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**Collection/Office of Origin:** Bush, George H.W., Collection  
**Series:** Personal Papers  
**Subseries:** China File, Correspondence File

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**Folder ID Number:** 25871-006

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**Folder Title:**  
1975 Correspondence Hb - Holdridge

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<b>G</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

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June 25, 1 1975

Mr. Alex W. Head,  
Oil Producer and Investments,  
1819 St. James Place, Suite 230,  
Houston, Texas 77027.

Dear Alex:

Just a quickie to let you know that  
Dr. Rowland Meyers came in to see me today.  
He is just about to leave China, and I'm  
glad he took time to drop by before he  
leaves. I enjoyed our visit very much.

Hope all's well with you and Carolyn.

Warm regards,

George Bush

*Alex W. Head*

OIL PRODUCER AND INVESTMENTS  
1819 ST. JAMES PLACE, SUITE 230  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77027  
713-622-8053

May 21, 1975

The Honorable George Bush  
Chief U.S. Liason Officer  
17 Guanghua Rd.  
Peking, China  
Peoples Republic of China

Dear George:

An old friend of mine Dr. Rowland Meyers, is coming to China in the near future and may call you. He was professor of Romance Languages at the University of Texas and now teaches at some small New Jersey college. Any courtesies extended to him by you will certainly be appreciated.

Tony Bryan told me not long ago he and Josephine were on their way to see you, and Caroline and I hope to see you and Barbara before you leave China.

The U.S. Press continues to give you good reviews and everyone here thinks you are doing a great job. Certainly hope you will get back on our national scene soon because we need you.

Caroline joins me with best regards for you and Barbara.

Sincerely,

  
Alex W. Head

AWH:ms



REPUBLICAN  
CANDIDATE FOR



**SHERIFF - RAYMOND J. HEALEY**

PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA  
SEND YOUR '76 CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS TO  
4771 SOUTH GOLDENROD DRIVE  
OLIVE GROVES, PIMA COUNTY, ARIZONA 85730  
ENDORSED BY THE RESERVE POLICE-INTERNATIONAL  
• PUT PUSHERS BEHIND BARS •

16 December 1975

Hon. George Bush.

c/o White House.

Washington, D. C.

Esteemed Sir & Good Friend ; -

I sincerely hope and pray that you will be confirmed to your  
new post.

Always at your service.

Cordially

Raymond J. Healey

4771 So. Goldenrod Drive.

Olive Groves, Pima County, Arizona 85730

*Would appreciate your inscribed Portrait.*

---

*Ray*

Sent 12-19-75

SEYMOUR M. HEILBRON

July 14

Dear George,

We were delighted to get your letter but we were already told everything it contained. We tried, but no luck.

There was a lovely article about your wife and you in "People" Magazine which I suppose you have seen. I showed it to Ade. Ade read it but she kept it.

I think the picture did not do you justice. You are both much better looking than the pictures.

We leave to-morrow for Japan, Korea, Thailand and Hong Kong. I am a delegate to the Pan Pacific & South East Asian Women

Prize, Mrs. Lippas will be  
here - it should be very  
interesting.

Yes, it is our 3rd trip  
here, we have many Indian  
friends in that part of  
the world and always in-  
form me very much  
with all news about  
the area and Thailand  
I wonder if we will be able  
to go home again.  
With all good  
wishes my best regards  
from me, your

Best Regards,  
Billie

June 5, 1975

Mr. R. L. Heinrich,  
112 Lakewood,  
Baytown, Texas 77520.

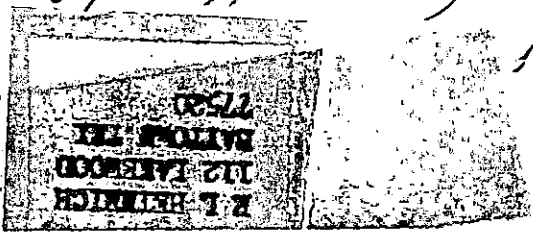
Dear Ray:

I didn't see the Ashby column on the VOID. I did write him, but I didn't know he had published it, and I was glad to get your report and glad to know you are involved with the future. That is what I am involved in out here, but there's a big difference in working in Peking and working in Houston.

We like it here, and son George arrived yesterday, and all in all the Bushes are being treated well by life.

Sincerely,

George Bush



Apr. 21, 1975

Dear George,

Greetings from the Texas VolD.

If you have time to buy Abby you have time to read a note from us.

Please call if I can ever help with

anything. Am primarily engaged as a consultant with Battelle Memorial Institute

in Columbus, Ohio, "Senior Consultant in Coal

Chemistry and Liquid and Gaseous Fuels

and chemicals from coal." Have left

petroleum and petrochemicals to get on

the wave of the future! With 4970

of the world's coal, we in the U.S.

can't lose energywise.

All goes well in Texas. You can't beat

our idiots for being lucky, which is

what you have to be if not smart.

You must be doing a fantastic job

since we practically never hear you

mention me.

Our strange zoo of congresspersons

in Harris county is performing as you

would be proud of them.

Sincerely,

Frank Stewart

1975

*From Dish Helms  
in London*

FOREIGN SERVICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
OFFICE OF THE AMBASSADOR

Date 12/29

To George

- For Your Information
  - For Your Comments
  - For Your Approval
  - Please prepare reply for Ambassador's Signature
  - Please prepare reply on behalf of Ambassador, for your signature.
- As You Requested
  - Please file
  - Note and return.

The enclosure hardly paints a picture of a cold-hearted neanderthal type who enjoys violating his country's laws, as per Church and the liberal press!

As far as I now know, I will be back in Washington for more testimony the last week of January.

Good luck on your confirmation! You'll be a damned good Director. Right on, George.

One word of caution, if I may be so bold: You'll get lots of free advice, most of it bad. Take your time and make your own judgments. All the best, Dick

September 25, 1975

Ms. Bernice Heller,  
Market Representatives,  
Associated Dry Goods Corp.,  
417 Fifth Avenue,  
New York, N.Y. 10016.

Dear Bernice:

Darn it! my timing is louzy. I'm sorry  
I missed you when you were in China and I was  
in the States. I just got back and found that  
you had called the office.

How was the Hilton?

Warm regards,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE  
Peking, People's Republic of China

June 16, 1975

Mrs. Seymour Heilbron,  
Hays, St. John, Abramson & Heilbron,  
120 Broadway,  
New York, N.Y. 10005.

Dear Tillie:

I got your note. We had a wonderful visit with Lady and Mrs. Berensen.

I just wish there was some way to help on your visa, but we have found we can't do much on this end. The attached Memorandum explains what you should do, and I recommend that you apply to the PRCLC in Washington immediately. The Berensens visas were somewhat different in that they were personal house guests of their longtime and close friend Bryce Harland, of New Zealand.

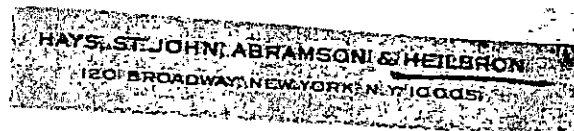
Barbara and I are both very happy in this job. We have been here almost eight months, and each day is tremendously interesting.

I wish I could be more optimistic about your visa, but if you follow up with the PRCLC you may be one of the fortunate ones. I hope so.

Yours very truly,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

Enclosure



JUN 18 1974

100 Reitzel Park South  
Kensington, N.Y. 10019

Memorandum from

the Desk of June 14

MRS. SEYMOUR HEILBRON

My dear Mr. Ambassador,  
 My delay and your  
 dear friend, Jack Rosen  
 son of New Zealand have  
 arrived without a  
 headache with her last  
 week. I was very happy  
 when she told me she had  
 just arrived from Berlin  
 she said she had her  
 headaches - in-law were  
 very quiet among others  
 at a Berlin Dinner  
 Well, my pleasure  
 tell me what to do as they  
 now and you can get a  
 check change. My only  
 leaving just 8/1/74 for the  
 Great Britain will be in  
 Hong Kong on July 23rd. S

would be so easy to be as  
I was dumb funds  
you felt at her age to be  
she climbed the steps that  
and that with a bad cold.

Lee Ann's mother &  
Marie and she in extreme  
great at it. There is a place  
near Washington some for  
such he would like to meet  
them and compare notes,  
I'm on 3rd to the  
Grief and feelings has  
long had a wife and  
I have a girl and a boy  
the 1st country. He has met  
all the reporters here for  
feel us what he's like  
the man in Washington  
Apple's daughter - he's  
he's a U.S. citizen to well  
he's a genius. We should  
be careful.

Very much at the U.N.  
I'll be there  
Bill Thompson Nelson

United States Liaison Office  
Peking, People's Republic of China

July 28, 1975

The Hon. Richard M. Helms,  
United States Ambassador,  
Tehran.

Dear Dick:

I hope this catches you peacefully back in Tehran and not in DC at one of those ghastly hearings.

This is a personal note on behalf of a young lady of considerable beauty and talent who has just graduated from Yale. She is now in Tehran working for a design team.

Madge Bemiss comes from Richmond, Virginia. Her family and ours are the very, very closest of friends. I have known Madge all her life, watched her grow up, passing from enchanting stage to enchanting stage.

She has just moved to Tehran, and here is her address:

Margaret (Madge) Bemiss  
c/o Llewelyn Davies Za Shoraka  
3 Nasar Street  
Iran Shahr Ave.  
Tehran

Her boss is Jaquelin Robertson, the son of Walter Robertson.

Now for the special favor department: if you could include Madge in on some Embassy function, or in some way that would not complicate your already very busy life check in on her, I would appreciate it enormously. She is more than a friend, almost a member of my family.

Life in Peking continues to be fully absorbing and most interesting. I return to the US around the end of August, hopefully for a week in Maine, then consultations.

Maybe I will be fortunate enough to see you at an Alibi lunch.

Incidentally, my visit in Peking with Princess Ashraf was most pleasant and I was particularly pleased she let me come call (at the old US Legation, no less) in spite of a dreadful migraine that was plaguing her at the time.

Warm regards,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

USLO Peking,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D.C.20520.

April 28, 1975

Hon. Don Henderson,  
Mayor-elect of El Paso,  
City Hall,  
El Paso, Texas.

Dear Don:

Just today did I hear that you won the big election. We got a letter from Fred Sacksteder. This is no mean occasion, and we are mighty proud of you. When you get a spare minute (if you get a spare minute) send me the gory details of the victory.

Bar and I are very happy here in Peking. It is oh so different, but a fascinating experience.

Warmest regards, and again my congratulations to both you and Margie on this fantastic victory,

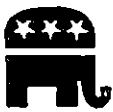
George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

HARVEY HERD  
Box 124-130  
MIDLAND, TEXAS 79701

Fitz

Dear George and Barbara,  
I was most honored last week to have had a very pleasant visit with your son, George. I could see a lot of both Ma and Pa so my visit was doubly refreshing.

He asked some very provocative questions about "going Independent". I hope my advice was helpful - Come on to Midland and get your feet wet!! But with this Congress it is difficult to play the game with the rules (?) changing all too frequently. Anyway, the industry needs some good young men, so I hope to see



Republican  
National  
Committee.

*File  
aws  
2-22*

March 14, 1975

The Honorable George Bush  
United States Liaison Office - Peking  
c/o The Department of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear George:

This will acknowledge your letter of February 25th and I am always glad to hear from one of the true champions it has been my privilege to be associated with while working in "The Vineyard of the Lord" here at the Republican National Committee headquarters.

Undoubtedly you do hear from time to time from some of your former associates relative to problems and progress of the Republican Party in these challenging days. I am taking the liberty of enclosing some articles which may be of interest to you should you perchance not have had the opportunity to have read them previously.

In my book, the last RNC meeting was a disaster from a psychological and symbolic viewpoint for the Party. The enclosures may be of some degree of enlightenment to you.

While I was pleased, of course, to see you appointed Envoy to the People's Republic of China, being a hard nosed pragmatist as I am, I do not like to see George Bush hidden away in far off China when the Republican Party needs so badly spokesmen with your image on the firing line in this country. Especially is this so if we hope to meet the great confrontation successfully in '76.

I saw a poem the other day which was a take off on the famous song, "Bill Bailey, Come Home." I say to you, George, "Come home and walk with us into battle."

