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Dear Chuck:

I was most pleased Thank you for your letter of November 12. to learn of the success of the "40th Anniversary Celebration of the Marshall Plan" in Frankfurt, and of the warm reaction to the President's video message. The spirit and the success of the Marshall Plan made a great impression on the President, and I am sure it was his sincere enthusiasm for this historic program that came through in the message.

I was also pleased to learn of the USO's work in the Persian Gulf, and of Wayne Newton's participation. We will certainly explore the idea of some appropriate recognition for Wayne and will be back in touch with you on that.

Good luck on the Persian Gulf program. It means a great deal to our forces. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Charles T. Hagel President USO 601 Indiana Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C.

HHB/OPL-Range/CAD/pt Hagel.hhb

(pc2-cos11)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

w/copy of inc. to Fred Ryan

Dear Ms. Pankey:

Thank you for your recent message.

It was good of you to tell me where you stand on these significant issues. You have no idea how helpful it is for me to hear directly from the American people. I will share your comments with the appropriate members of the White House staff.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

Ms. Mildred Pankey 364-D Paseo Lobo Green Valley, AZ 85614

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/emuf

HHB-3A

Dear Ms. Harrison:

Thank you for your kind message. I appreciate your warm words of support and confidence.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

Ms. Mary Harrison Box 104 Roxbury, CT 06783

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/emuf
HHB-1

Dear Ms. Derouin:

Thank you for your recent message.

It was good of you to tell me where you stand on these significant issues. You have no idea how helpful it is for me to hear directly from the American people. I will share your comments with the appropriate members of the White House staff.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

Ms. Jackie Derouin 420 Edgewood Place Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/emuf

HHB-3A

Dear Ms. Smith:

Thank you for sending your message to me.

You have no idea how helpful it is for me to hear directly from the American people. I will keep your words in mind.

Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

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

Ms. Bessie Smith
Post Office Box 24
Collinwood, TN 38450

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/emuf HHB-12

Dear Ms. Miller:

Thank you for your thoughtful message. I appreciate your friendship, but I do not plan to run for office in 1988. It is my intention to serve President Reagan until the end of his term.

Your words of encouragement mean a great deal to me. Please accept my warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

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

Ms. Muriel Miller Post Office Box 5757 Carmel, CA 93921

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emuf

HHB-17

Dear Mr. Handy:

Thank you for your thoughtful message. I appreciate your friendship, but I do not plan to run for office in 1988. It is my intention to serve President Reagan until the end of his term.

Your words of encouragement mean a great deal to me. Please accept my warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Frederick Handy Summit Mountain, Inc. Post Office Box 849 Frisco, CO 80443

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emuf HHB-17

Dear Mr. DeVine:

Thank you for your thoughtful message. I appreciate your friendship, but I do not plan to run for office in 1988. It is my intention to serve President Reagan until the end of his term.

Your words of encouragement mean a great deal to me. Please accept my warm best wishes.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. O. T. DeVine 630 East Angela Pleasanton, CA 94566

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/emuf HHB-17

Dear Mr. Eberle:

Thanks for your message recommending Ben J. Talbott, Jr. for appointment as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

As you know, the President nominated Judge Anthony M. Kennedy for this important post on November 11. Nevertheless, I appreciate hearing from you and having the benefit of your views.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Jim Eberle 322 Cherokee Boulevard Chattanooga, TN 37405

HHB:LRC:CAD:emu (11HHB)

Enclosure: 11/11/87 Press Release on nomination of Anthony M. Kennedy

cc: Lorraine Camarano

cc: w/copy of incoming to A. B. Culvahouse

#Kennedy

Dear Mr. Jones:

Thank you for your recent message.

It was good of you to tell me where you stand on these significant issues. You have no idea how helpful it is for me to hear directly from the American people. I will share your comments with the appropriate members of the White House staff.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Floyd Jones 751 Bontemps Drive Nashville, TN 37207

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/emuf HHB-3A

Dear Mr. Pratt:

In response to your recent letter, you are no doubt aware that the President has now nominated Judge Anthony Kennedy to fill the current vacancy on the Supreme Court.

During Judge Kennedy's 12 years on the United States Court of Appeals, he participated in over 1400 decisions and authored over 400 opinions. His work has played a major role in keeping our cities and neighborhoods safe from crime. He'll be an excellent Justice, and I hope you'll join us in supporting his nomination.

