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Children's Halloween Party 10/31/89 [OA 6270]

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**CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY / THE SOUTH LAWN
OCTOBER 31, 1989 / 1:00 P.M.**

**THANK YOU, WILLARD. BARBARA AND I WANT TO WELCOME
ALL OF YOU TO THE WHITE HOUSE HALLOWEEN SPECTACULAR.
AND I WANT TO THANK MRS. QUAYLE, MY SON MARVIN AND HIS
WIFE MARGARET FOR JOINING US FOR THE PARTY.**

**HOW MANY OF YOU BELIEVE IN GHOSTS? //// THEY SAY
THERE'S A GHOST OR TWO IN THIS OLD HOUSE. THE MOST
FAMOUS ONE IS ONE ALL OF YOU KNOW: ABRAHAM LINCOLN.**

- 2 -

**BARBARA AND I HAVEN'T SEEN THE GHOST OF ABE LINCOLN
WALKING THE HALLS, BUT THIS IS OUR FIRST HALLOWEEN HERE
-- SO MAYBE WE'LL SEE HIM TONIGHT.**

**HALLOWEEN IS A TIME FOR GHOSTS AND GOBLINS -- FOR
HAUNTED HOUSES AND SCARY STORIES. BUT RIGHT NOW, I
WANT TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT A SCARY STORY THAT ISN'T
MAKE-BELIEVE. I'M TALKING ABOUT ILLEGAL DRUGS. HOW
THEY HURT PEOPLE. HURT FAMILIES. HURT KIDS -- SOME OF
THEM JUST LIKE YOU.**

I GET A LOT OF LETTERS EVERY DAY -- A LOT OF THEM FROM CHILDREN YOUR AGE. I BROUGHT ALONG ONE LETTER I WANT TO READ TODAY, FROM A FIFTH-GRADE GIRL NAMED ANA ZAMORA. ANA'S NOT HERE -- SHE LIVES IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS. BUT I WANT YOU TO HEAR WHAT SHE'S GOT TO SAY ABOUT WHAT DRUGS ARE DOING TO HER NEIGHBORHOOD.

[READ FROM LETTER] "I NEVER GO OUTSIDE BECAUSE MY MOM GETS SCARED THAT I WILL GET HURT BECAUSE OF THE GANG FIGHTS. PRESIDENT BUSH, I HAVE HEARD THAT YOU ARE PUSHING FOR A WAR ON DRUGS. PLEASE HELP REMOVE THE DRUGS FROM OUR NEIGHBORHOODS. I WILL DO MY PART BY SAYING NO TO DRUGS. I HOPE YOU CAN DO YOURS. I KNOW THIS IS HARD, BUT YOU CAN DO IT."

I WANT TO TELL ANA -- AND ALL OF YOU: I AM DOING MY BEST TO DO MY PART. IF SHE KEEPS DOING HER PART -- AND IF ALL OF YOU DO THE SAME -- WE'RE GOING TO STOP DRUGS, AND KEEP OUR SCHOOLS AND OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SAFE.

I KNOW YOU HANDED IN THE PLEDGE WHEN YOU CAME IN -- AND I KNOW YOU GOT YOUR STARFISH PINS. LAST MONTH, I WENT ON TV TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT NOT USING DRUGS. IF YOU SAW ME, YOU ALREADY KNOW THE STORY ABOUT THE BOY WHO SAVED THE STARFISH.

YOU CAN READ THE STARFISH STORY ON THE HALLOWEEN BAGS WE'LL BE HANDING OUT TO EACH OF YOU IN JUST A MOMENT.

AND I HOPE YOU WILL READ IT -- AND THINK ABOUT IT, TOO. BECAUSE EACH ONE OF YOU IS JUST AS SPECIAL AS THE STARFISH THAT BOY SAVES. AND JUST LIKE THE BOY IN THE STORY, YOU CAN HELP SOMEONE ELSE -- MAYBE A FRIEND, MAYBE YOUR OWN BROTHER OR SISTER -- HELP THEM STAY AWAY FROM DRUGS AND ALL THE HURT AND PAIN THEY CAUSE.

SO TODAY I WANT TO TELL YOU THE SAME THING BARBARA
AND I TELL OUR OWN GRANDCHILDREN: DRUGS ARE DANGEROUS.
YOU DON'T NEED DRUGS TO MAKE YOU FEEL GOOD -- OR TO BE
COOL. OR TO MAKE FRIENDS. SO IF ANYONE TRIES TO GET
YOU TO TAKE DRUGS -- EVEN ONCE -- YOU CAN SAY: "NO
THANKS, I DON'T DO DRUGS." ////

IF YOU DO THAT, YOU'RE GOING TO MAKE A LOT OF
PEOPLE WHO LOVE YOU VERY HAPPY. AND YOU'RE GOING TO BE
HAPPY YOURSELVES. ///

NOW, EVERYONE KNOWS IT'S HALLOWEEN -- AND IT'S TIME
FOR THE FUN TO CONTINUE.

GOD BLESS YOU -- AND HAVE A HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

#

FORESTVILLE JUST SAY NO SHUFFLE

We are the kids--of Forestville School,
We don't do drugs--so you know we're cool.

We're all members--of **Just Say No**,
We're high on life--we're never down low.

Come on over--and join our crowd,
Bein' free of drugs--makes us proud.

We're struttin' our stuff--for everyone,
We don't need drugs--to still have fun.

We're not about--to get in trouble,
We're just doin'--the **Say No** Shuffle.

We're glad you made it--for our scene,
We don't do drugs--we're cool, we're clean.

We're stayin' off drugs--we're standin' tall,
We stay sharp--we're on the ball.

We could go on--for quite awhile,
It's time to stop--and say with a smile.

Join our crowd--don't be a fool,
Make bein' drug free--your golden rule.

Adam Namejko

Richard School
2301 W. 21st
Chicago Ill. 60608

Honorable President Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

Hello, my name is Ana Zamora, I am in fifth grade at Richard School in Chicago. My neighborhood is terrible, there are gang members on the corners, gang signs on the walls. The gang members are selling drugs in the neighborhoods.

I never go outside because my mom gets scared that I will get hurt because of the gang fights. President Bush, I have heard that you are pushing for a war on drugs. Please help remove the drugs from our neighborhoods. I will do my part by saying no to drugs, I hope you can do yours. I know this is hard but you can do it.

Thank you

Love,
Ana Zamora

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

October 24, 1989

Dear Students:

I know you are looking forward to a day coming soon that is one of the most fun -- Halloween. I'm inviting you to be among my special guests at the White House to celebrate this day. I promise you we'll have fun, but I want this Halloween to be about more than ghosts and goblins and scary things. While you're here, I am going to ask your help in ending something that unfortunately isn't make-believe -- it's frightening and real. It is the problem of drug abuse.

I hope you were able to watch when I spoke to the schoolchildren of America last month about the problem of drugs. During my television address, I told a story of a young boy and an old man who were walking along a beach. As they walked, the boy picked up each starfish he passed and threw them back into the sea. Confused, the old man asked him why.

"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up and die. I am saving their lives."

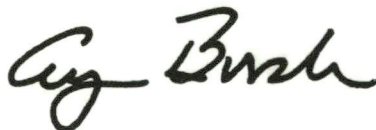
"But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," the old man said. "How can what you're doing make any difference?"

The boy looked at the starfish in his hand, threw it into the ocean, and answered, "It makes a difference to this one."

You can make a difference, too -- with your classmates, your friends, and your family -- by saying no to drugs.

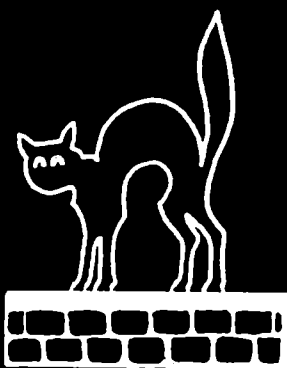
I have given your teachers an anti-drug pledge card for you to read and sign. Please fill it out and bring it with you to the White House on Halloween. I look forward to seeing you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. H. W. Bush". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.



at the
White House



**OCT.
31st
1989**



here's a story about a young boy and an old man who were walking along a beach. And as they walked, the boy picked up each starfish he passed and threw it into the sea. The old man asked him why.

"If I left them here," the boy said, "they would dry up in the sun and die. I'm saving their lives."

"But the beach goes on for miles and there are millions of starfish," the old man said. "How can what you're doing make any difference at all?"

And the boy looked at the starfish in his hand, threw it out into the ocean and answered, "It makes a difference to this one."

You're here to make a difference — for yourself and those around you. So learn to count on each other. Take care of each other. Give someone else another chance.

And make the days mean something.

2301 W. 5th Place
Chicago, Illinois 60608
October 6, 1989

Dear President Bush,

My name is Arocely Bahena
and I attend Richard Elementary School.
I am writing to tell you to
keep on with the fight of the
drugs.

I am happy you are fighting
the war on drugs. I appreciate your
fight because I don't want my
family using drugs or anyone
else. If you win the war on
drugs many will not die or be
hurt by drug dealers and in

my neighborhood of the back is
writing bad words some mothers are
giving drugs before their baby
comes and the babies have drugs
in their bodies. Please send me to
your school to work to help us fight
the drug war. We are at Richard
School, 2301 W. 21st Pl, Chicago
Ill. 60608.

Thank you,
Arocely Bahena.

Cindy P
Puckard school
2301 W 21st
Chicago Ill

Honorable President Bush
1600 Pennsylvania ave N.W.
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

Help us clean our neighborhoods and get rid of the drugs. If we don't stop it now the drugs and gangs are going to get worse. My name is Cindy Palacio I go to Puckard school. I like it there. I would like to see my neighborhood become safe. If you win the war on drugs it might become. The gangs would probably move. I promise to help in the war against drugs by saying no. I hope the United States wins and make this the safest country in the world. Good luck!

Yours truly
Cindy Palacio

Brenda Lee Anna
Pickard 10th
2301 W 21st PL.
Chicago IL 60608

Honorable President George Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Bush

Hello, my name is Brenda Lee
Andrade. I am ten years old. I am
in fifth grade. I go to Pickard School.

I know it is not going to be
easy to win the war on drugs
but I have faith that you will
give it all you have. And one
day we will live in a drug
free community.

I live in the Heart of Chicago
my neighborhood has drug users
and gang bangers that kill people
and scare little children on the block.
That's why we don't come outside. We need
your help.

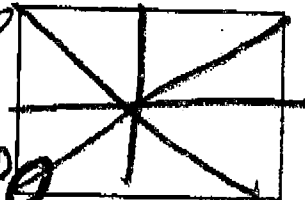
Your friend,

Brenda Lee Andrade

IMPORTANT: IF THIS BOX HAS BEEN CHECKED PLEASE ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF
DOCUMENT(S) BY CALLING 890-3710.

THANK YOU.

Please call Principal
Sylvia Aslani at
(312) 650-7280



TELECOPIER COVER SHEET

FROM: OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT
CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
1819 WEST PERSHING ROAD - 5 E(n)
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60609
(312) 890-3710
FAX NUMBER 890-3759

TO:

Peggy Dooley

SUBJECT:

Pickard Elem. School
"Say No To Drugs" Prog.

DATE SENT:

10-26-89

of Pages

23

Postals School
2301 W. 41st St.
Chicago, Ill. 60623

Honorable President George Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

Hello my name is Manuel Garcia. I live in the Pullman community of Chicago. I hope you win the war on drugs. But the gangs hang out at my school they fight with guns and bats and knives and then they smoke marijuana and drink beer. You can catch them right there. I'll do my part by not taking drugs. And not joining gangs. Please win the war so we can have a ~~nice~~ neighborhood.

Your friend Truly,
Manuel Garcia

James O'Leary

James O'Leary

Dear President Bush of course with you
100% on trying to stop drugs of
have a write who almost died from
Rugby and I see the pain of course
of also with there were more places
to help people with drug problems.

President Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.
Washington DC 20500

3559 W. 11th St.
Chicago, IL 60640

Honorable President Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave NW
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

My name is Erica Rodriguez. I am in
fifth grade at Richard Street. My favorite subject
are Math, and spelling.

I am writing this letter to you to tell you
about the things around my house. People are clipping
because of them. I am hoping you can stop this
with your fight against things & hope everything
my neighborhood will be safe and pretty.

Your friend truly,
Erica Rodriguez

Erica Rodriguez
Richard Street
2051 W 4th St
Chicago, IL 60607

2101 W. ²¹ Place
Chicago Illinois
October 3, 1989

Dear President Bush,

My name is Liliun Yool and I
attend Pickard Elementary School.

The reason for my letter is to
tell you to keep on fighting against
the drug problem.

You are the only person that
can help us or else this community
going to get worse.

Drugs damage the brains and when
brain it make you go crazy, kill people
and writing on walls, starting, horse
smatching, injuring old people.

Four months ago my horse got
robbed that is why I want to get a
good education so when I grow up I could
help this community so it could be better

Mr. President I would like to give you my opinion on your drug program. I think your drug program is good for everyone because drugs complicate everyones life. Not just the ones taking drugs but the innocent ones too.

As for the gangs, they also are very destructive to our lives. Everyday a person or maybe more are killed even though they have no connection to gangs at all. With your help I now know that we young people have a future. I thank you for caring about us Mr. President

Sincerely
Kino Ligon

2301, 21st St
Chicago, Ill 60608
October 5, 1989

President Bush
President Bush 1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington D.C. 20500.

Dear President Bush I support
your help to fight against Drugs.
I wish my neighborhood would be
clean of Drugs. Sometimes police
come and arrest Drug Dealers
and hope the Drug Dealers stop
dealing Drugs because it can kill
or could hurt other people and I
wish it could be stopped. I'm in
sixth grade I'm eleven years old and
I go to Pickard School in Chicago Illi-
nois.

Sincerely
Adan Lopez

Oct. 13, 1999

Dear President Bush,

my name is Stephanie Karen Casias. I am a student at Pickard Elementary School. I must say that I am very pleased with your idea about a drug free America! I hope it works. Knowing that you are trying to make our world a better place to live in is really comforting.

Sincerely yours,

x Stephanie Casias

Oct. 13, 1989

Dear President Bush,

My name is Luis E. Salgado from Pickard School in Chicago Illinois. All I wanted to say is that I read about you talking about Drugs and more things that happens in all of the world. I agree with you because Drugs kill more than one thousand a year. like my Dad tells me! That if I stay out of Drugs it will be better for me and my future. and if other people stay out of it will be better for them.

Sincerely Yours

Luis E. Salgado

Carlos Gutierrez
Richard School
2301 W 21st St
Chicago IL 60608

Honorable President George Bush,
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush

My name is Carlos Gutierrez.
I am in 5th grade at Richard
School in Chicago. I am ten years
old. Mr. President, I want you
to try to stop drugs because
they are killing people.
They are also destroying our neighborhoods.
I'm going to say no to drugs and
yes to education.

Yours Friend

Carlos Gutierrez

I hope we can stop drugs.

I know you don't like drugs either I will

I don't like drugs!

Dear President Bush

President George Bush
1600 Penn: Ave N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20500

October 4, 1989

Chicago, IL 6066
2301 W 21st

I dot like drug
I know you dont like
drugs eithe I will
never usa drug
I hope we can ste
dugs

Love Heynar

2301. W. 21st Place
Chicago, Illinois 60608
October 6, 1989

Dear President Bush,

My name is Irene Mucha
and I attend Pickard Elementary
School.

