Box 202
April 7, 1945

Hon. Franklin Delano Roosevelt
President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

Dear President:

As the time is fast approaching for vacation of the boys in Girard College, I am writing to ask if you would please send me as many as you can spare of your greeting cards.

The boys in Girard College make them into scrap books and I send them to the different hospitals for their libraries and also to the ships.

I know that you will have happiness when this war is over.

With every good wish for your success, I am

Sincerely yours,

[Signature]

Mother Moore
Farrington M. H. W. J. S.
March 9, 1944

Mr. President Roosevelt

Dear Sir,

I am writing this letter to see if you will read it and answer my plea.

I was just wondering if you would lend me a signature. I would appreciate it very much if you would send the same sort of document to remind you.

I am only 16 years old and you, the only President I have remembered, but I still think yours the greatest one yet.

Having a brother going to the Army the 13th of this month and another brother in it, in the Army. My father got killed at the Somme Pass yesterday and we have some terrible to want you please help me out on my little collection. I am only a little slip of paper with your signature on it.

Hope in a report you don't think my writing is making your face stolen. I know you are full busy.

Sincerely yours,

Miss Freda Markle
My dear Miss Pilly,

I called the White House today and I talked with Mrs. Roosevelt's secretary and she referred me to you. I am hoping and praying that my request will be granted. I would be grateful if the First Lady would grant me a souvenir of something personal of the late President's belongings. Miss Pilly, would you ask her for me if I may have one of his old hats. The reason I'm asking for a hat is because it covered the head of the most brilliant human brains that were ever created in a human body. Anything the First Lady would give me would be...
cherished and sacredly kept the rest of my life for to me there will never be another president.

Respectfully yours,

Mrs. Willie Ann Hubbard
File
26 So. Chesnut,
Maple Shade, N.J.
April 18, 1945

Dear Miss Trilly,

I hope that I am not taking disrespectful to the memory of our late President—
Franklin Delano Roosevelt—in writing to you concerning him.

I am seventeen year old high school student who has always taken a keen interest in the political welfare of our great country.

In Franklin Roosevelt, I saw the leader of the oppressed peoples of the world. Lincoln freed the slaves—Franklin Roosevelt freed the conquered peoples from the shackles of slavery and dictation. All America's youth feel that their destinies depend on no single man.
I was ill at the time and the President replied and along with his signature he wished me well. I will always be grateful for that lovely letter that he sent me. His letter helped me to become a healthy American fellow. That is why I want you — I was wondering if you could possibly send to me the little personal belonging that belonged to Mr. Roosevelt. Anything you do that I know it belongs to the greatest President in America's history, I would gladly pay the postage.

Thanking you for any assistance that you might give the letter.

Remain, sincerely yours,

Harry W. Henderson

and that no one man, no matter how great his responsibilities, is master of fate or architect of human history. But they also know that leadership is a human relationship between man and man, and that when men face uncertainty and doubt when a great leader is gone. They felt this with their hearts in the twilight hours of Thursday when word came that their President had died. And the only mitigation of the nation's grief is the regret that Almighty God gave him to America and the world when we needed him most. Then I was smaller my father wrote to the President asking to have him sent to me.
April 20, 1945

My dear Miss Lilles:

Your friendly letter of April seventeenth has been received and I am sorry to disappoint you. It so happens, however, that it is not possible to meet your wishes.

Very sincerely yours,

GRACE G. TULLY

Miss Amaryllis Lilles,
6608 Southwest Vermont Place,
Portland 1,
Oregon.
Dear Miss Tully,

I don't suppose you remember out of the hundreds of other people but I wrote you a few weeks back and asked for the President's definition of democracy. Since I will never get an answer,

Grace E. Tully
White House
Washington D.C.

April 13, 1935

Red with Moshe, 4-5
V. 20 48
could you give me some souvenir I could keep and remember Franklin Delano Roosevelt? I will be very grateful if you could do this simple thing for me.

Very truly yours,

Amaryllis Liles

Thank you.
April 24, 1945

My dear Mr. Thompson:

This is in acknowledgment of your letter of April seventeenth, addressed to Mr. Early. I sincerely regret that it is impossible to do as you ask.

May I express to you heartfelt thanks for your kind words of sympathy.

Very sincerely yours,

GRACE G. TULLY

Mr. Harold Keith Thompson, Jr.,
943 Yale Station,
New Haven,
Connecticut.
Mr. Steve Early  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.  

