

June 28, 1971

EXECUTIVE

OS 3

SC 2-1

OS 4

FR 164

PR 7

Dear Mr. Fletcher:

This is to acknowledge, on behalf of the President, your letter of June 24 about the upcoming Apollo 15 flight in which you expressed your wish to visit with him in his office on Saturday, July 31, during the first of the excursions on the lunar surface, accompanied by a lunar scientist and an astronaut who has been to the moon.

We will be back in touch with you about this appointment as soon as possible. In the meantime, please know that the President very much appreciated your interest in writing as you did.

With best wishes,

Sincerely,

Dwight L. Chapin
Deputy Assistant
to the President

X
Honorable James C. Fletcher
Administrator
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Washington, D. C. 20546

DLC:DNP:mhr -y
cc with incoming to Dave Parker for follow-up *mt*

RECEIVED
JUN 29 1971
CENTRAL FILE

33268

EXECUTIVE (6)
5C2-1
C01-2.
FG11.

Richmond, Addison
Pederson, Walt

October 1, 1971

Dear John:

Thank you for your letter of September 28 with the copy of the preliminary proposal of the 1971^x Pederson South Pole Expedition. I note that this has been reviewed by the Antarctic Policy Group at the Department of State and Walt Pederson has been advised that it would not be possible to make available the requested U.S. support facilities. I am sure that the supplemental information which he has furnished to the Policy Group will be fully evaluated to determine if, in line with present commitments, it will be possible for the United States to lend support to this endeavor.

With warm regards,

Sincerely,

Clark MacGregor
Counsel to the President
for Congressional Relations

^x
Honorable John M. Zwach
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

~~Rec:~~ w/incoming to Dr. Kissinger for appropriate handling.

CM:EF:VO:vo

RECEIVED
OCT 13 1971
GENERAL FILES

Dispatched 10-9-71
JHD

COMMITTEES:
AGRICULTURE
SUBCOMMITTEES:

LIVESTOCK AND FEED GRAINS
DAIRY AND POULTRY

VETERANS' AFFAIRS

SUBCOMMITTEES:
EDUCATION AND TRAINING
HOSPITALS

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

JOHN M. ZWACH
SIXTH DISTRICT, MINNESOTA

1502 LONGWORTH BUILDING
TELEPHONE: 202-225-2332

DISTRICT OFFICE:
216 FEDERAL BUILDING
ST. CLOUD, MINNESOTA
TELEPHONE: 612-251-2120

September 28, 1971

The Honorable Clark MacGregor
Counsel to the President for
Congressional Relations
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Clark:

Explorer Walt Pederson has given me the attached letters and proposal for transmittal to your office. You will recall that we met with Mr. Pederson last year and the expedition leaders were photographed with the President.

With kindest personal regards as always, I remain

Sincerely,



John M. Zwach
Member of Congress

Enclosures

September 20, 1971

Mr. Addison E. Richmond, Jr.
Bureau of International Scientific & Technological Affairs
Department of State
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Mr. Richmond:

Due to an error in the address, I did not receive your letter dated September 14 until September 17. I am trying to hurry a response, as time is of the essence to all parties concerned.

I am pleased to see that your people who comprise the Antarctic Policy Group are extremely thorough in going over our preliminary proposal, and I thank you very much for the suggested improvements. I will fill in the answers to the four questions or suggestions that you have in your letter.

1) You suggested that no provision is made for logistic support of the Turbo-Beaver--which is true. It was not in the summary, knowing that we would require a C130 Hercules for logistic support of the Turbo-Beaver. We now have available a C130 Hercules that can be used for the Ice Party support in place, or instead of, the Turbo-Beaver. This could then make the Pederson South Pole Expedition completely self-sufficient in that we would be able to haul both to the base camp and the Ice Party and equipment from Amundsen-Scott Geographic South Pole.

2) Also, you are absolutely right in that it is not considered prudent to plan for resupply in the Antarctic field with only three days supply remaining. We have now talked with Pillsbury, and they will package the Freeze-Dried foods in any form or size we desire, and we have decided to change this to an 8-day overlap in food supplements.

3) Again, the C130 Hercules would airlift the Ice Party from the Geographic South Pole along with any equipment that we could not donate to the efforts at the Pole Station.

4) You state no aviation gas fueling facilities will be available at Williams Field. To keep our expedition completely self-sufficient we will be able to haul additional JP fuel in the C130 Hercules, and have additional fuel supplements brought in by ship--namely, Lindblad, if necessary.

Mr. Addison E. Richmond, Jr.

Page 2

We will be able to park and tie down our C130 Hercules at the edge of Williams Field or nearby on a standby Ice Party emergency basis. However, since you mention that the Antarctic logistic support capability will be severely strained this season, I am offering assistance through the use of our C130 Hercules for the duration of our expedition only if it would not interfere with a field support and emergency standby capabilities of our aircraft.

Should you have any further questions or suggestions, I would appreciate either a meeting with you people in Washington, or having you write to:

Pederson South Pole Expedition
1703 3rd Street S.E.
St. Cloud, Minnesota 56301

This is not a new address--this is merely the correct address.

