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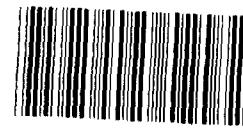
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Fact Sheet for the Chairman,
Subcommittee on Federal Spending,
Budget, and Accounting, Committee on
Governmental Affairs, U.S. Senate

March 1988

FORMER PRESIDENTS

Support Costs and Other Information



135345

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United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

General Government Division

B-198733

March 3, 1988

The Honorable Lawton Chiles
Chairman, Subcommittee on Federal
Spending, Budget, and Accounting
Committee on Governmental Affairs
United States Senate

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This fact sheet provides information you requested including an update on statistical information contained in an earlier report¹ on the costs associated with certain benefits and services provided to former presidents and their dependents. You also asked us to provide information on the use of the residence for former presidents located in Washington, D.C., and the number of sites controlled by the Department of the Interior's National Park Service that are associated with former presidents.

Tables I.1 through I.7 in appendix I identify the costs associated with the benefits and services provided to former presidents and their dependents during fiscal years 1977 through 1987. These costs were funded through the Former Presidents Act and Secret Service protection legislation. Appendix II discusses the residence located at 716 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C., which is available for use by former presidents. Appendix III identifies the number of sites associated with former presidents that are controlled by the National Park Service.

We obtained the information requested from officials at the General Services Administration, the Secret Service, and the National Park Service. As agreed with the Subcommittee, we did not attempt to verify the information.

As arranged with the Subcommittee, we are sending copies of this fact sheet to the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs; Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources; House Committee on Appropriations; House Committee on Government Operations; House Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs; Director, Office of Management and Budget; Administrator of General Services; Secretary of the Treasury; Director, United States Secret Service; and the Archivist of the United States. Copies will also be made available to other interested parties upon request.

¹Costs Associated With Former Presidents and Their Dependents
(GAO/GGD-85-68, Sept. 26, 1985).

B-198733

We trust this information is responsive to your needs. If we can be of further assistance, please call me on 275-8387.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gene L. Dodaro". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Gene L. Dodaro
Associate Director

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ABBREVIATIONS

GSA

General Services Administration

COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH FORMER
PRESIDENTS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS

This appendix provides the updated financial information and other information that you requested.

Table I.1: Costs Associated With
Former Presidents
Fiscal Years 1977-1987^a

<u>Fiscal year</u>	<u>Former Presidents Act</u>	<u>Secret Service protection</u>	<u>Total</u>
1977	\$ 378,749	\$ 5,576,349	\$ 5,955,098
1978	651,965	7,936,728	8,588,693
1979	720,659	9,072,373	9,793,032
1980	739,795	7,563,432	8,303,227
1981	718,325	9,741,663	10,459,988
1982	1,024,405	11,750,238	12,774,643
1983	1,028,820	10,941,419	11,970,239
1984	1,075,176	10,547,659	11,622,835
1985	1,103,933	11,416,329	12,520,262
1986	1,036,729	8,359,615	9,396,344
1987	<u>1,055,273</u>	<u>9,265,491</u>	<u>10,320,764</u>
Total	<u>\$9,533,829</u>	<u>\$102,171,296</u>	<u>\$111,705,125</u>

^aExcludes costs incurred under the Presidential Transition Act of 1963 and the Presidential Libraries Act of 1958.

Table I.2: Amounts Obligated
Under the Former Presidents Act,
Fiscal Years 1977-1987

<u>Fiscal year</u>	<u>Former Presidents</u>	<u>Widows</u>	<u>Total</u>
1977	\$ 316,168	\$ 62,581	\$ 378,749
1978	590,002	61,963	651,965
1979	660,659	60,000	720,659
1980	693,394	46,401	739,795
1981	676,125	42,200	718,325
1982	979,405	45,000	1,024,405
1983	1,006,420	22,400	1,028,820
1984	1,052,276	22,900	1,075,176
1985	1,080,933 ^a	23,000	1,103,933
1986	1,012,604 ^b	24,125	1,036,729
1987	<u>1,034,273^c</u>	<u>21,000</u>	<u>1,055,273</u>
Total	<u>\$9,102,259</u>	<u>\$431,570</u>	<u>\$9,533,829</u>

^aIncludes Jackson Place rental cost of \$62,913.