I am glad that you want
to take away all the drugs. Our
community is growing very bad.
The reason why I and other people
are writing to you is that we
are concerned about this. We are
very concerned about it because
when we grow up and have
children we don't want them in
drugs! I know that our parents
don't want us in drugs too! I am
scared sometimes when I go to the
store at night time. President
Bush you are doing a good job
and keep this up until we all
win the drug war. You are
winning so don't stop!

3301 w 21st Place
Chicago Illinois 60608
October 11, 1989

Dear President Bush,

My name is Christina Sullivan and I attend St. Richard Elementary School and am in 5th

I am writing to tell you thanks you for teaching us on T.V. not to take drugs people say that drugs can make you damage your brain and your body it can make you go crazy and kill people. Gang members steal, burn houses and kill people many gangs almost do drugs everyday and gangs would on property and hurt people. Gang members shoot at cars shoot people shoot any body. they think it's a fun some people are very lucky because they still have a life to live.

Keep up the
good work
and try your
best.

Sincerely yours,
Christina Sullivan

Oct. 20, 1989.

Nino Diaz
Pickard School
2301st 21st Pl.
Chicago Ill. 60608
Room. 302.

Dear Mr. President

My name is Nino Diaz. I am 100 percent behind you about the drug plan. I am going to say a few things that will make my neighborhood a better place to live. I would like to get rid of the gangs and drug users. I would also like to get rid of all the thieves who are stealing from people's houses.

I would like to believe that you are going to make the city a better place to live. I think your program can get rid of all the gangs and drug users off the streets. If we can find where the drugs are coming from and how they are getting here. Maybe we could find a solution to this problem.

Rebecca Cervantes
Richard School
2301 W 215th PL

Honorable President George
Bush 1600 Pennsylvania Ave
N.W Washington D.C 20500

Dear President Bush

My name is Rebecca Cervantes
And I am proud that you are
the president. I am ten years
old I go to Richard School. I'm
in the fifth grade.

I think drugs are bad.
My neighborhood is full of
drugs and gangs. They write
on the walls with colorful
sprays and they break into
houses. They gang are selling
drugs and then they buy
guns to shoot people. It
will get worse. I know
that -

Alma Castaneda
Pickard School
2301-w 21st Pl.
Chicago, Ill. 60608

Honorable President George Bush
1600 Pennsylvania ave. N.W.
Washington. D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

Hi my name is Alma Castaneda. I am
in fifth grade at Pickard School in Chicago
I am ten years old.

Mr. President I want you to try to stop
drugs because they are killing people and they
are destroying our neighborhoods. Please stop
the drugs because they are sold by the gangs
who are always fighting. We can't even go
to the parks because we are scared that we
might get shot. This is why I'm writing
this letter. You have started a War on Drugs
that I hope you win

I know my part is to say no to drugs
and I promise to say no. I realize your
part is much harder but I hope you can
really get rid of the drugs and
then the gangs so I can play outside.

Your friend,
Alma

Ruanda Oneke

Sincerely,

President Bush I hope you
put the drug sellers in jail and
win the drug war.

My name is Ruanda Oneke
in my neighborhood there is a
gang and they buy and sell drugs
they want the kids in the neighborhood
and make money in the alley they
also hurt people and I feel like
they are going to hurt my family.

Dear President Bush,

Marshall President George Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. N.W.
Washington D.C. 20500

Richard S. Street
2301 W 21st Pl
Chicago IL 60608

Rosa Monta
Pickard Del
2301 W 21st St
Chicago Ill 60618

Honorable President Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave N.W.
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

My name is Rosa Montano
My neighborhood is full of gangs
And drugs And even my cousins
Are in gangs And using drugs.
I hope, you can win the war
against drugs

My neighborhood will be nice
And happy without gangs
And drugs. And children
Will go out and play safely.
They will be able to go to
the park safely

Yours truly
Rosa Montano

GHOSTS

WASHINGTON'S MOST FAMOUS GHOST STORIES

BY JOHN ALEXANDER

 WASHINGTONIAN BOOKS

3. THE WHITE HOUSE

ABIGAIL ADAMS AND HER LAUNDRY

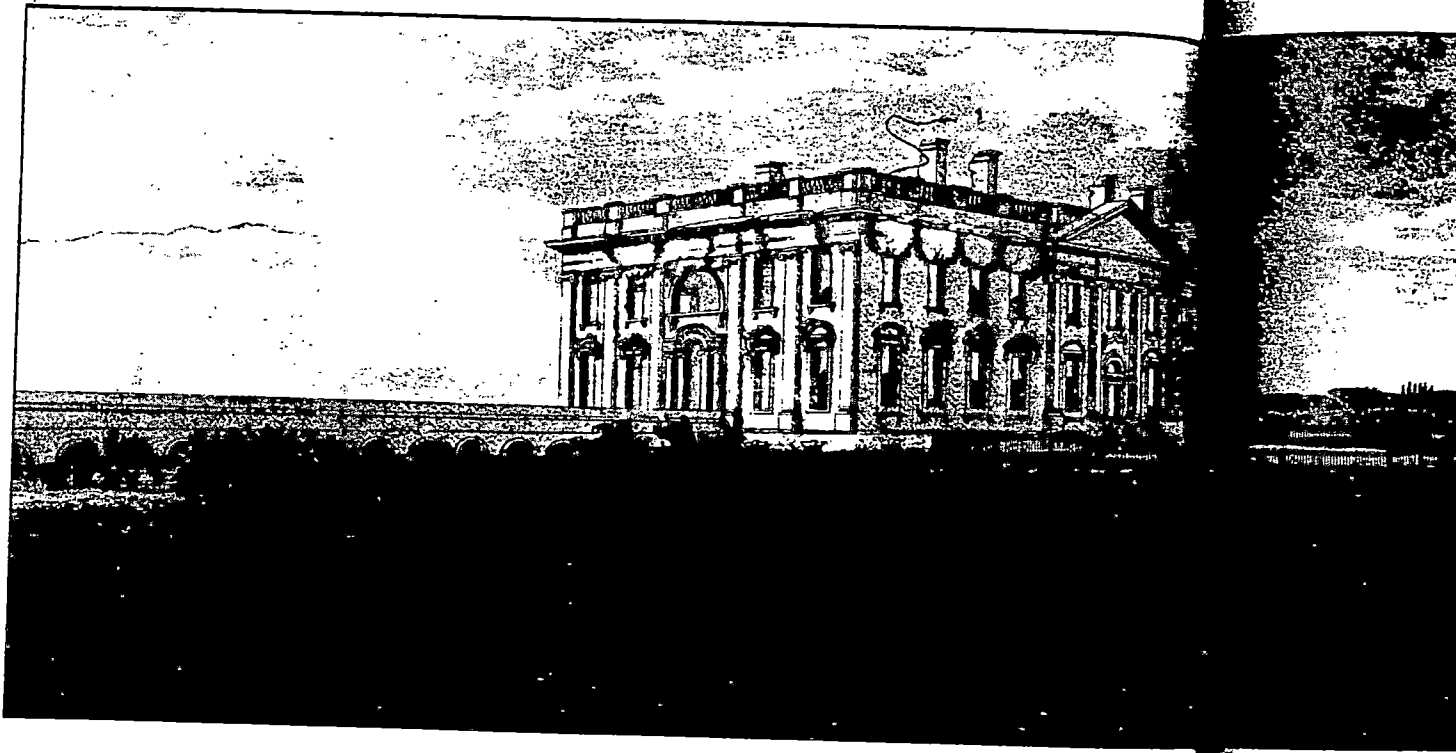
George Washington never lived in the White House, though he was instrumental in choosing its location. His first presidential residence was in New York, his next one in Philadelphia.

The first family to occupy the President's House was not unlike any other family that has to move into a new home that isn't completed. John and Abigail Adams had to tolerate all the inconvenience inside, plus a wide, muddy, and unpaved Pennsylvania Avenue. Abigail used to say that even though the East Room wasn't completed, it was the dryest area in the house. That's the room she used to hang her wash in.

Tricia Nixon Cox, daughter of the thirty-seventh President, said at one time that she was fascinated by the history of the East Room, which included not only affairs of state, but a few weddings and even the quartering of troops. Tricia smiled as she recalled the stories about Mrs. Adams's washdays but said that she



The Adamses, the first First Family to occupy the President's House, moved in before it was completed. Even today, the spirit of Abigail Adams is supposed to carry loads of laundry to hang in the East Room.



personally had not encountered Abigail wandering through those East Room doors. Over the years, though, there have been those who have seen Mrs. Adams, with arms outstretched as though carrying a load of laundry. Her spirit passes through the locked doors to the East Room, where she spent many hours during her husband's Presidency. Some say that they can tell when Abigail's spirit has been there, for it leaves behind the faint smell of soap and damp clothing.

The White House seems to lend itself to ghost stories. Liz Carpenter, press secretary to Lady Bird Johnson, described it as "a house forever changing, yet always the same." It has been rebuilt a number of times. After the British put the torch to it in the War of 1812, there was even talk of relocating the government. The rains that fell on the city the night of the fire, however, extinguished the blaze and left enough brick and mortar standing to make rebuilding feasible. The foundation and walls were made sound once again, and were repainted to cover the effects of the fire. Although the President's House had always been white, and might have been called the White House before, after this the name stuck permanently.

JAMES A. GARFIELD'S PSYCHIC POWERS

President James A. Garfield had only four months in the White House before a disappointed office seeker, Charles J. Guiteau, wounded him at Union Station. The bullet, which entered Garfield's back, eventually killed him, though some specialists today think that if the doctors had left the bullet alone, Garfield probably would have lived. What the doctors could not have known then was that the bullet had lodged in his back muscles only inches from the point of entry. It was harmless, but infection from the unsterile instruments wasn't. Seventy-nine days after he had been wounded, James Garfield was dead.

Garfield had been a deeply religious man. In addition to theology, his studies included biology and anthropology. Just what psychic powers Garfield possessed can only be speculated on, but he confided to close friends that he had seen and conversed with the spirit of his departed father on several occasions, including at least one contact while he was in the White House.

Above: This painting collection is entitled 'The White House in the City' and 'The Conflagration of the White House'.

Below: President Garfield's powers, and claim that he saw the White House long-dead father.

THE SOLDIER WITH A TORCH

Then there's the ghost of a British soldier from the War of 1812, who is supposed to have died on the White House grounds, that still haunts the house once in a while. Generally, he is reported with a torch in hand. His most recent appearance was recorded in a 1954 *Washington Star* article. Leslie Lieber told how a former valet for the President recalled one occasion when he was packing luggage for a visiting couple who were obviously very upset. The woman appeared nervous and the man seemed irritable as he told the valet: "Somebody, my wife insists it was a ghost, was trying to set fire to our beds all night long."

DEPARTED VISITORS OF THE ROSE ROOM

One spot in the White House that seems to be frequented by a ghost or ghosts is the Rose Room, often called the Queen's Bedroom because five queens have stayed there. With its adjacent dressing room and bath, it makes a comfortable apartment. The bed, which probably belonged to Andrew Jackson, has been the source of ribald laughter for more than a century. More than one person is said to have heard the sounds, and often their tales have been repeated in newspapers.

Storytellers like to recall the scandal involving Jackson and Peggy O'Neil. The beautiful, vivacious daughter of a Washington tavern keeper used to entertain Jackson and a friend of his, John Eaton, at her father's tavern. Her jealous husband apparently couldn't stand it. Rumor has it that he took his own life. The recently widowed Jackson liked Peggy a lot, but he also felt certain presidential responsibilities. He encouraged Eaton to marry the girl, and when Eaton did, Jackson appointed Eaton to his Cabinet as a wedding present.

The appointment caused quite a stir, and the Cabinet wives snubbed the witty Peggy Eaton because they didn't approve



Above: This painting from Library of Congress collection is entitled: "A view of the Presidents House in the City of Washington after the Conflagration of the 24th August 1814."

Below: President James A. Garfield had psychic powers, and claimed that he was visited in the White House by the spirit of his long-dead father.

S
field had only
House before a
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Union Station.
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at the doctors
n was that the
back muscles
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deeply religious
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field possessed
1, but he con-
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pirit of his de-
occasions, in-
t while he was

56 of her morals. Secretary of State Martin Van Buren liked her, though. His attention to the "beautiful Mrs. Eaton was obvious"—to quote one ancient article. The scandal was too much. Jackson accepted Eaton's "resignation" and then sent Peggy and her husband to Spain in an attempt to quiet the gossips.

Liz Carpenter, who was closely associated with the White House during the Johnson Administration, referred to the old story of invisible laughter coming from Jackson's bed, and said with a twinkle in her eye, "He was such a salty old character, I've often wondered if it was his laugh."

Death had come to Old Hickory in 1845 at his Nashville estate, The Hermitage. Within twenty years, however, his spirit was first reported revisiting the White House by none other than Mary Todd Lincoln. The mystical Mrs. Lincoln told friends that she often heard Jackson stomping and swearing.

A White House staff member, Lillian Rogers Parks, in a 1961 book, *My 30 Years Backstairs at the White House*, tells of experiencing what she believed was an actual encounter with Jackson in the Rose Room. She was busily hemming a bedspread in preparation for a visit from Queen Elizabeth II when she felt a presence in the room.

The air directly behind her seemed cold as she sensed someone looking over her shoulder. She could feel a hand on the back of her chair. Her scalp tightened, but fear would not let her look around. Leaving behind her sewing basket and needle and thread, the seamstress quickly left, and it was weeks before anyone could talk her into going back in there. When she did have to return to the room, she said that she made certain she never went alone.

The bed in the Rose Room is supposed to be the one used by Andrew Jackson. Ribald laughter attributed to his ghost is sometimes heard coming from it. It was also in the Rose Room that the ghost of Abraham Lincoln appeared before Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands several decades ago.





DEPARTED VISITORS OF THE YELLOW OVAL ROOM

The Yellow Oval Room has one of the most magnificent views in all of Washington. Looking out toward the Mall, one can see the tall spire of the Washington Monument, the majestic Lincoln Memorial, and across the Tidal Basin and through the Japanese cherry trees, the dome of the Jefferson Memorial.

Thomas Jefferson used the room as a drawing room, and often relaxed by playing his violin there. "My, my," Mary

Todd Lincoln once said to a friend, "how that Mr. Jefferson does play the violin." Jefferson had been dead a number of years before Mary Lincoln and her husband moved into the White House. I read in the *Washington Daily News* that she also told some of her closest friends just after John Tyler died in 1862 that she sometimes heard his spirit returning to the Oval Room to woo his twenty-year-old wife.

It is also in that room that Woodrow Wilson proposed to the second Mrs. Wilson; and that Franklin Roosevelt re-

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The Yellow Oval Room has had its share of spectral visitors including Thomas Jefferson and John Tyler.

Byrnes was upstairs playing a trick on him, the guard rushed to the attic stairs, but found the entrance sealed. The guard told the reporter that he later learned the Secretary had not even been in the White House that day.

The reporter nodded understandingly, shrugged his shoulders, and left. He marked it off as idle conversation until a week or so later when the reporter read something that caused him to change that assessment. It was an article about White House land acquisition. The hairs on the back of his neck bristled and his flesh tingled as he recalled the guard's story. He stared at the name of the man who had owned the land in 1790. His name was David Burns, dubbed "Obstinate Davy" by President Washington because he had not wanted to sell the land.