April 17, 1957

Mr. Early,

I hope that you will not feel the request entirely or 
ill-advised, but I am sure that you have not felt discouraged. 
Above all, I have the President very much. I put my heart and soul 
into this campaign for him in organization work and solicitation 
and think his magnificent presence — that smile, the handshake, the 
air of genuine wit. His passion for his small job finds among the 
many office-bound men at Yale that there is truly no stand among 
that gives me the spirit to carry on. Without him, I fear for the future.

May I request Mr. Early to this: I would like to have 
more the sentiment in the wall, some little article of apparel — something 
that he once touched — a pen, pen, sheet, girdle— book — anything. 
I am afraid that you will not understand the sentiment with me that 
this prompted the request, but I hope and pray that somehow you will 
remember me — we have met before — and feel it possible to grant my request. 
I loved him so much — I cannot say more.

Please accept my deepest sympathy in this, on great personal 
loss. We who have known him, even though slightly, will always strive 
his memory above all else.

Respectfully yours,

Harold Keith Thompson

USNR
April 24, 1943

My dear Miss Henderson:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of April thirteenth and to tell you that it is not possible to comply with your request. I am indeed sorry.

Very sincerely yours,

CHANCE TULLY

Miss Anne Henderson,
775 Adams Avenue, N.E.,
Atlanta, Georgia.
Anne Henderson
February 14, 1972

Secretary to the President
The White House
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir,

I realize that this is a very important time to put forth the request I am about to make. However, I wonder if I might not be especially heard by the circumstances and heart-felt sincerity accompanying my appeal.

It is my understanding that President Roosevelt was the designer of the White House and that the sketch prints upon the cover of his book, "Whether This Is True or Not."

I do not know if it is true.
think of nothing that causes pleasant or agreeable sensation, than having such a cover for my collection. Do you think it might be arranged? If there is no such a case could I have one from the White House? And if it does not that the President wishes?

As I have said before I would consider it a high honor and a privilege to have such a small token of my regard. I am a great admirer of the wisdom and for whom she occupies. For all, I do hope it is possible and will the great an occasion for you to send a card to me. Thank you.

Yours sincerely and in courtesy,
Mrs. Anne Henderson
705 Claude Avenue N.E.
Atlanta, Georgia.
April 26, 1945

My dear Mrs. Albertson:

This is to acknowledge the receipt of your friendly letter of April sixteenth, addressed to Mr. Early, and to tell you that it is not possible to comply with your request. I am indeed sorry.

Very sincerely yours,

GRACE G. TULLY

Mrs. Evalyn Albertson,
Route 1,
Argyle,
Wisconsin.

Enclosure: Self-address and stamped envelope returned.
Argyle, Wis.
April 16, 1945

Dear Sir:

You are going to think this a very funny request.

I am a home-wit of 15 years and have 6 children and we live on a large farm. We have been, as all our family have, a Roosevelt booster, first, last and always.

I can't explain how awful I feel when I heard of his passing. May God bless him. I have been collecting book match cases for about 10 years and would be very much like one of the President's cases, with a small book on them, that devoted for my collection, I would be so grateful and proud to have one. Won't you ask me Roosevelt if I may have one?

Send me a stamped envelope in case you don't pass this in the usual packet.

Thank you very very much.

Mrs. Evelyn Albertson
Argyle, Wis.
April 30, 1945

My dear Mrs. Koller:

I am sorry indeed that it is not possible to comply with the request which you make in your letter addressed to Mr. Early.

May I assure you that your kind words of sympathy are sincerely appreciated.

Very sincerely yours,

GEORGE G. TULLY

Mrs. Elvin S. Koller,
226 East Twenty-eighth Avenue,
Altoona,
Pennsylvania.

[Signature]
Altoona, Pa.
April 19, 1940.

Mr. Stephen E. Earl.

Dear Sir,

trust you will not be too busy to read this note & please do not feel
ashamed toward me. As I know I am
just one of many people that felt
the same sad fate toward President
Roosevelt, he really was our ideal.

I have in my possession a letter
written by golf from President Roosevelt
after his second election, thanking
me for my congratulations. I sent it
him, and called to say it was
very hard for us to realize that
such a great leader had left us,
but we know his good & just
cause will live on for ever.

We are just a working class of a
family consisting of my husband &
two boys, one 9 yrs who enlisted in
the Navy, 3 months ago & the other one
is 15 yrs old. Well we were very
much for President Roosevelt, at all
times. I have saved very little scrap
from the papers & magazines relating
any thing about him. We should try to keep them all as some day he can tell his children when they face the history in school that President Roosevelt helped to make, he can tell them what kind of a great man he was.