With warm and deepest affection to you and Barbara, I am

Sincerely yours,

AB Hermann  
Assistant to the Chairman

ABH:jd  
Enclosures

file  
type address for  
at card for  
Boris

Mrs. Don S. Henderson  
716 Meadowlark  
El Paso, Texas 79922  
May 8  
over

Dear Barbara and George -

I am hoping you have heard by now that Don was elected mayor of El Paso on April 15. I am sending some clippings, though, in case you would like the particulars of the election. If George has ever met Woodrow Bean he can imagine that we were running scared against this master politician until the last vote was counted. We were so glad the people were not all taken in by his wild promises and complete falsehoods that he fed them. You would have been so proud of the campaign Don waged and of all our good Republican friends who worked so hard for us. Come see us and if we ever get to Chicago will do the same! Love, Mary

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

March 19, 1975

Mr. Edward Herr  
Miami Beach Tennis Association  
P. O. Box 390704  
Miami Beach, Florida 33139

Dear Mr. Herr:

Thank you for your good letter of March 6th.

I would strongly urge that you immediately contact the People's Republic of China Liaison Office, 2300 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C. I have discussed these matters with Mr. Chuang and we here at USLO feel that the best way to get action is to originate the request through the PRCLLO.

Most of the exchanges and visits that take place are made outside of the government exchange channels. Many groups come to China that we don't even know about, working directly with the Chinese officials. Now that you have contacted Mr. Chang Lien-hua, I am convinced a follow-up to PRCLLO is important.

Things work in mysterious ways over here and we are not able to do near as much in terms of making exchanges happen as we would like. Now that I have your letter I will be on the alert to find ways to help.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

Sponsored by PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE SPORTS COMMITTEE in Association with U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AND

# Miami Beach Tennis Association

MEMBER OF U.S.L.T.A. & F.L.T.A.

March 6, 1975

P.O. BOX 390704  
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33139  
PHONE: 868-6120

PARTICIPATING NATIONS  
SINCE 1958

- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Bahamas
- Belgium
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- British Honduras
- Canada
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Czechoslovakia
- Denmark
- Dominican Republic
- Dutch West Indies
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Finland
- France
- Great Britain
- Guatemala
- Greece
- Haiti
- Holland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Mexico
- Morocco
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Pakistan
- Panama
- Peru
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Rep. of Korea
- Rep. of So. Africa
- Rhodesia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Sudan
- Trinidad
- United Arab Republic
- United States
- Uruguay
- Venezuela
- West Germany
- Yugoslavia

Mr. George Bush  
Chief of U.S. Liason Office  
Peoples Republic of China  
Peking, China

Dear Mr. Bush:

Our Committee seeks your support in connection with our international junior tennis program staged at Miami Beach over the Christmas Holidays. We would appreciate it greatly if you will approach the Peoples Republic of China government officials on our behalf. In Peking one of the contacts should be made through Mr. Chang Lien-hua who heads the All China Sports Federation. If Mr. Chang is still at his post he can be reached at 3, Tai Yang Kung.


This year our Committee will assemble the two-boy teams of 38 nations. The ages 16-18 years. The nations will arrive in Miami on December 15 and participate in four tournaments as follows.  
December 17-21 SUNSHINE CUP MATCHES -Miami Beach  
( Also titled "World Championships" of Junior Davis Cup)  
December 22-28 ORANGE BOWL JUNIOR CHPS -Miami Beach  
Dec. 29-Jan. 4 NAPLES JUNIOR CLASSIC -Naples, Fla.  
January 5-10 HILLCREST INTERNATIONAL -Hollywood, Fla.

The participating nations will be housed with private families and provided complete hospitality.

Our finals of the Sunshine Cup Matches will be tel-vised nationwide over the Public Broadcast Service. Some 235 TV Stations will feature the four hour event. We have applied for prime time on December 29 or December 30 starting at 7:30 P.M.

Friends of mine tell me you are quite a tennis fan.

Best regards,

Sincerely  
  
Edward Herr

EDWARD HERR  
Program and Tournament Director

SUNSHINE CUP COMMITTEE

Edward Herr, Chairman -  
Dr. Leonard Miltom  
Mrs. Sue Feldman  
Marvin Feldman, Referee

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

DECEMBER 16, 1974 - DECEMBER 31, 1974

Sponsored by PEOPLE-TO-PEOPLE SPORTS COMMITTEE in Association with U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AND

# Miami Beach Tennis Association

MEMBER OF U.S.L.T.A. & F.L.T.A.

April 30, 1975

P.O. BOX 390704  
MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA 33138  
PHONE: 866-8120

PARTICIPATING NATIONS  
SINCE 1958

- Argentina
- Australia
- Austria
- Bahamas
- Belgium
- Bolivia
- Brazil
- British Honduras
- Canada
- Chile
- Colombia
- Costa Rica
- Cuba
- Czechoslovakia
- Denmark
- Dominican Republic
- Dutch West Indies
- Ecuador
- El Salvador
- Finland
- France
- Great Britain
- Guatemala
- Greece
- Haiti
- Holland
- India
- Indonesia
- Iran
- Ireland
- Israel
- Italy
- Jamaica
- Japan
- Mexico
- Morocco
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Pakistan
- Panama
- Peru
- Philippines
- Poland
- Portugal
- Rep. of Korea
- Rep. of So. Africa
- Rhodesia
- Spain
- Sweden
- Switzerland
- Sudan
- Trinidad
- United Arab Republic
- United States
- Uruguay
- Venezuela
- West Germany
- Yugoslavia

Ambassador George Bush  
United States Liaison Office  
Peking, People's Republic of China

Dear Ambassador Bush:

Many thanks for your reply of March 19 and the suggestion we contact the People's Republic of China Liaison Office in Washington, D.C. I sent a letter mentioning we had sent an invitation to Mr. Chang Lien-hau of the All China Sports Federation in Peking.

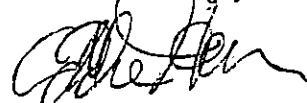
Yesterday we received a form letter from Mr. Chang Chih-hsiang who advised our Association to again contact the All China Sports Federation.

We sent a second letter to Mr. Chang Lien-hua along the same lines of our last correspondence. We mentioned 38 nations will send two-boy junior tennis Teams. Ages 16-18 years. We stated the participating nations would arrive in Miami on December 14. Our Committee would provide complete hospitality covering a 30 day stay in the Greater-Miami area. We listed four tournaments.

Should the People's Republic of China accept our invitation I would assume personal responsibility for the junior players. I also mentioned our finals of the Sunshine Cup Matches would be televised nationwide.

Maybe in a mysterious way we will receive a favorable reply. Your support will be greatly appreciated. We promised to take the young visitors to Disney World before they returned to Peking.

Sincerely,



Eddie Herr  
Program Director  
M.B.T.A.

EDWARD HERR

Program and Tournament Director

SUNSHINE CUP COMMITTEE

Edward Herr, Chairman  
Dr. Leonard Miltom  
Mrs. Sue Feldman  
Marvin Feldman, Referee

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.  
AND THE BEST IS YET TO COME.

*File*  
*inv. 2-24*  
*interested, no comment*  
*told her to send Pete*  
*a copy*  
*HERSKOVITZ*

Feb. 3, 1975

Ambassador George Bush  
United States Liaison Office  
Peking, People's Republic of China  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear George,

The slowness of this letter doesn't reflect my delight at hearing from you, or how much I enjoyed your first impressions of a dramatic new assignment.

Rather than bore you with a lot of un-creative excuses for not replying sooner, I'm enclosing a TV commentary -- one of the things I do on sports, society and the trials of daily living -- that covers my weaknesses as a correspondent.

There is no modest way to send someone a book one has written, but I am also enclosing a copy of a recent exercise of mine entitled "The Golden Age of Pro Football." It is really a celebration of the decade of the 1950s, and the story of the sport's emergence is woven against the backdrop of what the country was like in those years.

I am doing this, even though I realize you have little time for frivolous reading, in the interest of international good will. I mean, if the Chinese enjoy table tennis, think of the potential joy we could spread by giving them a franchise in the National Football League.

Also, inasmuch as the '50s were the glory years of your own handsome youth, I figure the book should have sentimental value. Other than that, I just wanted you to have a copy. There are no answers in the book, but there are no questions, either, and I thought that might be a nice change of pace from so much of today's reading.

Pete seems to be surviving nicely in his new position, and I find it pleasant to be able to stay in touch with you through

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

Mr. George Bush

-2-

him. I will welcome the time when it is possible to see you more directly and more often. My hope is that such a time will coincide with your return to political office, which I -- among many people far more expert at such things -- believe to be your destiny.

I doubt, have always doubted, that you can be aware how many friends you have who think of you often, wish you well, remain your fervent admirers and puzzle over the curious dips and turns of political fate which in recent years sent your career in other -- though no less useful or distinguished -- directions.

Enough of that, as I am sure such sentiments can only embarrass you. I am now going to throw out an idea that may be impolite, unpolitic or indiscreet, if not all three. But here goes.

Reading your letter, which I have kept on my desk all these weeks and looked at several times, an idea kept buzzing through my brain. Would you consider letting me do a book with you on your experiences as the American minister to Peking?

First, the project would not need to begin until such time as your assignment is completed and you feel free to do so. But of necessity, a contact with a publisher of the highest reputation should be made well in advance.

It need not be, perhaps shouldn't be, basically a political book. Rather it should tell the human story of, literally, an American diplomat in Peking. His reactions to the people, the life, the culture -- and the government. How you and your family lived, coped with the daily problems. The funny things as well as the tensions and crises.

You, and Barbara, are superbly equipped, I think, to put down your observations. I know from your letters of the past, and our all too brief conversations, that you have the eye and the ear for the kind of character exposure that would make delightful reading.

Also, maybe more important from my selfish viewpoint than yours, it would be a unique contribution to the literature of American-Chinese relations. I single out my own selfish interest, because I am consciously looking for a book, or books, outside of sports that have historical importance, that would be a piece of what is happening in our time and our world.

Mr. George Bush

-3-

If for any reason you would feel uneasy about the commercial aspects of authoring a book about time spent in your country's service, a portion of the royalties could be assigned to a foundation or charity. I would not object to making a comparable gesture with my share of such royalties, to the extent of donating a reasonable amount to charity. My inability to do more stems not from any moral reluctance, but from the fact that my future is far from financially secure and I am providing for three teen-aged children, and a recent addition.

My wife and I are adopting a three-year old boy of racially mixed parentage. His name is Christopher, he was born Christmas day, and the reasons for this step are too complex to sort out now and are as much for our enrichment as his.

George, I have gone on too long already and may have already caused you a disservice by putting forth this suggestion by mail. If so, I offer my most sincere and abject apology. I have no way of knowing about the privacy of your mail, but if you have any interest at all in the matter, and the liberty to discuss it -- by letter or through Pete -- I would just be the most receptive constituent you have ever known.

If not, no harm done, and I will simply mark it as another great idea to be kept on the back burner. (But just in case, would it be untoward if I suggested that one or all members of the Bush family might keep a diary, at least of the light, innocent, day-to-day things.)

I, too, hope our paths cross soon. I sense a better, more optimistic mood spreading here across the country, a feeling of coming out of the "crisis alert." Hope all the months ahead are great and exciting ones for you and your family. Let me know if I can tend to anything for you here, such as mow your yard.

Every Good Wish,



Mickey Herskowitz

from the desk of

MICKY HERSKOWITZ

KPRC-TV, CHANNEL 2, HOUSTON, TEXAS

TV COMMENTARY - JANUARY 20, 1975



"MAIL"

You examine the problems of the U.S. Postal service, which loses money on every piece of mail it handles, and you reach one conclusion. The only way to save the Post Office is for people to quit answering their mail.

We could make it work by appealing to the patriotism of the American people. When one realizes the money he saves the government by not answering his mail, he or she will soon feel as patriotic as a line sergeant at Valley Forge.

The reason many people answer letters, and do it promptly, is that they are obsessed with a terrible disease known as the clean desk syndrome. The only logical way to get through life is to let your desk -- if you must have one -- be your friend, not your enemy. Don't fight your desk. It is constructed to have things on top of it. That's why it is so long and wide. If a desk were meant to be bare, it would be no larger than a bread box.

I speak from experience, as one whose desk always looks as though it had been the scene of a kidnapping, and the police take one look and say, they put up a great struggle.

The fact is that the only time incoming mail should be really cleared off is when roaches have begun to breed there, holding orgies between the various papers on your desk. Otherwise, mail should be handled in the proper way. Two or three times a year it should be vaguely shuffled, cut and re-dealt from one side of your desk to the other. The things that absolutely MUST be answered should be placed neatly on top of the pile. This will give you the feeling of having actually answered the letter.

It is a fact that most letters come from strangers or businesses or magazine subscription departments. The great thing about close friends is that they don't expect you to answer their letters. One reason is that they seldom write you in the first place.

