

THE WHITE HOUSE

Assistant to the President and
Staff Secretary

6:30:00

JOHN/MELANNE -

ATTACHED FOR YOUR REVIEW
IS AN UPDATED MEDAL OF
FREEDOM LIST. PLEASE
FORWARD ANY ADDITIONAL
COMMENTS TO ME. WE
WOULD LIKE, IF POSSIBLE, TO
FORWARD TO THE PRESIDENT
THIS WEEKEND. THANKS

-USEL

GO ahead
* NO hispanics
* environmental
1st week

713100

Copy to Burkhardt?

Yes ☒

No ☐

cul

DRAFT

June 30, 2000

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

FROM: LISEL LOY
MELANNE VERVEER
DAN BURKHARDT

SUBJECT: 2000 AWARD OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

You have expressed interest in awarding the Medal of Freedom to five recipients in the upcoming August 9 East Room ceremony: The Reverend Gardner C. Taylor, Marian Wright Edelman, General Wesley Clark, USA, Archibald Cox, and James Edward Burke.

You also have indicated that you might like to give the Medal to Elinor Guggenheimer and David Hamburg. You awarded the Medal of Freedom to Hamburg in 1996; you gave the Citizens Medal to Guggenheimer in 1997.

We have set forth below a list of additional nominees for this year's award. In keeping with the theme of your past selections, this year's nominees embody service to others.

The group of 23 nominees is based upon extensive consultations with, among others, your senior advisers. We recommend that you select approximately five, but no more than seven, additional recipients. For Medal of Freedom ceremonies in 1993-97, you selected 10, 9, 12, 10, and 15, respectively. In 1998, you did not award any medals in a large ceremony; in 1999, you selected 10 recipients. We have attempted to group the nominees according to similarities in their achievements to help you balance and organize your selections. For ease of reference and tabulation, we have also attached a chart to help summarize your selections.

We are also in the process of preparing a list of candidates for the Citizens Medal.

Civil Rights

We have identified a number of strong candidates in the civil rights category. Melanne suggests that you may want to consider holding a separate civil rights Medal of Freedom ceremony, or you may wish to select several from this category to include in the August event.

Monsignor George G. Higgins, 84.

Once described by Lane Kirkland as "the labor movement's parish priest," Higgins has devoted himself for more than 50 years to ensuring worker justice, and he has been honored several times by major labor groups. He has also shaped papal encyclicals to emphasize economic justice. He currently serves as an adjunct lecturer at Catholic University. Melanne and Karen Tramontano support his nomination.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

The Reverend Jesse Jackson, 58.

Reverend Jackson has long been a representative for the underrepresented. As field representative for the Council on Racial Equality, founder of Operation PUSH, PUSH-Excel, PUSH for Economic Justice, the National Rainbow Coalition, and The Wall Street Project, he has worked to expand opportunities for minorities while encouraging youth to act responsibly. He was a Democratic Presidential candidate in 1984 and 1988. He has negotiated several hostage releases, most recently that of the three U.S. POWs held in the former Yugoslavia. You have indicated that you might want to make this award in a later ceremony.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Constance Baker Motley, 78.

A key participant in virtually every important case brought to enforce *Brown v. Board of Education*, Motley began her career as an attorney with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and won nine out of ten civil rights cases she argued before the United States Supreme Court. One of her most renowned victories was on behalf of James Meredith, making it possible for him to enroll in the University of Mississippi. Motley left the NAACP in 1964 and was elected New York State's first black woman senator. In 1966, President Johnson appointed her U.S. District Court Judge for the Southern District of New York, making Motley the first African American female federal judge. She became Chief Judge of the Southern District in 1982 and assumed senior status in 1986.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Jack Greenberg, 75.

Greenberg's accomplishments are legendary. He served as Director-Counsel of the NAACP Legal Defense and Education Fund from 1961 to 1984 and was an assistant counsel for the group from 1949 to 1961. He argued 40 cases before the United States Supreme Court, including *Brown v. Board of Education*. He is a founding member of the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund and is a member of the executive committee of Human Rights Watch. Greenberg served as dean of Columbia College from 1989 to 1993 and currently is a professor at Columbia Law School.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Daisy Bates (posthumous; died in November 1999).

