



When Elvis met Nixon

American Airlines

In Flight...

Altitude;

1

Location;

Dear Mr. President .

First I would like to introduce myself,

I am Elvis Presley and admire you  
and have great respect for your  
office. I talked to Vice President

agnew in Palm Springs 3 weeks and  
expressed my concern for our country.

The Drug Culture, The Hippie Demerits,

The SPS, Black Panthers, etc do not

consider me as their enemy or as they

call it the establishment. I call it America and



### American Airlines

In Flight...

Altitude;

Location;

2

I Love it. Sir I can and will  
 be of any service that I can to help  
 the country out. I have ~~no~~ concern  
 or motives other than helping the  
 country out. So I wish not to be  
 given a title or an appointed <sup>position</sup>, I can  
 and will do more good if I were  
 made a Federal agent at large, and  
 I will help best by doing it my  
 way through my communications with people  
 of all ages. First and Foremost I am an  
 entertainer but all I need is the Federal  
 credentials. I am on this plane with



**American Airlines**

In Flight...

3

Altitude;

Location;

---

Sen. George Murphy and I  
have been discussing the problems  
that our Country is faced with.  
So I am staying at the Washington  
Hotel Room 505-506-507 - I have  
2 men who work with me by the  
name of Jerry Schilling and Sonny  
West. I am registered under the name  
of Jon Burrows. I will be here  
for as long as it takes ~~to~~ get  
the credentials of a Federal Agent.  
I have done an in depth study of  
Drug Abuse and Communist Brainwashing



**American Airlines**

In Flight...

Altitude;

4

Location;

---

Eschreyer and I am right in the middle of the whole thing, where I can and will do the most good I am Glad to help just so long as it is kept very Private. You can have your staff or whom ever call me anytime today tonight or tomorrow I was nominated the coming year one of America's Ten most outstanding young men. That will be in January 18 in my Home Town of Memphis Tenn. I am sending you the short autobiography about myself so you can better understand this



American Airlines

In Flight...

Altitude;

Location;

5

~~approach~~

approach. I would love to meet you just to say hello if you're not too busy.

Respectfully

Elvis Presley

P.S. I believe that your Sir was one of the Top Ten Outstanding Men of America also.

I have a personal gift for you also which I would like to present to you and you can accept it or I will keep it for you until you can take it.



*Mr. President*

PHONE NUMBERS	
<i>These are all my PVT NUMBER</i>	
<i>BEVERLY HILLS</i>	<i>278-3496</i>
	<i>278-5935</i>
<i>Palm Springs</i>	<i>325-3241</i>
<i>Pvt #</i>	
<i>Memphis</i>	<i>397-4427</i>
	<i>398-4882</i>
	<i>398-9722</i>
<i>Pvt. #</i>	
<i>Col. P.S. #</i>	<i>325-4781</i>
<i>Col. B.H. #</i>	<i>274-8498</i>
<i>Col. OFF. MEM</i>	<i>870-0370</i>

WASHINGTON HOTEL ) PHONE ME 85900

Rm 505-506-

UNDER THE NAME  
OF JON BURROWS

PRIVATE  
AND CONFIDENTIAL

Attn, President Nixon

Via Sen George Murphy

from  
Elvis Presley



Dear Mr. President:

First, I would like to introduce myself. I am Elvis Presley and admire you and have great respect for your office. I talked to Vice President Agnew in Palm Springs three weeks ago and expressed my concern for our country. The drug culture, the hippie elements, the SDS, Black Panthers, etc. do not consider me as their enemy or as they call it the establishment. I call it American and I love it. Sir, I can and will be of any service that I can to help the country out. I have no concerns or motives other than helping the country out. So I wish not to be given a title or an appointed position. I can and will do more good if I were made a Federal Agent at Large and I will help out by doing it my way through my communications with people of all ages. First and foremost, I am an entertainer, but all I need is the Federal credentials. I am on this plane with Senator George Murphy and we have been discussing the problems that our country is faced with.

