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March 26, 1987

Dear Ms. Sperline:

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. Elizabeth Sperline
13218 Sunnybrook Lane
La Mirada, CA 90638

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HHB-1

Elizabeth Sperline

March 11, 1987

HAB-1

The Honorable Howard Baker
Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C.
20050

Dear Senator Baker,

Congratulations on your new appointment. I wish you
the best of luck.

You will remember me as the state chairman of the
California Young Republicans. Prior to that I
worked with you on the George Murphy campaign in
California. While I have not corresponded with you
often since the 1976 debacle, I am looking forward
to working with you again.

God bless you.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth
Elizabeth Sperline

13218 Sunnbrook Lane
La Mirada, California
90638

March 26, 1987

Dear Mr. West:

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

Mr. Jack W. West
Post Office Box 80431
Conyers, GA 30208

HHB/SW/WJB/RKS/ckbf1
HHB-1

March 9, 1987

HHB-1

HON. HOWARD H. BAKER
WASHINGTON, D.C.

DEAR MR. BAKER;

IN YOUR MANY LETTERS SINCE 1984, THAT I HAVE RECEIVED FROM YOU, YOU HAVE SAID THAT YOU APPRECIATED MY SUPPORT IN ANY POLITICAL ENDEAVORS YOU MAY UNDERTAKE, WELL I AM WRITING AGAIN TO SAY I SUPPORT YOUR APPOINTMENT AS CHIEF OF STAFF, AS WELL AS MOST AMERICANS DO.

I AM HOPING THIS DOES NOT COMPLETELY TAKE YOU FROM THE NEXT PRESIDENTS RACE, THIS COUNTRY COULD STAY ON THE MOVE, WITH YOUR LEADERSHIP.

AS I HAVE SAID MANY TIME, I AND OTHERS ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU IN ANY FUTURE ENDEAVORS YOU MAY HAVE.

THANKS AGAIN FOR BEING THERE.

WITH BEST WISHES,

SINCERELY,


JACK W. WEST

JACK W. WEST
P. O. BOX 80431
CONYERS, GA 30208

March 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Anderson:

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

Mr. Don Anderson
3819 Chevy Chase Road
Louisville, KY 40218-1516

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HAB-1

March 15, 1987
3819 Chevy Chase Rd.
Louisville, KY 40218-1516

Honorable Howard Baker
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, DC

Dear Mr. Baker,

Several years ago I wrote you concerning a feature that was done on your interest in photography, an interest which I also share. I received a very nice reply from you, and always have held you in highest regard. I am convinced that you can be counted among the most honest and trustworthy individuals in our political process, and thus welcome your selection by President Reagan as Chief of Staff. I would like to express my sincere congratulations to you and wish you the best of luck in your new position.

I find this somewhat interesting, since I am a registered Democrat and have never been a supporter of Mr. Reagan. However, I am to all intents and purposes a political moderate, and find my position compatible with moderates in either party. I strongly feel that it is time to pull this country back on course toward the middle of the road, and I believe you are one of the people that can help accomplish this. I encourage you and the Republican Party to consider your nomination as candidate for the Presidency in 1988. It is my opinion that you would make a very good President, a man who could be trusted to do the right thing for our nation.

May God bless you and keep you in good health.

Sincerely,



Don Anderson

March 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Laurie:

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

Mr. Robert A. Laurie
Hefner, Stark & Marois
Plaza Towers, Fourteenth Floor
555 Capitol Mall
Sacramento, CA 95814

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LAW OFFICES OF
HEFNER, STARK & MAROIS
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555 CAPITOL MALL
SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95814
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EL DORADO COUNTY OFFICE
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TOLL FREE (916) 621-0659

BAY AREA OFFICE
39650 LIBERTY ST. #300
FREMONT, CALIFORNIA 94538
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PLEASE REPLY TO EL DORADO
OFFICE IF THIS BOX IS CHECKED

PLEASE REPLY TO BAY AREA
OFFICE IF THIS BOX IS CHECKED

March 17, 1987

*A PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION

Mr. Howard Baker
White House Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. Baker:

I wish to offer my sincerest congratulations and best wishes on your appointment. Further, I wish to reiterate my continuing support and commitment to you in your future endeavors.

Last month I had the opportunity of serving as the retained legal counsel to the California Republican Party during the Party's organizing convention in Sacramento. It seemed quite apparent that the delegates in attendance were seeking to identify a new national leadership. As I have noted in the past, I believe it is yourself, who is best qualified for this role.