THE EVER-PRESENT MR. LINCOLN

Lincoln was fifty-two when he came into the White House, and there were almost as many Presidents before him as have followed him. None has left the mark on the executive mansion that he has. Indeed, many swear that his spirit still walks the halls. More than a few have testified to having seen his form standing at the center window of the Oval Room. During the Civil War he is said to have often stood there—looking out at Virginia with silent concern about the fate of the Union and the miseries of war.

Lincoln undoubtedly possessed some psychic gifts. Scholars have described him as "introspective," and some said that his periods of silence were trance-like. As a child and a teen-ager, Lincoln was said to have been somewhat moody, yet he always attracted friends.

His personal life was often touched by tragedy. He lost his deeply religious mother when he was four. When his first love, Ann Rutledge, died of typhoid, the

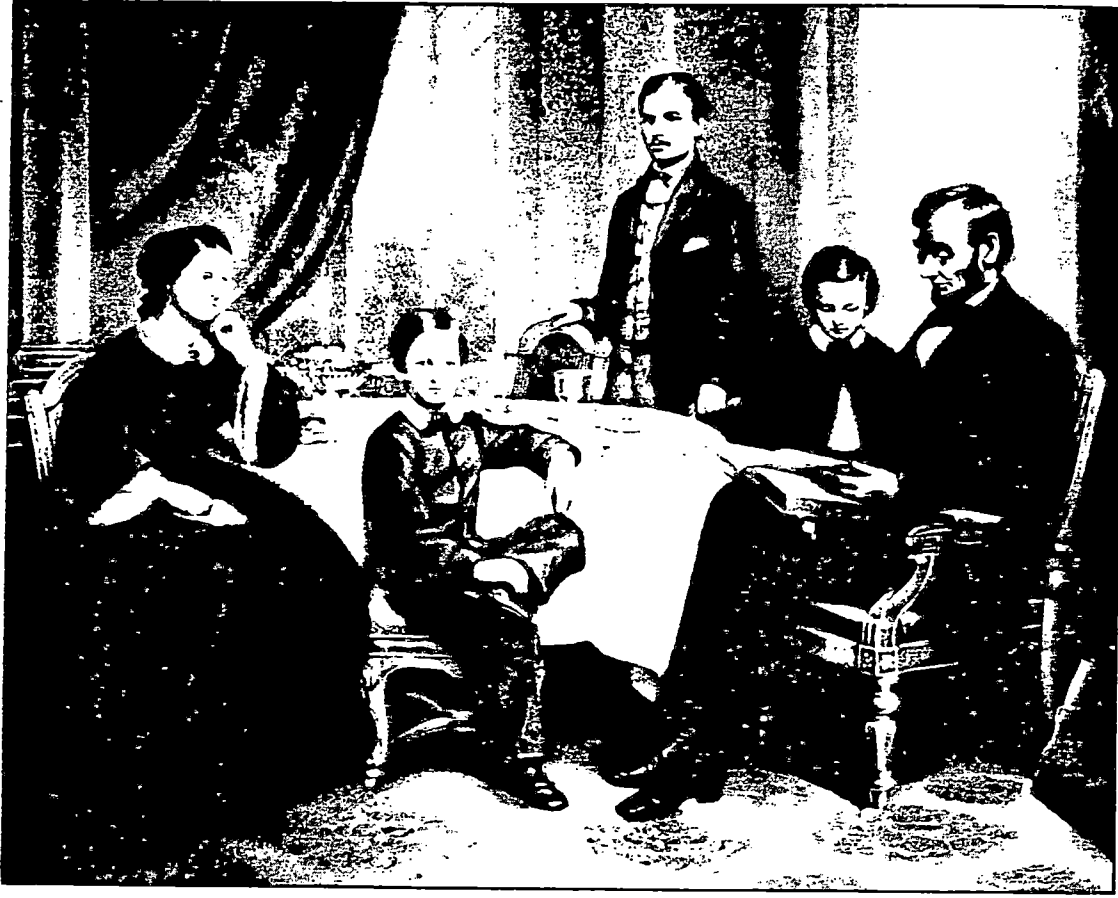
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ceived the leaders of Congress the day after Pearl Harbor. Noted Lincoln scholar Carl Sandburg spent quite some time meditating in the room a few years ago, then emerged convinced that it was the room in which Lincoln had reached most of his great decisions.

During the Truman years, a White House guard related to a reporter that he had heard a voice calling out to him—seemingly from the attic above the Yellow Oval Room. In a whisper, the voice said: "I'm Mr. Burns. I'm Mr. Burns."

Thinking Secretary of State James



Mary and Abraham Lincoln with their sons (from left to right) Willie, who died during his father's presidency, Tad, and Robert.

trauma thrust him into a profound melancholy, which apparently led to an emotional breakdown several years later.

In 1842 Lincoln married Mary Todd. They had an indisputably rocky marriage. Some have said that it was held together only by their common love for their children. Of those children, only Robert became an adult. Edward died at age four, Willie died of fever in the middle of his father's first term as President, and Tad outlived his father by only six years.

Willie possibly was his father's favorite, and the little boy's unexpected death had a profound impact not only on the President, but on Mary Lincoln as well. The family had no gravesite in Washington, but Supreme Court Clerk William Thomas Carroll offered Lincoln a tomb for his son in the Carroll family tomb in Oak Hill Cemetery.

Lincoln used to spend long hours at that crypt, which is on a narrow path on a hillside overlooking Rock Creek. There

are two wrought iron chairs behind the locked iron gates of the crypt, giving credence to the old newspaper reports that on at least two occasions Lincoln had the crypt opened so that he could look at his son. Legend has it that he would sit and stare at the dead youth for hours and weep. Lincoln could not bear to leave Willie alone in that cold, dank, dark tomb.

Members of President Ulysses S. Grant's household believed in the ability to communicate with the dead, and one of them is reported to have conversed with Willie's spirit. More recently, Lynda Johnson Robb, who occupied the room in which Willie died, was "very much" aware of the fact that "it was in her room the little Lincoln boy breathed his last breath," Liz Carpenter told me, but declined to elaborate.

She also encountered Lincoln's presence. "She watched a death. 'She was conscious of the fact that he was speaking to her to direct her.' It was focused on her. She had no other thought. The painter said that it was of great importance to have Bird Johnson draft." Mr. Johnson told me, "I was ill at ease." "She was denying it."

Lincoln's religion, I attend Presbyterian his vision, as mentioned, as for Congress denying it



Willie Lincoln died at the age of 12 during his father's presidency and was buried in the Carroll family tomb in Oak Hill Cemetery. Lincoln is supposed to have sat in this chair looking at the crypt and weeping. Willie's ghost has been seen around the White House on several occasions.

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She also said that Lady Bird Johnson encountered what she believed was Lincoln's presence one April evening as she watched a television special on Lincoln's death. "Suddenly, she was aware, conscious of the fact, that the room she was in was special." Someone was compelling her to direct her eyes toward the mantel." It wasn't the mantel that her eyes focused on, however, but a small plaque she had never noticed before. Liz Carpenter said that it told of the room's importance to Lincoln, and that as Lady Bird Johnson read it, she felt "a chill. A draft." Mrs. Carpenter recalled that Mrs. Johnson told her later that she felt very ill at ease. "Perhaps she felt his presence."

Lincoln was not much for organized religion, though on occasion he would attend Presbyterian services. As a politician his views on religion had been questioned, and once when he was running for Congress he distributed a handbill denying that he had ever spoken "with

intentional disrespect of religion." Lincoln did seem to be at least curious about spiritualism. His wife's pursuit of the supernatural was more overt, especially after Willie's death. She frequently consulted spiritualists and mediums, and there is even a photograph of Mary Todd Lincoln seated at a table with a ghostlike Abraham superimposed behind her. It is thought to be the work of a spiritualist photographer in the 1870's.

Séances were held at the White House, and there are newspaper records to indicate that Abraham Lincoln attended a couple of these. The *Chicago Tribune* reported in 1863 that medium Charles Shackle visited the White House. The levitation and rapping that the President witnessed seemed to impress him. In 1967, Suzy Smith wrote in *Prominent American Ghosts* that she had learned of another time when a medium visited the President. A skeptical Lincoln is said to have ordered a congressman from Maine to sit on top of a piano that a medium

was successfully levitating. The congressman's weight made no difference. President and congressman and others watching could hardly believe their eyes as the piano and the congressman rose and fell at the medium's command.

- A *National Geographic News Bulletin* from August 1973 heralding a Library of Congress exhibit on spiritualism, recalled that the medium J. B. Conklin supposedly received a telepathic message from Edward D. Baker for President Lincoln, who was a close friend of Baker's. Conklin received his message for the President two months after Baker had been killed leading Union forces into action at Ball's Bluff, Virginia. Conklin told him Baker's message was "gone elsewhere" and that "elsewhere is everywhere."

Many of the occupants of the White House seem to have been visited by Lincoln. "I think of Lincoln, shambling, homely, with his sad, strong, deeply furrowed face, all the time," said President Theodore Roosevelt. "I see him in the different rooms and in the halls," he admitted some forty years after Lincoln's occupancy.

Grace Coolidge is said to have seen the specter of the President, too. In a newspaper account I read, she said that he was dressed "in black, with a stole draped across his shoulders to ward off the drafts and chills of Washington's night air."

President Dwight Eisenhower's press secretary, James Haggerty, once said on an ABC-TV news program that the President had told him he often felt Lincoln's presence. President Harry Truman recalled that in the early morning hours a little over a year after he became President, he was awakened by two distinct knocks on the door of his bedroom. He got up and went to the door, opened it, but found no one in the hall. Just a cold spot that went away as footsteps trailed off down the corridor. Truman wrote in

The Lincoln Bedroom as it looked around the turn of the century. Lincoln has been seen most often in this room, although his spirit is said to wander through most of the White House.



64 his diary that he wished he had the bravado to summon forth the Lincoln ghost to scare his daughter and a friend who were spending a night in the Lincoln bedroom.

Eleanor Roosevelt denied to reporters that she personally had seen Lincoln's apparition, but she did admit to feeling his presence. She also related a story involving one of her staffers who had an encounter. Her secretary had passed Lincoln's bedroom one day and saw a lanky figure sitting on the bed pulling on his boots. Since Lincoln had been dead more than three-quarters of a century, the girl felt justified in her reaction: she screamed and ran as fast as her legs would carry her from the second floor. An article in the *Washington Star* said on another occasion that FDR's valet ran screaming from the White House and into the arms of a guard, shouting that he had just seen Lincoln.

Visitors also have encountered Lincoln's ghost. When Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands was visiting the White House quite a few years ago, she is supposed to have heard a knock on the door of the Rose Room, where she was staying. The hour was late, but thinking it could be important, she opened the door. Standing before the Queen, his large frame taking up most of the doorway, was Abraham Lincoln. A White House staffer said that the Queen shocked the President and other guests when she related the incident at cocktails the next evening. She told them that when she saw the chilling apparition everything went black, and when she came to, she was lying on the floor.

Winston Churchill never discussed it, but he did not like to sleep in the Lincoln bedroom. It is the room that all visiting male heads of state are quartered in, but the British Prime Minister was quite uncomfortable there. Often Churchill would be found across the hall the next morning. Susan Ford, daughter of President Gerald Ford, shares the uneasiness Churchill felt. She declared in *Seventeen Magazine* in the summer of 1975 that she believes in ghosts and has no intention of ever sleeping in the Lincoln bedroom.

Lincoln spent many restless nights in



President Lincoln's body lay in state in the East Room after his assassination, just as he had dreamed it would.

that massive old room, and no doubt suffered through more nightmares than pleasant dreams. *Encyclopaedia Britannica* says that Lincoln believed in dreams and "other enigmatic signs and portents" throughout his life. Several of his dreams have been reported, but none is more memorable than Lincoln's vision of his own death. The President recalled one of his dreams in which he had heard weeping, sobbing, and wailing. Walking down a White House corridor to investigate, the President said that he saw a coffin lying in state. Inquiring from a mourner, "Who is dead?" Lincoln was told, "The assassinated President." Lincoln said that in his dream, he walked over to the coffin and looking inside, saw himself.

April 14, 1865, had begun rather routinely for President Lincoln. During the morning, and for part of the afternoon, he met with Cabinet officials to map Re-



The phantom Anna, has been White House release of her

construction and Mrs. ride. They ternoon to

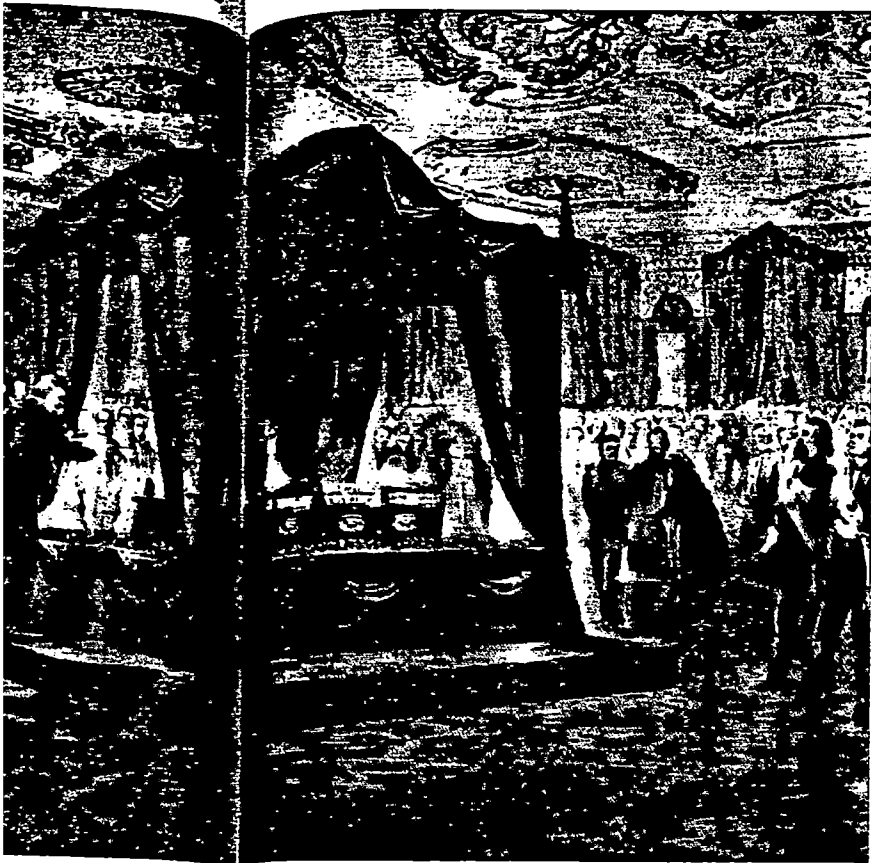
going to the theater or opera took the President's mind off his troubles. General and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant had been unable to accompany the President and Mrs. Lincoln to Ford's that night, but Major Henry Rathbone and Clara Harris had accepted the President's invitation. The rest of the story has been retold many times. By the next morning Lincoln was dead, the victim of an assassin's bullet.