^bIncludes Jackson Place rental cost of \$63,627.

^cIncludes Jackson Place rental cost of \$53,821.

Table I.3: Amounts Obligated Under
the Former Presidents Act by Former
Presidents, Fiscal Years 1977-1987

<u>Fiscal year</u>	<u>President Nixon</u>	<u>President Ford</u>	<u>President Carter</u>	<u>Total</u>
1977	\$ 215,923	\$ 100,245	\$ 0	\$ 316,168
1978	229,323	360,679	0	590,002
1979	282,990	377,707	0	660,697
1980	318,213	375,181	0	693,394
1981	300,418	323,390	52,317	676,125
1982	311,313	296,188	371,904	979,405
1983	291,868	331,184	383,368	1,006,420
1984	327,965	360,807	363,504	1,052,276
1985	317,469	360,995	339,556	1,018,020
1986	307,679	328,267	313,031	948,977
1987	<u>360,990</u>	<u>343,182</u>	<u>276,280</u>	<u>980,452</u>
Total	<u>\$3,264,151</u>	<u>\$3,557,825</u>	<u>\$2,099,960</u>	<u>\$8,921,936</u>

Table I.4: Amounts Obligated Under the
Former Presidents Act by Former
Presidents' Widows, Fiscal Years 1977-1987

<u>Fiscal year</u>	<u>Mrs. Johnson</u>	<u>Mrs. Truman</u>	<u>Mrs. Eisenhower</u>	<u>Widows' postage</u>	<u>Total</u>
1977	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$20,000	\$ 2,581	\$ 62,581
1978	20,000	20,000	20,000	1,963	61,963
1979	20,000	20,000	20,000	0	60,000
1980	20,000	20,000	2,000	4,401	46,401
1981	20,000	20,000	0	2,200	42,200
1982	20,000	20,000	0	5,000	45,000
1983	20,000	0	0	2,400	22,400
1984	20,000	0	0	2,900	22,900
1985	20,000	0	0	3,000	23,000
1986	20,000	0	0	4,125	24,125
1987	<u>20,000</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>21,000</u>
Total	<u>\$220,000</u>	<u>\$120,000</u>	<u>\$62,000</u>	<u>\$29,570</u>	<u>\$431,570</u>

Table I.5: Cost Under the Former Presidents
Act by Cost Category by Former
Presidents and Widow, Fiscal Year 1987

	<u>Nixon</u>	<u>Ford</u>	<u>Carter</u>	<u>Mrs. Johnson</u>
<u>Pensions</u>	<u>\$ 94,838</u>	<u>\$ 94,838</u>	<u>\$ 94,838</u>	<u>\$20,000</u>
<u>Office staff</u>				
Personnel compensation	\$ 86,770	\$ 91,903	\$ 59,662	\$ 0
Personnel benefits	<u>14,050</u>	<u>15,791</u>	<u>10,863</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$100,820</u>	<u>\$107,694</u>	<u>\$ 70,525</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
<u>Office</u>				
Office rent	\$103,377	\$ 59,099	\$ 69,600	\$ 0
Motor pool	0	0	4,187	0
Transportation of things	506	0	0	0
Equipment rental/depreciation	2,760	0	0	0
Telephone	33,568	40,236	19,024	0
Printing	1,160	0	4,864	0
Other services	194	6,089	4,278	0
Supplies and materials	3,968	6,552	1,985	0
Equipment	<u>3,394</u>	<u>2,375</u>	<u>2,748</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$148,927</u>	<u>\$114,351</u>	<u>\$106,686</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
<u>Travel</u>	<u>\$ 14,105</u>	<u>\$ 21,977</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
<u>Postal</u>	<u>\$ 2,300</u>	<u>\$ 4,322</u>	<u>\$ 4,231</u>	<u>\$ 1,000</u>
<u>Total</u>	<u>\$360,990</u>	<u>\$343,182</u>	<u>\$276,280</u>	<u>\$21,000</u>

Table I.6: Cost Under the Former Presidents
Act by Cost Category by Former
Presidents and Widow, Fiscal Year 1986

