Città del Vaticano,

October 20, 1988

GUARDIA SVIZZERA PONTIFICIA

COMANDO

N.

Dear Mr. President,

Please allow me to take up a little of your time to introduce to you the "Philharmonica of Canobbio-Lugano". This is a non-professional musical band which was the first of its kind to perform before His Holiness Pope John Paul II – in the Consistorial Room of the Vatican Palace (Pentecost 1986). It also provides music for many civic and socio-political occasions both at home and abroad.

During 1989 (June 5 – June 11) the Philharmonica will be touring the east coast of the United States. I myself am an honorary member, and will be accompanying the band during the U.S. tour. Also accompanying the Philharmonica will be members of the Swiss Regional Government for Lugano.

Mr. President, it would give us great pleasure to play for you and your family and collaborators at the White House. If agreeable to you, and if it is possible for you to fit us into your busy schedule, we could arrange to be at the White House for this purpose on Thursday June 8, 1989 at any time convenient to you.

I would mention that no financial commitment whatsoever would be involved – all expenses being borne by the Philharmonica itself.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks to you for your kind consideration of my proposal. If it is possible for you to avail of it, I can assure you that you and your household will find it a most enjoyable experience.

On a number of occasions, when members of your Government and Diplomatic Service have been received by His Holiness, they have graciously invited me to visit them at the White House. I am hoping that this might be an occasion to avail of their kind invitations.

With warmest regards,

Respectfully yours,

Colonel R. Buchs
Commander of the Swiss Guards

The Honorable Ronald Reagan President of the United States White House Washington, DC