



George Bush Library

facsimile TRANSMITTAL

to: Rob Sherman
fax #: 847-870-1156
re: RM Documents
date: 04/10/2006
Pages: 21 Pages (including cover sheet).

Dear Mr. Sherman:

Please find attached a few more documents which have come to my attention regarding the subject of the campaign exchange with you and then Vice President Bush. I have taken the liberty of faxing them to you with the understanding that you might find them useful. If not, please discard. However, in all fairness, I wanted to be sure that you were privy to the same documents that others might have found within our open files. As before, your FOIA will remain in our queue and we will contact you as soon as it is processed and open for research.

Sincerely,

Deborah Wheeler
Archivist

From the desk of...

Deborah Wheeler
Archivist
George Bush Presidential Library
1000 George Bush Drive West
College Station, TX 77845
Telephone: 979.691.4039
Fax: 979.691.4030
Email: debbie.wheeler@nara.gov

ID # 028896 CU

FED10-01 Dg

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

- O - OUTGOING
- H - INTERNAL
- I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: John McCreedy

MI Mail Report User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Letter requesting a copy of a book sent to our President by American Artists, Inc. Request by [unclear]

ROUTE TO:	ACTION	DISPOSITION			
Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>Croft</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>8/10/19</u>			<u>8/10/25</u>
<u>Croft (10)</u>	Referral Note: <u>A</u>	<u>8/10/20</u>	<u>NL</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>8/10/25</u>
	Referral Note:	<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:	<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
	Referral Note:	<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>

- ACTION CODES:**
- A - Appropriate Action
 - C - Comment/Recommendation
 - D - Draft Response
 - F - Furnish Fact Sheet to be used as Enclosure
 - I - Info Copy Only/No Action Necessary
 - R - Direct Reply w/Copy
 - S - For Signature
 - X - Interim Reply
- DISPOSITION CODES:**
- A - Answered
 - B - Non-Special Referral
 - C - Completed
 - S - Suspended
- FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:**
- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
 - Code = "A"
 - Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: similar correspondence received. The letter is per [unclear] sent a [unclear] - See: 003896

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
 Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OE0B).
 Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
 Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

**BUSH LIBRARY
PHOTOCOPY**

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 25, 1989

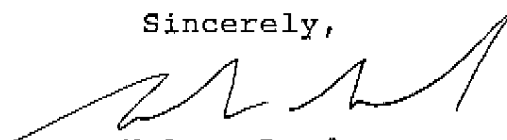
Dear Mr. McCready:

Your recent letter to the Counsel to the President, commenting on his letter of February 21 to Mr. Jon G. Murray, has been referred to me for reply.

Your comments have been duly noted and will be given appropriate consideration.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

Sincerely,



Nelson Lund
Associate Counsel to the President

Mr. John P. McCready
705 Brown Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

4/18/89

Dear Mr. Dray,

APR 17 1989

I am in receipt of a copy of your letter sent to Jon Murray, President of American Atheists, Inc. I would like to question the contents of your letter in which you state that "the administration will proceed at all times with due regard for the legal rights of atheists..." Now, how can this be when the enclosure with your letter was a copy of the proclamation declaring a "National Day of Prayer on Jan. 22, signed by President Bush within an hour of his being sworn in? It didn't take this new President very long to perform his first unconstitutional act by

affirming support for a resolution,
passed by Congress, which
clearly violates the First
Amendment to the Constitution.
(That is the same constitution
that Bush swore to preserve,
protect, & defend.)

As an atheist, I am outraged
by President Bush's declaration
that "atheists shouldn't be
considered as citizens, and
his flaunting of his religious
beliefs in his political &
public office. Granted, the
man has a right to such
beliefs, but we atheists have
the right to have them kept
away from us, & constitutional,
the religious beliefs of anyone
kept out of govt.
at this stage, I would have
to receive a personal reply

from President Bush himself
to reassure me that he gave
a care for the legal & const-
itutional rights of atheists, &
all Americans. Until that
is received though, you & the
President are continuing prof-
~~are~~ of public officials who refuse
to adhere to the public you're
suppose to serve, & a Const-
itution you're required to
support!

Sincerely,

cc. J. Murray, John P. McCready
D.R., L.H.C.

