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Medal of Freedom, 9/98

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MEMORANDUM FOR DISTRIBUTION

FROM: PHIL CAPLAN

SUBJECT: Medal of Freedom meeting

There will be a meeting tomorrow, September 10, at 10:30 AM (change from 10:00) in Room 180 OEOB, to begin discussing candidates to recommend to the President for the 1998 "class" of Medal of Freedom recipients.

This is the highest civilian award the President can bestow and the awardees should be people of high distinction. During this Administration, the common thread that has run through the recipients has been service to others; and we have looked to many fields for people who embody this ideal -- business, entertainment and the arts, law, academic, government, the military, sports, non-profits, philanthropy, labor, science, medicine, journalism and religion.

I have attached two lists: 1) a very preliminary list of names for this year made up of names culled from nominations we have received from the outside, and some other ideas (please note that this list includes several names the President has already decided should get the medal this year); and 2) previous medal winners for the past six years.

We have a high degree of discretion in making recommendations to the President and are looking for creative ideas -- diverse candidates in particular. Thanks.

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1998 - Medal of Freedom

President Carter
President Ford
George Mitchell
Lloyd Bentsen

Carl Sagan (posthumously)

Senator John Glenn (post Shuttle flight?)

Daisy Bates - civil rights, mentoring/organizing the Little Rock Nine

Walter Bergman - civil rights work, Freedom Rider

Robert Moses - civil rights, SNCC, Freedom Rider, voting rights

Max Kampelman - arms control, government service

Robert Bernstein - human rights, founded Human Rights Watch, one-time head of Random House

Edgar Bronfman, Sr. - President of the World Jewish Congress since 1980, anti-semitism, leader of Holocaust assets recovery movement

David Brower - former head of Sierra Club and founder and current co-director of the Earth Island Institute, Brower successfully fought to keep dams out of the Grand Canyon and played a key role in establishing a national wilderness system.

Chrissie Collins - created Medic Alert (large letter writing campaign)

LaDonna Harris - Native American’s and women’s rights

Dolores Huerta - Co-founder, with Cesar Chavez, of the United Farm Workers of America

Kenneth Jernigan - principal leader of the National Federation of the Blind for more than 35 years. During his tenure, the organization has expanded from 7 states to 50 states and has worked to ensure equal rights for blind Americans.
PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM
PRESENTED BY
President Clinton

FARMER, James
civil rights leader, formed Congress of Racial
Equality

FULBRIGHT, J. William
Public Servant, former U.S. Senator and Member,
U.S. House of Representatives from Arkansas,
longtime Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations
Committee, founder of the Fulbright Foreign
Scholarship Program

ASHE, Arthur, Jr. (POSTHUMOUSLY)
Athlete, former Professional Tennis Player,
Philanthropist, Author

POWELL, General Colin L., USA (WITH DISTINCTION)
Military Officer, Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff
during Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm,
Persian Gulf, former Assistant to the President
for National Security Affairs, Deputy Assistant to
the President for National Security Affairs

RAYE, Martha
Entertainer, Humanitarian

BRENNAN, William J., Jr.
Public Servant, former Associate Justice of the
Supreme Court

DOUGLAS, Marjory Stoneman
Conservationist, led early crusade to preserve and
restore the Florida Everglades

MARSHALL, Thurgood (POSTHUMOUSLY)
Public Servant, Attorney, former Associate Justice
of the Supreme Court, Solicitor General of the
United States, United States Circuit Judge for the
Second Circuit, first African American to sit on
the Supreme Court

RAUH, Joseph L., Jr. (POSTHUMOUSLY)
Lawyer, Civil Rights and labor activist; former
Counsel, United Auto Workers; General Counsel,
Leadership Conference on Civil Rights

WISDOM, John Minor
Public Servant, former United States Circuit Judge
for the Fifth Circuit

BLOCK, Herbert
Political Cartoonist

CHAVEZ, Cesar E. (POSTHUMOUSLY)
Union Leader, United Farm Workers of America

FLEMING, Arthur
Public Servant, former Secretary of Health,
Education, and Welfare, Chairman of the Commision
on Civil Rights

GRANT, James
Executive Director of UNICEF

HEIGHT, Dorothy Irene
Civil Rights, Women’s Rights Advocate

JORDAN, Barbara
Public Servant, Educator, former Member of the
U.S. House of Representatives from Texas

KIRKLAND, Joseph Lane
Labor Leader, President AFL-CIO

MICHEL, Robert H.
Public Servant, Member of the U.S. House of
Representatives from Illinois, Republican Leader
Jim Failaws
202-625-2880
SHRIVER, Robert Sargent
Public Servant, former Director of the Peace Corps
08/08/94