Most Sincerely,

PEDERSON SOUTH POLE EXPEDITION

Walt Pederson

WP:reb



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

September 14, 1971

Mr. Walt Pederson
South Pole Expedition
Wayzata Building
250 North Central
Wayzata, Minnesota 55391

Dear Mr. Pederson:

The proposed plan for an expedition by snowmobile to the geographic South Pole during the austral summer of 1971, which you submitted to the Antarctic Policy Group has been reviewed in detail. It is the opinion of the Antarctic Policy Group that the proposed expedition as described: (1) does not meet the necessary self-sufficiency criteria and (2) would not make a contribution to the US national program in Antarctica sufficient to justify the diversion of US logistic support assets to assist the expedition.

In connection with the "self-sufficiency" criteria, the following comments are pertinent and exemplary:

1. No provision is made for logistic support of the Turbo-Beaver aircraft nor is it clear how this aircraft would arrive in Antarctica. Additionally, it is doubtful that a Turbo-Beaver has the range necessary to supply the third supply point as outlined in the plan.

2. It is not considered prudent to plan for resupply in the field in Antarctica with only three days supply remaining. Antarctic storms and communication blackouts often exceed three days in duration.

3. It appears that there would be a requirement to airlift some expedition members from South Pole Station to McMurdo (although this is not explicit) along with unenumerated "remaining supplies".

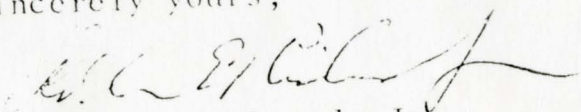
4. No aviation gasoline fueling facilities will be available at Williams Field for DEEPERLEEZE 72 (DF-72) and subsequent seasons. To provide such a capability for the use of the proposed expedition would require a special logistic effort.

The scientific programs included in the proposed plan do not add sufficiently to the scope and effectiveness of existing and past scientific efforts in Antarctica to justify the diversion of any of the support capacity available in Antarctica to assist the expedition in its efforts. Generally, it is noted that some of the studies suggested duplicate programs already undertaken in Antarctica, and the effectiveness of others is diminished by the very nature of the traverse, i.e., the inability to remain at fixed locations for any extended time.

In addition to the above comments I might add that, as you perhaps know, the U.S. logistic support capability in Antarctica will be severely strained this season. In view of this situation, existing commitments will fully occupy the available resource. The necessity of diverting any resources to functions unrelated to the support of the U.S. Antarctic program would, therefore, seriously impair our operational capacity.

In view of the stated factors, the Antarctic Policy Group cannot authorize the utilization of elements supporting the U.S. program in Antarctica in assisting the proposed snowmobile expedition to the South Pole.

Sincerely yours,



Addison E. Richmond, Jr.

NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC	RECD	LOG NBR	INITIAL ACTION/ OFF
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10 01	10 02 12	33268	Walsh

DOC SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES _____ FROM: ELIOT _____ U ☒ LOG IN/OUT ONLY _____
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HAIG _____ ROGERS, W _____ LOU _____ BUO _____ EXDIS _____
LAIRD, M _____ C _____ EYES ONLY _____ LIMDIS _____
S _____ CODE WORD _____ RES DATA _____
TS _____ SENSITIVE _____

SUBJECT: *MacGregor, C.*
Ack. Rep. John M. Zwach re report on proposal of the 1971 Pederson South Pole Expedition.

REFERENCE: S/S _____ OTHER _____ NOT XEROXED _____

APP'TS: PRES _____ HAK _____ TALKER _____ MEMCON _____ DATE REQ. _____

SECRETARIAT DISTRIBUTION/ACTION

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION		ACTION	INFO	REC CY FOR
ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/HAIG				
STAFF SECRETARY				
FAR EAST				
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA				
NR EAST/NORTH AFRICA				
EUROPE/CANADA				
LATIN AMERICA				
UNITED NATIONS				
ECONOMIC				
SCIENTIFIC		☒		
LR PLANNING				
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				
NSC PLANNING				
CONGRESSIONAL			☒	

ACTION REQUIRED	
MEMO FOR HAK	()
MEMO FOR PRES.	()
REPLY FOR _____ SIGNATURE	()
FOR DISTRIBUTION/DISPATCH	()
MEMO _____ TO _____	()
RECOMMENDATIONS	()
JOINT MEMO	()
REFER TO STATE	()
ANY ACTION NECESSARY	(☒)
CONCURRENCE	()
DUE DATE:	10-06
COMMENTS: (Including Special Instructions)	

INTERNAL/INTERIM ROUTING

DATE	FROM	TO	S	ACTION REQUIRED	CY TO
8/10/71	<i>John</i>	<i>NSC/S</i>		<i>No action required</i>	<i>Walsh</i>

DISPOSITION

CROSS REF WITH _____ NOTIFY _____ DATE _____

SEE LOG _____ DISPATCH: LETTER/MEMO _____

JOINED BY LOG _____ COPIES: (AS MARKED ABOVE) _____

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SPECIAL DISPOSITION COMMENTS: _____

SUSPENSE CY ATTACHED: YES _____ NO _____

MICROFILM DATA	
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TO	PAF
	WHC
	SUBF

OCT 12 1971

ffcl

GENERAL
SC2-1
C034-2

March 9, 1972

Dear Mr. Schoening:

Thank you for your letter of March 3 regarding your continuing interest in taking an expedition into China.

