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Collection/Office of Origin: Cabinet Affairs, White House Office of
Series: Porter, Richard, Files
Subseries:

OA/ID Number: 07137
Folder ID Number: 07137-006b

Folder Title:
Correspondence Analysis Section [binder] [2]

Stack:	Row:	Section:	Shelf:	Position:
G	15	16	2	

RESTRICTED TO AGENCY LIAISON (ENV)

SMG-69
RE: Complains that original letter was sent to agency

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

REQSTS-6
(CON)

February 15, 1989

Dear Mrs Bell:

Thank you for your most recent message to the White House. Because of the vast amount of mail sent to the President each day, he cannot answer each message personally. In particular, when the subject matter of a message falls within the jurisdiction of a specific government agency, it is sent to that agency for response. Your previous correspondence was referred to the agency that has policy responsibility for the subject that you addressed.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/15/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director, Correspondence Analysis
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

SMG-70 Ruth S. Kelley (ENV)
RE: Complaint of no response;cannot locate correspondence

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

(REQSTS-6)
CON

February 15, 1989

Dear Mrs Bell:

Thank you for your most recent message to the White House.

I regret that you have not received a response to your original correspondence, but we have no record of it in the file system at the White House. If you would care to write again, we will be certain to see that your message receives the proper attention. I would appreciate it if you would also enclose a copy of this letter as a reminder.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/15/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director, Correspondence Analysis
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

RESTRICTED TO SLR (ENV)

SMG-71
RE: Turndown (Personal Message Request)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

REQSTS-8
(NEU)

February 15, 1989

Dear Mrs Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message.

Your thoughtful interest in receiving a personal message from the President is appreciated. However, I am afraid that the answer to your request must be a disappointing one. The great number of similar appeals that the President receives daily precludes his responding to them all. I know you will understand.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/15/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director, Correspondence Analysis
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/CK/SMG

RESTRICTED TO SLR (LABEL)

SMG-72
RE: Turndown (Personal Message Request/With Photograph)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

REQSTS-8
(NEU)

February 15, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message.

Your thoughtful interest in receiving a personal message from the President is appreciated. However, I am afraid that the answer to your request must be a disappointing one. The great number of similar appeals that the President receives daily precludes his responding to them all. I know you will understand.

Along with the enclosed photograph, the President sends his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/15/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: photograph of the President with signature

SMG

SMG-73

RESTRICTED TO BETTY DUNN (LABEL)

RE: Turndown Request for Autograph (sends photo and return material)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 15, 1989

REQSTS-4
(NEU)

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I want to thank you for your message requesting his personal autograph. The President appreciates the interest which prompted you to ask for his signature.

However, because of the great number of similar requests received daily at the White House, it is simply not possible to fulfill them all. I trust you will understand. I am returning your material along with a signed photograph that I hope you will enjoy.

With the President's best wishes and my own,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/15/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: photograph of President with signature

SMG

SMG-73A (REISSUED TO CORRECT FORMAT)

RESTRICTED TO BETTY DUNN (LABEL)

RE: Turndown Request for Autograph (send signature card and return material)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 3, 1989

REQSTS-4
(NEU)

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I want to thank you for your message requesting his personal autograph. The President appreciates the interest which prompted you to ask for his signature.

However, because of the great number of similar requests received daily at the White House, it is simply not possible to fulfill them all. I trust you will understand. I am returning your material along with a signature card that I hope you will enjoy.

With the President's best wishes and my own,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/3/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: facsimile signature card

SMG

SMG-74 (RESTRICTED TO BETTY DUNN) (LABEL)

RE: Turndown Request for Autograph (send photo before sending material)

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

REQSTS-4
(NEU)

February 15, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I would like to thank you for your message requesting his personal signature. He appreciates the interest that prompted you to write.

However, the volume of requests has been so overwhelming that it is not possible to fulfill all of them. I trust that you will understand. I am sending you a photograph which I hope you will enjoy.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/15/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: photograph of the President with signature

SMG

RESTRICTED TO BETTY DUNN (ENV)

SMG-74A

RE: Turndown Request for Autograph /send signature card/ Before Sending Material

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

REQSTS-4
(NEU)

February 15, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I would like to thank you for your message requesting his personal signature. He appreciates the interest that prompted you to write.

However, the volume of requests has been so overwhelming that it is not possible to fulfill all of them. I trust that you will understand. I am sending you a signature card which I hope you will enjoy.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/15/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: facsimile signature card

SMG

RESTRICTED TO SLR AND K. QULIA (ENV)

SMG-75

RE: Turndown Requests for Audio and Video Tapes of the President's Speeches

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

REQSTS-8
(NEU)

February 15, 1989

Dear Mrs Bell:

Thank you for your message to the White House. I regret that audio and video tapes of the President's speeches are not available for general distribution. However, you may be able to purchase such a recording from one of the television networks.

I know the President would want me to express his appreciation to you for your interest, along with his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/15/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director, Correspondence Analysis
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/DWM/KC/SMG

RESTRICTED TO BETTY DUNN (ENV)

SMG-76

RE: Money Returned to Writer;writer's concerns to receive further response

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

February 15, 1989

MONEY-2
(P/C/N)

Dear Mrs. Bell:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your correspondence at the White House and to return the monetary item you enclosed. By law, the White House is not permitted to accept or process such items, so I'm sure you will understand.

However, I do want to assure you that your message and comments will be reviewed for further response.

On behalf of the President, I want to thank you for taking the time to write and for your thoughtfulness.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/28/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: monetary item to be returned

SMG

SMG-77

RESTRICTED TO BETTY DUNN (ENV)

RE: Children's Money Returned/Further Response

MONEY-Q2
(NEU)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

NOTE:
Send original letter to
Nancy Theis, Room 435
(Children's Unit)

February 15, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your message. It has been forwarded to the appropriate office, and you will be receiving a reply to your comments shortly.

Because the White House cannot accept monetary items, we are returning your money with this letter.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/28/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: monetary item to be returned
SMG

SMG-78 (ENV)
RE: Warm Expressions of Concern for President's Safety or Health

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-1
(PRO)

February 15, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message of concern for his well-being. You were very kind to write. The President receives a great deal of encouragement from the many expressions of goodwill he receives, and he has asked me to thank you for yours.

With the President's best wishes, and my own,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(2/28/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

RESTRICTED TO DOLORES DALY (ENV)

SMG-79

RE: Resolutions -- Major National Organizations - Religious Organizations -- non-supportive resolutions from Republican Groups

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

DOMISS-6
(P/C/N)

March 13, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

It was good of you to send President Bush the resolution adopted by ////////////////. I appreciate your forwarding this statement, and you may be sure that it has been fully noted.

With the President's best wishes to you and the members of ////////////////,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/13/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

RESTRICTED TO K. BAKER & GLORIA CHONKA (ENV

SMG-79A
RE: Acknowledgment of Petitions/Propaganda with Signed Cover Letter

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-6
(P/C/N)

March 13, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your message and for the collected material which you sent to President Bush. I appreciate the interest which prompted you to send these statements of views to the White House.

You can be sure that the Administration is aware of the concerns expressed in these statements and will bear your views in mind in the days to come.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/13/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

RESTRICTED TO K. BAKER & G. CHONKA (ENV)

SMG-79B
RE: More Than One Resolution (Minor Organization)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-6
(P/C/N)

March 13, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

It was good of you to send President Bush the resolutions adopted by your organization. I appreciate your forwarding these statements, and you may be sure that they have been fully noted.

