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Divider Title: _____

HARARY

FOCUS - 1 OF 7 STORIES

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The Jerusalem Post

January 18, 1994, Tuesday

SECTION: NEWS; Pg. 2

LENGTH: 507 words

HEADLINE: Syrian Jewish exodus continues at snail's pace

BYLINE: SUE FISHKOFF, NEW YORK, Batsheva Tsur adds

BODY:

DESPITE assurances from Syrian President Hafez Assad that all the Jews in his country would receive travel permits by the end of 1993, more than 1,000 Jews still remain in Syria, with less than 20 arriving in New York since January 1.

Eight Jews arrived in New York from Damascus late Sunday night. Twenty-five were expected, according to Council for the Rescue of Syrian Jews president Alice Harary, but many apparently returned home when their flight was delayed by almost 12 hours.

More than a week ago, Esa As'ad, head of the security police in the Damascus Jewish quarter, reportedly told Jewish leaders that all applicants would receive their travel permits by January 15. Syrian authorities reportedly are continuing to process travel permits for the Jewish community, but activists in this country doubt that all received their permission that date.

"We understand people are being processed," said Malcolm Hoenlein, executive vice-chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. He noted that Assad has already missed two announced deadlines of December 30 and January 15. "We're monitoring it very carefully," he said.

Harary said she is "hopeful the situation will be wrapped up quickly."

Speculating on why hundreds of Syrian Jews who reportedly hold travel permits have not yet boarded flights for New York, Hoenlein and Harary said they believe that many are settling their financial affairs first.

Hoenlein said that as far as he knows, official impediments to the Jewish community leaving Syria are not being imposed, and those who delay their exit may be doing so for personal reasons.

Harary added that for some Syrian Jews, the bitter New York winter may be a delaying factor.

"Maybe they've been told how cold it is here," she said. "They're not used to this kind of weather."

Batsheva Tsur adds



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Assad reportedly reaffirmed to President Bill Clinton his commitment to permit the exodus of all Jews who want to leave Syria, a senior US official said in Jerusalem yesterday.

"We are monitoring the situation very closely and expect that he will stand by his commitment soon," the official said.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: January 17, 1994



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FOCUS - 2 OF 7 STORIES

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The Ethnic NewsWatch
Jewish Journal

December 16, 1993

SECTION: Pg. 5a

LENGTH: 562 words

HEADLINE: Hundreds attend rally to help free Syrian Jewry

BYLINE: Smilk, Carin M.

BODY:

Hundreds attend rally to help free Syrian Jewry.

HUNDREDS OF PEOPLE rallied in New York outside the Syrian Mission to the United Nations earlier this month calling for the right of Syrian Jews to leave their native country.

Enduring bouts of pouring rain and lashes of wind, the crowd -- which averaged about 500 -- held signs and voiced chants such as "Let My People Go!" and "Freedom! Freedom! Freedom!" The principle motive for protesting has been the Syrian government's reluctance to issue visas for all Jews seeking to emigrate, often to join their families in other parts of the world.

"There are some 1,350 Jews in Syria. On average, only four travel permits are issued a week. Families are being divided. Of equal concern is the continuing surveillance of Syrian Jews, including international telephone calls," said Alice Harary, president of the Council for the Rescue of Syrian Jews (CRSJ).

"We will not stop picketing until all the Jews in Syria are permitted to leave," she continued. "We hope to make it clear to the Syrian government that the American people will not tolerate fundamental violations of human rights wherever they occur."

(In response to a statement issued Monday by Secretary of State Warren Christopher that Syrian President Hafez al-Assad has agreed to permit all Jews remaining in Syria to leave by the end of the month, Harary said the CRSJ was pleased, but optimism is muted with considerable caution for previous pledges made by Syrian authorities have not been carried out.)

According to statistics compiled by the CRSJ, approximately 1,350 Jews still remain in Syria. The majority of these Jews -- some 1,100 -- live in Damascus, while about 150 are in Aleppo and less than 100 are in Qamishil, a farming town. Nearly 40 percent of the entire Syrian Jewish population, who reside in concentrated areas, live at or near poverty level.

The Syrian secret police (Mukhabarat), reported the CRSJ, engage in 24-hour surveillance of Jewish residential areas, keeping files on all Jews. Contracts between Jews and foreigners are monitored, mail is read and phone conversations



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are wiretapped.

When contacted by telephone in New York, a representative from the Syrian Mission to the United Nations declined to comment on Sunday's rally or the above information.

"Let them have a choice, let them be free," pleaded translator Maurice D. Zeitouni, who was allowed to leave Egypt at age 15 to live in Israel. "Each human being has a right to be free and to travel anywhere. It is time for the Jews in Syria to join their loved ones, wherever they are, if they wish, and it appears that their requests for this have been denied for some time.

"I find it appropriate to stand up here today and be counted and united among my brothers and sisters across New York in demanding for Syrian freedom," Zeitouni said. "This rally will continue on and on until the last Jew in Syria is free."

Speakers at the nearly two-hour long protest included N.Y. Sen. Alfonse D'Amato; N.Y. State Assemblyman Sheldon Silver; N.Y. City Council Speaker Peter Vallone; Congressman Gerald Nadler; Seymour Reich, chairman of the National Task Force on Syrian Jewry of the Conference of Presidents of Major Jewish Organizations; Alan Jaffe, president of UJA-Federation; and Congressman Charles Schumer, co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Syrian Jewry.

ETHNIC-GROUP: Jewish

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: March 7, 1994



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Divider Title: _____

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

April 22, 1999

302774
KEITH

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to support the recommendation that Judge Damon J. Keith receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Judge Keith has left his mark on our nation and its law. Judge Keith has served as a United States Court of Appeals Judge for the Sixth Circuit since 1977. Prior to his appointment to the Court of Appeals, Judge Keith served as Chief Judge of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

Throughout his service, Judge Keith has been a stalwart defender of constitutional and civil rights. He has ruled on some of the most important issues that have faced our nation over the last fifty years. These issues include: school desegregation in *Davis v. School District of City of Pontiac*; municipal affirmative action in *Baker v. City of Detroit*; and sex discrimination in *Rabidue v. Osceola Lumber Co.*

In *United States v. Sinclair*, commonly known as *The Keith Decision*, Judge Keith ruled that President Richard Nixon and Attorney General John Mitchell could not engage in the warrant-less wiretap surveillance of three individuals suspected of conspiring to destroy government property because the surveillance was in violation of the Fourth Amendment.

Judge Keith's reverence for the Constitution was in full display during his appointment by Chief Justice William Rehnquist to serve as the National Chairman of the Judicial Conference Committee on the Bicentennial of the Constitution. Judge Keith was also appointed by President George Bush to the Commission on the Bicentennial of the Constitution. During the course of his career, Judge Keith has also received innumerable honorary degrees and awards for his exemplary service to our nation.

I speak from personal experience with Judge Keith. I've known him well since he was Chair of the newly formed Michigan Civil Rights Commission in 1963, when I served the Commission as their counsel. Because of his many important contributions to our nation, I wholeheartedly recommend Judge Damon J. Keith to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sincerely,



Carl Levin

Chief Judge, District of Columbia Circuit

KEITH

Judge Edwards currently is the only chief judge among the 11 Blacks on the U.S. Court of Appeals. He was appointed to the federal bench by President Jimmy Carter in 1980 and became chief judge in 1994. A graduate of Columbia University and the University of Michigan Law School, Edwards, 58, was a tenured professor at the University of Michigan and Harvard law schools prior to joining the federal judiciary.

Judge Amalya L. Kearse
Second Circuit, New York

Judge Kearse was the first Black woman named to the U.S. Court of Appeals and the first woman named to the court in New York. She received her bachelor's degree from Wellesley College and earned her law degree cum laude from the University of Michigan Law School. She was a partner in the Wall Street firm of Hughes, Hubbard & Reed before being appointed to the appeals court in 1979 by President Carter.

William Henry Hastie III
First Black Court Of Appeals Judge

Judge Hastie (1904-1976) was the first African-American to sit on the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. Nominated by President Harry S. Truman in 1949, he served on the court from 1950 to 1971. Hastie graduated magna cum laude from Amherst College, and earned a law degree from Harvard, where he was the second African-American to become editor of the Harvard Law Review. Upon graduation, he accepted a position as a professor at the Howard University Law School. Hastie was the first Black federal judge in the Virgin Islands (1937-1939), a post he resigned to become dean of the Howard University Law School.

Judge Nathaniel R. Jones
Senior Judge, Sixth Circuit, Cincinnati

Judge Jones is the former general counsel for the NAACP, a position he held for the 10 years prior to his appointment to the U.S. Court of Appeals in 1979. He assumed senior judge status in 1995. A native of Youngstown, Ohio, Jones, 69, served in the United States Air Force during World War II. After the war, he earned a bachelor's degree and a law degree from Youngstown State University, then served as executive director of the Fair Employment Practices Commission for the city of Youngstown. He also served as an assistant U.S. attorney for the Northern District of Ohio.

Judge Damon J. Keith
Senior Judge, Sixth Circuit, Detroit

Judge Keith has served on the federal bench longer than any of the current members of the U.S. Court of Appeals. He was first elevated to the federal bench by President Lyndon B. Johnson, who in 1967 named him to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan, where he ultimately would be elevated to the post of chief judge. In 1977, President Carter appointed him to the U.S. Court of Appeals. In 1995, he assumed senior judge status. Keith, 77, is a graduate of West Virginia State College and Howard University Law School.



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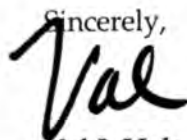


The Honorable William J. Clinton
March 5, 1999
Page 2



I am enclosing a brief biography of Henri, that was included in my book *Faces of Caring: A Search for the 100 Most Caring Men and Women in America*. As I told you before, I can think of a no more worthy candidate to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom than Henri Landwirth. I have asked a few of his friends to join me in writing to you about him.

As always, I wish you all the best. Please convey my very great respect to your wife, Hillary.

Sincerely,


Val J. Halamandaris
President

VJH:klr
Enclosures

HENRI LANDWIRTH

Henri Landwirth as a child faced death every day as a prisoner in Auschwitz and other German concentration camps. He not only survived, but prospered, and became the personification of the American dream, dedicating his life to helping others.

Landwirth was born in Belgium in 1927. His childhood was shattered by the advance of the Nazi army across the face of Europe. He watched as friends and family were starved, beaten, killed, or simply disappeared. Landwirth's father, Max, was killed fairly early in World War II. His mother, Fannie, and his twin sister, Margot, were all placed into the same concentration camp. Tragically, Henri's mother lived within a few months before the end of the war only to be put on board ship with a thousand others that was then blown up at sea.

Landwirth was lucky. In 1945, he was brought before a firing squad but inexplicably, the soldiers lowered their rifles and told Henri to run. He ran for days until he collapsed. He was found and nursed back to health by a Czechoslovakian couple who informed him that the war was over. Landwirth, now 18, searched refugee camps until finally he found Margot.

In 1950, Landwirth emigrated to the United States, making his way across the Atlantic on a cargo ship with only \$20 to his pocket. Three months after passing through Ellis Island, he was drafted by the United States Army. Thereafter, he used his rights under the GI Bill to take courses in hotel management and found employment in a New York City hotel. He started at the bottom, but worked his way up the ladder by doing the work of others as well as his own. For example, he bribed the night accountant with a bottle of whiskey and then did that man's work for him. In this way, he learned every job in the hotel.

Married in 1954, he went with his bride to Florida and within a few months he and his wife had moved to the state. He worked in a department store and as a short-order cook until he landed a job running the 100-room Starlight Hotel in Coco Beach, Florida.

Fortune smiled on Landwirth. These were the early days of America's space program and the Starlight became home to the original Mercury 7 astronauts as well as their families, the media, and other VIPs who gathered there. When Walt Disney moved to Florida, Landwirth sensed the opportunity and along with several partners, including Senator John Glenn, obtained a Holiday Inn franchise near the main gate of Walt Disney World.

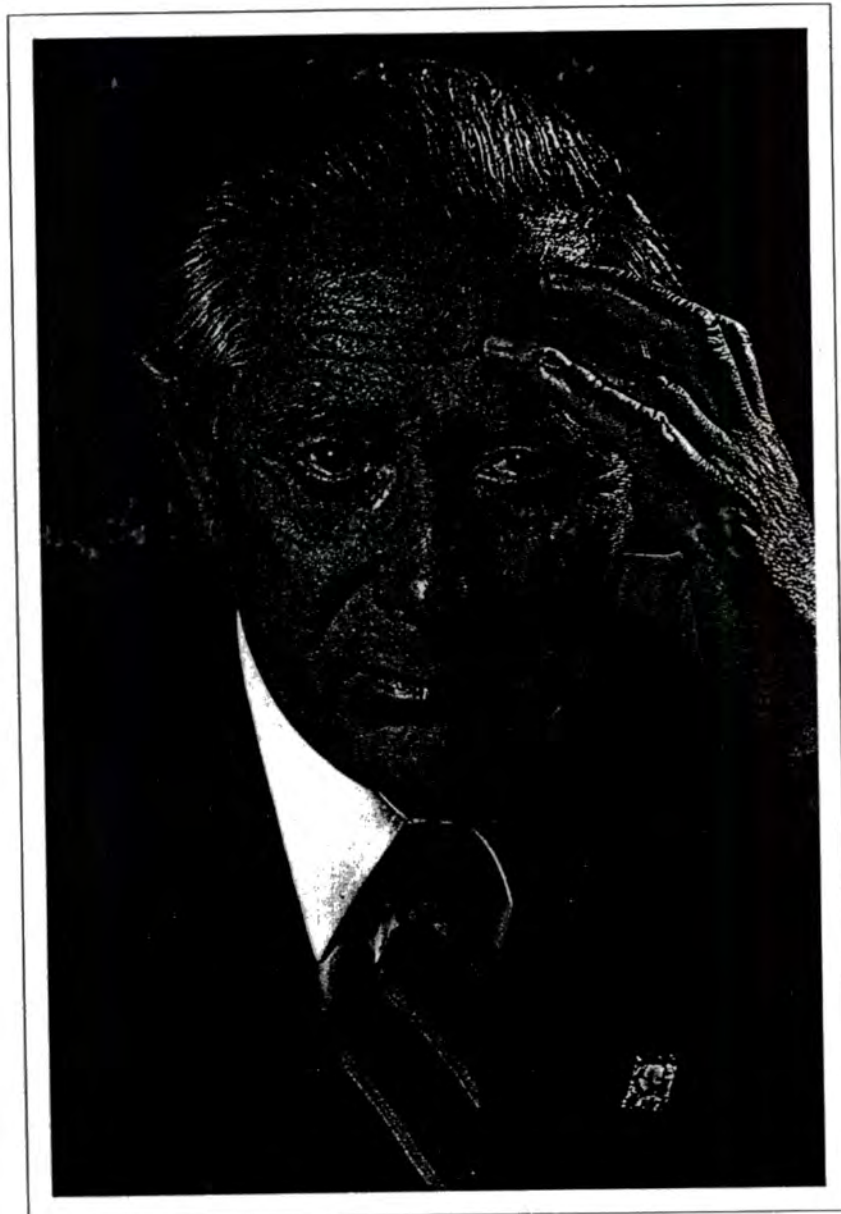
The more Landwirth prospered, the more he did for others. He worked with retarded children and built a clinic for children with cerebral palsy, and a senior citizen center. He gave scholarships to economically disadvantaged youths in Israel, and created an exchange program to allow Israeli children to come to the United States as visiting scholars. He began transportation programs for the handicapped and disabled and provided housing and meals for families, giving them food or emergency financial assistance.

In 1985, Landwirth founded Give Kids the World as a means of bringing joy to terminally ill children. He personally contributed a million dollars toward the creation of a specially designed hotel and recreation complex for sick kids and their families. He persuaded builders, suppliers, and laborers into donating their services and in short order, the village was up and running. Landwirth secured free airline tickets for the children and their families, a free vehicle, free meals, as well as free tickets to Disneyland. More than 4,000 terminally ill children and their families visited the village in 1991.

Asked why he does all of this, he says, "I love life. I shouldn't be here. By all rights I should have died. My whole life was a miracle. I feel it is my duty to give something back. You have got to give of yourself — not money, but the essence of yourself. That is what makes life meaningful."

Landwirth's contributions to society have been vast, but his crowning achievement has been the creation of a village to bring happiness and joy to terminally ill children.

HENRI
LANDWIRTH
1927



You have got to give of yourself—not
money but the essence of yourself, that
is what makes life meaningful.

— HENRI LANDWIRTH

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Richard Stockton College of New Jersey

Division of General Studies

Franklin H. Littell

Franklin Hamlin Littell is often referred to as "the Father of Holocaust Studies in America." His graduate seminar on "The German Church Struggle and the Holocaust" at Emory University (1959) was the first in the field. His book entitled *The Crucifixion of the Jews* was also a breakthrough, encouraging a generation of younger theologians to re-think the meaning of the Holocaust, antisemitism (including the Christian theological variety), the survival of the Jewish people, and a restored Israel.

Dr. Littell is Emeritus Professor of Religion at Temple University and from 1973 to 1995 was Adjunct Professor in the Institute of Contemporary Jewry, Hebrew University (Jerusalem). He was the inaugural Distinguished Ida E. King Professor of Holocaust Studies at Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, 1989-91, and during 1993-94 was the Robert Foster Cherry Professor of Distinguished Teaching at Baylor University.

From 1958 to 1983 he was Consultant on Religion and Higher Education to the National Conference of Christians and Jews. He was Founder and first National Chairman of the Institute for American Democracy, an organization specializing in problems of extremism and terrorism; Co-Founder and first Chairman of the National Christian Leadership Conference for Israel. He is President of the Philadelphia Center on the Holocaust, Genocide, and Human Rights. He is also Chairman of the Board of the American Conference on Religious Movements.