But one of the most dangerous things a person can do is answer a letter promptly. People who do this, who answer the mail the minute it hits their desk, have some kind of deep-rooted problem. They are usually some kind of a closet yo-yo.

Poised like hawks, they swoop down on a letter, grip it in their talons and start dictating or writing a reply.

Actually, the only kind of mail worth answering consists of letters that pass the test of time...the ones you can't bring yourself to discard over the months and years. They become frayed and soiled from repeated shuffling, and you can no longer remember but what you might actually have answered it.

This requires a tricky opening sentence, to avoid sounding like a nitwit who answers letters twice. The idea is to suggest that if you did answer it was lost in the mails, or during an attack of the sendee's amnesia.

This golden sentence should say something like, "Re-reading your great letter today, from October of '72, I got a lot of enjoyment out of it all over again! And just wanted to say...etc. etc."

Of course, that will make a friend of this person immediately, and in a few days you will receive another letter, which you will be tempted to answer. If you wait long enough, the temptation will pass.

###

UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE  
Peking, People's Republic of China

May 30, 1975

Mr. Mickey Herskowitz,  
KPRC-TV2,  
P.O. Box 2222,  
Houston, Texas 77001.

Dear Mickey:

Sorry for the long delay in answering your letter of April 19.

Barbara is already involved in a joint writing project in conjunction with Loraine Cooper, the wife of our Ambassador to East Germany. She was enthralled by the idea you spelled out in your letter, but she is not in a position at this point to go ahead. The arrangement you proposed sounds fair, but the hangup on this end is Barbara's own commitment to the Cooper idea - at least they are determined to explore it fully, and they exchange letters which could become the text of a joint book. Don't give up on us, though.

Barbara is back in the States now. George Jr. comes here next week, followed by three of our other children and Barbara's return.

Peking in the spring is unbelievably pretty.

There are enormous frustrations here, such as being out of contact with all the inside happenings at home, and even being cut off from Channel 2. But the great challenge outweighs the frustrations.

Not much else to report. Please pardon the delay in answering.

Warm regards,

George Bush

P.S. Tom DeMitor, of Channel 13, came by and took some footage in our house the other day. He is the documentary TV photographer for the AAU Track Team, which did a superb job here. Debra Sapenter, from Prairie View, was here, and I had a couple of good visits with her.



CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY.  
AND THE BEST IS YET TO COME.

April 19, 1975

*D. Adato*

Mr. George Bush  
United States Legation  
Peking, People's Republic of China  
c/o Department of State  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear George,

I really ought to write you more often. For one thing, I get a charge out of typing the above address and, for another, you write such lively and readable letters in return.

I'm a few weeks delinquent in answering you, as it happens, and for that I apologize. Aside from the fact that I am disorganized, which always accounts for some delay, I was waiting to hear from Bill Adler, the literary agent who handled my book with Cosell and a more recent one with Jimmy (The Greek) Snyder. I might have mentioned Bill in my last letter. If not, he has represented Margaret Truman and James Roosevelt, and prefers to do books that are a piece of American history. As yours would be.

On a most confidential basis, I took the liberty of discussing with Bill, by telephone, our exchange of thoughts. Hope you don't mind my doing that. He is a gentleman, and I know whatever inquiries he made would have been discreet and clearly tentative.

Will pass along his reaction and trust that it won't sound as if I'm pressuring you or making a sales pitch. First, Bill understands your position -- as I do -- but makes the point that you can prepare for a book, discuss it, consider it, without being obligated to do one. He, and I, want you to know that there would be strong interest among the better publishing firms, whenever you felt your circumstances would allow you to entertain the idea. Bill is certain it would be an important book: basically, about your careers at the UN, as head of the party, and in China.

Two, he would like me to encourage you, to encourage Barbara, to think about writing a book, now, about the Bush family's Peking experience. It could, as I indicated before, be as nearly non-political as possible, focusing on the life, the culture, the people, the human elements involved in being the

george bush

-2-

wife of the minister to a country where no American had been welcome for more than 20 years. It would be interesting, for example, to have her comment on whether the friendliness and the hospitality you were accorded varied with the developments in Viet Nam and Cambodia. And in what way.

There are three advantages to having Barbara author a book: 1) It would in no way prohibit you from doing one later, covering the broader sweep of events; 2) there is ample precedent for a member of a government official's family appearing in print (Lynda Bird Johnson, Julie Eisenhower, now Susan Ford); 3) the best advantage of all: it could begin now, while the experience is happening.

Keep in mind that from the time a contract is signed, the earliest a book can reach the public is generally 18 months. Figure a year for research and writing, a minimum of six months for printing and distribution.

If Bar has any interest, or is at least open-minded about such a project, would you ask her to drop me a letter, as informal as she wants to make it, just rambling about whatever she thinks she might like to include: say, a quick impression of the people, the living conditions, how the diplomatic corps operates there, and any anecdotal samples she can recall about the funny things that require an adjustment.

IF it turns out that she would want to go ahead with it, I would ask Bill Adler to submit a contract (with one of the major publishers) for her approval. Then -- I'm assuming my role in all this, as a ghost writer or collaborator, is understood -- Barbara and I could begin exchanging letters. Maybe I would suggest an outline of a chapter, and include some questions. She could simply follow that, or from time to time write me her thoughts in a letter, or diary, or even on tape, covering whatever has happened or any facet of the life that strikes her.

When her schedule allows, whatever information she would prefer to talk about directly, could be done on her trips home. Also, if it could be arranged, at some point near the end of our development of the material for the book, I would like to make a trip to Peking myself -- as I say, if it is at all feasible -- to interview her in that setting, and color in a few strokes from my own impressions.

At this point, I couldn't guess what kind of advance money a publisher would offer. But it wouldn't take Adler long to

george bush

-3-

find out. Beyond that, we would work out a 50-50 split, that is, 50 per cent of all royalties for the author (Barbara) and 50 per cent for me (the writer.)

So much for business talk. There is no doubt in my mind that it would be an exciting book and fun to do. I hope she will consider it.

The news in Texas, as in less attractive places, has been taken up with the trial, and acquittal, of Gov. Connally. I have yet to find anyone, friend or critic, who wasn't pleased at the verdict. It seemed to show that it is possible, if difficult, to get a fair trial in Washington. And most people felt that, on the evidence, it should never have gone to trial. It was a scarring experience, I'm sure, but he came out of it well, handled himself with great class.

Everywhere there is great sadness over the events in Southeast Asia. I'm sure they have made your job more sensitive and more crucial. And hectic.

I'm in Los Angeles this week working on a book with your old podner, Gene Autrey. It's called, naturally, "Back in the Saddle Again." I'm enjoying it, all those childhood memories surfacing. He's Americana, and his auto-biography spans the last traces of the old west, and an era we'll never see again. I think it will be a fine book.

George, I'll stop here, except to thank you for wading through this and letting me impose on your (and Barbara's) good natures. Incidentally, I started this letter on the plane, but the hostess told me my typing was disturbing the other passengers. I started to tell her it was a confidential, top secret message to Our Man in Peking, and to hell with the other passengers. But I hate scenes, so I stopped.

Would you like me to send carbons of these letters to Pete Roussel? I wouldn't mind. I trust his judgment, and his loyalty to you, and would welcome any thoughts or suggestions he might have for Barbara. In the meantime, please let me know if I can do anything for you here, that might not be convenient for your family or other friends to do. (I don't know what that could be, unless you'd like me to send you the point spread on next season's games. But please know I'm at your service.)

Every Good Wish,  
*Mick*

P.S. -- my best to the Bulgarian ambassador. And if all of the above sounds like you're being rushed, it wasn't meant to. We're still loose.. Just wanted you to have some info.

ans by hand 7-30.. saying I can't write now, restraints of job, and Bar  
cool but to use own judgement on Adler... GB

CHANNEL TWO TELEVISION COMPANY

**KPRC TV**

*Bar - File  
read & File  
return  
AB*

*00L 0015*

June 23, 1975

Ambassador George Bush  
United States Liaison Office  
Peking, People's Republic of China  
Department of State.  
Washington, D.C. 20520

**JUL 3 1974**

Dear George,

I caught the TV footage of the AAU track team's visit to Peking, and your comments and interviews, and am pleased to confirm what I'm sure the CIA has already told you. You came off splendidly! Looked good, sounded good. Intelligent, sensitive, aware, charming. How the hell did you ever get into politics?

You are needed desperately as commissioner of baseball!

Enjoyed your letter and appreciate very much your thoughtful response to the book idea. By all means, Barbara should pursue her joint project with Mrs. Cooper.

May I make a suggestion? If they have not at this point received any professional advice, or representation, may I have Bill Adler drop Barbara note to that end? As I mentioned to you before, Bill is not only one of the wisest hands in the publishing business, he is reliable and creative. His clients include Margaret Truman, James Roosevelt, Gene Autry and Howard Cosell, meaning he can get along with anybody.

Perhaps if Barbara has copies of her correspondence with Mrs. Cooper, she could let Bill review them and offer: 1) an opinion, and 2) a procedure.

In the meantime, the recent story in PEOPLE Magazine about the adventures of the Bush family convinces me more than ever that you should consider doing a book. There are several ways to go, as we have already discussed. When you, or Barbara, or both of you, feel in a better position to think about it, we certainly will.

George, you are thought of often here, with great pride, by your many friends..

Every Good Wish,

P.O. BOX 2222/HOUSTON, TEXAS 77001

*Mickey*  
Mickey Herskowitz

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

September 29, 1975

Mrs. Leon Hess,  
625 Park Avenue,  
New York City.

Dear Norma:

Just a note to say that Kay Spencer and Bill delivered your thoughtful greeting. It was great to hear from you again. We miss you and Leon, we miss the Jets, and we miss the U.S., but we are having a fantastically interesting experience here in China. One of these days our paths will cross again and that makes me very happy.

The Spencers left Sunday after an eventful five days. Gosh, it was such a treat having them here. They are such marvelous houseguests and such wonderful people. It was a real highlight for us.

Warmest regards to all your wonderful family. Barbara sends her love. We miss you.

Sincerely,

George Bush

Dear Barbara and George - A  
bit of Americana through the  
courtesy of Katie Spencer.

We hear glowing reports of  
your activities. We're so proud  
of you, but we miss you!

With love and best wishes  
from Leon +

Sept. 14.

Norma

**DEERE & COMPANY**

MOLINE, ILLINOIS 61265

*M*

WILLIAM A. HEWITT, Chairman

18 June 1975

The Honorable George Bush  
American Ambassador  
United States Liaison Office  
Kuang Hua Lu, 17, Peking  
People's Republic of China

JUN 26 1975

Dear Ambassador Bush:

Your note to Mr. Hewitt has arrived while he is away from the office on an extended business trip to Europe. I know he will be pleased to see it when he returns to the office in mid-July.

Sincerely,

*Allen A. Michel*  
Secretary to the Chairman

UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE  
Peking, People's Republic of China

July 8, 1975

Rev. Rufus Higginbotham,  
Christian Church,  
4304 Westway Avenue,  
Dallas, Texas 75205.

Dear Rufus:

Thank you for your letter of June 27th. I think you are right that a letter written directly to the PRCLO is in order, and it should go direct to: Ambassador Huang Chen, People's Republic of China Liaison Office, 2300 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008. My advice would be to write it from the heart, just as you have written me from the heart.

Good luck on this. I just wish I could "make it all happen" from this end.

Yours very truly,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

# CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΤΗΣ

Π)Π² ΧΓΚ  
Τ Τ

(214) 526-0648 or 522-0061

4304 WESTWAY AVENUE  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75205

ACTS 1:8, I COR. 4:17, MARK 15:21  
RUFUS HIGGINBOTHAM

June 27, 1975

Hon. George Bush  
USA Liason Office  
Peking, China

Dear George:

I can't tell you how thrilled I was to receive your letter of some 6-8 weeks ago regarding my inquiry about a visit for Billy Graham in the PRC. I made plenty of copies of the letter and distributed it among many of our church group - - & now, try as I may, I can't find one still around to send you back at this time - in case you needed a little memory refreshment.

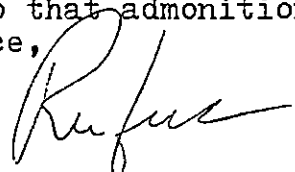
You recall your advice that such an invitation would have to come from those of the PRC themselves. Thinking on this, I sent a letter to Billy - got a reply from T. W. Wilson (copy enclosed), & even one to Mr. Nixon - about whom to write in PRC (haven't heard from that). Since the time has passed - I thought perhaps a letter directly to the Chinese might prove to be the thing that should have been done all along. I have written that letter & am enclosing it herewith - if you feel that it would have the proper result with your forwarding same.