I can appreciate your desire to get prompt and direct action on your request; however, our office can do nothing in our present capacity except to forward your letters to the appropriate authorities.

Your most direct and most advantageous route is through the State Department and National Security Council as you are already doing.

Sincerely yours,

Tod R. Hullin
Administrative Assistant to
John D. Ehrlichman

Mr. Peter K. Schoening
5807 N. E. 151st Street
Bothell, Washington 98011

RECEIVED
MAR 10 1972
CENTRAL FILES

MAR 6 1972

5807 NE 151st
Bothell, WA 98011
(206) 622-5805 (Business) or
(206) 485-1450

March 3, 1972

Mr. Tod R. Hullin
Administrative Assistant to
John D. Ehrilichman
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Subject: Mountain Climbing Through PRC

Dear Mr. Hullin:

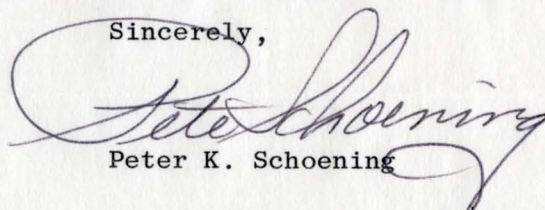
The attached letter was received as a result of your contact. I appreciate and thank you for your efforts on this project. I have written Dr. Kissinger per your previous suggestion--a copy is attached.

As implied in the letter to Dr. Kissinger, I fear that the embassy approach by itself will not allow this project to effectively get moving in the near future. Its greatest value and effect will be to move now.

A number of years ago, I was invited indirectly through the British to participate in some climbing in Russia. Reciprocity problems overwhelmed this opportunity. The British climbers did eventually make this expedition to the Pamirs, which at that immediate time were also considered "sensitive".

I would be most hopeful that there is some direct approach possible. Your continued thoughts would be most encouraging.

Sincerely,



Peter K. Schoening

Enclosures
PKS:jb

MAR 6 1972

5807 NE 151st
Bothell, WA 98011
(206) 622-5805 (Business) or
(206) 485-1450 (Home)

March 2, 1972

Dr. Henry A. Kissinger
Assistant to The President for National Security Affairs
The White House Office
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Subject: Mountain Climbing Trip to China

Dear Dr. Kissinger:

Prior to The President's trip to China, I sent the attached wire requesting guidance in fielding a mountain climbing trip to the Himalayas through China. It would appear this activity is within the parameters indicated by The President upon his return.

The purpose of this trip would be to stimulate people's interest in an adventurous activity and to develop a continuing mountaineering exchange with China. Its purpose is not to foster a competitive exchange nor to glorify any particular individual.

Mountaineering is developing rapidly in the United States, but is still relatively non-commercialized as compared to many European countries. As China opens its doors, there will undoubtedly be a clamor of expeditions requesting the Northern approach to the Himalaya. Even though most mountaineering expeditions prior to World War II entered the Eastern Himalaya from Tibet, this area and the Western Himalaya is some of the least known country in the world. Now is the time for a nationally representative American expedition.

Though news media may portray otherwise, mountaineering is a non-competitive physical activity, except perhaps on the basis of the climbing party versus a mountain objective. The utmost in leadership and cooperative effort within a party, along with good fortune, is required to achieve a major mountaineering goal.

My experience with two American-Pakistani expeditions (1953 to K-2 and 1958 to Hidden Peak) were successful in having one or two Pakistani members on the expedition. However, based upon the experience of others, I fear the potential problems of a "joint expedition" where differences in culture could produce a fiasco.

In exchange for an American organized and led trip having Chinese support and participation, we would suggest an exchange with Chinese climbers or climbers-to-be with visits to our mountains and involving climbs, climbing organizations, methods of instruction, equipment facilities, and rescue operations. There is some history of successful similar exchange, in particular with the Japanese.

Continued Page 2

Page 2

March 2, 1972

Even if it became possible for a group of climbers to pack their gear and go on a trip to China, I do not believe the worthwhile benefits can be efficiently achieved without a sound relationship with key Chinese people and their climbing community.

I would be most appreciative of your assistance in starting this relationship. Once started and goals determined, the mechanics of expeditions and appropriate reciprocal exchange would be possible. It would seem that immediate planning for an expedition in the Spring of 1973 can be an indication that meaningful exchange has taken place between the two countries.

Sincerely,

Peter K. Schoening
Peter K. Schoening

Enclosure

PKS:jb

cc: Mr. John D. Ehrlichman



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

PRESERVATION COPY

February 28, 1972

Mr. Peter K. Schoening
5807 N.E. 151st Street
Bothell, Washington 98011

Dear Mr. Schoening:

I have been asked to reply to your telegram to Mr. Ehrlichman, the receipt of which was acknowledged by Mr. Hullin on February 18. Your telegram concerns your interest in conducting an American mountain climbing group in an attempt to climb K-2 or Mount Everest from the north through the People's Republic of China (PRC), either with Chinese support or, if necessary, jointly with Chinese.