The prosecution of the conspirators was vigorously pursued, and feeling ran high about exacting retribution. There is some question even today, however, about the guilt of at least one of those convicted of conspiring to assassinate the President. Some believe that Mary Surratt was unjustly punished. On the eve of her execution, her daughter Anna forced her way inside the White House grounds and made it to the front door, where she pleaded for her mother's release. On the anniversary of that night, some have claimed to have seen Anna's spirit banging on the front door of the White House, pleading once more for her mother's release.

It has been well over one hundred years since Lincoln's death, but based on the stories of scores of responsible White House employees, members of presidential families, and Presidents themselves, the spirit of that great American still roams the hallways, still cares about the nation he fought so mightily to preserve. Although there have been several who have run screaming from the Lincoln ghost, there are others, particularly those whose turn it is to make decisions of state, who do not fear it. His presence seems to offer comfort and strength to them.

"Why would they want to come back here I could never understand," Harry Truman is quoted as having said about the White House ghosts. In her book *Harry S. Truman*, daughter Margaret says that her father was sure ghosts were in the White House, and at one time he wrote "... so I won't lock my doors or bar them either. ..."

Truman himself had no ambition to haunt the White House, he wrote in a letter to daughter Margaret: "No man in his right mind would want to come here of his own accord."



The phantom of Mary Surratt's daughter, Anna, has been seen knocking at the White House door, still pleading for the release of her mother.

construction plans. Later that day, he and Mrs. Lincoln went for a carriage ride. They returned home late in the afternoon to dress for the theater. Often,

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Date 10/25 Time 4:10pm

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M Silvia Allari
of Chicago
Phone (312) 650-7280

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TELEPHONED	☒	PLEASE CALL	☒
CALLED TO SEE YOU	☐	WILL CALL AGAIN	☐
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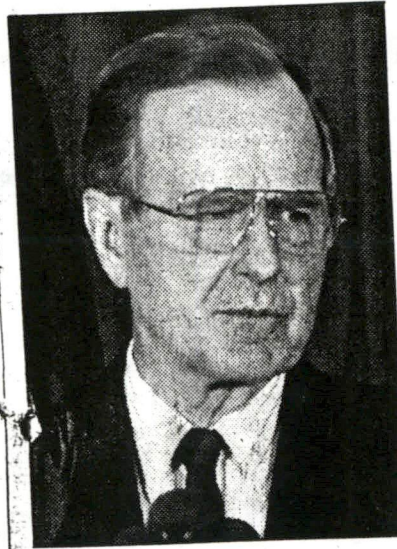
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NEWSMAKERS



■ Please help: "Just saying no" hasn't been enough to drive drug dealers and gangs from the neighborhood, so Pickard Elementary School students wrote **President Bush** seeking his advice. Fourth-grade teacher **Mary Sunny** said 950 individually handwritten letters were sent to the White House from children at the school on Chicago's South Side. "My neighborhood has drug users and gang bangers that kill people and scare little children on the block," wrote **Brenda Lee**, a fifth-grader. "That's why we don't go outside. We need your help."

Richard School
2301 W. 21st
Chicago Ill. 60608

Honorable President Bush
1600 Pennsylvania Ave N.W
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear President Bush,

Hello, my name is Ana Zamora, I am in fifth grade at Richard School in Chicago. My neighborhood is trouble, there are gang members on the corners, gang signs on the walls. The gang members are selling drugs in the neighborhoods.

I never go outside because my mom gets scared that I will get hurt because of the gang fights. President Bush, I have heard that you are pushing for a war on drugs. Please help remove the drugs from our neighborhoods. I will do my part by saying no to drugs, I hope you can do yours. I know this is hard but you can do it.

Thank you

Love,
Ana Zamora

McGroarty/Dooley
October 24, 1989
10:30 am
[HALLOW]

PRESIDENTIAL REMARKS: CHILDRENS' HALLOWEEN PARTY
THE SOUTH LAWN
OCTOBER 31, 1989
Time?

Thank you, Willard. Barbara and I want to welcome all of you to the White House Halloween Party.

How many of you believe in ghosts? //// They say there's a ghost or two in this old house. The most famous one is one all of you know: Abraham Lincoln. Barbara and I haven't seen the ghost of Abe Lincoln walking the halls, but this is our first Halloween here -- so maybe we'll see him tonight.

Halloween is a time for ghosts and goblins -- for haunted houses and scary stories. But right now, I want to talk to you about a scary story that ~~isn't~~ make-believe. *I'm talking* ~~A story about~~ illegal drugs. **How they hurt people. Hurt families. Hurt kids -- some of them just like you.**

I know you handed in the pledge when you came in -- and I know you got your starfish pins. Last month, I went on TV to talk to you about not using drugs. If you saw me, you already know the story about the boy who saved the starfish. You can

read the starfish story on the Halloween bags Barbara and I will be handing out to each of you in just a moment.

And I hope you **will** read it -- and think about it, too. Because each of you are just as special as the starfish that boy saves. And just like the boy in the story, you can help someone else -- maybe a friend, maybe your own brother or sister -- stay away from drugs and all the hurt and pain they cause.

Today I want to tell you the same thing Barbara and I tell our own grandchildren: drugs are dangerous. You don't need drugs to make you feel good -- or to be cool. Or to make friends. **So if anyone tries to get you to take drugs -- even once -- you can say: "No thanks, I'm drug free." ////**

If you do that, you're going to make a lot of people who love you very happy. And you're going to be happy yourselves. ///

Now, everyone knows it's Halloween -- and it's time for the fun to begin.

God Bless you -- and have a happy Halloween!

#

FAX COVER SHEET

Page 1 of 1 pages
(including this page)

TO: Tom Benedi

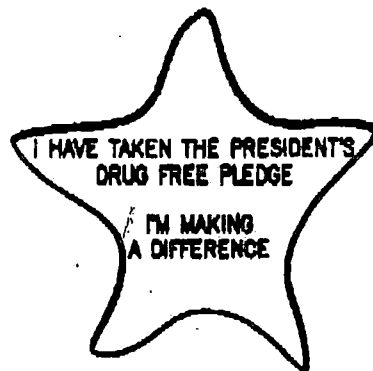
FAX: 456-2820

FROM: AAA CUSTOM ENGRAVERS, INC.

DATE: 10/27/89

SUBJECT: Shifish

MESSAGE:



THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

Bruce Zanca

Jay Parmar - Entertainment

Bobbi - Lead

Tony Benedi - starfish,
pledge cards

Debbie Romash

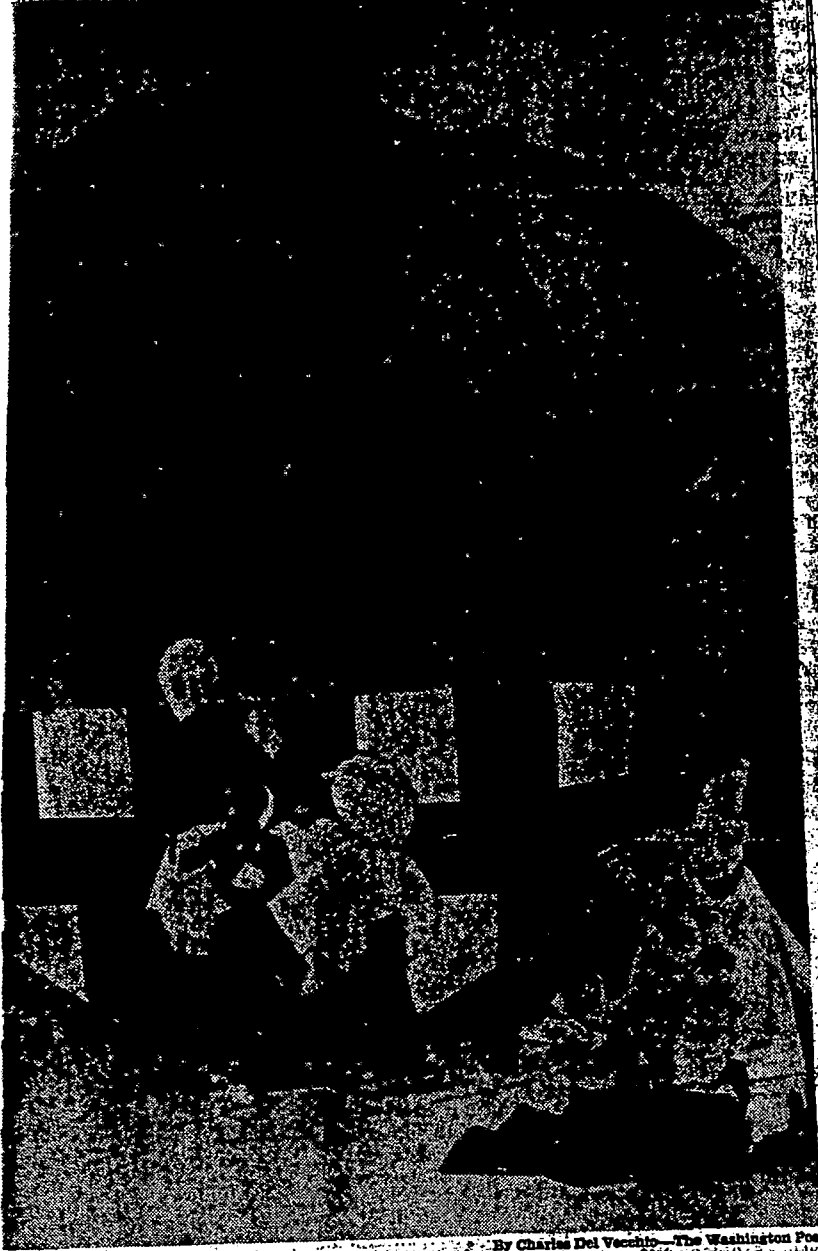
park service - hay etc.

WHCA - spooky music

Willard Scott?

prizes?

3, 4, 5 graders - area schools
w/ drug educ programs



By Charles Del Vecchio—The Washington Post
A 17-foot pumpkin formed the door to the White House for 250 Washington school children who attended a Halloween party there yesterday. Tricia Nixon was hostess, providing masks and refreshments for her young guests. Story on Page C1.

Photos by Charles Del Vecchio—The Washington Post

hool children join the goblins and gremlins at Tricia Nixon's halloween party in the East Room of the White House.

House Turns Into a Pumpkin

By Marie Smith

In all its 169 years the



By Nancy L. Ross

Man Kersch



The estimate of 10,000 fires a year was based on projections from a commission sur-

Rhoads denied any impropriety in the case of Dr. Richard P. Traina, dean of Wabash College in Indiana, who has said that 16 or so FDR letters were denied to him, but turned up later in a three-volume compilation of Roosevelt's foreign-affairs papers prepared by a Hyde Park staff member and published earlier this year by the Harvard Uni-

The letters, sought by
were written by Claud
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Spain in the period fro
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January of 1967, when
last asked for the docu
some of them were still

See TRICIA, C3, Col. 6

The 23-year-old blond daughter of President and Mrs. Nixon was dressed as a glamorous Egypt with a purple harem mask for the 10:30 p.m. event.

White House Social Secretary Lucy Winchester came as "The Great Pumpkin" and other White House staffers were costumed as witches, Japanese girls, Indians, clowns and even a couple as the Black Phantoms.

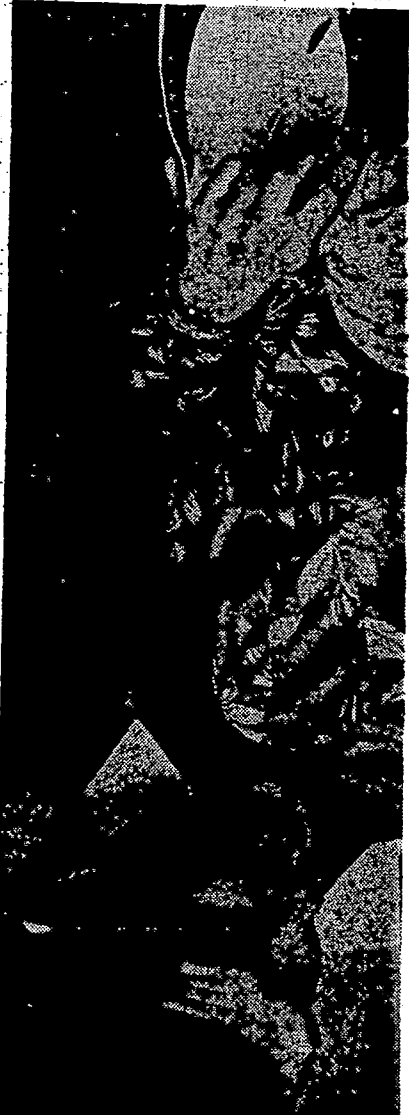
Even one of the butlers, in black tie—serving orange punch, cake and ice cream in the State Dining Room to the young guests—wore a cardboard stovepipe hat labeled "I am Lincoln's ghost."

The children, between the ages of 6 and 11, were not in costume as their buses unloaded in front of the North Portico to the carnival music of an antique calliope, but they were soon transformed into make-believe characters.

Miss Nixon stood on the portico beside a steaming cauldron (dry ice fanned by "witches" provided the steam) filled with Halloween face masks. She handed a mask to each of the children as they entered. Some masks were witches' faces, some clowns, others pumpkins.

The children entered the White House through the mouth of a 17-foot-tall yellow plywood pumpkin encasing the door. Once across

Friendly and unfriendly smiles.



THE WASHINGTON POST

Saturday, Nov. 1, 1969

C3

"The children entered the White House through the mouth of a 17-foot tall yellow plywood pumpkin encasing the door. Once across the threshold they were in a land of make-believe."

Tricia's Halloween

TRICIA, From C1

the threshold they were in a land of make-believe.

Helium-filled balloons floated near the ceiling, orange and black crepe paper streamers and life-size paper skeletons hung from chandeliers, carved pumpkins with comic faces leered out from nooks and corners, filled with dried cornstalks. Picturesque piles of yellow harvested corn dotted the scene.

Members of the Marine Combo that blared out music in the hall were costumed as witches and horned red devils.

White House staffers dressed each young guest in a fringed plastic poncho of yellow, orange or black as they walked down the hall toward the East Room which was converted into a carnival scene.

At the door the masked youngsters darted to the attractions that first caught their eyes. Across the room a row of large red apples hung by strings from a rod for the "Bite an Apple" game.

Near it two young magicians, Larry and Arnold Davidson, ages 12 and 14 respectively, students at Sligo Junior High School, Silver

Spring, performed their sleight of hand tricks.

Just inside the door Lyle Howard, the clown of Almas Temple, quickly twisted colored balloons into animal shapes and thrust them into the dozens of upstretched little hands surrounding him.

At one end of the room the Smithsonian Institution's resident puppet theater presented the Bob Brown Marionettes, including three dancing blue elephants, in a continuous show.

As Miss Nixon turned from watching a complete performance of the show, surrounded by reporters and youngsters who watched her face alternately with the action, she said of the party "I think if there is something that hasn't been done before (in the White House) this is it."

She said Halloween is one of her favorite holidays but she hasn't celebrated by "trick or treating" since she was 12.

Yesterday was definitely her treat. The party was her idea and she worked closely with Lucy Winchester in planning each detail. Because it was "Tricia's party," Julie Nixon Eisenhower and her husband, David, who ar-

rived earlier in the day from Northampton, Mass., to spend the weekend at the White House, didn't put in an appearance.

"She may be here, but I don't know what costume she would be wearing," Tricia said, indicating she did not know all the grown-ups in costume at the party.