For nearly a decade he was an officer in the American occupation of post-war Germany, attaining the rank of Chief Protestant Adviser to the U.S. High Commissioner. In 1959 he received the Grosse Verdienstkreuz (Distinguished Service Award, First Class) from President Theodor Heuss of the Federal Republic of Germany for his assistance to religious and educational institutions and movements, and for furthering American/German reconciliation. In 1996 he received the Buber-Rosenzweig Medal of the German Societies for Christian-Jewish Cooperation.

From 1978 to 1993 he was a member of the Presidential appointment of the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Council, and by Israel Cabinet appointment has been the first Christian member of the International Council of Yad Vashem. In 1980 he received the Jabotinsky Medal from Prime Minister Begin, and in 1991 the Lidislaus Laszt International Ecumenical Award from Ben-Gurion University of the Negev for his work on behalf of Israel and in furthering Christian-Jewish understanding.

Active as a lecturer and public speaker, Dr. Littell has given lectures in the Americas, the Middle East, and the Far East. He is the author of over 275 major articles or chapters in anthologies, and has produced 25 books of his own, including *Landgraf Philipp und die Toleranz*, *Weitkirchenlexikon: Handbuch der Okumene* (co-edited), *The German Church Struggle and the Holocaust* (co-edited), *From State Church to Pluralism*, *The Free Church*, *The Macmillan Atlas History of Christianity*, *American Protestantism and Antisemitism*, *A Pilgrim's Guide to the Holy Land*, and *Religious Liberty in the Crossfire of Creeds*.

His weekly column on the lessons of the Holocaust - "Lest We Forget (R)" - has appeared in numerous newspapers since 1978, and his syndicated column on American liberties - "Proclaim Liberty!" - was carried by over 300 newspapers during and following the Bicentennial of the Virginia Bill of Religious Freedom (1985-88).

He was educated at Cornell College (Iowa), Union Theological Seminary, and received his Ph.D. from Yale University. Professor Littell is a member of a number of honorary societies - including Phi Beta Kappa and Phi Beta Kappa Associates - and is a Kent Fellow of the Society for Values in Higher

Education. He has received many honorary degrees, including in this home town of Philadelphia citations by Widener University, Gratz College, St Joseph's University, and Reconstructionist Rabbinical College.

Professor Littell is married to Dr. Marcia S. Littell, and they share seven children, ten grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

[Return to the General Studies Home Page.](#)

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United States Senate

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May 3, 1999

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DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

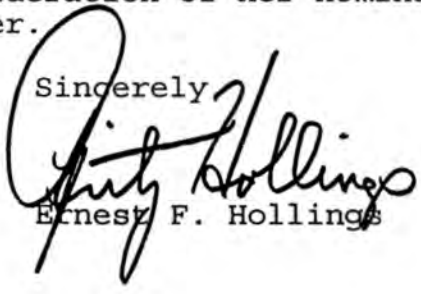
It has come to my attention that Florence Mahoney has been nominated to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I am pleased to contact you in support of her nomination. In fact, I can think of no one more qualified to receive this award.

Florence has accomplished many things during her lifetime. In particular, she was instrumental in bringing about the formation of the National Institute on Aging. The Institute has established the Florence Mahoney Lecture on Aging in her honor. Florence also played a major role in setting up the National Institute of Health and making it what it is today. The medical community would not be the same were it not for her continued involvement and her deep dedication to furthering medical research. She realized before many that better research leads to better health care, and has never lost sight of this belief.

I believe Florence Mahoney is more than worthy of receiving the Medal of Freedom. She has always fought for what is right and just. She recently celebrated her 100th birthday and I can think of no better way to honor her than with this award.

I greatly appreciate your consideration of her nomination, and I thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely


Ernest F. Hollings

EFH/mjw

LEVEL 1 - 1 OF 21 STORIES

MAHONEY

Copyright 1999 The Washington Post
The Washington Post

April 26, 1999, Monday, Final Edition

NAME: FLORENCE MAHONEY

SECTION: STYLE; Pg. C02; CHRONICLES

LENGTH: 900 words

HEADLINE: Celebrating a Century of Health; Research Advocate Florence Mahoney,
Living to the Fullest

BYLINE: Sarah Booth Conroy, Special to The Washington Post

BODY:

Florence Mahoney celebrated her 100th birthday April 20 in her winter quarters in Scottsdale, Ariz. In Washington, a flag flew over the Capitol in her honor.

It was an appropriate tribute to the health research advocate who since 1950 spent many days walking the Capitol's marble halls, knocking on doors, inviting good listeners and knowledgeable talkers to dinner in her Georgetown house.

The Chronicler wondered if Mrs. Mahoney's good health and sharp mind might be the reward for virtue -- in her case, for decades spent supporting research on aging. One of her most fervent admirers, Robert Butler, president and CEO of the International Longevity Center at New York's Mount Sinai Medical Center, thinks that might just be true.

"I remember when Senator Claude Pepper had a heart attack, he said he guessed he didn't die because he'd supported funding for the National Institutes of Health -- and the heart pacemaker," Butler said. "Flo -- and other people who have strong interests, or develop them -- do seem to live long and enjoy it more."

Before her birthday last week, the night owl (her son Michael's term) as usual spent the hours reading about world events in the major newspapers and perusing a high stack of health publications.

Her attention centers on advancements in research on Alzheimer's, diabetes, heart problems, cancer and other illnesses that steal years and bankrupt families. She writes letters, makes notes for her autobiography, answers calls from around the world and knits her network of health researchers, legislators, the public, physicians and scientists.

Butler and Daniel Perry, director of the Alliance for Aging Research, say their organizations would not exist without Mrs. Mahoney's efforts.



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"She helped pioneer a style of personal advocacy for medical research," Perry said. ". . . In the 1940s, together with the late Mary Lasker and their allies in Congress and the media, she helped to bring a new era for the federal government in health research."

Her dinner parties were an important part of her nonprofit lobbying. Mrs. Mahoney is notable for her ability to convince keepers of the budget that allocations for health research actually save the nation money, not to mention lives.

Butler remembers the "strong sense of history" to her gatherings. "She usually had an elite small group, six or eight guests. The conversation was always general. She is never pretentious or aggressive, works behind the scenes, determined, intent on her objectives and gives you marching orders using the art of persuasion, gently saying, 'Don't you think' . . ." And then he admits, "I just love her."

Sen. Ernest F. Hollings (D-S.C.) supported legislation setting up the National Institute on Aging at NIH in 1975. He and his wife, Peatsy, close friends of Mrs. Mahoney, were among those who attended her legendary salons to hear updates from health researchers. Peatsy Hollings recalls that in 1938 Mrs. Mahoney and Margaret Sanger together tried to persuade the pope to remove his edict against birth control.

Mrs. Mahoney was born Florence Sheets Stephenson in Muncie, Ind. She was a premed student in Battle Creek, Mich., and continued her studies in New York, where she also worked in a hospital for children.

As Stephen P. Strickland, president of the National Peace Foundation, wrote in "Politics, Science, and Dread Disease," "She would have become a doctor, she says, had not social and professional pressures got in the way. . . . She had tried, not unsuccessfully, to establish mental health programs in Georgia in the late 1930s and lobbied in that state for birth control."

She met her husband-to-be, Miami News publisher Daniel J. Mahoney, in New York, where he was working on James M. Cox's presidential campaign. They married in 1926, following a devastating hurricane. For a time they went back and forth between Miami, New York and Washington, where Mrs. Mahoney lobbied for health research and, under the name Mary Marley, wrote a column, as she said, "about people from all over." After they were divorced in 1950, Mrs. Mahoney bought a Georgetown house and then moved to another, newly built.

Mrs. Mahoney knew Jack and Jacqueline Kennedy in their younger days. The story goes that Mrs. Kennedy often came over to Mrs. Mahoney's house to have fittings with her dressmaker. The Democrat was also a friend of former president Jimmy Carter and Rosalynn Carter, who has worked many years on mental health efforts, as well as most other occupants of the White House.

In 1976, she denied permission for Warner Bros. to film her house for the movie "The Exorcist," but agreed to their filming a facade they put up in her garden. She gave the money they paid her to George McGovern's presidential campaign.

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When Mrs. Mahoney returns early next month to her Georgetown house, her summer choice, people hope she'll continue lobbying for the aging, which includes, after all, everybody. There are tentative plans to honor her with, if not 100 candles, at least 100 ideas, including a lecture on health research for the aging, a plan to endow a professorship on health of the aging and an introduction to another health advocate, Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Who knows? Florence Mahoney may yet lead the way to the Fountain of Youth. Centenarian Flo Mahoney still peruses a stack of journals on medical research.

GRAPHIC: Photo, TOM STORY for The Washington Post

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: April 26, 1999



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864-233-5366

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125 RUSSELL OFFICE BUILDING
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March 20, 1998

COMMITTEES

COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
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THE JUDICIARY: PLANNING

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DEMOCRATIC POLICY COMMITTEE

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express my hope you will consider former United States Senator Eugene McCarthy for the Medal of Freedom. My friendship with Senator McCarthy has been one of the joys of my life. He spent his life serving America--as a teacher, Congressman, Senator, and candidate for the Presidency--and I can think of no one more deserving of the nation's highest honor.

Eugene McCarthy was born in a beautiful and isolated region of central Minnesota. His formative experiences in life instilled in him both a rugged individualism and a profoundly rooted sense of piety, principle, and conscience--qualities which were to serve him well throughout his life and mark his entire career in public service. Indeed, at the time of his greatest political influence and moral suasion, during the Vietnam War, many Americans referred to Senator McCarthy as the "conscience of the nation." Though I differed with the Senator on the War and other matters of foreign policy, I always did so with the greatest respect for his well-reasoned and highly-principled arguments.

Eugene McCarthy entered public service almost immediately after graduating from St. John's University. At 19, he was principal of a high school. Two years later, he moved to Mandan, North Dakota, to become head of a high school English department. As a teacher, he demonstrated tremendous intellect, sense of duty, and compassion.

In 1942, young Eugene McCarthy entered the novitiate at St. John's. He served as a Benedictine novice for nine months, obeying the order's motto, Ora et Labora: worship and work. It may seem odd that a man who was later to run for the Presidency and serve as one of the country's most distinguished Senators should have been attracted to the priesthood, but this vocational calling reflects his abiding devotion to public service and profound spirituality. Throughout his career in Congress, Senator McCarthy never forgot the tenets of faith and service he

learned at St. John's.

Senator McCarthy planted the seeds of his political career in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he moved after World War II to teach college. His earliest political education came in that bastion of Midwestern progressivism, the Democratic Farmer Labor Party. After working his way up through the party and making a name for himself by taking on established political and labor figures, Eugene McCarthy was elected to Congress from Minnesota's Fourth District.

Representative McCarthy made his mark in Congress as a progressive and thoughtful member who served his district well. But his greatest moment, and his most courageous one, came when he challenged--and, in the eyes of contemporary commentators, defeated--Senator Joseph McCarthy in a nationally televised debate at the height of the latter's demagogic power.

Senator McCarthy was elected to the Senate in 1958. During his first term, he gained the respect of his colleagues by proposing and supporting progressive, important legislation dealing with unemployment, poverty, housing, and other domestic social problems. He was a prominent liberal, and was always considered one of the most intellectual members of the chamber.

Of course, it was for his opposition to President Johnson's conduct of the Vietnam War that Senator McCarthy gained national recognition. He spoke against the War on college campuses across the country, invoking principles of human rights and the nation's honor. Though the Senator and I disagreed on most aspects of the War, from its legitimacy to strategy to tactics, I always respected his position because of the sincerity of his conviction. He did not formulate his views with political expediency in mind; and, above all, he was a man of uncompromising morality and high principle.

Often overlooked is another vital service supplied by Senator McCarthy's failed candidacy for the Presidency. In his speeches, the Senator invoked the problematic nature of President Johnson's extensive and sometimes questionable exercise of presidential prerogatives and his unprecedented attempts to govern by executive authority--all logical extensions of the trend toward what historians have termed "the imperial presidency." Senator McCarthy reminded the nation that our government is grounded in the Constitution, that the success of our democracy depends on preserving the full separation of powers and independence of the three branches of government, and that no President should assume more than the office's allotted share of

power. I believe that Senator McCarthy's warnings about our governmental institutions' tenuous and delicate relationships to one another helped remind Americans that we are a nation not just of laws, but of men, that and our strength rests on the enduring power of our institutions-- which we must not undermine by usurping traditional responsibilities and powers.

Finally, Mr. President, as you know so well, Senator McCarthy reinvigorated a generation of young Americans and convinced them to participate in--rather than reject--civic life. By actively recruiting young Americans and speaking to their concerns, Senator McCarthy ensured their commitment to making America a better place. No doubt, Mr. President, you remember well the Senator's inspiring independence of thought and action and his commitment to public service and human rights--at home and abroad. His unique brand of politics, the politics of conscience, evinced an uncommon dedication to right. In an era of impassioned rhetoric and intolerance, his voice urged Americans to lower their voices, exorcise their demons, and conduct their affairs with tolerance and compassion.

Gene McCarthy devoted his life to serving America and left an indelible legacy on our nation. During a time of great turmoil, he encouraged disillusioned Americans to renew their faith in democracy and seek solutions through discourse not violence, to reform our government rather than destroy it. Consistent with his training in the Benedictine order and his lifetime of faith, Senator McCarthy sought to heal our nation's wounds. For this, as well as for the less dramatic but no less heroic daily efforts he made to serve America, he deserves our nation's highest honor.

Mr. President, I respectfully urge you to bestow the Medal of Freedom on Senator Eugene McCarthy.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely,



Ernest F. Hollings

EFH/jp

JOSEPH I. LIEBERMAN
CONNECTICUT

COMMITTEES:
ARMED SERVICES
ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC WORKS
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
SMALL BUSINESS

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0703

February 3, 1998

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The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

FEB 17 1998

Dear Mr. President:

As you know, the Presidential Medal of Freedom was established by President John F. Kennedy 35 years ago this year, on February 22, 1963, with President Lyndon B. Johnson actually presenting the first awards at a White House ceremony on that December 6th. Every president since has selected the finest individuals to recognize, and you have honored and improved upon that great tradition with awards you have made during your presidency. These men and women have each made outstanding contributions to humanity in a wide a variety of fields, including the pursuit of world peace, education, public service, and the arts. This year, I suggest strongly that you honor an American who has made contributions in *each* of these fields, and that you do so coincidental with the 50th anniversary of his election to the U.S. House of Representatives. I ask that you award a Medal of Freedom to Eugene McCarthy.

Gene McCarthy won a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives from Minnesota in 1948. Ten years later he was elected to the U.S. Senate where he served two terms, opposed the Vietnam War, and stood as a presidential candidate in 1968. Since retiring from the Senate, McCarthy has taught university courses in politics, literature and history; ran for president again as an independent in 1976; and has written numerous articles and books.

Recently, an editorial in Connecticut's *Manchester Journal Inquirer* made an especially eloquent case for awarding a Medal of Freedom to Gene McCarthy. "Now almost 82, McCarthy has devoted a long life to the public good -- taking time off only for poetry and baseball. In Congress, McCarthy probably did more than any single member to expand Social Security. He championed migrant workers -- long before it was fashionable. He held the first meaningful and substantive hearing in the Senate on unemployment (1960) and on welfare (1970), and, oh yes, there was Vietnam. McCarthy probably did more than any single member of Congress to help re-establish the principle that presidents can't start and conduct wars on their own. McCarthy also brought thousands of people into politics -- hundreds of whom are now mayors, legislators, governors and member of Congress. He brought Lincolnesque intellect, wit, and dignity to national politics." I could not agree more.

I believe that a Medal of Freedom awarded to Gene McCarthy will send a strong signal to young Americans about the value of public service. For that reason, and all the others I've cited, I do hope that you will consider this suggestion and create another proud moment for all Americans.

Sincerely,

Joseph I. Lieberman
United States Senate

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21

Divider Title: _____

MFUME

Kweisi Mfume

1948—

Politician



Congressman Kweisi Mfume of Baltimore has recently emerged as one of the most prominent black politicians on Capitol Hill. Mfume, who grew up in a poor neighborhood and worked his way into the halls of power, was elected chairman of the Congressional Black Caucus in 1993, just as the number of African American representatives in Congress began to swell to record highs. According to Ron Stodghill II and Richard S. Dunham in *Business Week*, Mfume, "the former Baltimore firebrand, represents a new generation of black leadership in Congress—a group of young pragmatists more concerned about creating economic opportunity than protest." *Baltimore Sun* reporter Susan Baer called Mfume an "up-from-the-bootstraps politician" who has become, "almost overnight, one of the nation's most visible and powerful African American lawmakers."

Mfume has overcome a rough and deprived childhood on the streets of Baltimore to exhibit all the eloquence, polish, and insider know-how of a seasoned politician. His personal history serves as a classic example of a man who made the concerted decision to improve his lot in life. From a gang member and father of five children by three different women in his late teens, he became first a local radio personality then an impassioned city councilman and congressional repre-

sentative for the district where he himself grew up. Today he speaks not only for the disadvantaged in urban Baltimore, but also for inner city residents in all parts of the nation. Mfume is a liberal Democrat who has achieved considerable power and prestige, especially since the arrival in the White House of President Bill Clinton. Baer noted that the four-term congressman "has earned respect as a level-headed consensus-seeker" and is well-known for his "eloquence and widespread appeal."

"Things Spun Out of Control"

Mfume was born Frizzell Gray in a working class neighborhood in Baltimore. He recalled in the *Washington Post* that he was so sickly as a youngster that his parents nicknamed him "Pee Wee." His stepfather worked as a truck driver, and his mother took odd jobs as she could find them, but the family was often desperately short of cash. Nevertheless, young Frizzell Gray was a good student who was protective of his three younger sisters. In his home, wrote a *U.S. News and World Report* correspondent, his

At a Glance

Name pronounced "Kwa-ee-see Oom-oo-may," born Frizzell Gray, October 24, 1948, in Baltimore, MD, son of Mary Elizabeth (a factory worker, divorced) children: five sons. Education: Morgan State University, B.A. (magna cum laude), 1976; Johns Hopkins University, M.A., 1984; politics, Democratic Religion: Baptist.

