

before joining Sidley and Austin in 1961. He is a former recipient of the Department of the Army decoration for outstanding civilian service.

Ward is married to the former Rosemary Spencer and has three children. He resides in the District of Columbia.

## Rent Advisory Board

### *Announcement of Appointment of Doris Bunte as a Member of the Board. December 23, 1971*

The President today announced the appointment of Doris Bunte to be a Member of the Rent Advisory Board. The addition of Mrs. Bunte brings the total membership of the Board to 15.

The President announced the appointment of 14 members to the Board and the designation of Thomas B. Curtis as the Board's Chairman on November 23, 1971. There is no limitation on membership.

Mrs. Bunte is currently director of personnel at South-end Neighborhood Action Program in Boston, Mass. She is also a member of the board of the Boston Housing Authority, and is a tenant of the Orchard Park Public Housing Project in Roxbury, Mass.

As established by amendment to Executive Order No. 11627 of October 15, 1971, the Rent Advisory Board provides advice to the Price Commission on special considerations involved in the stabilization of rents. It also assists the Commission in the performance of its functions by making technical analyses of specific matters referred to it by the Commission.

## Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

### *Announcement of Appointment of John Eugene Sheehan as a Member of the Board. December 23, 1971*

The President today announced the recess appointment of John Eugene Sheehan as a member of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System for the remainder of a term expiring January 31, 1982. He will succeed William W. Sherrill who resigned effective November 15, 1971, to return to private industry.

Sheehan has been president and executive officer of the Corhart Refractories Company, a subsidiary of Corning Glass Works, in Louisville, Ky., since 1966. He is also a director of the Orion Broadcasting Company in Louisville.

From 1960 to 1963, Sheehan was a management consultant with the firm of McKinsey and Company, Inc., in New York City. In 1963 he joined the Martin Marietta Corporation in New York City and in 1964 became vice president of the company's cement and lime division.

A native of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, Sheehan was born on December 11, 1929. He earned a B.S. degree in engineering at the United States Naval Academy in 1952, and in 1960 graduated from Harvard Business School with an M.B.A. with distinction. He was commissioned an ensign in the U.S. Navy in 1952 and resigned as a lieutenant in 1958.

Sheehan is married and the father of three children. He resides in Louisville, Ky.

## THE NATIONAL CANCER ACT OF 1971

### *Statement by the President Upon Signing the Bill Into Law. December 23, 1971*

Hope and comfort, the relief of suffering and the affirmation of life itself—these are qualities which have traditionally been associated with the Christmas season. There could be no more appropriate time than this to sign into law the National Cancer Act of 1971. For this legislation—perhaps more than any legislation I have signed as President of the United States—can mean new hope and comfort in the years ahead for millions of people in this country and around the world.

The enactment of this legislation culminates a year-long effort to launch an unprecedented attack against cancer. I called for such a program in my State of the Union message in January 1971, and I expanded on that call in my special message to the Congress concerning health on February 18th. Early in May, I submitted to the Congress very specific

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proposals for a cancer-cure program—proposals which are reflected in all important respects in the legislation I have signed today.

The effort to mobilize a concerted national campaign against cancer has continued to make significant progress since those proposals were submitted. One of the most important steps was the approval by the Congress of the additional \$100 million I requested to support an expanded attack on cancer. This additional \$100 million, when added to the regular appropriation for this fiscal year, gives the National Cancer Program a current operating level of \$337.5 million, compared to only \$180 million during the first half of fiscal year 1972. Another important component in our campaign was put in place in October when I announced that the bacteriological warfare research facilities at Fort Detrick, Maryland, would be converted into a leading center for cancer research.

Now this year of preparation for an all-out assault on cancer comes to a climax with the signing of the National Cancer Act. The new organizational structure which this legislation establishes will enable us to mobilize far more effectively both our human and our financial resources in the fight against this dread disease.

I appreciate deeply the months of hard and careful effort which so many Members of the Congress gave to this cause. I am especially pleased that the new National Cancer Program incorporates the basic recommendations I made last May. It allows the President to appoint the Director of the National Cancer Institute and provides that the budget of the National Cancer Institute be submitted directly to the President. It creates a 3-member President's Cancer Panel to monitor its development and execution on a regular basis and a 23-member National Cancer Advisory Board to offer general guidance. Both of these groups are to be appointed by the President and will report directly to him. The important result of all these provisions is to place the full weight of the Presidency behind the National Cancer Program. As I recommended in May, the President will be able to take personal command of the Federal effort to conquer cancer so that its activities need not be stymied by the familiar dangers of bureaucracy and red tape.