Both Mrs. Nixon, who has been ill this week with a virus, and her daughter, Julie, toured the party scene an hour before the guests arrived. And Tricia said she herself had "been enjoying every stage of it" from the beginning.

As she walked from room to room, she was trailed by young guests who plied her with questions: "Who are you?" "What are you?" "When do we eat?"

At 1:30 she joined them in the State Dining Room where the 250 youngsters were seated, all at one time, at the tables normally used for state dinners but with the legs shortened yesterday.

After all had eaten all they wanted, John Nidecker, deputy special assistant to the President, told them how Halloween was started in Ireland many years ago by the fairies and leprechauns.

The Washington Post
Tricia Nixon was
and refreshments
ory on Page C1.

party

White House Turns into a

By Marie Smith

In all its 169 years the



—United Press International

Nancy Hanks, special White House assistant for cultural affairs, judges the artistic works of White House staffers

who carved pumpkins for Tricia Nixon's Halloween party. Nancy holds the winner—the work of the Secret Service.

Top Secret: Sculptor at SS

By ISABELLE SHELTON

Star Staff Writer

The Secret Service, which likes to remain anonymous, found itself in the White House spotlight yesterday—as first prize winner in a pumpkin-carving contest!

Agent Ron Pontius, looking decidedly uncomfortable on camera, was summoned to pose with his winning creation—an ugly witch with a drooping dill-pickle nose and bloodshot eyes, its ears and mouth fashioned from pieces of a red apple.

The SS offering was "very clever" and "pretty scary looking," said Nancy Hanks, the new special assistant to the President for cultural affairs, the contest judge.

Pontius said he would share his prize—a bottle of champagne—with two secretaries in the SS office who had guided his knife—Mrs. June Burton and Mrs. Nancy Burns.

For Tricia's Party

Social Secretary Lucy Winchester was responsible for the pumpkin contest, admittedly devised as a means of getting help in readying lots of pumpkins for Tricia Nixon's Halloween party tomorrow for children in the Urban Service Corps' Widening Horizons Program.

Entertainment at Tricia's party will include the Smithsonian Puppeteers, two magicians, two fortune tellers, Jonathan Frid (Barnabas in the "Dark Shadows" TV show) and a strolling troubadour.

Music from an antique callopie will greet the 250 children as they alight from their buses. They will enter the mansion through the mouth of a huge orange pumpkin that will be hung over the north entrance to the White House. Inside, two witches behind steaming cauldrons will be waiting to hand out a face mask to each child.

Each child also will be given a gaily colored poncho in Halloween colors. Refreshments, to be served in the State Dining Room at small tables, will include orange and brown Halloween cake, ice cream molds in Halloween shapes, and orange-colored punch.

A Situation

Second prize in the contest, which was held in the white marble entrance foyer of the mansion, was submitted by the staff in the Situation Room,



An Uncle Sam look-alike.



—Staff Photographer Ray Lurie

A "coolie" with a straw hat?

which is headed by the President's top foreign policy adviser, Henry Kissinger.

This seemed to amuse Mrs. Winchester and Miss Hanks (who didn't know who had submitted what entry; the names were on pieces of paper placed inside each pumpkin).

"Tell Henry I want him up here right away," said Miss Hanks, chuckling.

"Wouldn't you know—Henry's in the society columns again," laughed Mrs. Winchester.

Kissinger didn't show up, but the two men who carved the pumpkin did—Duty Officers Maurice Hendrix and Melvin Hall. They did the work the night before "in between the Lebanon crisis and Vietnam," they said.

Their offering—which Miss Hanks called "old-fashioned and marvelous looking"—had a

Continued on Page C-4

FIRST LADY STILL ILL

First Lady Pat Nixon, who was confined to her bed Monday night with what was then diagnosed as a "24-hour virus," still has not recovered and has cancelled all the events on her schedule for today and tomorrow.

The First Lady is making "steady improvement," however, according to Dr. Walter Tkach, personal physician to the President. "Her temperature is normal, and she is eating regularly," and yesterday sat up to have lunch with her daughter Tricia, the First Lady's staff director, Constance Stuart, told a press briefing this morning.

Among the events cancelled on Mrs. Nixon's schedule was her planned attendance this morning at a meeting of the committee that is refurbishing the Blair and Blair-Lee Houses, and attendance at an Inter-American Press Association tomorrow night, at which the President will speak.

JOSEPH R HARRIS

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A Situation

Second prize in the contest, which was held in the white marble entrance foyer of the mansion, was submitted by the staff in the Situation Room.

Pumpkin Carving

Continued from Page C-1
pipe in its mouth, a squashy black hat and green peppers for ears.

Third prize went to Eloise Frayer of Bryce Harlow's Congressional Liaison staff. Her pumpkin had round crackers for ears, a flower for a nose, and more flowers jutting from a fluted paper plate hat.

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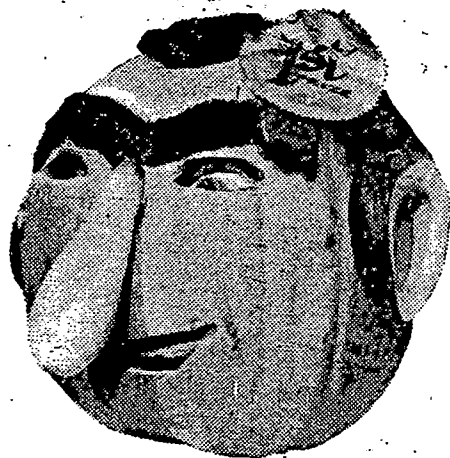
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THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1971

C1

Prize for Pumpkin Of the President



The Great Pumpkin.

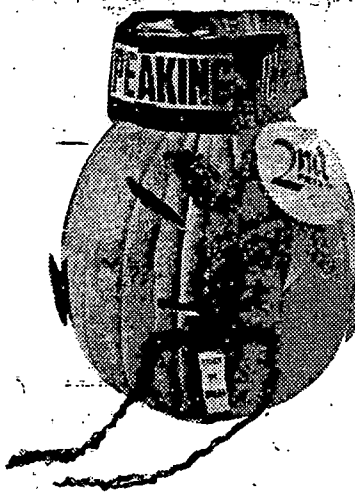
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Photos by Charles Del Vecchio—The Washington Post
The Vice President's scheduling office's entry.

Prize for Pumpkin of the President

PUMPKIN, From C1

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Chicagoland

Chicago Tribune Wednesday, October 25, 1989

Oct 24th,



Tribune photo by Charles Osgood

Letters to the president

Pupils from Josiah Pickard Elementary School, 2301 W. 21st St., show off their letters to President George Bush

before giving them to the mailman Tuesday. All 847 pupils in the school wrote letters to the president.



—United Press International

Nancy Hanks, special White House assistant for cultural affairs, judges the artistic works of White House staffers

who carved pumpkins for Tricia Nixon's Halloween party. Nancy holds the winner—the work of the Secret Service.

Top Secret: Sculptor at SS

By ISABELLE SHELTON
Star Staff Writer

The Secret Service, which likes to remain anonymous, found itself in the White House spotlight yesterday—as first prize winner in a pumpkin-carving contest!

Agent Ron Pontius, looking decidedly uncomfortable on camera, was summoned to pose with his winning creation—an ugly witch with a drooping dill-pickle nose and bloodshot eyes, its ears and mouth fashioned from pieces of a red apple.

The SS offering was “very clever” and “pretty scary looking,” said Nancy Hanks, the new special assistant to the President for cultural affairs, the contest judge.

Pontius said he would share his prize—a bottle of champagne—with two secretaries in the SS office who had guided his knife—Mrs. June Burton and Mrs. Nancy Burns.

For Tricia's Party

Social Secretary Lucy Winchester was responsible for the pumpkin contest, admittedly devised as a means of getting help in readying lots of pumpkins for Tricia Nixon's Halloween party tomorrow for children in the Urban Service Corps' Widening Horizons Program.

Entertainment at Tricia's party will include the Smithsonian Puppeteers, two magicians, two fortune tellers, Jonathan Frid (Barnabas in the “Dark Shadows” TV show) and a strolling troubadour.

Music from an antique calliope will greet the 250 children as they alight from their buses. They will enter the mansion through the mouth of a huge orange pumpkin that will be hung over the north entrance to the White House. Inside, two witches behind steaming cauldrons will be waiting to hand out a face mask to each child.

Each child also will be given a gaily colored poncho in Halloween colors. Refreshments, to be served in the State Dining Room at small tables, will include orange and brown Halloween cake, ice cream molds in Halloween shapes, and orange-colored punch.

A Situation

Second prize in the contest, which was held in the white marble entrance foyer of the mansion, was submitted by the staff in the Situation Room,



An Uncle Sam look-alike.



—Star Photographer Ray Lurie

A “coolie” with a straw hat?

which is headed by the President's top foreign policy adviser, Henry Kissinger.

This seemed to amuse Mrs. Winchester and Miss Hanks (who didn't know who had submitted what entry; the names were on pieces of paper placed inside each pumpkin).

“Tell Henry I want him up here right away,” said Miss Hanks, chuckling.

“Wouldn't you know—Henry's in the society columns again,” laughed Mrs. Winchester.

Kissinger didn't show up, but the two men who carved the pumpkin did—Duty Officers Maurice Hendrix and Melvin Hall. They did the work the night before “in between the Lebanon crisis and Vietnam,” they said.

Their offering—which Miss Hanks called “old-fashioned and marvelous looking”—had a

Continued on Page C-4

FIRST LADY STILL ILL

First Lady Pat Nixon, who was confined to her bed Monday night with what was then diagnosed as a “24-hour virus,” still has not recovered and has cancelled all the events on her schedule for today and tomorrow.

The First Lady is making “steady improvement,” however, according to Dr. Walter Tkach, personal physician to the President. “Her temperature is normal, and she is eating regularly,” and yesterday sat up to have lunch with her daughter Tricia, the First Lady's staff director, Constance Stuart, told a press briefing this morning.

Among the events cancelled on Mrs. Nixon's schedule was her planned attendance this morning at a meeting of the committee that is refurbishing the Blair and Blair-Lee Houses, and attendance at an Inter-American Press Association tomorrow night, at which the President will speak.

JOSEPH R HARRIS

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Pumpkin Carving

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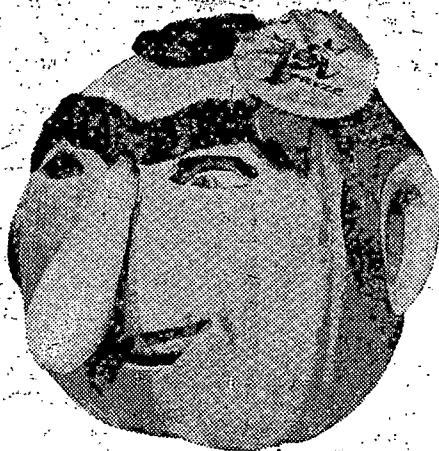
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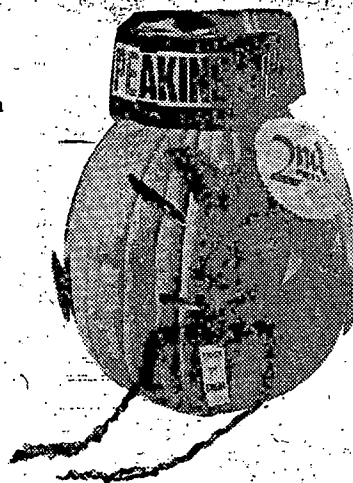
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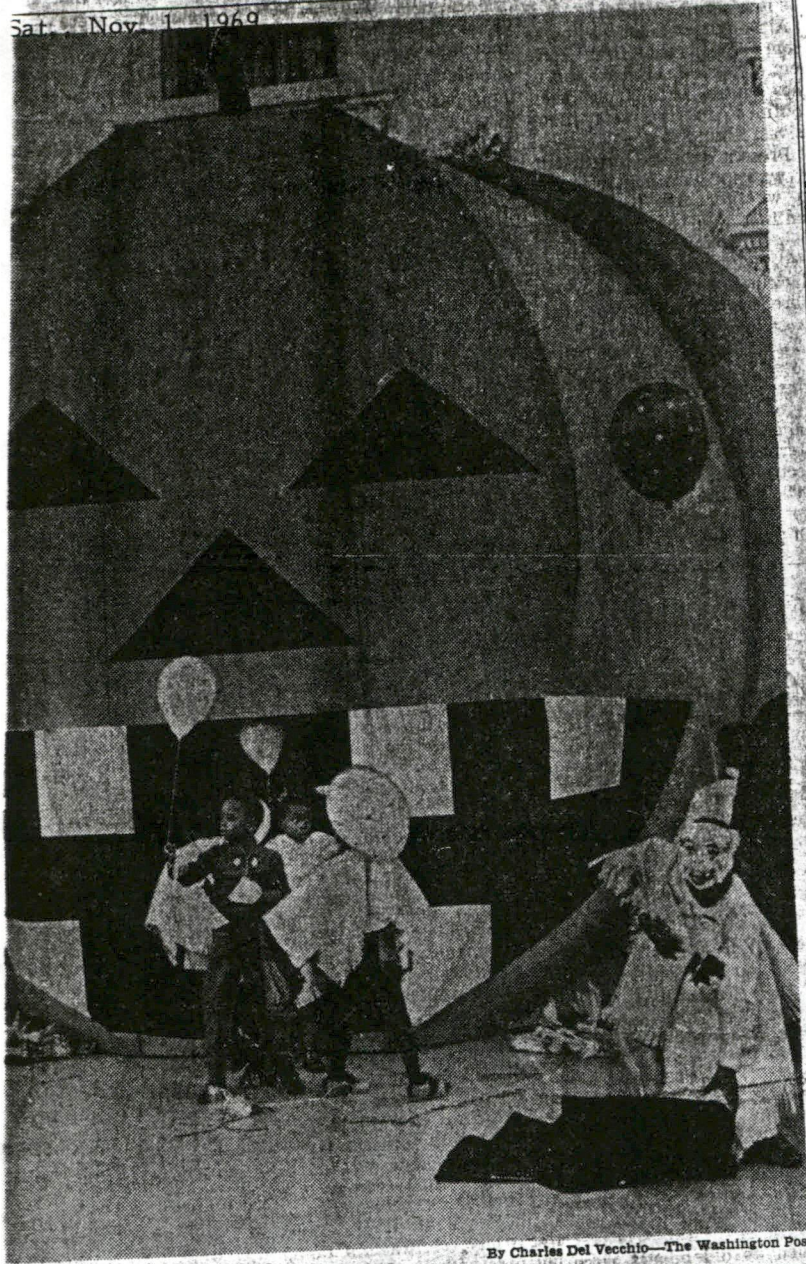
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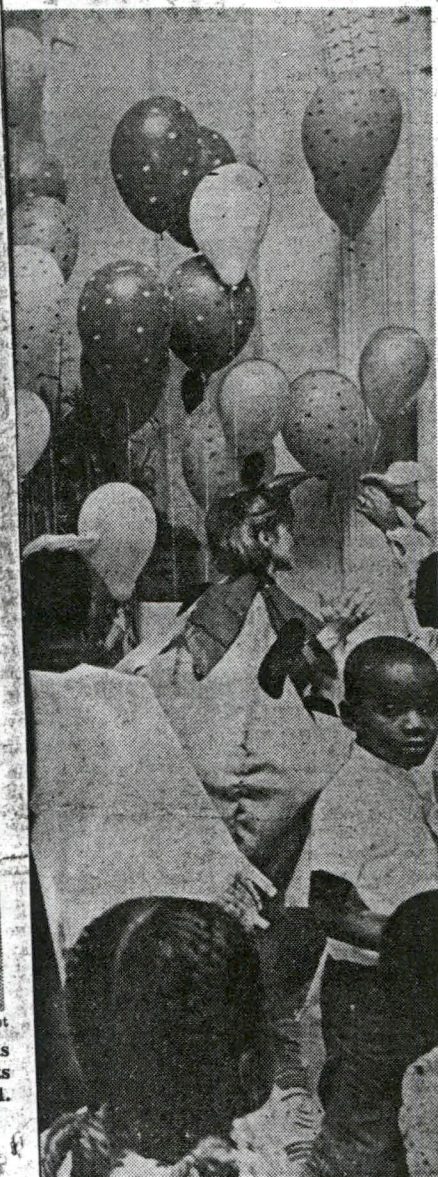
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By Charles Del Vecchio—The Washington Post
A 17-foot pumpkin formed the door to the White House for 250 Washington school children who attended a Halloween party there yesterday. Tricia Nixon was hostess, providing masks and refreshments for her young guests. Story on Page C1.