With the President's best wishes to you and the members of your organization,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/13/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

RESTRICTED TO DOLORES DALY (ENV)

SMG-79C
RE: Resolution -- Supportive Republican Group

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-6
(PRO)

March 13, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

It was good of you to send President Bush the resolution adopted by ////////////. He appreciates your thoughtfulness in forwarding this statement, and you may be sure that it has been fully noted.

With the President's gratitude for your support and with his best wishes to you and his fellow Republicans of ////////////////////,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/13/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

SMG-79D
RE: Resolution (Council)

RESTRICTED TO K. BAKER & G. CHONKA (ENV)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-6
(P/N)

March 13, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

It was good of you to send President Bush the resolution adopted by your Council. I appreciate your forwarding this statement, and you may be sure that it has been fully noted.

With the President's best wishes to you and the members of your Council,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/13/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

RESTRICTED TO DOLORES DALY (ENV)

SMG-79E
RE: Resolution from State Legislature -- House, Senate, Concurrent

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-6
(P/C/N)

March 13, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

It was good of you to send President Bush ////////////// Resolution ///// adopted by //////////////////////. He appreciates your forwarding this statement and you may be sure that it has been fully noted.

With the President's best wishes to you and the members of ////////////////,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/13/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

RESTRICTED TO K. BAKER & G. CHONKA (ENV)

SMG-79F (REISSUED TO CORRECT WORD IN PARAGRAPH 1, LINE 2)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-6
(PRO)

May 26, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

It was very good of you to send President Bush the resolution adopted by your Council. He appreciates your thoughtfulness in forwarding this statement, and you may be sure that it has been fully noted.

With the President's gratitude for your support and with his best wishes to you and the members of your Council,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/26/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

(ENV)

SMG-80
RE: Nation's Capital Visitors Information/Including White House Tours

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

(DOMISS-4)
NEU

March 9, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you very much for your message expressing your interest in visiting our Nation's Capital.

The Washington, D.C., area offers many exciting attractions and countless landmarks and museums that represent a splendid testimony to America's past, present, and future. If you would like to obtain detailed tourist information, I suggest you write to:

The Washington Convention and Visitors Association
Sixth Floor
1212 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20005

You may also wish to contact your representatives in the Congress for assistance in arranging tours in advance. Provided you give them ample time, they may be able to assist you in obtaining tickets for special tours of the White House, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and the Visitors' Gallery in the House of Representatives and the Senate.

The White House is open to the general public from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Tuesday through Saturday. It is closed on Sundays, Mondays, on certain holidays, and when the White House is used for special events and ceremonies. The visitors entrance to the White House is on East Executive Avenue, just south of Pennsylvania Avenue. There is no admission charge, and no admittance card or ticket is required. There is usually a line, so it is best to arrive early to avoid the crowds. With best wishes for an enjoyable vacation,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/7/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: White House Summer Visitors Program

SMG

(ENV)

SMG-81 (REISSUED TO CORRECT FORMAT)
RE: Possibly Related to the President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-3
(NEU)

March 20, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for sharing your family history with President Bush. He has been pleased to hear from the many people who have written to indicate the possibility that they may be related to him. Since, at this time, we do not have the resources at the White House to do in-depth genealogical research, we cannot confirm a family relationship. However we are accumulating and storing these records for the Bush family.

You can be sure that the President appreciates your thoughtfulness, and he sends you his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/17/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/TA/KC/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-82 (REISSUED TO CORRECT WORD IN PARAGRAPH ONE)
RE: "Inaugural Invitation to Prayer" Response

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SPPRT-2
(PRO)

March 14, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I want to thank you for your response to the Inaugural invitation to prayer.

I regret that the information packet didn't arrive in time for the January 22 celebration. However, I hope that the material will be of use to your congregation at a later date.

The President is deeply grateful for your prayers in his behalf. He thought you might like to have the enclosed Proclamation, which comes with his warm best wishes and my own.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/14/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: National Day of Prayer and Thanksgiving, 1989

SMG/ATM/KC/SMG

SMG-83
RE: Presidential Appointments (i.e. Pro-Life Judges, etc.)

(ENV)

DOMISS-5
(P/c/n)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 10, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your message to President Bush regarding the selection of those persons who will be part of his Administration. He appreciates the concerns which led you to write.

Let me assure you that the President recognizes that our national government depends for its success on the excellence of those who serve the public and that he shares your belief in the importance of having in key positions those men and women who respect our country's traditional values. He has pledged to seek out individuals of exceptional competence and the highest integrity.

With the President's gratitude for your kind expressions of support and goodwill, and with his best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/7/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

(ENV)

SMG-84 (REISSUED TO CORRECT PUNCTUATION IN PARAGRAPH ONE)
RE: CON Iranian Threats Against Salman Rushdie
(NOT TO BE SENT TO AMERICAN MUSLIMS AND WHO OPPOSE BOOK)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

FORDEF-1
(CON)

March 14, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I would like to thank you for your message.

President Bush shares your deep concerns regarding threats by the government of Iran against Salman Rushdie and the publishers of his latest work. The President strongly condemns actions that seek to deny a fundamental human right -- the freedom of expression. During his February 21 press conference, he made his position on this issue clear when he said, "However offensive that book may be, inciting murder and offering rewards for its perpetration are deeply offensive to the norm of civilized behavior.... In the light of Iran's incitement, should any action be taken against American interests, the government of Iran can expect to be held accountable."

The President fully supports the European Community's declaration, which denounces Iran's threat against Rushdie and recalls European ambassadors from their posts in Tehran. And he and his advisers are meeting with officials from other nations to consider appropriate responses.

The President appreciates knowing your views on this important subject.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/14/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/RL/NSC/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-85 (2nd Rev.)
RE: PRO/Payraises for Top Federal Officials

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

BDGT-2
(PRO)

May 10, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message in support of proposed pay raises for top Federal officials.

The President realizes that inflation and the Federal government's inability to keep pace with rising salaries in the private sector have contributed to serious recruitment and retention problems for Executive branch officials and members of the Federal judiciary.

To address these concerns, on April 12 the President sent to the Congress proposed legislation on Ethics Reform which includes a 25 percent salary increase for Federal judges and a limitation on their receipt of honoraria. In the coming weeks, the President and the Congress will jointly address questions regarding salary increases for Federal workers in specialized positions, pay raises for members of Congress, and the acceptance of honoraria. Be assured he is committed to working with the Congress to develop proposals that resolve these concerns and provide just compensation for Federal service.

The President appreciates the time you have taken to bring your views to his attention.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/10/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/RVL/SMG

SMG-85A
RE: CON/Payraises for Top Federal Officials

(ENV)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

BDGT-2
(CON)

May 10, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message regarding proposed pay raises for top Federal officials.

As you know, on February 7, the President signed House Joint Resolution 129, which was passed by both Houses of Congress. This resolution rescinded the proposed pay raises for senior Federal officials. While reducing the deficit and controlling Federal spending are among the President's top priorities, he also realizes that declining salaries for senior Federal officials have contributed to serious recruitment and retention problems for Executive branch officials and members of the Federal judiciary.

President Bush has stated his support for a pay increase for senior Federal officials which balances these competing interests. To that end, on April 12 he sent to the Congress proposed legislation on Ethics Reform which includes a 25 percent salary increase for Federal judges and calls for a limitation on their receipt of honoraria. In the coming weeks, the President and the Congress will jointly address questions regarding salary increases for certain Executive branch positions, pay raises for members of Congress, and the acceptance of honoraria. The President is committed to working with the Congress to develop proposals that provide just compensation for government service and also ensure prudent Federal spending.