ID # 022304 CU

FB006-0409

**WHITE HOUSE
CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET**

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: Norman A. MacLeod

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: distribution of (HHS) Border Gray Sect to Jon Murray re: President Bush's views on atheism

ROUTE TO:		ACTION	DISPOSITION		
Office/Agency	(Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>Cuofc</u>		ORIGINATOR	<u>890330</u>		<u>C 890407</u>
<u>Cuofc</u>	<u>10</u>	Referral Note: <u>A</u>	<u>890331</u>	<u>MC</u>	<u>A 890407</u>
		Referral Note:	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		Referral Note:	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>
		Referral Note:	<u>1 1</u>		<u>1 1</u>

Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

ACTION CODES:

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FOR OUTGOING CORRESPONDENCE:

- Type of Response = Initials of Signer
- Code = "A"
- Completion Date = Date of Outgoing

Comments: See: 003896

Keep this worksheet attached to the original incoming letter.
Send all routing updates to Central Reference (Room 75, OEOB).
Always return completed correspondence record to Central Files.
Refer questions about the correspondence tracking system to Central Reference, ext. 2590.

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

April 7, 1989

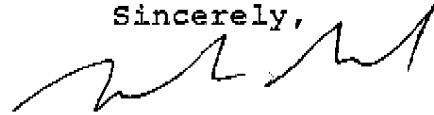
Dear Mr. MacLeod:

Your recent letter to the Counsel to the President, commenting on his letter of February 21 to Mr. Jon G. Murray, has been referred to me for reply.

We have read your letter with interest, but must inform you that Mr. Gray adheres to the statements made in his February 21 letter.

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us.

Sincerely,



Nelson Lund
Associate Counsel to the President

Mr. Norman A. MacLeod
415 El Carlo Road
Kelowna, BC V1X 2R5

415 El Carlo Road
Kelowna, BC V1X 2R5
March 20, 1989

Mr. C. Boyden Gray
Counsel to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

MAR 28 1989

Dear Mr. Gray,

American Atheists, Inc. of Austin, Texas has mailed out to their members a photocopy of your letter to Jon G. Murray dated February 21, 1989. I received a copy in today's mail.

Your letter states that President Bush neither supports Atheism nor believes that Atheism should be unnecessarily encouraged or supported by the government.

Neither then should the President continue violating the first and fourteenth amendments by his highly visible demonstrations that it is all right for theism to be unnecessarily encouraged and supported by the government.

Your next sentence further destroys your credibility when you state that despite his aforementioned constitutional violations, the President supports the Constitution and laws of the United States, and will proceed at all times with due regard for the legal rights of Atheists.

Does this mean that Atheists will no longer be jailed for refusing to swear a "so help me god" oath upon a book (the bible) which is one religious sect's collection of myths, fables and lies? Does it mean that the government when barred by Supreme Court decisions from overt support of religion will also cease covert support of religion? Does it mean that the government will cease to countenance illegal persecution of Atheists? I'll believe it when I see it.


In my letter to President Bush dated January 31, 1989, I should also have mentioned that Atheists pay their taxes which is more than can be said of the churches, and therefore it is the religious hierarchy who shirk such civic duties, who should be barred from citizenship.

As far as patriotism is concerned, Atheists number among their ranks many highly decorated veterans of various wars. Furthermore Atheists, unlike their religious brethren, can not weasel out of military service for such reasons as: being

a conscientious objector, being enrolled in a seminary, being a priest or other such clergyman, etc. Therefore it is the religionists rather than the Atheists whose patriotism should be called in question.

And in keeping with the usual religious duplicity of your kind, your supposed reply to Mr. Murray was not a reply at all, but simply a mealy-mouthed, cowardly evasion of a reply.

Yours truly,


.....
Norman A. MacLeod

cc: American Atheists, Inc.
P.O. Box 140195
Austin, TX 78714-0195

ID # 037871 CU

SP

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING WORKSHEET

O - OUTGOING

H - INTERNAL

I - INCOMING

Date Correspondence
Received (YY/MM/DD) 1 1

Name of Correspondent: Jon G. Murray

MI Mail Report

User Codes: (A) _____ (B) _____ (C) _____

Subject: Re: George Bush's remarks about
atheists in the U.S.