WEBB radio, Baltimore, MD, announcer, 1972-74; Morgan State University public radio, announcer and talk show host, 1974-78; Baltimore City Council, councilman, 1978-87; U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC, congressional representative from the Seventh District of Maryland, 1987—; member of Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs Committee; chairman of Congressional Black caucus, 1991—.

Member, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (member of advisory board).

Awards: Chairman's Award, NAACP, 1994.

Addresses: Office—2419 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515-2007.

parents emphasized "education and civil rights; Jack Kennedy and later Martin Luther King were family idols. Yet they had to watch the 1963 march on Washington on TV because the 40-mile trip cost too much. School was segregated, although the Supreme Court had outlawed such things. [Mfume] could never figure out why he passed three schools to get to his own. Still, school was fine—until his world caved in."

First Mfume's stepfather left the family. Then, when he was sixteen, his mother discovered she had cancer. She literally died in Mfume's arms quite suddenly one evening. He was devastated. Mfume told *U.S. News and World Report*: "My mother was and, even in death, probably still is the most important person in my life. After she died of cancer, things spun out of control."

Mfume quit school in his sophomore year and went to work full-time to help support his sisters. Financial troubles forced the siblings into different households. At times Mfume worked as many as three different jobs in a week—full-time in a bread factory and part-time in a local grocery and as a shoeshine boy on Sundays. The pace began to

take a toll, especially since he saw so many of his peers enjoying themselves at high school dances and other social events not open to him. "After two or three years of that I just went kind of wild," he told the *Washington Post*. "I went to hell, quite frankly. I just couldn't understand why everybody else had parents, had a house to go to and had dinner on the table when I didn't have any of those things. I couldn't understand why I was being punished."

Mfume began hanging out on the street corner with friends. "Not only did I run with all the worst people, I became the leader," he recalled in *U.S. News and World Report*. "I was locked up a couple of times on suspicion of theft because I happened to be black and happened to be young. And before I knew it, I was a teenage parent, not once but twice, three times, four times, five times." Mfume did not marry the mothers of his children, but he has always taken responsibility for the boys, who are now in their twenties.

The big change for Mfume came on a hot July night in the late 1960s. He had been loitering and drinking with his friends, when suddenly he began to feel strange. "People were standing around shooting craps and everything else, and something just came over me," he remembered in *Business Week*. "I said, 'I can't live like this anymore.' And I walked away." Mfume spent the rest of the night in prayer, then proceeded to earn his high school equivalency and pursue a college degree. "I took a lot of grief from friends, but I never went back," he told the *Washington Post*.

A New Name, a High-Profile Career

In an effort to connect with his African heritage, Mfume adopted a new name early in the 1970s. His aunt traveled to Ghana and suggested the name when she returned. "Kweisi Mfume" is a phrase of Ibo derivation that translates as "conquering son of kings." It turned out to be an appropriate choice for someone who would one day conquer the power structure in the nation's capital. *Washington Post* contributor Kent Jenkins, Jr. wrote: "For Mfume, the new name was more than an affectation. It signaled an awakening of his social consciousness and an increasing interest in politics. Like many young African Americans, he was appalled by the continuing impact of racism in America. But Mfume decided to do something about it and quickly settled on a line of attack: He would go on the radio and talk about it."

In the early 1970s, most black Baltimoreans listened to WEBB radio, a station owned by none other than the "godfather of soul," James Brown. Mfume began his



Mfume and U.S. senator Carol Moseley Braun meet with President Bill Clinton in March of 1993 to discuss issues of importance to the African American community.

tenure with the station as an unpaid volunteer, then became news reader, and finally earned a spot as an announcer. Despite pleas from management, he refused to part with his new name. Nor would he conform to the station's low-key political profile. "What Mfume had to say was not what WEBB had bargained for," noted Jenkins. "He was supposed to read commercials and introduce R&B records. But before long he was playing protest songs by jazz artist Gil Scott-Heron, reading poems by Nikki Giovanni and conducting call-in political seminars. The audience was electrified."

Concurrently, Mfume earned a bachelor's degree with honors from Morgan State University in 1976. When that college opened a noncommercial radio station, Mfume was hired as program director. Finally he had found a congenial forum for a political talk show. According to Jenkins, Mfume "became one of the strongest voices in Baltimore's black community, slamming the Democratic clubhouse organizations that dominated city politics. He aimed his most blistering remarks at [then-Baltimore mayor] William Donald Schaefer, ... accusing him of ignoring poor

neighborhoods while lavishing money on downtown redevelopment." Mfume's growing popularity as a radio personality convinced him to try his hand at politics. In 1978 he ran for Baltimore City Council.

That decision marked the occasion for another change. A seasoned political advisor told Mfume not to expect success unless he changed his attire from dashikis and jewelry to conservative suits and ties. Mfume took the advice, and he won a seat on the city council in 1978 by a mere three votes. Jenkins wrote: "On the council, Mfume moderated his dress but not his political approach, raining rhetorical fire on the city's power structure. His attacks on Schaefer were particularly poisonous ... and the mayor's contempt for Mfume was legendary." The two men almost came to blows on several occasions.

Mfume looks back on those days now as a learning experience. Gradually he became aware that politics was a game of coalition-building and compromise, rather than confrontation. He learned the delicate art of negotiation and even eventually developed a congenial relationship

with Schaefer. Mfume told *Business Week* of his former nemesis: "We could go to our graves battling each other, or we could get things done."

A Congressman with Clout

In 1986, a more temperate and polished Mfume announced his candidacy for the Seventh Congressional District, to replace retiring congressman Parren J. Mitchell. Mfume's opponents in the election tried to make an issue of his checkered past, reminding voters that the councilman had dropped out of high school and fathered illegitimate children. The strategy backfired when Mfume's sons stepped forward to praise their father and the candidate pointed to his degrees from Morgan State and the Johns Hopkins University, where he earned a master's degree in 1984. Mfume won the congressional seat with three times the vote of his next closest opponent and prepared to go to Congress in 1987. In the *Washington Post*, he recalled that many of his freshman colleagues on Capitol Hill were astounded that he had won with such an unusual name.

Jenkins wrote: "Since coming to Congress Mfume has followed a traditional path that belies his unorthodox roots." When he found himself on the House Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs, Mfume educated himself on banking issues and economics. When his district was reapportioned to include some more rural regions of Maryland, he immersed himself in farming and zoning laws so as to be able to represent his new constituents. He also developed a presence in Congress by volunteering to preside over sessions when the Speaker of the House was not present—a job that requires an understanding of arcane procedures that date to previous centuries. Mfume told the *Washington Post*: "I wanted people to get used to me real quick because I didn't plan on leaving."

At the same time, Mfume established himself as a liberal who stood solidly on the platform of expanded federal aid to inner cities. He never let a week go by that he did not return to Baltimore to deal firsthand with his constituents—a vast majority of whom are city dwellers. "I keep coming back to these communities and the lessons I learned here because that's what got me where I am," he told the *Washington Post*. "When I can't get anything moving in Washington I can always come back here. . . . Whatever I'm doing in Washington, if it doesn't matter here, it doesn't matter."

Over time Mfume became "a key player in shaping the debate and legislation aimed at curing the ills of the nation's

inner cities," to quote Stodghill and Dunham. In his fourth term, Mfume had earned enough political clout to win the leadership of the Congressional Black Caucus, a body that has become increasingly important, now with 39 members in the House. An overwhelming majority of the Congressional Black Caucus members are Democratic, but Mfume has set a maverick tone for the group. Soon after his election as chairman, Mfume and the Caucus openly criticized President Clinton for withdrawing support for Justice Department nominee Lani Guinier. Later the Caucus presented a list of "non-negotiable" demands to the Clinton White House, most of them having to do with federal aid to cities and the poor. "Not too many brothers or sisters would say 'no' to the president," NAACP executive director Benjamin Chavis was quoted as saying in *Emerge*. Mfume told *Business Week*: "No longer are we going to be looked at as an addendum to the Democratic agenda. We are going to be taken seriously. . . . If that means killing an important piece of [leadership-backed] legislation, then that will be the case."

Such a strong position has assured Mfume the ear of President Clinton, as well as the respect of his fellow Caucus members. Observers note that Mfume's popularity in his congressional district is such that he can depend upon winning his seat regularly. Since that is the case, he might also be poised to earn the honor of Speaker of the House at some point in the future. Having learned through trial and error how to create coalitions and make politics work for his district, Mfume shows no sign of relinquishing his career. "I could just stand on the side and be a spectator," he told the *Baltimore Sun*. "But politics is not a spectator sport. And in Washington, it's a contact sport. And I don't play to tie, I try to play to win. But you can only win if you are in the game." He added: "I'm going to be a player in the Democratic Party . . . if they don't run me out."

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—Anne Janette Johnson

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-2101

MUGAR

May 1, 1998

JUL 16 4:48

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to nominate David G. Mugar for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. David is an excellent candidate for such an honor, and would make an outstanding recipient.

David is a business entrepreneur in Massachusetts, who has long been deeply involved in community affairs and a major advocate for educational and cultural activities. He's President and CEO of Mugar Enterprises, which operates a number of leading shopping centers, inns, hotels, and official parks in New England. He founded the highly popular and successful Boston Pops Fourth of July celebration in Boston with Arthur Fielder in 1974.

David has a strong commitment to community service. He's a member of the Advisory Committee of the Boston Pops, the Executive Committee of the Boston Symphony Orchestra. He is also a Trustee and former vice chairman of the Museum of Science, and a Trustee of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, and he's acting in numerous educational foundations.

It's an honor to recommend David for the Medal of Freedom, and I hope you will give him the highest consideration for this award.

With respect and appreciation,

Sincerely,



Edward M. Kennedy

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23

Divider Title: _____

IN HONOR OF PAUL O'DWYER

O'DWYER

Mr. MOYNIHAN. Mr. President, on Saturday, June 28, as Congress began its most recent recess, New York City bid a fond farewell to one of County Mayo's finest gifts to our city and nation.

Paul O'Dwyer, former New York City Council President and champion of countless progressive causes, was a towering figure in our politics for well over half a century, playing a significant role in such disparate movements as the efforts to create a United Ireland and an independent State of Israel, the American civil rights and peace movements and the New York City reform movement that remade the face of our city's politics in the late 1950's.

From running guns to the Irgun in 1947 to organizing black voters in Mississippi in 1964, Paul O'Dwyer was on the cutting edge of every major social and political issue that shaped our nation's politics. He may have only won two of the dozen elections he contested in his long and colorful career, but his legacy lives on in the lives he touched and the issues he championed. Paul O'Dwyer and I were not always on the same side of every issue. You could question his strategy or even his judgement, but you could never question his abiding integrity or his remarkable capacity to sustain passion about human dignity and equal justice.

Paul O'Dwyer was born on June 29, 1907 in the Irish village of Behola, the eleventh and last surviving child of Patrick and Bridget McNicholas O'Dwyer. He arrived on our shores in 1925, working on the docks as he went to night classes, first at Fordham University and then at St. John's Law School.

It is a measure of how quickly he moved through life that he had to receive special permission from Chief Justice Benjamin Nathan Cordoza of the New York Court of Appeals to take his bar exam in 1929, four years after arriving from Ireland and two years before he could receive citizenship or be formally admitted to the bar. As the younger brother of Tammany Hall fixture (and future mayor) William O'Dwyer, he might have easily become a successfully well-connected lawyer. But that was simply not the way Paul O'Dwyer chose to live his life.

"If I thought at the end of the year that all I did was make a living, I'd regard it as a pretty incomplete year", he once said of his rich life as an agitator within the system. He must, on retrospect, have had paying clients during his 67 years as an attorney, but they were hardly the reason every segment of New York City's diverse political and ethnic spectrum joined in mourning this remarkable individual.

New York City and our nation are inspired by the quality of Paul O'Dwyer's example and enriched by the legacy of his accomplishments. I ask to have printed in the Congressional Record The New York Times' report on Paul O'Dwyer's funeral.

The report follows:

From the New York Times, June 28, 1998

Political Elite Out in Force To Mourn Democrat O'Dwyer

By Mike Allen

New York's political royalty packed an Upper West Side sanctuary yesterday for the funeral Mass of Paul O'Dwyer, the gritty liberal who once led the City Council.

Mr. O'Dwyer, who died Tuesday, was remembered for the crunch of his eyebrows and the splay of his glasses as he fought for causes as perpetual as Irish nationalism and as fleeting as a strike by flight attendants. Tomorrow, which would have been his 91st birthday, his ashes are to be scattered at his birthplace, his family's three-and-a-half-acre farmstead in County Mayo, in western Ireland.

The bagpipes and drums of the Police Department's Emerald Society led the cortege to Holy Trinity

Roman Catholic Church, stepping off to the anthem of Irish rebellion, "A Nation Once Again."

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani sat with his arms folded in a front pew. He was separated from the recent nemesis, Peter F. Vallone, the Council Speaker, by Barrie Robinson, the Irish consul general.

Frank Durkan, a nephew and law partner of Mr. O'Dwyer, used his eulogy to reel off a list of public officials Mr. O'Dwyer had known and tormented.

"Mayor Giuliani," Mr. Durkan said, "you're lucky, in a way, that you're not in his line of fire at the moment." The congregation of 700, mostly Mr. O'Dwyer's fellow Democrats, laughed and applauded.

In the homily, the Rev. Thomas P. Leonard, Holy Trinity's pastor, said Mr. O'Dwyer's style was "confrontation, with wit and sagacity." Father Leonard told of a conversation he had overheard Thursday afternoon in the rectory between two friends who were reading Mr. O'Dwyer's obituary.

"One said, 'Wasn't he an anarchist?' Father Leonard said. 'The other answered, 'No, no, no! He was Irish.'"

Percy E. Sutton, the former Manhattan Borough President, remembered Mr. O'Dwyer's flights to help Soviet Jews, and bus rides to help elect a black man in Alabama.

"You see," Mr. Sutton said, "Paul O'Dwyer was not just Irish. Paul O'Dwyer was Italian. Paul O'Dwyer was Jewish. Paul O'Dwyer was Greek. He was Polish. Paul O'Dwyer was also African-American. In his involvement in the causes that were not necessarily his, Paul O'Dwyer was us."

Mr. Sutton concluded, "At that place, where he should finally rest, you can bet one thing: There'll be an organizing of protests there. Because that is the nature of Paul O'Dwyer."

A niece, Joan O'Dwyer Savarese, invoked the notion that at death, life plays back like a movie. "Uncle Paul," she said, "what a show you're in for."

That show would have included boarding house life and night law school after immigrating to Manhattan, defense of Irish Republican Army members facing extradition, registration of black voters in Mississippi, marches against the Vietnam War, four losing races for United States Senate, and election as Councilman at Large in Manhattan and City Council President.

His wife, Patricia, recalled a Board of Estimate meeting when a fight broke out between landlords and tenants ("Odd, that," she said to appreciative laughter), and Mr. O'Dwyer descended into the skirmish as peacemaker. She went on to say that her husband "is truly not dead."

"We have evidence of his physical passing," Mrs. O'Dwyer said. "But that spirit and that passion—it will stay alive if we all leave here today committed to making the lives of our fellow human beings better."

At the service's close, the white pall that shrouded the coffin was replaced by the Irish flag. Friends, certain Mr. O'Dwyer would be delighted to be wrapped in the tricolor, gave a standing ovation as the casket passed by.

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etnam war, to which priority, Nixon sought to American commitment the war in time. On October 1971 the country's main critics of Nixon considered an ambiguous school desegregation inflation measures to Among his positive analysis in Newsweek were his attempts to ion on strategic arms for reforms of the Se been widely, though his proposed reforms which would provide anteed basic annual resulted from a proj-stary of Health, Edu-H. Finch, and Daniel

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In the press he has elusive and complex that he is "relatively clapping, hail-fellow-, his close associates nitive, and consid-staff. He has brown nds five feet eleven ng to Earl Mazo and ical Portrait (1968), ws, tendency to jowls ature have made a family im-on have dress of

former Thelma Cath-teacher of business hool when Richard play of a local ama-married on June 21, s, Patricia (Tricia), in 1948. His younger Eisenhower's grand-ember 1968.

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O'DWYER, (PETER) PAUL

June 29, 1907- Lawyer; political leader
Address: b. c/o O'Dwyer & Bernstein, 50 Broad St., New York 10004; h. 350 Central Park West, New York 10025

A perennial fighter for the underdog, Paul O'Dwyer made a strong impact on the New York political scene when in the June 1968 state primary election he won the Democratic nomination for United States Senator against heavy odds. Although he was defeated in the November election by the incumbent Republican Senator Jacob K. Javits, his primary victory was seen by political observers as an indication of the popularity of his staunch liberalism and especially of his opposition to American military involvement in Vietnam. More successful as a lawyer than as a politician, O'Dwyer takes justifiable pride in the legal victories in behalf of civil rights and civil liberties that he has won over the years.

Paul O'Dwyer was born to Patrick and Bridget (McNicholas) O'Dwyer on June 29, 1907 in Bohola, County Mayo, Ireland. His parents, both of whom were country school teachers, had him christened Peter Paul, but he later dropped the first name when he came to the United States. The youngest of eleven children, he has three surviving sisters. His brother William O'Dwyer, who was seventeen years his senior, and who served as mayor of New York City from 1946 to 1950 and as United States Ambassador to Mexico from 1950 to 1952, died in 1964.

O'Dwyer's liberalism can be traced to his early years in County Mayo when the Irish Republicans were fighting for their independence from the British. "I suppose I was more or less attuned to injustice and tyranny because I had seen it at first hand," he has said, recalling his childhood. "That was the time of the Trouble, and the Black and Tans [Englishmen of the Royal Irish Constabulary] used to drive through the town, shooting it up. It wasn't too different from Mississippi today." Another important early influence on him was his encounter with the works of Thomas Paine, the philosopher of the American Revolution.