The President appreciates the time you have taken to bring your views to his attention.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/10/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/RVL/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-86 (3rd Rev.)
RE: Presidential Pardon for Oliver North

DOMISS-2
(P/C/N;

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 21, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message regarding Oliver North. I assure you that your concerns have been noted.

As you are no doubt aware, on July 5 Federal District Judge Gerhard Gesell sentenced Oliver North on the three counts on which he was convicted for his role in the Iran-Contra affair. Judge Gesell's sentence included a three-year suspended prison term, two years of probation, and twelve hundred hours of community service. Even though Colonel North has been convicted and sentenced, he is entitled to seek relief from that verdict in the Court of Appeals. It is our understanding that Colonel North intends to avail himself of that remedy.

Accordingly, the legal process should be allowed to go forward at this time. Among other things, a pardon would cut short the usual opportunity for Colonel North to challenge the validity of the charges of which he was convicted and the sufficiency of the evidence to prove these charges. Therefore, the President believes it is not appropriate to engage in discussion of a pardon at this time.

I want you to know the President appreciates the time you have taken to share your views with him.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(7/21/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/RVL/Counsel/SMG

SMG-86A (2nd Rev.) (ENV)
RE: Presidential Pardon for Oliver North and Concern over Loss of Military Pension

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-2
(P/C/N)

July 21, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message regarding Oliver North. I assure you that your concerns have been noted.

As you are no doubt aware, on July 5 Federal District Judge Gerhard Gesell sentenced Oliver North on the three counts on which he was convicted for his role in the Iran-Contra affair. Judge Gesell's sentence included a three-year suspended prison term, two years of probation, and twelve hundred hours of community service. Even though Colonel North has been convicted and sentenced, he is entitled to seek relief from that verdict in the Court of Appeals. It is our understanding that Colonel North intends to avail himself of that remedy.

Accordingly, the legal process should be allowed to go forward at this time. Among other things, a pardon would cut short the usual opportunity for Colonel North to challenge the validity of the charges of which he was convicted and the sufficiency of the evidence to prove these charges. Therefore, the President believes it is not appropriate to engage in discussion of a pardon at this time.

I also appreciate your thoughts regarding Colonel North's military pension. That question is not within the immediate jurisdiction of the White House, but I am confident that it will be carefully and fairly considered by the officials charged with doing so.

You have the President's thanks for writing and his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(7/21/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/RVL/Counsel/SMG

SMG-87
RE: SUPPORT RIGHT TO LIFE

(ENV)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SOCIAL-2
(PRO)

March 14, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message.

The President shares your deep concern regarding the tragedy of abortion. As he stated in his remarks to the March for Life rally in Washington, "We are concerned about abortion because it deals with the lives of two human beings, mother and child ... after years of sober reflection on this issue, this is what I think. I think the Supreme Court's decision in Roe versus Wade was wrong and should be overturned. I think America needs a human life amendment. And I think when it comes to abortion there's a better way --- the way of adoption, the way of life."

President Bush is determined to pursue policies that reaffirm this Nation's traditional reverence for the sanctity of all human life, born and unborn. He is encouraged to know many Americans like you share that commitment. In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of the President's remarks. They come to you with his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/14/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 1/23/89 Remarks by the President
SMG/PF/KC/JC/SMG

SMG-87A
RE: Right to Life with Support for the President

(ENV)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SOCIAL-2
(PRO)

March 15, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message of support for his stand on the right to life.

The President shares your deep concern regarding the tragedy of abortion. As he stated in his remarks to the March for Life rally in Washington, "We are concerned about abortion because it deals with the lives of two human beings, mother and child ... after years of sober reflection on this issue this is what I think. I think the Supreme Court decision in Roe versus Wade was wrong and should be overturned. I think America needs a human life amendment. And I think when it comes to abortion there's a better way --- the way of adoption, the way of life."

President Bush is determined to pursue policies that reaffirm this Nation's traditional reverence for the sanctity of all human life, born and unborn. He is encouraged to know many Americans like you share that commitment. In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of the President's remarks. They come to you with his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/15/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 1/23/89 Remarks by the President
SMG/PF/KC/JC/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-87B (REISSUED TO CORRECT LETTER NUMBER)
RE: Fetal Tissue Experimentation

SOCIAL-3
(CON)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 2, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your message to the President expressing your concern about the use of fetal tissue in scientific research.

The President shares your strong respect for the value of human life and agrees that some current directions in medical research are forcing us to consider very serious ethical questions relating to what we know about when a human life begins.

Current law prohibits commercialization of human tissue for any purpose, and the President would certainly oppose anything that might compromise these restrictions with respect to unborn life.

As you are aware, questions about the medical use of fetal tissue go beyond commercialization; they touch upon our understanding of life itself. The President is committed to the protection of unborn human life and will always seek to promote policies that are based on a fundamental respect for human life.

You may be sure that your views on this important issue will be shared with the President's advisers. With the President's appreciation for your writing, and with his best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/2/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/OPD/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-88
RE: Opposed to The President's Views on Right to Life Issues

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SOCIAL-2
(CON)

March 14, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your letter to President Bush regarding the question of abortion, one of the most difficult issues of our time.

While the President supports a human life amendment to the United States Constitution, he would do so with language allowing exceptions to be made for the life of the mother, rape and incest. He also opposes the use of Federal funds to pay for abortions except when the life of the mother is threatened. In addition, the President supports adoption as an alternative to abortion.

The President has come to this position after years of sober reflection. However, he realizes that thoughtful people strongly differ on this very complicated and personal issue, and he appreciates your taking the time to share with him your thoughts on this matter.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/14/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 1/23/89 Remarks by the the President

SMG/PF/KC/JC/SMG

SMG-89 (ENV)
RE: Concern re Reducing the Federal Deficit with Mention of Line-Item Veto

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

BDGT-3
(C/N)

March 28, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I would like to thank you for your letter.

The President shares your concerns about reducing the Federal deficit and the harmful consequences of prolonged periods of fiscal imbalance. The President's budget for Fiscal Year 1990 reflects his commitment to deficit reduction and restoring fiscal integrity to the budget process. The Administration's spending projections would reduce the Federal deficit to $91.1 billion in 1990, a reduction of $72 billion from the previous year. The proposed budget for 1990 also would more than meet targets established in the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation, which ensures steady reduction in the Federal deficit and allows for a balanced Federal budget in 1993.

Fiscal restraint and political discipline are important weapons in the fight to reduce the deficit. However, the President knows that fiscal balance cannot be institutionalized without reforming the budget process. To that end, he supports passage of a balanced-budget constitutional amendment. A biennial budget process is another measure which would contribute greater stability to Federal planning and make the budget process less time-consuming. Also, the President is in agreement with his predecessors in urging passage of legislation to give the President the line-item veto. As President Bush has said, "The President needs the power to make the tough calls on spending and to take the heat. That's what a President is there for -- to lead. And that's why I want the same tool that 43 governors have -- the line-item veto. With that power, we can put the public interest above the special interest."

I hope this information is helpful in demonstrating the President's commitment to reducing the Federal deficit. He appreciates the time you have taken to share your views with him.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/28/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/JC/DM/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-89A (Rev.)
RE: Proposals to Resolve National Debt
(Response Outlines Administration's Proposals)

BDGT-3
(NEU)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 21, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message. The President appreciates the time you have taken to share with him your ideas concerning the national debt. Your proposal to resolve this problem has been passed along to his advisers.

