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| DOCUMENT NO. | FORM | SUBJECT/TITLE | PAGES | DATE | RESTRICTION(S) |
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| 007 | Speech | Reception for the Kennedy Center Honors [page 4] | 1 | 12/08/2002 | P6/b6; |

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FOLDER TITLE:

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RESTRICTION CODES

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

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- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [a)(5) of the PRA]
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Reception for the Kennedy Center Honors December 8, 2002 Draft #2

Good afternoon, and welcome to the East Room. Laura and I are pleased to join you in honoring the achievements of five great American artists.

We welcome the honorees, and your families, who share the pride of this special day. One of our guests knows this city quite well. To Chita Rivera, who grew up just a few miles from here: Welcome home.

Each new group of Kennedy Center honorees presents a picture to remember. This year we have brought together in one room a legend of Broadway ... the conductor of the Met ... the composer of "Mrs. Robinson" ... the face of Cleopatra, Queen of Egypt ... and the voice of Darth Vader.

Tonight's event at the Kennedy Center recognizes lives of hard effort and achievement. Each one of you is known to the American people, in a way that runs deeper than fame. You have each made a place of your own in the culture of our Nation. You are widely admired, and tonight you can know that you are appreciated as well.

People say that the voice of a President is the most easily recognized in America. I would not make that claim in the presence of James Earl Jones. And that commanding voice belongs to one of the finest, most respected actors of his generation.

There was a time when his voice was seldom heard. As a boy, Jimmy Jones struggled with a speech impediment. Often he could communicate with his teachers only in writing. "One of the hardest things in life," he said in his autobiography, "is having words in your heart that you can't utter." What this young man had in his heart was courage and determination – and so he learned debating and public speaking ... and read Shakespeare aloud to master the feel and rhythm of language. Later, he polished floors and cleaned offices while learning the actor's craft.

By his own will and God-given talent, James Earl Jones gained breakthrough roles on the stage, and in some of the finest films of recent decades – from "The Great White Hope" to "Field of Dreams." Along the way, Americans have come to know an artist of seriousness and skill. We have also come to know a man of great dignity – whose voice we hope to hear for many years to come.

It is not commonly known, but Paul Simon got his start on the stage as well – as the White Rabbit in a sixth-grade production of "Alice in Wonderland." Playing the Cheshire Cat was his new friend, Art Garfunkel.

Paul Simon still thinks of himself as a boy from Queens. America thinks of Paul Simon as the writer of some of the most lovely and memorable songs of our times – and a singer of eloquence and integrity. From collaborative works such as "Bridge Over Troubled Waters," to the groundbreaking rhythms of "Graceland," Paul has defied musical boundaries ... appealed to all generations ... and expressed the ideals and hopes of humanity.

He once studied to be a lawyer. When he chose another path, the legal profession missed out on volumes of moving and lyrical briefs. His decision to be a performer led him to Paris – where, in the early 1960s, you could have seen Paul Simon performing alone, for anyone who cared to stop and listen. He could not have known that he would one day draw some of the largest live audiences ever. When you listen to a Paul Simon song, you hear a gentle and truthful voice – a gifted man with a good heart. For the words and music he has brought into all our lives, America today honors Paul Simon.

James Levine knew from his earliest years that he was destined for a life in music. In the decades since, he has conducted major orchestras across the world, and is himself an institution as the maestro of the New York Metropolitan Opera.

His parents remember that James could sing almost before he could speak. At the age of three, he was playing melodies on the piano. His mother and father took him to symphonies, where he would sit with the open score on his lap, conducting with a knitting

needle. By age nine he was producing full operas on a puppet stage at home.

Helen and Lawrence Levine encouraged their son's extraordinary talent, while letting no one exploit it. This prodigy matured into one of the most influential conductors America has ever produced. James Levine is known for an understated style, drawing attention to the music itself with his vivid and precise interpretations. And his artistic vision has preserved and advanced the unmatched reputation of the Metropolitan Opera.