I regret that we are not in a position to comply with your request that we take up this matter with the PRC authorities. You could raise it directly, with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China, Juliana Apartments, 12th Floor, 100 Bronson Avenue, Ottawa 4, Ontario, Canada. I cannot be encouraging about the Chinese response, however. The PRC authorities are very careful not to allow foreigners to travel to areas of their country which they consider sensitive, and I doubt very much that they would allow Americans to go to the area you mention, at least in the near future.

I hope this information will be of some assistance to you.

Sincerely,

William A. Brown
Deputy Director for
Asian Communist Affairs

THE WHITE HOUSE OFFICE

NSC 1709

GENERAL

SC 2-7

REFERRAL

To: STATE SECRETARIAT

Date: FEBRUARY 23, 1972

ACTION REQUESTED

- ☐ Draft reply for:
☐ President's signature.
☐ Undersigned's signature.
- ☐ Memorandum for use as enclosure to reply.
- ☐ Direct reply.
☐ Furnish information copy.
- ☐ Suitable acknowledgment or other appropriate handling.
☐ Furnish copy of reply, if any.
- ☐ For your information.
- ☐ For comment.

NOTE

Prompt action is essential.

If more than 48 hours' delay is encountered, please telephone the undersigned immediately, Code 1450.

Basic correspondence should be returned when draft reply, memorandum, or comment is requested.

REMARKS:

FOR DIRECT REPLY

Description:

XX Letter: Telegram: Other:

To: MR. JOHN EHRLICHMAN
From: PETER K. SCHOENING, 5807 N.E. 151 STREET, BOTHELL, WASHINGTON
Date: FEBRUARY 16, 1972
Subject: POSSIBLE MOUNTAIN CLIMBING EXPEDITION THROUGH NORTHERN CHINA

By direction of the President:

Barbara Bush
for JEANNE W. DAVIS
NSC SECRETARIAT

RECEIVED

FEB 25 1972

CENTRAL FILES

GENERAL

SC2-1

0034

February 18, 1972

Dear Mr. Schoening:

John Ehrlichman has asked me to thank you for your telegram regarding your interest in taking a mountain climbing expedition through the north of China.

Mr. Ehrlichman appreciates your bringing your interest to our attention and has taken the liberty of forwarding your telegram to Dr. Henry Kissinger's office for consideration.

Sincerely yours,

Tod R. Hullin
Administrative Assistant to
John D. Ehrlichman

Mr. Peter K. ^XSchoening
5807 N. E. 151st Street
Bothell, Washington 98011

bcc: Dr. Henry Kissinger (w/copy of incoming) For appropriate handling.

RECEIVED
FEB 22 1972
CENTRAL FILES

TH
ack
to HAK

FEB 16 1972

The White House
Washington

WHA053 (52)LA053

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1972 FEB 16 AM 3 15

JOHN D EHROLICHMAN, AIDE TO THE PRESIDENT FOR DOMESTIC AFFAIRS
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

I WOULD LIKE TO CONDUCT A NATIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE AMERICAN
MOUNTAIN CLIMBING ATTEMPT TO PREFERABLY K-2 OR MOUNT EVEREST,
FROM THE NORTH THROUGH CHINA. THERE ARE BROAD VALUES TO THIS
ADVENTURE IF CONDUCTED ON A NON-COMPETITIVE AND NON-~~COMMERCIAL~~ COMMERCIAL
BASIS, EITHER WITH SUPPORT, OR IF NECESSARY, JOINTLY WITH CHINESE.
ENDORSEMENT BY THE AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB IS AVAILABLE. I HUMBL
REQUEST INCLUSION OF THIS ^BSUBJECT IN YOUR FORTHCOMING DISCUSSIONS
SO THAT PLANNING CAN BE INITIATED IN 1972, AND AN EXPEDITION
FIELDIED IN SPRING 1973. MY REFERENCES INCLUDE K-2, THE SAVAGE
MOUNTAIN BY R H BATES, MCGRAW - HILL, 1954: QUOTE HIDDEN PEAK
1958 HIGHEST FIRST ASCENT BY AMER

ICAN UNQUOTE: ANTARCTICA NGS

PETER K. SCHOENING 5807 NORTHEAST 151ST 206-622-5805
OR 206-485-1450 BOTHELL WASH 98011.

K-2 1972 1973 K-2 1954 1958 1967 5807 151 206-622-5805 206-485-1450
98011.

PRESERVATION COPY

H. R. HALDEMAN ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

260

PM 11 07

JOHN D. EHRILICHMAN

AID TO THE PRESIDENT FOR DOMESTIC AFFAIRS
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

F-10-17

TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY TELEPHONE

S S E

1
V R HALDEMAN ASSISTANT TO THE PRESIDENT/
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

I WOULD LIKE TO CONDUCT A NATIONALLY REPRESENTATIVE
AMERICAN MOUNTAIN CLIMBING ATTEMPT TO PREFERABLY K-2
OR MOUNT EVEREST, FROM THE NORTH THROUGH CHINA.

THERE ARE BROAD VALUES TO THIS ADVENTURE IF CONDUCTED
ON A NON-COMPETITIVE AND NON-COMMERCIAL BASIS, EITHER
WITH SUPPORT, OR IF NECESSARY, JOINTLY WITH CHINESE.

ENDORSEMENT BY THE AMERICAN ALPINE CLUB IS AVAILABLE.