Mrs. Early, would there be any little thing at all, regardless of how small it was, that was President Roosevelt, that we could have to keep as a treasure. I know our family would appreciate it very much.

I do hope you do not think me a fanatic that we were really broken hearted & words just cannot express our feelings deep enough. It is just me with tonight that the trouble runs hit our nation.

Please forgive me for bothering you as I know you are very busy. I want to hear from you. I remain

Mrs. Eliza S. Keller
228 E. 28 Ave.
Altona
Pa.
April 30, 1945

My dear Mrs. Salisberg:

I have for acknowledgement your letter and am sorry indeed to send you a disappointing response. However, it is not possible to meet your wishes.

Very sincerely yours,

Grace G. Tully

Mrs. Florence Salisberg,
2352 East Garfield,
Chicago 25,
Illinois.

rzn
now with the passing of our dear leader nothing would please me more than a souvenir from President Roosevelt. I know that in years to come she would appreciate the thought behind it. Please try your utmost to fulfill this request, even if you have to go to Mrs. Roosevelt.

In the six months time she has received many other souvenirs from her uncle who is now somewhere in Germany.

Thanking you for all the courtesy extended to this letter and for a prompt reply. I am,

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Harriet Stetson
3242 N. Kimball
Chicago, Ill.
April 30, 1945

My dear Mr. Livingston:

I am sorry indeed that it is not possible to comply with the request which you make in your letter.

May I assure you that your kind words of sympathy are sincerely appreciated.

Very sincerely yours,

GEORGE G. TULLY

Mr. Edward Mortimer Livingston,
Herbert McLean Purdy
Management Corporation,
342 Madison Avenue,
New York, N. Y.
Miss Grace G. Tully,
Secretary to the President,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Tully,

I am writing these few lines to express to you my sympathy for the deep sorrow I know you and all other closely associated with the President must feel.

I knew him from the days as Governor and will always remember his unfailing kindness and consideration to me and look back to the days before the war, when on my trips to Washington I had the pleasure of contact with Mr. Howe, General Watson and Marvin McIntyre and after that the personal contact with the President which always gave me a thrill I can still feel.

Words are such empty things in a time like this that I will bring this note to a close, once more expressing my deepest condolence to you and also may I add that I will write again in a few days on matters on which I would like advice and suggestion, so with every good wish, I remain.

Most sincerely,

Edward Mortimer Livingston

Edward Mortimer Livingston, M. L.
April 17, 1945

Miss Grace G. Tully,
White House,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Miss Tully:

As I suggested in my letter to you of April 14th, that I would write you soon, therefore I am assuming that privilege now.

You remember in your last letter to me of March 5th, you said the President would be very glad to have my views on rehabilitation of real estate.

Now however there is an entirely different picture and I am somewhat at a loss as how to proceed. I have read that great changes will take place in the administration set-up.

Therefore, if it is not asking too much; how had I best proceed. I thought it might be advisable to write President Truman but I can well appreciate how busy and tied up he will be for some time to come, still "nothing ventured nothing gained." President Roosevelt (he will always have that title with me) had vision enough to foresee the end of the war and realized the vast amount of real estate controlled by the Government that must be moved. I would of course gladly contact any one the President might designate (except Commissioner Reynolds) and possibly could go on from there. I have been told that a bill is now in Congress to turn over all Government real estate to the Treasury Department and that is where it should be, but this is all I know about it.

I am enclosing for your personal information draft copies of memorandums I had prepared for President Roosevelt but of course these are now useless, but might be something to base new ones upon.

I am going to ask a favor of you, that is, could you get for me some small inconsequential item that had belonged and been used by our late President, something I can keep and cherish always, it need not have any intrinsic value, but just something or anything.

I also want to take this opportunity to express to you my deep sense of appreciation for all the favors and consideration you have shown me and the unfailing courtesy and attention you have always shown and if there is any way I can reciprocate in any degree in the future I trust you will call upon me.
Miss Grace Tully

April 17, 1945

Once more thanking you for everything and wishing you the best of everything I remain with every good wish.

Most Sincerely,

Edward Mortimer Livingston

Edward Mortimer Livingston
A man was about to address the Chamber of Commerce when his teeth fell out on the floor and broke. He reached down to retrieve them, when the man next to him also reached down and handed him a set of false teeth saying "try these"; the first man said I can't use these too big, so his friend said "All right, try these," but these proved too small. Again his friend said "Well, try these," and they were just right. The address was completed with great success and after the meeting, No. 1 man said he never could forget his friend's kindness, then added, "But I didn't know you were a dentist." His friend replied, "I'm not, I'm an undertaker."
In a limited and incomplete survey and investigation I find there are in excess of One Hundred and Seventy-Eight (178) unwanted Post Offices and Court Houses or sites from the Atlantic to the Pacific and in almost every state and these sites may have a minimum value of $800,000,000 and are now a liability to the Government, whereas with proper planning and execution the cash or other security received and turned over to the Treasury Department can be made a welcome asset.