ROUTE TO:

ACTION

DISPOSITION

Office/Agency (Staff Name)	Action Code	Tracking Date YY/MM/DD	Type of Response	Code	Completion Date YY/MM/DD
<u>Cuoff</u>	ORIGINATOR	<u>8/10/17</u>			<u>8/10/28</u>
<u>Cuoff (10)</u>	R	<u>8/10/18</u>	<u>CRS</u>		<u>8/10/28</u>
		<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
		<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>
		<u>1 1</u>			<u>1 1</u>

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Photocopy from George Bush Presidential Library

GEORGE BUSH LIBRARY

THIS FORM MARKS THE FILE LOCATION OF ITEM NUMBER
3 LISTED IN THE WITHDRAWAL SHEET AT THE FRONT OF
THIS FOLDER



American Atheists, Inc.

P O Box 140195
Austin
Texas
78714-0195

Delivery:
7215 Cameron Road
Austin, Texas
78752-2973

(512) 458-1244
Dial-THE-Atheist:
(512) 458-5731

May 4, 1989

C. Boyden Gray
Counsel to the President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave
Washington, DC 20500

in re: The Ethics of George Bush
President of the United States

Mr. Gray:

Your February 21 letter to American Atheists in which you gave a disingenuous response to a request sent to President Bush to apologize to Atheists in the United States for his unfortunate remarks concerned with Atheists and Atheism during his late presidential campaign has been distributed now throughout the land. It has been sent to all forty Chapters of American Atheists so that it could be discussed at local levels. It has been widely distributed to freethought, agnostic, humanist, and objectivist journals. It has been the subject of survey of the Atheist community of the nation. It was also read and discussed at the Nineteenth Annual National Convention of American Atheists in late March of this year.

After allowing sixty days for the accumulation and analysis of response, American Atheists finds that the unanimous reaction to your letter is one of repudiation of the statements therein because they simply beg the question - not answer it.

American Atheists did not ask George Bush to "unnecessarily encourage" or "support" American Atheism. I, as their spokesman in this matter, asked for an apology from Mr. Bush in that he impugned the patriotism and repudiated the citizenship of Atheists - who constitute 11 percent of the population.

The single most angry returns have been received from Atheist veterans of all branches of the U.S. military services-- veterans of World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and of peacetime duties. The founders of American Atheists were Richard and Madalyn O'Hair. Mr. O'Hair was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps with service in the Pacific Theatre of Operations in World War II. He is, in fact, buried in Arlington National Cemetery, honored for his services to his country. Madalyn O'Hair is a veteran of the Women's Army Corps, with service as a commissioned officer in World War II in the European Theatre of Operations.

It is unconscionable to impugn the patriotism of citizens

such as these simply because of their convictions in regard to religion.

All Atheists in the nation are quite aware that Mr. Bush is a religious man and that he does "unnecessarily encourage" and "support" religion in direct defiance of the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States.

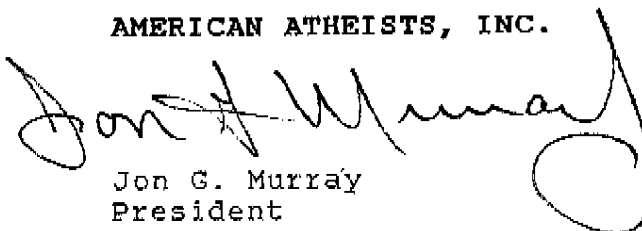
For you to write that "this Administration" will proceed with due regard for the legal rights of Atheists is to insult our intelligence. You do not write that President Bush will act in this manner at all - which is to give de minimus recognition to the usual political fillip that all persons are entitled to equal justice under law.

I have written to President Bush (courtesy copy for you attached) asking for a meeting between him and a group of American Atheist national officers, Chapter directors, and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces and the U.S. Reserves, so that he may make his meaning clear as to why he feels that Atheists are not and cannot be patriots and citizens - or, so that he may apologize to the Atheists.

I am also asking, at this time, that an Atheist liaison office be added to the payroll of the White House at the same salary and with the same recognition as that given to the appointed liaison offices for the Protestant, Roman Catholic, and Jewish religions.

Sincerely

AMERICAN ATHEISTS, INC.



Jon G. Murray
President

JGM:eis

enclosures:

copies of
original 19 December 1988 letter
21 February 1989 letter of Gray
3 May letter to Bush



American Atheists, Inc.