I HUMBLY REQUEST INCLUSION OF THIS SUBJECT IN YOUR
FORTHCOMING DISCUSSIONS SO THAT PLANNING CAN BE

TELEGRAM RECEIVED BY TELEPHONE

S S E

INITIATED IN 1972, AND AN EXPEDITION FIELDIED IN SPRING
1973. MY REFERENCES INCLUDE K-2, THE SAVAGE MOUNTAIN
BY R H BATES, MCGRAW - HILL, 1954: QUOTE HIDDEN PEAK
1958 HIGHEST FIRST ASCENT BY AMERICAN UNQUOTE: ANTARCTICA
NGS MAGAZINE, JUNE 1967.

Center Copy
Not for
Caution
BOOK
2
Messages

DATE AS FEB 15 345P PST

CHECK 123 NL PDF 11 EXTRA
BOOK 2 CFM
TEL NO 206-622-5805

DEST N

V R HALDEMAN ASSISTANT
TO THE PRESIDENT/
WHITE HOUSE WASHDC

SIGNATURE

CHGTEL

SUB CHEMICAL PROOF CORP
625 SOUTH ALASKA ST
SEA 98108

SOCIAL REMINDER

YES NO

DATE AS FEB 15 345PPST

CHECK PAGE 2

TEL NO

DEST N

SIGNATURE

PETER K SCHOENING
5807 NORTHEAST 151ST
206-622-5805 OR
206-485-1450 BOTHELL
WASH 98011

SUB

NSC CORRESPONDENCE PROFILE

DOC	RECD	LOG NBR	INITIAL ACTION OFF
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DOC SOURCE/CLASS/DESCRIPTION

TO: PRES _____ FROM: ELIOT _____ U XX LOG IN/OUT ONLY _____
KISSINGER XXX ROGERS, W _____ LOU _____ NO FORN _____ NODIS _____
HAIG _____ LAIRD, M _____ C _____ BUO _____ EXDIS _____
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SCHOENING, PETER K TS _____ CODE WORD _____ RES DATA _____
SENSITIVE _____

SUBJECT: FORWARDS SCHOENING LTR RE POSSIBLE MOUNTAIN CLIMBING EXPEDITION
THROUGH NORTHERN CHINA

REFERENCE: S/S _____ OTHER _____ NOT XEROXED _____

APP'TS: PRES _____ HAK _____ TALKER _____ MEMCON _____ DATE REQ. _____

SECRETARIAT DISTRIBUTION/ACTION

INTERNAL ROUTING AND DISTRIBUTION				ACTION REQUIRED	
	ACTION	INFO	REC CY FOR		
ADVANCE CYS TO HAK/HAIG				MEMO FOR HAK	()
STAFF SECRETARY				MEMO FOR PRES.	()
FAR EAST		XX		REPLY FOR _____ SIGNATURE	()
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA				FOR DISTRIBUTION/DISPATCH	()
NR EAST/NORTH AFRICA				MEMO _____ TO _____	()
EUROPE/CANADA				RECOMMENDATIONS	()
LATIN AMERICA				JOINT MEMO	()
UNITED NATIONS				REFER TO STATE <u>DIRECT REPLY</u>	(<u>XX</u>)
ECONOMIC				ANY ACTION NECESSARY	()
SCIENTIFIC				CONCURRENCE	()
LR PLANNING				DUE DATE:	
PROGRAM ANALYSIS				COMMENTS: (Including Special Instructions)	
NSC PLANNING					
CONGRESSIONAL					

LOG IN/OUT

INTERNAL/INTERIM ROUTING

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DISPOSITION

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JOINED BY LOG _____ COPIES: (AS MARKED ABOVE) _____

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SPECIAL DISPOSITION COMMENTS: _____

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TO) PAF _____

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FEB 25 1972

NSC/S (4)
EXECUTIVE

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FG11

✓ →
1709

May 3, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR DAVID PARKER

FROM: Jeanne W. Davis

SUBJECT: James Wickwire Climbing Expedition of K-2

In response to your memo of April 18, State advises that, according to the Pakistan Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the deadline for application for a 1972 expedition was December 1, 1971. An application now for 1973 should have a reasonable chance of approval. However, approval will depend on other applications to climb the same peak. Permission to climb K-2 had been consistently refused previously, but we understand there is apparently no difficulty, in principle, in getting permission now.

Applications for a climbing expedition should be filed either through the Americas Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Islamabad, Pakistan, or the Pakistan Embassy in Washington. The application must contain complete details of the party and the proposed plan for the climb.

With regard to climbing the Chinese-side of K-2, the State Department, as you will note in Mr. Wickwire's attachments indicated to Mr. Schoening that the US is not in a position to take this matter up with PRC officials. But instead suggested that he raise it directly with the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Ottawa.

I suggest you advise Mr. Wickwire to follow the above course, and I am herewith returning his correspondence and attachments.