I would be pleased and honored to assist you in these endeavors should the appropriate opportunity arise. Please feel free to call upon me if my legal or political experiences may be of benefit to you.

Very truly yours,

HEFNER, STARK & MAROIS

By 
ROBERT A. LAURIE

RAL:bam

March 26, 1987

Dear Mrs. Paige:

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

Mrs. Timothy Paige
76 Downer Road
North Falmouth, MA 02556

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HHB-1

76 DOWNER ROAD NORTH, FALMOUTH, MA 02556

3/17/87

Thank you, Thank you, Harold Baker
for coming to help out and save the
Republicans. Thank your wife, too!

Mrs. Timothy Page

March 26, 1987

Dear Mrs. Ruscitto:

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

Mrs. Anna Ruscitto

Park Falls, WI 54552

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105

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Dear Sir.

This is what a lot
of us folks are saying. ?

How proud. Senator Dirksen
would be?

The Best To You -

Sincerely

Mrs Anna Ruscitto

Park Falls -
Wisc.

54552.

A run from the Rose Garden?

By Daniel Pink

Howard Baker was in Florida deciding whether to run for president when Ronald Reagan asked him to be White House chief of staff. Baker said yes to the President, and in doing so said no to his own presidential bid.

"I will not be a candidate for president in 1988," he told us.

That made sense. Nobody—not even someone of Baker's talent and experience—could serve as chief of staff and do battle in a series of presidential primaries. It's impossible to be both the President's right-hand man and a candidate for his job. Right?

Wrong.

Being chief of staff might be a blessing in disguise for a "Baker in '88" campaign. Conventional wisdom, which says that Baker cannot campaign actively in next year's presidential primaries, overlooks an important point: Not being able to campaign may actually work to his advantage.

Incumbent presidents have often used pressing White House business as an excuse for avoiding campaign rituals like kissing babies, shaking hands and debating opponents. It's called a Rose Garden strategy, after the famous White House flower bed. It worked for Jimmy Carter in the Democratic primaries of 1980, and it could work again for Howard Baker in 1988.

Baker can say he's too busy running the White House to run for the White House. That will not, however, prevent his supporters from placing his name on primary ballots, organizing voters in key states and raising millions of dollars to support the operation. Put simply, a Baker campaign could mark the first time in history a non-president has used a Rose Garden strategy in his race for the Oval Office.

For the next two years, the former Tennessee senator will have all the political advantages of a sitting president. He will be at the hub of the news. He will have the chance to display decisive leadership in a way a mere candidate could not. He also will be able to set the nation's political agenda, perhaps even determining the central issues of the '88 campaign—all this while being on the ballot but remaining in the Rose Garden.

While Bob Dole is in Iowa debating farm price supports, Baker could be in the Senate pushing through legislation to help trim the budget deficit.

While Jack Kemp is fighting for a 10-second "news

bite" on New Hampshire television, Baker could be chatting with ABC's Sam Donaldson about the Baker—oops, Reagan—administration's new U.S.-Soviet arms control package.

And while Al Haig conducts his own version of Sherman's March, impressing Southern primary voters with his command of foreign policy, Baker could be marching as well: to England to talk with Margaret Thatcher, to China to meet with Deng Xiaoping and to Israel to confer with Yitzhak Shamir.

In a brilliant display of "political jujitsu," Baker can turn what is apparently his greatest weakness—not being able to campaign actively—into his greatest strength. By subtly presenting himself as the de facto

Howard Baker can say he's too busy running the White House to run for the White House.

national leader, Baker can run as an incumbent even though he does not now hold national elective office.

Critics who might dismiss this theory as implausible should consider the following:

Reagan is the most remote, disengaged president in recent history. His key aides have always wielded incredible power. Baker, one of the few respected people left in the White House, will have free reign and extraordinary control over policy.

Moreover, Baker is too savvy to overlook the political advantages of this situation. Indeed, it might be one reason he got into it in the first place. Baker ran for president in 1980 and was ready to run again in 1988. He's too much a politician to abandon this life-long dream.

Political fortunes change quickly. Six months ago, Reagan was riding high. Now, after the Reykjavik disaster, the loss of the Republican Senate and the Iran-contra scandal, his presidency is in disrepair. Six months from now, Howard Baker could be the most respected figure in politics.

The first primaries are not for another year, which in politics is an eternity. During that time, a dozen Republican contenders will be criss-crossing the nation in search of dollars and delegates. However, when the media turn their eyes to Iowa and New Hampshire for the next Republican nominee, they could be making a mistake. The guy they should be watching might already be in the White House.