Best known for her role as a mentor to the Little Rock Nine, Daisy Bates spent much of her life working to ensure civil rights for African Americans and improved living conditions for the disadvantaged. In 1941, with her husband L.C. Bates, she began the weekly newspaper the *Arkansas State Press*, which for 18 years highlighted police brutality and legal and political inequities affecting blacks in the state. In 1952, she was elected president of the Arkansas state conference of NAACP branches; it was in this capacity that she began taking African American children to be enrolled in all-white schools. After repeated attempts, she and the students chosen to integrate Little Rock Central High School entered that school in 1957, escorted by paratroopers. Later that year, she was arrested and convicted for failing to provide NAACP membership information to Little Rock officials; the United States Supreme Court overturned her conviction in 1960. During the 1960's, Mrs. Bates worked on anti-poverty programs as a member of the Johnson administration. In 1968, she returned to Arkansas and, as a community activist with the Mitchellville Office of Economic Opportunity Self-Help Project, helped to bring a new water system, a sewer system, and paved streets to that community.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

John Sengstacke (posthumous; died in 1997).

As publisher and editor of the *Chicago Defender* -- a newspaper his uncle founded in 1905 -- Sengstacke provided an important outlet for the African American voice for 57 years. W.E.B. DuBois and Langston Hughes were among those whose work appeared in Sengstacke's paper. Sengstacke was also instrumental in the integration of the U.S. Armed Forces -- as a member of the Fahey Commission (one of 10 Presidential appointments he received) and through his newspaper, he argued that President Truman should integrate U.S. troops. Sengstacke also persuaded President Franklin Roosevelt to include the first black reporter in a White House news conference, and he organized the meeting with Branch Rickey that led to Jackie Robinson joining major league baseball. Under his leadership, the National Newspaper Publishers Association, an organization of African American newspaper publishers, was formed in 1940. Among Sengstacke's other publications were the *Michigan Chronicle* in Detroit, the *Pittsburgh Courier* in Philadelphia, and the *Tri-State Defender* in Memphis.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Health

Dr. Mathilde Krim, 73.

Founder of the AIDS Medical Foundation in 1983, Dr. Krim was one of the earliest leaders in the effort to find a cure for HIV/AIDS. She has had a distinguished medical career, working on topics ranging from cancer research to human genetics, and her foundation, which joined with the American Foundation for AIDS Research in 1985, has poured millions of dollars into HIV/AIDS research efforts.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Sports

Hank Aaron, 66.

Aaron began his amazing career on the baseball field as a minor league player on a segregated team in the South, where he suffered the humiliation of eating and living separate from his teammates. He is best known for breaking Babe Ruth's home run record – ultimately hitting 755 home runs over the course of his career and reaching this awesome milestone in the face of death threats against himself and his family. After he retired from play, he joined the front office of the Atlanta Braves, a position from which he called for more African Americans in baseball management and decried racist comments by baseball club owners. Aaron has also been active in Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Boy Scouts of America. In 1995, he established the Chasing the Dream Foundation, a fund to help underprivileged children in Atlanta pursue advanced study in music, art, writing, dance, and sports. There is some precedent for awarding the Medal to sports figures: Jesse Owens and Joe DiMaggio received the Medal from President Ford; Jackie Robinson received it from President Reagan; Ted Williams received it from President Bush; and you awarded the Medal to Arthur Ashe.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Muhammad Ali, 58.

Regarded by many to be the greatest boxer of all time, Ali won the world heavyweight title for the first time in 1964. In 1967, he refused induction into the U.S. Army, was found guilty of draft evasion, and was stripped of his title. In 1971, the U.S. Supreme Court overturned his conviction, and in 1974 Ali regained the world championship. He later lost the title and regained it for a record third time in 1978. In 1980, he retired from boxing. Now suffering from the advanced stages of Parkinson's disease, he serves as the spokesperson for the National Parkinson's Foundation and performs charity work for UNICEF and Best Buddies.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Scholars

John Kenneth Galbraith, 91.