Be assured the President recognizes the harmful effects that result from continued increases in the national debt to pay for current budget needs. The President's budget proposal for 1990 reflects his commitment to deficit reduction and restoring fiscal integrity to the budget process. The Administration's spending projections would reduce the Federal deficit to $91.1 billion in 1990, a reduction of $72 billion from the previous year. The proposed budget for 1990 would also more than meet targets established in the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation, which ensures steady reduction in the Federal deficit and allows for a balanced Federal budget in 1993.

In addition, the President has also proposed a package of budget reforms to streamline the budget process and provide the Chief Executive with greater authority to eliminate wasteful Federal spending. These measures include passage of the line-item veto and support for a balanced-budget amendment to the United States Constitution.

I hope this information is helpful in demonstrating the President's concern for controlling the level of Federal debt.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(7/21/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/RVL/SMG

RESTRICTED TO K. BAKER AND G. CHONKA (ENV)

SMG-90
RE: Support for Tower Nomination for Secretary of Defense (OTBE)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-7
(PRO)

NOTE TO MI ANALYSIS:
Letter will be sent only
to individuals designated "MI"
or "More Important"

March 25, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I would like to thank you for your message in support of his nomination of John Tower as Secretary of Defense.

While the President is disappointed that the Senate failed to confirm Senator Tower, he is delighted to have Dick Cheney on the job at the Defense Department. Dick Cheney, who was sworn in as the 17th Secretary of Defense on March 22, brings to that position a strong reputation as a leader on national security issues, intelligence matters, and defense procurement. Secretary Cheney is keenly aware of the challenges facing our nation's military forces in the coming years and is a welcome addition to the President's Cabinet.

Be assured the President appreciates your expression of support, and he sends you his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(3/23/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/JC/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-91 (REISSUED TO CORRECT DATE IN SECOND PARA)
RE: Concern re Pan Am Flight 103 Tragedy

FORDEF-2
(CON)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 26, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of the President, thank you for your letter expressing concern for the families of the victims of Pan Am Flight 103. President Bush appreciates your writing and sharing your views with him. He shares the anguish this tragedy has caused all Americans.

On Monday, April 3, 1989, the President met with representatives of the families of the victims for approximately one hour. It was a productive meeting in which the representatives expressed the grief of losing loved ones in such a senseless act. In addition, they discussed their concern with the progress of the investigation, the seemingly bureaucratic insensitivity by various officials, and the need to improve airline travel safety.

The President was deeply moved by the pain and hurt suffered by the families. He assured them that, from the moment this terrorist act occurred, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, and United States intelligence agencies have all been working vigorously to identify the cowardly murderers responsible for this crime. He also advised the representatives that he had directed Secretary of Transportation Samuel Skinner to take whatever steps are necessary to enhance the future travel safety of American citizens, including close cooperation with international aviation authorities.

While no government can offer guarantees against future terrorist acts, it is the Administration's hope that stern measures can prevent future tragedies.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(4/26/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/CH/JC/SMG

SMG-92A (Rev.)
RE: PRO/CON Gun Control)

(ENV)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-2
(P/C)

June 26, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your recent letter and for sharing your views on semi-automatic weapons. As you know, this issue is of great concern to the President and to the American public.

On May 15, the President announced his proposed program for effectively combatting violent crime in the United States. The Administration's initiatives include proposals that will limit access to certain weapons by criminals, yet maintain respect for the rights of firearms owners. In light of your interest, I am enclosing a fact sheet which describes the President's program in greater detail.

The President appreciates having your thoughts and concerns on this important issue.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(6/26/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 6/22/89 Fact Sheet

SMG/OPD/RVL/SMG

SMG-93
RE: Drug Abuse/General Concerns

(ENV)

SOCIAL-4
(CON)

NOTE TO ANALYSIS:
Do not use this letter for personal involvement.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 28, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I want to thank you for your message.

President Bush shares your concern about the rising levels of drug abuse and related violence in our Nation. Eliminating the scourge of drug abuse will require the spiritual, moral, and financial resources of all Americans. However, as the President has pointed out, if we all work together, it can and will be accomplished.

In an effort to further our Nation's efforts to combat drug abuse, President Bush has requested almost $6 billion in new funding from Congress. The Administration's strategy is to focus attention and resources in several critical areas -- enforcement, education, interdiction, eradication, and treatment and prevention are primary among them. Overall, 70 percent of the budget request has been earmarked for law enforcement purposes, which include the combined efforts of the Departments of State, Treasury, Transportation, Justice and Defense. Further, the President has asked that $1.1 billion be spent to expand treatment for babies and others addicted to drugs, as well as for several other treatment and prevention efforts in urban schools.

As you may know, on March 13 William Bennett became the first Director of National Drug Control Policy. President Bush requested that Director Bennett and his staff develop a comprehensive Federal strategy to combat drug abuse. To that end, Drug Control Policy officials are meeting with knowledgeable individuals to develop effective drug prevention programs and to determine how best to coordinate the anti-drug efforts of Federal agencies and departments. In his first few weeks in office, Director Bennett has taken substantive steps to combat drug abuse and the drug trade. He has already announced a temporary ban on the importation of certain types of semi-automatic weapons and has targeted the District of Columbia as a test area for several Federal initiatives to combat drug abuse.

(4/28/89)

SMG-93
RE: Drug Abuse/General Concerns

As President Bush has stated, putting an end to drug use is a tremendous test of our Nation's character. However, he is confident that we can, and will, prevail against the terrible scourge of drug abuse.

In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of President Bush's remarks at the swearing-in ceremony of Director Bennett. It comes to you with the President's best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(4/28/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 3/13/89 Remarks by the President

SMG/FJK/DCP/SMG

SMG-94 (REISSUED TO CHANGE FORMAT)
RE: Savings and Loan Crisis

(LABEL)

DOMISS-8
(P/C)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 22, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message regarding the savings and loan crisis.

The President shares your deep concern on this matter. At a news conference on February 6, he outlined his Administration's proposals for resolving the financial crisis at many of our nation's thrift institutions. The President's plan ensures that the Federal government's guarantee to insured depositors is forever honored and that the system is reformed comprehensively so that similar abuses will not be repeated. Four major elements define the President's proposal:

1. In order to help control future risk-taking and reduce ongoing losses, all currently insolvent savings institutions will be placed under direct oversight by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) and other regulatory agencies. Ultimately all insolvent institutions will be recapitalized or closed.

2. The regulatory system will undergo a major overhaul to enable it to limit risk-taking more effectively. Prudent levels of capital would be required in the future for all insured institutions, as well as common accounting principles and safety and soundness regulations. Under this system, the FDIC would become the insurance agency for both banks and thrifts, and it would have authority to enforce rules against unsafe and unsound practices.

3. A 10-year financing plan will raise approximately $85 billion to underwrite the closure of insolvent firms. This plan is designed to provide sufficient resources for present and future needs and ensures that the savings and loan industry pays as much of the costs of the program as possible.

4. The Justice Department budget will be increased to approximately double its resources dedicated to combatting fraud. A nationwide program will also be established to find and punish those guilty of wrongdoing in the management of failed financial institutions.

(5/22/89)

The President wants every American to be fully confident that his or her insured savings are secure. As he said during his February 6 news conference, "Your government has stood behind the safety of insured deposits before, it does today, and it will do so at all times in the future. Every insured deposit will be backed by the full faith and credit of the United States of America, which means that it will absolutely be protected."

In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of the President's February 6 statement, which highlights details of the Administration's proposal to resolve the savings and loan crisis.