Having asked for this authority—and this responsibility—I now pledge to exercise it to the fullest. Biomedical research is, of course, a notoriously uncertain enterprise and its rate of progress cannot be predicted with confidence. But I can say with the greatest confidence that there will be no uncertainty about the Government's role in this effort. I am determined that the Federal will and Federal resources will be committed as effectively as possible to the campaign against cancer and that nothing will be allowed to compromise that commitment.

I make this statement with even greater confidence knowing that Benno C. Schmidt has accepted my invitation to become the first Chairman of the President's Cancer Panel. As Chairman of the National Panel of Consultants on the Conquest of Cancer, Mr. Schmidt has played an active role in the development and enactment of the National Cancer Act. He is an effective leader of men and a dedicated community servant. The Nation is fortunate that he will be heading this important panel in its critical first year.

Even as the plans for our National Cancer Program were being completed in the past few months, other developments have continued to fuel our hopes for further substantial progress in discovering the causes

and cures of cancer. Scientists in all parts of the world have continued to contribute important new findings to the growing pool of knowledge about this disease. There continues to be every reason for believing that cancer research, of all of our research endeavors, may be in the best position to benefit from a new application of human and financial resources.

This is the case, however, only because so many men and women have already given so much to the battle against cancer in the past. Their energies and talents and sacrifices have built the foundations on which all future progress must rest.

As we plan for future progress, we should also remember that the expansion of the Federal campaign against cancer in no way diminishes the continuing importance of private and voluntary activities. It is essential, for example, that an organization such as the American Cancer Society—which has raised so much money for this cause and which has done so much to promote research and education in this field—continue to play its full effective role. The new National Cancer Program must not replace our present efforts to fight cancer; it must supplement them and build on them.

As this year comes to an end, cancer remains one of mankind's deadliest and most elusive enemies. Each year it takes more lives in this country alone than we lost in battle in all of World War II. Its long shadow of fear darkens every corner of the earth. But just as cancer represents a grim threat to men and women and children in all parts of the world, so the launching of our great crusade against cancer should be a cause for new hope among people everywhere.

With the enactment of the National Cancer Act, the major components for our campaign against cancer are in place and ready to move forward. I am particularly happy that the year 1971—at the beginning of which I issued my call for a new campaign against cancer—can end with the signing of this landmark legislation.

NOTE: As enacted, the bill (S. 1828) is Public Law 92-218. For the President's remarks at the signing ceremony and the announcement of the appointment of the Chairman of the President's Cancer Panel, see the following two items.

## THE NATIONAL CANCER ACT OF 1971

*The President's Remarks at the Signing Ceremony in the State Dining Room at the White House. December 23, 1971*

*Members of the Senate, Members of the House, ladies and gentlemen:*

We are here today for the purpose of signing the Cancer Act of 1971. I hope that in the years ahead that we look back on this day and this action shown as being the most significant action taken during this administration. It could be, because when we consider what cancer does each year in the United States, we find that more people each year die of cancer in the United States than all the Americans who lost their lives in World War II.

This shows us what is at stake. It tells us why I sent a message to the Congress the first of this year, which provided for a national commitment for the conquest of cancer, to attempt to find a cure.

Now, with the cooperation of the Congress, with the cooperation of many of the people in this room, we have set up a procedure for the purpose of making a total national commitment. I am not going to go into the details of that procedure, except to say this: As a result of what has been done, as a result of the action which will come into being, as a result of signing this bill, the Congress is totally committed to provide the funds that are necessary, whatever is necessary, for the conquest of cancer. The President is totally committed—we have a Presidential panel headed by Benno Schmidt, which will report directly to the President so that the President's influence, whenever necessary, can be used to reach this great goal.

And, in addition to that, all of the agencies of government, the National Institutes of Health, HEW, et cetera, are totally committed.

Now, having said that, I have spoken exclusively of government up to this point. In this room are scores of people who have worked voluntarily for this cause for many, many years. The American Cancer Society, of course, is the best known organization, but there are many, many others as well.

In saying that there will be a presidential commitment, a congressional commitment and a government commitment, I should emphasize that a total national commitment means more than government. It means all the voluntary activities must also continue. We have to realize that only one-sixth of everything that is produced in America is produced by what government does. Five-sixths of what we do in America is produced by what people do in their voluntary and cooperative capacities.

So, we need the continued cooperation of all the volunteer organizations. You will have, of course, the total commitment of government and that is what the signing of this bill now does.

