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DOCUMENT NO.	FORM	SUBJECT/TITLE	PAGES	DATE	RESTRICTION(S)
001	Letter	[Thank You] - To: Sean Kinyon - From: Chara Bray	1	07/18/2008	P6/b6;
002	Letter	[Babe Ruth - page 2] - From: Sean Kinyon	1	N.D.	P6/b6;

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- P1 National Security Classified Information [(a)(1) of the PRA]
- P2 Relating to the appointment to Federal office [(a)(2) of the PRA]
- P3 Release would violate a Federal statute [(a)(3) of the PRA]
- P4 Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information [(a)(4) of the PRA]
- P5 Release would disclose confidential advise between the President and his advisors, or between such advisors [(a)(5) of the PRA]
- P6 Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy [(a)(6) of the PRA]

PRM. Personal record misfile defined in accordance with 44 U.S.C. 2201(3).

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MA026

Barcode Scanning Sheet



Collection Code: **CTRACK**

Staff Name:

Document Date: **07/18/2008**

Correspondent: **MR. SEAN KINYON**

Subject/Description: **LETTER RECOMMENDING MR. GEORGE HERMAN RUTH,
OR BABE RUTH, POSTHUMOUSLY FOR THE
PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM**

SCANNED
BY
CRM

760074

July 18, 2008

Mr. Sean Kinyon

(b)(6)

Dear Mr. Kinyon:

On behalf of the President, thank you for your letter recommending Mr. George Herman Ruth, or Babe Ruth, posthumously for the Presidential Medal of Freedom. I appreciate receiving your comments in support of Mr. Ruth for this prestigious honor, and will be sharing them with the advisory staff members who provide the President with recommendations in this area. Please be assured that your endorsement will be given every consideration.

Again, thank you for your thoughtful letter.

Sincerely,

Chara Bray
Deputy Associate Director
Honorary Chairs and Awards

~~CB/NT~~ (Corres. #5247729) (arh2.doc) ((>>))
~~cc w/~~ Incoming Raul Yanes, GFL/WW
~~cc~~ Chara Bray, 9th FL/1800 G Street

JUL 28 2008

My name is Sean Kinyon and I am 15 years old. I am contacting you on the behalf of Linda Ruth Tosetti, the granddaughter of George Herman "Babe" Ruth. Since 1987 Mrs. Tosetti and her family have been attempting to secure the Medal of Freedom for Babe Ruth. The Medal of Freedom is awarded to civilians who positively impact the national interest of the United States, aid world peace, and make significant public or private endeavors. Babe Ruth appreciably influenced the national interests of the United States and made noteworthy accomplishments which helped to shape America's identity.

Baseball is referred to as "America's Pastime". Had Babe Ruth not graced the baseball field with his bat, "America's Pastime" would have died in the 1920's. After the Black Sox Scandal of 1919, baseball fans abandoned the game they had once loved because the game had become corrupted. Ruth played the game in a way which perplexed the watching fans and renewed America's love of baseball. After a game, the Babe could be seen outside the ballpark signing autographs for masses of adoring fans until the sun went down, not wanting to disappoint a single child. Baseball has once again become corrupted, this time due to the usage of performance enhancing drugs. If Babe Ruth is awarded the Medal of Freedom, baseball fans and players alike will look upon the Babe as a model by which to conduct themselves on and off the ball field. In this manner, Babe Ruth would be able to save "America's Pastime" once again if he is awarded the Medal of Freedom.

Babe Ruth supported the Negro Leagues and supported the integration of the Caucasian and Negro baseball leagues. The Babe was such a strong supporter of integration that the owners of many baseball teams attempted to quiet him in order to hinder the process of integration.

During WWII, the Japanese believed the best way to demoralize the Americans was to charge into battle crying, "To Hell With Babe Ruth". By doing so, the Japanese showed the influence Mr. Ruth had over Americans. In 1934, Babe Ruth had delighted the Japanese by touring their country and igniting baseball fever. Babe was approached by the Japanese government to stay and teach baseball to their youth. The Japanese offered to reward the Babe with an emperor's life if he taught Japan's youth how to play baseball. The Babe turned his back on the sumptuous offer because his loyalty to his fans in America drew him back to the land he loved.

After Babe Ruth's death, over 100,000 people flocked to the entrance of Yankee Stadium in order to pay tribute to the legend. President Harry Truman recognized Babe Ruth's importance in the nation's identity and saw him as a symbol of the nation's wellbeing as described in the following quote from a telegram sent by President Truman following the Babe's death: "A whole generation of boys now grown to manhood will mourn the passing of the home run king of the baseball world. Babe Ruth had all the qualities of a hero and as exemplar of clean sports was an inspiration to tens of thousands of rooters of all ages all over the country." The tributes and respect paid to Babe Ruth after his death depict the unfading love America had for the Babe.

Later in his life, Ruth established the Babe Ruth Foundation which was intended to encourage children to participate in sports. The foundation awarded scholarships and prizes to underprivileged boys, which gave hope to many children who would otherwise be faced with bleak and challenging lives. The Babe also worked with the Ford Motor Company to promote American Legion Baseball which has provided many children with a constructive activity in which to participate.

Ruth possessed great compassion for the sick and dying. Ruth's kindness and compassion were demonstrated by his visit to the people afflicted with Hansen's Disease in Kalapapa, Hawaii as well as his visit to the people condemned to a "leper" colony. Ruth spent much of his time visiting orphanages and hospitals where he took "Homers on Order" from the kids and then to their delight proceeded to fulfill their homerun orders. On many occasions, Babe Ruth invited children from an orphanage to visit his farm in Sudbury for a cookout. By sharing his warm and kindhearted nature with the world, Mr. Ruth brought optimism and joy to every person he came in contact with.

A country's identity can be characterized by the kind of heroes its' people choose. America's defining hero has and forever will be Babe Ruth. I believe George Herman Ruth deserves the Medal of Freedom because he positively impacted the national interests of the United States and he made significant public and private endeavors. I am asking for your support to gain Babe Ruth the Medal of Freedom and to share your opinions with the President of the United States. Most heroes live in people's memories, but Babe Ruth lives in people's hearts.

Sincerely,

Sean Kinyon

(b)(6)