

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

6728

CEREMONY MARKING THE
FORMATION OF ACTION

Thursday, July 1, 1971

11:45 A.M.

The President's Office

THE PRESIDENT:

BACKGROUND

Effective July 1st, the new ACTION agency will come into being. This is the result of your Reorganization Plan #1 which was promulgated this year, and the concept of ACTION which was initially outlined in your speech to the University of Nebraska Convocation in January. In order to highlight the formation of ACTION, a brief ceremony has been planned for the Oval Office to be attended by the ranking Congressmen concerned with reorganization, as well as Director-designate Joseph H. Blatchford and Thomas Donnelly, Vice President of the National Center for Voluntary Action. (Special Note: Mr. Donnelly, who is attending in place of Ted Etherington who is unavailable because of a fund-raising commitment, will be present to give balance and equal visibility to the private sector's efforts in the area of volunteerism.) (List of ceremony attendees is at Tab A.)

The format of the ceremony will be for you to sign two Orders--one naming Joe Blatchford as Acting Director of ACTION, and the other the formal nomination that will be sent to the Senate. Following the signing, Joe Blatchford will present to you ACTION Membership Card #1.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

11:45 a.m. The group for the ceremony will be brought into your office and positioned behind your desk. When all are in place, the Press will be brought in to photograph this event.

Using a Presidential signing pen, you sign the two Orders. You may wish to give the signing pen to Mr. Blatchford.

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Following the signing, Mr. Blatchford will present you with ACTION Membership Card #1.

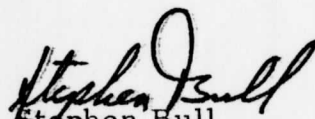
You may then wish to make some brief comments relating to the formation of the new ACTION agency (suggested talking points at Tab B).

Presidential paperweights will be available to present to your guests.

11:55 a.m. Ceremony concludes.

Press and guests depart your office.

Press Plan: There will be Press photo coverage with a writing pool present to cover the signing and any comments that you may make.


Stephen Bull

ACTION Ceremony

Guest List

Congressional

Sen. Charles H. Percy
Cong. Chet Holifield
Cong. Frank Horton

Agency

Joseph H. Blatchford
Thomas Donnelly

Staff

Clark MacGregor