Daniel Pink is a free-lance journalist in Washington.

March 26, 1987

Dear Ms. Morse:

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. Sandra Gould Morse
3219 Oakdell Lane
Studio City, CA 91604

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SANDRA GOULD MORSE

HAB-1
March 14th, 1987

Dear Senator Baker--- Dear Chief of Staff to the President:

I don't know how to address you. Which is proper?

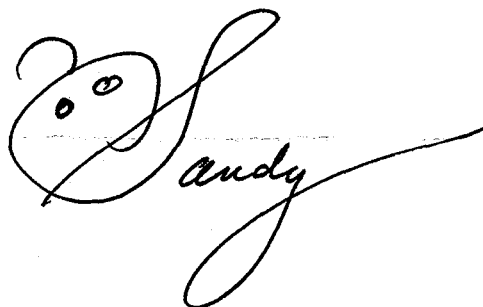
The newspapers are simply ecstatic about your appointment, and after all, this is the state of Reagan's original climb. The Op-Ed letters are paeans of praise. They write about you as though you are the savior of our country. It's a tough spot, but I'm personally happy to see your smile once again in the limelight. But then, those in this town think that I've been like a broken record about Howard H. Baker's virtues for many years.

You would be amazed at the scenarios running rampant around here, but then I doubt that you would be surprised at anything having been a political urchin (and man) all your life.

But I knew when I wrote you that your number was spinning and was about to surface soon, and it did! And there's a lot more to come. "Jackpot Time".

It's not over 'til the fat lady sings.

Warm affection, Good Luck and Health,



A handwritten signature in black ink. It features a stylized, circular initial 'S' with two small circles inside, followed by the name 'Sandra' written in a cursive, flowing script.

SANDRA GOULD MORSE

REPRODUCTION COPY

President Reagan and I were born in the same year. At our age, I can no more run my grocery store than he can run the federal governments.

However, I'm more fortunate than the President in that my employees can operate the store without me. That is more than I can say about the President's men.

When Reagan was reelected to his second term I commented, "I'd love to have him for a friend, but I hate to have him for a President."

His best course, at the present, is to pressure George Bush into resigning the vice presidency because of that worthy's involvement in the present international fiasco. The President could then move Howard Baker into the vice presidency. The next course would be for the President to retire from office as gracefully as possible.

Although I'm an old hard-headed Democrat, I would have no qualms about having Howard Baker head the government.

I can't think of anybody, under the circumstances, better qualified to hold that office.

LEON LASKIN
Inglewood

Well, I see where we have a new President.

WILLIAM COYLE
Redding

Instead of running for President, Howard Baker has decided to be the President.

AUGUSTUS SHACKELFORD
Redondo Beach

In accepting President Reagan's offer, I predict that former Sen. Baker has prematurely entered the presidential race in 1992, with victory probable.

RICHARD RADANOVICH
Los Angeles

I'm not at all opposed to a Baker presidency. I just wish I could have

The obvious solution is to let Howard Baker govern while Reagan plays the role of President. If he will only do it.

My fear is that Reagan is in such an ideological rut so deeply worn that Baker may never get a chance to change course about such matters as taxation, military spending, support of *contras*, etc.

I say, let Reagan be President, and let Baker be prime minister.

And who knows, if Baker does a good job he might just get drafted as our next President. That is, if Baker still wants an unknown but to be seen

Political analysts and politicians of both parties are saying Howard Baker sacrificed his personal ambitions by becoming Ronald Reagan's chief of staff. Nonsense.

Baker, of course, wants to be President. But he made no sacrifice. Nor did he abandon his ambition. No Republican could be elected in 1988 if the present Ronald Reagan image remains. No intelligent person, and Baker is intelligent, would invest time and energy in the coming primaries.

Baker could not have made a better move. As of March 2, Howard Baker became the acting President of this country. He will not play the role of an understudy waiting to go on. He will become the star. There will be new writers. They will not write for a character who is there to save a President, but to save the country.

There is no public enthusiasm for any of the presidential hopefuls of either party. Baker has no enemies except from the right-wingers—and they have never had any credibility.

Baker will be highly visible in the months ahead. He doesn't have to go out on the campaign trail—shake hands, kiss babies, seek media exposure. When the Republicans gather for their convention, Baker will have all of the advantages of any popular incumbent. His name has only to be put into nomination as the band plays "The Tennessee Waltz"—I can hear it now—and the wild applause. He will be nominated after the second ballot.