CHARREN, Peggy
Founder of Action for Children's Television
09/29/95

COLEMAN, William Thaddeus, Jr.
Public Servant, former Secretary of Transportation, Chairman of the Board of the NAACP
09/29/95

COONEY, Joan Ganz
Creator of Children's Television Workshop, creator of SESAME STREET
09/29/95

FRANKLIN, John Hope
Historian, chronicled the history of African Americans in the South
09/29/95

HIGGINBOTHAM, A. Leon, Jr.
Public Servant, former U.S. Circuit Judge for the 5th Circuit, U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama, helped to dismantle segregation, protected the rights of the mentally ill and imprisoned
09/29/95

JOHNSON, Frank M., Jr.
Public Servant, former U.S. Circuit Judge for the 5th Circuit, U.S. District Judge for the Middle District of Alabama, helped to dismantle segregation, protected the rights of the mentally ill and imprisoned
09/29/95

KOOP, C. Everett
Physician, former Surgeon General of the Public Health Service
09/29/95

NELSON, Gaylord A.
Public Servant, former U.S. Senator, Governor, and State Legislator from Wisconsin, advocate for the environment, creator of Earth Day
09/29/95

REUTHER, Walter P. (POSTHUMOUSLY)
Labor activist, former President, United Auto Workers
09/29/95

ROUSE, James W.
Urban planner, designer of Columbia, Maryland, Boston's Faneuil Hall, Baltimore's Inner Harbor
09/29/95

VELASQUEZ, William C. (POSTHUMOUSLY)
Founder of Southwest Voter Registration Education Project
09/29/95

WASSERMAN, Lew R.
Philanthropist, advocate for the blind and visually impaired
09/29/95

BERNARDIN, Joseph Cardinal
Archbishop of Chicago Diocese, champion of racial equality and arms control
09/09/96

BRADY, James Scott
Public Servant, former Assistant to the President and Press Secretary, wounded in assassination attempt on President Ronald Reagan, gun control advocate
09/09/96

FULLER, Millard D.
Founder and President of Habitat for Humanity, nonprofit provider of low cost housing
09/09/96

HAMBURG, David Alan
Physician, Scientist, Educator, child development specialist, former President of Carnegie Foundation
09/09/96

JOHNSON, John H.
Founder and CEO of Johnson Publishing, founder of EBONY and JET magazines
09/09/96
LANG, Eugene M.
Philanthropist, founder of "I Have a Dream Foundation", provided financial assistance for education to underprivileged youth
09/09/96

NOWAK-JEZIORANSKI, Jan
Member of the Polish underground during WWII, former director of Radio Free Europe's Polish Service, former National Director of Polish-American Congress
09/09/96

PANTOJA, Antonia
Educator, Philanthropist, advocate for community restoration and development, founder of ASPIRA
09/09/96

SAGAN, Ginetta
Human Rights advocate, founder of the U.S. West Coast Chapter of Amnesty International
09/09/96

UDALL, Morris
Public Servant, former Member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Arizona, environmental advocate
09/09/96

PARKS, Rosa L.
Civil Rights pioneer
09/14/96

PERRY, William J.
Public Servant, Secretary of Defense
01/14/97

DOLE, Robert J.
Public Servant, Soldier, Statesman, former U.S. Senator from Kansas, longest serving Republican Leader
01/17/97

Shalikashvili, General John M., USA
09/30/97

ARONSON, Arnold
civil rights leader, co-founder of Leadership Conference on Civil Rights
01/15/98

ASTOR, Brooke Russell
philanthropist
01/15/98

COLES, Robert
Harvard psychiatrist who explores children's relationship with their world
01/15/98

DART, Jr., Justin
Considered the father of Americans with Disabilities Act.
01/15/98

HESSELBEIN, Frances
non-profit organization expert,
01/15/98

KOREMATSU, Fred T.
Challenged WWII civilian exclusion orders and became a civil rights leader
01/15/98

LINOWITZ, Sol
founder of International Executive Service Corps.
01/15/98

MANKILLER, Wilma P.
First chief of an Indian tribe and worked to better the lives of other Cherokee Indians.
01/15/98

MURIE, Margaret E.
Environmental activist who was instrumental in the passage of landmark environmental legislation.
01/15/98

OBLEDO, Mario G.
Co-founder of the Mexican-American Legal Defense and Education Fund.
01/15/98

RICHARDSON, Elliot L.
Served in four different U.S. cabinet positions
01/15/98

ROCKEFELLER, David
Co-founder of International Executive Service Corps.
01/15/98

SHANKER, Albert
Worked to change radically how schools and teachers' unions do business.
01/15/98

ZUMWALT, Jr., Admiral Elmo R.
Naval veteran who issued directives to end discrimination in the Navy.
01/15/98