PAUL O'DWYER

After graduating from St. Nathys College in County Mayo in 1924 O'Dwyer attended Dublin University for six months. Later that year, he left Ireland and immigrated to the United States. In New York City, O'Dwyer for the first time met his brother William, who had left Ireland many years earlier to study for the Roman Catholic priesthood in Spain, and who had then come to America, where he obtained a law degree. Motivated by his brother's example and by the fact that law was then the only profession that he could prepare for at night while working during the day, Paul O'Dwyer moved into a New York City boarding house and enrolled at Fordham University for evening classes in pre-law studies. He worked as an elevator operator, a garment packer, and a dockworker and cargo checker on the Brooklyn waterfront. After a year at Fordham he transferred to St. John's University Law School in Brooklyn, again studying nights and working days. He obtained his law degree from St. John's in 1929. Although he was not yet a citizen of the United States, O'Dwyer was granted special permission to take the bar examination in October of that year by Benjamin Nathan Cardozo, then the chief judge of the New York Court of Appeals. He passed, and in March 1931, after obtaining his citizenship papers, he was admitted to the New York state bar.

The United States was then in the depths of the Depression, and O'Dwyer was unable to find work as a lawyer. Instead he signed up as a deckhand on a cargo ship bound for South America. After a few months at sea he returned to New York, where he found a position as clerk in the law office of Oscar Bernstein. He eventually was made a partner in the firm, which became known as O'Dwyer & Bernstein.

Today O'Dwyer credits Oscar Bernstein with being the man who exerted the greatest influence on his life. At the Bernstein home the young lawyer found his horizons broadened by encounters with such celebrities as Heywood Broun, John L. Lewis, Lillian Hellman, and Dorothy Parker. Although he did not specialize in labor law, O'Dwyer spent much of his time during his early years with the firm in dealing with cases involving labor problems on the

New York waterfront. In 1947 he ran head on into the first legal challenges to discrimination in housing when he represented tenants of the Stuyvesant Town apartment complex in New York City against the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company.

About that time O'Dwyer first became interested in the plight of the Jews and their struggle for a homeland in Palestine. An advertisement published by Ben Hecht in 1946 attracted O'Dwyer to the American League for a Free Palestine—the United States affiliate of the Irgun Zvai Leumi, a militant Jewish organization that conducted guerrilla warfare against the British in the Holy Land. He raised money for the Irgun, went to Paris and Ireland to arrange for the illegal entry of refugees into Palestine, and, on at least one occasion, took part in a gun-running operation.

In 1948 Joseph Untermeyer, the adopted son of poet Louis Untermeyer, was arrested with another youth and charged with attempting to ship arms to Israel in violation of the Sullivan Law of the state of New York. As their defense attorney, O'Dwyer argued that the state laws were not intended to apply to weapons to be sent to protect people in their homes. "The defendants were only doing what every freedom-loving person should be doing," he told the court, which subsequently dismissed the case. During 1946-47 O'Dwyer served as chairman of the Lawyers Committee for Justice in Palestine. He also pleaded for the establishment of a sovereign state of Israel before the United Nations.

During his brother's term as mayor of New York City Paul O'Dwyer refrained from taking a municipal job because he wanted to avoid possible charges of nepotism. But in 1948 he decided to run for the House of Representatives in the Twenty-first Congressional District on Manhattan's Upper West Side as the candidate of the Democratic and American Labor parties. He lost by a margin of less than 2 percent to the Republican-Liberal candidate, incumbent Representative Jacob K. Javits. Meanwhile, O'Dwyer continued to build up his law practice. He became legal representative for a number of unions, including the bakery and brewery workers, pocket-book workers, hod carriers, warehousemen, transport workers, sanitation workers, mine workers, and restaurant workers. In addition, as a trial lawyer he represented such show business celebrities as Ethel Merman and Suzy Parker.

In 1958 O'Dwyer joined with Eleanor Roosevelt, Herbert H. Lehman, and others in establishing the Committee for Democratic Voters, which marked the beginning of the Democratic reform movement in New York State. He still serves on its advisory board. In the Presidential election campaign of 1960, he was co-chairman of the New York Citizens Committee for Kennedy and Johnson. Two years later he sought the Democratic nomination for United States Senator, but the party's state convention chose James Donovan as its candidate. In 1963, after a struggle within the Democratic reform movement, O'Dwyer was elected to the New York City Council as councilman-at-large from Manhattan, where he proposed a minimum wage law for city employees. It was later enacted.

In addition to carrying out his duties as New York city councilman, O'Dwyer became more and

more active in the national civil rights movement. At the request of the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE) he served as a volunteer defense attorney for civil rights demonstrators in the South. He handled what Jimmy Breslin in the *New York Post* (June 24, 1968) called "the kind of cases that didn't even get into Negro weeklies," often paying expenses from his own pocket. In the summer of 1964 he campaigned for the predominantly black Freedom Democratic party in Mississippi, where he coached party workers in political campaign tactics. As a delegate from the state of New York, O'Dwyer helped lead the struggle to obtain representation for delegates of the Freedom Democratic party at the 1964 Democratic National Convention at Atlantic City.

To enter the race for the Democratic nomination for mayor of New York, O'Dwyer left the City Council in 1965. But in the four-way primary contest, in which he ran against Congressman William Fitts Ryan, Controller Abraham R. Beame, and City Council President Paul R. Screevane, O'Dwyer finished last, receiving only about 28,000 votes out of a total of some 750,000, and Beame won the nomination. In the following year O'Dwyer managed Percy Sutton's successful campaign for the borough presidency of Manhattan.

Continuing his fight for the underdog, O'Dwyer went to Lexington, Kentucky to serve without fee as defense attorney for eight miners accused of attempting to blow up a bridge leading to a non-union mine in Hazard, Kentucky. At the request of CORE, O'Dwyer again serving without a fee defended Ernest Gallashaw, a seventeen-year-old Negro accused in the fatal shooting of another Negro boy in the racial violence that erupted in the East New York section of Brooklyn in the summer of 1966. Convinced of the defendant's innocence after investigating the case, O'Dwyer won his acquittal. Also in 1966, O'Dwyer conducted a successful legal fight before the United States Supreme Court, resulting in a decision to permit Puerto Rican citizens to take literacy voting tests in Spanish.

In November 1966 O'Dwyer was appointed special assistant corporation counsel to New York City, but he was dismissed from that post by Mayor John V. Lindsay in January 1967 after he had summoned the mayor and Transit Authority officials into court to explain their refusal to accept an \$84,000,000 subsidy to help finance the city's transportation system. Although he contended that O'Dwyer had exceeded his authority, Lindsay said that the dismissal did not reflect on O'Dwyer's "widely recognized professional integrity or his considerable personal ability." The city Board of Estimate later overruled the mayor and O'Dwyer continued to represent it in the matter.

As the 1968 Presidential election campaign approached, mounting dissatisfaction with President Lyndon B. Johnson's Vietnam policy led O'Dwyer and other liberal Democrats to establish the Coalition for a Democratic Alternative, which advanced the Presidential candidacy of Senator Eugene J. McCarthy. It also became the vehicle by means of which O'Dwyer entered the race for the Democratic nomination for United States Senator. He was assured of a place on the Democratic primary ballot

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O'Dwyer's opponents in the Democratic primary were Nassau County Executive Eugene Nickerson, who had supported the late Senator Robert F. Kennedy for the Presidency and had won the state committee's designation; and Congressman Joseph Y. Resnick, a wealthy Ellenville manufacturer, who campaigned as a supporter of Vice President Hubert H. Humphrey and of the Johnson administration's policies. O'Dwyer, who conducted a statewide grass roots campaign, was expected by political experts to run a poor third behind Nickerson and Resnick. But in the primary election of June 18, 1968 O'Dwyer scored a political upset, winning the nomination with a vote of 275,887 against 257,639 received by Nickerson and 229,893 cast for Resnick. "This country has chosen between peace and war," O'Dwyer observed after the primary contest.

In the months remaining for the campaign O'Dwyer fought an uphill battle in his effort to unseat the Republican incumbent, Senator Javits, who also had the Liberal party endorsement. O'Dwyer called for a cease-fire in Vietnam, and at the Democratic National Convention that met at Chicago in August, he was one of the leaders in the unsuccessful attempt to include an antiadminis- tration plank on Vietnam in the party platform. O'Dwyer called for opposition to the Greek military regime, continued support for Israel, an end to the draft, and the establishment of a volunteer army, conscientious objector status for opponents of specific wars, replacement of national nominating conventions with a nationwide primary, and lowering of the voting age to eighteen. He called for com- munity control for schools, an end to "hypocritical talk" about law and order, and a concentration on eliminating poverty and despair as the sources of crime and disorder. On October 9, 1968 Senator Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts endorsed O'Dwyer as "a symbol of strong but compassionate leadership."

After Hubert H. Humphrey received the Demo- cratic Presidential nomination at the Chicago con- vention, O'Dwyer continued to refuse to support him, despite considerable pressure from party of- ficials. He finally endorsed the ticket of Humphrey and Vice-Presidential candidate Edmund S. Muskie on November 1, 1968—less than a week before the election—after President Johnson had announced his intention to end the bombing of North Vietnam.

In the election of November 5, 1968, Javits was reelected to the Senate seat, receiving—according to unofficial returns—3,110,741 votes to O'Dwyer's 2,039,167. A third candidate, Conservative James L. Buckley, received 1,034,307 votes. O'Dwyer de- clared after the election: "We started out with one objective; we achieved part of it the day President Johnson called for peace. We achieved another part five days before the election when the bombing was stopped." After the New York City mayoral pri- mary election in June 1969 brought about the nomination of conservative-leaning candidates by both the Republican and Democratic parties, O'Dwyer helped to found, and became chairman of, the New Democratic Coalition, which eventually supported the successful candidacy of incumbent

Mayor John V. Lindsay, who ran on the Liberal and Independent tickets. On December 11, 1969 O'Dwyer announced that he would seek the Demo- cratic nomination for the Senate seat held by Re- publican Charles E. Goodell.

O'Dwyer has served as president of the Irish In- stitute, and he founded the Mayo Foundation for Retarded Children. He often helps the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies to raise funds. A former president of the leftist-oriented National Lawyers Guild, he left the organization some years ago in protest against its failure to condemn anti-Jewish purges by the Communist government of Czecho- slovakia.

On August 19, 1935 Paul O'Dwyer married Kath- leen Rohan, whom he had met at a Mayomen's ball in New York City. They have four children: Wil- liam, a pediatrician in Albany; Rory, an electrician; Brian, a student at Georgetown Law School; and Eileen (Mrs. Thomas Hughes Jr.), whose husband is a member of the O'Dwyer law firm. The O'Dwyers live in a large apartment on Manhattan's Central Park West filled with modern art. Paul O'Dwyer, who still speaks with the hint of a brogue, is five feet eight inches tall, weighs around 170 pounds, and has white hair, brown eyes, and bushy black eyebrows. He keeps fit by landscaping his thirty- acre farm in Orange County, New York. In com- paring him with the late William O'Dwyer, as- sociates say that he is more straightforward and "less given to blarney" than his brother. O'Dwyer attends the theater about six times a year, and in the little time he is able to devote to literature he tries to "skim off the cream," reading an occasional work by Sean O'Casey, James Joyce, or Mark Twain. Unlike some of his contemporaries, he has high hopes for the nation's youth. "They're more inter- ested in politics than when I was a youngster," he has said, as quoted in the New York Times (June 20, 1968). "God, if I've had any success at all, it's been in large measure from listening to these young people."

References

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- N Y Times p23 N 19 '66 por; p38 Je 20 '68
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- Martindale-Hubbell Law Directory, 1967

OJUKWU, CHUKUEMEKA ODUMEGWU (ô-jöök'wöö)

Nov. 4, 1933- Biafran political leader; military officer

Address: Headquarters, Biafra Army, Umuahia, Eastern Nigeria

In the view of General Chukuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu and most of his fellow Ibo tribesmen, Biafra's war of independence from the Federal Re- public of Nigeria is not merely a conflict over con- stitutional rights of territorial integrity, but a fight for survival. Ojukwu, who had been serving as military governor of Eastern Nigeria under the fed- eral republic, proclaimed the region's independence

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January 31, 1997

FEB 3 PM 4:32

The President
The White House
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mr. President:

The purpose of this letter is to strongly recommend Irene Gut Opdyke for the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award.

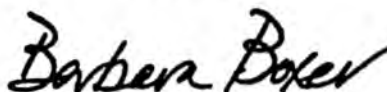
The story of Irene Gut Opdyke is an extraordinary tale of humanity. Irene was an ordinary teenage Polish Catholic girl who saved hundreds of Jewish lives during the Holocaust. During the Holocaust, Irene was forced into labor to work as a housekeeper for a Nazi officer. It was during this time, she overheard Gestapo secrets and relayed them to the Jews in the Ghetto. When she heard of the Gestapo's plans to liquidate the Ghetto at Tarnopol, she actually hid a dozen Jews in the basement of the Nazi officer's home.

Currently, Irene travels around the world speaking mainly to children. She serves as an inspiration to children when they face issues of bigotry and oppression.

Irene Gut Opdyke's extraordinary dedication saved the lives of many people and she continues to make a difference in the lives of young people today.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and please give Ms. Irene Gut Opdyke every consideration for the Presidential Medal of Freedom Award.

Sincerely,



Barbara Boxer
United States Senator

BB:ss

LEVEL 1 - 1 OF 78 STORIES

OPDYKE

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THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

August 1, 1999 Sunday MORNING EDITION

SECTION: SHOW; Pg. F25

LENGTH: 423 words

HEADLINE: A true first-person story of Holocaust survival

BYLINE: REBECCA HIRSCH, Special to the Register

BODY:

Title: "In My Hands: Memories of a Holocaust Survivor" by Irene Gut
Opdyke with Jennifer Armstrong
Info: Knopf Books, \$ 18 hardcover, 272 pages, ages 12 and up
Grade: A+
You might like it if: You like true stories of heroism.

This is the true story of a Yorba Linda woman who saved Jews
from the Nazi death camps during World War II.

What makes this suspenseful book stand out from the hundreds of
Holocaust stories is that it was written by a rescuer instead of a
rescuer. Most of the books about Righteous Gentiles (non-Jews who
helped the Jews during the Holocaust) were written in the third
person. But "In My Hands" was written by a person who survived the
war, and it shows that one person really can make a difference, if
only to a few people.

Irene Opdyke, 76, of Yorba Linda has won many awards for her
heroism, including the Righteous Among the Nations award from Yad
Vashem, the Holocaust memorial in Israel.

In 1939, Germans invaded the Polish city where the then-Irene
Gut was training to become a nurse. She immediately volunteered to
go with a Polish army unit that was leaving to find safety with the
hope of fighting again. Unable to fight, the unit became partisans
and stayed in the Ukrainian forest. While Irene was on a mission
for the partisans, she was caught without a pass and taken prisoner
by the Russians.

Two years later, Irene was able to escape and return to the
town of Radom, where her family was now living. Later, she was
caught by the Germans and eventually sent to work as a servant for
German soldiers.

The back door of where she worked looked onto the fence of the



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city ghetto where the Nazis forced all the Jews to live. She started by just leaving a bucket of food in a hole in the fence every day to help feed the starving Jews. Then she would warn her Jewish laundry workers when she heard the Nazis were planning to take Jews to a concentration camp.

Soon, she gained access to a German warehouse, where she stole food and supplies for Jews in the ghetto and the people she was smuggling out of the nearby work camp.

When she had to move to become a German official's housekeeper, she took her 12 laundry workers with her and hid them in the basement.

This book is appropriate for readers age 12 and up because there is a lot of violence in it. For example, in one part of the book, Irene witnesses a ghetto being wiped out by SS.

Rebecca Hirsch will be in the ninth grade at Los Alamitos High School in September.

GRAPHIC: COLOR PHOTO

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: August 04, 1999



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Owning Her Story

By Naomi Pfefferman, *Senior Writer*

Opdyke, top, in her twenties, and today, wants to regain control of her life story.



On a terrible day in 1941, Irene Gut Opdyke saw a Nazi soldier snatch a Jewish baby from his mother and smash him on the ground. Another Nazi threw an infant in the air and shot him.

That night, the Polish Catholic teen-ager fell to her knees and ranted against God. "In the morning, I heard an answer in my soul," says Opdyke, now 80 and a resident of Yorba Linda. "I realized that God gives us free will to be good or bad. I asked Him for forgiveness and for the opportunity to help, even if it meant risking my life."

Several months later, Opdyke got her chance when she learned that the Ternapol ghetto was going to be

liquidated. She warned Jews of the impending danger, brought food and supplies to partisans in the forest, and hid 12 Jews in the house where she worked as a housekeeper for an elderly Nazi major. When the Nazi discovered her ruse, she was forced to become his mistress.

"I won't tell you it was easy," says Opdyke, who was named a Righteous Gentile by Yad Vashem. "But I knew there were 12 lives depending on me."

Opdyke has been telling her story to students and community groups since reading a newspaper report about Holocaust deniers almost 20 years ago.

But today, she alleges, her inspiring story is no longer her own. In a lawsuit filed last month in Orange County Superior Court, Opdyke charges that she was "duped" into signing away the rights to her life story by an Orange County event promoter, Alan N. Boinus.

According to the lawsuit, Boinus realized that Opdyke's life story "could be sold for a great deal of money." Boinus solicited Opdyke's trust by "falsely [holding] himself out as someone who she could depend on as a friend and business adviser," the lawsuit states. "Boinus also knew that the elderly Opdyke had difficulty understanding written English and that people could easily take advantage of her."

The complaint alleges 19 causes of action, ranging from fiduciary elder abuse, to fraud, to misappropriation of name and likeness. According to the lawsuit, Boinus persuaded Opdyke to sign a series of agreements, culminating in an option that allowed him five years to sell her story in exchange for \$1. If the octogenarian were to die within the five years, none of her heirs would receive any of the profits. The money would go to Boinus and the Irene Gut Opdyke Holocaust Rescuer Foundation, co-founded by Boinus for fund-raising and other purposes but over which Opdyke has had no control, says Diane Klein, one of Opdyke's attorneys.

