

# *Saxe, Bacon & Bolan, P.C.*

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JOHN GODFREY SAXE (1909 - 1953)  
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- (4) New York and New Jersey
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- (6) New York and Florida

April 28, 1983

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Hon. Charles Z. Wick  
U.S.I.A., Room 700  
1750 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20547

Dear Charlie:

I write you in desperation, because you have always recognized the importance to the President of Rupert Murdoch, probably the world's most powerful publisher, whose papers played a key role in carrying close states for Ronald Reagan in 1980 (the New York Post - third largest in America; the San Antonio papers; New York Magazine; now the Boston Herald American). But all of our hard work to get the Murdoch papers an even break with those that opposed Reagan - some in vicious terms - comes to naught - because there are some people in the White House who don't have the sense to know friends from enemies.

Specifically, you must recall that just as the Boston Herald American was about to shut its doors - in a "private sector" triumph, the paper was saved by Murdoch's buying it. The President was due in Boston a few days later and the Herald - the first and only pro-administration paper in Boston - was denied even a five minute "on the way to the airport" interview. A promise was made to have a Herald interview at the White House the next week. It was never kept to this day.

Hon. Charles Z. Wick  
April 28, 1983  
Page Two

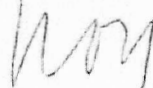
Now, we come to today. The President was in New York yesterday - anti-crime program - to address bombing victims at a police station under the auspices of the Daily News. The New York Post had a photographer named Phil Messing, who had - in the private sector - helped rescue three victims. The Post made the modest request that they be off the corridor in the same station, and the President stop for 30 seconds and greet them. This was denied, after the White House gave the Post the phoney excuse that the New York Police objected - which the police promptly denied when the Post's Editor, Roger Wood, called them. Instead - in remarks prepared for and delivered by the President not once but twice (at the station and later at the Publishers' Convention), the President asked people to follow the fight against crime by reading the Daily News. The Post people walked out. The Post was promised an interview with the President next week. I have no more reason to believe that promise will be honored any more than the broken Boston Herald one.

The News supported Bush over Reagan, and then barely squeaked out an endorsement over Carter as the lesser of evils. The Post and the other Murdoch papers gave their blood on a daily basis for Ronald Reagan, and I know Bill Casey, Roger Stone, Tom Bolan, etc. will confirm that without the Post, Reagan could not have carried New York. Also, practically speaking, its circulation has gone up from 450,000 to over 1,000,000 daily, while the News has lost a million readers.

To say that all the good you tried to do, and I tried to do, and the President did in his meeting with Rupert has been severely damaged by this second insult, is an understatement. As of now, tempers are so hot that I would wait for things to cool off.

As you know, I hold no post - not even an honorary mailman, and I do not and never will seek one, even if it were attainable. I have believed in a cause since I was 19 and joined the Justice Department. I believe in Ronald Reagan - and it hurts me to see him victimized this way from within. How many of these screw-ups can he survive?

Sincerely,



Roy M. Cohn

sb

cc: James Baker, III  
Michael Deaver  
William Clark  
Edwin Meese, III  
Michael McManus



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May 2, 1983

TO: Charles Z. Wick  
Michael Deaver  
James Baker, III  
William Clark  
Edwin Meese, III  
Michael McManus

FROM: Roy M. Cohn

Gentlemen:

In my April 28, 1983 letter on the snubbing of the New York Post in favor of the Daily News, I omitted another salient fact.

The lead News opinion column every Sunday is written by Ken Auletta, a consistent attacker of the President, and the one who just spearheaded the drive against Ken Adelman's confirmation, carrying it to the point of personally appearing before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to call Ken a liar.

With friends like the News, the President does not need enemies.