Photos by Charles Del Vecchio—The Washington Post

school children join the goblins and gremlins at Tricia Nixon's halloween party in the East Room of the White House.

House Turns Into a Pumpkin

By Marie Smith

In all its 169 years the

White House had never seen



Zarrin Bokhari's middle name isn't really Rumpelstiltskin. It just seems that way. For the gossamer creations she spins out of gold must surely equal the finest cloth ever produced by the old gnome of the fairy tale.



The estimate of 10,000 fires a year was based on projections from a commission sur-

Rhoads denied any impropriety in the case of Dr. Richard P. Traina, dean of Wabash College in Indiana, who has said that 16 or so FDR letters were denied to him, but turned up later in a three-volume compilation of Roosevelt's foreign-affairs papers prepared by a Hyde Park staff member and published earlier this year by the Harvard Uni-

The letters, sought by the FBI, were written by Claud E. Rhoads, FDR's Ambassador to Spain in the period from 1933 to 1937. Rhoads said he wrote the letters in January of 1967, when he last asked for the documents. Some of them were still in his possession.

See TRICIA, C3, Col. 6

The 23-year-old blond daughter of President and Mrs. Nixon was dressed as a glamorous spy with a purple hatterquin mask for the 2:30 p.m. event.

White House Social Secretary Lucy Winchester came as "The Great Pumpkin" and other White House staffers were costumed as witches, Japanese geishas, Indians, clowns and even a couple as the Black Phantoms.

Even one of the butlers, in serving orange punch, cake and ice cream in the State Dining Room to the young guests—wore a cardboard stovepipe hat labeled "I am Lincoln's ghost."

The children, between the ages of 6 and 11, were not in costume as their buses unloaded in front of the North Portico to the carnival, music of an antique callopie, but they were soon transformed into make-believe characters.

Porliss Nixon stood on the cauldron (dry ice fanned by steam) filled with Halloween face masks. She handed a mask to each of the children as they entered. Some masks were witches' faces, some clowns, others pumpkins.

The children entered the White House through the mouth of a 17-foot-tall yellow plywood pumpkin encasing the door. Once across-

friendly and unfriendly smiles.



THE WASHINGTON POST

Saturday, Nov. 1, 1969

C3

"The children entered the White House through the mouth of a 17-foot tall yellow plywood pumpkin encasing the door. Once across the threshold they were in a land of make-believe."

Tricia's Halloween

TRICIA, From C1

the threshold they were in a land of make-believe.

Helium-filled balloons floated near the ceiling, orange and black crepe paper streamers and life-size paper skeletons hung from chandeliers, carved pumpkins with comic faces leered out from nooks and corners, filled with dried cornstalks. Picturesque piles of yellow harvest corn dotted the scene.

Members of the Marine Combo that blared out music in the hall were costumed as witches and horned red devils.

White House staffers dressed each young guest in a fringed plastic poncho of yellow, orange or black as they walked down the hall toward the East Room which was converted into a carnival scene.

At the door the masked youngsters darted to the attractions that first caught their eyes. Across the room a row of large red apples hung by strings from a rod for the "Bite an Apple" game.

Near it two young magicians, Larry and Arnold Davidson, ages 12 and 14 respectively, students at Sligo Junior High School, Silver

Spring, performed their sleight of hand tricks.

Just inside the door Lyle Howard, the clown of Almas Temple, quickly twisted colored balloons into animal shapes and thrust them into the dozens of upstretched little hands surrounding him.

At one end of the room the Smithsonian Institution's resident puppet theater presented the Bob Brown Marionettes, including three dancing blue elephants, in a continuous show.

As Miss Nixon turned from watching a complete performance of the show, surrounded by reporters and youngsters who watched her face alternately with the action, she said of the party "I think if there is something that hasn't been done before (in the White House) this is it."

She said Halloween is one of her favorite holidays but she hasn't celebrated by "trick or treating" since she was 12.

Yesterday was definitely her treat. The party was her idea and she worked closely with Lucy Winchester in planning each detail. Because it was "Tricia's party," Julie Nixon Eisenhower and her husband, David, who ar-

rived earlier in the day from Northampton, Mass., to spend the weekend at the White House, didn't put in an appearance.

"She may be here, but I don't know what costume she would be wearing," Tricia said, indicating she did not know all the grown-ups in costume at the party.

Both Mrs. Nixon, who has been ill this week with a virus, and her daughter, Julie, toured the party scene an hour before the guests arrived. And Tricia said she herself had "been enjoying every stage of it" from the beginning.

As she walked from room to room, she was trailed by young guests who plied her with questions: "Who are you?" "What are you?" "When do we eat?"

At 1:30 she joined them in the State Dining Room where the 250 youngsters were seated, all at one time, at the tables normally used for state dinners but with the legs shortened yesterday.

After all had eaten all they wanted, John Nidecker, deputy special assistant to the President, told them how Halloween was started in Ireland many years ago by the fairies and leprechauns.

The Washington Post
Tricia Nixon was
and refreshments
ory on Page C1.

White House Turns into a

By Marie Smith

In all its 169 years the

The history of the symbols making up a complete hallmark on modern silver began with the leopard's head, introduced in 1300 and first known as the king's mark, indicating that a silver article had been sampled and tested and was of sterling standard—i.e., containing at least 92.5 percent fine silver. When the lion passant was introduced as the standard mark, the leopard's head was retained as the London town mark. In 1478 a crown was added; but since 1821 the head has remained uncrowned. Provincial offices, when subsequently recognized, had their own distinctive town marks.

The maker's mark was introduced by a statute of 1363. At first a device was used—a fish, a key, or a fleur-de-lis, for example—often taken no doubt from the sign outside the goldsmith's shop. Gradually, it became the practice for the maker to use the initials of his Christian name and surname, either alone or in conjunction with a device. In 1697, when the Britannia standard was introduced, the adoption of the first two letters of the maker's surname was made compulsory. The previous form of mark was revived in 1720, when the sterling standard was restored. The new mark, however, was struck on articles made in the Britannia standard. In 1739 a statute ordered all silversmiths to substitute for their two existing forms of mark a single one with the initials of their Christian names and surnames in new characters. Manufacturers are obliged to register their marks at the assay office to which they submit their wares.

The hallmarking of plate was entrusted to one of the wardens of the London Goldsmiths' Company, who held office for one year. Probably to identify the warden responsible for marking a particular ware, an alphabetical date-letter system was introduced. Such a system is known to have existed as early as 1478. The letter was changed annually and, on completion of one alphabet, the character of the letters or the shape of the surrounding shield was altered. This practice has been adopted by all British assay offices. The London office uses the alphabet from A to U, omitting the J, and changes the date letter each May. At the Birmingham, Sheffield, and Chester offices, the alphabets selected are of 25 letters; the change is made each July. The date letter denotes the year of assay and marking, not necessarily that of manufacture, although in most cases these are the same.

The lion passant was introduced in 1544 and is used by all the English offices to denote that a silver article is of the sterling standard. At Edinburgh the sterling standard mark is a thistle, and at Glasgow (closed 1963) a thistle and a lion rampant were used. In 1697 the standard of wrought plate was compulsorily raised to 95.84 percent. This step was taken to prevent silversmiths from melting coins for their raw material. The figure of Britannia and a lion's head erased replaced the lion passant and leopard's head, respectively, on silver of this standard, which was known as Britannia or New Sterling. The higher silver content resulted in a softening of the alloy. Consequently, it proved to be not entirely suitable for domestic plate, and in 1720 the old standard was restored together with the former marks. Articles made occasionally in the higher standard are struck with the Britannia marks. For this standard the English provincial offices use their normal town marks in conjunction with the figure of Britannia. The Edinburgh office includes the lion's head erased with the figure of Britannia and its own town marks, as did the Glasgow office.

Additional marks are often found on silver. From 1784 a duty imposed on plate was collected by the assay offices on behalf of the commissioners of customs and excise. To signify that the duty had been paid, a mark consisting of the sovereign's head in profile was struck in addition to the usual symbols. The

duty was finally abolished in 1890 (in 1798 in respect of watchcases), the mark then becoming obsolete. Silver of this period therefore normally bears the head of one of the following: George III, George IV, William IV, Victoria. See also hallmarks.

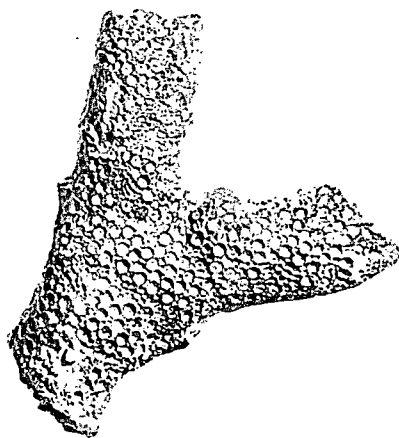
·tableware silver content regulation 5:387a

Hall of a Thousand and One Columns, underground reservoir in 6th-century-AD Byzantium.

·aqueducts and reservoirs of Byzantium 1:1038f

Hall of Fame, Baseball: see Baseball Hall of Fame.

Hallopora, extinct genus of bryozoans (moss animals) found in Ordovician to Devonian



Hallopora elegantula, middle Silurian in age, collected from the Rochester Shale, Lockport, N.Y.

By courtesy of the Buffalo Museum of Science

marine rocks (between 500,000,000 and 345,000,000 years old). *Hallopora* is distinguished by the large size of its pores and by its internal structure. Various species of *Hallopora* are known, some of them useful for stratigraphic correlation.

·fossil bryozoans and eras, illus. 5 7:563

Halloween, in medieval times All Hallows Eve, a holy or hallowed evening observed on October 31, the eve of All Saints' Day; in modern times, it is the occasion for pranks and for children requesting treats or threatening tricks.

In ancient Britain and Ireland, the Celtic festival of Samhain was observed on October 31, at the end of summer. This date was also the eve of the new year in both Celtic and Anglo-Saxon times and was the occasion for one of the ancient fire festivals when huge bonfires were set on hilltops to frighten away evil spirits. The date was connected with the return of herds from pasture, and laws and land tenures were renewed. The souls of the dead were supposed to revisit their homes on this day, and the autumnal festival acquired sinister significance, with ghosts, witches, hobgoblins, black cats, fairies, and demons of all kinds said to be roaming about. It was the time to placate the supernatural powers controlling the processes of nature. In addition, Halloween was thought to be the most favourable time for divinations concerning marriage, luck, health, and death. It was the only day on which the help of the devil was invoked for such purposes.

The pagan observances influenced the Christian festival of All Hallows' Eve, celebrated on the same date. Gradually, Halloween became a secular observance, and many customs and practices developed. In Scotland young people assembled for games to ascertain which of them would marry during the year and in what order the marriages would occur. Many Halloween customs have become games played by children.

Immigrants to the U.S., particularly the Irish, introduced secular Halloween customs

that became popular in the late 19th century. Mischief-making on this occasion by boys and young men included overturning sheds and outhouses and breaking windows, and damage to property was sometimes severe. In later years, the occasion has come to be observed mainly by small children, who go from house to house, often in costume, demanding "trick or treat" (the treat, often candy, is generally given and the trick rarely played). Since 1965, UNICEF, an agency of the United Nations, has attempted to incorporate into the Halloween observance the collection of money for the United Nations Children's Fund.

A common symbol of Halloween is the jack-o'-lantern (the name possibly was derived from that for a night watchman). It is a hollowed-out pumpkin carved in the appearance of a demonic face and with a lighted candle inside. In Scotland a turnip was used, but the native pumpkin was substituted in the U.S.

Halloy, Jean-Baptiste-Julien Omalius d': see Omalius d'Halloy, Jean-Baptiste-Julien.

halloysite, a clay mineral that occurs in two forms: one is similar in composition to kaolinite, and the other is hydrated. Both forms have a lower specific gravity than kaolinite, are fibrous rather than platy, and may exhibit a prismatic tubular shape. For detailed physical properties, see table under clay minerals.

·clay mineral types and behaviour 4:701d; table 703

Hall's Creek, village, northeast Western Australia, on Hall's Creek, an Ord River headwater near Mt. Barrett. In 1885, Charles Hall and James Slattery made the state's first payable alluvial gold find along the creek. In the rush that followed, the settlement experienced short-lived prosperity as the centre of the Kimberley goldfield. For long a small outback (inland) community, it revived as an air and service centre for the East Kimberleys (meat region). In 1958, it was moved 9 mi (14 km) to a site with a better water supply and now lies on the Great Northern Highway to Perth (1,760 mi south). Some gold is still mined, and there has been some prospecting for copper. Meteorite Crater, the world's second largest, 2,800 ft (850 m) in diameter and 160 ft deep, is a tourist attraction, 65 mi south. Pop. (1971 prelim.) 676.

18°13' S, 127°40' E

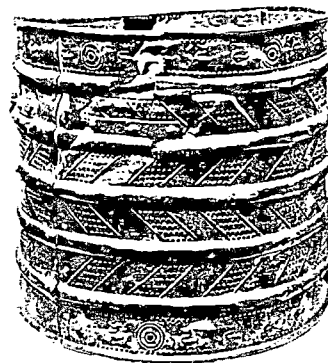
·map, Australia 2:400

·urban geographic location map 2:425

Hallstatt, Austrian village in the Salzkammergut, on the southwestern shore of the Lake of Hallstatt, whose salt mines have been worked continually since 2500 bc.