Sir, I am staying at the Washington Hotel, Room 505 - 506-507. I have two men who work with me by the name of Jerry Schilling and Sonny West. I am registered under the name of Jon Burrows. I will be here for as long as it takes to get the credentials of a Federal Agent. I have done an in-depth study of drug abuse and Communist brainwashing techniques and I am right in the middle of the whole thing where I can and will do the most good.

I am glad to help just so long as it is kept very private. You can have your staff or whomever call me anytime today, tonight, or tomorrow. I was nominated this coming year one of America's Ten Most Outstanding Young Man. That will be in January 18 in my home town of Memphis, Tennessee. I am sending you the short autobiography about myself so you can better understand this approach. I would love to meet you just to say hello if you're not too busy.

Respectfully,

/s/ Elvis Presley

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①

ET.  
12/21/70

EXECUTIVE  
HE5-1  
PR7-1/P\*

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON  
December 21, 1970

RECEIVED  
A/

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE PRESIDENT  
SUBJECT: Meeting with Elvis Presley  
December 21, 1970  
12:30 p. m.

I. PURPOSE

To thank Elvis Presley for his offer to help in trying to stop the drug epidemic in the country, and to ask him to work with us in bringing a more positive attitude to young people throughout the country.

In his letter to you, Elvis Presley offered to help as much as possible with the growing drug problem. He requested the meeting with you this morning when he presented himself to the guard at the Northwest Gate bearing a letter.

II. PARTICIPANTS

Elvis Presley

Bud Krogh (staff)

III. TALKING POINTS

- A. We have asked the entertainment industry - both television and radio - to assist us in our drug fight.
- B. You are aware that the average American family has 4 radio sets; 98% of the young people between 12 and 17 listen to radio. Between the time a child is born and he leaves high school, it is estimated he watches between 15,000 and 20,000 hours of television. That is more time than he spends in the classroom.



-2-

- C. The problem is critical: As of December 14, 1970, 1,022 people died this year in New York alone from just narcotic related deaths. 208 of these were teenagers.
  
- D. Two of youth's folk heroes, Jimi Hendrix and Janis Joplin, recently died within a period of two weeks reportedly from drug-related causes. Their deaths are a sharp reminder of how the rock music culture has been linked to the drug sub-culture. If our youth are going to emulate the rock music stars, from now on let those stars affirm their conviction that true and lasting talent is the result of self motivation and discipline and not artificial chemical euphoria.
  
- E. Suggestions for Presley activities:
  - 1. Work with White House Staff
  - 2. Cooperate with and encourage the creation of an hour Television Special in which Presley narrates as stars such as himself sing popular songs and interpret them for parents in order to show drug and other anti-establishment themes in rock music.
  - 3. Encourage fellow artists to develop a new rock musical theme, "Get High on Life."
  - 4. Record an album with the theme "Get High on Life" at the federal narcotic rehabilitation and research facility at Lexington, Kentucky.
  - 5. Be a consultant to the Advertising Council on how to communicate anti-drug messages to youth.

RECEIVED 11/23  
DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
WASHINGTON, D.C.



EXECUTIVE

HES-1

FS17-8

PR9-1

PUB-9

Finlator, John

Washington Post

②

January 27, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR NEAL BALL

SUBJECT: GUIDANCE ON JACK ANDERSON COLUMN -  
ELVIS PRESLEY

Elvis Presley came to the White House on December 21, 1970. He had informed certain White House Staff members that he wanted to report to the President on some of the activities (this includes financial support and public statements and appearances on behalf of law enforcement) he had undertaken in support of law enforcement throughout the country and of his efforts to fight drug abuse through his public performances.

He briefly sketched for the President his activities and then pointed out how much he loved his country, always felt that he had to do his duty for his country, his friends, and his family. The President expressed appreciation for the efforts which Presley had made and encouraged him to do more. When Presley asked the President for a Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs badge, Krogh was asked to look into it. Presley collects badges. An arrangement was worked out where Presley would receive a specially prepared badge from BNDD, with his name on it. (Refer questions on specifics to Justice.)

A few weeks earlier, Elvis Presley had been announced by the Chamber of Commerce as one of the top ten outstanding young Americans, a distinction which was concurrently bestowed on the President's Press Secretary.