One of the leading economists of the 20th century and the author of more than 30 books, including three novels and his memoirs, Galbraith has made dense economic concepts understandable to the average reader. He also held numerous positions during a distinguished government career. During World War II, he served in the Office of Price Administration during the early years of U.S. involvement in World War II and was greatly responsible for OPA's impressive record in controlling inflation. An advisor to Presidents Kennedy and Johnson, Galbraith also served as U.S. Ambassador to India during the Kennedy Administration, helping to redefine relations between Washington and New Delhi. He also was chairman of Americans for Democratic Action from 1967-69 and taught economics at Harvard College for nearly 30 years.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

International Human Rights

Given the high profile and important contributions of Mandela, Suu Kyi, and Tutu, you may wish to hold a separate ceremony if you choose one or more of these 3 candidates.

Nelson Mandela, 81.

Freed after serving 27 years of a life sentence imposed for sabotage and treason, Mandela became South Africa's first democratically elected president and held the position from 1994 to 1999. In 1993, he shared the Nobel Peace Prize with F. W. de Klerk, his Vice President, for their efforts to end apartheid.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Aung San Suu Kyi, 54.

Co-founder of the National League for Democracy, Suu Kyi is the leader of Burma's opposition force and pro-democracy movement. In 1989, she was placed under house arrest for violating a government ban on political activity, and she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 for her efforts to bring democracy and human rights to Burma through peaceful means. In 1995, the junta finally released her from confinement. She refuses to travel outside Burma for fear that if she leaves, the junta will not let her back into the country. NSC recommends that Secretary Albright receive the Medal on Suu Kyi's behalf should you choose to make the award.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Archbishop Desmond Tutu, 68.

The first black Anglican bishop of Johannesburg and archbishop of Cape Town, Tutu has devoted his career to the pursuit of human rights. He is the former Secretary-General of the South African Council of Churches, and he chaired South Africa's Truth & Reconciliation Commission after the election of the African National Congress in 1994. Tutu has worked extensively to ease racial tensions in South Africa, emphasizing nonviolent means of protest and encouraging economic pressure by countries dealing with South Africa, and his efforts in combating apartheid earned him the 1984 Nobel Peace Prize.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Simon Wiesenthal, 91.

A concentration camp survivor, Wiesenthal has devoted his life to developing evidence that can be used to prosecute Nazi war criminals. After World War II, he gathered proof of Nazi atrocities for the War Crimes Section of the United States Army. In 1947, he opened the Jewish Historical Documentation Center in Austria to assemble documentation for future trials. His most famous discovery was the material that led to the capture, trial, and execution of Adolf Eichmann. A special branch of his office documents the activities of right-wing groups, neo-Nazis, and similar organizations. In 1977, he founded the Simon Wiesenthal Center, which

works to fight bigotry and anti-Semitism. President Carter presented the U.S. Congressional Gold Medal to Wiesenthal in 1980, and Wiesenthal received the French Legion of Honor in 1986.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Dr. Samuel Pizar, 71.

Scholar, international lawyer, public servant, and author, Pizar was rescued at age ten from a Nazi death camp. In the early 1960's, he was a member of President Kennedy's task force on foreign economic policy and an advisor to the State Department and several Senate committees. During the mid-60's, he practiced international law, and he headed an ad hoc committee of U.S. leaders to monitor ethnic and political repression in the Soviet Union and was instrumental in freeing many refuseniks and dissidents. In the 1980's, Pizar, with Steve Jobs and others, helped conceive the "computer in every classroom" proposal, and he argued during this time that national wealth lies in human intellectual potential – not only the traditional economic measures of land, capital, and labor. He stressed that there should be a universal human right to education and knowledge. From the mid-90's, he has focused on the genocides, ethnic cleansings, and crimes against humanity in Central Africa, the Balkans, and the Caucasus, and he founded and has been chairman of a committee that has located and honored approximately 18,000 non-Jews who risked their lives to save Jews during World War II.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Military

Admiral William Crowe, 75.

Four times the recipient of the Defense Distinguished Service Medal, Admiral Crowe has more than fifty distinguished years of government service. A gifted military leader, he served as commander of the Middle East Force in the Persian Gulf, head of Navy Plans and Policy, Commander in Chief of the United States Pacific Command, and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. He served this Administration as Chairman of the Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board (1993-94) and as Ambassador to the Court of St. James. In 1998, Crowe was sworn in as Chairman of two Accountability Review Boards charged with investigating the bombings of the embassies in Nairobi and Dar es Salaam. Those panels concluded that close to 90 percent of U.S. embassies worldwide need renovation or rebuilding to withstand the threat of truck bombs.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Environment

Former Representative John F. Seiberling (D-OH), 81.