MAY 04 1972

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WHC	SUBF ☒

RECEIVED
MAY 5 1972

CENTRAL FILES



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Washington, D.C. 20520

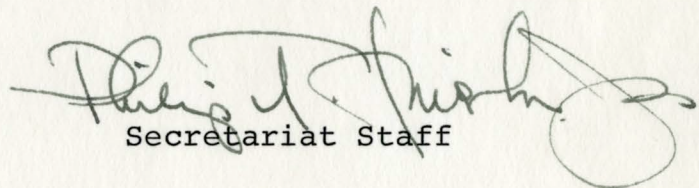
7207309
FARER

April 21, 1972

Memorandum for: NSC Secretariat
The White House

Subject: Message to David Parker
requesting information re
climbing expedition in
Himalayas

Further to our memorandum of March 2
we are enclosing the response from our Embassy
in Islamabad reporting the results of their
inquiry with the Pakistan Ministry of Foreign
Affairs.


Secretariat Staff

Attachment:

Memo from Islamabad

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

April 18, 1972

5:14 p.m.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

JEANNE DAVIS

FROM:

DAVID PARKER

Back in February I transmitted a note to you regarding an acquaintance of mine and his interest in conducting a climbing expedition in Pakistan. You are presently exploring that possibility for me through the American Embassy, Pakistan.

Attached is an additional letter I have recently received from my friend concerning the possibility of a climbing expedition on the same mountain but only from the Chinese side.

Would you please put this into the appropriate channel and see if it would be possible for us to explore this any further. It seems to me that in our never-ending quest to develop further contacts with the Chinese that a climb along these lines might present an interesting opportunity.

Would you please advise as soon as possible.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : NEA/PAF - James H. Holmes

DATE: April 10, 1972

FROM :  Donald M. Roberts - Amembassy, ISLAMABAD

SUBJECT: Proposed Mountain-Climbing Expedition

Ref : Your memo of March 27, 1972

MFA section officer states that while the deadline for application for any 1972 expedition was December 1, 1971, an application now for 1973 should have a reasonable chance of approval, depending on what other applications there are to climb the same peak. He said that he realized permission to climb K-2 had consistently been refused in the past, but that "things have changed now," and there is no difficulty in principle in getting permission to climb the mountain.

CONS:DARoberts:cha

cc: ECIngraham, POL.

UNCLASSIFIED

1416 E. Roy
Seattle, Washington 98102
April 2, 1972

1972 APR 7 PM 3 30

Mr. David Parker
Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C.

Dear Dave:

As a follow-up to my January 21 letter in which I outlined a proposed expedition in 1973 to attempt K2, the world's second highest mountain, and sought your assistance in obtaining permission from the Pakistani government to attempt the peak, I would like to set forth our plans in somewhat greater detail and suggest a possible alternative approach. I am enclosing correspondence between Peter K. Schoening, leader of our team, and Dr. Henry Kissinger and John Ehrlichman's office. You should complete my letter before referring to this correspondence.

In recent weeks it has become clear that the situation in Pakistan has not stabilized; that the country is virtually functioning under a state of martial law. To add to the difficulties ensuing from the armed clash with India over the severance of East Pakistan and the subsequent creation of Bangla Desh, it is my understanding that the Patan minority in two regions along Pakistan's northwestern and western boundaries has become quite restive and has been demanding its independence. While I remain hopeful that the Pakistanis will ultimately grant permission for an attempt on K2, an even more attractive possibility looms.

Given the President's recent trip to China and the apparent willingness on the part of both governments to engage in people-to-people exchanges, it seems to me that the time may be ripe for an American mountaineering expedition to tackle a peak in China. It has been some forty years since an expedition from this country last visited China. This was a successful assault on Minya Konka (24,900') by a small expedition composed of three young Americans and a Chinese. In his March 2 letter to Dr. Kissinger, Schoening articulately sets forth some of the benefits to be derived from renewed mountaineering contacts with the Chinese. Additionally, I am enclosing for your review a copy of Mountaineering in China which gives some indication of the deep interest in mountaineering by the inhabitants of that country.

As you know, K2 is a border peak situated on the boundary between Pakistan and the Sinkiang province of China. The access to K2 from the Chinese side is considerably easier in that a road system extends to a point quite near the northern flanks of the Karakorum range (of which K2 is the culminating summit). K2 has long been considered an "American" mountain by the world climbing fraternity in the sense that expeditions from the U.S. have focused their energies on K2 on four separate occasions--in 1938, 1939, 1953 and 1960. The British, for example, have through the years been the nation most associated with

Mount Everest as the result of their many attempts prior to the successful first ascent in 1953. To cite another example, the Germans have been principally involved with Nanga Parbat (26,660') in Pakistan. The American attempts on K2, though unsuccessful, were valiant and form an integral part of Himalayan mountaineering history. The Italians as the result of a massive effort, reached the summit in 1954, the only time thus far. It would be fitting indeed if an American team could return to K2 and complete the ascent.

An added attraction, of course, would be an approach through China and an attempt of a completely different route on the mountain: either the North Ridge (entirely in China) or the Northwest Ridge (on the border itself). All the previous attempts including the successful ascent have been up the Abruzzi or Southeast Spur.

