Bill To Restore the Postal Service
Seniority of Elmer Erickson

The President’s Memorandum of Disapproval.
August 29, 1972

I have withheld my approval from S. 889, a bill “To restore the postal service seniority of Elmer Erickson.”

Under this bill, Mr. Erickson would receive special benefits denied other postal employees who lost seniority rights under similar circumstances or who made decisions and choices based on then existing rules. Such action by Congress would be discriminatory and without justification.

The seniority rules in question here represent the result of bargaining between the postal unions and postal management. They are not a matter on which Congress has legislated in the past. The seniority involved has to do with preferred assignments, eligibility for promotions, and similar matters covered by agreements between the Postal Service and the postal unions. Employees displaced on the seniority list by Mr. Erickson certainly would have good cause to complain if this bill were to become law.

In my opinion, if seniority rights are to be retroactively restored to postal employees, it is for postal management and the postal unions to negotiate an equitable solution which covers all employees similarly situated.

Richard Nixon

The White House
August 29, 1972

NOTE: The memorandum was released at San Clemente, Calif.

Farmfest, U.S.A., 1972
Released August 29, 1972

By the President of the United States of America
A Proclamation

Farmfest, U.S.A., an exposition to be held near Vernon Center, Blue Earth County, Minnesota, from September 11 through September 17, 1972, will depict the story of agricultural progress and will feature numerous displays and demonstrations focusing on how our farmers help to feed America and the world.

As part of the weeklong festival the United States will host the Nineteenth Annual World Ploughing Contest. Homage will be paid to the humble plough, the oldest known tillage tool and worldwide symbol of agriculture, through ploughing matches which represent an agricultural tradition of more than two centuries. They will help to dramatize the advances in farming from days of hard manual labor and animal power to our vast technological capacities.

Farmfest, U.S.A. and the 1972 World Ploughing Contest will provide an appropriate opportunity to salute worldwide agriculture and will promote foreign and domestic trade and commerce in farm commodities.

Now, THEREFORE, I, Richard Nixon, President of the United States of America, in consonance with Senate Joint Resolution 182, do hereby invite the States of the Union and foreign nations to participate in Farmfest, U.S.A., to be held in Blue Earth County, Minnesota, from September 11, 1972, through September 17, 1972.

In WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this twenty-eighth day of August, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred seventy-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the one hundred ninety-seventh.

Richard Nixon

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 4:43 p.m., August 29, 1972]

NOTE: The Proclamation was released at San Clemente, Calif.

Inspection of Tax Returns

Executive Order 11682. August 29, 1972

Inspection by the Department of the Treasury of Tax Returns Made Under the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 for Economic Stabilization Purposes

By virtue of the authority vested in me by section 6103(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 (68A Stat. 753; 26 U.S.C. 6103(a)), as amended, it is hereby ordered that returns described in section 6103(a)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 shall be open to inspection by the Department of the Treasury as may be needed in the administration of the provisions of the Economic Stabilization Act of 1970 (Public Law 91-379, 84 Stat. 799), as amended by the Economic Stabilization Act Amendments of 1971 (Public Law 92-210, 85 Stat. 743). Such inspection shall be in accordance and upon compliance with the rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury in a Treasury Decision, relating to inspection of returns made under the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 by the Department of the Treasury for the purposes of economic stabilization, approved by me this date.

Richard Nixon

The White House
August 29, 1972

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 11:00 a.m., August 30, 1972]

NOTE: The Executive order was released at San Clemente, Calif.