Congress is now moving rapidly to consider the legislation submitted by the Administration. Since substantial ongoing costs can be avoided, the President welcomed the Senate's recent passage of his proposal, and he is calling on members of the House of Representatives to do the same.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/22/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: Transcript of President's 2/6/89 News Conference

SMG/PF/RVL/OMB/RCB

SMG-95
RE: PRO and CON Tuition Tax Credits

(ENV)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-9
(P/C)

May 3, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message regarding tuition tax credits. He appreciates your taking the time to express your views concerning this important issue.

The President supports the concept of tuition tax credits because he believes greater flexibility and choice -- both for parents and educators -- will strengthen our educational system. As you may know, the President recently submitted legislation that, among other things, details proposals for expanding flexibility and choice in education. He has also made known his support for the concept of tuition tax credits as well as his conviction that in a democracy everyone has a responsibility to financially support our public education system.

While the President favors the concept of tuition tax credits, he believes that current budget constraints will not allow the Administration to propose such legislation at this time. Nevertheless, he will continue his efforts to improve education by supporting measures that increase parental choice and flexibility.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/3/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/DFC/RVL/OPD/SMG

SMG-96 (REISSUED TO CHANGE TITLE)
RE: Ethics in Government

RESTRICTED TO ROBERT LUEBKE (ENV

DOMISS-2
(NEU)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 1, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your message to President Bush regarding ethics in government. As you know, the President has made it a priority for his Administration to maintain the highest ethical standards.

The President is fully committed to setting high standards for public service because he believes that the American people deserve no less from their elected representatives and other government officials. Americans can and should refuse to tolerate unethical behavior from those in public office.

However, the President does not believe that we should ask an individual to resign simply because some accusation has been leveled. As you know, accusations are easily made, but in a system of laws, some degree of proof should be necessary. A different standard for government or public officials would be unfair to the individual, and also untrue to our traditions.

The President appreciates your taking the time to share your views with him. Thank you for writing.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/1/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

SMG-97
RE: Homeless/General Concerns

(ENV)

SOCIAL-5
(CON)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 3, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I want to thank you for your heartfelt letter regarding homeless persons in the United States. The President shares your concern for those members of our society who endure hardship for want of food and shelter.

President Bush believes that there is hope and promise in every human life, and that every homeless person in the United States has far too much potential to be living on the street. He realizes that there is no single method to assist these individuals -- the mentally ill, the unemployed, substance abusers and families with children -- because each has different needs. One might need help getting a job; another might need help with a drug problem; yet another might need months or years of treatment to regain his or her mental health; but the President knows that, working together, we can help homeless men and women.

The President believes that the sure foundation for answers to homelessness is a strong economy that produces jobs. A job gives a person a chance to become self-supporting and a chance to grow in self-respect. President Bush is fully committed to continuing our country's record economic expansion, so that more and more Americans might share in our nation's prosperity.

A sound economy is only a start, though. President Bush has thus pledged to fully fund the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act up to the authorized level of $746 million. These funds will support programs that provide emergency food and shelter, housing, and education and training to homeless persons. They will also support substance-abuse treatment programs and community-based mental health clinics.

In addition to fully funding the McKinney Act, the President has proposed a new $50 million initiative to help the homeless become productive members of their communities. Already, thousands of volunteers and community groups across the country provide valuable assistance to homeless persons. By building upon private/public partnerships, this initiative will allow State and

(5/3/89)

local officials and nonprofit organizations to develop the best possible services in their areas. Overall, Federal funding for the homeless, including the McKinney Act and other programs, will total over $1 billion in 1990.

Like you, President Bush recognizes that the problems of homelessness are as complex as they are compelling. Nonetheless, he is determined to help homeless individuals through concerted efforts such as these.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/3/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/TD/OPD/SMG

SMG-97A
RE: Homeless/Specific Concerns (Referral to HUD)

RESTRICTED TO MARY LOU MADDOX (ENV)

NOTE: Do not use this letter for hardship cases

NOTE TO QC: After QC'ing letter refer original to HUD

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SOCIAL-5
(CON)

May 3, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I want to thank you for your heartfelt letter regarding homeless persons in the United States. The President shares your concern for those members of our society who endure hardship for want of food and shelter.

President Bush believes that there is hope and promise in every human life, and that every homeless person in the United States has far too much potential to be living on the street. He realizes that there is no single method to assist these individuals -- the mentally ill, the unemployed, substance abusers and families with children -- because each has different needs. One might need help getting a job; another might need help with a drug problem; yet another might need months or years of treatment to regain his or her mental health; but the President knows that, working together, we can help homeless men and women.

The President believes that a sure foundation for answers to homelessness is a strong economy that produces jobs. A job gives a person a chance to become self-supporting and a chance to grow in self-respect. President Bush is fully committed to continuing our country's record economic expansion, so that more and more Americans might share in our nation's prosperity.

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In addition to fully funding the McKinney Act, the President has proposed a new $50 million initiative to help the homeless become productive members of their communities. Already, thousands of volunteers and community groups across the country provide valuable assistance to homeless persons. By building upon private/public partnerships, this initiative will allow State and local officials and nonprofit organizations to develop the best possible services in their areas. Overall, Federal funding for the homeless, including the McKinney Act and other programs, will total over $1 billion in 1990.

Like you, President Bush recognizes that the problems of homelessness are as complex as they are compelling. Nonetheless, he is determined to help homeless individuals through concerted efforts such as these.

(5/3/89)

The President appreciates your concern for the less fortunate. So that your specific concerns might be addressed in greater detail, we are forwarding your letter to officials at the Department of Housing and Urban Development for response.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/3/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/TD/OPD/SMG

RESTRICTED TO BETTY DUNN (ENV)

SMG-97B
RE: Contributions sent to Assist the Homeless

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MONEY-3
(PRO)

May 17, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I would like to thank you for your contribution to help the homeless. Your expression of concern is greatly appreciated.

Because long-standing policy prohibits the White House from accepting monetary items, I am returning your enclosure. However, you may want to contact one of the community, religious, or service organizations that help the homeless in your area. Officials with these organizations would undoubtedly be pleased to advise you on the needs of the homeless so that you can determine where additional funds can best be used.

President Bush shares your deep concern for the homeless, and he has asked me to extend to you his best wishes and his thanks for your generous gesture.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/17/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: monetary item to be returned

SMG/DFC/RVL/Counsel/JC/SMG

SMG-98
RE: Hunger and Homeless/General Concerns

(ENV)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SOCIAL-5
(CON)

May 3, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I want to thank you for your heartfelt letter regarding hunger and homelessness in the United States. The President shares your concern for those members of our society who endure hardship for want of food and shelter.

President Bush believes that there is hope and promise in every human life, and that every homeless person in the United States has far too much potential to be living on the street. He realizes that there is no single method to assist these individuals -- the mentally ill, the unemployed, substance abusers and families with children -- because each has different needs. One might need help getting a job; another might need help with a drug problem; yet another might need months or years of treatment to regain his or her mental health; but the President knows that, working together, we can help homeless men and women.

The President believes that the sure foundation for answers to hunger and homelessness is a strong economy that produces jobs. A job gives a person a chance to become self-supporting and a chance to grow in self-respect. President Bush is fully committed to continuing our country's record economic expansion, so that more and more Americans might share in our nation's prosperity.

A sound economy is only a start, though. President Bush has thus pledged to fully fund the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act up to the authorized level of $746 million. These funds will support programs that provide emergency food and shelter, housing, and education and training to homeless persons. They will also support substance-abuse treatment programs and community-based mental health clinics.

In addition to fully funding the McKinney Act, the President has proposed a new $50 million initiative to help the homeless become productive members of their communities. Already, thousands of volunteers and community groups across the country provide valuable assistance to homeless persons. By building upon private/public partnerships, this initiative will allow State and local officials and nonprofit organizations to develop the best possible services in their areas. Overall, Federal funding for the homeless, including the McKinney Act and other programs, will total over $1 billion in 1990.