I especially enjoyed your report of the Christian service you & your family attend there in PRC. Your comment about its not having "all the trappings" was especially meaningful - - perhaps, in reflection, - if the 'trappings' were gone from all our meetings - just leaving the bare reality of our faith - alone, - we would all be better off!! May God continue to bless you! Please give the enclosed check - or equivalent - for that Christian work there - our whole group remembers you and it in its prayers also.

Looks like my typing has about played out - after 18 years in law practice - and now a full load at the seminary in Ft. Worth - I still have the secretarial forte to master.

Will look forward to your response and advice.

In remembrance of that 'hinge' of history - 2,000 years ago, In personal response - with Billy - to that admonition to 'Go ye therefore', I am, in His service,

  
Rufus Higginbotham

*P.S. - found your letter enclosed here with 2 picture also - more - B.G. & myself*

"The largest number of people who have yet to hear are in Communist China . . . I would welcome sharing with that leadership and people. Through Christian love we can lead others to the giver of peace."

Billy Graham

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

Ecclesia

Rufus Higginbotham  
4304 Westway Ave.  
Dallas, Texas, USA  
June 27, 1975

People's Republic of China  
Chairman Mao Tse Tung (or his appropriate representative)  
Peking, China

Dear neighbor:

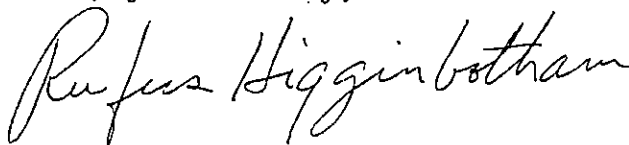
I am so happy - with all our countrymen, for the new communications between our countries. We enter a new era for peace and prosperity, for life's fulfillments in joy and love.

There is one man in America - - indeed in 'western' culture - - who undoubtedly represents peace, love, joy, and hope - - more than any other man. He has been counsel in life's deepest problems of spirit and soul to presidents and many other heads of state. He has appeared before millions of people to encourage and to support their longings for security and self-enrichment from within. That man is William (Billy) Graham.

We all aim high - - for the best of everything - - in life's inner values - - for all peoples of the of the world. In this spirit and hope, Billy expressed to me his desire to come to your country, - - not for any mission other than this good will, comradery - - friendship - - enjoying together what our beginnings have given us all.

I can only foresee such a visit as another new peak in our relations together, and sincerely anticipate communication from you embracing this additional gesture in hand to hand encouragement for our fullest and highest mutual existance in this universe we live in. I believe that Mr. Graham will be in your area of the world next November, and would suspect that that area of time would be oportune for a visit also to your country. Personally, I, also, would be greatly gratified to participate in such a mission of 'peace and good will'.

In anticipation of your response, I am, yours truly,



Rufus Higginbotham

T. W. WILSON  
MONTREAT, NORTH CAROLINA 28757

May 26, 1975

Dear Rufus:

Billy Graham received your letter and wanted me to personally thank you for taking time to write. He has been extremely busy having just closed a crusade in Jackson, Mississippi.

God bless you.

Most sincerely,



T. W. Wilson  
Associate to Billy Graham

The Rev. Rufus Higginbotham  
Christian Church  
4304 Westway Avenue  
Dallas, TX 75205



UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE  
PEKING, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

April 24, 1975

Rev. Rufus Higginbotham,  
Christian Church,  
4304 Westway Avenue,  
Dallas, Texas 75205.

Dear Rufus:

I share your high regard for Billy Graham. I know him, I respect him, and I like him.

Having said all that, I must frankly tell you that I doubt there is any way the Chinese would invite him to come to Peking right now. It is almost impossible to get a visa to come here in the first place, and I expect Billy would only want to come if he could have contact with Chinese officials or have an opportunity to travel in China. This kind of visa must be obtained from the PRC.

Needless to say, if Billy Graham comes here he would have a warm and enthusiastic welcome from the Bushes.

There is a tiny Christian service every Sunday that Barbara and I attend. It is conducted in an old Bible School building, the service all in Chinese. It is small and it lacks a lot of the trappings, but it is especially meaningful here in the PRC.

My best regards to Barefoot Sanders, and you,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

# CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ ΕΥΑΓΓΕΛΙΣΤΗΣ

Π)Π' ΧΥΥ  
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(214) 526-0648 or 522-0061

4304 WESTWAY AVENUE  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75205

ACTS 1:8, 1 COR. 4:17, MARK 15:21  
RUFUS HIGGINBOTHAM

May 16, 1975

Billy Graham  
Montreat, N. C.

Dear Billy:

I hope those 'Dallas Shoes' you gave me the pleasure of giving you last Nov. are still holding up well, - & got you through Eurpoe in good shape!

I hope also, you remember our thoughts together - on Bill Mead's plane - about the 'Peoples Republic of China' -(PRC). Carrying through on your expression of desire to visit there, -"if invited" - I wrote to George Bush in Peking. Enclosed is a copy of the reply I received from him.

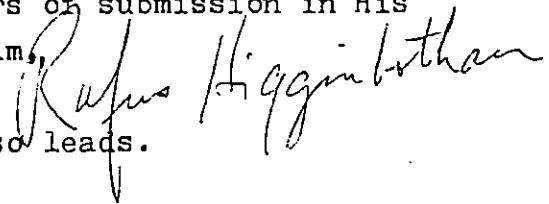
I enjoyed reading again your recent quote of Mt. 24:14, "this gospel shall be preached in all the world - - then shall the end come!" Billy, I'm ready to join with you - - in any way I can - - to get it so preached!

I've been a lawyer for some 18 years here in Dallas, and, if you may remember, have my last semester at Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, coming up next Fall, - - but, next Fall you'll be in Hong Kong! - - I want to be there too! That seems like such an oppurtune time - just to 'throw in', - but, really, - to 'determinedly go' to Peking! My thoughts at this time are to write directly to the Chinese - (preferably delivered by Bush?)

Thought I might send a copy of this letter to Mr. Nixon in California. Somehow, - he may be the one to tell us exactly through whom this effort should be directed. I talked with Dewey Presley here last week - he mentioned Jake Hamon from Dallas had been in Peking some 10 days ago as a personal guest of George - but that even then much visa delay was involved.

May the love of Christ and His Holy Blessings continue to abound in the lives of you and yours. With prayer and thanksgiving, and extreme humbleness toward your many years of submission in His Will, - -

I am,



Would be a joy to hear from you if God so leads.

"The largest number of people who have yet to hear are in Communist China . . . I would welcome sharing with that leadership and people. Through Christian love we can lead others to the giver of peace."

Billy Graham

BILLY GRAHAM  
Montreat, N.C. 28757  
November 29, 1974

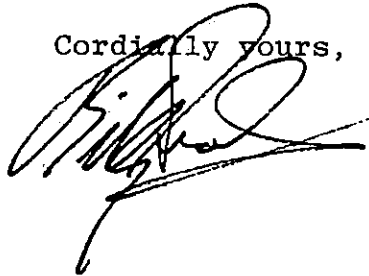
Dear Mr. Higginbotham,

The beautiful shoes arrived this morning!  
What a surprise. I put them on immediately,  
and my wife said they are the most beautiful  
shoes I have ever had. They fit absolutely  
perfectly.

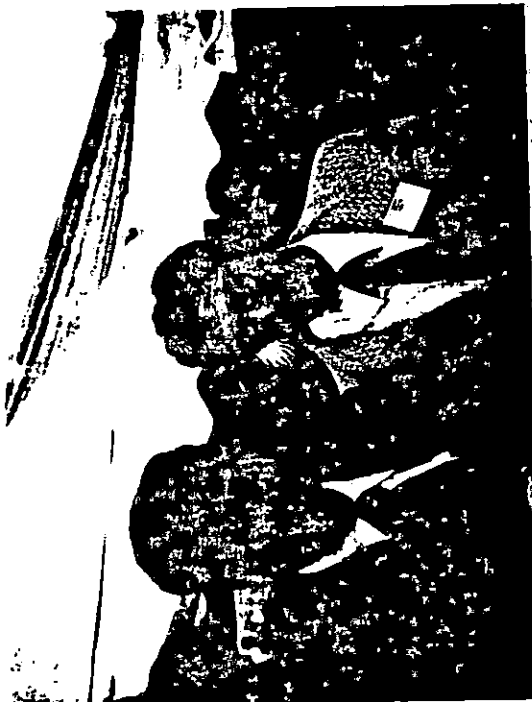
I enjoyed the fellowship on the plane and  
deeply appreciate your thoughtfulness in  
sending these shoes, which I will wear on  
my trip to Europe next week.

With warmest personal greetings, I am

Cordially yours,



Mr. Rufus Higginbotham  
4304 Westway  
Dallas, Tx. 75205



April 24, 1975

Rev. Rufus Higginbotham,  
Christian Church,  
4304 Westway Avenue,  
Dallas, Texas 75205.

Dear Rufus:

I share your high regard for Billy Graham. I know him, I respect him, and I like him.

Having said all that, I must frankly tell you that I doubt there is any way the Chinese would invite him to come to Peking right now. It is almost impossible to get a visa to come here in the first place, and I expect Billy would only want to come if he could have contact with Chinese officials or have an opportunity to travel in China. This kind of visa must be obtained from the PRC.

Needless to say, if Billy Graham comes here he would have a warm and enthusiastic welcome from the Buses.

There is a tiny Christian service every Sunday that Barbara and I attend. It is conducted in an old Bible School building, the service all in Chinese. It is small and it lacks a lot of the trappings, but it is especially meaningful here in the PRC.

My best regards to Barefoot Sanders, and you,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

# CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ἐκκλησία εὐαγγελιστῆς  
ΠΠΠ ΧΧΧ  
Τ Τ

(214) 526-0648 or 522-0061

4304 WESTWAY AVENUE  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75205

ACTS 1:8, I COR. 4:17, MARK 15:21  
RUFUS HIGGINBOTHAM

April 6, 1975

George Bush  
Ambassador, China  
State Dept.  
Washington, D. C.

Dear George:

My greetings to you from our mutual friend, Barefoot Sanders. I have been a fellow member of the Bar Assn. here in Dallas with Barefoot, but am now in the process, (almost completed), of leaving the legal profession and entering the ministry.

I have long been an admirer, as are so many around the world, of the peace effecting work of Billy Graham. Last November I had the pleasure of chatting with Billy for about an hour while flying to Dallas from West Texas in a Cambell-Taggart bakery plane. Billy expressed much interest in visiting China - - if, - "he would be invited."

I just read that Billy had a good visit with Mr. Nixon a few days ago. What a heritage that man has left us in your area of the world. A visit by Mr. Graham at this point could only be an appropriate continuation of such good will.

I will look forward to receiving your thoughts and suggestions toward this end, and helping in any way that I am able.

Yours, in the faith of our founding fathers,

cc : Barefoot Sanders  
Grady Wilson (for Billy Graham)

*Our church body has now  
concurred in endorsing the  
purpose of this letter.  
Thanks so much  
Rufus Higginbotham*

"The largest number of people who have yet to hear are in Communist China... I would welcome sharing with that leadership and people. Through Christian love we can lead others to the giver of peace."

Billy Graham

*Am*

*Fike*

We have received your recommendation supporting the application of a student for admission to Georgetown University. Your comments will be of assistance to us as applications for admission are reviewed. Insights such as yours provide us with a fuller appreciation and a better understanding of applicants to the University.

Thank you for taking the time to write to us. Your interest is very much appreciated.

Sincerely yours,  
*Charles A. Deacon*  
Charles A. Deacon  
Director of Admissions

USLO Peking,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D.C. 20520.

April 1, 1975

Mr. T.H. Hilliard,  
Hilliard Oil & Gas, Inc.,  
2200 Sand Hill Road,  
Menlo Park, Cal. 94025.

Dear Toby:

I hope the attached will not finish off Marianna's chances. I did send it in to Georgetown.

WE had a marvelous visit here with Jake and Nancy Hamon. He is one of your many fans, as I am sure you know.

Midland sounds terrific, almost like we set the clock back 20 years. Our son George, when last heard from, was thinking of going out there to live.

We did have a good visit with Bill Bowen, a most attractive guy.

Barbara and I are most happy here. We miss friends and family, but this assignment is terrific in every way.

How we would love to see you in Peking.

Much love to Bobby.

Warmest regards,

George Bush

Enclosure

USLO Peking,  
Department of State,  
Washington, D.C. 20520.