Bud Krogh

RECEIVED  
JAN 27 1972  
CENTRAL FILES



MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 21, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. H. R. HALDEMAN ✓  
FROM: DWIGHT L. CHAPIN  
SUBJECT: Elvis Presley

Attached you will find a letter to the President from Elvis Presley. As you are aware, Presley showed up here this morning and has requested an appointment with the President. He states that he knows the President is very busy, but he would just like to say hello and present the President with a gift.

As you are well aware, Presley was voted one of the ten outstanding young men for next year and this was based upon his work in the field of drugs. The thrust of Presley's letter is that he wants to become a "Federal agent at large" to work against the drug problem by communicating with people of all ages. He says that he is not a member of the establishment and that drug culture types, the hippie elements, the SDS, and the Black Panthers are people with whom he can communicate since he is not part of the establishment.

I suggest that we do the following:

This morning Bud Krogh will have Mr. Presley in and talk to him about drugs and about what Presley can do. Bud will also check to see if there is some kind of an honorary agent at large or credential of some sort that we can provide for Presley. After Bud has met with Presley, it is recommended that we have Bud bring Presley in during the Open Hour to meet briefly with the President. You know that several people have mentioned over the past few months that Presley is very pro the President. He wants to keep everything private and I think we should honor his request.

RECEIVED  
DEC 22 1970  
CENTRAL FILES



THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

December 21, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT'S FILE

SUBJECT:

Meeting with Elvis Presley  
Monday, December 21, 1970  
12:30 p. m.

The meeting opened with pictures taken of the President and Elvis Presley.

Presley immediately began showing the President his law enforcement paraphernalia including badges from police departments in California, Colorado and Tennessee. Presley indicated that he had been playing Las Vegas and the President indicated that he was aware of how difficult it is to perform in Las Vegas.

The President mentioned that he thought Presley could reach young people, and that it was important for Presley to retain his credibility. Presley responded that he did his thing by "just singing." He said that he could not get to the kids if he made a speech on the stage, that he had to reach them in his own way. The President nodded in agreement.

Presley indicated that he thought the Beatles had been a real force for anti-American spirit. He said that the Beatles came to this country, made their money, and then returned to England where they promoted an anti-American theme. The President nodded in agreement and expressed some surprise. The President then indicated that those who use drugs are also those in the vanguard of anti-American protest. Violence, drug usage, dissent, protest all seem to merge in generally the same group of young people.

Presley indicated to the President in a very emotional manner that he was "on your side." Presley kept repeating that he wanted to be helpful, that he wanted to restore some respect for the flag which was being lost. He mentioned that he was just a poor boy from Tennessee who had gotten a lot from his country, which in some way he wanted to repay. He also mentioned that he is studying Communist brainwashing and the drug culture for over ten years. He mentioned that he knew a lot about this and was accepted by the hippies. He said he could go right into a group of young people or hippies and be accepted which he felt could be helpful to him in his drug drive. The President indicated again his concern that Presley retain his credibility.



-2-

At the conclusion of the meeting, Presley again told the President how much he supported him, and then, in a surprising, spontaneous gesture, put his left arm around the President and hugged him.

In going out, Presley asked the President if he would see his two associates. The President agreed and they came over and shook hands with the President briefly. At this meeting, the President thanked them for their efforts and again mentioned his concern for Presley's credibility.

Bud Krogh



EXECUTIVE

HE5-1  
GE2/P\*

①\*

December 31, 1970

Dear Mr. Presley:

It was a pleasure to meet with you in my office recently, and I want you to know once again how much I appreciate your thoughtfulness in giving me the commemorative World War II Colt 45 pistol, encased in the handsome wooden chest. You were particularly kind to remember me with this impressive gift, as well as your family photographs, and I am delighted to have them for my collection of special mementos.

With my best wishes to you, Mrs. Presley, and to your daughter, Lisa, for a happy and peaceful 1971,

Sincerely,

RICHARD NIXON

★  
Mr. Elvis Presley  
Box 417  
Madison, Tennessee 37115

RN/lf/cf/cf - -

gift

RECEIVED  
JAN 5 1971  
CENTRAL FILES



Lucy:

Elvis Presley (believe it or not) was granted an appointment with the President on Monday, Dec. 21. He left these autographed photos with the President. I don't think any acknowledgment would be necessary. For your good disposition!