James Levine has said that "music chose me, because I can't remember life without it." For the rest of us, it is hard to think of American classical music without him. Tonight the music world is grateful for the disciplined artistry and joyful presence of Maestro James Levine.

Our fourth honoree has been described by one theater critic as "twenty thousand volts of untamed electricity." Anyone who has seen Chita Rivera on the stage or screen knows what he means. Her professionalism, enthusiasm, and style have set a Broadway standard that few have ever reached.

Chita began her training in classical ballet, and became a star in "West Side Story," telling the world, "I Want to Live in America." She went on to acclaimed performances in "Bye, Bye, Birdie," "Sweet Charity," "Chicago," and many other great shows. She is the owner of two Tony Awards, and has been nominated for five more. Her hard work and personal warmth have gained her the respect of her peers, and the affection of the American people.

It is fitting that we recognize these accomplishments here in her hometown. When the family lived on Buchanan Street, Chita's father played in the Navy Band. Her late mother, Katherine, worked for the government, and remains her inspiration. Chita has said, "I am only an extension of my mother. I look like her, think like her, every step I do on that stage is for her." And I know, Chita, that your mother would be so proud of you today, as America honors your distinguished career and wonderful spirit.

On a fall afternoon in 1951, President Harry Truman welcomed a group of young actresses to the White House. Among them was Elizabeth Taylor. At that event, Truman wondered aloud what the next 50 years would bring in the film industry. He added, "I know some of these young ladies will [see that day]." Standing here in 2002, we are honored to welcome back that lovely girl, who became one of the most accomplished and compelling actresses in movie history.

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She has also given her heart to important causes, especially the defeat of AIDS. For her compassionate life, and for a film career like no other, the Kennedy Center and the American people honor Elizabeth Taylor.

Each of our five honorees has shared great gifts, and enriched the life of our nation. They have given us all some fond memories. And I hope these distinguished Americans and their families will cherish the memory of this evening.

Thank you.

Drafted by:

Mike Gerson, John McConnell and Matthew Scully, Office of

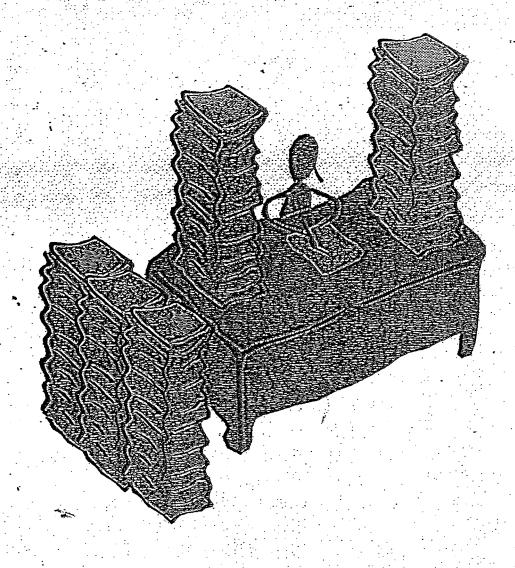
Speechwriting

Office: 202/456-0168 and 202-456-2816 Cell: (b)(6) and (b)(6)

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

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RESPONSE:

Harriet E. Miers
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 62702

Reception for the Kennedy Center Honors December 8, 2002 Draft #2

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We welcome the honorees, and your families, who share the pride of this special day. One of our guests knows this city quite well. To Chita Rivera, who grew up just a few miles from here: Welcome home.

