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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 9, 1990

MEMORANDUM FOR LINDA DEHART

FROM: HELEN MOBLEY

SUBJ: PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE FOR THE AMERICAN SOCIETY
OF TRAVEL AGENTS (ASTA)

As we discussed yesterday, attached is the request for a Presidential message from the ASTA. Their international conference is February 8th-12th in Queensland, Australia. Mel Sembler, U.S. Ambassador to Australia would most likely read the message. If possible I would like to deliver the message to the group by the end of this month.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.



American Society of Travel Agents

P.O. Box 23992, Washington, DC 20026-3992
1101 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314
(703) 739-2782 • Telex 440203 • FAX (703) 684-8319

John C. Bennison
Vice President
Government and International Affairs

January 4, 1991

Mrs. Bobbie Kilberg
Deputy Assistant to the President
for Public Liaison
Old Executive Office Building, Room 128
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

*A-Len,
L.S. 00
Bobbie*

Dear Bobbie:

The American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) will be holding its 19th Annual International Conference in Queensland, Australia this February. We would sincerely appreciate if the President would once again endorse our efforts with a letter or telegram.


Our membership, as you know, is made up of travel agents and travel industry suppliers in 129 countries. With America as one of the great destinations, we feel a note from the President for this Conference would be most effective and appreciated. Given our current economic concerns, an increase in foreign travel dollars to our economy would be beneficial.

I am enclosing a copy of President Bush's statement given at a recent ASTA conference in New Delhi, India. A similar one was prepared for our conference in Dubrovnik, Yugoslavia last year.

Thank you again for your assistance and the help you have given ASTA in the past. If I can be of any assistance, please let me know.

Look forward to hearing from you soon.

Yours truly,


John C. Bennison

Enclosure

cc: Chris Vranas

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

March 31, 1989

I am pleased to send my warmest greetings to everyone gathered in New Delhi for the 17th Annual International Conference of Travel Agents.

I recognize the importance of tourism as a force not only in economic development at home, but in international trade and diplomacy as well. Your role in promoting tourism throughout the United States and in 129 other countries has been central to the tremendous growth of the industry.

My Administration supports your efforts in fighting unwarranted impediments to travel such as age and currency restrictions which some foreign governments impose on their citizens. I will also support the efforts of the United States Travel and Tourism Administration in its mission to work cooperatively with the American travel industry to increase international tourism.

Travel, which fosters a greater understanding of other countries and other customs, is the grassroots path to world peace. I wish you a fruitful convention and continued success in the coming year.

George Bush