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Washington, D.C. 20505

Executive Registry

97-2311x/1

10 July 1987

Mrs. James E. Starr
National President
American Legion Auxiliary
Washington Office
1608 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Mrs. Starr:

We will be happy to host the Girls Nation "DCI" designee at our Headquarters Building Thursday, July 16, 1987, at 3:00 p.m. If my schedule permits, I will look forward to meeting with your representative or I will designate another senior Agency officer.

Best wishes on your 41st annual session of the American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation. Training our young people in responsible government is a commendable mission.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William H. Webster".

William H. Webster
Director of Central Intelligence

PAO 87-0037

July 2, 1987

JUDGE:

RE: American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation Delegate Visit
Headquarters Building
July 16, 1987

Mrs. James E. Starr, National President of the American Legion Auxiliary, has requested that you meet with the DCI's Girls Nation "Counterpart" for approximately 15 minutes at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday, 16 July, in your office. In the past nine years either the DCI, the DDCI, the Executive Director, or the Director of Public Affairs has met and been photographed with the Girls Nation "DCI." Last year the Director of Public Affairs met with her, the year before the DDCI and three years ago the DCI. Opposite is the photograph taken in 1985.

This is the 41st Girls Nation program sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary. The annual citizenship course will be held 11 - 18 July at Marymount College in Arlington, Virginia, and will include high school juniors (two from each of the 50 Girls State sessions and the District of Columbia). The delegates convene as a legislative body and then divide into rival political parties and conduct campaigns which culminate in an election. The winning party forms an administration with offices comparable to the Cabinet and other high level government positions; hence a Girls Nation representative is the DCI. Opposite is additional information. The "DCI" designee will wish to acquaint herself with the primary functions of your office.

I recommend that, if you are available, the Girls Nation representative have the opportunity to meet with you. However, if your schedule does not permit, you could defer to the DDCI or the Executive Director. My office will host the visit and provide additional information and materials. If you agree, attached is a letter to Mrs. Starr for your signature.

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DCI/PAO/WMB

ama/2 July 1987

Bill Baker

Distribution:

Orig - Addressee

1 - ER

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P-309-11



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

WASHINGTON OFFICE • 1608 K STREET, N. W. • WASHINGTON, D. C. - 20006

(202) 861-2795

June 9, 1987

Executive Registry

87-2311X

REFERENCE

Honorable Judge William Webster
 Director of Central Intelligence
 Central Intelligence Agency
 Washington, DC 20505

Dear Judge Webster:

The 41st annual session of American Legion Auxiliary Girls Nation will be held at Marymount University of Virginia in Arlington, July 11-18, 1987. As an enthusiastic observer of this youth citizenship training program in the processes of Federal government, I want to thank you for your previous help in making these girls' Counterpart visits a memorable experience.

The girls will convene in the form of a legislative body modeled after the United States Senate. Once they have mastered legislative procedures, they then will divide into rival political parties to conduct campaigns which will be climaxed by an election. The winning party will form an administration in which there will be an office comparable to yours. It is in the interest of the young lady who will be appointed to this office that I have two favors to ask of you:

- 1) Before we print the list of key administrative offices in the Girls Nation instructional manual, we would like to be certain that we have the names of the current office holders and their titles in the correct form. Therefore if the inside address of this letter is in any way incorrect, would you be so kind as to let us know?
- 2) It will be the challenge of your Girls Nation counterpart to learn the primary functions of her office as well as possible in the limited time available. Nothing inspires her to greater effort than to have the opportunity to meet and visit even briefly with her actual counterpart in government. To facilitate this, could you grant this Girls Nation delegate an appointment on Thursday afternoon, July 16 (perhaps 15 minutes between the hours of 2:00 and 3:00 p.m.) and then perhaps assign a staff member to show her around your office and answer her questions?

Would this be agreeable to you? If you would be so kind as to notify my secretary, Donna Jaffe, at the telephone number listed above, I would deeply appreciate it. She will be happy to provide you with the identity of your Girls Nation counterpart following the Girls Nation election, which takes place late on Tuesday, July 14.