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Drafted by:

Mike Gerson, John McConnell and Matthew Scully, Office of

Speechwriting

Office: 202/456-0168 and 202-456-2816 Cell: (b)(6) and (b)(6)

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 12-5-02 9:30 AM ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 12-5-02 4:00 PM

RECEPTION FOR THE KENNEDY CENTER HONORS, DRAFT #2

Subject: (DECEMBER 8, 2002)

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Harriet E. Miers
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 62702

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REMARKS:

PLEASE FORWARD YOUR COMMENTS TO ANNE CAMPBELL, EXTENSION 60170/EXTENSION 60204, BY 4:00 PM TODAY AND SEND A COPY TO THE STAFF SECRETARY. THANK YOU.

RESPONSE:



Harriet E, Miers
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 62702

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Harriet E. Miers Assistant to the President and Staff Secretary Ext. 62702

Reception for the Kennedy Center Honors December 8, 2002 Draft #2

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Thank you.

Drafted by:

Mike Gerson, John McConnell and Matthew Scully, Office of

Speechwriting

Office: 202/456-0168 and 202-456-2816 Cell: (b)(6) and (b)(6)



OFFICE OF THE VICE PRESIDENT WASHINGTON

December 5, 2002

MEMORANDUM FOR ANNE CAMPBELL

FROM:

SUBJECT:

Reception for the Kennedy Center Honors (Draft #2) - December 8, 2002

The Office of the Vice President has reviewed the above-referenced draft and has no comments. cc:

Harriet Miers

Staff Secretary

| SS/ | RM | NO. |
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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 12-5-02 9:30 AM ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 12-5-02 4:00 PM

RECEPTION FOR THE KENNEDY CENTER HONORS, DRAFT #2

Subject: (DECEMBER 8, 2002)

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Harriet E. Miers
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 62702

Reception for the Kennedy Center Honors December 8, 2002 Draft #2

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Drafted by:

Mike Gerson, John McConnell and Matthew Scully, Office of

Speechwriting

Office: 202/456-0168 and 202-456-2816 Cell: (b)(6) and (b)(6)

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WHITE HOUSE STAFFING MEMORANDUM

Date: 12-5-02 9:30 AM ACTION / CONCURRENCE / COMMENT DUE BY: 12-5-02 4:00 PM RECEPTION FOR THE KENNEDY CENTER HONORS, DRAFT #2 Subject: (DECEMBER 8, 2002) ACTION FYI **ACTION** FYI J П П **HUBBARD** VICE PRESIDENT **IRASTORZA I** П CARD -П П J **JOHNSON BARTLETT** N П LINDSEY **BLAKEMAN** П र्ग П П MARBURGER -**BOLTEN** \Box П **MIERS** \Box **BRIDGELAND** 7 П RICE \Box **CALIO** RIDGE CONNAUGHTON П न П **ROVE DANIELS** V **FLEISCHER** П SPELLINGS= V П П **CLERK GERSON** 7 П П **GONZALES HAGIN** र्ज **HAWKINS** П REMARKS: PLEASE FORWARD YOUR COMMENTS TO ANNE CAMPBELL, EXTENSION 60170/EXTENSION 60204, BY 4:00 PM TODAY AND SEND A COPY TO THE STAFF SECRETARY. THANK YOU. RESPONSE:

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Harriet E. Miers
Assistant to the President
and Staff Secretary
Ext. 62702

Reception for the Kennedy Center Honors December 8, 2002 Draft #2

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Chita began her training in classical ballet, and became a star in "West Side Story," telling the world, "I Want to Live in America." She went on to acclaimed performances in "Bye, Bye, Birdie," "Sweet Charity," "Chicago," and many other great shows. She is the owner of two Tony Awards, and has been nominated for five more. Her hard work and personal warmth have gained her the respect of her peers, and the affection of the American people.

It is fitting that we recognize these accomplishments here in her hometown. When the family lived on Buchanan Street, Chita's father played in the Navy Band. Her late mother, Katherine, worked for the government, and remains her inspiration. Chita has said, "I am only an extension of my mother. I look like her, think like her, every step I do on that stage is for her." And I know, Chita, that your mother would be so proud of you today, as America honors your distinguished career and wonderful spirit.