On your second point, I can assure you that the Administration has no interest at all in supporting the reelection efforts of Howard Metzenbaum. Attornev General Meese has, however, met with representatives of major law enforcement associations who support some type of legislation in this area. At the moment, we are still studying our position and do appreciate your input.

Thank you again for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Lawrence D. Pratt Executive Director Gun Owners of America Suite 102 8001 Forbes Place Springfield, VA 22151

HHB/OPL/CAD/LRC/lynn (pc2-c) cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB CLEARED WITH OPD Dear Mr. Ambassador:

Thank you for your letter of October 22 conveying your government's views on trade and the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) granted by the United States to developing countries.

As you know, Ambassador Yeutter had discussions recently in Singapore with your authorities and with the ASEAN economic ministers concerning the scope of the GSP program review that my government has initiated. The review is considering the status of the major beneficiaries in light of the level of development and export competitiveness they have achieved during their participation in the program.

Be assured that your government's views will receive full consideration during the review. We will communicate promptly the results to interested governments.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

His Excellency Tommy T. B. Koh Ambassador of Singapore 1824 R Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009

HHB/DOS/LRC/CAD/efr 11HHBA

CC: Forraine Camarano - Rm. 61 - OEOB)
CLEARED THRU NSC

Dear Blake:

Thanks so much for inviting me to visit Idaho and attend a special event in my honor. I truly appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Regrettably, the demands of my schedule force me to decline. Nevertheless, I deeply appreciate your kind invitation and send my warm regards to everyone associated with the Idaho Republican Party.

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Blake G. Hall Chairman Idaho Republican Party Post Office Box 2267 Boise, Idaho 83701

HHB/LRC/CAD/pt

(pc2-c)

Dear Dean Pollack:

Thanks very much for your kind invitation to visit Columbia University during the Spring semester as your Goldschmidt Fellow. I am deeply honored by your invitation.

Regrettably, the heavy demands of my schedule force me to decline. Nevertheless, I appreciate your thoughtfulness and send my warm best wishes for a must successful program.

Sincerely,

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

Dean Robert E. Pollack Columbia College Columbia University New York, New York 10027

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/pt

(pc2-c)

cc: Lorraine (Camarano, 61 OEOB

- 1900 May

Dear Ms. Ingram:

Thank you for your message to the Chief of Staff. He especially enjoys hearing from students across the United States who take the time to share their thoughts with him.

While Mr. Baker would like to personally answer each and every letter he receives, the heavy volume of mail prevents him from doing so. Nevertheless, he appreciates your thoughtfulness in writing and hopes you will always take an active interest in the concerns of our country. America's future rests in your hands!

With Mr. Baker's warm best wishes,

Sincerely,

Sue Walkup Special Assistant to the Chief of Staff

Ms. Sherry Ingram Route 3, Box 61A Bentonville, AR 72712

SW/LRC/emuf

SW-7

Dear Mr. Ritzel:

Thank you for your message inviting the Chief of Staff and Mrs. Baker to your 11th annual Rose Ball Classic Banquet On March 19, 1988 in Roanoke, Virginia.

Your invitation is appreciated, but the heavy demands of Mr. Baker's schedule make it impossible for him to accept. However, he asked me to thank you for your kindness and send you his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Lura Nell Mitchell Personal Assistant to the Chief of Staff

Mr. Hobie Ritzel Historian Delta Phi Chapter Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity 1024 Calhoun Street Radford, VA 24141

LNM/WJB/emuf LNM-1

cc: Larraine Camarano, 'Room 61 OEOB

Dear Mike:

Thanks for your letter endorsing Dean Pollack's invitation for me to be their Goldschmidt Fellow. I appreciate your interest.

I am deeply honored by their thoughtful invitation, but the demands of my schedule will not permit me the pleasure of accepting.

All the best to you and Beverly.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Michael Patestides Poles, Tublin, Patestides & Stratakis 46 Trinity Place New York, New York 10006

P.S. I'm sorry the heart-breaking Saturdays continue.

HHB/LRC/CAD/AVH/pt

(pc2-c)

Patesti2.hhb

Dear Chuck:

Thank you for your letter of November 12. I was most pleased to learn of the success of the "40th Anniversary Celebration of the Marshall Plan" in Frankfurt, and of the warm reaction to the President's video message. The spirit and the success of the Marshall Plan made a great impression on the President, and I am sure it was his sincere enthusiasm for this historic program that came through in the message.