Finally I should emphasize, as Benno Schmidt mentioned just a moment ago, that we would not want to raise false hopes by simply the signing of an act, but we can say this: That for those who have cancer, and who are looking for success in this field, they at least can have the assurance that everything that can be done by government, everything that can be done by voluntary agencies in this great, powerful, rich country, now will be done and that will give some hope and we hope those hopes will not be disappointed.

*[At this point, President Nixon signed the act.]*

Now, ladies and gentlemen, for those of you who have not participated in signing ceremonies and that, of course, does not include the Members of the House and Senate who are here, I see that many of them have been here previously, the custom is always to sign with the presidential pen. I will use two pens for the signature, but a souvenir pen will be available to everybody in the audience here. We had to stretch a little to find that many, but we did it.

Incidentally, it is a very good pen, but the box is worth more than the pen.

Benno, you get the "Richard." Dr. Letton, if you will step forward. The president of the American Cancer Society. You get the last name.

DR. HAMBLIN LETTON. Thank you, Mr. President.

We would like to think that this is a wonderful Christmas present in the signing of this bill today for the 52 million people in our country who will develop cancer who are now living.

This bill, we feel, is a real great opportunity for America, probably the greatest thing that has ever been done by the United States. To you, sir, who asked for this to be a national priority and to our friends in the Congress who gave us this bill, two and a half, two and a quarter million of the volunteers of the American Cancer Society asked that I express their appreciation. We are truly grateful, sir.

THE PRESIDENT. Thank you, Doctor.

NOTE: The President spoke at 12 noon in the State Dining Room at the White House. As printed above, this item follows the text of the White House press release.

As enacted the bill (S. 1828) is Public Law 92-218. For a statement by the President on the bill, see the preceding item. For announcement of his appointment of the Chairman of the President's Cancer Panel, see the following item.

## President's Cancer Panel

### *Announcement of Appointment of Benno C. Schmidt as Chairman of the Panel. December 23, 1971*

The President today announced the appointment of Benno C. Schmidt, managing partner of J. H. Whitney & Company of New York City, to a 3-year term as a member of the President's Cancer Panel. Additionally, the President designated Mr. Schmidt to serve as Chairman for a term of 1 year.

For the past year and one-half Schmidt has served as Chairman of the National Panel of Consultants on the Conquest of Cancer, appointed pursuant to a Senate Resolution and charged with the development of a program for making the conquest of cancer a national goal. In this connection he has been active in the development and enactment of the legislation signed today by the President.

He is chairman of the board of Memorial Hospital for Cancer and Allied Diseases in New York City and vice chairman of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

He is also a director of Global Marine, Inc., Freeport Sulphur Company, Transcontinental Gas Pipe Line Corporation, and numerous other corporations.

The President's Cancer Panel was created with the enactment of the National Cancer Act of 1971 which the President signed today. The Panel will be composed of three persons all of whom will be appointed by the President. The Panel is charged with monitoring the development and execution of the National Cancer Program and will report directly to the President. The Panel, which will meet at the call of the Chairman, but not less often than 12 times a year, will bring to the attention of the President any delays or blockages in the rapid execution of the cancer program. The Panel shall also submit to the President periodic progress reports on the program as well as suggestions for improvements.

Schmidt is also chairman, Bedford-Stuyvesant Development and Services Corporation; chairman, Welfare Is-

land Development Corporation; and chairman, Fund for the City of New York.

Schmidt has been a partner with the J. H. Whitney Company since 1946 and managing partner since 1959. During World War II he served as a colonel in the U.S. Army. Prior to that he was on the faculty of the University of Texas Law School and the Harvard Law School.

Born in Abilene, Tex., on January 10, 1913, Schmidt received both his A.B. degree and his LL.B. degree from the University of Texas in 1936. Mr. Schmidt is married and resides in New York City.

## Christmas, 1971

### *The President's Christmas Message.*

*December 23, 1971*

Christmas is a season of joy and of love, and also a time for reflection.

We think, in this season, of those who are closest to our hearts, even though they may be far away in miles. We pause to give special thought to those in need, and to the universal bonds that link all mankind in brotherhood under God. In doing so, we touch something basic and good in the human spirit: that special grace that makes this a time of giving, and of forgiving—a time of goodwill, when we know the true peace that lodges in the heart.

As we work toward peace in the world, let us do so both inspired and strengthened by this peace in the heart.

As we give to one another, in the spirit of Christmas, let us give of ourselves. For one of the lessons of Christmas is this: among God's greatest gifts to man is the gift of giving itself, and the more we give of ourselves the more of ourselves we have to give.

RICHARD NIXON.

NOTE: The message was made available by the White House Press Office. It was not issued in the form of a White House press release.