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OGC 70-1989

25 November 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Deputy Director for Support

SUBJECT : Use of Alcoholic Beverages in the Rendezvous Room

1. As I reported to you several days ago, [] and I called on Mr. Van Cleve, Regional Counsel for GSA, to ask his advice and assistance on our interest in being permitted to serve alcoholic beverages in the Rendezvous Room for parties and special occasions. We discussed this matter with him without reference to that room specifically, but referred instead to Headquarters generally. Mr. Van Cleve was very helpful and forthcoming. He indicated that the Administrator takes an affirmative attitude on requests for exemption from the prohibiting regulation and he thought a request almost certainly would receive a favorable response. He offered to go over with us a draft of our proposed letter to the Administrator. A proposed draft for that purpose is attached.

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2. If you approve the draft, we will discuss it with Mr. Van Cleve. Further, we would ask that when it is formally transmitted to the GSA, Mr. Van Cleve attempt to shepherd it and to give us warning if there is any indication that a negative response is likely to be forthcoming. The thought here of course is that it would be better to withdraw the request than to have it turned down.

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[]
Associate General Counsel

Attachment

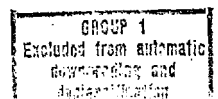
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25 Nov 1970

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Mr. Robert L. Kunzig, Administrator
General Services Administration
18th and F Streets, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20405

Dear Mr. Kunzig:

This is to request an exemption from the prohibition of the General Services Administration regulation (41 C.F.R. 101-19.306) to permit the use of alcoholic beverages on the federal property occupied by this Agency at McLean, Virginia.

As you know, this Agency is headquartered in McLean and a major portion of its employees, including the Director and Deputy Director of Central Intelligence and their ranking assistants, are located here. In the course of the duties of the Director and Deputy Director and of other Agency officials and employees, there are occasions to meet with and to entertain foreign officials and individuals, as well as high-level officials of the United States Government and other Americans from private life. In addition, it is sometimes appropriate on the occasion of the reassignment of Agency employees to positions abroad or elsewhere or on their retirement or resignation that such employees be honored by parties or other ceremonies to which other Agency personnel and, on occasion,

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persons from outside the Agency are invited. In many instances Agency employees whose CIA employment is publicly known and employees whose CIA employment is not revealed to outsiders would attend the same function. Security considerations thus require that certain of these functions not be held in public facilities. We request, therefore, an exemption from 101-19.306 to permit the use of alcoholic beverages on the CIA property at McLean for these purposes. We would maintain strict controls on such activities, with due regard for the protection of government property and for the reputation of the government and its employees.

We of course will be glad to submit any additional information or to meet with you or other GSA officials concerning this request.

Yours very truly,

John W. Coffey
Acting Deputy Director for Support