(5/3/89)

Like you, President Bush recognizes that the problems of hunger and homelessness are as complex as they are compelling. Nonetheless, he is determined to help homeless individuals and the hungry through concerted efforts such as these.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/3/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/TD/OPD/SMG

RESTRICTED TO MARY LOU MADDOX (ENV)

SMG-98A
RE: Hunger and Homeless/Specific Concerns (Referral to USDA)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

SOCIAL-5
(CON)

NOTE:
Do not use this letter
for hardship cases.

May 3, 1989

NOTE TO QC:
After QC'ing letter
refer original to USDA

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, I want to thank you for your heartfelt letter regarding hunger and homelessness in the United States. The President shares your concern for those members of our society who endure hardship for want of food and shelter.

President Bush believes that there is hope and promise in every human life, and that every homeless person in the United States has far too much potential to be living on the street. He realizes that there is no single method to assist these individuals -- the mentally ill, the unemployed, substance abusers and families with children -- because each has different needs. One might need help getting a job; another might need help with a drug problem; yet another might need months or years of treatment to regain his or her mental health; but the President knows that, working together, we can help homeless men and women.

The President believes that the sure foundation for answers to hunger and homelessness is a strong economy that produces jobs. A job gives a person a chance to become self-supporting and a chance to grow in self-respect. President Bush is fully committed to continuing our country's record economic expansion, so that more and more Americans might share in our nation's prosperity.

A sound economy is only a start, though. President Bush has thus pledged to fully fund the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act up to the authorized level of $746 million. These funds will support programs that provide emergency food and shelter, housing, and education and training to homeless persons. They will also support substance-abuse treatment programs and community-based mental health clinics.

In addition to fully funding the McKinney Act, the President has proposed a new $50 million initiative to help the homeless become productive members of their communities. Already, thousands of volunteers and community groups across the country provide valuable assistance to homeless persons. By building upon private/public partnerships, this initiative will allow State and local officials and nonprofit organizations to develop the best possible services in their areas. Overall, Federal funding for the homeless, including the McKinney Act and other programs, will total over $1 billion in 1990.

(5/3/89)

Like you, President Bush recognizes that the problems of hunger and homelessness are as complex as they are compelling. Nonetheless, he is determined to help homeless individuals and the hungry through concerted efforts such as these.

The President appreciates your concern for the less fortunate. So that your specific concerns might be addressed in greater detail, we are forwarding your letter to officials at the Department of Agriculture for response.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/3/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/TD/OPD/SMG

(LABEL)

SMG-99
RE: Oil Spill in Prince William Sound, Alaska

DOMISS-10
(C/N)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 3, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message regarding the March 24 oil spill in Prince William Sound, Alaska. The President shares your concern about the serious damage this accident has done to the environment and to the economy of the surrounding region.

During the President's April 7, 1989, press conference, he announced that additional Federal resources will be used to aid in the cleanup effort. As the President said:

> "The Exxon Corporation has acknowledged responsibility for this spill and its liability for the damages. Exxon should remain responsible for both damages and for employing civilian personnel necessary to control further damage. However, Exxon's efforts standing alone are not enough.... I have determined to add additional Federal resources to the cleanup effort, in addition to the considerable Federal personnel and equipment already on the scene....this new effort will focus on the job of helping recover oil now in the water and restoring beaches and other damaged areas. This effort should not in any way relieve Exxon from any of its responsibilities or liabilities."

To demonstrate his determination to provide assistance for the long-term cleanup work, the President asked Secretary of Transportation Samuel Skinner to coordinate the efforts of all the Federal agencies involved. The President has also requested Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney to make available United States Armed Forces personnel and equipment to assist in cleanup activities and logistics. In addition, EPA Administrator William Reilly was designated to coordinate and oversee all long-term scientific research directed at restoring the ecology of the damaged areas to the conditions that existed prior to the oil spill.

In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of a Fact Sheet entitled "The President's Program for Oil Cleanup Assistance in Alaska," along with a copy of the President's April 7 remarks. Also enclosed is a copy of the Press Briefing by Secretary of Transportation Samuel Skinner, EPA Administrator William Reilly, and Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney.

(5/3/89)

(LABEL)

SMG-99
RE: Oil Spill in Prince William Sound, Alaska

The President appreciates knowing of your concerns about this tragedy. Be assured the Administration is working toward the complete restoration of Prince William Sound and other damaged or affected areas.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/3/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 4/7/89 Press Conference by the President
4/7/89 Press Briefing by Secretary Skinner
4/7/89 Fact Sheet

SMG/DFC/RVL/Counsel/OCA/NSC/Breeden/SMG

(LABEL)

SMG-99A
RE: Oil Spill in Prince William Sound, Alaska (Personally Affected)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-10
(C/N)

May 3, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message regarding the March 24 oil spill in Prince William Sound, Alaska. The President shares your concern about the serious damage this accident has done to the environment and to the economy of the surrounding region.

During the President's April 7, 1989, press conference, he announced that additional Federal resources will be used to aid in the cleanup effort. As the President said:

> "The Exxon Corporation has acknowledged responsibility for this spill and its liability for the damages. Exxon should remain responsible for both damages and for employing civilian personnel necessary to control further damage. However, Exxon's efforts standing alone are not enough.... I have determined to add additional Federal resources to the cleanup effort, in addition to the considerable Federal personnel and equipment already on the scene....this new effort will focus on the job of helping recover oil now in the water and restoring beaches and other damaged areas. This effort should not in any way relieve Exxon from any of its responsibilities or liabilities."

To demonstrate his determination to provide assistance for the long-term cleanup work, the President asked Secretary of Transportation Samuel Skinner to coordinate the efforts of all the Federal agencies involved. The President has also requested Secretary of Defense Dick Cheney to make available United States Armed Forces personnel and equipment to assist in cleanup activities and logistics.

The aftermath of the oil spill has brought economic hardship to hundreds of residents of Alaska, and the President understands the many ways in which this disaster has personally impacted the lives of those who live and work in the surrounding areas. In order to address these problems, he has urged that more local residents be hired to assist with cleanup efforts. He has also asked Secretary Skinner to work with Exxon and Federal agencies to develop appropriate loan assistance programs to aid those who have suffered economic injury. Meanwhile, Administration officials will closely monitor Exxon's record in addressing claims resulting from the disaster.

(5/3/89)

In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of a Fact Sheet entitled "The President's Program for Oil Cleanup Assistance in Alaska," along with a copy of the President's April 7 remarks. Also enclosed is a copy of the Press Briefing by Secretary of Transportation Samuel Skinner, EPA Administrator William Reilly, and Secretary of Defense Richard Cheney.

The President appreciates knowing of your concerns about this tragedy. Be assured the Administration is working toward the complete restoration of Prince William Sound and other damaged or affected areas.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/3/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 4/7/89 Press Conference by the President
4/7/89 Press Briefing by Secretary Skinner
4/7/89 Fact Sheet

SMG/DFC/RVL/Counsel/OCA/NSC/Breeden/SMG

SMG-99B
RE: Contributions sent to assist in cleanup of Alaskan Oil Spill

(ENV)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

MONEY-3
(PRO)

May 12, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

President Bush has asked me to thank you for your contribution to assist in the cleanup of the oil spill off Prince William Sound, Alaska. Your expression of concern is greatly appreciated.