April 1, 1975

Director of Admissions,  
Georgetown School of Foreign Service,  
Georgetown University,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I am writing this on behalf of Marianna Hilliard, who has applied for the Foreign Service School. I have known Marianna over the years, and know her parents very well indeed.

Marianna is a most attractive young lady who, in my opinion, would be an ideal candidate for admission to your fine school.

Please put me down as a strong character reference for Marianna Hilliard.

Sincerely yours,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

HILLIARD OIL & GAS, INC.

2200 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, California 94025 • (415) 854-2911

March 13, 1975

The Honorable George Bush  
Department of State  
2201 C Street  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear George:

My wonderfully attractive daughter, Marianna, has applied to the Georgetown School of Foreign Service. Evidently, this is a tough one to get into and I wonder if you would be so good to write her a letter of recommendation, preferably in English - not Chinese!

I was in Midland last week and saw a bunch of your old friends, including, particularly, Jim Allison. As I am sure you are aware, Jim's father died and, prior to his death, Jim had returned to Midland and is now, of course, running the paper.

Bill Bowen, President of Princeton, was at our house for dinner the other night and talked of having seen you in Peking. What a tremendously interesting and rewarding experience you are having!

Bobby joins me in sending love to you and Barbara.

As ever,

HTH:brw

June 24, 1975

Mr. H. T. Hilliard,  
Hilliard Oil & Gas Inc.,  
2200 Sand Hill Road,  
Menlo Park, California 94025.

Dear Toby:

I will be on the lookout for Victor Gonzalez. According to your letter he ought to be here in just a few days.

Four of our kids are here now, so life is singing.

Sorry about Ann and Georgetown. They are dumber than I thought.

Warm regards,

George Bush

HILLIARD OIL & GAS, INC.

2200 Sand Hill Road, Menlo Park, California 94025 · (415) 854-2911

June 11, 1975

The Honorable George Bush  
Chief, U.S. Liaison Office Peking  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear George:

Thanks so much for writing the nice letter for daughter Annie. She did not get in to Georgetown and I do not necessarily blame it on your letter.

A young lad named Victor Gonzalez is coming to Peking and will be there June 29. His mother and father, Dr. (plastic surgeon) Dick Gonzalez and his wife Nancy are great pals of ours and live here in Woodside. Victor is a super guy. His area of interest is in urban planning and renewal. He has been working with underprivileged children in the Philadelphia area for the past couple of years. I don't know the purpose of his visit but, if you would have a chance to say hello to him, I know he would enjoy it and so would you.

Bobby joins me in sending best love to you and Barbara.

Sincerely,



H. T. Hilliard

HTH:brw

cc: Mr. Victor Gonzalez

September 24, 1975

Mrs. Henry L. Hillman,  
Morewood Heights,  
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213.

Dear Elsie:

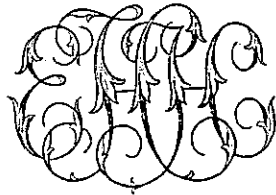
When I saw you in Washington I didn't realize you had written me that neat letter of September 6.

We have very little say here in Peking as to what groups are granted visas to come to Peking and the PRC, but rest assured that if I have a chance to put in a word for the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony I will certainly do so.

It was good seeing you in Washington - all too briefly. Incidentally, I had a brief glimpse of Toby in Midland.

Warm regards,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office



Mrs. Henry L. Hillman  
Morewood Heights  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15213  
U.S.A.

September 6, 1975

The Honorable George Bush  
United States Ambassador  
to China  
United States Embassy  
Peking,  
People's Republic of China

SEP 15 1975

Dear George:

First, please forgive the delay in congratulating you on this great appointment. It must be very rewarding for you, but for the United States, it is great. I just hope our paths will cross in Midland on September 13th so that I can tell you how wonderful it is face to face. We are all proud!

With reference to the attached, the correspondence pretty well explains itself!

First, the letter from William Genge of Ketchum, MacLeod and Grove in Pittsburgh (who is the present President of the Board of the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony) to Senator Scott - and my follow-up.

Truly, this is a great group of young people and anything that you could do to make this come about would be thrilling for all concerned.

I deeply regret that sister Mary Jackson and I had to regret our invitation to join The Delegation of Friendship Among Women on their visit to the People's Republic this fall, but it was just impossible this year.

Page two  
Ambassador George Bush  
September 6, 1975

I just pray that maybe Henry and I can do it together  
another time.

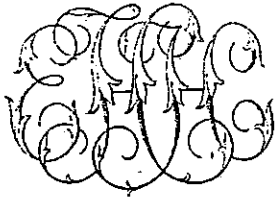
With best wishes,



Elsie H. Hillman

EHH/lib

cc: Mr. William Genge  
Mrs. Lincoln Maazel



September 6, 1975

Hon. Hugh Scott  
United States Senate  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Hugh:

Just a quick note to say "amen" to the request of Bill Genge for the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony to make a concert tour in the Chinese People's Republic in 1976.

I can think of no better way to express the peaceful intent of the U. S. than an expression of music by such a talented group of young people. The exchange and understanding between young people - the leaders of the future world - has to be an important key to the success of peace in our world.

Knowing you, I am sure this has already been begun, but I felt that I really wanted to add my enthusiastic approval of such a plan.

With sincerest thanks,

Elsie H. Hillman

EHH/lib

cc: Mr. William Genge  
Mrs. Lincoln Maazel  
Ambassador George Bush

August 12, 1975

The Honorable Hugh Scott  
260 Russell Office Building  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Senator Scott:

I am writing to you on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra to ask for your advice and assistance on a project dear to our hearts. I have been encouraged to write you by Mrs. Clifford Heinz and Mrs. Henry L. Hillman, as well as by Mrs. Marie Maazel, general manager of the Orchestra and Mr. Michael Semanitzky, our conductor.

The project we have in mind is a good will concert tour by the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony to the Chinese People's Republic in 1976. It is our understanding that President Ford plans to visit mainland China during the bicentennial year and it is our particular hope that the Youth Symphony's visit might coordinate with the President's.

We have several objectives in mind:

1. To take to the Chinese People's Republic a youthful, talented, world-acclaimed symphony orchestra whose players are the children of the working people of America's industrial heartland. In our opinion the orchestra would constitute a powerful ambassadorial force: young people who would really relate to and communicate with their counterparts in the China society.
2. The visit and tour would have inestimable educational value for the members of the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony. In fact, it would be the educational and inspirational event of a lifetime for most of them.
3. A tour of this kind would attract national and international attention to our Youth Symphony, to Pittsburgh, to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and to the United States. We think it would constitute an excellent bicentennial event for the country.
4. Assuming continuation of our government's interest in fostering détente with the Chinese People's Republic,

We believe our talented young musicians would create a trans-national climate of friendliness, well calculated to dissolve suspicions and establish a common ground for communication and rapport between the two countries.

Following are a few specific items of the general plan we have in mind:

1. The ambassadorial Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra would comprise from 115-120 players.

2. The tour would begin, if possible, at the end of the school year; late May or early June.

3. The total tour time would be approximately three weeks:

1 week in Japan and Korea (4 or 5 concerts)

1 1/2 weeks in China (5 or 6 concerts)

1/2 week in either Alaska or Hawaii (2 or 3 concerts)

4. The Orchestra entourage could include appropriate political personages — local, state, and national.

5. The concert repertoire would include American works, some special bicentennial compositions, and possibly one or two original Chinese compositions.

6. The tour would begin with a "send-off concert" played either in Pittsburgh or Washington, D. C. and would conclude with a "return home concert" in Heinz Hall.

This idea has been mentioned, in addition to you, to Senator Schweiker and Congressman William Moorhead and H. J. Heinz, III. This letter to you, however, is the first official approach.

Let me now spend a few paragraphs to acquaint you further with the purposes of the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony and its achievements of the recent past.

The Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra will celebrate its 21st birthday this year. In its two decades our Youth Orchestra has established an enviable international reputation for artistic superiority.

Our objective is specific: to train aspiring young musicians for serious careers in music as soloists, chamber players, orchestral players and in the field of music education.

We have had much success in our training mission, placing our "graduates" in significant musical positions all over the country and even internationally. Many former Youth Symphony members are playing with major orchestras all over the world, as well as in the armed forces' orchestras and bands. Still others are conductors, professors of music and music teachers.

The Youth Symphony reaches hundreds of thousands of Pittsburgh-area residents each year through some two dozen concerts (including some televised by local stations) and special concerts such as for WOED-TV's fund-raising auction, the benefit for the late Roberto Clemente's Youth City project and the Three Rivers Arts Festival. The Orchestra has accompanied such diverse musical organizations as the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre, Yale University Glee Club, Pittsburgh Opera Workshop and the Bach Choir of Pittsburgh.

It was named "the best orchestra in the Festival" at the 1973 International Festival of Youth Orchestras in Lausanne, Switzerland. Robert Harris, then our concertmaster, was chosen overall Festival concertmaster and best all-around musician. Our members played to enthusiastic crowds when they represented the United States at Expo '67. They were called "musical ambassadors" when they played for Princess Grace at the Monaco International Festival. And ours was the first youth orchestra invited to give a concert at Disney World.

The 120 members are serious students of music, chosen through rigorous competitive auditions. They come from the environs of Pittsburgh, including Western Pennsylvania, Western Ohio and North-eastern West Virginia and represent most of the racial and ethnic backgrounds found in the 12-23 year age group of these areas. The majority come from working class families with both parents working and the members themselves combining school, jobs, orchestra and practice.

In sum, the Pittsburgh Youth Symphony Orchestra is actually an educational institution of great local stature and of considerable national renown. It provides invaluable career training for many young people. It is because of their experience with us that many of these young musicians feel confident enough to audition with great symphonies throughout the U. S. and abroad and to succeed with them as professional musicians.

This information should leave no dispute in your mind as to the worthiness, standing and talent represented by the Orchestra. In fact, it has just returned from a triumphant bicentennial river

August 12, 1975

concert tour, on which it has been acclaimed by huge crowds and standing ovations at almost every river town between Pittsburgh and St. Louis. The program for this tour is enclosed.

Obviously, a great deal needs to be done and many questions must be resolved before this dream of ours can become a reality. We have some ideas about obtaining the requisite financing, but we don't want to approach possible sponsors until we have some assurance that the idea is practical and stands a reasonable chance of fulfillment. You, with your interest in Pennsylvania young people and in Chinese culture, are our great hope for that. We hope earnestly that you will make this a priority project and advise us what steps we should take to help make it happen.

Cordially,



W. H. Genge/slm

Enclosure

cc: Mrs. Lincoln Maazel  
✓Mrs. Henry L. Hillman  
Mrs. James P. Kinard  
Mr. Michael Semanitzky

United States Liaison Office  
Peking, People's Republic of China

April 28, 1975

Mr. G.F. Steedman Hinckley,  
Chairman & Chief Executive Officer,  
Overseas National Airways,  
John F. Kennedy International Airport,  
Jamaica, New York 11430.

Dear Steedman:

Thank you very much for your letter of April 14th. The question of tourism to China certainly is consistent with our objectives. However, as I am sure you know, very few travel visas are granted. Certainly if I can find a way to be helpful on your request, I will be glad to do so. I should tell you, however, that in the past we have not been able to influence any decisions as to who gets visas to come here except on official exchanges. The contact with Mr. Huang Chen is exactly the right thing to do.

Needless to say, if you get to China Barbara and I would love to see you.

Yours very truly,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

# OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS

April 14, 1975

Mr. George Bush  
Chief, Liaison Office of  
the United States of America  
Peoples' Republic of China  
c/o Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

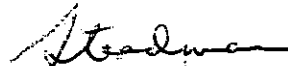
Dear Poppy:

The attached letter from me to His Excellency Huang Chen, concerning our application for landing rights for some round-the-world tourist charters is self-explanatory.

Assuming such U.S. tourism to China would be consistent with the objectives of the U.S., I would be grateful if you could give our application a nudge at the right place with the Chinese Government provided, of course, that my asking you to do so would not be an unreasonable imposition or be time-consuming for you.

I hope you are enjoying your tour of duty in Peking. It must be fascinating.

Sincerely,



attachment

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

# OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS

April 9, 1975

His Excellency Huang Chen  
Chief Liaison Office of the  
Peoples' Republic of China  
2300 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20008

Dear Mr. Huang:

Overseas National Airways, a U.S. flag charter airline, is currently planning an around-the-world charter flight program with Creative World Travel of San Francisco.

These charters would come under the U.S. classification called "inclusive tour charters". Each around-the-world trip would be of one month's duration and the initial program would run for twelve consecutive months. We would operate the program with a 150 seat DC-8, and the aircraft would stay with each group of passengers as they proceed around the world.

