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Subseries: Correspondence Files

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THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 05, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. WILLIAM F. VANGLEDER

SUBJECT: OFFERS HIS COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS REGARDING
THE WAR IN THE PERSIAN GULF

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	91/02/05		
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

CS MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL *      OF SIGNER    *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED        *      CODE = A      *
*F-FURNISH FACT SHEET  *S-SUSPENDED        *COMPLETED = DATE OF *
*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                      *      OUTGOING     *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                      *                      *
*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                      *                      *
*X-INTERIM REPLY       *                      *                      *
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REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO CENTRAL REFERENCE
(ROOM 75, OEOB) EXT-2590
KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING
LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO RECORDS
MANAGEMENT.



William F. Van Gelder

The Honorable John H. Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C.

January 30, 1991

Dear Governor,

President Bush has mentioned on several occasions that Iraq will not be another Vietnam. However, we haven't seen a significant difference. The war in the Persian Gulf is still a public spectacle led by reporters and anti-war demonstrators. While the Iraqi war is far from over, it has been suggested in Washington to curb U.S. military activities in order not to "destabilize" Iraq. Such a policy could backfire. In the meantime CNN has given Saddam Hussein another opportunity to lash out at President Bush and the United States, the country that provides the media with a safe haven and the privileges of a free society. Then, to cap off the insult, and in response to Saddam's speech on CNN, Baker and Bessmertnykh came up with a peace offer giving the world the impression that intimidation by the enemy still works.

We trust that this letter will be read in the spirit in which it has been intended. We also hope that the Coalition will stand firm and has the will to prevail now that the decision has been made. It is the consensus that Iraqi aircrafts have been traded to Iran for ammo and other war essentials. It implies that reverse transportation from Iran back to Iraq may be forthcoming and should be stopped irrespective of "so-called" Iranian neutrality.

Sincerely,

William F. VanGelder
P.O. BOX 2430
Santa Maria, CA 93457

WFV/nr

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: FEBRUARY 01, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. DIRK VAN DONGEN

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES A COPY OF OUR 1990 ANNUAL REPORT

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)		ACTION ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	DISPOSITION TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	91/02/01			/ /
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CS MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*ACTION CODES:      *DISPOSITION      *OUTGOING      *
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N · A · W



February 4, 1991

The Honorable John H. Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

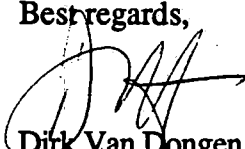
Dear Governor Sununu:

Enclosed is our just-released 1990 Annual Report.

We are sending it to you with the thought that you will find it a quick means of reviewing our activities over the past year.

As always, we appreciated the opportunity to work with you over the past year, and look forward to a close association in 1991 and beyond.

Best regards,


Dirk Van Dongen
President

Enclosure

DVD/jg

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 28, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. CHARLES M. VEST

SUBJECT: APPRECIATION FOR THE MEETING

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	91/01/28		___/___/___
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207943



OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

January 23, 1991

The Honorable John Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear John:

It was a pleasure to visit you in Washington and I want to thank you for your time and for sharing your insight on critical issues facing MIT and our nation.

When I accepted the presidency of MIT, it was with a sense of great excitement -- and privilege -- about the very special opportunity it provides to serve not only in the interests of education and research in the nation, but also in the world. I view my becoming a part of the leadership of MIT as a call to lead a unique national and international resource.

I believe that MIT is blessed in abundance with the ingredients necessary for continued excellence as a university: bright and creative students; a faculty and environment that demands intellectual excellence of the highest order; and a community that can face difficult problems thoughtfully, responsibly, and forthrightly. We must foster all three of these essential elements if we are to maintain and enhance MIT's excellence in the coming decades.

Thank you for your time. I, and your many friends at MIT, wish you well in these very difficult times.

Sincerely yours,

Charles M. Vest
Charles M. Vest

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 28, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. WAYNE VALIS

SUBJECT: OVERVIEW OF A PROPOSAL TO BUILDING GRASSROOTS
COALITION SUPPORT FOR THE PRESIDENT

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:		ACT	DATE	TYPE	C COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	91/01/28		/ /
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January 25, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR: Governor Sununu
FROM: Wayne Valis *Wayne*
SUBJECT: Grassroots Coalition Support for the President

OVERVIEW

This is a belated follow-up to the meetings Red Cavaney, Dave Parker, Dirk Van Dongen and I had with the President and you in late December. We would like to emphasize our main point: there are enormous opportunities for the Bush Administration to generate widespread support within grassroots America generally, and within the business community particularly. There is a willingness, even an eagerness, within the private sector to consult and work with, and to fight for the Bush Administration. Our goal is to mobilize the private sector around a simple theme: support the President. Your Roosevelt Room meeting yesterday greatly advanced such a project. We would urge you now to take advantage of the analytic, political and communications capabilities of these groups.

As I noted to you in a separate memo on "President Bush's New Prosperity Plan", we believe a major grassroots effort could be mounted on behalf of an "economic recovery program" or a Bush "New Prosperity Plan." The President has already endorsed specific programs which would form the core of this package. I believe your task would be to package these elements and give them a name. As previously noted, they would include:

- o a budget freeze
- o no new tax pledge
- o emphasis on deregulation and entrepreneurship
- o opposition to mandated benefits, quotas, etc.
- o sensible environmental programs
- o term limitation and reform of the Congress
- o a new post Cold War world political order of peace and security

SPECIFIC ACTION PLAN

We must persuade all the signatories of the Persian Gulf letter, all the supporters of the budget scoring coalition, plus supportive veterans, agricultural, labor, conservative, Republican and other groups to mobilize their members around the country on behalf of the President's domestic program and his

historic efforts to create a peaceful new world order. You mentioned that the President's domestic program will be announced at a follow-up event to be scheduled at a special forum in the relatively near term. In advance of this event, you should reconvene your core coalition members and give them this mobilization assignment. Several of us will then work to see that the group divides up this massive responsibility into functional duties, i.e.:

- 1) grassroots mobilization and liaison
- 2) communications and press relations
- 3) ally recruitment and deployment
- 4) congressional relations and targeting

We would organize activities with the goal of creating a massive campaign of letter writing, phone calls, etc. with one theme: support the President. There would have to be a series of White House, State Department, Commerce Department, Energy Department, Transportation Department, Treasury Department, etc. briefings customized to the various groups. White House Liaison officers would be assigned to work with these different elements.

In addition, I would strongly recommend that you meet periodically with core coalition leaders divided into substantive, policy-based clusters. For example, there could be informal groups of 10-20 leaders on:

- 1) federal spending control
- 2) taxes
- 3) environment
- 4) education
- 5) empowerment and human services (labor, civil rights, health, etc.)
- 6) foreign policy and trade

There would be a separate, small group on each of these policy issues that would meet with various administration officials, including, from time to time, the President and you.

They would understand that in return for this privilege, they would be expected to mobilize constituency elements in a major way between now and 1992.

WHITE HOUSE STAFFING REQUIREMENTS

In order to utilize these enormous resources, you must make a conscious decision that such an effort is desirable and important for the success of the President's program and reelection effort. A system would then be developed, and individuals assigned, to monitor and report progress so that you

and the President's top staff could respond to the normal fluctuations and exigencies of daily politics. A communications plan would have to complement this effort, emphasizing simplicity, repetition and a central focus.

Finally, White House liaison capabilities would have to be greatly strengthened in terms of resources and upgraded at the Special Assistant to the President levels to conduct such an ambitious undertaking. At the present time, White House liaison capabilities in the areas of political affairs, public liaison and intergovernmental affairs would be inadequate for these new, expanded programs. Liaison capabilities are now stretched almost to the breaking point with current duties, which means additional support personnel, upgrades to Special Assistant to the President and increased resources are a must.

For example, new support activities on behalf of the President's Persian Gulf policy will soon be required. A Phase II campaign, focusing on the message "stay the course" will probably be necessary when and if difficulties arise in the Gulf War. Your liaison officers will have to work with coalition members to provide them with ongoing materials concerning the President's policies in the Gulf, briefings or programs in EO 450 or other locations (i.e. State Department, DOD) and advance intelligence. These coalitions should currently be tasked to produce op ed pieces, to raise funds and prepare "stay the course" ads. The Phase II campaign will track with the President's own efforts to lower public expectations while enhancing political staying power.

Servicing these needs alone is very time consuming and demanding. Additional resources should be dedicated for this purpose.

In previous Administrations, from Nixon to Reagan, significantly greater resources were expended on liaison work. The Nixon White House devoted approximately 10 commissioned officers and 40 staff for the pre-1972 effort; President Ford's OPL employed approximately 36 staff with about 7 or 8 commissioned officers; and the Carter White House dedicated a maximum of about 8 commissioned officers and 50 staff to the task.

To coordinate the massive coalitions (well over 1,000 groups) which supported the Reagan/Bush economic recovery plan, the Public Liaison office consisted of 9 or 10 commissioned officers, Political Affairs had 3 and Intergovernmental Affairs had about 4. In addition, both OMB and the Office of Policy Development dedicated resources to grassroots efforts. Needless to say, these shops also were adequately served by support staffs.

CONCLUSION

With your concurrence we would like to submit some lists to you via the Public Liaison/Communications office to advance this proposed grassroots project. We would propose organizing small groups of your most loyal allies based along both functional and policy lines, as previously noted. Individuals serving would have specific tasks and deadlines and would meet with you and liaison officers periodically to make progress reports and plan for future campaign phases.

We look forward to working with you on the above.

cc: Andy Card

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 25, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. WAYNE VALIS

SUBJECT: FORWARDS A MEMORANDUM REGARDING THE
PRESIDENT'S "NEW PROSPERITY PLAN"

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	91/01/25		/ /
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COMMENTS:

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January 24, 1991

MEMORANDUM FOR: Governor Sununu
Andy Card
Dave Demarest
Fred McClure
Roger Porter

FROM: Wayne Valis *Wayne*

SUBJECT: President Bush's "New Prosperity Plan"

*Excellent
Roosevelt Ro-
meeting today.
This will be
very helpful.*

I believe a major grassroots effort could be mounted on behalf of an "economic recovery program" or a Bush "New Prosperity Plan" which would feature, but not be limited to, the following:

- o a budget freeze
- o no new tax pledge
- o emphasis on deregulation and entrepreneurship
- o reliance on markets and the individual (new paradigm?)
- o opposition to mandated benefits, quotas, etc.
- o sensible environmental programs
- o increased US exports within new world trade system
- o term limitation and reform of the Congress
- o a new post war world political order of peace and security

The central idea is to offer a core Bush policy around which to generate widespread public support generally and support within the business community particularly. The President would emphasize that we will get out of our present economic difficulties by embracing sound economic policies. He would reject both the "tax and spend" policies of liberal Democrat regimes and the excesses of the 1980's such as leveraged debt, "Trumpism", "Milkenism", "Boeskyism" and the like.

A "budget freeze" or "flexible freeze" is understandable to the general public and would win great public support. The business community would organize a coalition around this idea and would expend enormous political and communications resources to fighting for it. It would also bring conservatives and other Republican activists back into the fold. The President endorsed a "flexible freeze" in the '88 campaign. As I said, this concept is easily understood by most Americans and reflects political and economic realities occurring in most of the fifty states. It features shared sacrifice at a time when American businesses, state governments, municipalities and families are being forced into belt-tightening. This shared sacrifice also would permit Americans to feel they were making contributions and sacrifices at a time when hundreds of thousands of young Americans and their families are being asked to risk the ultimate sacrifice.

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 21, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. BRUCE L. VALLEY

SUBJECT: OFFER OF SERVICE

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	91/01/21		
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Bruce L. Valley, Consultant

206103

9433 Forest Haven Drive Alexandria, Virginia 22309 Tel: 703-360-1726

January 19, 1991

Hon John Sununu
White House Chief of Staff

Dear John,

I am told That Cheiss Winston may be leaving your speechwriter's office. If so, I'd like to offer my services — short term or long — to help out with That function in any way you deem useful (i.e. writing or managing the SW process).

The Senate campaign AGAINST Warren in 1986 aside — where we met — I have written over 600 Washington speeches since 1981, including a number for President Reagan and (then VP) President Bush, while serving Defense Secretary Weinberger and Navy Secretary John Lehman.

Like many of my middle-aged retired military friends, the conflict in the Gulf leaves those of us who volunteered for the earlier conflict in the Vietnam with an increased desire to serve in some way. Please let me know if I can be of service. Sincerely, Bruce

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 16, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE GUY VANDER JAGT

SUBJECT: FORWARDS A LIST OF ACTIVITIES TH NRCC WOULD
LIKE PRESIDENT BUSH TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS
YEAR

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	91/01/16		/ /
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ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA:L INDIVIDUAL CODES: 1240

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GUY VANDER JAGT, M.C.
CHAIRMAN



205256
320 FIRST STREET, S.E.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20003

202-479-7000

NATIONAL REPUBLICAN
CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEE

January 14, 1991

The Honorable John Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear John,

I've enclosed a copy of a letter I've sent to the President, listing some of the activities the NRCC is planning in which the President has previously helped our Republican candidates.

As the letter notes, the President has participated in all of these activities in earlier years -- most, specifically, in 1990.

John, there seems to be a renewed sense of unity within the Party. And, considering the issues we will face in 1991, I think it bodes well for us.

I'm sure the current crisis in the Middle East is consuming the bulk of your time. However, it would be helpful for us to know that we can proceed with our planning for the activities listed in my letter to the President.

I look forward to hearing from you at your earliest convenience. Please feel free to contact me if you need any additional information on any item. Also, if there is anything I can do to assist you or the President, I stand ready to do so.

Sincerely,

Guy Vander Jagt, M.C.
Chairman

Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 15, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MS. FRANCIE VON MERTENA

SUBJECT: COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS REGARDING A POSSIBLE
CONFLICT IN THE GULF

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY (STAFF NAME)		ACTION ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	91/01/15			
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*X-INTERIM REPLY	*		*

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20481
January 11, 1991

Governor John H. Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Governor Sununu:

Some feedback from New Hampshire.

I am a grey haired sixth grade teacher from Peterborough. Here is the sense of my class. We do not want bloodshed, either of Americans or Iraqis or French or Saudi. We endorse a trade embargo. Why must "war" be by military attack? Why can't it be passive siege, we wonder in the sixth grade, like King Arthur surrounding a castle and waiting?

If we are attacking Iraq in the name of upholding the law, why are we breaking a law by circumventing our constitution? That's what we talk about in the sixth grade.

Some of the students' fathers served in Vietnam. We, the parent generation, have the memory of the shame and horror we felt when we learned that our soldiers killed civilians, our bombs fell on the children and grandparents. All those memories, as January 15 nears, are flooding us. We are thinking of the innocent Iraqis who will be killed by our military; we are thinking of our soldiers who will have to live with the nightmares of those who killed civilians.

Sincerely,

Francie Von Merten

Francie Von Mertens
234 Elm Hill Road
Peterborough, NH 03458

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: JANUARY 03, 1991

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. GUS VERGE

SUBJECT: ENCLOSURES A PAIR OF SMITH TURBO GOGGLES

ACTION

DISPOSITION

ROUTE TO: OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C D	COMPLETED YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	91/01/03			
	REFERRAL NOTE: _____					
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COMMENTS:

ADDITIONAL CORRESPONDENTS: MEDIA: L INDIVIDUAL CODES: _____

CS MAIL USER CODES: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

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*A-APPROPRIATE ACTION  *A-ANSWERED          *TYPE RESP=INITIALS *
*C-COMMENT/RECOM       *B-NON-SPEC-REFERRAL  *          OF SIGNER *
*D-DRAFT RESPONSE      *C-COMPLETED          *          CODE = A   *
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*I-INFO COPY/NO ACT NEC*                      *          OUTGOING  *
*R-DIRECT REPLY W/COPY *                      *                      *
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201959



December 24, 1990

Governor John H. Sununu
White House Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington D.C. 20500

Dear Governor Sununu:

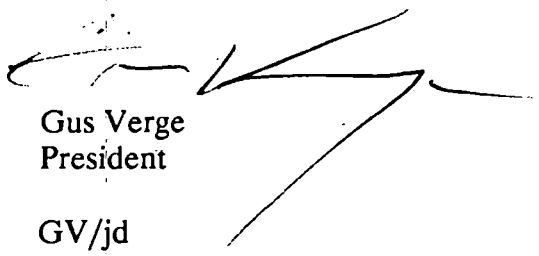
My associate, Frank Langlois, and I met you recently at Ski Magazine Week in Aspen. I am glad you were able to take time from your busy schedule to attend. I found your speech on Friday morning very interesting.

Frank and I felt you would have been a real contender in the race if you had had proper ski eyewear. I am enclosing a pair of Smith Turbo Monashee goggles that will allow you to ski, with your eyeglasses, in any weather. I hope you find the time to enjoy them this winter.

Thank you again for taking the time to address the meeting.

Sincerely,

SMITH SPORT OPTICS, INC.



Gus Verge
President

GV/jd

cc: Frank Langlois

JD428

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: DECEMBER 21, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: LT. COLONEL T.F. UPTON

SUBJECT: FORWARDS A COPY OF A CHRISTMAS CARD FROM THE
SOLDIERS OF VICTORY DIVISION

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	90/12/21		
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*S-FOR-SIGNATURE       *                      *                      *
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200099

Forest Hills all
Dec 17 1920

Dear John,

I'd like to share
with you 2 Christmas Cards
I received today

— Tom Opton

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: DECEMBER 12, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: MR. DIRK VAN DONGEN

SUBJECT: URGES THE ADMINISTRATION TO DEVELOP AN AGENDA
WHICH IS CLEAR AND VISIONARY; INVITES
GOVERNOR SUNUNU TO MEET WITH THE TAX REFORM
ACTION COALITION; NO DATE SPECIFIED

		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
ROUTE TO:		ACT	DATE	TYPE	C COMPLETED
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	CODE	YY/MM/DD	RESP	D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	90/12/12		C 90/12/12
	REFERRAL NOTE:				
JACKIE KENNEDY		RSA	90/12/12		/ /
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COMMENTS:

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197709

N · A · W

Dirk Van Dongen
President

December 7, 1990

The Honorable John H. Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Governor Sununu:

We have been reading press accounts, and hearing otherwise, of the debate among the White House staff ... Congressional Republicans ... and the party's "extended family" over an agenda for the remainder of the President's first term.

Speaking for NAW, we strongly encourage the development of an agenda which is clear and visionary.

At the risk of "beating a dead horse," it is nearly impossible to cite quickly, in concise terms, what this Administration stands for and what it wants to accomplish in regard to domestic economic policy.

The result is that the business community does not have essential conceptual points of reference, and, thus, no "areas around which to rally."

There is, in our view, the urgent need to transform the view of this Administration from one of perceived stewardship to one of advocacy.

An agenda is needed. This point is distinct and independent from the specifics of such an agenda. If it is based upon a vision, we can embrace -- or oppose -- the specifics; but, at least, you would be staking out territory which in the absence of same will be defined by others.

* * * * *

Separate and independent from the thoughts set forth above, let me comment on tax policy.

Ironically, the "new paradigm" group, which is working toward a vision of the type so urgently needed, seems to be way off-base to the extent that they are embracing preference-driven tax concepts.

The '80s were liberating in terms of tax policy. Reducing rates, as was done in 1981, left money in the first instance with individuals, and set off an entrepreneurial explosion which fueled unprecedented job expansion.

The '86 Act further reduced rates, in return for the elimination of preferences. It was major economic deregulation -- money was left with individuals to begin with, and the incentive to invest in "llama farms" and other nonproductive assets was greatly diminished.

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John H. Sununu
1990

The Administration's preoccupation with a capital gains differential flies in the face of this philosophy.

Moreover, the fact is that there is scant support in the business community for a capital gains differential, especially when set against the reality that politically you (we) will pay a price for such a differential well beyond the value of such a differential.

* * * * *

NAW serves as the Executive Secretariat for the Tax Reform Action Coalition (TRAC).

TRAC was the major business coalition which supported the low rates which became the linchpin of the '86 Act. We have remained in existence since and -- indeed -- opposed the second budget agreement because of its individual rate increases.

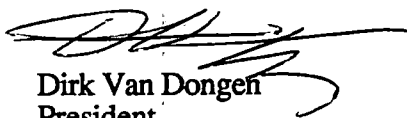
I invite you to meet with the TRAC Strategy Committee early next year to discuss these issues.

A listing of the TRAC Strategy Committee is enclosed for your review as well as a listing of TRAC's full membership.

If you would find such a meeting of benefit to you, I would appreciate a call so we can schedule a meeting at your convenience.

Thanks.

Best regards,


Dirk Van Dongen
President

Enclosures

cc: TRAC Strategy Committee

DVD/jg

THE WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

INCOMING

DATE RECEIVED: DECEMBER 12, 1990

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: CAPTAIN ALAN H. VAFIDES

SUBJECT: OFFERS HIS COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS REGARDING
THE PERSIAN GULF CRISIS

ROUTE TO:		ACTION		DISPOSITION	
OFFICE/AGENCY	(STAFF NAME)	ACT CODE	DATE YY/MM/DD	TYPE RESP	C COMPLETED D YY/MM/DD
JOHN SUNUNU		ORG	90/12/12		
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Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

(George Bush Library)

Document No. and Type	Subject/Title of Document	Date	Restriction	Class.
01. Redaction	Redaction of Social Security Number in Letter from Alan Vafides (1 pp.)	12/01/90	(b)(6)	

Collection:

Record Group: Bush Presidential Records
Office: Chief of Staff, White House Office of
Series: Sununu, John, Files
Subseries: Correspondence Files
WHORM Cat.:
File Location: M.I. [More Important] (copies) 12/90-2/91 Incoming U-V

Date Closed: 1/5/1998	OA/ID Number: 29112-008
FOIA/SYS Case #: 1998-0004-F[3]	Appeal Case #:
Re-review Case #:	Appeal Disposition:
P-2/P-5 Review Case #:	Disposition Date:
AR Case #:	MR Case #:
AR Disposition:	MR Disposition:
AR Disposition Date:	MR Disposition Date:

RESTRICTION CODES

Presidential Records Act - [44 U.S.C. 2204(a)]

P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
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 P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
 P-5 Release would disclose confidential advice between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
 P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

C. Closed in accordance with restrictions contained in donor's deed of gift.

PRM. Removed as a personal record misfile.

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 (b)(6) Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
 (b)(7) Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
 (b)(8) Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
 (b)(9) Release would disclose geological or geophysical information



National Defence

Défense nationale

Captain Alan H. Vafides, USAF

Maintenance Analysis Officer - Transport
Maintenance Analysis BranchAerospace maintenance Development Unit
Canadian Forces Base Trenton
Astra, Ontario K0K 1B0

(613) 965-3185 Autovon: 827-3144

3144

Canada

197724

01 December 1990

The Honorable John H. Sununu
Chief of Staff
The White House
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Gov. Sununu:

If you remember, we last corresponded almost two years ago when you were heading the transition team for the new administration. I had volunteered at that time for any position in the White House as a military aide, etc. I was stationed in the Philippines, but shortly thereafter was moved to Canada where I am currently serving as a USAF Exchange Officer with the Canadian Forces.

I am Captain Alan H. Vafides, [REDACTED] and a former resident of Salem, NH whom you may or may not remember. I worked with your son, Michael, at one time in Jack Halligan's Karmel Korn Shoppe. Your administration assistant kindly thanked me for my application and it is currently on file.

My reason for writing to you concerns the current Persian Gulf crisis. Since you have the best access to my Commander-in-Chief, I thought I'd share my thoughts with you and hope that somehow I could make an impression that could eventually work its way up to the Boss.

First of all, you have my total, unconditional support for the hard line you are taking against wanton aggression. Have no doubt...the young men and women who have taken a solemn oath to our country will perform superbly and with great valour. I have a background in Special Operations and want to tell you that our capabilities are so awesome that even men in your position cannot appreciate them by reading a background paper or listening to a briefing by the Brass.

If Saddam fulfils his deathwish and decides to take on our forces, then so be it. The ability of this man to determine our economic future by controlling most of the world's energy reserves must be squelched. Our citizens sacrificed greatly through five decades of the Cold War. After finally achieving final victory over violent collectivism, we can't allow the New World order to be usurped by any two-bit dictator who wants to throw sand in the face of the United States and imprison its citizens. The implications of Saddam getting away with his deeds would haunt us for decades.

But let me bring up two points that I haven't heard raised in the many debates going on and about. These two points are perhaps the most important reasons (in my thinking) for going to war and achieving an unconditional, final, and quick victory.

The first point is the exorcism of the "Vietnam syndrome" ghost. We have in our country a ready reserve of guilt ridden intellectuals and apologists who scream "Vietnam" every time the US attempts to exercise power in pursuit of its legitimate interests. These people conjure up visions of our follies and powerlessness in Vietnam, the great loss of life and money, and

the general confusion during that period. Although they know that these comparisons lack merit, they recognize that they can intimidate many of our Congressmen into becoming allergic in advance to any projection of United States power for the good of the world. These people and their allies in Congress have emotionally handcuffed our foreign policy for the last 20 years, lest we get involved in anymore "Vietnam's."

A smashing victory over Iraq's exposed forces through massive airstrikes and limited flanking ground actions with minimal loss of lives in minimal time would put the Vietnam syndrome to bed for good! Many future generations would see US power as a benefit to the world, and not something to be ashamed of. The doom and gloom bunch would lose much of their audience, and more importantly, their credibility. This is why we must act decisively. Unfortunately, a lot of Americans can't see this and only look as far ahead as tomorrow.

Secondly, a classic victory would validate the Reagan military buildup and expenditure of a trillion dollars in the 1980's. The superior performance of our weaponry and gallant actions of our all-volunteer force would show the people that their tax dollars were well spent and have paid a dividend in the securing of our economic independence. Conversely, if Saddam somehow manages to survive despite our great assembly of superior forces, many will conclude that military forces and budgets are irrelevant and the US will soon suffer the "Canadianization" of its military, as well as its moral authority in the world.

Paradoxically, I believe that an old world, classic military conquest of Iraq is essential to our hope of the order and prosperity of the post cold war new world.

These are my thoughts and I am not in the minority of opinion, so don't rely on the media moguls to get the real pulse of America. Please counsel our leader wisely as I know you will.

Have a happy holiday season and hope you get a chance to be back to NH for Christmas. I am still eager to serve in the White House if you need a savvy, young assistant in any capacity. May we meet in the future.

Sincerely,



Alan H. Vafides, Capt, USAF

Military Address:
154 Harbour St. RR # 3
Brighton, Ontario, Canada K0K 1H0

Tel. (613) 475-1517

NH Address:
140 Broad Cove Drive
Penacook, NH 03303

Tel. (603) 753-4685

P.S. I have volunteered for Persian Gulf service but have been overlooked so far. Isn't it ironic? You'll never see the media report that there are Americans in Canada trying to get into the war instead of fleeing to Canada to escape it.