Because the White House is prohibited from accepting monetary items, I am returning your enclosure. You will be pleased to know that the Secretary of the Interior has stated that individuals wishing to donate funds to help clean up the oil spill may send their contributions to the following address:

Alaska Fish and Wildlife Restoration Fund
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Room 2556
18th and C Streets, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

The Alaska Fish and Wildlife Restoration Fund is sponsored by the congressionally chartered National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Checks can be made payable to the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. Be sure to indicate on the check or in your message that the money is to go to the Alaska Fish and Wildlife Restoration Fund.

I hope you find this information helpful.

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/12/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: monetary item to be returned

SMG/DFC/RVL/Counsel/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-100
RE: Statehood for Puerto Rico

DOMISS-11
(P/C)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 12, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message concerning his position on statehood for the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.

Although President Bush, like many Americans, would welcome the addition of Puerto Rico as the 51st state, he believes the people of Puerto Rico should be able to determine their own political future. That is why, during the President's February 9 address before a joint session of Congress, he urged legislators to take the steps necessary to allow Puerto Ricans to decide this question in a referendum.

The President appreciates knowing of your views on this important issue, and he sends you his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/12/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/NSC/IGA/Counsel/SMG

SMG-102
RE: U.S./Japan FSX Agreement

(ENV)

FORDEF-3
(P/C/N)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 17, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your letter regarding the FSX agreement with Japan. He appreciates your writing to share your views with him.

Shortly after entering office, President Bush became aware of the growing concern within the Congress and the general public over the FSX agreement. After reviewing objections, particularly those involving U.S. work-share and technology transfer, he sought to clarify the agreement.

On April 28, 1989, President Bush announced that revised understandings had been reached with Japan on the joint development of the FSX fighter aircraft. The United States will perform approximately 40 percent of the work during the initial aircraft development stage and will receive a similar share of the work when the aircraft goes into production. Additionally, tight controls will be placed on the sensitive computer source codes needed for the production of modern fighter aircraft.

This agreement will result in an improved design of the F-16 aircraft and will contribute significantly to the security of the United States and Japan. It should also be noted that this joint venture will be at no cost to the American taxpayer, and it will improve Japan's ability to carry its fair share of the defense budget.

The President believes that the new agreement he initiated will amply protect our leadership in aircraft manufacturing and will not weaken our commitment to ensuring continued dominance of U.S. aerospace products in world markets. In short, as President Bush states, "I'm convinced that the co-development of this aircraft is in the strategic and commercial interests of the United States."

With the President's best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/17/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/CH/NSC/OCA/NSC/JC/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-103
RE: PRO President's Minimum Wage Proposal

DOMISS-12
(PRO)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 17, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for your message of support regarding the Administration's proposal to raise the minimum wage.

As you know the President has proposed an increase in the minimum wage of 27 percent over three years. He expressed his views on this proposal in a speech to the United States Chamber of Commerce on May 1:

> "I've indicated my support for increasing the wage over three years to $4.25 an hour. I also want to establish a six-month training wage for new workers at the current $3.35 rate and expand the exemption for minimum wage requirement for all small businesses with annual sales under a half-million dollars. It's time for those who want a higher wage to move out beyond the rhetoric and take a look at the consequences. We all know the studies that show that each ten-percent increase in the minimum wage will cost America between 100,000 and 200,000 jobs, and they're jobs for those who need them most. . . . An irresponsible increase in the minimum wage will cost jobs as employers cut back to compensate for increased costs -- $4.25 is as far as I can go. It is my first and final offer."

In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of the White House Fact Sheet on the President's Minimum Wage Proposal. It comes to you with the President's appreciation for writing and with his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/17/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 3/21/89 Fact Sheet

SMG/RVL/OEDP/JC/SMG

(ENV)

SMG-103A
RE: CON President's Minimum Wage Proposal

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-12
(CON)

May 17, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your message to President Bush regarding proposals to raise the minimum wage.

As you may know, the President has proposed an increase in the minimum wage of 27 percent over three years to $4.25 an hour for most workers. The Administration's plan balances the need to provide higher wages for long-term minimum wage earners with the need to lessen the adverse economic effects that can result from rapid and substantial increases in the minimum wage. The President's plan also provides for a six-month training wage at the current rate of $3.35 per hour. This provision will help to save thousands of jobs and provide greater economic opportunity for workers by encouraging employers to keep available entry-level opportunities that otherwise might be eliminated. In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of the White House Fact Sheet on the President's Minimum Wage Proposal.

The President appreciates the time you have taken to bring your views to his attention.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/17/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosure: 3/21/89 Fact Sheet

SMG/RVL/OPD/JC/SMG

SMG-104
RE: Funding for Civil Liberties Act of 1988

(ENV)

BDGT-4
(P/C)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

May 23, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of President Bush, thank you for writing to express your views regarding the Administration's proposed appropriation for the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund in Fiscal Year 1990.

The Administration is moving to carry out the provisions of the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 as expeditiously and efficiently as possible. I might also add that the President understands your concerns regarding the law's implementation.

The Japanese American Redress Program is making significant progress. Within the Civil Rights Division of the Department of Justice, the Office of Redress Administration has been working diligently to identify, locate, and verify the eligibility of tens of thousands of Japanese Americans who will receive compensation under the new law. Supplemental appropriations for FY 1989 have been proposed to support the Office of Redress Administration in its efforts.

Let me reassure you that President Bush's budget proposal for the 1990 Civil Liberties Public Education Fund has not altered former President Reagan's proposed appropriation of $20 million for FY 1990. That sum would initiate the payment process, providing compensation to 1000 individuals at the mandated payment level of $20,000 per individual. The proposal assumes annual appropriations of $171 million each year thereafter, starting in 1991, until the law's authorization of $1.25 billion is exhausted. Under such an appropriation schedule, all payments would be made in ten years, which is consistent with statutory deadlines.

I hope you find this information useful. The President appreciates the time you have taken to express your concerns, and you have his best wishes.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(5/23/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/OMB/RVL/DOJ/Counsel/SMG

SMG-105 (Rev.)
RE: Conflict in Lebanon

(ENV)

FORDEF-3
(CON)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 26, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of the President, thank you for your letter regarding Lebanon.

President Bush understands and shares your concern about the violence in Lebanon. He is deeply troubled by the continuing suffering of the Lebanese people and fully supports the call for a cease-fire followed by a political dialogue for national reconciliation. A cessation of hostilities is imperative so that the people of Lebanon may make the vital decisions necessary for the future of their country.

The President remains committed to an independent, free Lebanon and to the restoration of the country's unity, sovereignty, and territorial integrity. These goals cannot be attained, however, through continued violence and bloodshed. The President supports the disbandment of militias and the withdrawal of all foreign forces.

The President appreciates your taking the time to share your thoughts with him on this very troubling situation.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(6/26/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/CH/NSC/SMG

SMG-106
RE: Concern re Case of Dr. Elizabeth Morgan

(ENV)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-2
(NEU)

June 13, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of the President, thank you for your letter regarding Dr. Elizabeth Morgan.

The interest that prompted you to write is appreciated. However, since Dr. Morgan is represented by legal counsel and the matter is the subject of ongoing litigation, it would be inappropriate for the White House to become involved.

The President appreciates having your views on this issue.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(6/13/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

(ENV)

SMG-107
RE: Concern re Crises in China

FORDEF-4
(NEU)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 20, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of the President, thank you for your letter regarding the tragic situation in China. President Bush shares your concern and anguish over the brutality, violence, and deaths occurring in that country.

Since the start of the student demonstrations in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, the United States has urged restraint, nonviolence, and negotiation. Unfortunately, brutality and violence have occurred, temporarily smashing the hopes for greater democracy and reform.