The President of Creative World Travel, Paul Klapper, has told me that he would very much like to include China in the itinerary if it would be possible to obtain landing rights and the necessary hotel accommodations. There is no doubt that such a visit to China would be of enormous interest to the American public, because Americans have always had a deep interest and respect for Chinese culture and Chinese people. If China grants us the landing rights, the result would be that a group of not more than about 150 American tourists would visit China for a few days each month, for a series of twelve months.

This letter is therefore a formal request to either apply for such landing rights in China in order for ONA to operate these round-the-world charters, or to seek your guidance on how to proceed in applying for such landing rights.

We hope to begin this around-the-world charter series in October of 1975. We would be most grateful if we could have permission to stop at even one point in China, though I believe it would be preferable from the passengers' point of view to visit more than one city in China. However, we are flexible, and if China would grant us landing rights, we would of course be agreeable to stopping at

# OVERSEAS NATIONAL AIRWAYS

His Excellency Huang Chen

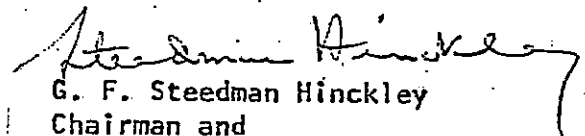
-2-

April 9, 1975

whatever cities you would allow and recommend. It is hoped that a group limited to approximately 150 passengers would not be so large as to cause a problem from China's viewpoint.

I would be very grateful for any consideration which China may be able to give to this request, and we hope for an early reply.

Respectfully yours,



G. F. Steedman Hinckley  
Chairman and  
Chief Executive Officer

July 25, 1975

General Maurice Hirsch,  
Niels Esperson Building,  
Houston, Texas 77002.

Dear Maurice:

Please pardon my long delay in getting a reply to your cable. It came in and then Barbara and I immediately went on a trip to North China - a fascinating experience.

Now about the visit: Cook Tours has worked out some kind of deal, I am told, for travel in the PRC next year. I believe the tour is being put together in England but I expect their New York office would have the details. This would be the second best way to see China.

The best way would be to get a visa for travel from China Travel Service. They can be contacted as follows: China International Travel Service, Peking, People's Republic of China. If they grant a visa then the kind of travel you want to do can be accomplished in a much more personal way.

We have found on this end that there is little we can do to facilitate ~~visas~~ visas for travel in this country.

We have had visitors come here and stay with us in Peking and China has been willing to expedite visas of this nature. Regrettably, this fall is unbelievably jammed up with guests coming our way. In addition, as you know, the President has stated his intention of coming to China at the end of this year, and that will keep things congested out here. I would like to suggest that you simply tuck in with us and see Peking only, but our very modest accommodations are overflowing.

I do hope you are successful in getting a visa, and needless to say when you come to Peking Bar and I will really be looking forward to seeing you.

From the desk of

AMBASSADOR GEORGE BUSH

File

~~Handwritten scribble~~

J.F.

No collect cables from Peking  
GB since not to send

collect commercial cable... LT

~~Excuse delay in answering your cable. I have been~~

Visa applications should be submitted to PRC Liaison Office  
~~Washington~~ \_\_\_\_\_ Comm. Ave Washintong.  
They are very tough to get for travel in China.  
Cook putting together a tour for PRC next year.  
Letter follows. WARM regards.

-2-

Please keep me advised as to your progress, and I will try to assist from this end, though one of the great frustrations here has been a classic inability to affect the visa process.

Very truly yours,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

AWF206 ACA626 DFF4506 CAB0578 2-042377A184

CNPK HL URNX 069


LT HOUSTON TX 69 03 1241P CDT VIA RCA

LT

HONORABLE GEORGE BUSH

PEKING OFFICE USLO PEKING

PEKING

*BAR  
any thoughts  
not  
this*  
  
*I am  
close to  
guy -  
with Ethel  
Garnett?*

WINIFRED AND I HAVE VISITED MOST COUNTRIES BUT NOT CHINA  
AND HAVE A DEEP DESIRE TO VISIT THAT GREAT NATION CAN YOU  
ASSIST OBTAINING VISAS AND TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS FOR US ALONE  
OR WITH OTHERS FOR ANY TIME THIS YEAR WOULD APPRECIATE  
YOUR SUGGESTIONS CABLED COLLECT FOND GREETINGS TO  
BARBARA AND YOU FROM WINIFRED AND DEVOTEDLY  
MAURICE HIRSCH NIELS ESPERSON BLDG

February 21, 1975

Honorable James Hodgson  
American Ambassador  
The American Embassy  
Tokyo, Japan

Dear Jim:

One place where Embassy Tokyo might be able to help USLO relates to tapes for our VTR machines (UNCLAS Hong Kong 1749).

We are starved for entertainment here. Tapes of sporting events, historical documentaries, or movies would be great. They are easy to ship and if we could find a good source of current movies, TV programs, or sporting events we could establish a definite shipping schedule that could be rigidly adhered to.

I mentioned our need for more such tapes to Jim Keogh in Washington and I also wrote Bill Payeff about this. If anyone there has any thoughts on this we'd sure appreciate them.

Sincerely,

George Bush

February 22, 1975

Honorable James D. Hodgson  
American Embassy  
Tokyo, Japan

Dear Jim:

I followed up with Bob Blackburn, the head of our admin section here. He is checking further on mail costs. He tells me that you are already helping us with certain spare parts for autos, etc.

Apparently, the costs on shipping meat, etc. are excessive and thus the obvious places where your Embassy could help such as with things in the commissary and with food stuffs seem to be out right now.

Frankly, it seems to me the whole pouch situation ought to be reviewed in Washington. I am not satisfied with the speed with which we are getting mail. I think it is being looked at in Washington right now.

We will keep looking at the situation and if we can see some specific areas where we can avail ourselves of your generous offer rest assured we will.

Many thanks.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

Bob Blackburn  
discuss

H.E. James D. Hodgson  
Embassy of U.S.A.  
Tokyo, Japan.

Dear Jim,

Barabra and I are hoping that you and Maria will be our personal guests here in Peking at any time of your choosing.

We want you to tsey in our Residence, and we will be responsible for all arrangements in connection with your visit.

There is much toksee and do here in Peking. I know you will enjoy it as much as we do.

Sincerely,

George Bush  
Chief- U.S.L.O.

February 17, 1975

- 1. costs & mail etc.
- 2. spare parts - autos.

tennis 6 PM -  
Sundays.

- 1. Lilly - Stalagwood
- 2. Tolstikov workbooks  
talks?
- 3. Dress styles.



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Tokyo, Japan

January 10, 1975

Dear George:

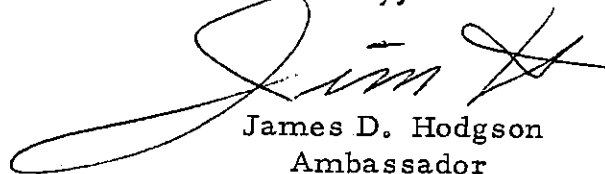
It's been great during the past week to get reports both to and from the Bush headquarters in Peking with visits from Barbara and your mother and Mrs. Clements. We enjoyed both visits hugely. I think we have finally convinced Barbara that there isn't the slightest chance of her succeeding in sneaking in and out of Tokyo without having the long Hodgson arm snatch her to the confines of the Ambassador's Residence.

When you and I returned from Honolulu, we talked briefly about the possibility of our Embassy providing your office with some useful services. Our Tokyo Administrative man has now returned from leave, and I have discussed this matter both with him and our DCM. We believe there are many things we might be able to do to be of help, so I would suggest you consider doing as we discussed, and arm your Administrative man with a list of things on which we might be helpful and send him to Tokyo to meet with Charles Falkner, who heads our administrative apparatus. Or if you would care to do this another way, please let me know. I find the attitude of the Embassy people here is one of wanting to help.

Maria and I are still contemplating your suggestion that we conjure a reason for a journey to Peking. As yet, we are uninspired, but perhaps come Spring a more creative mood will seize us. It continues to sound like a splendid idea.

Let's hear from you. Best regards.

Sincerely,



James D. Hodgson  
Ambassador

The Honorable  
George Bush,  
U.S. Liaison Office,  
Peking, China.



EMBASSY OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
Tokyo, Japan

cc letter & reply  
In visitors pending file

March 5, 1975

Dear George:

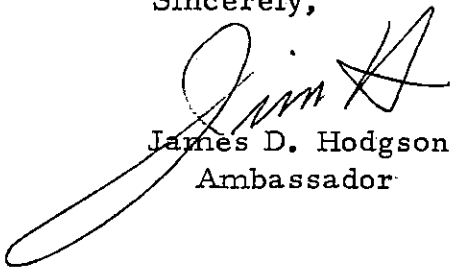
One of Japan's established statesmen of the financial world, Dr. Shigeo Horie, President of the Institute for International Studies and Training, and formerly President of the Bank of Tokyo, is heading an expedition of some 20 Japanese notables in an official trip to Peking. I understand they will be there from March 24th through the 28th, and again from April 3rd through 7th.

Dr. Horie is well placed here, is something of a China expert, has a keen mind - particularly for economics and finance - speaks splendid English, is a confirmed friend of the U.S., and an altogether pleasant gentleman. He would like to meet with you and I think you would enjoy his company. He has some illustrious people with him, including Chie Nakane, famed Japanese anthropologist, and Prof. Eto, the political scientist you met here at our Residence on your way to Peking. You might wish to see them also.

Because of his many associations, you would find Horie not only pleasant but informative. Would you let me know if your schedule and inclination would be such that you could indeed permit a visit, and perhaps suggest some possible appointment times, or should I just suggest that he get in touch with you while he is in Peking?

I'm headed for Washington in late March and plan to talk to Habib then concerning a possible trip Peking-way for me. I'll let you know how I come out. Our very best to you and Barbara.

Sincerely,

  
James D. Hodgson  
Ambassador

The Honorable  
George H. Bush,  
U. S. Liaison Office,  
Peking.

X

December 23, 1975

Dear Maria and Jim:

Along comes your nice note arriving before I even wrote to thank you for your typically wonderful hospitality in Tokyo. The trip to Honolulu wasn't bad and the trip from Honolulu to Washington with Admiral Guyler was fine, but once I hit here all hell broke loose.

The hearings are over. Confirmation took place with Congress exacting a commitment from the President that I would not be nominated by him for the ticket. The voting on the nomination will take place when the Senate comes back. Most people seem to feel it will go okay. In the meantime, I have plenty to do -- tons of briefings -- and Barbara and I are going to go away for one week.

Thank you so much for all you did for us when we were in your part of the world. Some day we Bushes will find a way to repay you, I hope. A great 1976 to you and yours.

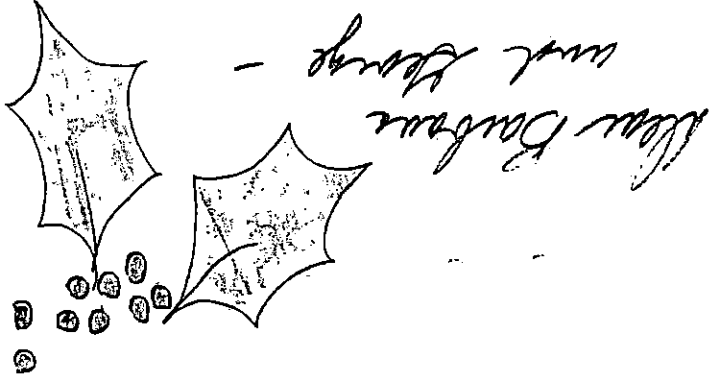
Sincerely,

George Bush

Ambassador and Mrs. James Hodgson  
Embassy of the United States of America  
Tokyo, Japan

GB:rs

Sent to State Dept. - "Please Pouch"



New Barbara  
and George -

Are you ready  
and de-high

altitude swim lessons

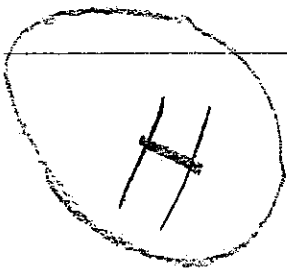
We just glad

That you stopped by

here. The job ahead is a big one and a better man could not be found for it.

Love,  
Mama & Jim

*[Faint, illegible handwritten text]*



14901 Lorain Ave  
Box 350

Cleveland, Ohio 44111  
December 5, 1975

George Bush

Ambassador to The Peoples Republic of China

The State Department

Washington, D.C.

