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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6050

April 7, 1989

The Honorable James McClure
Subcommittee on Interior
and Related Agencies
SD-122
Washington, DC 20510-6025

Dear Jim:

The purpose of this letter is to request your assistance on a project of great importance nationally, to the State of Arizona and to me personally. I am speaking about the restoration of the Mission San Xavier del Bac, known as the "White Dove of the Desert."

The 200-year old mission, located near Tucson, Arizona is considered by many to be the finest example of mission architecture in the United States. It is a registered national historical landmark of profound cultural and historical significance to the region and our nation, and in tremendous need of rehabilitation. While the private sector has contributed generously to refurbishing the aging Mission, more help is needed if we are to properly restore this national jewel for the benefit of this and generations to come.

I understand that monies could be made available for "bricks and mortar" rehabilitation of historic landmarks through the Historic Preservation Fund. I would like to ask your help in the vital effort to restore San Xavier del Bac, by earmarking \$500,000 for that purpose in the FY 1990 appropriations bill.

As you know, I fully appreciate the fiscal constraints under which the subcommittee must labor, and that earmarking is never an easy task. I make this request, however, with the sincere and strong conviction that it is a project of truly compelling national significance.

I would be happy to provide you with any additional information you may require about the Mission, our restoration efforts, the need for the subcommittee's help and how the requested funds will be used.

Thanks for your kind consideration and I look forward to discussing this matter with you in the near future.

Sincerely,



John McCain
United States Senator

JM/jr

cc: The Honorable Robert Byrd

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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6025

May 1, 1989

JAMES H. ENGLISH, STAFF DIRECTOR
J. KEITH KENNEDY, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

The Honorable John McCain
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear John:

Thank you for your recent letter asking that \$500,000 for the restoration of the Mission San Xavier del Bac be included in the FY90 Interior and Related Agencies appropriations bill. We have asked the Department to prepare a capability statement which will be sent directly to your office.

I appreciate knowing of your interest in this matter and you may be assured that your request will be given every consideration as we continue work on the fiscal year 1990 appropriations bill.

Sincerely,

James A. McClure
Ranking Minority Member
Subcommittee on the Department of
the Interior and Related Agencies