We cannot condone the actions taken at Tiananmen Square. Therefore, the President has ordered the following steps be taken: suspension of all government-to-government sales and commercial exports of weapons, suspension of visits between United States and Chinese military leaders, sympathetic review of requests by Chinese in the United States to extend their stay, and the offer of humanitarian and medical assistance through the International Committee of the Red Cross to those injured during the assault. In addition, President Bush will review other aspects of our bilateral relationship as events in China unfold.

The President feels that this is not the time for an emotional response. It is a time for reasoned, careful action that takes into account the complex internal situation in China and our own long-term interests. We are witnessing a move toward democracy in China that began and has developed as our relationship has advanced since 1972. The students in Tiananmen Square were advocating basic human rights, including freedom of expression, freedom of the press, and freedom of association. The process of democratization in socialist societies will not be smooth, and we must react to setbacks in ways that stimulate rather than stifle progress toward open and representative systems. We must continue to support those who are striving for democracy in China, as throughout the world.

(6/20/89)

In closing, you can be sure that this Administration will continue to support the cause of democracy in China and will continue to use its influence to encourage the Chinese Government away from confrontation and toward dialogue.

The President appreciates your comments on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(6/20/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

(ENV)

SMG-109
RE: Panama Elections

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

FORDEF-4
(NEU)

July 13, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

On behalf of the President, thank you for your letter regarding the situation in Panama.

On May 7, the people of Panama voted in record numbers to elect a new democratic leadership for their country. It was not a close election. The people, by a margin of three to one, voted to replace the dictatorship of General Noriega. As the world watched, General Noriega attempted to steal the election through fraud and intimidation. When these tactics failed, the Noriega regime nullified the election and resorted to violence and bloodshed against political opposition.

The United States is committed to democracy in Panama and fully supports the Panamanian people. As President Bush has stated, the leadership crisis in Panama is not between Panama and the United States, but between Noriega and the people of Panama. Moreover, the President has restated our commitment to the Panama Canal treaties, which guarantee safe passage for all nations through the Canal.

In keeping with his responsibilities to ensure the safety of American citizens and to uphold American commitments under the Panama Canal treaties, President Bush, with the bipartisan support of Congress, announced several measures on May 11. The actions range from recalling the American Ambassador to augmenting U.S. forces. While it is his hope that the troops will not be needed, the President, after viewing tapes of the violence in Panama, decided to increase the U.S. military presence in Panama as a precautionary move to be better able to protect the lives of American citizens.

The Panamanian people have spoken. The Organization of American States, in a resolution passed on May 17 by an overwhelming majority of its member nations, has also joined in asking General Noriega to step down and allow the democratically elected

government of Panama to assume its duties. It is our sincere hope that General Noriega will heed the will of the people, cease his reign of terror, and allow Panama's future to be determined by the people's representatives.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(7/13/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG/CH/NSC/SMG

(LABEL)

SMG-110
RE: Revision to the Clean Air Act

DOMISS-10
(P/C/N)

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

July 13, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your message to President Bush concerning revisions to the Clean Air Act.

On June 12, President Bush announced a comprehensive program designed to reduce three major threats to the health of millions of Americans and to the environment: acid rain, urban pollution, and toxic air emissions. As the President said during his remarks, "This legislation will be comprehensive, it will be cost-effective, but above all, it will work. We will make the 1990s the era for clean air."

In light of your interest, I am enclosing a copy of the President's June 12 remarks and the fact sheet: "President Bush's Clean Air Plan."

With the President's appreciation, and with his best wishes,

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(7/13/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

Enclosures: 6/12/89 Fact Sheet
6/12/89 Remarks by the President

SMG/RVL/JC/SMG

SMG-108 (ENV)
RE: Two Forks Dam Project

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

DOMISS-10
(P/C/N)

June 26, 1989

Dear Mrs. Bell:

Thank you for your letter to President Bush concerning the Two Forks Dam project and the recent decision by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to review in more detail the effects this project may have on the environment. As you are well aware, this project is one which has generated strong feelings on all sides; both the White House and EPA have received many letters on this subject, pro and con. The initiation of this review by EPA should in no way be interpreted as reflecting a predetermined outcome.

Mr. Lee DeHihns has been carrying out EPA's regional responsibilities in this matter. I understand that he has held extensive meetings with environmental groups, local elected officials, the Denver Water Board and the Metropolitan Waters Providers. Mr. DeHihns has also repeatedly toured the Two Forks site.

The end of the initial consultation period is scheduled for July 14. Late in July, Mr. DeHihns will begin the second phase of his review. I encourage you to contact him directly to communicate your concerns:

Mr. Lee A. DeHihns
Regional Decision Officer (Region VIII)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Suite 500, 999 18th Street
Denver, CO 80202-2405
(303) 293-1652

I am confident that EPA will continue to examine the issues fairly and expeditiously in carrying out its statutory responsibilities.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

Sincerely,

Shirley M. Green

Shirley M. Green
Special Assistant to the President
for Presidential Messages
and Correspondence

(6/26/89)

Mrs. Lillie Bell
Director,
Correspondence Analysis Section
Room 54A
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, DC 20500

SMG

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 24, 1990

Dear Mr. Conant:

Thank you for your thoughtful letter concerning the Memorandum of Agreement between the Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency. We appreciate hearing from transportation officials about this issue, as we are currently reviewing all aspects of Administration policy towards wetlands. In this regard, the President has formed a Task Force on wetlands policy. After a series of public meetings, the Task Force will present recommendations on how the Federal government can construct a practical and environmentally sound wetlands policy. We anticipate that the issue of permitting for highway projects will be discussed by the Task Force.

Thank you again for taking the time to communicate your concerns.

Warmest regards,

Roger B. Porter
Assistant to the President
for Economic and Domestic Policy

Mr. Dwight L. Conant
General Manager
American Automobile Association
166 South River Road
Bedford, New Hampshire 03102

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 24, 1990

Dear Mr. Hoge:

The President has asked me to thank you for your thoughtful letter concerning the Memorandum of Agreement between the Army Corps of Engineers and the Environmental Protection Agency on wetlands issues. We appreciate hearing from organizations such as yours about this issue, as we are currently reviewing all aspects of Administration policy towards wetlands. In this regard, the President has formed a Task Force on wetlands policy. After a series of public meetings, the Task Force will present recommendations on how the Federal government can construct a practical and environmentally sound wetlands policy. We anticipate that the issue of permitting for the discharge of dredged or fill material into navigable waters will be discussed by the Task Force.

Thank you again for taking the time to communicate your concerns.

Warmest regards,

Roger B. Porter
Assistant to the President
for Economic and Domestic Policy

Mr. Carson H. Hoge
President
Texas Water Conservation Association
206 San Jacinto Building
9th & San Jacinto Streets
Austin, Texas 78701

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 24, 1990

Dear Mr. Blankenship:

The President asked me to thank you for your thoughtful letter concerning wetlands policy. We appreciate hearing from conservation groups about this issue, as we are currently reviewing all aspects of Administration policy towards wetlands. In this regard, the President has formed a Task Force on wetlands policy. After a series of public meetings, the Task Force will present recommendations on how the Federal government can construct a practical and environmentally sound wetlands policy to further the President's goal of no net loss.

Thank you again for taking the time to communicate your concerns.

Warmest regards,

Roger B. Porter
Assistant to the President
for Economic and Domestic Policy

Mr. Larry Blankenship
Oregon Waterfowl and Wetlands
Association
P.O. Box 42254
Portland, Oregon 97242