Boinus, who denies all allegations, has said that he is now in the unenviable position of defending himself against a Holocaust hero whom he admires.

His attorney, Howard A. Kapp, says the five-year option is a standard entertainment industry contract. Kapp says Boinus' primary motivation has been to publicize Opdyke's heroic deeds, through the IRS-approved foundation and other endeavors. Boinus did ask Opdyke to sit on the foundation board, Kapp says, but the senior citizen declined. She preferred to let Boinus and a board of directors handle the business of the foundation, which aimed to educate

children about the Holocaust, Kapp says. The foundation has folded since the lawsuit.

Boinus, 45, a graduate of the USC School of Cinema, met Opdyke about five years ago, after she spoke at the Irvine synagogue where he was a member, Klein says.

Opdyke learned to trust Boinus when he helped her get out of an unfavorable book deal and then facilitated a new deal for her with Alfred Knopf. Boinus also helped Opdyke with her income taxes and coordinated her personal appearances, among other favors, Klein says.

But last summer, after appearing on a segment of ABC's "PrimeTime Live," Opdyke says that she began to develop suspicions about Boinus. Producers had been expressing interest in making a movie about Opdyke; concerned friends convinced her to have an attorney review her contracts with Boinus. Soon thereafter, Bet Tzedek Legal Services, a public interest law firm and beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles, arranged for Opdyke's case to be handled pro bono by Carole E. Handler, co-chair of Kaye, Scholer law firm's entertainment group.

Kapp, for his part, reiterates that all of Boinus' contracts with Opdyke are "conventional." He says Boinus has worked hard on Opdyke's behalf, arranging media exposure and even writing a screenplay about her. Kapp says he suspects that certain individuals want to cut off Boinus now that his endeavors have engendered film-related offers.

"Mrs. Opdyke's core argument is that she doesn't read English and, therefore, she should be excused from any agreements," Kapp says. "But English has been her primary language for nearly 50 years. She has written two books in English, and she once ran a business in the state of California."

In a written statement, Boinus said: "The irony of all this is, both [Irene's] lawyers and I have been motivated by the same thing: to tell the story of this most amazing brave soul. I have had the passion to tell it when no one would listen."

Opdyke sees it differently. While she is seeking damages, and she wants a full accounting of foundation funds, she says her main goal is to nullify all contracts with Boinus and regain control of her life story.

"I just want to tell my story," she says.

Know Your Rights

If you are a Holocaust survivor or a non-Jewish rescuer, here is the best way to sell your life story, according to Diane Klein of Kaye, Scholer law firm, and Manuel Duran of Bet Tzedek Legal Services:

- * If someone expresses interest in your story, don't sign anything or tell your story to that person in any detail until you check the person's "bona fides." If the person is a writer, check to see if he or she is a member of the Writer's Guild. If the person is a producer, ask for information about other films he or she has produced.
- * Do not make an agreement with any agent or producer who asks you to pay "front" money or to pay for expenses. No legitimate agent or producer will ask you to pay for anything.
- * Do not sign anything until you have it reviewed by a lawyer. Make sure all agreements are in writing.
- * Do not "tie up" the rights of your story for more than one or two years under any circumstances.
- * Request approval over creative decisions and a role in creating the final product.
- * Be aware that it is possible to get no- or low-cost legal advice, for example, from Bet Tzedek or Volunteer Lawyers for the Arts. Do not enter into any agreement with someone who tells you that you don't need a lawyer.
- * Before you sign the deal, negotiate an "exit strategy" in case the deal does not go the way you want: if the producer assigns the agreement to someone with whom you would not want to do business, for example, or if a person to whom you have sold the rights does not do anything with them.

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United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

February 12, 1997

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President
United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

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Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to bring to your attention an extraordinary human being, Ms. Irene Gut Opdyke, for your consideration as a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

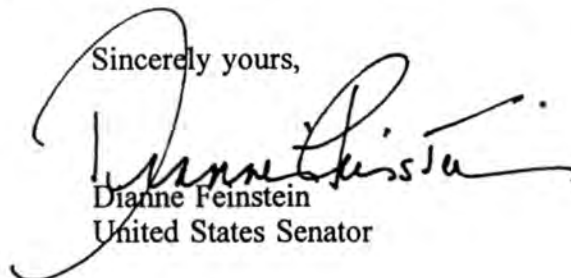
As you may know, Ms. Opdyke is known as a "Righteous Christian Rescuer." Her story is a compelling human drama about a Christian woman who saved Jewish lives during the Holocaust. She was an ordinary teenage Polish Catholic girl who was forced into labor to work as a housekeeper for a Nazi officer. While serving meals to the Gestapo she helped to save thousands of Jewish lives by overhearing the Gestapo's secrets and relaying them to Jews in the Ghetto. When she learned of the Gestapo's plans to destroy the Ghetto at Tanopol, in the Ukraine, she hid dozens of Jews in the basement of the Nazi officer's home where she worked.

Ms. Opdyke has been recognized by not only the Vatican but Israel honored her with the state's highest medal for bravery. She is featured with a plaque at the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. I feel it is important for Ms. Opdyke to be honored by this country with the Presidential Medal of Freedom for her devotion and dedication.

Recently, a foundation has been established in Ms. Opdyke's name to recognize and reward young people with grants and scholarships to those who have made a difference in their communities and society. Awards are given to those who stand against hate, bigotry, racism and genocide.

To have survived what she has endured and to have contributed so much to the world, Irene Gut Opdyke truly deserves to be honored with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I appreciate your consideration of this request. Thank you very much for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely yours,



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

DF:chm

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0526

HOWARD L. BERMAN

January 14, 1997

The Honorable Bill Clinton
The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

*Medal
OF
Freedom*

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express my support for the nomination of Irene Gut Opdyke for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Ms. Opdyke is clearly deserving of the Medal for her acts of courage during the Holocaust. Despite worldwide recognition, Ms. Opdyke has not yet received recognition in the United States, where she has lived the majority of her life.

Irene Gut Opdyke, a Polish Christian, risked her life to save hundreds of Jews during World War II. When she was a teenager, she was captured by the Nazis and forced to work as a housekeeper in a German officer's villa. During that time, she passed information to Jews in the Tarnopol Ghetto and food and supplies to those who fled to the nearby forest upon the Ghetto's liquidation. For nearly a year, she miraculously hid twelve Jews in the basement of the villa without the officer's knowledge. When she was caught aiding some of them, Ms. Opdyke convinced the officer to release the individuals despite being punished herself.

Following the war, Ms. Opdyke joined a group of Polish freedom fighters to combat the Russians, who had taken control of Poland following Germany's defeat. Her efforts in Poland placed her on the Russian Red Army's "Most Wanted" list. Ironically, the same Jews she had hidden in the officer's basement disguised her and smuggled her out of the country. She ultimately arrived in New York City, a few days before Christmas, in 1949.

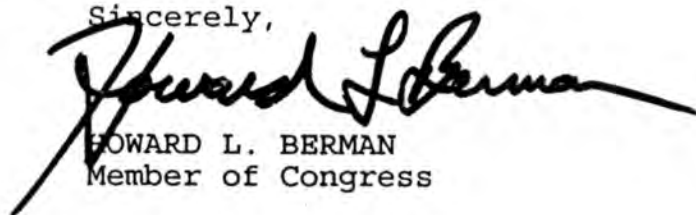
Today Ms. Opdyke speaks to groups, especially children, of her experiences. She urges them to resist bigotry and oppression and has been a source of education and inspiration for countless children. Her efforts have inspired the creation of a foundation to recognize young people (through grants and scholarships) who have made a difference for their communities and society by taking a stand against hate, bigotry, racism, or genocide.

Irene Gut Opdyke's courage has earned international recognition. The Israeli Holocaust Commission named her a "Righteous Gentile," a title bestowed upon those who risked their lives to aid and

save Jews during the Holocaust. Her photograph is part of a permanent exhibit honoring "Righteous Gentiles" in the Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.. Additionally, in 1982 she was granted the Israel Medal of Honor, Israel's highest award, in a ceremony at Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. Ms. Opdyke has also received recognition by the Vatican.

Ms. Opdyke's story is a testimony to the strength of the human spirit in the face of extreme adversity. It is a story of brotherhood that transcends race, gender and creed to touch and transform the deepest recesses of the soul. A Presidential Medal of Freedom is a fitting tribute to the spirit of this true hero.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Howard L. Berman". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

HOWARD L. BERMAN
Member of Congress

HLB/dsv

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Divider Title: _____

May 28, 1997

President William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20500

CORPORATION
FOR NATIONAL
★ SERVICE

Dear Mr. President,

Now on the heels of the Presidents' Summit in Philadelphia and with the country focused on the value of citizen service in a democracy, I would like to bring to your attention a man from Philadelphia who has for over 34 years demonstrated what can be accomplished by an individual dedicated to service to others: **Edward Piszek**.

In 1996 he was nominated by Congressman Borski to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom, because of his years of volunteering, as well as his role in promoting the importance of volunteering to his community, his country and internationally. I am delighted to this year resubmit his name for your consideration along with an update of his volunteer efforts during the last 12 months.

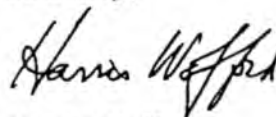
In his file are letters from over 25 leading citizens who have known and worked with him and were eager to attest to his national and international good work to bring about a better life for all people.

His financial success enabled him to tackle some of the major problems throughout the world by funding projects which influenced and bettered the lives of large numbers of people. However, it was his personal commitment on a daily basis to peace and prosperity for all that drove his work.

He is an outstanding American, an example for all of us, and a wonderful spokesman for the value of service to both the receiver and the giver.

The Presidential Medal of Freedom awarded to Edward J. Piszek would reinforce your message to serve others.

Sincerely,



Harris Wofford
Chief Executive Officer

1201 New York Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20525
Telephone 202-606-5000

Getting Things Done.
AmeriCorps, National Service
Learn and Serve America
National Senior Service Corps

1014

"If the world is to reach the quality of life it wishes in the future, at a price it can afford, the only way is through the act of volunteerism!"

-Edward J. Piszek

From April 1996 through April 1997, and at 80 years of age, Edward J. Piszek continued his commitment to bringing a better life to others.

- His on-going work to build understanding between the people of all nations has resulted in the Polish Educational Ministry reporting that by June 1, 1997 Peace Corps' Partners in Teaching English program, with Mr. Piszek's support, will have created 25,000 qualified teachers of English in Poland since 1990. The ministry projects that by the year 2000, Poland will have over 50,000 English teachers by way of this unique English language venture to assist Poles to communicate with the world and increase business and commerce in the region.
- His total commitment to the importance of the leadership skills learned through the playing and coaching Little League Baseball has focused his energies on completing the Little League Baseball European Leadership Training Center in Kutno, Poland where girls and boys and adult volunteers from 37 countries learn teamwork, citizenship, discipline, and mutual respect. Mr. Piszek insists that "Little League Baseball is one of America's finest exports of good will....."
- Through his Copernicus Society of America, he has supported Pennsylvania State University and its Agricultural Extension program in Poland for the past five years. In March 1997, Mr. Piszek co-sponsored a Polish-Ukrainian-Penn State Agricultural Economic Development Summit. This program enabled Polish agricultural and Penn State University experts to share their positive experiences with Ukraine and Armenia to improve the overall food production outlook heading into the next millennium.

FOCUS - 2 OF 35 STORIES

Copyright 1994 The Warsaw Voice
The Warsaw Voice

July 17, 1994

SECTION: News

LENGTH: 640 words

HEADLINE: EDWARD PISZEK: Philanthropist for Poland

BODY:

About thirty years ago, an American millionaire came to Poland, to search for his family roots. He found the roots, but also much more. He also left his heart behind.

"I was 47," says Edward Piszek. "That's about time to find out about your origin, and about your parents' origin." The country he found fascinated him. "Although the system was unbearable," Piszek recalls, "the people were like crystal." He decided to share some of his fortune with his parents' countrypeople. Now, among others, he is friends with the Pope, and President Walesa listens to his advice on national security. He's also friends with U.S. senators and congressmen lobbying for Poland.

But firstly, back in the 1960s he started by donating some medical equipment to the Tarnow region which was suffering from a tuberculosis epidemic. Among the victims were several of his cousins. Soon the mobile buses with portable X-ray equipment Piszek bought were cruising across Poland helping combat the disease. Later trucks and ambulances, worth well over a million dollars poured onto ships from New York.

But his philanthropic drive has widened considerably over last thirty years. He bought the Kosciuszko house in Pennsylvania. Under his Project: Pole, Piszek publishes texts in newspapers like The Wall Street Journal and Chicago Tribune, portraying famous Poles like Kosciuszko, Pulawski, Maria Curie-Sklodowska, Chopin and others. He co-published James Michener's book Poland that sold more than 15 millions copies worldwide. He also sponsors groups of American teachers coming with the American Peace Corps to teach English here.

Piszek recently institutionalized his charities by setting up the Copernican Society of America. The society sponsors writers, scientists and artists to study in America. It also publishes a magazine The World of English, to popularize the English language in Poland.

His parents came to the United States at the turn of the century. His father started work as a coal miner. Since pay was above average, they saved some money and opened a saloon in Chicago. Later they bought a farm and moved back to Pennsylvania, then bought a grocery store away from the Polish neighborhood. Although both his parents were Polish, Piszek never mastered their native tongue. "My parents spoke only English at home. They wanted us, the kids to assimilate fully into American society and for America to become our home."



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Piszek, a self-made millionaire ranking high among the wealthiest Americans of Polish origin, says he is the best proof that Poles can prosper all over the world. "The Poles are very intelligent, noble and hardworking people," he stresses. "One major problem they have, though, is excessive modesty and openness." **Piszek** is not known for modesty. "(Congress] tried to raze the old Kosciuszko house but I wouldn't have it." **Piszek** bought the house and led a three year battle with Congress to declare it a historical monument. "They would rather see this historical house fall to pieces like the other buildings did," he frowns still angry, banging his fist on the table. "Aside from that, I'm now making my own history, so I fit well into a historical place."

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 18, 1994

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Divider Title: _____



United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504

RUSSELL

June 11, 1998

The Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President
United States of America
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

JUN 17 1998

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to bring to your attention an extraordinary human being, Madeleine Russell, for your consideration as a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

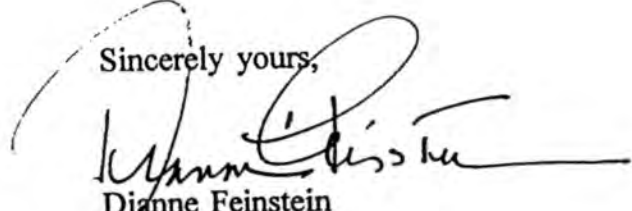
Mrs. Russell is the founder and current President of the Columbia Foundation, which is dedicated to furthering public welfare in the ever changing social environment. Since its founding, the Columbia Foundation has given financial support to programs that enhance public welfare, as well as world peace, human rights, the environment, cross-cultural and international understanding, the quality of urban life, and the arts.

Mrs. Russell played a vital role in the organization of the first worldwide conference for the abolition of torture that took place on December 10, 1973, in Paris. She continues to express her concern for human rights worldwide and provides assistance to the programs of organizations such as Amnesty International.

In addition to her work for human rights, Mrs. Russell is an active participant in many communities across the nation. She serves on the boards of various foundations and art museums such as the Museum of Modern Art in New York and the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco. She has been honored for her work on human rights and her contributions to the San Francisco Bay Area's economic vitality and quality of life.

Madeleine Russell has selflessly dedicated her time to improving the lives and well being of others. She deserves to be honored with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I appreciate your consideration of this request. Thank you very much for your time and attention.

Sincerely yours,


Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

WASHINGTON OFFICE
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WASHINGTON, DC 20515-0514
(202) 225-8104
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DISTRICT OFFICE
698 EMERSON STREET
PALO ALTO, CA 94301
(415) 323-2984
(408) 245-2339
FAX (415) 323-3498

Anna G. Eshoo
14th District, California
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0514

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TELECOMMUNICATIONS, TRADE, AND
CONSUMER PROTECTION
HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT
WHIP AT LARGE
CO-CHAIR,
MEDICAL TECHNOLOGY CAUCUS

June 9, 1998

The Honorable William Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton,

I write to urge you to bestow upon Madeleine H. Russell the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Ms. Russell has a proven record of unwavering commitment of service to our community and our country. Her impressive contributions have provided critical support to scores of organizations and institutions for over 50 years. She has worked tirelessly in the field of human rights since 1940 when she founded the Columbia Foundation to promote "the furtherance of public welfare." The Foundation's dedication to international understanding and world peace, human rights and the quality of urban life as well as the environment and the arts reflects the many fields in which Ms. Russell has advanced these critical interests. She has had significant impact within each of these areas through her service in dozens of organizations, including her service as Founding Director of the Harry S. Truman Institute for the Advancement of Peace and as Honorary Governor for Life at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Israel. Her considerable achievements have been honored with an impressive list of awards, including the Death Penalty Focus of California Human Rights Award in 1997 and the Alumnae Resources' Woman of Achievement, Vision and Excellence Award in 1992.

Ms. Russell is an exemplary national leader whose extensive contributions and profound dedication have unquestionably improved our global community for nearly six decades. I recommend her with great pride as a candidate for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sincerely,



Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress

AGE:baw

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Divider Title: _____

SHUTTLES WORTH

LEVEL 1 - 2 OF 436 STORIES

Copyright 1999 The Cincinnati Enquirer
The Cincinnati Enquirer

October 4, 1999, Monday

SECTION: METRO, Pg. B01

LENGTH: 444 words

HEADLINE: Civil rights 'general' Shuttlesworth honored
Minister nearly died 8 times in battle for equality

BYLINE: BETTY KIM

SOURCE: The Cincinnati Enquirer

BODY:

As the "battlefront general" of the civil rights movement in the 1960s, the Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth said he was prepared to give his life for the freedom of blacks.