	<u>Nixon</u>	<u>Ford</u>	<u>Carter</u>	<u>Mrs. Johnson</u>
<u>Pensions</u>	\$ 86,200	\$ 86,200	\$ 86,200	\$20,000
<u>Office staff</u>				
Personnel				
compensation	\$ 85,378	\$ 94,673	\$ 95,693	\$ 0
Personnel benefits	10,599	13,283	14,748	0
Total	\$ 95,977	\$107,956	\$110,441	\$ 0
<u>Office</u>				
Office rent	\$ 67,281	\$ 56,264	\$ 56,398	\$ 0
Motor pool	0	0	4,117	0
Transportation				
of things	882	0	0	0
Equipment rental/ depreciation	2,760	0	0	0
Telephone	32,325	36,077	23,157	0
Printing	1,297	0	2,891	0
Other services	306	5,279	8,252	0
Supplies and materials	5,054	6,626	1,336	0
Equipment	3,501	0	5,047	0
Total	\$113,406	\$104,246	\$101,198	\$ 0
<u>Travel</u>	\$ 8,405	\$ 14,740	\$ 16	\$ 0
<u>Postal</u>	\$ 3,691	\$ 15,125	\$ 15,176	\$ 4,125
Total	\$307,679	\$328,267	\$313,031	\$24,125

Table I.7: Cost Under the Former Presidents
Act by Cost Category by Former
Presidents and Widow, Fiscal Year 1985

	<u>Nixon</u>	<u>Ford</u>	<u>Carter</u>	<u>Mrs. Johnson</u>
<u>Pensions</u>	\$ 85,475	\$ 85,475	\$ 85,475	\$20,000
<u>Office staff</u>				
Personnel compensation	\$ 88,336	\$ 95,985	\$ 88,935	\$ 0
Personnel benefits	13,239	16,224	13,573	0
Total	<u>\$101,575</u>	<u>\$112,209</u>	<u>\$102,508</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
<u>Office</u>				
Office rent	\$ 72,854	\$ 55,634	\$ 68,686	\$ 0
Motor pool	0	0	2,686	0
Transportation of things	1,890	138	0	0
Equipment rental/depreciation	2,237	876	0	0
Telephone	23,924	55,102	24,031	0
Printing	1,190	143	6,380	0
Other services	104	3,791	12,569	0
Supplies and materials	5,661	8,167	3,254	0
Equipment	158	0	21,992	0
Total	<u>\$108,018</u>	<u>\$123,851</u>	<u>\$139,598</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
<u>Travel</u>	<u>\$ 15,211</u>	<u>\$ 28,460</u>	<u>\$ 904</u>	<u>\$ 0</u>
<u>Postal</u>	<u>\$ 7,190</u>	<u>\$ 11,000</u>	<u>\$ 11,071</u>	<u>\$ 3,000</u>
Total	<u>\$317,469</u>	<u>\$360,995</u>	<u>\$339,556</u>	<u>\$23,000</u>

Table I.8: Former Presidents, Wives,
Widows, and Minor Children Protected by
the U.S. Secret Service, Fiscal Years 1977-1987

FY 1977

Mrs. Truman
Mrs. Eisenhower
John Kennedy, Jr.
Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Nixon
Mrs. Nixon
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford
Susan Ford

FY 1978

Mrs. Truman
Mrs. Eisenhower
Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Nixon
Mrs. Nixon
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford

FY 1979

Mrs. Truman
Mrs. Eisenhower
Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Nixon
Mrs. Nixon
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford

FY 1980

Mrs. Truman
Mrs. Eisenhower
Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Nixon
Mrs. Nixon
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford

FY 1981

Mrs. Truman
Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Nixon
Mrs. Nixon
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford
Former Pres. Carter
Mrs. Carter
Amy Carter

FY 1982

Mrs. Truman
Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Nixon
Mrs. Nixon
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford
Former Pres. Carter
Mrs. Carter
Amy Carter

FY 1983

Mrs. Truman
Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Nixon
Mrs. Nixon
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford
Former Pres. Carter
Mrs. Carter
Amy Carter

FY 1984

Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Nixon
Mrs. Nixon
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford
Former Pres. Carter
Mrs. Carter

FY 1985

Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Nixon^a
Mrs. Nixon^a
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford
Former Pres. Carter
Mrs. Carter

FY 1986

Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford
Former Pres. Carter
Mrs. Carter

FY 1987

Mrs. Johnson
Former Pres. Ford
Mrs. Ford
Former Pres. Carter
Mrs. Carter

^aProtection ended on July 31, 1985, at the request of Former President Nixon.

