBC

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB