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1974 Correspondence A

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December 31, 1974

Mr. Oscar Armstrong  
Director  
EA/PRCM  
The Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Oscar:

Minor detail, but perhaps some attention to it will save other families some inconvenience in the future.

Our household goods left our house in late September. They left Baltimore on November 14th -- over one and a half months later. Apparently the boat goes to Yokohama supposedly arriving there December 25th.

I am advised that the estimated time of arrival in Peking is late next month -- that will be four months from the day they left our door and possibly there will be a delay here in China due to harbor crowding. We were advised that it would take six weeks.

I have two pieces of advice which I hope do not appear to be gratuitous. First, I think families coming out here should be advised as to exactly how long it takes. (We would have sent some of our winter stuff on our air shipment for example.) Secondly, I think it would be in order to ask the State Department shipping office if this is the very best they can do.

I pass this on less in irritation about my own shipment because we are surviving very nicely thanks to generous air shipment allotments and very generous USLO loaners; but more to spare others, USLO bound, inconvenience in the future.

We had a very pleasant Christmas here in Peking -- good USLO spirit. The job continues fascinating in every way.

Happy 1975 to you and yours.

Sincerely,

George Bush

November 11, 1974

OFFICIAL - INFORMAL

UNCLASSIFIED

Oscar Armstrong, Esquire  
E/PRCM  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Oscar:

I am attaching two resumes. One on a Mr. O'Donnell and the other on Mr. Wu. Both come highly recommended to me. Both are apparently proficient in Chinese; both want to work at USLO. I have written rather discouraging letters to their sponsors, Senator Roth and David Smith, but I did want you to have these resumes as the Department is looking for good Chinese speaking officers.

Things are fascinating here. I like the staff; I like the job; I like Peking.

Best wishes.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

Enclosures:

Resumes on Mr. O'Donnell and  
Mr. Wu

GBush:lz

UNCLASSIFIED

November 15, 1974

Mr. James N. Allison, Jr.  
Midland Reporter Telegram  
Midland, Texas

Dear Jimmie:

I'm sitting in Peking minding my own business browsing through Page 2964 of the Congressional Quarterly when I come across the name Allison. Your predictions in that story were clairvoyant. I have not gotten all the election results, but I did see where Granberry got clobbered. I didn't like that because I like Jim very much and I thought with a small vote he might eke it out (age-old Republican hope). I did see where some of our friends bit the dust in a very complicated year. I do think things are set up for a good comeback in '76 given a break on the economy.

Things here are fascinating. You will have to come out here some day and stay with us. If you ever see where you can "dip into principal" as Earl Craig would say, let us know. I'll bet we could work the visa out. It is fascinating here -- so much to see, plenty to do, and Barbara and I are enormously happy. We've got a wonderfully supportive USLO staff, possessed of real expertise on China. The diplomatic corps is a good one. They are very helpful to me and, also, I have had reasonable access to the Chinese leadership. There's a bunch of mischievous, speculative stories out of Hong Kong saying things are falling apart, that relations are strained, that I am excluded from contacts, etc., and they simply are not true. None of the people writing them have talked to us in any way -- it almost seems like we're back in Washington when it comes to that side of this business.

The pace is different, the telephone never rings, but as I said above there's plenty to do. Our house is not fancy by U.S. Embassy standards, but it's much, much more than adequate. Fred made the trip okay. He was a little screwed

up for the first few days but now he's doing fine. In summary, your Peking friends are fine. We miss you a great deal, but when we get home we can take care of all of that. Love to Linda and love to your family.

Warm regards,

George Bush

GBush:lz (BOUCH)  
*Inll*

Political Report - 6

Democratic votes in hard economic times. If Blanton wins, the moderates may lose ground in internal Republican politics to a more conservative party faction.

While Blanton and Alexander compete statewide, Republicans are working hard to take back the state house of representatives. They controlled it in 1969 and 1970, because one independent voted with them to break a 49-49 tie. Now Democrats lead 50-49, so a net Republican gain of one would give them control again.

*"Good, attractive candidates just said this was not the year to run."*

—State Rep. Tom Jensen of Tennessee

"If we don't take control of the house, the difference will be attributed to the national situation," said State Rep. Tom Jensen, the House Republican leader. "It's not the fault of the local candidates, but it's taking its toll."

In order to win the key seats, Republicans had to reduce the number of districts in which they put up candidates. They are contesting only 65. "We would have felt more comfortable running in '75," admitted Jensen. "Good, attractive candidates just said this was not the year to run." The state senate is expected to remain Democratic by a comfortable margin.

Republicans hold five of the eight seats in the U.S. House. Three are in some danger, and Dan Kuykendall of the 8th District is given only about an even chance of retaining his seat against a black opponent in a majority-black district.

### Texas: Arrested Development

Texas provides a classic example of a Republican resurgence that started at the top—and never worked its way down.

Texas went Republican for Eisenhower as far back as 1952. It sent Republican John G. Tower to the Senate in 1961 and returned him in 1966 and 1972. But below that point, the growth has been slow.

Republicans have never won the governorship in Texas, despite several close calls. They ran a strong gubernatorial race in 1970 and came within 100,000 votes in 1972. But this year they appear likely to lose by a wide margin to Democratic Gov. Dolph Briscoe.

The Republican nominee, Lubbock Mayor Jim Granberry, became the party choice only after better-known politicians refused to run. These included George Bush, former Republican national chairman, and Henry C. Grover, who nearly defeated Briscoe two years ago. Considered a sure loser, Granberry has been unable to raise the money he would need to expand beyond the minimal name recognition, he started with.

Jim Allison, a longtime Texas Republican strategist and former deputy national chairman, said Granberry may be the best candidate the party ever has fielded. But he said Watergate doomed Granberry's candidacy from the start.

"What it's done is created a lot of apathy," said Allison. "It's hard to get volunteers. It's just that they feel they've

busted their backs in the past, and they don't want to do it again right now."

Republicans have never made deep inroads into the state's U.S. House delegation. They hold only four of the 24 Texas House seats and could lose two of those, the ones held by veteran Robert D. Price of the 13th District and freshman Alan Steelman of the 25th. The only Republicans who are certain to return are James M. Collins of the 3rd and Bill Archer of the 7th.

The party is not expecting gains in either house of the state legislature, but most of its incumbents are likely to be re-elected. Some Republicans are depressed, however, feeling that the party's gains have traditionally come in off-year elections, and that this year will go down as a missed opportunity.

"This by all rights should have been a super year," said Allison, "and it just isn't.... They've never really gotten down to the grass roots the way they should have. They'll never get a real two-party system until they get the governorship."

### Virginia: Statewide Success

The past decade has been good to the Republican Party in Virginia. Republicans hold the governorship, one Senate seat and seven of 10 House seats. The task this year is to avoid slipping back.

The only battleground is the House, since the state does not elect a senator again until 1976 or a governor until 1977. Several of Virginia's Republican representatives are under vigorous Democratic challenge, and there is a chance that Republicans could lose control of the delegation for the first time since 1968.

Most vulnerable of the Republicans is William C. Wampler, whose 9th District has traditionally alternated between Democratic and Republican representation. Wampler is thought to be about even with Charles D. Horne, a former Democratic Party treasurer.

Other Republican representatives in some trouble are Stanford E. Parris of the 8th and Joel T. Broyhill of the 10th. J. Kenneth Robinson of the 7th is getting a difficult test, but he is considered a favorite. Republicans are not challenging any of the three Democratic incumbents.

The Republican Party frustration in Virginia in recent years has been its inability to gain ground on Democratic majorities in the legislature. Republicans now hold 20 of 100 seats in the house and seven of 40 in the Senate. The house total represents a decline from 1969, when 25 Republicans were elected.

Republican leaders say that at least a dozen conservative Democratic legislators might be ready to convert if the Republican Party moved closer to a majority. But they concede that this year's national Republican scandals have not hastened the day.

There has been no clear-cut Republican strategy for winning elections in Virginia. Linwood Holton was chosen governor in 1969 by appealing to blacks and liberal Democrats; William Lloyd Scott won a Senate seat in 1972 with a fundamentalist right-wing campaign; Mills E. Godwin Jr. won the governorship in 1973 with a broad coalition of Republicans and Democrats who thought Lt. Gov. Henry E. Howell, running as an independent, was too liberal.

"Any success we've had in Virginia," said Obenshain, the deputy national chairman, "came because we pulled different currents together—the moderate and conservative factions."

November 6, 1974

The Honorable  
Ann Armstrong  
Counselor to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Ann:

I wrote John Warner the attached letter regarding Dick Davis, the headmaster of Miss Porter's School. It occurs to me that John might just not have a slot available at the Bicentennial for Dick, though if he's looking for people at all, this guy would be very, very useful to him. Dick is committed to finishing this year at Farmington, and then he wants to do something else. Would you keep your eyes open there. He's the kind of man who should be involved in the governmental process someplace or certainly in something like the Bicentennial.

Bar and I are very happy here. We've been here for two weeks, having spent three days en route in Tokyo with Jim Hodgson.

There is so much to do and to see and to learn. The weather is beautiful, clear, fall-like. We do lots of bicycling, some tennis on courts nowhere near as good as the White House court, though the Chinese have built a much more than adequate International Club a few hundred yards from our house. The Club has two indoor courts which are being resurfaced. We are lucky to have this kind of wonderful facility at our disposal. I have made a lot of calls on diplomats and many calls on Chinese officials. Every minute of the day is fascinating. Fortunately, we have a fantastically able staff here at USLO, with most of the officers speaking good Chinese. They are serious professionals, and it makes my work an awful lot easier.

We miss you already. Be sure to send me a letter bringing me up to date on all the happenings. It's best to send it to USLO Peking, c/o Department of State, Washington, D. C. 20520. If there ever is anything really important, Brent

*113 m. 11/17/74, Ann*

Scowcroft or Dick Solomon there know how to get a cable out here. I'm starved for news. The telephone is strangely silent. What a change. Be sure to write me after the elections with your analysis and with all the dope.

Warm regards to Tobin.

China visit anyone? Really, talk to the President about having you come out here. There are a lot of women involved in high government places, and perhaps they would be willing to talk to you for that reason if for no other. I say this because contacts are sometimes difficult to make here and maybe it would be a good in. Mention it to Henry.

Best regards, Ann. Bar sends her love, too.

George Bush

Enclosure: Copy of letter  
to John Warner

November 18, 1974

The Rt. Rev. John M. Allin  
Chairman of the Board  
The Episcopal Church Foundation  
815 Second Avenue  
New York, New York 10017

Dear Bishop Allin:

I am now living in Peking where I am Chief of the United States Liaison Office. It occurs to me that I will be even worse at attending Foundation Directors Meetings than I have been in the past, and that was pretty bad. It further occurs to me that you might like to have my slot for someone more active and better able to help on the problems facing the Foundation. I therefore feel I should resign from the Board of the Episcopal Church Foundation or at least tender my resignation for Board action.

It was a pleasure meeting you with Congressman Montgomery in Washington. I hope our paths cross often in the future.

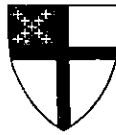
Yours very truly,

George Bush

GBush:lz (POUCH)

THE Rt. REV. JOHN M. ALLIN, Chairman of the Board, Episcopal Church Foundation

The Episcopal Church Foundation



November 8, 1974

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MEMORANDUM

TO : Board of Directors  
FROM: Frederick L. Redpath

With the Minutes of the October Executive Committee and Board of Directors Meetings, I enclose:

1. A statement by the Presiding Bishop.
2. Two Diocesan Press Service Reports on the Ordination of Women.
3. A sample copy of "Is Your Will Ever Complete?"

There are, in addition, two items of current Foundation interest on which I need the Directors' help.

Suggested Names for General Mailing List

We are making at this time a concerted effort to strengthen the Foundation's general mailing list. I ask each of you to send me by December 1st up to 15 names of new people who you think should be on our list, using the enclosed form.

Major Gifts Prospects

This list was circulated in September, and I thank those Directors who have already responded. Please look over these names and send me corrections, or any additions, at your early convenience. Will you also indicate two or three people whom you would be willing to cultivate personally in the Foundation's behalf.

I regret to announce the resignation of Mr. Robert H. Pease as consultant in our Chicago office, effective October 31, 1974. To replace him, I am looking for another person who might be interested in part-time work at the Foundation's Chicago office. Your suggestions are welcome.

*Bud*

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815 Second Avenue, New York, New York 10017 Telephone (212) 697-2858

MIDWEST OFFICE: 120 South LaSalle Street (Suite 2146), Chicago, Illinois 60603 Telephone (312) 726-4372

November 11, 1974

Ms. Yvonne M. Alford  
P.O. Box 992  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

Dear Yvonne:

Your October 11 letter reached me in Peking on November 4. We've been here now for three weeks, and it is absolutely fantastic. Let me quickly answer the points you raise. My being here is exactly what I want to be doing. I feel President Ford did me a big favor. It was my first choice of assignments, and after that flattering speculation for the Vice Presidential slot, the President was most generous in asking what I wanted to do. I will concede that I am out of sight, perhaps out of mind, but nevertheless, I am learning and doing in a very important area of our foreign policy. Believe me, it is exciting.

I confess I miss the hurly-burly of politics, but, who knows, maybe I'll get back in that some day. I sure haven't got it out of my system.

Thanks for your generous offer. Some day let's have another very special plane ride. I haven't forgotten the last one.

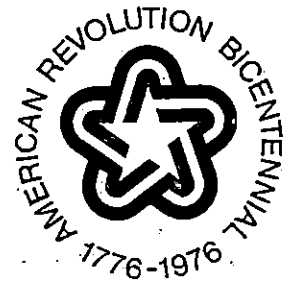
Warm regards.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

GBush:lz (INTERNATIONAL)

Anchorage Bicentennial Commission  
3330 C Street  
Anchorage, Alaska 99503  
(907) 272-7122



October 11, 1974

Dear Ambassador Designate Bush:

Following are some rather presumptuous comments concerning the recent happenings in the Cherry Blossom Festival city.

One cannot feel that your appointment to China is really all that super if he places any credence in this scenario... Nelson Rockefeller realizes during the period Mr. Ford is Vice-President-choosing that George Bush has some rather heavy clout with the Party. In view of this knowledge he deems it best that George be displaced until after 1976 Presidential-nominee-choosing time is over; thusly Mr. Bush is appointed to serve his country in China. I sincerely hope this is not the case and that Peking will be a giant leap forward toward being exactly what you want to be.

Howsomeever: If this is the case (the displacement described above), and if there will be those forces working toward the nomination of Geroge Bush in '76, and if such organizing forces need a hand in Alaska (I mean, after all we have a whopping 10 [I think] delegates and therefore may represent that "margin" needed to win); please put my name in the pot for that needed hand. O.K.?

I understand that your son spent some time in Alaska this summer. I am sure he had many good things to report.

Best wishes to you in your new job--whatever and why-ever it may be.

Sincerely,

  
Yvonne M. Alford

yma  
P. O. Box 992  
Anchorage, Alaska 99510

How many Admin Mess'gs are you taking to China?

Photo Copy Preservation

December 30, 1974

Mrs. Steve Allen  
16185 Woodvale Road  
Encino, California 91436

Dear Jayne:

Thank you for that very thoughtful card. It was indeed a pleasure meeting you at Ambassador Scali's. I am not clear from the card whether you have actually made application for visas through the PRC Liaison Office in Washington. If not, write them immediately at 2300 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., telling them of your desire to visit the PRC.

I am sure you know that visas are tough to get particularly for individual trips. The facilities are limited and when they say it's not convenient that is most often the reason -- they simply don't have the facilities, interpreters or hotels to take care of the volume of people who would want to come to China. In your case, however, they might view it very differently since you were born here and both you and Steve enjoy a prominence in the United States, plus an affection for China that would make you likely candidates. You might tell Ambassador Huang Chen that I said for you to write him to try to get the visa. Actually, my office here tells me there is nothing we can do on this end to facilitate these. It is all done through the Washington end.

Best of luck and, needless to say, Barbara and I will be delighted to see you when you get back to your native land. We are enjoying ourselves and the whole challenge of the work enormously.

Yours very truly,

G

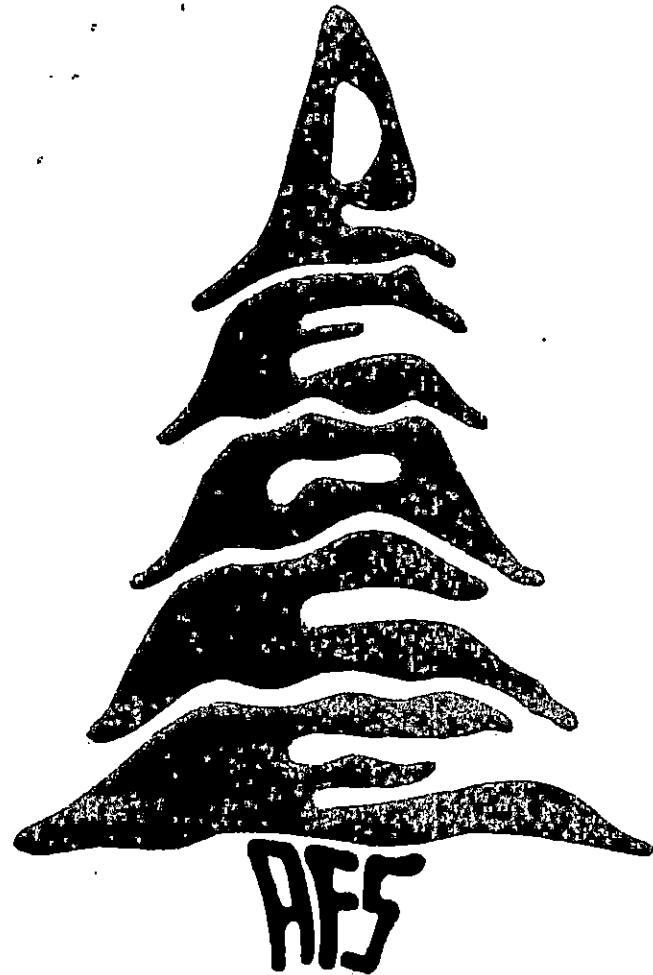
George Bush

Could be helpful in  
getting permission for  
Steve and our 17 yr.  
old son, Bill, and me  
to make such a trip  
we would be eternally  
grateful.

A Blessed Christmas  
to you, Mrs. Bush and  
all the Americans in  
Africa.

This card, which is sold for the benefit of the AFS  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS is an original  
design by Merina Bonfim de Aragao, an AFS  
clubmember from Salvaterra, Bahia, Brazil

Your friends in America  
John & Steve Elliott



dream to visit the  
land of my birth, China,  
Some day soon,  
You must be with you  
impart new duties,  
but it -- by some corner,  
as usual -- the days just  
ending a brief note  
to the right desk -- you

1902 Ambassador and  
Mrs. Bush,  
It was such a  
thrill for Stevens and  
me to meet you at  
the lovely Fehersall  
dinner in your new  
given by the John  
Speaks.  
How we enjoy  
you being in Peking.  
It is my fondest