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April 29, 1980

Mr. C. C. Johnson Spink
The Sporting News
1212 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, Missouri 63166

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Dear Mr. Spink:

Thank you very much for your recent letter opposing proposed cuts in the U.S. Postal Service budget which would eliminate Saturday mail delivery.

I realize that eliminating Saturday mail service will cause a tremendous inconvenience to your business. There is no question that those publications which rely on Saturday mail delivery, as well as the postal workers who distribute them, will be the most seriously affected by this action.

However, I must be perfectly honest with you and state that I support the elimination of Saturday mail delivery. Given our present inflation crisis, Congress' first concern must be to balance the budget. Unfortunately, that means that some programs will have to be temporarily or permanently eliminated. \$836 million was spent last year on Saturday mail delivery, if we cut that sizable figure from this year's budget, it will certainly contribute to our goal of bringing Federal receipts and expenditures in line.

Again, I am sorry that we do not agree on this issue. Be assured, however, that I will do my best to make certain that every American shoulders the burden of balancing the budget equally.

Yours very truly,

Richard A. Gephardt

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