Dear Ambassador Bush:

My hobby is collecting autographed TIME

Covers. I would be most grateful if you

would be so kind as to sign the enclosed

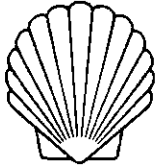
cover and return it to me in the enclosed

envelope. Thank you.

Sincerely,

William J. Hoffman

sent 12-12-75



# SHELL OIL COMPANY

ONE SHELL PLAZA  
P.O. BOX 2463  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77001

March 24, 1975

The Honorable George Bush  
United States Liaison Office  
Peking  
People's Republic of China.

Dear George:

My thoughts turn to you ever so often. On my last trip to Washington, I had a very nice visit with Rose Zamaria. I had to discover her whereabouts while I was visiting with Marvin Collins. I also visited with Peter Roussel.

This week I had the privilege of taking your son Jeb to lunch. You can certainly be very proud of him. He is very knowledgeable on political affairs. My conversation with him would be about like one with you.

Trammell Crow of Dallas is developing considerable interest in Houston. He has placed his son in charge of his affairs here. I am going to get his son together with Jeb for lunch.

I will tell you the best quip recently; namely, "Dolf Brisco is doing so good until he is going to make Preston Smith look colorful."

Any time that you are ever returning for a State Department briefing, please be sure and let me know about it because I would fly to Washington for a five minute chat with you.

Devoted regards,

Luther Holcomb

P. S. I am beginning to feel at home in Houston. I have been invited to join the Houston Rotary Club, and I am becoming a member of the Governmental Relations Committee of the Chamber of Commerce

LH

April 7, 1975

Mr. Luther Holcomb,  
Shell Oil Company,  
One Shell Plaza,  
P.O. Box 2463,  
Houston, Texas 77001.

Dear Luther:

Thanks for your letter of March 24. It was great hearing from you again. How thoughtful of you to take our son Jeb to lunch. We miss that kid enormously. Our others will be coming out in June, but Jeb, married man that he is, needs to make a living, so can't come now.

I am delighted things are shaping up for you at home there in Houston.

Warmest personal regards,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

July 15, 1975

Mr. Luther Holcomb,  
Shell Oil Company,  
1 Shell Plaza, P.O.B. 2463,  
Houston, Texas 77001.

Dear Luther:

Just a quick note to thank you for your thoughtful letter of July 3, and for sending along those interesting clippings.

I may get to Houston in September after a brief vacation and some consultations in Washington. It would be great to see you if I do. Well do I remember the Fourth of July in Switzerland back in 1972.

Warm regards from Peking.

Sincerely,

George Bush



# SHELL OIL COMPANY

ONE SHELL PLAZA  
P.O. BOX 2463  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77001

July 3, 1975

JUL 14 1974

The Honorable George Bush  
Chief, U. S. Liaison Office Peking  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear George:

I viewed the program recently when you, Barbara, and Freddie were on Channel 13. It made me all the more lonesome for you. I am sure you get an abundance of clippings from Houston, so I will send you a few from "The Dallas Morning News."

I know you are always under terrific pressure when you return for visits at the State Department, but I wish you would let me know ahead for some of these and I would try to be in Washington with the hope that we could exchange a few words.

As we approach the Fourth of July, I am reminded of our being together on the Fourth in 1972 in Switzerland. You really made that a great trip for me. I am certain that you are having a very interesting time in China, but I want you to know that I really miss your being within reach of the telephone.

Devoted regards,

Luther Holcomb

Attachments

December 22, 1975

Dear Luther:

Barbara is looking forward to receiving the calendar.  
Thank you so much for your thoughtfulness.

All's well with the Bush family. Merry Christmas.

Sincerely,

George Bush

Mr. Luther Holcomb  
One Shell Plaza  
Post Office Box 2463  
Houston, Texas 77001

GB:rs

ONE SHELL PLAZA  
P. O. BOX 2463  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77001

December 10, 1975

Dear Barbara,

The Shell Oil Company takes great pride in its annual Desk Diary. The one for 1976 has unique meaning because of the Bicentennial. Shell has developed an annual Diary for 18 years.

I made a request for one for you. It is being mailed to you under separate cover. I hope you will find it useful.

Just as 1976 will have a special meaning for our country, I hope this diary will have a special meaning of happiness to you and yours.

Warmest season's greetings,

*Luther*

Luther Holcomb

Mrs. George Bush  
5161 Palisade Lane, N.W.  
Washington, D. C. 20016

*So glad you  
are home.*

*you and George mean  
so much to me.*

*J. A.*

November 12, 1975

Mr. Luther Holcomb,  
Shell Oil Company,  
One Shell Plaza,  
P.O. Box 2463,  
Houston, Texas 77001.

Dear Luther:

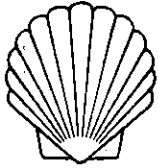
Thanks for your thoughtful letter.  
I was pleased to get caught up on all  
happenings there in Houston.

By now you will have seen that I  
am about to undertake a tough new job.  
It spells the end of politics for me,  
but I am convinced I should serve in  
this new capacity. It won't be easy,  
but it will darn sure be interesting.

Thanks again for your letter.

Warm regards,

George Bush



# SHELL OIL COMPANY

ONE SHELL PLAZA

P.O. BOX 2463

HOUSTON, TEXAS 77001

October 27, 1975

Ambassador George Bush  
Chief, U.S. Liaison Office Peking  
Department of State  
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear George,

I am sorry that I did not get to see you when you were home recently. I was invited to the affair at Trammell Crow's home but had some conflicts that made it impossible to make the trip to Dallas. There is a good deal of interest in political conversations taking place these days. I have talked at length with Marvin Collins about Steelman's race for the Senate. When Steelman appeared in Houston for a fund raising reception, the attendance largely consisted of your friends. I imagine Marvin deserves credit for this happening.

Bentson is in considerable difficulty. I am fearful that he is aware of it. It would have been better if this had not developed so soon because he will no doubt take steps to try to remedy his problems. The question will be whether he can recoup.

Senator Tower was here last Thursday. He met with the editorial board of the Houston Chronicle in the morning and the Houston Post in the afternoon. He spoke to the downtown Rotary Club at noon. His visit was very well received.

The 1976 election could be different from any that we have experienced in a long time. There is growing concern among people about excessive government spending. Nearly everyone has been hurt by inflation. Party interests and loyalty is at an all-time low.

It seems that things are shaping up for Hubert Humphrey to be the Democratic nominee. There is a strong feeling that Bentson will be on the ticket with him. However, there is an argument against using two Senators on the ticket.

There are many people who wish that you could be on the ticket with President Ford. You would add great strength to it. I admit that I am in that category.

Ambassador George Bush

Page 2

Please let me know the next time that you are going to visit the State Department in Washington and I will make a point to plan a trip to Washington so that we can talk over some of these issues.

Attached is a story that appeared about you in the Houston Post recently. I am sure you have received many copies of it by now.

With every good wish, respect and admiration.

Devoted regards,



Luther Holcomb

Attachment

## China visit spotlight

# Bush possible Ford running mate

By ART WIESE  
Post Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — President Ford's trip to China next month will focus the public spotlight on George Bush for the first time since he accepted his appointment as the U.S. envoy to Peking Sept. 4, 1974.

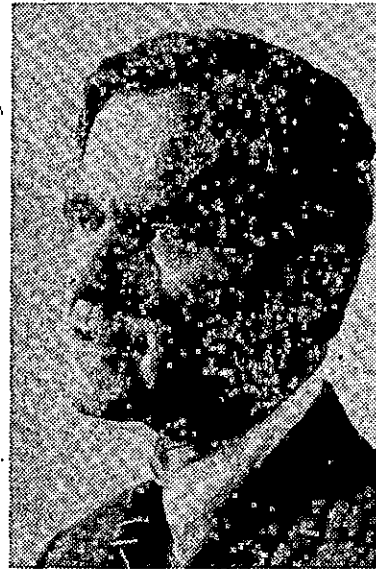
The presidential visit also comes at a time when Bush's name has started cropping up again in speculation about who Ford might select as a running mate in 1976 if he is forced to dump Vice President Nelson A. Rockefeller from the Republican national ticket.

Bush has kept a decidedly low profile, as befits a man serving in one of the world's most sensitive diplomatic positions, since taking the job only two weeks after Ford passed over him to pick Rockefeller for the vice presidency.

AT THE TIME, Bush called the China post "a tremendously challenging assignment" and the task he most wanted the President to choose for him.

Life in Peking, however, has apparently been agonizingly slow compared to American political life for "Ambassador" Bush (the title, while official, is largely honorary since the U.S. and China still do not maintain full diplomatic relations).

There is the embassy party circuit; the Chinese language lessons; diversions like



GEORGE BUSH

bicycling and learning to play a mean game of ping-pong; and, of course, the serious business of watching the mysterious twists of Chinese internal affairs, especially with Mao Tsi-Tung and Chou En-Lai both old and in increasingly poor health.

Bush makes it back to the states about four times a year for briefings at the State Department.

"I HAVE A HUNCH he would love to be back here, in the thick of things, running for office, with the adrenalin pumping full blast," one longtime Bush crony claimed last week.

"I think it would be fair to say that if I was planning a political future, I wouldn't be taking this job," Bush said on the day his appointment was announced by the White House. "There aren't too many registered voters over there."

Nevertheless, he conceded that he might run for something in the future if the right opportunity presented itself. "I don't think I'll lose that interest (in politics) when I'm 100," he said.

Bush badly wanted the vice presidential nomination last year and reportedly was Ford's No. 1 selection behind Rockefeller.

It was the fourth time he had been considered for the job without ever getting it.

HE WAS IN THE running down to the wire when Richard M. Nixon finally settled on Spiro T. Agnew as his running mate in 1968. Bush's name was mentioned four years later as a possible replacement when Nixon flirted with the idea of dropping Agnew from the re-election ticket. Then he was a contender again when Ford was chosen in 1973 after Agnew pleaded no contest to tax evasion charges and resigned in disgrace.

At 51, Bush remains an attractive, competent public figure with a varied and

respected background as a Houston congressman (1967-71), ambassador to the United Nations (1971-73) and Republican national Chairman (1973-74).

But he has his liabilities too. In some minds, he still remains closely identified with Nixon, particularly as a defender of the former President during some of the darkest days of Watergate.

Bush also has an oil background in an era when the energy industry is viewed with enormous suspicion by the voters.

TO SOME DEGREE, he is a man without a constituency or a solid political base of support. He has been effectively divorced from Texas Republican politics since losing his second race for the U.S. Senate in 1970. He passed up opportunities to run for governor in 1968, 1972 and 1974.

Nevertheless, evidence certainly exists that Rockefeller's future is far from secure.

A surprising new factor is Rockefeller's relative weakness with the public as a whole. A Louis Harris poll published Sept. 11 indicated that by a 47-34 per cent margin, Americans oppose keeping him as Ford's running mate next year.

Rockefeller is clearly the President's personal choice, but if politics dictate otherwise, Washington insiders believe Bush would be among the frontrunners in the competition to replace him.

UNITED STATES LIAISON OFFICE  
Peking, People's Republic of China

February 22, 1975

Mr. Theodore Holcomb  
11 East 90th Street  
New York, New York 10028

Dear Mr. Holcomb:

Your February 6th letter caught up with me in Peking today.

I read with interest the comments about your film "Russia", the reviews were excellent. I wish that I was in a position to view the film here in Peking.

From your letter I cannot tell whether you have received a visa to enter China to make the film or whether you are just in the planning stage. I am sure you know that the best way to obtain a visa, particularly where a project is involved, is to apply through the PRC Liaison Office, 2300 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. Better still a visit to the office might prove to be productive; but, perhaps you have already passed this stage. I would suggest that you send me a letter with any questions that you might think I would be able to answer for you from out here.

Needless to say, I would love to see a documentary on China along the lines of your film "Russia". This is such a fascinating land and the people are so interesting that your film could not help but be a tremendous success. The Chinese have not been issuing visas for the purposes outlined in your letter but perhaps they will view your case differently.

Give my best regards to Joy Dow.