Seiberling's record of accomplishment on environmental issues is astonishing. A Member of Congress from 1970-1987, he authored legislation that established the 30,000 acre Cuyahoga Valley National Recreation Area, tripled the size of the Land and Water Conservation Fund, and prohibited mining in public parks. He also co-authored key amendments to the Surface Mining

Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 and helped manage passage of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act, which preserved more than 100 million acres in Alaska. And he is credited with saving more than 69 million acres of wilderness in 27 states and authored amendments to the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982. George Frampton supports this nomination.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Government Service

George McGovern, 77.

A war hero in World War II, McGovern was elected to the House of Representatives in 1956. In the Senate, he chaired the Select Committee on Nutrition and Human Needs, where he led the expansion of the Food Stamp Program, the Summer Food Service Program, and WIC. He was the 1972 Democratic nominee for President and currently is the U.S. Representative to the UN Food and Agricultural Organization, where he is developing a plan to address the food needs of 500 million people -- half the world's underfed -- by 2015.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Senator John Chafee, (R-RI) (posthumous; died in 1999).

At the age of 19, Chafee served at Guadalcanal as a Marine lieutenant and went on to fight in the Korean War. He later served in the Rhode Island House of Representatives, as Governor of Rhode Island, as Secretary of the Navy, and as a United States Senator for 23 years. He embodied bipartisanship in the Senate and played a pivotal role in the passage of all the major environmental legislation of the past 20 years. He was one of the architects of the 1980 Superfund program to clean up hazardous waste sites and authored the Coastal Barrier Resources Act to protect pristine and fragile coastal barriers from development. Among the other bills he promoted were the Clean Water Act of 1986, the 1990 amendments to the Clean Air Act, and the Oil Pollution Act of 1990. Senator Chafee was also a champion of expanding health care for women, children, people with disabilities, and people with mental illness and a strong advocate for children in our nation's foster care system.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Shirley Chisholm, 75.

The first African American female member of Congress and the first female or African American candidate from a major political party to run for the Presidency, in 1964, Chisholm ran for and won a New York State Assembly seat, and for four years she was the only woman and only one of eight African Americans in that assembly. In 1984, she co-founded the National Political Congress of Black Women. You asked her to serve as Ambassador to Jamaica in 1993, but she declined the invitation, reportedly due to health reasons.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, 73.

Senator Moynihan has served New York in the United States Senate since 1977, establishing himself as a strong supporter of Social Security and distinguishing himself through his service on the Finance Committee. He is the only person to serve in the Cabinet or sub-Cabinet (including two ambassadorial appointments) of four successive presidential administrations (Kennedy-Ford). He will retire at the end of this Congressional session.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

Labor

Mildred "Millie" Jeffrey, 88.

A leading women's labor and Democratic party activist, Jeffrey was the first female to direct a department of the United Auto Workers. She worked for the UAW from 1945-1976, heading four departments and serving as a special assistant to president Walter Reuther. Presidents Kennedy and Carter appointed her to commissions, and in 1984, she was part of a small women's activist group that helped secure Geraldine Ferraro's vice presidential nomination. Karen Tramontano strongly supports this nomination.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

The Reverend Addie Wyatt, 76.

Wyatt was a major labor movement leader who pushed for equality for African Americans and women. She was the first African American woman to sit on the board of an international union, and she has held leadership roles in several labor unions and organizations at the local and national levels. She retired in 1984 and entered the ministry. Wyatt also served as an at-large member of the Democratic National Committee in 1976.

Approve____ Disapprove____ Discuss____

2000 Medal of Freedom

Nominee	Approve	Disapprove	Discuss
Monsignor George G. Higgins			
The Reverend Jesse Jackson			
Constance Baker Motley			
Jack Greenberg			
Daisy Bates			
John Sengstacke			
Dr. Mathilde Krim			
Hank Aaron			
Muhammad Ali			
John Kenneth Galbraith			
Nelson Mandela			
Simon Wiesenthal			
Aung San Suu Kyi			
Archbishop Desmond Tutu			
Dr. Samuel Pizar			
Admiral William Crowe			
John F. Seiberling			
George McGovern			
John Chafee			
Shirley Chisholm			
Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan			
Mildred "Millie" Jeffrey			
The Reverend Addie Wyatt			