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Sandy

February 19, 1981

Mr. John Hoare Kerr
"Derrydown" RFD #1
Newport, Rhode Island 02840

Dear John:

Many thanks for your recent letter.

I have checked with the Appeals Office at the Merit System Protection Board in regard to the Endowment's appeal of the Board's initial decision. I regret to report to you that the appeal is still pending and that a decision is some time off. The case could apparently go to the full Board in four to six weeks but no time estimate for final action was forthcoming.

As I mentioned to you before, there is no schedule for a hearing on any issue relating to the Arts Endowment in our Subcommittee at this time. I will certainly keep your request in mind should the appropriate forum present itself in the future. Attention will be focused on the Endowment's budget by the appropriations Subcommittees in the coming months.

Liv Biddle continues as Chairman and is expected to remain in command until his four-year term expires in November.

With warm regards.

Ever sincerely,

Claiborne Pell

AC/ap