Our concept in approaching the climb is to do it with a strong, compatible team. The ideal number would be six climbers, but as many as eight would be suitable. Unlike the earlier American attempts, we plan to use oxygen which would provide a necessary extra boost that was undoubtedly a factor in the previous defeats. Although we would prefer an exclusively American party, we recognize the possibility of the Chinese proposing a joint effort. Indeed, previous American expeditions to the K2 area, e.g. Gasherbrum in 1958 and Masherbrum in 1960, have been joint American-Pakistani affairs. On these occasions there have been two Pakistani members and at least six Americans. The Pakistanis were full members of the climbing team and one reached the summit of Masherbrum in 1960. Perhaps something along the same line could be worked out with the Chinese if that should be their wish. The key thing for us would be to have decisional authority once on the mountain engaged in the actual attempt. Too often in the past, international expeditions have gone up in smoke where the parameters of such authority were not clearly understood. If the Chinese were to reciprocate by coming to the United States, we think it would be proper to allow them the same authority once on the mountain. The Chinese have made some notable climbs in the Himalaya, e.g. first ascent of Gosainthan (26,000'+) and a disputed third ascent of Mount Everest. While K2 is a far more difficult climb than Everest, or for that matter most other Himalayan peaks of similar magnitude, we would not rule out Chinese participation if it meant the difference between getting permission or not.

As I mentioned above, the leader of our team is Peter K. Schoening (45), a veteran of the 1953 attempt. As the youngest member of that expedition, he single-handedly stopped a potentially disastrous fall at almost 25,000' that saved the lives of seven climbers. In the annals of mountaineering, it is a most famous incident. Pete has also participated in several other expeditions through the years, notably the first ascent of Gasherbrum I ("Hidden Peak") in the K2 area in 1958 in which he was leader of the climbing team and one of two to reach the summit. Also, he was instrumental in organizing and leading the successful expedition which climbed the highest summits of Antarctica in 1965. With his previous experience on K2, Schoening is without question the best man in the country to lead an expedition to K2. He is a chemical engineer.

The other tentative members of the team include Alexander Bertulis(32), architect; Dr. Leif-Norman Patterson(36), mathematics professor; Robert T. Schaller, M.D.(37), surgeon; Thomas M. Frost (36), engineer; and, myself(31), lawyer. Without going into more detail at this time, it is enough to say that the climbing team is very strong. The various individual members have participated in important first ascents in the Himalaya, Alaska, South America, Canada, Norway and the Pacific Northwest. Tom Frost, for instance, was a member of the 1970 British expedition that climbed the South Face of Annapurna, the most difficult climb done in the Hiamlaya to date. When it becomes necessary to do so, I can supply complete biographies of the entire team which, incidentally, is nationally representative.

I would be deeply appreciative if you would be willing to present our proposal to the appropriate government officials for consideration and assistance in securing permission from the Pakistani or Chinese governments. We had planned to go in 1973, but should an opportunity present itself for a trip this summer, I am confident it could be arranged on very short notice. K2 is at the northwestern end of the Hiamlayan chain and is not affected as much by the monsoon which precludes summer climbing in the central and eastern Himalaya. So little time remains, however, that unless arrangements could be made very quickly, we would most likely be limited to a reconnaissance this summer. This should not deter from going ahead with the project though as the benefits accruing from a reconnaissance would, in my opinion, be as great as a full scale effort this summer. If there should be sufficient interest to pursue this further, one or more of the team members would be willing to fly to Washington, D. C. to more fully explain our objectives and the benefits that we see could be derived from such a venture.

Best personal regards.

Sincerely,


James F. Wickwire

cc; Peter K. Schoening
Alexander Bertulis

March 4, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: **DAVE PARKER**
FROM: **Jeanne W. Davis**
SUBJECT: **Climbing in the Pakistani Himalayas**

The State Department has provided the attached draft reply for your possible use in responding to the January 21 letter to you from Jim Wickwire concerning his interest in climbing K-2 in the Pakistani Himalayas.

cc: Mr. Saunders

Dear Jim,

I want to respond to your letter of January 21 concerning your hopes of a climbing expedition in the Himalayas. The process of looking into this accounts for my delay in writing.

Upon receipt of your letter, I asked the Department of State to inquire about the current attitude of the Government of Pakistan with regard to climbing in the K2 area. They have replied that the Embassy of Pakistan is reluctant to respond to inquiries "in principle" concerning climbing in the Pakistani Himalayas but indicated only their willingness to review your application "based on its merits."

State, however, has sent a copy of your letter to our embassy in Islamabad and suggested they might make an informal inquiry with an appropriate official of the Government of Pakistan on your behalf. I will, of course, keep you informed of anything we hear on this.

I hope the foregoing is helpful. We have done as much as we can in the circumstances.

(Parker)

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

March 2, 1972

Memorandum for:

NSC Secretariat
The White HouseSubject: Message to David Carlier
requesting information re
climbing expedition in
Himalayas

We attach a draft reply for the signature
of David Barker to his friend who has inquired
about the possibilities of a forthcoming climbing
expedition in the Pakistani Himalayas. We return
the original correspondence.

Secretariat Staff

Attachments:

As stated.

February 17, 1972
12:50 p. m.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

JEANNE DAVIS

~~DAVID PARKER~~

Attached is a letter I have received from a friend of mine asking the possibility of leading a climbing expedition into Pakistan.

Would you please advise me as to whom or how I might go about getting the proper information that this friend needs to make appropriate official inquiries.

Thank you.