There is a sales market today for all or nearly all of this Real Estate, with possession after the war, as most of these properties are well located in the different communities and there is a demand from business interests for these locations. Two or three syndicates now exist ready to function as soon as a liberal and workable plan is set up by the Government, also many Chambers of Commerce have expressed in writing a willingness to cooperate to the fullest extent of their powers.

Buyers will buy for a stipulated price, on proper terms and this method could apply to all surplus Government real estate. A new or revamped plan will have to be set up as buyers will not make sealed bids and no enter an action, with no certainty on their part that their fair offer will receive serious considerations and could be used for ulterior motives.

The selling should be a Bureau of the Treasury Department as they are in a position to properly function, while the present, controlling agency, the Procurement Division of the Public Buildings Administration have not the ability, the set up or the equipment to act as a selling agency for real estate.

This has all been outlined to Mr. Henry Morgenthau Jr., and appears to have his tentative approval.

There is also the matter of guaranteed mortgage certificates to be sold to the public through Savings Bank or Insurance Companies and other fiscal agencies or direct to investors, against the purchase money mortgages taken back by the Government. This form of investment has always had a great appeal, where principal and interest could easily be worked out in elaborate detail and might be so arranged as an exchange for matured or nearly matured War Bonds.

The writer would be willing to supervise or direct this campaign either as an employee of the Government at a nominal salary or as a free lance with proper and positive contacts arranged.

In closing Mr. President may I ask your personal reaction to this matter and you can readily see the possibilities for employment in many directions.

Thanking you for all your kindness and consideration and hoping and praying for your continued health, strength and vitality, I most respectfully submit this memorandum.

Edward Mortimer wingston

Suggestion-Additions-Criticisms-Requested
Memorandum to the President

I find upon a limited investigation that large space is needed now in the New York area by permanent Government agencies and make mention of the Navy Department, Army, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Treasury Department and others. The Navy Department occupy almost entirely the 17 story, 90 Church Street building on a lot 205 x 580 x 500 x 500, also occupy several floors in the Canadian Pacific Building at 348 Madison Avenue each floor containing 19,689 sq. ft. net, as well as much other space scattered throughout the City.

The Census Bureau occupy a 12 story building at Greenwich Street, s/e corner of Vesey Street on a lot 189.9 x 81.9 x 119.2 x 81. The Federal Bureau of Investigation are in the United States Court House on Foley Square and have not enough space to function adequately there. Other Government Departments are likewise crowded and scattered through the City.

There is available in almost every case, adjoining property that could be acquired and improved to meet the exact requirements of the different agencies involved.

Among the advantages to be obtained, would be centralization of different departments of the same agency and so save time and energy in functioning, also the matter of rent saved by the Government which I am told runs into millions of dollars per year and this would apply only to permanent agencies and not to bureaus set up only to function for the duration of the war.

It strikes me that the most satisfactory plan of procedure would be for the Government to designate certain locations as satisfactory to a building organization would buy the property and erect a building approved by the Government in every detail. These buildings could be financed by the Reconstruction Finance Corporation with the understanding the Government would buy each designated building upon completion and occupancy by the agency requiring the space.

These projects would require large amounts of building materials and an almost unlimited number of men to construct plan and supply material and thereby help furnish the jobs that will be needed after the war, it is of course understood that construction will not start until after the war, when all material needed will be available.

Builders and architects of national reputation are ready to quote costs and furnish plans and specifications when called upon and with the required protection afforded to them.

The needs quoted only apply to New York City, but the same condition applies in a certain degree to many other cities throughout the country, with the principal request being of a vast amount of rent now expanded every year.

In the writer's opinion this matter should be brought to the attention of Mr. Fred M. Vinson for his reaction and possible cooperation as this plan has been successfully done before by his department.

In closing Mr. President may I ask your personal reaction to this memorandum, as the need is imperative and I am strongly of the belief that Mr. Vinson should be my contact.

Thanking you for the kindness and consideration you have always extended to me, this memorandum is

Most respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

SUGGESTIONS-PREVISIONS-CRITICISMS-REQUESTED