CLAUDE TRAVERSE
Encino

March 26, 1987

Dear Mrs. Dodds:

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

Mrs. Pauline Sowder Dodds
Route 1, Box 83
Tazewell, TN 37879

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H.H.B. 1

Route 1 Box 83
Tazewell, Tennessee 37879

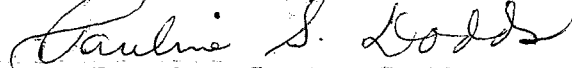
Mr. Howard Baker
Chief of Staff
White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Howard Baker,

This is to tell you that we are proud of you.
Not many men in our United States would have shown
the patriotism that you have.

You have our best wishes - and our prayers that you
will be able to do the tremendous job that is cut out
for you.

Yours truly,



Pauline Sowder Dodds
Past Secretary
Claiborne County Womens Republican
Club

March 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Poole:

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

Mr. Andrew W. Poole
1828 Freedom Drive
Charleston, SC 29407

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HHB-1

1828 Freedom Dr.
Charleston, S.C. 29407
March 15, 1987

The Honorable Howard Baker
Chief of Staff
Washington, D.C. 20500.

Dear Chief of Staff:

It's fair to assume most Americans are pleased with President Reagan's appointment of you to your new position as Chief of Staff, but I think it's equally fair to say they are dissatisfied you may not run as president this year.

Have you ever considered running as a write-in candidate? In view of the fact you will not be able to do justice to your new job and campaign at the same time - it seems the logical alternative is to run as a write-in candidate. Hope you will consider this as an option to campaigning on a full scale schedule.

Respectfully yours,
Andrew W. Poole

March 26, 1987

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Henrickson:

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

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Henrickson
3890 MacRace Street
Grandville, MI 49418

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HHB-1

March 16, 1987

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HKB

Chief of Staff -

Mr. Howard Baker

Dear Mr. Baker,

I'm writing this letter in deep sincerity and appreciation in your acceptance of Chief of Staff (serving our President, as well as all the people of our United States).

There could not have been a better selection.

We had high hopes of the possibility of your accepting the Presidency. Admiring your integrity & knowledge throughout the Watergate days strengthened our admiration in you.

We are very everyday medium income retirees along with our Social Security - three married children and eight beautiful grandchildren and wishing for them a beautiful government they can love & trust. Living in Grandville Mich (near Gr. Rapids)



We are sincerely wishing you well in all

your pathway & thanking you
again for your contribution in
all your future activities.

Still wishing you might consider
the Presidency of which we keep
thinking in our back thoughts &
minds you are our first choice.

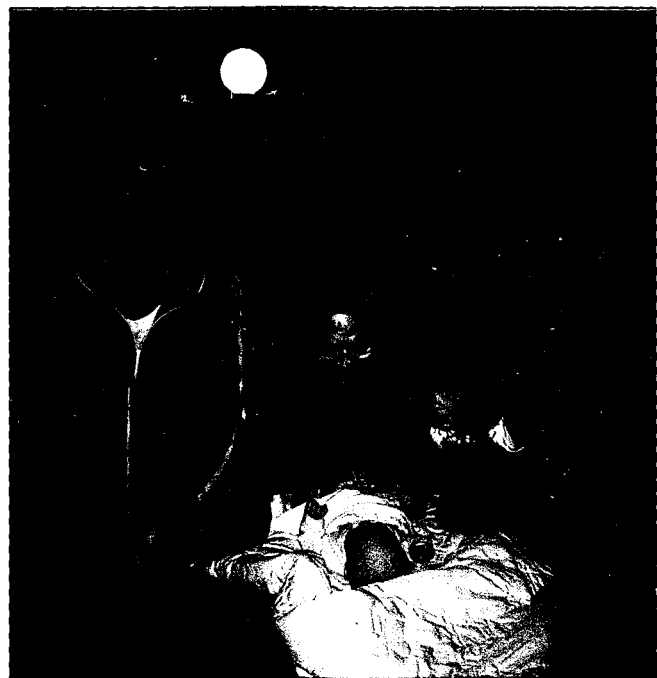
We are deep believers in our God
in our Protestant faith (First Ref Church
here in Grandville) and know God
will guide you, your dear family
and all your daily decisions.