P O Box 140195
Austin
Texas
78714-0195

Delivery:
7215 Cameron Road
Austin, Texas
78752-2973

(512) 458-1244
Dial-THE-Atheist:
(512) 458-5731

May 4, 1989

**COPY FOR YOUR
INFORMATION**

George Bush
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave.
Washington, DC 20500

in re: The Ethics of George Bush
President of the United States

George Bush,

American Atheists sent you an inquiry on December 19, 1988, concerned with your public statement in Chicago, Illinois, during the period of your presidential campaign, to the effect that you did not consider Atheists to be either patriots or citizens and asked that you deliver an apology to the 11 percent of the population of our nation who are Atheists and who are offended by your insensitive remarks.

On February 21, one C. Boyden Gray, who identified himself as "Counsel to the President," sent a response that you are a religious man, that you do not support Atheism, and that you do not feel that "atheism should be unnecessarily encouraged or supported by government."

This is a weasel reply to a straightforward request for an apology. American Atheists did not ask you to "unnecessarily encourage or support" Atheism. An apology was asked for a gratuitous insult - only that and nothing more

Since February 21, American Atheists has contacted its forty Chapters, has advised its members and friends of your remarks, and has discussed them at the Nineteenth Annual National Convention of American Atheists held in late March. The unanimous feedback response to this extensive distribution of your quote is that American Atheists should continue to press for an open apology from you. American Atheists has taken over sixty days to carefully ascertain the impressions made by Mr. Gray's letter. The general reaction was further dismay. Most angry replies were received from veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States, those who had served in the Second World War, the Korean Conflict, in Vietnam, and in peacetime service. The founders of

American Atheists were Richard and Madalyn O'Hair. Mr. O'Hair was a veteran of the U.S. Marine Corps with service in the Pacific Theatre of Operations in World War II. He is, in fact, buried in Arlington National Cemetery - honored for his services to his country. Madalyn O'Hair is a veteran of the Women's Army Corps, with service as a commissioned officer in World War II in the European Theatre of Operations.

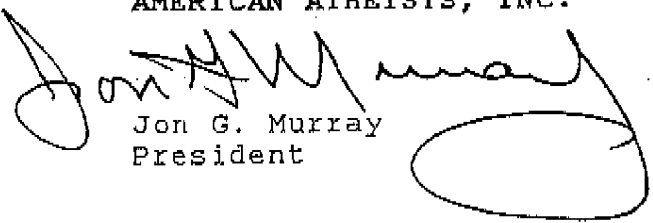
Many of the Atheist community, also in their replies, have expressed doubt that you have the intestinal fortitude to apologize for your outrageous statement, pointing out that you do not even repair an ordinary gaff.

Consequently, the national officers of American Atheists, their Chapter directors throughout the nation, and a group of Atheist veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, herewith formally request an audience with you so that you may either retract these statements which impugn their patriotism and repudiate their citizenship or reassert them in the face of national media.

It appears at this time, also, that you should appoint a salaried Atheist to the position of liaison officer with the growing Atheist community in the nation. The White House has for years had such liaison persons for Roman Catholicism, the major Protestant faiths, and for Judaism.

Either the United States is a democracy where all persons are equal under law, or it is not. You have indicated that insofar as the President of the United States is concerned, the convictions of American Atheists respecting religion not alone puts them in a position which is less than that of religious citizens, but is a burden as to deprive them of the status of citizenship. This is simply outrageous.

AMERICAN ATHEISTS, INC.


Jon G. Murray
President

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 21, 1989

Dear Mr. Murray:

Your letter of December 19, 1988, to President Bush has been referred to me for reply. As you are aware, the President is a religious man who neither supports atheism nor believes that atheism should be unnecessarily encouraged or supported by the government. Needless to say, the President supports the Constitution and laws of the United States, and you may rest assured that this Administration will proceed at all times with due regard for the legal rights of atheists, as well as others with whom the President disagrees.

Sincerely,

"CBG Signed"

C. Boyden Gray
Counsel to the President

Mr. Jon G. Murray
President
American Atheists, Inc.
Post Office Box 140195
Austin, Texas 78714-0195

CBGray
NLund ✓
ChronTHE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 21, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR C. BOYDEN GRAY

FROM:

NELSON LUND *NL*

SUBJECT:

Correspondence Asking that the President Apologize
to America's Atheists for his Campaign Remarks

Attached for your signature is a draft response to a complaining letter from the President of American Atheists, Inc. I had to strain to achieve a polite tone, but I think I succeeded without giving the correspondent unnecessary comfort.