I was also pleased to learn of the USO's work in the Persian Gulf, and of Wayne Newton's participation. We will certainly explore the idea of some appropriate recognition for Wayne and will be back in touch with you on that.

Good luck on the Persian Gulf program. It means a great deal to our forces. I look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Charles T. Hagel President USO 601 Indiana Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004

HHB/OPL-Range/CAD/pt Hagel.hhb

(pc2-cos11)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

cc: w/copy of inc. to Fred Ryan

Dear Anne:

Thank you for your letter recommending John Yochelson as Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs.

Bob Tuttle and his staff have interviewed Mr. Yochelson, and he is being given serious consideration for this position. I appreciate knowing of your support for his candidacy.

With best regards,

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Anne Armstrong Armstrong Ranch Armstrong, Texas 78338

HHB/PPO/CAD/pt

(pc2-c)

cc: Lorraine Camarane, 61 OEOB

Valuation pro

Dear Mr. Burch:

Thank you for the material which you have thoughtfully sent to me.

With so much to be done here in Washington, I count on the help of the American people. I assure you that I will study this information and share it with the appropriate members of the White House staff.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

Mr. James Burch Post Office Box 8305 Wichita Falls, TX 76307

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/emuf HHB-10

Dear Gordon:

Thank you for your kind invitation. I am honored that you would think of asking me to be the principal speaker for a fundraising event in Indianapolis in late December for the Indiana Republican State Committee.

Regrettably, I must decline. The demands of my schedule right now will not allow me to participate in out-of-Washington events. Nevertheless, you have my best wishes for a successful fundraiser.

Warm regards.

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Gordon K. Durnil Chairman Indiana Republican State Committee Suite 1260 One North Capitol Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

HHB/MO/CAD/LegalCounsel/AVH/pt

(pc2-c)

Durnil.hhb cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Dear General Hittle:

I would like to offer special thanks to you and the Board of Governors for extending to me an Honorary Membership in the Army and Navy Club.

It's truly an honor to receive this invitation. I've been advised, however, by the Counsel to the President that I may not accept financial benefits tendered by non-governmental entities by virtue of my tenure as Chief of Staff to the President. For this reason, I've adopted a policy of declining all such invitations. I know you understand.

Once again, I appreciate your kind invitation. You have my best wishes as you look forward to the opening of your new facility in January.

Sincerely,

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

BrigGen James D. Hittle, USMC, Ret. President
The Army and Navy Club
901 Seventeenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006-2503

HHB/MO/CAD/AVH/pt (pc2-cos11)
CLEARED THRU COUNSEL
cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

and the same

Dear Governor Spellman:

Thank you for your letter of November 5 recommending Thomas S. Zilly for a vacancy on the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Washington.

I have forwarded your endorsement of Mr. Zilly to the appropriate White House staff for their review. You can be sure that he will be given every consideration.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable John D. Spellman 2300 Columbia Center 701 Fifth Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

HHB/MO/CAD/AVH/efr 11HHBA

cc: Lorraine Camarano - Rm. 61 - OEOB

A. B. Culvahouse w/incoming

The State of the S

Dear Dennis:

Thank you for your very kind note and warm words of encouragement and support.

I'm delighted to know of your assignment with International Paper Company. I hope things are going well for you there, and I wish you every success.

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable W. Dennis Thomas Director, Federal Corporate Affairs International Paper Company Suite 700 1620 I Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

HHB/MO/CAD/AVH/efr 11HHBA

Dear Jim:

Thanks for your November 2 letter recommending Paul Sussman for appointment to the Presidential Task Force on Market Mechanisms.

As you may know, the President has chosen the members of this Task Force and named Nick Brady as its Chairman. Although Mr. Sussman wasn't selected, I appreciated hearing from you and having the benefit of your suggestion.

Warmest regards.

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable James R. Thompson Governor of Illinois Springfield, Illinois 62706

HHB/LRC/CAD/pt

(pc2-COS12)

CLEAR THRU GWEN KING/BOB TUTTLE cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

Dear Mike:

Thank you for your letter of November 9 recommending Judge Dickran Tevrizian for appointment as an Associate Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

I appreciate having the benefit of your informed opinion, and I've shared your letter and Judge Tevrizian's resume with the members of the President's judicial selection team for their information.