·tunnelling and salt-mining history 18:750e

Hallstatt, term designating the Late Bronze and Early Iron Age (about 3,000 years ago) in



Bronze bucket found at Early Iron Age cemetery at Hallstatt, Austria, about 6th century bc

By courtesy of the trustees of the British Museum

central and western Europe, derived from the famous prehistoric cemetery and salt mine at Hallstatt in upper Austria, where objects characteristic of the Early Iron Age were first

GHOSTS

WASHINGTON'S MOST FAMOUS GHOST STORIES

BY JOHN ALEXANDER

 **WASHINGTONIAN BOOKS**

3. THE WHITE HOUSE

ABIGAIL ADAMS AND HER LAUNDRY

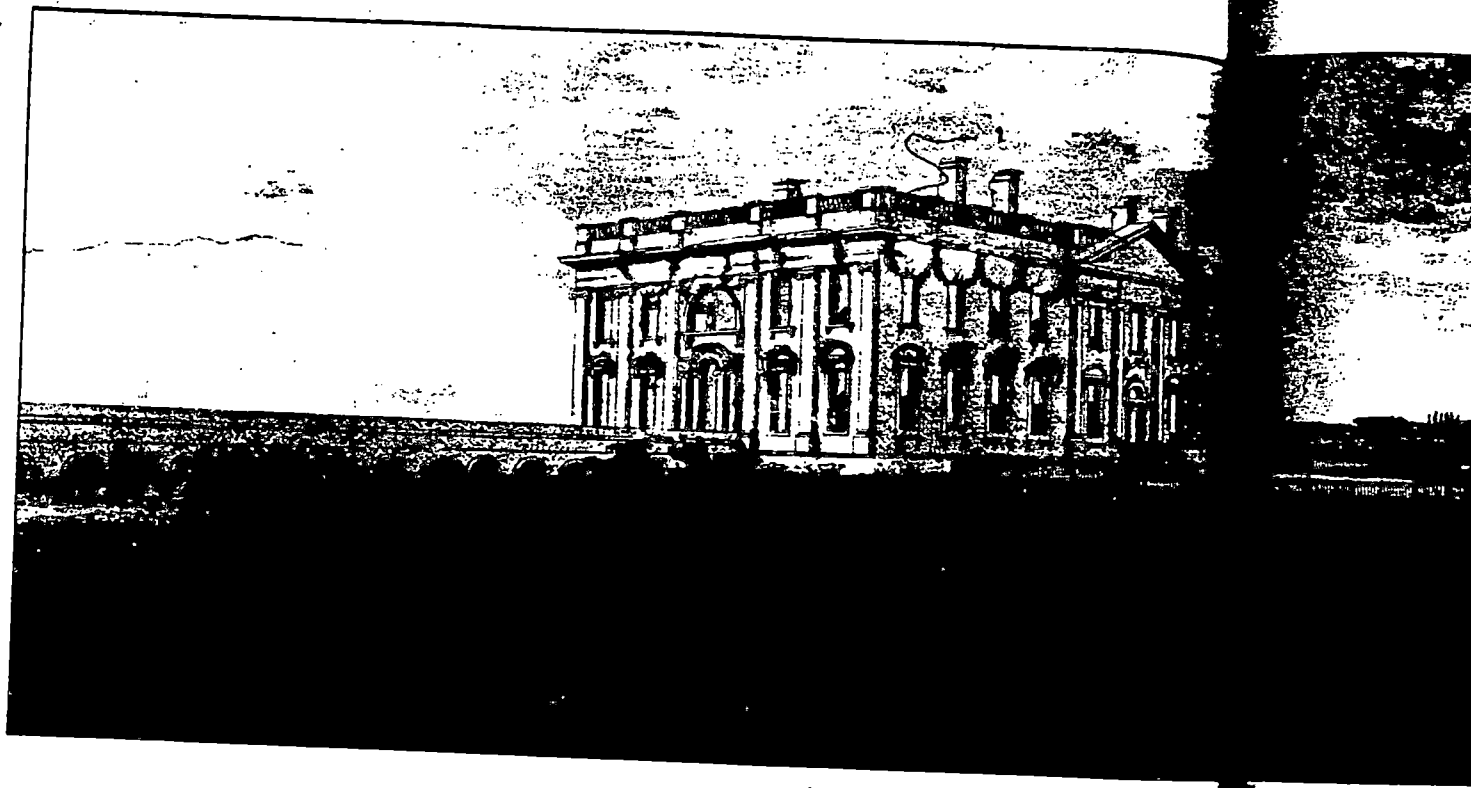
George Washington never lived in the White House, though he was instrumental in choosing its location. His first presidential residence was in New York, his next one in Philadelphia.

The first family to occupy the President's House was not unlike any other family that has to move into a new home that isn't completed. John and Abigail Adams had to tolerate all the inconvenience inside, plus a wide, muddy, and unpaved Pennsylvania Avenue. Abigail used to say that even though the East Room wasn't completed, it was the driest area in the house. That's the room she used to hang her wash in.

Tricia Nixon Cox, daughter of the thirty-seventh President, said at one time that she was fascinated by the history of the East Room, which included not only affairs of state, but a few weddings and even the quartering of troops. Tricia smiled as she recalled the stories about Mrs. Adams's washdays but said that she



The Adamses, the first First Family to occupy the President's House, moved in before it was completed. Even today, the spirit of Abigail Adams is supposed to carry loads of laundry to hang in the East Room.



personally had not encountered Abigail wandering through those East Room doors. Over the years, though, there have been those who have seen Mrs. Adams, with arms outstretched as though carrying a load of laundry. Her spirit passes through the locked doors to the East Room, where she spent many hours during her husband's Presidency. Some say that they can tell when Abigail's spirit has been there, for it leaves behind the faint smell of soap and damp clothing.

The White House seems to lend itself to ghost stories. Liz Carpenter, press secretary to Lady Bird Johnson, described it as "a house forever changing, yet always the same." It has been rebuilt a number of times. After the British put the torch to it in the War of 1812, there was even talk of relocating the government. The rains that fell on the city the night of the fire, however, extinguished the blaze and left enough brick and mortar standing to make rebuilding feasible. The foundation and walls were made sound once again, and were repainted to cover the effects of the fire. Although the President's House had always been white, and might have been called the White House before, after this the name stuck permanently.

JAMES A. GARFIELD'S PSYCHIC POWERS

President James A. Garfield had only four months in the White House before a disappointed office seeker, Charles J. Guiteau, wounded him at Union Station. The bullet, which entered Garfield's back, eventually killed him, though some specialists today think that if the doctors had left the bullet alone, Garfield probably would have lived. What the doctors could not have known then was that the bullet had lodged in his back muscles only inches from the point of entry. It was harmless, but infection from the unsterile instruments wasn't. Seventy-nine days after he had been wounded, James Garfield was dead.

Garfield had been a deeply religious man. In addition to theology, his studies included biology and anthropology. Just what psychic powers Garfield possessed can only be speculated on, but he confided to close friends that he had seen and conversed with the spirit of his departed father on several occasions, including at least one contact while he was in the White House.

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Below: Presiden powers, and cla the White Hous long-dead fathet

THE SOLDIER WITH A TORCH

Then there's the ghost of a British soldier from the War of 1812, who is supposed to have died on the White House grounds, that still haunts the house once in a while. Generally, he is reported with a torch in hand. His most recent appearance was recorded in a 1954 *Washington Star* article. Leslie Lieber told how a former valet for the President recalled one occasion when he was packing luggage for a visiting couple who were obviously very upset. The woman appeared nervous and the man seemed irritable as he told the valet: "Somebody, my wife insists it was a ghost, was trying to set fire to our beds all night long."

DEPARTED VISITORS OF THE ROSE ROOM

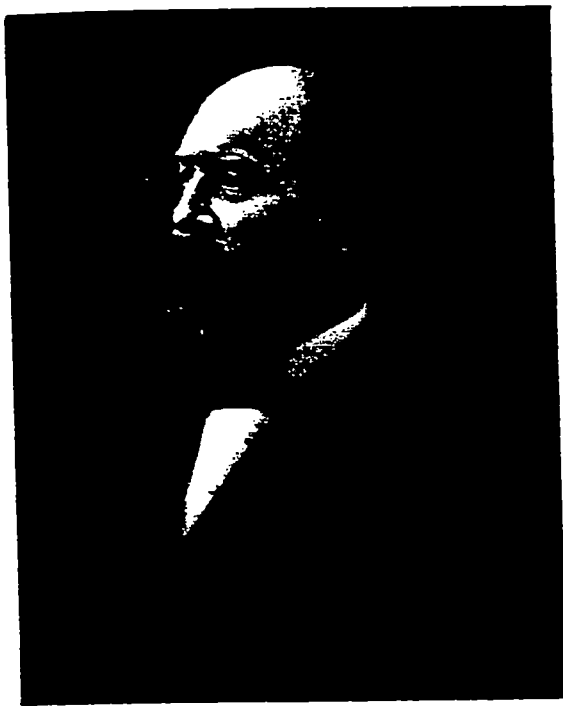
One spot in the White House that seems to be frequented by a ghost or ghosts is the Rose Room, often called the Queen's Bedroom because five queens have stayed there. With its adjacent dressing room and bath, it makes a comfortable apartment. The bed, which probably belonged to Andrew Jackson, has been the source of ribald laughter for more than a century. More than one person is said to have heard the sounds, and often their tales have been repeated in newspapers.

Storytellers like to recall the scandal involving Jackson and Peggy O'Neil. The beautiful, vivacious daughter of a Washington tavern keeper used to entertain Jackson and a friend of his, John Eaton, at her father's tavern. Her jealous husband apparently couldn't stand it. Rumor has it that he took his own life. The recently widowed Jackson liked Peggy a lot, but he also felt certain presidential responsibilities. He encouraged Eaton to marry the girl, and when Eaton did, Jackson appointed Eaton to his Cabinet as a wedding present.

The appointment caused quite a stir, and the Cabinet wives snubbed the witty Peggy Eaton because they didn't approve

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Above: This painting from Library of Congress collection is entitled: "A view of the Presidents House in the City of Washington after the Conflagration of the 24th August 1814."

Below: President James A. Garfield had psychic powers, and claimed that he was visited in the White House by the spirit of his long-dead father.

56 of her morals. Secretary of State Martin Van Buren liked her, though. His attention to the "beautiful Mrs. Eaton was obvious"—to quote one ancient article. The scandal was too much. Jackson accepted Eaton's "resignation" and then sent Peggy and her husband to Spain in an attempt to quiet the gossips.

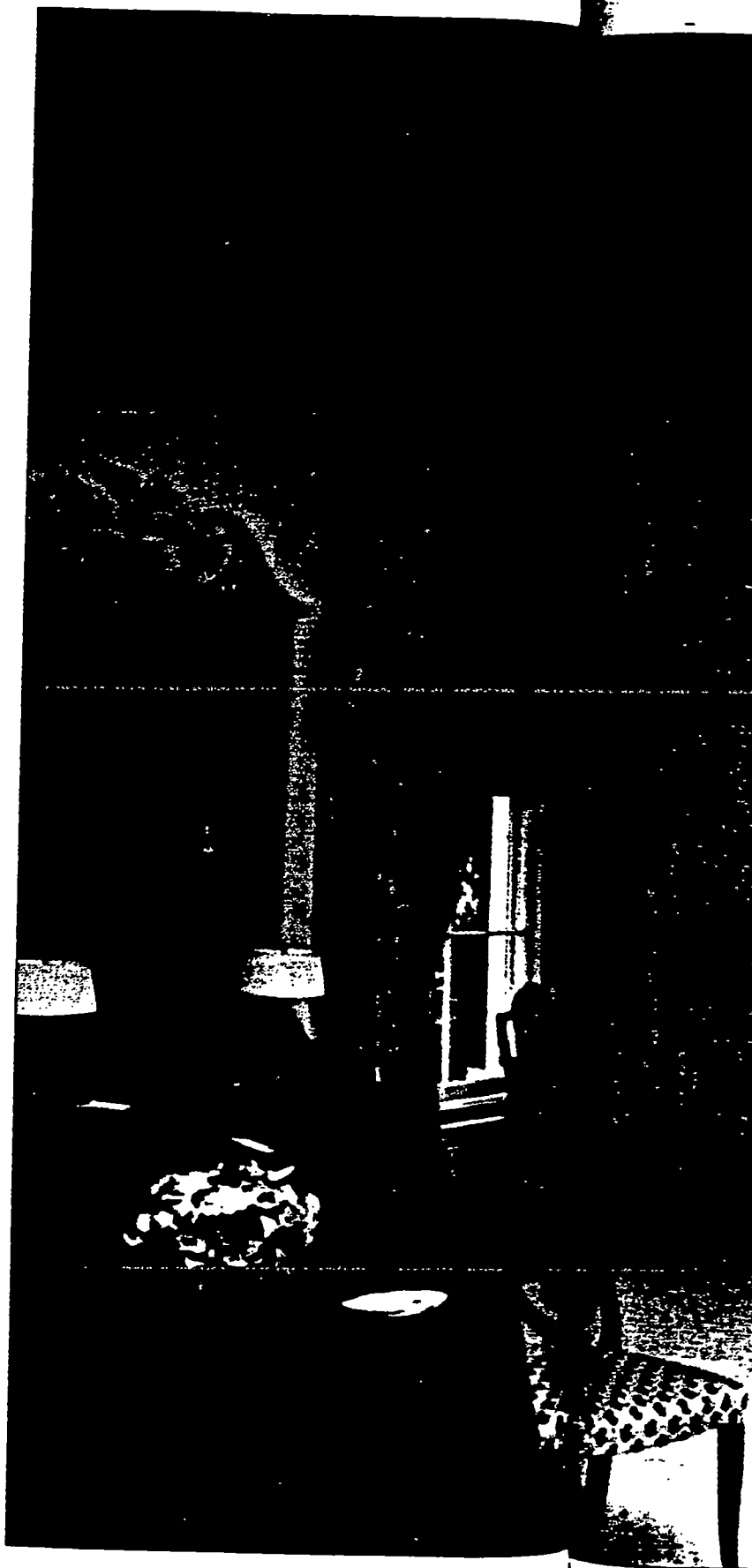
Liz Carpenter, who was closely associated with the White House during the Johnson Administration, referred to the old story of invisible laughter coming from Jackson's bed, and said with a twinkle in her eye, "He was such a salty old character, I've often wondered if it was his laugh."

Death had come to Old Hickory in 1845 at his Nashville estate, The Hermitage. Within twenty years, however, his spirit was first reported revisiting the White House by none other than Mary Todd Lincoln. The mystical Mrs. Lincoln told friends that she often heard Jackson stomping and swearing.

A White House staff member, Lillian Rogers Parks, in a 1961 book, *My 30 Years Backstairs at the White House*, tells of experiencing what she believed was an actual encounter with Jackson in the Rose Room. She was busily hemming a bedspread in preparation for a visit from Queen Elizabeth II when she felt a presence in the room.

The air directly behind her seemed cold as she sensed someone looking over her shoulder. She could feel a hand on the back of her chair. Her scalp tightened, but fear would not let her look around. Leaving behind her sewing basket and needle and thread, the seamstress quickly left, and it was weeks before anyone could talk her into going back in there. When she did have to return to the room, she said that she made certain she never went alone.

The bed in the Rose Room is supposed to be the one used by Andrew Jackson. Ribald laughter attributed to his ghost is sometimes heard coming from it. It was also in the Rose Room that the ghost of Abraham Lincoln appeared before Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands several decades ago.





DEPARTED VISITORS OF THE YELLOW OVAL ROOM

The Yellow Oval Room has one of the most magnificent views in all of Washington. Looking out toward the Mall, one can see the tall spire of the Washington Monument, the majestic Lincoln Memorial, and across the Tidal Basin and through the Japanese cherry trees, the dome of the Jefferson Memorial.

