2-1-1973

Correspondence Between Roger J. Traynor, Murray J. Rossant, and James A. Doyle Regarding Catholic Press Association Support of the National News Council, 1973 February 1 - 1973 February 8

Roger J. Traynor
The National News Council, Inc.

James A. Doyle
Catholic Press Association

Murray J. Rossant
The Twentieth Century Fund

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Justice Roger Traynor  
Hastings College of the Law  
198 McAllister Street  
San Francisco, Calif. 94102  

Dear Judge Traynor:  

Following up our telephone conversation recently, I am writing to invite you to address the joint national convention of our Association and the Associated Church Press (Protestant Orthodox publications), which will be held Tuesday-Friday, May 8-11, at the Radisson South Hotel, near Minneapolis-St. Paul airport.  

We would be honored if you, in your capacity of Chairman of the Council on Press Responsibility and Freedom, could speak to our delegates at this convention. We now meet each year with our Protestant brother association. We expect about 500 delegates, and these are the top executives and editors of Catholic and Protestant publications throughout the U.S. and Canada. The two associations together include about 500 publication members (both newspapers and magazines) which have a circulation of more than 50,000,000.  

I know our delegates would be pleased and honored to have you speak about the Council, its formation, program and anticipated future. Clearly the Council will be very important in American press affairs, and we would like our people to hear from you at first hand about it.  

We'll pay your transportation, of course, and provide a room in the hotel for your stay, and also pay a speaker's fee of $200. We would hope to have from you a prepared address, about 30 minutes long in delivery, which we would be able to use for publicity purposes at the time of the convention and later to disseminate to our members.  

We certainly hope you can accept this sincere and cordial invitation. We would like you to speak at a general session or meal function for all our delegates -- either Wednesday May 9 or Thursday May 10. If you'll let me know which day you prefer, we'll be able to nail down a specific program slot for you.
I expect you will be interested in the enclosed copy of a resolution concerning the Council, passed by our board of directors December 15, at a meeting in San Francisco.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Cordially,

[Signature]

James A. Doyle
Executive Director

JAD:en

cc: Dr. A.P. Klausler, Associated Church Press
February 8, 1973

Mr. James A. Doyle
Executive Director
Catholic Press Association
424 Park Avenue South
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Mr. Doyle:

I wish it were feasible to accept your kind invitation of February 1st to address the joint national convention of your Association and the Associated Church Press on May 9th or May 10th. My calendar, however, is so crowded with commitments during April and May that it compels me to forego that pleasure.

Meanwhile, I join with Mr. Rossant in expressing our gratitude to you and the Catholic Press Association for your support of the National News Council. It is most heartening and timely to have the strong encouragement your resolution has given us.

With all good wishes,

Cordially,

Roger J. Eraynor
February 2, 1973

Mr. James A. Doyle
Executive Director
Catholic Press Association
432 Park Avenue South
New York, N.Y. 10016

Dear Mr. Doyle:

I speak for Roger J. Traynor and the entire Council in expressing our gratitude to you and the Catholic Press Association for your support of the National News Council. It is very encouraging to receive such strong encouragement at a time when powerful voices in journalism are seeking to prevent the establishment of this needed new institution before it is launched.

I can assure you that Justice Traynor and the Council will meet with representatives of the Catholic Press Association, as it will with other groups working on issues involving the media and the freedoms of expression and information. Such cooperative efforts will be an essential part of the Council's role as soon as it begins operations, which should be sometime in March.

Meanwhile, I will pass on your letter and the Association's resolution to Justice Traynor.

Again, thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

M. J. Rossant

MJR/gbk

cc: Roger J. Traynor
30 January 1973

Mr. M.J. Rossant
Twentieth Century Fund
41 East 70th St.
New York, New York 10021

Dear Mr. Rossant:

At a recent meeting of our board of directors, the enclosed resolution was adopted, and I am pleased to send it along to you for your information and use.

The resolution refers to two news services which serve the religious press. One of these -- NC News Service -- is located in Washington. The other -- Religious News Service -- is in New York.

If you wish further information, please let me know.

Cordially,

James A. Doyle
Executive Director

JAD:en
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RESOLUTION
of the Board of Directors of the Catholic Press Association
December 15, 1972


We pledge our wholehearted support of the Council, especially in view of recent court actions threatening the freedom necessary for journalists to carry out their responsibility to society. We also ask that Religious News Service and the National Catholic News Service, national suppliers of religious news, be included in the concerns of the Council.