But it wasn't his time.

"I've faced death eight times (during the civil rights movement), but God has never let me die," the Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth told some 250 people who gathered Sunday afternoon at John Wesley United Methodist Church in Forest Park to pay tribute to him.

The Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth preached at the worship service, sponsored by five Forest Park and Springfield Township churches: John Wesley, Forest Park Baptist, Forest Chapel United Methodist, Pleasant Run Presbyterian and St. John Neumann Catholic Church.

In his hourlong sermon, the Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth, pastor of North Avondale's Greater New Light Baptist Church, discussed how God has helped him over the past 40 years in his fight for desegregation and equality.

"God will send you to places you would never go and will give you courage to do things you swore you couldn't do," he said.

As one of the leaders of the civil rights movement - he worked closely with the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Birmingham, Ala., in the 1950s and 1960s - the Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth has seen the darkest faces of inhumanity.

He was arrested 30 times and was involved in filing 40 civil rights lawsuits.

He helped desegregate buses, restaurants and schools.

He survived a beating when he tried to enroll his daughters in an all-white Birmingham high school in 1957.

But his most inspirational moment came in 1956, when the Ku Klux Klan blew up



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his home with 16 sticks of dynamite.

"The floor beneath me was gone, but underneath me was my mattress," the Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth said. "And I knew it was meant for me. I knew God was there. And I felt more peaceful in that moment than I ever have my entire life."

The Rev. Larry Kreps, pastor of John Wesley UMC, helped organize Sunday's tribute.

"A lot of Rev. Shuttlesworth's work comes out of his relationship with God, so we thought this was an appropriate way to honor him," he said.

Terri Stamm of Springfield Township was impressed by what she heard.

"We were so naive (at that time)," she said. "Rev. Shuttlesworth makes you realize how terribly wrong it was and the struggles they went through to achieve freedom."

He also spoke about the new face of segregation: racism.

"Someone was trying to convince me the other day that racism is so much better than what we had (in the 1960s)," the Rev. Mr. Shuttlesworth said. "But it's the same thing."

"The church must take a bold step and fight against injustice as God intended."

GRAPHIC: Jeff Swinger for The Enquirer; Civil rights leader Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth preaches Sunday at the John Wesley United Methodist Church.

LOAD-DATE: October 14, 1999



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Divider Title: _____

SAROS

George Soros

Biographical Information

OSI-Macedonia

Macedonia

SPIN

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International philanthropist George Soros was born in Budapest, Hungary in 1930. He emigrated to England in 1947 and graduated from the London School of Economics in 1952. In 1956, he moved to the United States.

Mr. Soros founded the Open Society Fund in 1979, the Soros Foundation-Hungary in 1984 and the Soros Foundation-South Africa in 1987. He now has a network of foundations operating in 24 countries throughout Central and Eastern Europe, as well as South Africa and the United States. These foundations are

to build the infrastructure and institutions of an open society through the support of educational, cultural and economic restructuring activities.

Mr. Soros is also the founder of The Central European University in Budapest, Hungary. Established in 1990, the University offers postgraduate programs in history, economics, political science, art history, and the social sciences, and serves as the center of Mr. Soros' educational initiatives in Eastern Europe.

Mr. Soros is President of Soros Fund Management and Chief Investment Advisor of Quantum Fund N.V., a \$12 billion international investment fund which is generally recognized as having had the best performance record in the world during its 25-year history.

In addition to many articles on the political and economic changes in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union, Mr. Soros is the author of *The Alchemy of Finance*, published by Simon & Schuster in 1987 and republished in May 1994 by John Wiley and Sons, *The Soviet System*, published by Weidenfeld & Nicholson in July 1990, and *Under Democracy*, published by The Free Press in September 1991. Mr. Soros' forthcoming *Ideas and Actions*, will be published by Wiley and Sons in July 1995.

Mr. Soros received honorary doctoral degrees from the New School for Social Research (New York) and the University of Oxford in 1980, as well as from the Budapest University of Economics and Yale University in 1991.

February 1995

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29

Divider Title: _____

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

STASSEN

March 19, 1997

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, we are writing to respectfully request that you consider awarding a Presidential Medal of Freedom to Harold Edward Stassen.

Harold Stassen has an outstanding record of public and military service to America. There is no question that his unique contributions have left a lasting impression on not only the history of his home state and his country, but at an international level as well.

In 1938, at the age of 31, Harold Stassen was elected governor of Minnesota and remained our nation's youngest governor until 1943. He then resigned to accept a commission in the U.S. Navy where he served on Admiral W.F. Halsey's staff until 1945 and attained the rank of Captain during World War II. He also won the Legion of Merit Award and was awarded six major battle stars and decorated three times. More importantly, he is personally responsible for freeing thousands of American Prisoners of War in Japan shortly before that country's surrender.

Mr. Stassen also served as a key advisor in a variety of influential posts throughout the Eisenhower administration. From 1953-58, he was a Member of the National Security Council and Economic Council, the Director of Foreign Operations and the Deputy Representative of the U.S. to the United Nations Disarmament Commission.

However, Harold Stassen will be best remembered for his service, at the personal request of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, on the American delegation to the 1945 international conference in San Francisco that founded the United Nations. Indeed, he is now the only living American who drafted, negotiated and signed the original United Nations Charter.

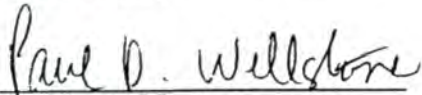
Moreover, Mr. Stassen has maintained a dedicated, passionate interest in the U.N. since its founding. Not only has he made it a personal mission to educate the American public about the United Nations, but he has published numerous proposals, which address every aspect of the U.N. charter, for making the organization more effective.

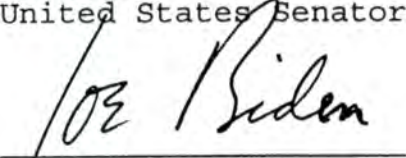
Just two years ago, we celebrated the 50th anniversary of the United Nations. On April 13th of this year, Harold Stassen will celebrate his 90th birthday. A wide array of national and state officials, including former Vice President and U.S. Ambassador to Japan Walter Mondale, will be coming together on this day in St. Paul, Minnesota to recognize Mr. Stassen.

As we continue our bipartisan efforts to renew and strengthen relations between the United States and the United Nations, we can think of no more fitting tribute to Harold Stassen than to award him our nation's highest civilian honor.

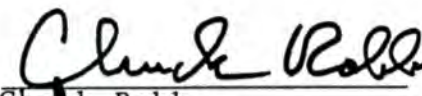
Thank you very much for your consideration.

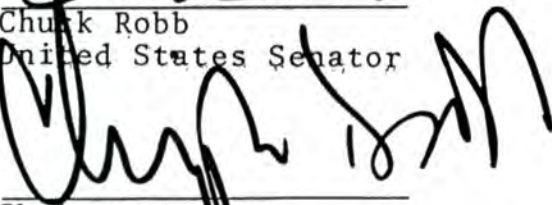
Sincerely,


Paul Wellstone
United States Senator

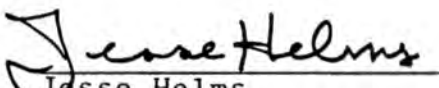

Joe Biden
United States Senator

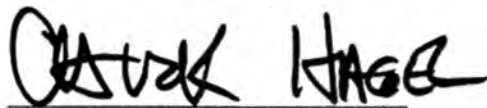

John Kerry
United States Senator

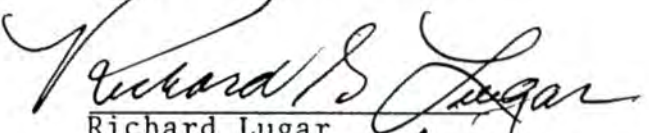

Chuck Robb
United States Senator

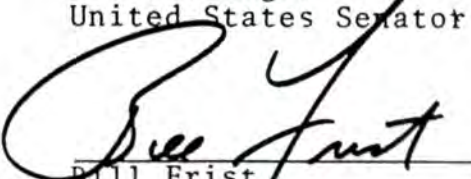

Chris Dodd
United States Senator

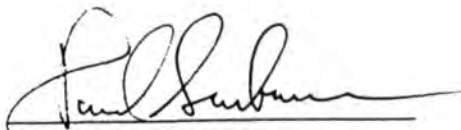

Rod Grams
United States Senator


Jesse Helms
United States Senator

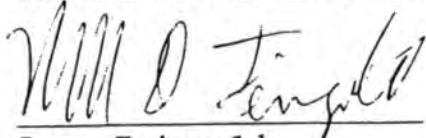

Chuck Hagel
United States Senator


Richard Lugar
United States Senator

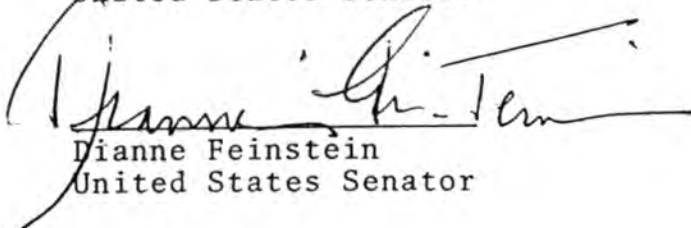

Bill Frist
United States Senator



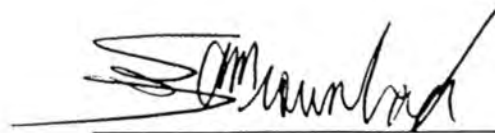
Paul Sarbanes
United States Senator



Russ Feingold
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator



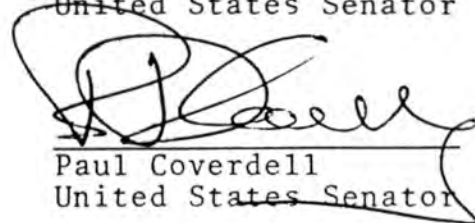
Sam Brownback
United States Senator



Craig Thomas
United States Senator



Gordon Smith
United States Senator



Paul Coverdell
United States Senator



John Ashcroft
United States Senator

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NOMINATION OF **John Walsh**
to Receive
THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL
OF FREEDOM



MAY 20 1997



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President

THOMAS J. SCOTTO
President, Detectives'
Endowment Association
of New York City
New York, NY

May 19, 1997

Executive Vice President
ERNEST W. GEORGE

President, Palm Beach County
Police Benevolent Association
West Palm Beach, FL

Recording Secretary
O. J. HOLT

President, Central
Coast Chapter, PORAC
San Jose, CA

Treasurer

WILLIAM BIRDSEYE
Police Officers
Association of Michigan

Sergeant-at-Arms
MARTIN McKEAN

Executive Secretary,
Ohio PBA
Berea, OH

Executive Secretary

B. D. "BUD" STONE
Past President PORAC
Berkeley, CA

President William Jefferson Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Clinton:

As National Police Week 1997 draws to a close, the National Association of Police Organizations (NAPO) is honored to transmit the enclosed nomination of John Walsh, the host of (America's Most Wanted), to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Rarely, has one individual received the sincere non-partisan support of such an elite group of individuals and organizations as has John Walsh. This recommendation represents the collective desire of 41 governors, 42 state attorney generals, and 3,600 national law enforcement organizations representing over one million state, local and federal police officers and agents, to express their support of John Walsh to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom. In addition, national organizations representing nearly 8,000 state and local victims organizations have added their support to this most worthy cause.

While each of the attached letters advocate an overwhelming and compelling desire for John to be nominated to receive this prestigious award, I believe there are some additional points that need to be addressed. The direct result of John's single-handed effort is nothing short of astounding.

Since its inception in February 1988, (America's Most Wanted) has featured 1,218 of America's most vicious and violent criminals on national television. To date, 465 of these individuals have been arrested as a direct result of their appearance on this program, an additional 306 of these individuals were captured after being featured on the show. The 465 criminals who were captured as a result of tips to (America's Most Wanted) hotline jointly share 2,700 prior felonies, and average of 5.8 felonies apiece.

Executive Director

ROBERT T. SCULLY

General Counsel

WILLIAM J. JOHNSON

Legislative Consultants

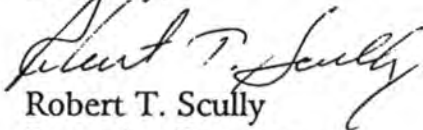
JULES BERNSTEIN

LINDA LIPSETT

In addition to capturing some of America's most elusive habitual offenders, (America's Most Wanted) has featured 36 felons who were heretofore unknown, even to law enforcement officials. As a direct result of John's efforts, 11 of those previously unidentified felons were identified and captured. Thirteen unknown deceased individuals have been featured on (America's Most Wanted). Through the use of the most modern investigative techniques, the program has helped in the absolute identification of four these individuals. Perhaps the most important of John's accomplishments is that more than twenty missing children have been reunited with their families after being featured on (America's Most Wanted).

It is important to note that, while John Walsh has brought closure to the direct victims of some of the most heinous crimes in our nation's memory, all of America's citizens have been victimized. Now millions of outraged Americans indirectly tied to this evil clique by their depraved misdeeds, can gain a sense of closure and feel a perception of fairness through John's unrelenting pursuit of **Final Justice**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Robert T. Scully".

Robert T. Scully
Executive Director

May 5, 1997

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As Governors, we wish to highly recommend an outstanding American, Mr. John Walsh, as recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

John Walsh epitomizes the American ideal that one committed individual can make a difference for the benefit of all. Mr. Walsh has worked tirelessly for more than fifteen years to fight crime, and assist victims of crime, making our neighborhoods safer and our society more just.

In 1981, John Walsh and his wife Reve suffered the worst of personal tragedies. Their young son, Adam, was abducted and murdered by a stranger. Rising above their great loss, John Walsh dedicated himself to the goals of ending violence against children, and fighting against crime in general, and expanding the rights of victims in the criminal justice system.

Working with his wife, John Walsh became the nation's leading advocate in the cause of protecting our children from violence and exploitation. This effort has empowered Americans in several important ways.

Through John Walsh's indefatigable effort, the power of law enforcement authorities was expanded as the Missing Children Act of 1982 was signed into law. In 1984, the Missing Children's Assistance Act became law, creating the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. As a result of these measures, a great many criminals have been brought to justice and innumerable crimes of violence against America's children have been prevented.

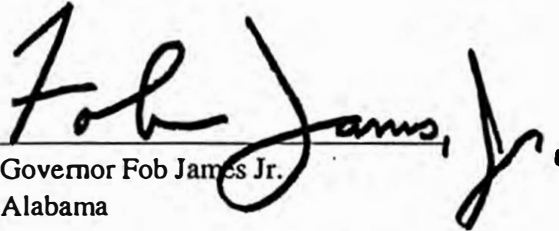
John Walsh stands as a singular inspiration to all Americans in the war against crime. As the creator of the television programs *America's Most Wanted* and the *New America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back*, Mr. Walsh has enabled all citizens to become directly involved in apprehending criminals and preventing crime. His programs have led to the capture of 431 violent criminals to date, harnessing information provided by the public to put these offenders behind bars.

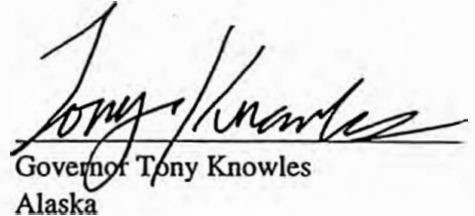
John continues to devote his time and energy to state and federal legal reforms on behalf of crime-fighting, missing children, and victims' issues. He is currently a driving force in the national effort for a constitutional amendment to guarantee the rights of victims in the justice system.

Each of us, as a Governor, recognizes the invaluable public service John Walsh has offered to his fellow Americans. We regard him as our ally in the quest to make our communities as safe as possible for our children to grow up in.

Without reservation, we recommend John Walsh for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

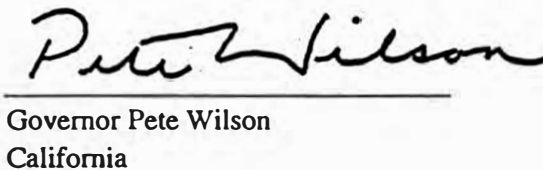
Sincerely,

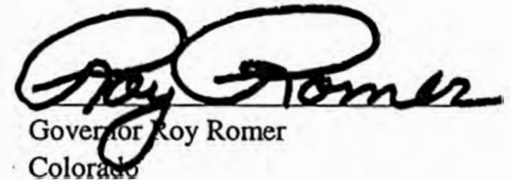

Governor Fob James Jr.
Alabama

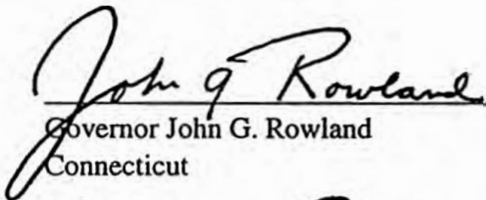

Governor Tony Knowles
Alaska


Governor Fife Symington
Arizona

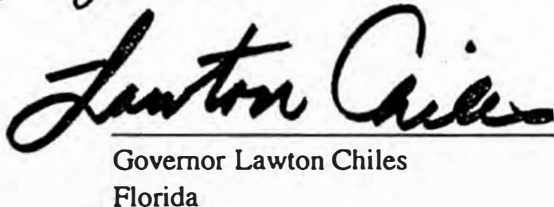

Governor Mike Huckabee
Arkansas

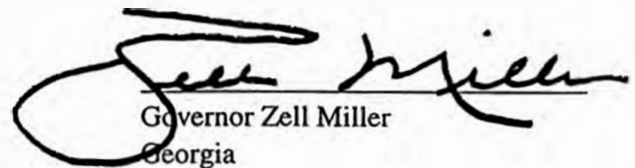

Governor Pete Wilson
California

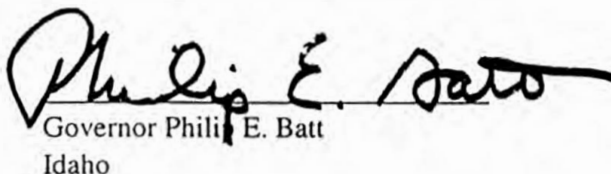

Governor Roy Romer
Colorado

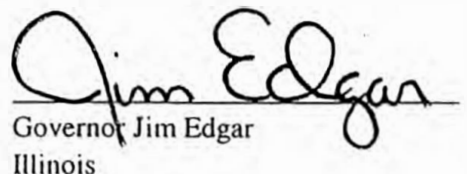

Governor John G. Rowland
Connecticut


Governor Tom Carper
Delaware


Governor Lawton Chiles
Florida


Governor Zell Miller
Georgia


Governor Philip E. Batt
Idaho


Governor Jim Edgar
Illinois

Frank O'Bannon

Governor Frank O'Bannon
Indiana

Terry E. Branstad

Governor Terry E. Branstad
Iowa

Bill Graves

Governor Bill Graves
Kansas

Paul E. Patton

Governor Paul E. Patton
Kentucky

Angus S. King Jr.