January 21, 1972

1972 J11 2: Dave? 32
Dear Dave? 32

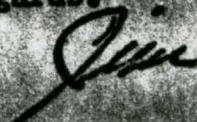
As you know, I have been trying to get to the Himalaya for the past few years. We almost went to Nepal last fall, but were unable to get permission from the Nepalese government to enter the area where our objectives were located. With the recent war between India and Pakistan and the consequent improvement in our relations with the latter, a few of us in Seattle who form the nucleus of a prospective Himalayan team think perhaps now is the time to go to Pakistan. In northern Pakistan is the finest group of mountains in the world--the Karakorum range whose culminating summit is K2, at 28250' the second highest mountain, a scant few hundred feet below Everest.

We are definitely interested in attempting K2 which has been climbed only once--the Italians in 1954. The only other serious attempts on the mountain have been by Americans, first in 1938, again in 1939 and finally in 1955. An abortive attempt was made by a German-American team in 1960, but since then, no one has been near the mountain. The principal reason is its location on the Pakistani-Tibetan border. Up until a few months ago, the Pakistanis did not wish to offend the Chinese by allowing expeditions into the area. But I think all that may have changed, or is still in the process of doing so.

The normal method of obtaining permission is to fill out a lengthy application which is submitted to the American Alpine Club for endorsement and sponsorship. The application is then sent on to our State Department where it is reviewed. Finally, it goes to the government of the country where the expedition desires to go. We should have no problem with the first two steps: the team is extremely strong (we contemplate only 6 climbers) by modern climbing standards and I have recently become a director of the AAC. The problem arises in making the right approach to the Pakistani govt. Our (i.e. climbing fraternity) past relations with the Pakistanis have been good, e.g. a joint Pakistani-American expedition to Masherbrum (another Karakorum giant) in 1960.

Would you be willing to make some inquiries on our behalf, either within the White House or the State Dept.? Brad Patterson, for instance, is an avid mountaineer and might be willing to help us out. If you require more details let me know. Please give Carol, Kyle and Megan my best.

Regards.



Wickwire

19

file

AUGUST 15, 1972

Dear Mr. Wanzenberg:

I have received your correspondence of May 30 and July 7 concerning the gold ore process and a low-emission rotary engine concept. I took the liberty of having your correspondence reviewed by the Interior Department regarding the gold ore matter, and by the Department of Transportation in the case of the rotary engine.

Their responses indicate that the gold ore process will require considerable laboratory work and the development of engineering and cost data. I would suggest that you work directly with Mr. Frank Clarke, Deputy Under Secretary of the Interior to follow up in this area.

The Urban Mass Transportation office of the Department of Transportation reports that a meaningful assessment of the performance and efficiency of the rotary engine cannot be made from your enclosed conceptual drawings and explanation. I would again suggest that you work directly with the UMTA office of Transportation and/or the Advanced Automotive Power Systems Division of the Environmental Protection Agency, 2565 Plymouth Road, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105.

Thank you for bringing your concepts to our attention, and I shall look forward to your progress with Interior and DOT.

Sincerely,

Enclosures filed in
Oversize Attachments #

9405

William M. Magruder
Special Consultant
to the President

Mr. Fritz W. Wanzenberg
Great Sea Corporation
9 Campbell Lane
Larchmont, New York 10538

RECEIVED
AUG 16 1972
CENTRAL FILES

4:29 PM

EXECUTIVE

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APPROVED
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ON

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RNIHasek:ear
CC: R.M. Woods/J. Warren/M. White/E. Hasek/CF/H. Sonnenfeldt (FYI)
Req'd by: Commerce Dept.
Approved by: Ray Price
Event: Aug. 19, 1972

CABLEGRAM-----AUGUST 17, 1972

Honorable Pierre ^XAngell
Governor of French Polynesia
Papeete, Tahiti

Twenty-five years ago, a world recently torn by war stood united in admiration for the daring achievement for a band of brave men who crossed the Pacific on a raft named Kon-Tiki.

It was more than a simple adventure. The ^XKon-Tiki ^Xexpedition was a notable scientific advance which contributed to man's knowledge of his origins and furthered his understanding of meteorology, hydrography and zoology. With good reason, Americans were proud of the role our nation's Weather Service had played in helping guide the Kon-Tiki along its course. Thor Heyerdahl and his crew deserved our thanks then for the drama of progress they introduced to a world darkened by sadness and despair. Today we still owe them a debt of gratitude for the knowledge and understanding they gained at their personal peril for all mankind.

I send my very best wishes to all who participated in this historic voyage, and to those who now join you in celebrating its twenty-fifth anniversary.

(Desp'd by E. Hasek 8/17 saw)
cc: Mr. Basil R. Litten, Director of Public Affairs, Dept. of Commerce
RICHARD NIXON

RECEIVED
AUG 22 1972
CENTRAL FILES

391
MEMORANDUM OF INFORMATION FOR THE FILE

DATE 11/14/72

LETTER, MEMO, ETC.

TO: *Sec. Peterson - Mr. Kissinger*

FROM: *Peter Flanigan*

SUBJECT: *Exxon - Soviet Union
& Peoples Republic
of China*

EXECUTIVE

TA3/CO158

TA3/CO34-2

CO158

CO34-2

NR6

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FG21

*Collado, Emilio
Barrow, Tom*

D. E.
CORRESPONDENCE FILED CENTRAL FILES - CONFIDENTIAL FILE