The letter alleges some campaign remarks by the President and his Illinois campaign chairman that might not be too easy to defend, if in fact they were made. I thought it best to ignore these specific allegations.

Attachment

037871

SP

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

June 1, 1989

MEMORANDUM FOR C. BOYDEN GRAY

FROM: NELSON LUND *NL*

SUBJECT: Letter from President of Atheists' Group
Criticizing your Reply to an Earlier Letter
Criticizing the President

Last December, the President of American Atheists, Inc. wrote to the President demanding an apology for some remarks he allegedly made during the campaign impugning the patriotism of atheists. You replied on February 21 (copy attached), and the correspondent circulated your letter to the members of his organization. I have since been replying to the letters that have been coming in from those who disliked your reply.

The original correspondent, Mr. Murray, has now written to you and the President again. He points out, correctly, that your reply did not respond to his demand for an apology from the President. Because I do not believe that we can defend the remarks allegedly made during the campaign, and because I assume that you would not recommend that the President issue an apology, I think the best course is to ignore this follow-up correspondence: continuing to exchange letters would only make it increasingly obvious that we are refusing to address the issue he is raising.

If you think that we simply must answer this fellow's letters, I think it would be best to have me do it for you.

Attachments

J
June 6
Mark
any letter
for her
necessary

**WITHDRAWAL SHEET
(GEORGE BUSH LIBRARY)**

DOCUMENT NO. AND TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE	DATE	RESTRICTION
1. Memo	Case No. 312474 From Cam Findlay to the Chief of Staff Weyrich letter on the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (1p.)	02/26/92	P-5
2. Memo w/ attachment	Case No. 313277 From Leigh Ann Metzger to David Demarest RE: Meeting with two Evangelical Leaders (4pp.)	01/28/92	P-5
3. Letter w/ attachment	Case No. 315446 From Nancy Pelosi to Fred McClure RE: Mr. Dinesh Patel (15pp.)	03/02/92	P-5, P-6
4. Memo	Case No. 325951 From President Bush to Rose Zamaria RE: Religious Matter (1p.)	04/29/92	P-5
5. Memo w/ attachment	Case No. 332308 From James J. Jukes to Legislative Liaison RE: Defense proposed report on "Religious Freedom Restoration Act of 1991" (5pp.)	06/04/92	P-5
6. Memo w/ attachment	Case No. 336779 From Boyden Gray to Shirley Green RE: Letter from Orion Tyson on Atheists (17pp.)	07/07/92	P-5, P-6

Photo copy from George Bush Presidential Library

COLLECTION Bush Presidential Records
WHORM-Subject File-General

FILE LOCATION RM - Religious Matters [312474 - 336779]
Scanned Records
Box 1

RESTRICTION CODES

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

- P-1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P-2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P-5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P-6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

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

Freedom of Information Act - [5 U.S.C. 552(b)]

- F-1 National security classified information [(b)(1) of the FOIA]
- F-2 Release would disclose internal personnel rules and practices of an agency [(b)(2) of the FOIA]
- F-3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(b)(3) of the FOIA]
- F-4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential or financial information [(b)(4) of the FOIA]
- F-5 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(b)(6) of the FOIA]
- F-6 Release would disclose information compiled for law enforcement purposes [(b)(7) of the FOIA]
- F-7 Release would disclose information concerning the regulation of financial institutions [(b)(8) of the FOIA]
- F-9 Release would disclose geological or geophysical information concerning wells [(b)(9) of the FOIA]

336779
RM

SHERLEY: You're right, this has come up before, but there's nothing in Central Files on "Spike." Obviously, Counsel's Office handled a letter from him (he refers to a Boyden Gray letter of Feb 21, 1989).

I wonder about this...The attached letter is dated June 30, 1991 and its a zerox (without the incoming envelope as well, we have no way of knowing whether that's a typo or if Tyson or the Congressman's office have come up with a copy of a year-old letter. I note that Tyson refers to attached list of signatures from fellow atheist-vets -- no list is there).

Given the various irregularities and the fact that Rep. Kolbe's office does not ask for any kind of reply, I'd opt to "let sleeping dogs lie" and file this one... Sounds like Mr. Tyson will not be consoled no matter what we say anyway (Boyden tried)....