Bev.

*Recd. gen previously -*





PRESERVATION COPY

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

THE WASHINGTON POST Thursday, Jan. 27, 1972 D 23

# Presley Gets Narcotics Bureau Badge

By Jack Anderson

By presidential dictum, Elvis Presley, the swivel-hipped singer, has been issued a federal narcotics badge.

The emotional Presley was so overwhelmed at getting his own genuine, gold-plated badge that tears sprang from his eyes, and he grabbed President Nixon in a Hollywood bear hug.

The rock 'n' roll star is a police buff who collects law enforcement badges and donates thousands of dollars to police charities. Hearing of this, Deputy Narcotics Director John Finlator a few months ago sought to enlist Presley in the anti-drug fight.

Finlator invited the singer to the Narcotics Bureau for a quiet visit and arranged for the guards to admit him under the pseudonym "John Burroughs."

Presley played the part of the anonymous John Burroughs like he does all his movie roles. He pulled up in front of the Narcotics Bureau in a gaudy Cadillac. Resplendent in purple suit and cloak, with a gold belt buckle and amber sunglasses, he sashayed through the door.

En route to Finlator's office, the elegant Elvis, alias John Burroughs, had half the secre-

taries in the building oohing and aahing.

Presley readily agreed to cooperate with the anti-drug campaign and offered on the spot to donate \$5,000 to the Narcotics Bureau. Finlator gently declined the money, explaining that the Bureau isn't permitted to accept donations.

Then Presley showed Finlator some police badges and asked whether he could have one from the Narcotics Bureau. Finlator suggested diplomatically that he try the FBI. But Elvis insisted he wanted a narcotics badge.

"I can't," said Finlator apologetically. "I absolutely can't let you have one."

Presley's face fell, then brightened again. He said he had an appointment at the White House. "Would you mind," he asked, "if I asked President Nixon for a narcotics badge?"

"That's the only way you'll ever get it, Elvis," replied Finlator good humoredly.

At the White House, Presley was ushered in to see the President. They chatted briefly, then Presley raised the question of the badge.

"See that he gets it," the President directed his top enforcement adviser, Egli (Bud) Krogh. Unable to suppress his

excitement, Elvis hugged the startled Nixon.

Krogh immediately called Finlator and asked him to bring a badge to the White House.

"You know how it is, John," Krogh greeted Finlator later at the White House. "I hear you turned him down."

"I sure as hell did," said Finlator, smiling. "Okay, I've been reversed."

When Finlator finally handed Presley the badge and promised to issue him "consultant" credentials, the singer was overcome with emotion, and his eyes became misty.

It was another happy ending for the swivel 'n' sway idol.

Footnote: Finlator recently retired from the Narcotics Bureau to write a book about his experiences.

The Labor Department has refused to allow the son of murdered United Mine Workers insurgent Jock Yablonski to speak to a group of department employees who asked to hear him.

The son, Joseph (Chip) Yablonski, is a Washington attorney who specializes in labor law. He had been invited to appear by the department's management interns. Previously, they had been allowed to hear whomever they wanted.

The young Yablonski was

expected to discuss the Labor Department's refusal to intervene when his father begged for help in his campaign against UMW President Tony Boyle in 1969.

When Labor Under Secretary Laurence Silberman heard of Yablonski's invitation he was apoplectic. He ordered that Yablonski be un-invited.

The labor official won't discuss the episode. His reticence is easy to understand. He is the architect of the department's disastrous "boys-will-be-boys" approach to the Boyle machine's crude and corrupt suppression of the reformers who, under the late Yablonski, tried to clean up the union.

Silberman, then the department's general counsel, advised against an investigation of the union election despite repeated documented pleas for action from the Yablonski camp.

Only after Yablonski, his wife and daughter were murdered in their beds did he consent that the department begin an investigation. The probe, of course, quickly turned up evidence of massive corruption and led to a lawsuit by the department to set the election aside. By then, however, it was too late for Yablonski.

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