Thomas Jefferson used the room as a drawing room, and often relaxed by playing his violin there. "My, my," Mary

Todd Lincoln once said to a friend, "how that Mr. Jefferson does play the violin." Jefferson had been dead a number of years before Mary Lincoln and her husband moved into the White House. I read in the *Washington Daily News* that she also told some of her closest friends just after John Tyler died in 1862 that she sometimes heard his spirit returning to the Oval Room to woo his twenty-year-old wife.

It is also in that room that Woodrow Wilson proposed to the second Mrs. Wilson; and that Franklin Roosevelt re-

ceived after scholar time n ago. ti the ro most o Dur House he had seemir low O said: " Thi

The Yellow Oval Room has had its share of spectral visitors including Thomas Jefferson and John Tyler.

Byrnes was upstairs playing a trick on him, the guard rushed to the attic stairs, but found the entrance sealed. The guard told the reporter that he later learned the Secretary had not even been in the White House that day.

The reporter nodded understandingly, shrugged his shoulders, and left. He marked it off as idle conversation until a week or so later when the reporter read something that caused him to change that assessment. It was an article about White House land acquisition. The hairs on the back of his neck bristled and his flesh tingled as he recalled the guard's story. He stared at the name of the man who had owned the land in 1790. His name was David Burns, dubbed "Obstinate Davy" by President Washington because he had not wanted to sell the land.

THE EVER-PRESENT MR. LINCOLN

Lincoln was fifty-two when he came into the White House, and there were almost as many Presidents before him as have followed him. None has left the mark on the executive mansion that he has. Indeed, many swear that his spirit still walks the halls. More than a few have testified to having seen his form standing at the center window of the Oval Room. During the Civil War he is said to have often stood there—looking out at Virginia with silent concern about the fate of the Union and the miseries of war.

Lincoln undoubtedly possessed some psychic gifts. Scholars have described him as "introspective," and some said that his periods of silence were trance-like. As a child and a teen-ager, Lincoln was said to have been somewhat moody, yet he always attracted friends.

His personal life was often touched by tragedy. He lost his deeply religious mother when he was four. When his first love, Ann Rutledge, died of typhoid, the

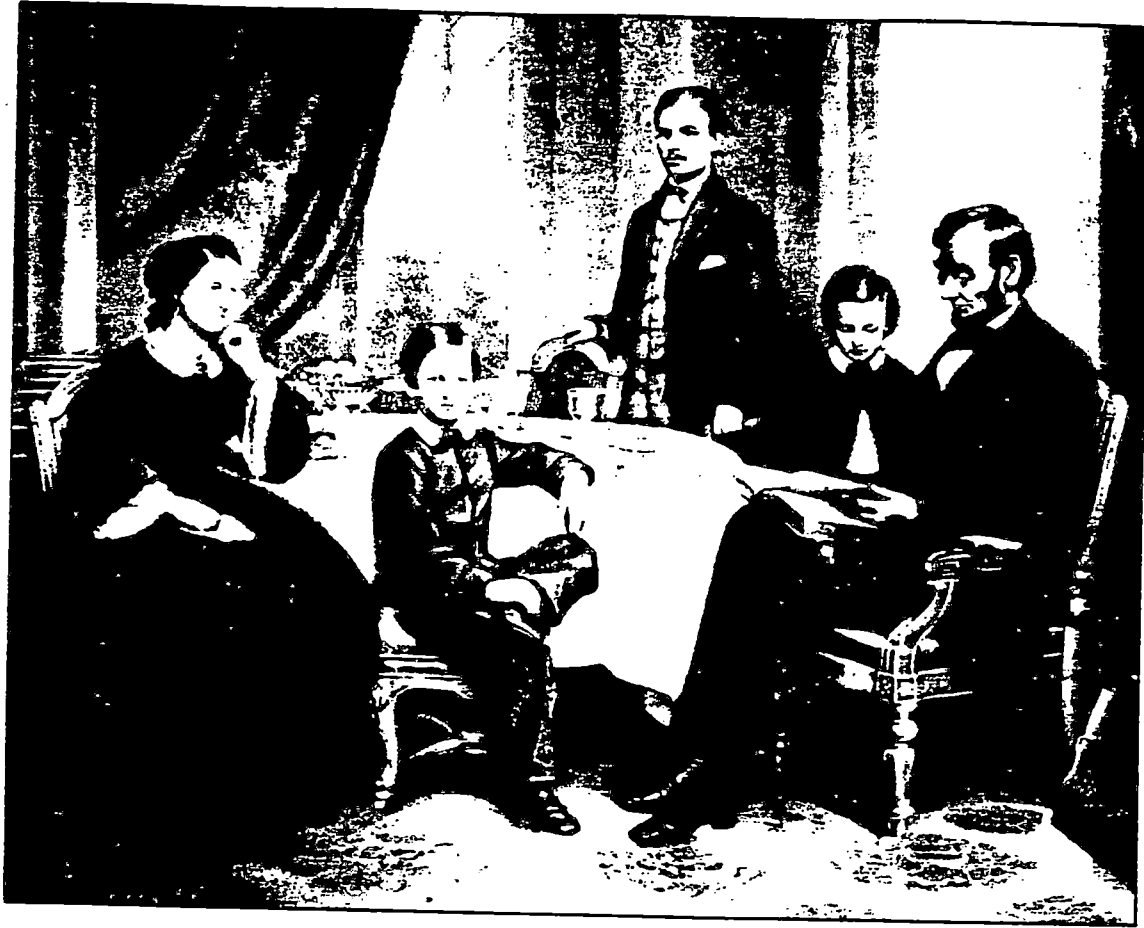
ceived the leaders of Congress the day after Pearl Harbor. Noted Lincoln scholar Carl Sandburg spent quite some time meditating in the room a few years ago, then emerged convinced that it was the room in which Lincoln had reached most of his great decisions.

During the Truman years, a White House guard related to a reporter that he had heard a voice calling out to him—seemingly from the attic above the Yellow Oval Room. In a whisper, the voice said: "I'm Mr. Burns. I'm Mr. Burns."

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Mary and Abraham Lincoln with their sons (from left to right) Willie, who died during his father's presidency, Tad, and Robert.

trauma thrust him into a profound melancholy, which apparently led to an emotional breakdown several years later.

In 1842 Lincoln married Mary Todd. They had an indisputably rocky marriage. Some have said that it was held together only by their common love for their children. Of those children, only Robert became an adult. Edward died at age four, Willie died of fever in the middle of his father's first term as President, and Tad outlived his father by only six years.

Willie possibly was his father's favorite, and the little boy's unexpected death had a profound impact not only on the President, but on Mary Lincoln as well. The family had no gravesite in Washington, but Supreme Court Clerk William Thomas Carroll offered Lincoln a tomb for his son in the Carroll family tomb in Oak Hill Cemetery.

Lincoln used to spend long hours at that crypt, which is on a narrow path on a hillside overlooking Rock Creek. There

are two wrought iron chairs behind the locked iron gates of the crypt, giving credence to the old newspaper reports that on at least two occasions Lincoln had the crypt opened so that he could look at his son. Legend has it that he would sit and stare at the dead youth for hours and weep. Lincoln could not bear to leave Willie alone in that cold, dank, dark tomb.

Members of President Ulysses S. Grant's household believed in the ability to communicate with the dead, and one of them is reported to have conversed with Willie's spirit. More recently, Lynda Johnson Robb, who occupied the room in which Willie died, was "very much" aware of the fact that "it was in her room the little Lincoln boy breathed his last breath." Liz Carpenter told me, but declined to elaborate.

She also encountered Lincoln's presence. She watched a death. "She was conscious of it in was speaking to her to direct." It was focused on she had a painter said portance Bird Johnson draft." Mr Johnson told me at ease." "ence."

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Willie Lincoln died at the age of 12 during his father's presidency and was buried in the Carroll family tomb in Oak Hill Cemetery. Lincoln is supposed to have sat in this chair looking at the crypt and weeping. Willie's ghost has been seen around the White House on several occasions.

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She also said that Lady Bird Johnson encountered what she believed was Lincoln's presence one April evening as she watched a television special on Lincoln's death. "Suddenly, she was aware, conscious of the fact, that the room she was in was special." Someone was compelling her to direct her eyes toward the mantel." It wasn't the mantel that her eyes focused on, however, but a small plaque she had never noticed before. Liz Carpenter said that it told of the room's importance to Lincoln, and that as Lady Bird Johnson read it, she felt "a chill. A draft." Mrs. Carpenter recalled that Mrs. Johnson told her later that she felt very ill at ease. "Perhaps she felt his presence."

Lincoln was not much for organized religion, though on occasion he would attend Presbyterian services. As a politician his views on religion had been questioned, and once when he was running for Congress he distributed a handbill denying that he had ever spoken "with

intentional disrespect of religion." Lincoln did seem to be at least curious about spiritualism. His wife's pursuit of the supernatural was more overt, especially after Willie's death. She frequently consulted spiritualists and mediums, and there is even a photograph of Mary Todd Lincoln seated at a table with a ghostlike Abraham superimposed behind her. It is thought to be the work of a spiritualist photographer in the 1870's.

Séances were held at the White House, and there are newspaper records to indicate that Abraham Lincoln attended a couple of these. The *Chicago Tribune* reported in 1863 that medium Charles Shockle visited the White House. The levitation and rapping that the President witnessed seemed to impress him. In 1967, Suzy Smith wrote in *Prominent American Ghosts* that she had learned of another time when a medium visited the President. A skeptical Lincoln is said to have ordered a congressman from Maine to sit on top of a piano that a medium

was successfully levitating. The congressman's weight made no difference. President and congressman and others watching could hardly believe their eyes as the piano and the congressman rose and fell at the medium's command.

~ A *National Geographic News Bulletin* from August 1973 heralding a Library of Congress exhibit on spiritualism, recalled that the medium J. B. Conklin supposedly received a telepathic message from Edward D. Baker for President Lincoln, who was a close friend of Baker's. Conklin received his message for the President two months after Baker had been killed leading Union forces into action at Ball's Bluff, Virginia. Conklin told him Baker's message was "gone elsewhere" and that "elsewhere is everywhere."

Many of the occupants of the White House seem to have been visited by Lincoln. "I think of Lincoln, shambling, homely, with his sad, strong, deeply furrowed face, all the time," said President Theodore Roosevelt. "I see him in the different rooms and in the halls," he admitted some forty years after Lincoln's occupancy.

Grace Coolidge is said to have seen the specter of the President, too. In a newspaper account I read, she said that he was dressed "in black, with a stole draped across his shoulders to ward off the drafts and chills of Washington's night air."

President Dwight Eisenhower's press secretary, James Haggerty, once said on an ABC-TV news program that the President had told him he often felt Lincoln's presence. President Harry Truman recalled that in the early morning hours a little over a year after he became President, he was awakened by two distinct knocks on the door of his bedroom. He got up and went to the door, opened it, but found no one in the hall. Just a cold spot that went away as footsteps trailed off down the corridor. Truman wrote in

The Lincoln Bedroom as it looked around the turn of the century. Lincoln has been seen most often in this room, although his spirit is said to wander through most of the White House.



64 his diary that he wished he had the bravado to summon forth the Lincoln ghost to scare his daughter and a friend who were spending a night in the Lincoln bedroom.

Eleanor Roosevelt denied to reporters that she personally had seen Lincoln's apparition, but she did admit to feeling his presence. She also related a story involving one of her staffers who had an encounter. Her secretary had passed Lincoln's bedroom one day and saw a lanky figure sitting on the bed pulling on his boots. Since Lincoln had been dead more than three-quarters of a century, the girl felt justified in her reaction: she screamed and ran as fast as her legs would carry her from the second floor. An article in the *Washington Star* said on another occasion that FDR's valet ran screaming from the White House and into the arms of a guard, shouting that he had just seen Lincoln.

Visitors also have encountered Lincoln's ghost. When Queen Wilhelmina of the Netherlands was visiting the White House quite a few years ago, she is supposed to have heard a knock on the door of the Rose Room, where she was staying. The hour was late, but thinking it could be important, she opened the door. Standing before the Queen, his large frame taking up most of the doorway, was Abraham Lincoln. A White House staffer said that the Queen shocked the President and other guests when she related the incident at cocktails the next evening. She told them that when she saw the chilling apparition everything went black, and when she came to, she was lying on the floor.

Winston Churchill never discussed it, but he did not like to sleep in the Lincoln bedroom. It is the room that all visiting male heads of state are quartered in, but the British Prime Minister was quite uncomfortable there. Often Churchill would be found across the hall the next morning. Susan Ford, daughter of President Gerald Ford, shares the uneasiness Churchill felt. She declared in *Seventeen Magazine* in the summer of 1975 that she believes in ghosts and has no intention of ever sleeping in the Lincoln bedroom.

Lincoln spent many restless nights in



President Lincoln's body lay in state in the East Room after his assassination, just as he had dreamed it would.

that massive old room, and no doubt suffered through more nightmares than pleasant dreams. *Encyclopaedia Britannica* says that Lincoln believed in dreams and "other enigmatic signs and portents" throughout his life. Several of his dreams have been reported, but none is more memorable than Lincoln's vision of his own death. The President recalled one of his dreams in which he had heard weeping, sobbing, and wailing. Walking down a White House corridor to investigate, the President said that he saw a coffin lying in state. Inquiring from a mourner, "Who is dead?" Lincoln was told, "The assassinated President." Lincoln said that in his dream, he walked over to the coffin and looking inside, saw himself.

April 14, 1865, had begun rather routinely for President Lincoln. During the morning, and for part of the afternoon, he met with Cabinet officials to map Re-



The phantom Anna has been seen in the White House since the release of her

construction and Mrs. ride. They ternoon to

going to the theater or opera took the President's mind off his troubles. General and Mrs. Ulysses S. Grant had been unable to accompany the President and Mrs. Lincoln to Ford's that night, but Major Henry Rathbone and Clara Harris had accepted the President's invitation. The rest of the story has been retold many times. By the next morning Lincoln was dead, the victim of an assassin's bullet.

The prosecution of the conspirators was vigorously pursued, and feeling ran high about exacting retribution. There is some question even today, however, about the guilt of at least one of those convicted of conspiring to assassinate the President. Some believe that Mary Surratt was unjustly punished. On the eve of her execution, her daughter Anna forced her way inside the White House grounds and made it to the front door, where she pleaded for her mother's release. On the anniversary of that night, some have claimed to have seen Anna's spirit banging on the front door of the White House, pleading once more for her mother's release.

It has been well over one hundred years since Lincoln's death, but based on the stories of scores of responsible White House employees, members of presidential families, and Presidents themselves, the spirit of that great American still roams the hallways, still cares about the nation he fought so mightily to preserve. Although there have been several who have run screaming from the Lincoln ghost, there are others, particularly those whose turn it is to make decisions of state, who do not fear it. His presence seems to offer comfort and strength to them.

"Why would they want to come back here I could never understand." Harry Truman is quoted as having said about the White House ghosts. In her book *Harry S. Truman*, daughter Margaret says that her father was sure ghosts were in the White House, and at one time he wrote "... so I won't lock my doors or bar them either. ..."

Truman himself had no ambition to haunt the White House, he wrote in a letter to daughter Margaret: "No man in his right mind would want to come here of his own accord."

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The phantom of Mary Surratt's daughter, Anna, has been seen knocking at the White House door, still pleading for the release of her mother.

construction plans. Later that day, he and Mrs. Lincoln went for a carriage ride. They returned home late in the afternoon to dress for the theater. Often,