Governor Angus S. King Jr.
Maine

Parris N. Glendening

Governor Parris N. Glendening
Maryland

John Engler

Governor John Engler
Michigan

Arne H. Carlson

Governor Arne H. Carlson
Minnesota

Mel Carnahan

Governor Mel Carnahan
Missouri

Marc Racicot

Governor Marc Racicot
Montana

E. Benjamin Nelson

Governor E. Benjamin Nelson
Nebraska

Bob Miller

Governor Bob Miller
Nevada

Jeanne Shaheen

Governor Jeanne Shaheen
New Hampshire

Christine T. Whitman

Governor Christine T. Whitman
New Jersey

Gary E. Johnson

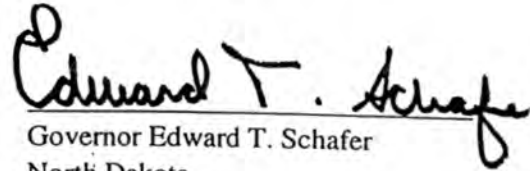
Governor Gary E. Johnson
New Mexico

George E. Pataki

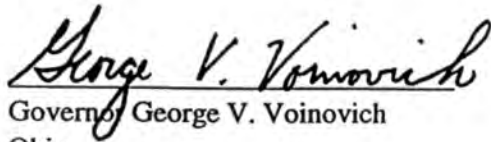
Governor George E. Pataki
New York



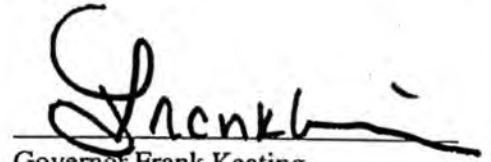
Governor James B. Hunt Jr.
North Carolina



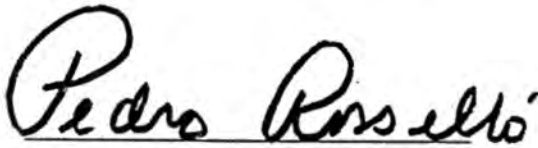
Governor Edward T. Schafer
North Dakota



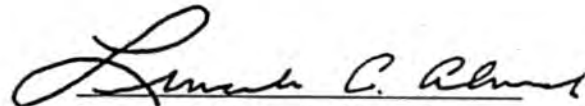
Governor George V. Voinovich
Ohio



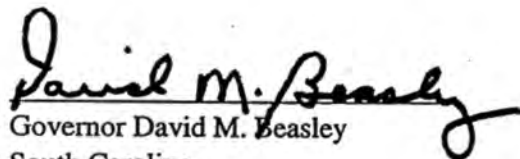
Governor Frank Keating
Oklahoma



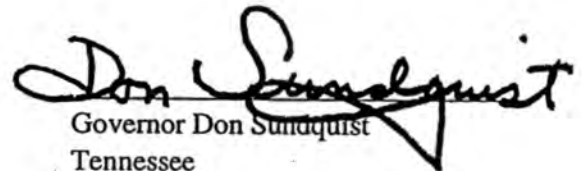
Governor Pedro Rosselló
Puerto Rico



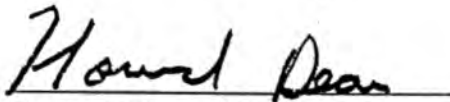
Governor Lincoln A. Almond
Rhode Island



Governor David M. Beasley
South Carolina



Governor Don Sundquist
Tennessee



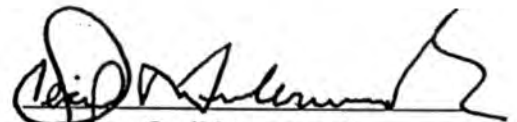
Governor Howard Dean, M.D.
Vermont



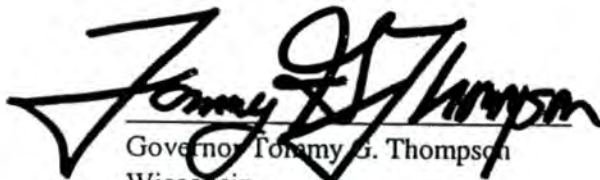
Governor George Allen
Virginia



Governor Roy L. Schneider, M.D.
Virgin Islands



Governor Cecil Underwood
West Virginia



Governor Tommy G. Thompson
Wisconsin

STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL
A Communication From the Chief Legal Officers
Of the Following States

May 5, 1997

Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As state Attorneys General, we wish to express our support of the nomination of an outstanding American, Mr. John Walsh, to receive the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

John Walsh and his wife Reve lived through the personal tragedy of having their young son, Adam, abducted and murdered at the hands of a stranger in 1981. After suffering through this tremendously emotional time, John became a dedicated advocate to end violence against children, fight crime, and expand victim's rights in our criminal justice system. John has shown, through his efforts and over 15 years of hard work, that one committed individual can make a difference for the benefit of all.

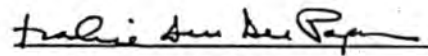
Working with his wife, John Walsh became the nation's leading advocate in the cause of protecting our children from violence and exploitation. He has helped expand the powers of law enforcement authorities through the Missing Children Act of 1982, as well as working toward the creation of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Because of his commitment to protecting our children against violence, John Walsh has expanded our awareness, empowered us to help in the fight, and has done what it takes to see that many criminals have been brought to justice.

As the creator of the television programs *America's Most Wanted* and *New America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back*, John Walsh has brought forward the opportunity for all citizens to become directly involved in the fight against crime. As a result of these programs, 431 violent criminals have been taken off our streets by citizens who have provided the information necessary to put these offenders behind bars.

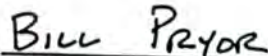
As state Attorneys General, we applaud the invaluable service that John Walsh has provided, and continues to provide through his actions to initiate legal reforms, including efforts for a constitutional amendment to guarantee the rights of victims in our justice system. We regard him as an exceptional ally in the fight to make our communities a safe haven for our children to grow up in.

Again, we highly support Mr. Walsh for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sincerely,



Frankie Sue Del Papa
Attorney General of Nevada



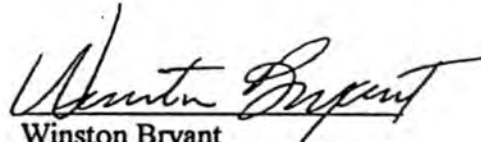
Bill Pryor
Attorney General of Alabama



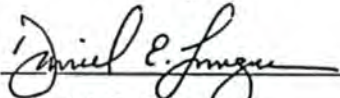
Bruce M. Botelho
Attorney General of Alaska



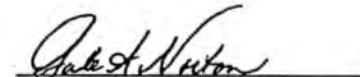
Grant Woods
Attorney General of Arizona



Winston Bryant
Attorney General of Arkansas



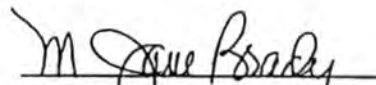
Daniel E. Lungren
Attorney General of California



Gale A. Norton
Attorney General of Colorado

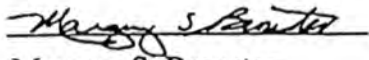


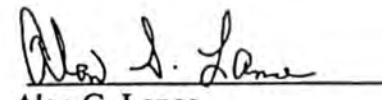
Richard Blumenthal
Attorney General of Connecticut

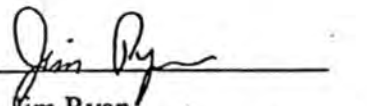


M. Jane Brady
Attorney General of Delaware

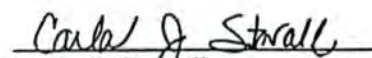
Honorable William Jefferson Clinton
Nomination of *John Walsh*
Page 3


Margery S. Bronster
Attorney General of Hawaii

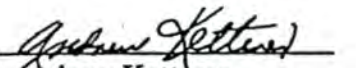

Alan G. Lance
Attorney General of Idaho

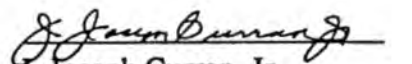

Jim Ryan
Attorney General of Illinois

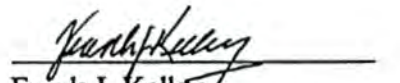
JEFF MODISETT
Jeffrey A. Modisett
Attorney General of Indiana

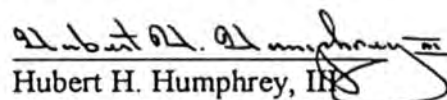

Carla J. Stovall
Attorney General of Kansas

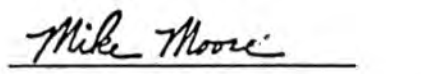

Richard P. Ieyoub
Attorney General of Louisiana

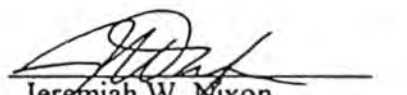

Andrew Ketterer
Attorney General of Maine


J. Joseph Curran, Jr.
Attorney General of Maryland

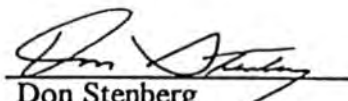

Frank J. Kelley
Attorney General of Michigan

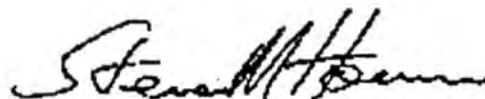

Hubert H. Humphrey, III
Attorney General of Minnesota

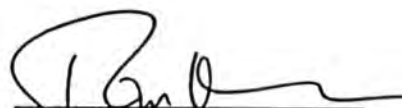

Mike Moore
Attorney General of Mississippi

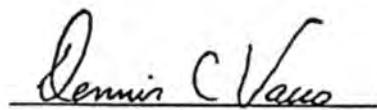

Jeremiah W. Nixon
Attorney General of Missouri

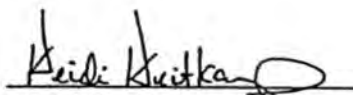

Joseph P. Mazurek
Attorney General of Montana


Don Stenberg
Attorney General of Nebraska


Steven Houran (Acting)
Attorney General of New Hampshire

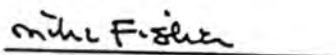

Tom Udall
Attorney General of New Mexico

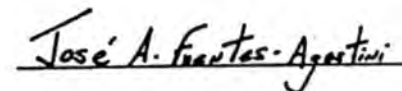

Dennis C. Vacco
Attorney General of New York

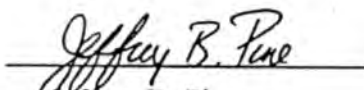

Heidi Heitkamp
Attorney General of North Dakota

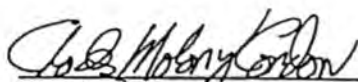

W. A. Drew Edmondson
Attorney General of Oklahoma

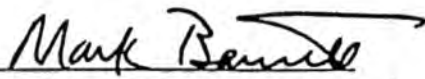
HARDY MYERS
Hardy Myers
Attorney General of Oregon

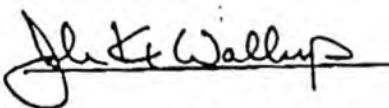

D. Michael Fisher
Attorney General of Pennsylvania


José A. Fuentes-Agostini
Attorney General of Puerto Rico


Jeffrey B. Pine
Attorney General of Rhode Island


Charlie Condon
Attorney General of South Carolina

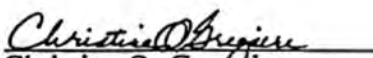

Mark Barnett
Attorney General of South Dakota

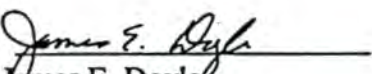

John Knox Walkup
Attorney General of Tennessee

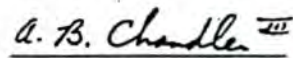

Jan Graham
Attorney General of Utah


J. Wallace Malley (Acting)
Attorney General of Vermont


James S. Gilmore, III
Attorney General of Virginia


Christine O. Gregoire
Attorney General of Washington


James E. Doyle
Attorney General of Wisconsin


Albert Benjamin Chandler, III
Attorney General of Kentucky

NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COUNCIL

Suite 500
888 Sixteenth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Ordway P. Burden
Chairman

Telephone: (202) 835-8020
Fax: (202) 331-4291

Donald Baldwin
Executive Director

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President,
The White House

Dear Mr. President:

The National Law Enforcement Council (NLEC) members represent fourteen of the principal national law enforcement associations and over 500,000 men and women in law enforcement and related fields.

I have been given the honor of coordinating the endorsement of the Council for the nomination of John Walsh, a truly great American hero, for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

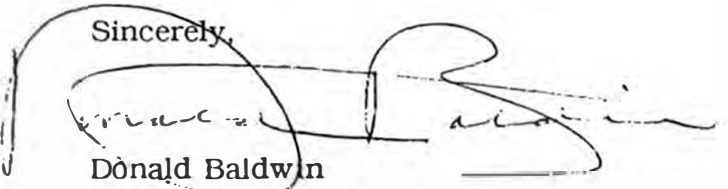
John Walsh is no stranger to violent crime; on July 27, 1981, his son Adam was abducted and later found murdered. It wasn't long after Adam's death that John and his wife Reve turned their grief into positive energy to help missing and exploited children. Battling bureaucratic resistance and legislative nightmares, John and Reve's work led to the passage of the Missing Children Act of 1982 and the Missing Children's Assistance Act of 1984. The latter bill founded the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, which maintains a toll-free hotline number (1-800-THE-LOST) to report a missing child or the sighting of one. A tireless advocate for victim's rights and missing children, John has turned his passion for justice into the nation's number-one crime fighting show, *The New America's Most Wanted: America Fights Back*.

Today, John continues his lobbying efforts, testifying before Congress and state legislatures on crime, missing children and victims' issues. His latest efforts include lobbying for a Constitutional Amendment for victims' rights.

John's tireless efforts on behalf of crime victims and children's rights have touched the lives of virtually everyone in America. At this point, I can only think of 431 people in the entire country who would not want you to award John this highest of civilian honors.

We enthusiastically endorse the nomination of John Walsh for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sincerely,



Donald Baldwin
Executive Director

REPRESENTING FOURTEEN NATIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATIONS WITH A
COMBINED MEMBERSHIP OF OVER 500,000 LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS



National Victim Center

Agency and resource center
in honor of Sunny Von Bulow

2111 Wilson Boulevard

Suite :

Arlington, VA 22201

Tel. 703 / 276 2800

Fax 703 / 276 2800

May 8, 1997

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Wes Douglas MacArthur

M. Morey

Dr. H. Nagel, Ph.D., M.L.S.

Estrell Pelnie

Joan Rivers

Joy A. Shapiro

Beverly Sills

Eric Smith, Esq.

The Honorable William J. Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We the undersigned leaders of the Crime Victims Movement are pleased to lend our full support to the nomination of John Walsh for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. In our estimation, no one is more deserving of this honor. John Walsh has clearly been our nation's most widely recognized champion of justice generally and victims' rights specifically.

While virtually everyone knows of John's life saving work as the host of the popular television show "America's Most Wanted," not everyone is aware of the many other good works he performs beyond the public eye for the benefit of our nation's crime victims and law enforcement community. Each year, John somehow finds time in his demanding production schedule to crisscross the country — often at his own expense — to speak at an endless variety of victim-related conferences, fund-raisers, rallies, and special events. As the father of a murdered child, he has emerged from the darkest chapter of his life to become a beacon of hope for the millions of crime victims who seek justice and fair treatment. As the founder of the Adam Walsh Centers, John has enabled thousands of children to be re-united with their parents, while preventing child abductors from preying on the most vulnerable members of our society.

He is also one of the movement's most passionate, articulate and effective public policy advocates, having testified innumerable times before both state legislatures and the U.S. Congress on a wide variety of victim and law enforcement-related legislation. As just one example, he is widely credited with playing a decisive role in the passage of Maryland's Victim Rights Constitutional Amendment. More recently John single-handedly convinced the National Association of Governors to endorse the Federal Victims' Rights Amendment currently pending before Congress, giving the Amendment a much needed boost.

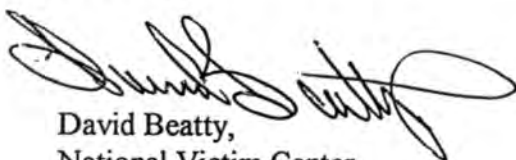
It is particularly fitting that John Walsh receive the President's Medal of Freedom. John has dedicated his life to fighting to free crime victims from the oppression and injustice that both criminals and the criminal justice system inflict upon innocent Americans. And by helping to remove some of the most dangerous criminals from our streets, he has made us all a little more safe and a little more free. John is a freedom fighter in the truest sense of the word.

May 8, 1997
page two

In short, John Walsh's life has been about bringing criminals to justice and justice to crime victims. We can think of no more noble mission, nor anyone who has gone further to accomplish that mission than John Walsh.

We hope you will agree that for his selfless sacrifice and service to his fellow Americans, John Walsh's name should be added to the venerable list of patriots who have received the President's Medal of Freedom.