RESIDENCE OF FORMER PRESIDENTS

In 1969, a historic Victorian townhouse at 716 Jackson Place, N.W., Washington, D.C., was set aside for exclusive use by former presidents when they visit the nation's capital. The townhouse has approximately 2,240 square feet and is located about one block from the White House. Built in the late 1860s, it was acquired by the federal government in 1957. It has conference and dining facilities, an office area, a small kitchenette on the first floor, and living and sleeping areas on the upper two floors.

Since fiscal year 1980, this townhouse has been used by former presidents for a total of 57 days. Former President Nixon has not used it; former President Ford has used it for 40 days, 13 during fiscal year 1987; and former President Carter has used it 17 days, 2 during fiscal year 1987.

Fiscal year 1984 was the first year that the user charge (rent) was charged to the former presidents account. Before fiscal year 1984, no charge was collected. General Services Administration (GSA) regulations require that a standard level user charge which approximates a commercial charge for comparable space and services be charged for space and related services provided by GSA. Under the regulations, GSA's Administrator may exempt the charge when it is deemed infeasible or impracticable to charge for the space. Before fiscal year 1981, the Administrator exempted the Jackson Place residence from the user charge.

In 1981, as a result of congressional interest, the exemption was ended and the White House was billed for the space. GSA elected to bill the White House because the space was only available to former presidents. White House officials appealed the decision, and in 1982 GSA agreed to absorb the charge in its former presidents account. Rental charges for fiscal years 1985, 1986, and 1987 are listed in table I.2. GSA budgeted \$63,300 for rental charges on Jackson Place for fiscal year 1988.

In anticipation of possible reductions in the GSA budget for fiscal year 1988, GSA officials contacted each of the former presidents and asked if they would be willing to permanently relinquish Jackson Place as one of their standard benefits. A GSA official said each former president would be amenable to this idea. We contacted representatives of former Presidents Nixon and Ford and confirmed this statement. We could not contact

members of former President Carter's office staff to discuss this matter.

For fiscal year 1988, Congress eliminated from GSA's budget funding for rental payments for Jackson Place. According to a Senate Appropriations Committee's report (Report No. 100-160) which accompanied the appropriations bill (H.R. 2907), funding was eliminated because the property was used infrequently. According to a GSA official, GSA is awaiting guidance from the Office of Management and Budget before it reassigns the property.

SECRET SERVICE

A Secret Service official said that from a security standpoint, the existence of a permanent residence in Washington, D.C., for use by former presidents is neither an advantage nor a disadvantage and does not affect the Service's protection costs.

Number of Sites Controlled by
the National Park Service
Associated With Former Presidents

<u>President</u>	<u>NPS sites</u>	<u>President</u>	<u>NPS sites</u>
Washington, George	12	Garfield, James	4
Adams, John	1	Arthur, Chester	0
Jefferson, Thomas	2	Cleveland, Grover	0
Madison, James	0	Harrison, Benjamin	1
Monroe, James	2	McKinley, William	1
Adams, John Quincy	1	Roosevelt, Theodore	6
Jackson, Andrew	3	Taft, William Howard	1
Van Buren, Martin	1	Wilson, Woodrow	0
Harrison, William Henry	0	Harding, Warren G.	0
Tyler, John	0	Coolidge, Calvin	0
Polk, James K.	0	Hoover, Herbert	2
Taylor, Zachary	2	Roosevelt, Franklin D.	4
Fillmore, Millard	0	Truman, Harry S.	0
Pierce, Franklin	0	Eisenhower, Dwight D.	1
Buchanan, James	1	Kennedy, John F.	2
Lincoln, Abraham	8	Johnson, Lyndon B.	2
Johnson, Andrew	1	Nixon, Richard M.	1
Grant, Ulysses S.	11	Ford, Gerald R.	1
Hayes, Rutherford B.	0	Carter, Jimmy	0
Total	<u>45^a</u>	Total	<u>26^a</u>

^aExcludes the following six sites associated with more than one former president: Pennsylvania Avenue National Historic Site, Washington, D.C.; The White House, Washington, D.C.; Camp David, MD; Federal Hall National Memorial, NY; Independence Hall National Historic Park, PA; and Mount Rushmore National Memorial, SD.

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