God Bless both you & Pres. Reagan

We Love you
Sincerely

Mr. & Mrs. Bill & Irene
Thurston





March 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Chatfield:

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

Mr. David L. Chatfield
SRA Box 2303
Anchorage, AK 99507

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Chatfield
SRA Box 2303
13045 Hillside Drive
Anchorage, Alaska 99507

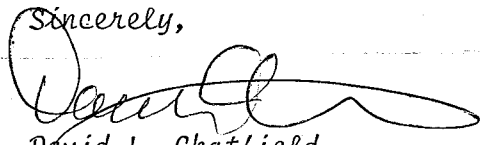
March 16, 1987

The Honorable Howard Baker
Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Senator Baker:

Congratulations. Your decision to postpone your own presidential ambitions to come to President Reagan's aid in his time of crisis may have come as a surprise to many, but certainly not to those who have met and talked with you at any length. Your integrity and dedication to the Country are unquestioned, and your firm but pleasant manner has had the calming effect the situation required.

Mrs. Chatfield sends her congratulations and best wishes as well. We recall with pleasure the dinner we shared with you and Governor Wally Hickel here in Anchorage some time ago, and your subsequent address to the membership of Commonwealth North. We hope to help welcome you back to Alaska some day soon.

Sincerely,

David L. Chatfield

March 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Grant:

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

Mr. Robert D. Grant
201-104 Provincial Court
Saginaw, MI 48603

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HAB-1
March 9, 1987

Howard Henry Baker, Jr.
White House Chief of Staff
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Baker:

We both know any time in history can be beset with problems. At the same time the future is bright. Congratulations on your appointment. The future will be bright when guided by those with a deeply rooted knowledge of what is right.

We will each be 62 this year. You served in the Navy from 1943 to 1946. So did I. You as a Lt. J. G. and me as a QM 3/c; you briefly in PT boats, me briefly in submarines.

Our newspaper, here in Saginaw, carries several stories on your appointment. You have earned great respect, you have "paid your dues." As you move into a new role you recognize you have been in the arena before, but as a different player. Now, working with our President you will be "taxed" as never before.

I came to this Michigan city three years ago to serve (a new role) in a fine hospital. I feel I was called into this position. I get the feeling you too are being called by a silent voice louder than any on earth. To you Sir, I wish you Gods quiet guidance in your appointed rounds.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Grant

Robert D. Grant
201-104 Provincial Ct.
Saginaw, Michigan 48603

March 26, 1987

Dear Mr. Head:

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

Mr. William Head
9211 Westwood Village Drive
Houston, TX 77036

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Mar 9, 1987

W. HEAD

9211 WESTWOOD VLG. DR.

HOUSTON, TX 77036

DEAR MR. BAKER,

HERE IS A LETTER FROM A LONG TIME TEXAS ADMIRER. (I COULD SAY OLD TEXAS ADMIRER BUT THAT WOULD REMIND BOTH OF US OF SOMETHING WE WOULD BOTH PREFER TO IGNORE.)

BOY, I'M SURE AS HELL HAPPY TO SEE YOU WHERE YOU ARE. I WANT TO COMMEND YOU FOR GIVING UP YOUR CHANCE @ THE WHITE HOUSE & A HELLOVA GOOD SALARY WITH VINSON & ELKINS.

MAY GOD BLESS YOU, GUIDE YOU & HOLD YOU IN HIS EVERLASTING ARMS.

MY BEST WISHES FOR SUCCESS,

William Head

March 13, 1987

Dear Mr. Giffin:

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

Mr. Bill Giffin
836 Woodbine Court
Naperville, IL 60540

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HHB-1

NOTE: REDONE 03/24/87 TO CORRECT SPELLING
OF LAST NAME FROM "Liffin" to "Giffin."

F
IT MEANT ALOT TO
ME TO RECEIVE YOUR
NOTE - WOULD YOU PLEASE
CORRECT MY LAST
NAME

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 13, 1987

THANK YOU

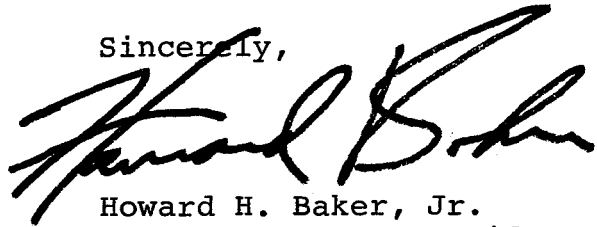
GIFFIN
"G" NOT "L"

Dear Mr. Liffin:

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

Mr. Bill Liffin
836 Woodbine Court
Naperville, IL 60540