Sincerely,



David Beatty,
National Victim Center

D. Thomas Nelson,
Carrington Victims' Litigation Project

Robert Sherouse,
Mothers Against Drunk Driving

Teresa Klingensmith,
National Center for Missing and
Exploited Children

Beverly Harris Elliott,
National Coalition Against Sexual
Assault

John Stein,
National Organization for Victim
Assistance

Roberta Roper,
National Victims Constitutional
Amendment Network

Nancy Ruhe,
Parents of Murdered Children

James Wooten,
Safe Streets

Howard and Connie Clery,
Security on Campus

Roberta Roper,
Stephanie Roper Committee and
Foundation

Jane Burnley,
Victims' Assistance Legal
Organization, Inc.

Clinton Presidential Records Digital Records Marker

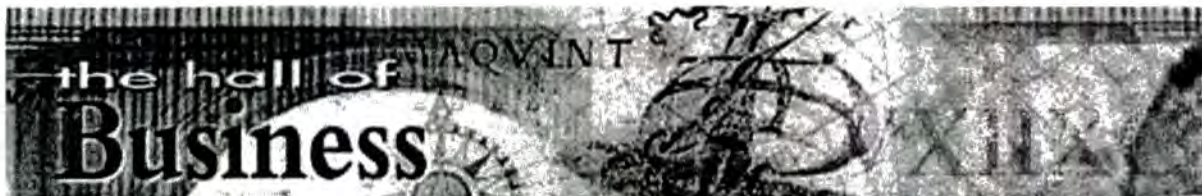
This is not a presidential record. This is used as an administrative marker by the William J. Clinton Presidential Library Staff.

This marker identifies the place of a tabbed divider. Given our digitization capabilities, we are sometimes unable to adequately scan such dividers. The title from the original document is indicated below.

31

Divider Title: _____

WEILL

[\[profile\]](#)[\[biography\]](#)[\[interview\]](#)**Sanford I. Weill**

Financier and Philanthropist

BIOGRAPHY

b. March 16, 1933

Sanford Weill was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. He married his wife Joan shortly after graduating from Cornell University in 1955. Weill had joined Air Force ROTC while in college and planned to be a pilot, but cutbacks in defense spending canceled his military career, and he went to work as a \$35 a week runner for the New York stockbrokers Bear Stearns. He quickly moved to work in the office and became a broker himself. He had found a career.



In 1960, while still in his twenties, Weill and three partners started a small brokerage: Carter, Berlind, Potoma & Weill. Over the next 20 years, Weill led the brokerage through 15 acquisitions, building it into the financial powerhouse Shearson, the second largest company in the securities industry. He sold Shearson to American Express in 1981 for \$930 million. Weill became President of American Express, whose directors specifically hoped he would be able to turn around their failing insurance operation, Fireman's Fund. Although Weill succeeded in this goal, he became frustrated with the corporate culture at American Express and attempted unsuccessfully to buy Fireman's for himself. In 1985, he resigned from American Express.

At age 53, Weill, although wealthy, was out of work and thwarted in his efforts to find a job. In 1986 he traveled to Minneapolis to persuade Control Data to spin off its subsidiary, Commercial Credit, in an IPO (initial public offering) worth \$850 million. Control Data sold 82 percent of the company to the public, Weill took over as CEO, investing \$7 million of his own money. Besides Commercial Credit's lending operation, Weill had acquired its subsidiary, a property and casualty insurance company called Gulf Insurance.

By 1988, Weill and his team had turned Commercial Credit around and acquired Primerica Corp., for \$1.5 billion, along with its holdings, the brokerage Smith Barney and the A.L. Williams insurance company, which Weill renamed Primerica Financial Services (PFS). The whole conglomerate of brokerage, commercial credit, and insurance operations would continue under the name Primerica Corp.



Over the next two years, Weill's Primerica Corp. absorbed the consumer lending operations of Barclays American/Financial, and acquired receivables and branches from Landmark Financial Services.

In 1992 alone, Primerica raised \$625 million by selling nonstrategic assets. Weill

made a decisive move, buying 27 percent of Travelers Insurance for \$722 billion. Sanford Weill earned \$67.6 million, that year, most of it from stock options. He was the second-highest-paid executive in America.

The following year, he succeeded in realizing an old dream. He regained control of Shearson, buying the his old firm back from American Express for \$1.2 billion in March. He acquired Shearson's 8400 brokers and state-of-the-art back office, while leaving behind Shearson's litigation liability.



[95 K]

With Shearson under its belt, Weill's Primerica purchased the remaining shares of Travelers with \$4 billion in stock. Weill merged Shearson with Smith Barney, retaining the formidable Shearson office facilities, and closing Smith Barney's.

Travelers Group, as the resulting parent company was called, included brokerage, term insurance, consumer finance, property-casualty insurance, life insurance, money management and investment banking operations.

In 1996, Weill acquired the property and casualty operations of Aetna insurance for \$4 billion. The insurance companies were reorganized into separate life, term, and property-casualty operations. Smith Barney Shearson played a major role in financing the merger of Viacom Inc., with Paramount Communications.

Travelers' 1996 profits made it number 32 of the Fortune 500 list of America's most successful companies. The original shares of Commercial Credit appreciated tenfold in the decade since Weill first bought them.

In September, 1997, Travelers paid \$9.1 billion in stock to acquire Salomon, Inc., the parent company of the investment bank Salomon Brothers. Weill merged Salomon with Smith Barney to create the second largest securities firm in the world. In April, 1998, Weill announced the biggest coup of all. His Travelers Group would merge with Citicorp, the parent company of Citibank, to create Citigroup, Inc. Citicorp is the world's largest supplier of credit cards, and Citibank is the second largest bank in the United States. The merged companies will be the global leader in financial services, with 100 million customers in 100 countries. At the beginning of the day the merger was announced, the two companies were valued at about \$70.6 billion. By the end of the day, the value of their combined stock had jumped to \$83.6 billion. Sanford Weill will serve as Co-Chairman and Co-CEO with Citicorp Chairman John S. Reed.

Sanford Weill runs his businesses like an owner. He avoids consultants and gets to know a company by getting to know people at all levels of the business. All of Travelers' employees are encouraged to own stock in the company. Senior managers (who number in the thousands) receive up to 25 percent of their pay in stock, which they are not allowed to sell for two years.



[56 K]

Sanford Weill and his wife Joan make their home in Greenwich Connecticut. Two of their children, Marc Weill and Jessica Weill Bibliowicz, have held top jobs at Travelers. In addition to his business activities, Sanford Weill is active in philanthropic activities in New York City, where he works, as well as in Baltimore and at his alma mater, Cornell University. As chairman of Carnegie Hall, he raised \$60 million for renovation of its facilities; one of the concert halls is named for him.

CHARLES B. RANGEL

15TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
NEW YORK

DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEE:

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RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

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May 21, 1997

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

MAY 27 PM5:50

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to convey my strong support for Mr. Sanford I. Weill, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Travelers Group, as a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sandy Weill epitomizes the American dream. The son of a Polish immigrant, Sandy emerged from his economically impoverished neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York to lead one of the most successful corporations in America.

Sandy has consistently utilized his wealth of life experiences and personal resources to improve the quality of life for Americans aspiring to know what it means to be an American.

He founded the Academy of Finance over 10 years ago as a model program that prepares high school students for the rigors of work. More than 20,000 students have participated in Academy programs. As the Chairman of the National Academy Foundation, Sandy has created exemplary corporate and school partnerships throughout the nation. The program now includes over 165 academies in 29 states.

His personal commitment combined with his innovative approaches to addressing the challenges confronted by many disadvantaged communities have achieved results. As Chairman of the Commission on Early Child and Child Care Programs in New York, Sandy Weill was lauded not only for his tireless dedication, but also for his record of achievement.

Sandy Weill has also contributed to our nation's cultural landscape as the architect of the historic fund-raising effort to refurbish Carnegie Hall. Sandy currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Carnegie Hall and Director of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. In both capacities, he not only demonstrates leadership, but also

Page 2, Rangel

provides exposure to the arts for youth who would not otherwise have access to this treasure.

Weill's living legacy of exemplary leadership, service and achievement, as well as his record of commitment to countless Americans who are living without hope, distinguishes him as one who truly merits the prestigious Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sincerely,



CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress

CBR/rw

MILTON FENSTER ASSOCIATES INC.

original
98 OCT 13 AM 10:44

Public Relations
654 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10021 Tel: 212-759-3540 Fax: 212-758-5620

November 29, 1995

The President
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Clinton:

I am writing to you regarding a distinguished American whom I believe deserves your personal consideration as a recipient of the annual Presidential Honors Award. You know him well, and in turn, he has great admiration for you.

Sanford I. Weill, who currently serves as Chairman & CEO of Travelers Group--one of the nation's largest financial services companies--has achieved every sort of business-related achievement over the past 40 years. But more importantly, during that time Sandy Weill has worked relentlessly to improve the lives of Americans in three distinct areas:

Education

In 1980, he founded the Academy of Finance, to help prepare high school students for work, after graduation, in the financial services industry. That program has grown to over 165 Academies involving students in 29 states, training them for careers in a number of industries.

Over the past five years alone, more than 20,000 students have been involved in Academy programs, and nearly 800 corporate, government and civic organizations have participated as partners. Sandy currently serves as Chairman of the National Academy Foundation.

Sandy also served as Chairman of the Joint Mayoral/City Council Commission on Early Child and Child Care Programs during the Dinkins Administration in New York City. In addition, he is a Board of Trustees and Advisory Board member of Cornell University's Johnson Graduate School of Management.

The Arts

In the 1980's, Sandy led a fundraising effort to refurbish and preserve New York's Carnegie Hall. In addition to generating more than \$60 million in donations, Sandy contributed \$2.5 million of his own. The Weill Recital Hall now stands as a permanent tribute to Sandy's hard work and generosity.

Sandy currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Carnegie Hall, and is a Director of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

**Health
Care**

Sandy has long been involved in working to improve the nation's health care delivery system. He is Chairman of the Board of Cornell University Medical College.

He also serves on the following medical Boards:

Board of Governors of New York Hospital
Joint Board of New York Hospital and Cornell Medical Center
Board of Overseers of Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center

I respectfully suggest that Sanford I. Weill be given serious consideration for recognition as an American who has combined a highly successful business career with a lifetime of service to his country. He stands as a role model for all Americans, and should be formally recognized for his contributions to society.

I would be happy to furnish further information if needed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Milton Fenster

CAROLYN B. MALONEY
14TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

1504 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515-3214
(202) 225-7944

COMMITTEES:
BANKING AND FINANCIAL
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GOVERNMENT REFORM AND
OVERSIGHT



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3214

April 18, 1996

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☐ 619 LORIMER STREET
BROOKLYN, NY 11211
(718) 349-1260

The Hon. William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am writing to express my strongest possible support of Mr. Milton Fenster's nomination of Mr. Sanford I. Weill for the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

At a time when corporate responsibility, community involvement, and individual opportunity share the spotlight on the American agenda, everything about the life story, accomplishments, and contributions of Sandy Weill embody all three.

Sandy Weill grew up in a three-family house in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn, the son of a Polish immigrant. After graduating from Cornell University, he took a job as a \$35-a-week messenger at Bear, Stearns. Throughout his career, he has created new enterprises from the ground up -- from the creation of his own small brokerage house at the age of 27, to his skill at bringing together several previously troubled financial institutions under one successful financial services group: the Travelers Group. Under his leadership, Travelers Group has become recognized as one of the most innovative and successful corporations of its kind in the country.

Throughout this incredible American success story, Sandy never forgot his community.

In 1980, he created the Academy of Finance, a model to give high school students a practical program combining financial concepts, casework, and internships, to build a foundation for financial literacy, confidence, and future opportunity.

Today, the program has grown to over 165 academies involving students in 29 states, with Sandy serving as Chair of a National Academy Foundation bringing together students, teachers, and parents, with nearly 800 corporate, government, and civic organizations as partners in the process. And, with Sandy's vision and dedication, it is still growing, providing opportunity for more and more of our children.

Mr. President, this is the kind of corporate initiative and involvement in education you have been so eloquently talking about. It's the kind of example we should celebrate and highlight.

Sandy Weill's involvement doesn't stop there.

Without listing his full resume of community contributions (a task too long for this letter), let me add that I had the pleasure of serving under Sandy when he was Chairman of the Joint Mayoral/City Council Commission on Early Child and Child Care Programs during the David Dinkins Administration. I saw first-hand his tireless dedication and work to solve the problems facing our City's children.

He currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Carnegie Hall, where he has worked tirelessly to generate more than \$60 million in donations, including \$2.5 million of his own money; and as Chairman of the Board of the Cornell University Medical College, using his tenure to advocate improvements to our nation's health care delivery system.

Married to his wife, Joan, since his college graduation, he is the father of two and grandfather of four.

Sandy Weill is a true American success story, with his success defined as much by what he has given to his community and his nation, as by how much he has produced and made. I think it is particularly important that we recognize those in business who manage to do both with equal commitment. And no one epitomizes this ideal more than my friend, Sanford I. Weill.

Thank you for considering him for the unparalleled honor of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sincerely,


CAROLYN B. MALONEY
Member of Congress

bcc: Mr. Milton Fenster

*It's always a pleasure meeting
a friend of Sandy's - I hope
he receives this honor he
so deservently deserves!*

CHARLES B. RANGEL

18TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

NEW YORK

DEPUTY WHIP

COMMITTEE:

WAYS AND MEANS

RANKING MEMBER

SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE

JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-3215

May 21, 1997

The Honorable William J. Clinton
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I am pleased to convey my strong support for Mr. Sanford I. Weill, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Travelers Group, as a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sandy Weill epitomizes the American dream. The son of a Polish immigrant, Sandy emerged from his economically impoverished neighborhood in Brooklyn, New York, to lead one of the most successful corporations in America.

Sandy has consistently utilized his wealth of life experiences and personal resources to improve the quality of life for Americans aspiring to know what it means to be an American.

He founded the Academy of Finance over 10 years ago as a model program that prepares high school students for the rigors of work. More than 20,000 students have participated in Academy programs. As the Chairman of the National Academy Foundation, Sandy has created exemplary corporate and school partnerships throughout the nation. The program now includes over 165 academies in 29 states.

His personal commitment combined with his innovative approaches to addressing the challenges confronted by many disadvantaged communities have achieved results. As Chairman of the Commission on Early Child and Child Care Programs in New York, Sandy Weill was lauded not only for his tireless dedication, but also for his record of achievement.

Sandy Weill has also contributed to our nation's cultural landscape as the architect of the historic fundraising effort to refurbish Carnegie Hall. Sandy currently serves as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Carnegie Hall and Director of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. In both capacities, he not only demonstrates leadership, but also

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Page 2. Rangel

provides exposure to the arts for youth who would not otherwise have access to this treasure.

Weill's living legacy of exemplary leadership, service and achievement, as well as his record of commitment to countless Americans who are living without hope, distinguishes him as one who truly merits the prestigious Presidential Medal of Freedom.

Sincerely,



CHARLES B. RANGEL
Member of Congress

CBR/rw

MAR-28-97 12:08 PM

D. DINKINS

212 654 4258

P. 02

Columbia University in the City of New York | New York, N.Y. 10027

SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL & PUBLIC AFFAIRS
David N. Dinkins
Professor in the Practice of Public Affairs

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FAX: (212) 654-4260

March 10, 1997

The Honorable Bill Clinton
President of the United States
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

I was extremely pleased to hear that Congresswoman Carolyn B. Maloney of New York has nominated Sanford I. Weill for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I write in wholehearted support of his selection for this prestigious honor. Indeed, many here in New York are enthusiastic about his nomination.

An extraordinarily talented and successful businessman, Sandy Weill has not forgotten that the true measure of success is how many others you lift up along with you. A self-made man, he personifies the meaning of corporate responsibility, and he is a genuine American success story. His leadership helped build the American Express Company and the Travelers Group, and with the same determination and innovation he brought to his professional responsibilities, he created the Academy of Finance, to give high school students the foundation for financial literacy and future opportunity, and the chance to develop their full potential.

As you know, Mr. President, that's all so many of our young people need: a chance, an opportunity, a hand to help them, a mentor to guide them. Today, this program has expanded to 165 academies in 29 states, with Sandy serving as chair of the National Academy Foundation, bringing together students, teachers, and parents with corporate, government, and civic organizations as partners. Thanks to Sandy's efforts, these children are learning the basics of business, and using their skills to build a positive future for themselves.

Sandy's contributions to the community aren't limited to the Academies, though the time and energy he has lent to this successful endeavor would most certainly have been an extremely valuable civic contribution in itself. He has also provided noteworthy support to a number of other important initiatives. He raised \$60 million to restore historic Carnegie Hall and to expand its community involvement programs, especially those related to children. He is the chairman of the Board of Overseers for Cornell University's Medical College and serves on the boards of New York Hospital-Cornell Medical Center, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

APR 10 1997 10:29

FROM TRAVELERS DC OFFICE

TO 12127585620

PAGE 003/00

MAR-28-97 12:03 PM D. DINKINS

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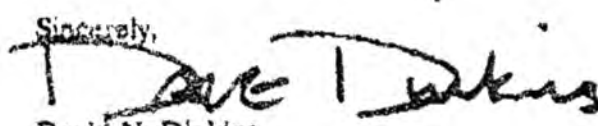
Sandy Weill, page 2

Furthermore, he has given of himself in the public sector -- he served on New York City's Municipal Assistance Corporation, and during my tenure as Mayor, I was proud to appoint him to chair the Temporary Commission on Early Childhood and Child Care programs, which developed an excellent and comprehensive plan to improve early education and child care. Sandy has long been a champion of Head Start, lobbying vigorously with Marian Wright Edelman in 1990 to urge re-appropriation for this critical program.

I believe that Sanford I. Weill is a worthy candidate for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. He is a man of integrity, ability, and one with an outstanding record of achievement; he is highly respected by those who know him personally or by reputation. I am pleased and proud to commend him to you without reservation.

If I can be of any further assistance with regard to this nomination, please call. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Sincerely,


David N. Dinkins