On a fall afternoon in 1951, President Harry Truman welcomed a group of young actresses to the White House. Among them was Elizabeth Taylor. At that event, Truman wondered aloud what the next 50 years would bring in the film industry. He added, "I know some of these young ladies will [see that day]." Standing here in 2002, we are honored to welcome back that lovely girl, who became one of the most accomplished and compelling actresses in movie history.

Elizabeth Taylor's early pictures, like "National Velvet" and "Lassie, Come Home," turned one skeptical reviewer into a fan He wrote, "Her face is alive with youthful spirit, her voice has the softness of sweet song, and her whole manner ... is one of refreshing grace." Through the years, her performances in such films as "Giant," "Butterfield Eight," and "Cat On A Hot Tin Roof," showed a depth and intensity that set her apart. Her face is one of the most memorable ever captured on film. And for millions of Americans, Elizabeth Taylor is the very definition of acting talent and movie stardom.

She has also given her heart to important causes, especially the defeat of AIDS. For her compassionate life, and for a film career like no other, the Kennedy Center and the American people honor Elizabeth Taylor.

Each of our five honorees has shared great gifts, and enriched the life of our fiation. They have given us all some fond memories. And I hope these distinguished Americans and their families will cherish the memory of this evening.

Thank you.

Drafted by: Mike Gerson, John McConnell and Matthew Scully, Office of

Speechwriting

Office: 202/456-0168 and 202-456-2816
Cell: (b)(6) and (b)(6)

THE WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

ID#

544252

PAGE

DATE RECEIVED: 12/12/2002

NAME OF CORRESPONDENT: THE HONORABLE DIANA DEGETTE

SUBJECT: REQUESTS THAT THE PRESIDENT HOLD A BILL SIGNING CEREMONY AT THE WHITE HOUSE

FOR HR 5738

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REPORT CODES:

- C COMMENT/RECOMMENDETION
- D DRAFT RESPONSE
- F FURNISH FACT SHEET
- I INFO COPY/NO ACT NECCESSARY
- R DIRECT REPLY W/ COPY
- S FOR SIGNATURE
- X INTERIM REPLY

DISPOSITION CODES:

- A ANSWERED
- B NON-SEPC-REFERRAL C - COMPLETED
- S SUSPENDED

OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

TYPE RESP = INITIALS OF SIGNER

CODE = A

COMPLETED = DATE OF OUTGOING

REFER QUESTIONS AND ROUTING UPDATES TO RECORDS MANAGEMENT (ROOM 72, OEOB) EXT-62590 KEEP THIS WORKSHEET ATTACHED TO THE ORIGINAL INCOMING LETTER AT ALL TIMES AND SEND COMPLETED RECORD TO **RECORDS MANAGEMENT.**

CONGRESSIONAL SCHEDULING REQUEST

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544250

Congress of the United States Washington, BC 20515

November 27, 2002

The Honorable George W. Bush The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Thank you for supporting H.R. 5738 which increases funding for juvenile diabetes research as well as treatment and prevention programs for Alaska Natives and American Indians, who suffer in disproportionate numbers from diabetes. This bill has overwhelming bipartisan support and passed the House and the Senate under unanimous consent.

We write to request that you hold a ceremony to sign the bill. It would be a wonderful opportunity for Members from both sides of the aisle and organizations such as the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation and the National Indian Health Board to witness you signing this legislation that provides an historic increase in diabetes funding.

Mr. President, we thank you again for your leadership in this area. Your support for this additional funding and your long-term commitment to reduce the burden of diabetes and find a cure is unprecedented. We hope that you will look upon this request favorably.

Sincerely,

Diana DeGette

Co-Chair, House Diabetes Caucus

George R. Nethercutt, Jr.

Co-Chair, House Diabetes Caucus

Co-Chair, House Native American Caucus

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Dale, E. Kildee

Co-Chair, House Native American Caucus

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