Yours very truly,

George Bush

THEODORE HOLCOMB

11 east 90 new york, new york 10028

212 861 6293

6 February 1975

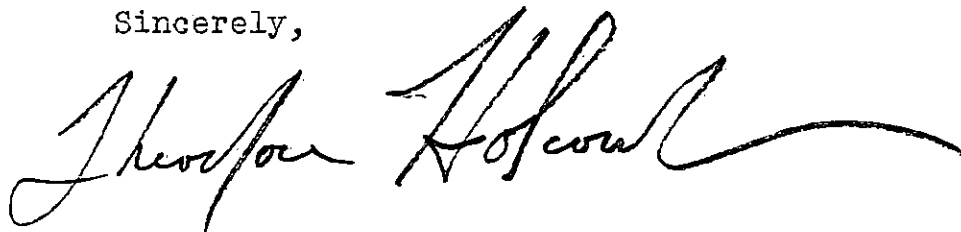
Ambassador George Bush,  
State Department  
Washington D.C. 20520

Dear Ambassador,

Our mutual friend, Col. Dow, suggested contacting you with regards to a film I am planning to produce on the People's Republic of China. I recently did a full length documentary on the Soviet Union and I am now making preparations for a similar film on China.

I would very much like to meet you and get your advice on this matter. Please let me know if you can, at your convenience, set up an appointment for our meeting.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Theodore Holcomb". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

# RUSSIA

a film by THEODORE HOLCOMB

written by HARRISON E. SALISBURY  
Eastman color 108 minutes

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"REMARKABLE! A WORK OF ART! SUPERB!  
THE MOST IMPORTANT FILM YOU CAN SEE  
THIS YEAR."

ABC TV

"EXCEPTIONAL! MARVELOUS! MAGNIFICENT!  
'RUSSIA' SPEAKS FOR ITSELF MEMORABLY!"

NEW YORK TIMES

"EXTREMELY WELL PHOTOGRAPHED. SEES MORE  
THAN ANY THING MADE IN THE PAST THIRTY YEARS."

NEW YORK POST

"AN INCREDIBLE JOURNALISTIC COUP! BEAUTIFULLY  
EXECUTED. THE MOST FRANK AND OPEN VIEW OF THE  
USSR EVER SEEN IN THE WEST. AN ENORMOUS TREASURE  
STUDY OF THIS LAND."

LOS ANGELES TIMES

"A BEAUTIFUL PIECE OF WORK! NOTHING LIKE IT  
HAS EVER BEEN FILMED BEFORE!"

TIME MAGAZINE

"A BRILLIANT ALL SEEING FILM ABOUT LIFE IN THE  
USSR. THE MOST REVEALING FILM EVER ALLOWED TO  
BE MADE IN RUSSIA!"

VOGUE MAGAZINE

"YOU SHOULD SEE 'RUSSIA'! ONE OF THE EIGHT  
BEST FILMS OF THE YEAR."

FORBES MAGAZINE

"AN ASTONISHINGLY DIVERSE VIEW OF THAT  
MONOLITHIC NATION. FOUR STARS!"

CHICAGO SUN TIMES

"A SUPERB FILM! IMMENSELY REVEALING!"

WABC TV

"MEMORABLE!"

CHICAGO TRIBUNE

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# RUSSIA

## The New York Times

NEW YORK, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1972

### Film: 'Russia,' a Skilled Documentary

**RUSSIA**, a color documentary directed, photographed and produced by Theodore Holcomb, with a commentary written by Harrison E. Salisbury. At the Festival Theater, 57th Street at Fifth Avenue. Running time: 108 minutes. (Not submitted at this time to the Motion Picture Association of America's Production Code and Rating Administration for rating as to audience suitability.)

"Half a city lies buried here," says the English-speaking narrator of "Russia," as the camera opens on a bustling cross of pedestrians years after the titanic Battle of Leningrad. About three minutes is all it takes to realize that this is a color documentary feature of exceptional balance, skill and candor, minus one sprout of traditional travelogue corn.

This is no superficial scanning of a vast country, crammed with sound-track statistics and history. Nor does it dutifully trek through fairly familiar landmarks, such as the Kremlin and the Hermitage Museum. Neither does the picture furtively climb over back walls, although some of the comments are far from Utopian.

The film was shot by Theodore Holcomb, the director-photographer-editor-producer, over a six-month period. The result, in beautiful color, is a searching camera record of marvelous informality and immediacy that reaches to the farthest, unfamiliar rustic areas and makes the viewer feel like an intelligent, inquisitive tourist. A splendid commentary, both simple and scholarly, written by Harrison E. Salisbury is an ideal guide, weighing pros and cons of everyday Soviet life, briskly footnoting history and pinpointing the awesome complexities of the Soviet Union today. Mr. Salisbury was a correspondent there for The New York Times.

One view of a Siberian atom research center draws the observation that "workers here say they have less government interference and suffer less propaganda." Black Sea resort life is contrasted to the simpler life, a few miles away, of ancient Georgian

peasants in the Armenian mountains. In urban Georgia, with modern apartments for the bureaucratic elite, indigenous "pride and nationalism" remain irritants to their Soviet rulers.

The film closes with some magnificent panoramas of modern Moscow. The camera visits the city's Bird Market, one of the very few sites of individual business enterprise in the Soviet Union, and the graves of Scriabin, Chekov, the wife of Stalin (adorned with a beautiful white bust) and Boris Pasternak. Watching an impressive cluster of quaint old churches, we learn that about "one-fourth of the population still attend" and that "there is now interest by young people."

There are repeated, tactful passages with no comment, with the camera studying the faces of pedestrians, urban and rustic, going about the business of living the Russian way. Here, "Russia" speaks for itself, memorably.

HOWARD THOMPSON:

THE FIRST UNCENSORED FILM  
OF THE SOVIET UNION

IN  
COLOR

BY THEODORE HOLCOMB  
& HARRISON E. SALISBURY

THE FESTIVAL  
57th St. at 5th Ave. - LT 1-2323

A WALTER READE  
THEATRE

# Los Angeles Times

## The Real Russia Unveiled

BY OSGOOD CARUTHERS

Times Staff Writer

A lonely two-man team with one bulky camera has accomplished an incredible journalistic coup in the filming of "Russia," a kaleidoscopic documentary of the many faces of the Soviet Union, being shown for the first time in Los Angeles at the Doheny Plaza.

It is incredible not only because it is a beautifully executed display of camera work under the most difficult conditions but also because it was made at all. Never before has a western cameraman, professional or amateur, been permitted to expose to film the sights, sounds and (in the mind's nose) smells of that complex, multiracial, multinational society that makes up the vast Soviet empire.

The result is without question the most frank and open visual view ever seen in the West of how the subjects of that empire work, play and live.

### Rural Backwardness

The film is remarkable because it shows the incredible backwardness that still exists everywhere in the rural expanses, the drabness and squalor of the cities' marketplaces as well as the historic splendors. It shows us a large cameo of Soviet life that no censor or KGB official

*(Carruthers, a longtime Eastern European correspondent for The Times, spent three years in the Soviet Union.)*

has ever permitted to pass to the outside world before.

Theodore Holcomb, the American director, producer and editor of "Russia," has used an unusual technique to display the fantastic wealth of material he gathered in his six-month journey across the Soviet Union with his French cameramen, George Elliautou. He has, in the first place, let the color photography do most of the talking.

### 1,000-Mile Jumps

The commentary, written by New York Times editor Harrison E. Salisbury, is bare-bones sparse.

And the film is cut and put together in such a way that we find ourselves jumping thousands of miles from one place to another — from the handsome old streets of the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius on the Baltic to Tashkent in Soviet Asia—without warning. This is sometimes disconcerting but it creates an impressionistic effect that takes the film out of the ordinary travelogue category.

In fact, it is hard to describe the film as a real travelogue although it takes us on Holcomb's 17,000-

mile journey from Leningrad, Peter the Great's window to the West, across Siberia to the storied lands of Tamerlane, from Irkutsk in the Far East to primitive mountain farms and vineyards in Armenia and Georgia.

The camera takes its loge-bound travelers along incredible muddy ox-cart tracks of a log cabin village, shows them the sod hut of a Georgian peasant, treats them to a lovely scene of a Georgian lad sitting alone atop a mountain playing his strange, two-stringed lute.

Russians sing off key in the dark confines of a second-class coach on the Trans-Siberian railroad—en route to their dreary jobs in far-off Irkutsk. Camels wander across the wastes of the Karakum Desert, led by ragged natives on wind-swept tracks that stray near the space center where most of the spectacular Soviet space shots have been launched.

The scenes in the bazaars of Central Asia, in the marketplaces of Tblisi, the capital of Georgia, the crowded streets of Moscow, the fountained gardens of the tsar's summer palace outside what used to be Petrograd (or Petersburg) and is now Leningrad, the uniquely free-enterprise bird market in Moscow—all bring us an enormous treasure-study

of the faces of this land of a quarter of a billion people. The sounds that go with it—except for the occasional commentary — were taped by Holcomb on location.

One may rightly ask how Holcomb was able to do what no other foreigner (or citizen, for that matter) has been permitted to do. It was obviously a decision made quite high up in the all-powerful KGB—the secret police—that he and his cameraman were permitted to travel unescorted, without guide, translator or "watcher," to so many places that are usually on the forbidden list.

Holcomb suspects that they let him do it as a gesture but did not intend to let him get that 30,000 feet of raw film he had exposed out of the country. At the Moscow airport, when he was leaving, they tried to destroy the film by giving it the X-ray treatment. But somehow the X ray was effective on only about 20% of the film.

What remained unscathed, except in a few burnt spots, is rich beyond compare.

He wonders; and so might we all:

Was it simply a matter of typical Soviet inefficiency? Or did some dissident in the airport customs bureau deliberately let this remarkable treasure slip through?

September 29, 1975

Mr. Reuben A. Holden,  
President,  
Warren Wilson College,  
Swannanoa, North Carolina 28778.

Dear Ben:

Pardon my long delay in answering your August 2nd letter. I talked to Chuck Shepard on the phone, and since getting back to China have written him. I do want to go up there and give that speech for Yale in New Haven, but I just don't know when I'll be back up there during '76 -- the time when Chuck wanted me to do this. I am interested in their work, and the fact that you think it's worthwhile makes it something I want to do even more.

Herbie called before I left and told me that they might come to China and might bring Betty. This would give us enormous pleasure. Please tell her we are hoping that will work out.

I had one week in Maine, and two weeks of consultations in Washington, but now I'm glad to be back in Peking with Bar. Things are going along well here. We will have a busy Fall with the President's visit.

Hope everything's fine with you.

Warmest regards,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office



WARREN WILSON COLLEGE  
Swannanoa, North Carolina 28778

REUBEN A. HOLDEN  
PRESIDENT

August 2

Dear George,

Betty and I are sorry to miss getting a glimpse of you, but think of you very often.

Chuck Shepard, now president of the Board of Yale in China, has written me about plans for the 75th Anniversary of Y-in-C (in 1976). He may call or write you to see when you might plan to be back in the States next winter in the hope that you might be able to participate in one or the other of several proposed events. He wants also some advice on setting up a symposium of Chinese and American scholars — just in case you don't have enough to do!

Have a good holiday,  
As ever,  
Rea

August 28, 1975

The Hon. John H. Holdridge,  
American Ambassador,  
Singapore.

Dear John:

Thanks for your letter of the 21st. Yes, I'm still in Peking, but I am leaving tomorrow morning for Shanghai, there to meet the Codel Anderson and fly, hopefully free, back to Washington with them. I will go right from there to Maine for eight days, be in Washington for ten days, and be back here about the 19th or 20th.

My vacation was delayed, first by Codel Anderson, and second by the tragic cancer death of Harry Thayer's brother. Harry is in the States now but gets back on Sunday.

I was fascinated with the description of your new life in Singapore.

As for Peking, the August doldrums were offset somewhat by two congressional visits plus a miscellaneous gaggle of friendship groups, businessmen, etc. I went to Peiteiho twice this summer, and of course having the kids here in July was fantastic.

The new crew is pulling together very well. All new Security Guards since you left; Bill Rope left today; Stan Brooks is doing a good job even though he did double the population of the school; and we have no monumental problems with the Chinese.

I have asked Harry to send you cables of interest, and as I leave I am sending him another little note to have on his return to be sure that happens.

It will be great seeing you at the Chiefs of Mission meeting. If Habib is still speaking to me after my bitching about not getting enough information on China from Washington I'll feel him out further as to the timing on that meeting.

All the Holdridges are missed here very much. Give my love to Martha, and to your great kids.

Hastily, but with warm regards,

George Bush  
Chief, US Liaison Office

# Withdrawal/Redaction Sheet

## (George Bush Library)

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION	CLASS.
01. Letter	From John H. Holdridge to George Bush RE: His Life in Singapore (2 pp.)	8/21/75	C	C
<b>COLLECTION</b>				
George Bush Personal Papers China File Correspondence File				
<b>FILE LOCATION:</b>				
1975 Correspondence Hb - Holdridge		OA/ID Number	Date Closed 10/6/99	

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