We will be grateful for any help you can give us in making this an exciting "living experience in government" for these young ladies.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Starr

Mrs. James E. Starr
 National President

Enc: Girls Nation Fact Sheet

NEWS RELEASE

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
777 NORTH MERIDIAN STREET
INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA 46204
TELEPHONE 635-6291



WASHINGTON BRANCH
1608 K STREET, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20008
TELEPHONE (202) 861-2795

FOR RELEASE

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

IMMEDIATELY
(For Background Information)

Alan M. Olszewski, Director
Washington Office

GIRLS STATE AND GIRLS NATION

Girls State, culminating in Girls Nation, is the youth citizenship training program conducted annually by the American Legion Auxiliary to give high school juniors practical experience in the processes of government and thus a clear understanding of their approaching citizenship responsibilities.

GIRLS STATE SESSIONS, sponsored by 51 state Departments of the American Legion Auxiliary, are held each June or July in state capitals, or on centrally located campuses in each of the 50 states and the District of Columbia. There, high school juniors, chosen with the aid of their school principals for qualities of leadership, set up their own miniature city, county and state governments and learn to administer them according to the rules and procedures set by actual state and local laws. They learn by "doing" it.

From Girls State, two Senators are selected to represent their constituents at Girls Nation, sponsored in the Nation's Capital in July by the National Organization of the American Legion Auxiliary.

GIRLS NATION, in its first three days, organizes political parties, the "Nationalist" and the "Federalist," holds national conventions for the nomination of candidates, climaxes campaigns with a "national election" and installs the winners in office.

From this point on, Girls Nation moves in a dual role: As a Senate, which meets to enact legislation, and also as a government administration, complete with elected and appointed officials. Girls Nation then visits the White House and learns firsthand how the federal government functions through briefing sessions on Capitol Hill and at various Government Departments, including those of State and Defense.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals has placed this program on the Advisory List of National Contests and Activities for 1986-87.

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BRIEF HISTORY OF THE GIRLS STATE
AND GIRLS NATION PROGRAMS

Back in the depression-ridden days of the early 1930's, The American Legion grew concerned over public statements to the effect that Democracy was "on the Skids." How, it wondered, could America train its young people in the processes of self government as effectively as Fascist Italy and Nazi Germany seemed to be training their youth groups in the promulgation of totalitarian forms of government. Deciding that the best way to learn something was by practicing it, American Legionnaires began, in 1935, to gather teenage representatives of high schools together for a few days each summer in a citizenship training program on the processes of city and state government. They called it "Boys State."

As this program succeeded and spread throughout the United States, the American Legion Auxiliary began providing similar opportunities for girls of high school age. Thus "Girls State" was founded. The first Girls State was conducted in 1938 and since 1948 has been a regular part of the Auxiliary's better citizenship program. The 1987 Girls State sessions are being held in 50 states.

Girls Nation, the youth citizenship program in the processes of federal government to which Girls States send two "Senators" each, is an annual climax to the Girls State program and has been held in the nation's Capital for one week each summer since 1947.

Girls State is staffed by American Legion Auxiliary members who volunteer their time and effort to this enterprise. Its administrative costs are defrayed by their Department (state) organizations. All costs for Girls Nation, including transportation, are financed by the American Legion Auxiliary's national organization. Delegates to Girls State are selected with the help of their high school principals on the basis of potential leadership qualities and must be between their junior and senior years in high school to qualify. Through these programs, it is estimated that each summer the American Legion Auxiliary is adding 19,000 girls trained in the processes of government to a group that by the end of 1987 will total about 743,900.

On Washington's Birthday, February 22, 1964, the American Legion Auxiliary received one of the four top Americana Awards from the Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge honoring its 1963 Girls Nation Program. Other Girls Nation Programs have helped to win similar George Washington Honor Medals, including the ones in 1971 and 1972. In 1977, the Joint Bicentennial Session of Boys and Girls Nation won its Distinguished Service Award.

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAT
ROUTING SLIP




TO:

		ACTION	INFO	DATE	INITIAL
1	DCI				
2	DDCI		X		
3	EXDIR				
4	D/ICS				
5	DDI				
6	DDA				
7	DDO				
8	DDS&T				
9	Chm/NIC				
10	GC				
11	IG				
12	Compt				
13	D/OCA				
14	D/PAO	X			
15	D/PERS				
16	Ex Staff				
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SUSPENSE _____
Date _____

Remarks _____

 Executive Secretary
12 Jun 87
Date _____

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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

WASHINGTON OFFICE · 1608 K STREET, N. W. · WASHINGTON, D. C. - 20006

(202) 861-2795

June 9, 1987

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Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, DC 20505

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National President

Enc: Girls Nation Fact Sheet



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