As you know, the President nominated Judge Anthony M. Kennedy for this important post on November 11. Hopefully, the Senate will approve his nomination and bring the Court up to full strength.

Again, thank you for writing and recommending Judge Tevrizian.
Warm regards.

Sincerely,

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

The Honorable Michael D. Antonovich Chairman of the Board and Supervisor, Fifth District County of Los Angeles Room 869, Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Enclosure: 11/11/87 PR re nomination of Judge Kennedy HHB/MO/CAD/AVH/pt (pc2-COS12)

cc: Lorraine Camarano, 61 OEOB

cc: A.B. Culvahouse w/inc.

Dear Mr. Sculley:

Thank you for sending me a copy of your book, <u>Odyssey</u> co-authored with John A. Byrne. I look forward to reading it. I'm happy to add your book to my personal library, and I look forward to reading it.

Thank you for your thoughtfulness and please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. John Sculley Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Apple Computer, Inc. 20525 Mariani Avenue Cupertino, CA 95014

HHB/MO/CAD/emu

(pc2-12COS)

Dear Mr. Fontaine:

Thank you for your kind words of encouragement and support. Your friendship means a great deal to me.

I'm delighted to send you the autographed photo and cards you requested.

With my appreciation and best wishes,

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Bob Pontaine Post Office Box 831 Poway, CA 92064

HHB/MO/CAD/AVH/emu

(pc2-COS12)

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1987

Dear Ed:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. Ed Zschau Chairman American Electronics Association Suite 950 1225 Eye Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1987

Dear John:

Thank you for your letters on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Chief of Staff to the President

Mr. John A. Young Council Chairman President & Chief Executive Officer Hewlett-Packard Company 3000 Hanover Street Palo Alto, California 94304

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1987

Dear Ms. Christenson:

Thank you for letting me know your views about the deficit reduction negotiations and the negative impacts of a forced sequester on the child support enforcement program.

As I'm sure you are aware, many other programs would be similarly hurt under the indiscriminate cuts that would occur under Gramm-Rudman. That is one of the reasons we feel so strongly now that this agreement must be passed by Congress.

The agreement, while not perfect, is also a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction. It provides meaningful and enforceable deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Ms. Lucille Christenson Director, Revenue Division DSHS Washington State Post Office Box 9162 Mail Stop FU11 Olympia, Washington 98504

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1987

Dear Mr. Fitzgerald:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Edmund B. Fitzgerald Chairman, Board of Trustees Committee of Economic Development 1700 K Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1987

Dear Mr. O'Rourke:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Edward O'Rourke Chairman, International Trade/ Agricultural Policy Committee National Grain and Feed Association 725 15th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20005

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1987

Dear Mr. Callender:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Eugene S. Callender Director New York State Office for the Aging 2 Empire State Plaza Albany, New York 12223-0001

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1987

Dear Mr. Lafair:

Thank you for your letter concerning the current economic situation. As I'm sure you are aware, we took a big step forward to show that our political leaders can work together with the current deficit reduction agreement.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Theodore Lafair Senior Vice President Shearson Lehman Brothers Suite 614 3 Bala Plaza East Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1987

Dear Mr. Burke:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

A defeat of this package would send a dire signal to the international markets that our government has lost the ability to control the deficit -- a signal that could be followed by higher interest rates and a serious slowing of our economy.

This agreement is a solid step toward meaningful deficit reduction over two years, without increasing tax rates or adding new broad-based taxes.

Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. J. E. Burke Chairman Johnson & Johnson 1 J&J Plaza New Brunswick, NJ 08933

WASHINGTON

December 1, 1987

Dear Mr. Winters:

Thank you for your letter on the budget reduction negotiations. As I'm sure you are aware, we have now reached an agreement and the package will be considered very soon by Congress.

As I've told many groups here in Washington, this is not a perfect package, and it need not be the last word on deficit reduction. But it is very clear that if it doesn't pass the results will likely be severe. It's also far superior to the indiscriminate budget cuts that would occur under an automatic sequester.

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Now the challenge is to get the package passed by Congress. Hopefully, they will agree with its merits and act soon to pass this important step toward responsible deficit reduction.

Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

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

Mr. Robert C. Winters, CLU, CPCU
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
The Prudential Insurance Company
of America
Prudential Plaza
Newark, New Jersey 07101