

DOMESTIC SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired, otherwise this message will be sent as a fast telegram	
TELEGRAM	
DAY LETTER	
NIGHT LETTER	

\$  
S  
E

# WESTERN UNION TELEGRAM

1206 (4-35)

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE	
Check the class of service desired, otherwise the message will be sent at the full rate	
FULL RATE	
LETTER TELEGRAM	
SHORE-SHIP	

W. P. MARSHALL, PRESIDENT

NO. WDS.-CL. OF SVC.	PD. OR COLL.	CASH NO.	CHARGE TO THE ACCOUNT OF	TIME FILED
	Paid		Board of Economic Development Room 429 160 North La Salle St. Chicago 1, Ill.	

and the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

*Copy* *e x*

Mr. Frederic V. Schumacher  
Projects Manager  
WED Enterprises, Inc.  
800 Sonora Avenue  
Glendale 1, California

Illinois World's Fair Commission at first meeting today voted to adopt Lincoln as central theme. Requested and obtained agreement from New York World's Fair authorities that Illinois would be the only Lincoln exhibit. "Disney figure attractive to our committee members but our budget does not permit consideration of your figure. Unless there is possibility of negotiation we shall proceed immediately with our alternative Lincoln theme.

Gene Graves  
Secretary  
New York World's Commission

RECEIVED DEC 13 1963

WED

13 December 1963

Dear Walt:

Ever since our return from California, we have been working to incorporate the suggestions of you and your organization into our plans and I am happy to report the following:

1. The entrance and assembly area is now being planned in accordance with the sketch already submitted to you, with modifications with reference to the turn-stiles to be furnished by your organization.
2. The warm-up show will consist of a combination of an Illinois commercial and the Lincoln autobiography, which will lead directly into your "Great Moments with Mr Lincoln."
3. There will be no optional exhibits such as the Gettysburg Address, etc., in the warm-up area. That has been moved into another space in the building. This means that every person walking into the warm-up area is going there for the specific purpose of waiting to enter the Lincoln Theatre.
4. In the exit area, we have arranged to remove all floor exhibits, screen projectors, exhibits, etc., that might be diverting or time consuming and have a tendency to delay the exiting audience. Two sets of double doors will be provided on the north wall. These hollow metal doors will serve as an exit, in addition to already existing exits, thus providing a twelve foot exit corridor, which means we shall have a total of twenty-two feet of exiting space, plus the emergency door on the west wall. In addition, we shall ask the architect to provide for steel headers or a concrete beam to support two additional doors in the event our crowd problem makes additional doors a necessity. The only two items of interest remaining in this area will be the library containing the Gettysburg Address and the model of the original State Capitol.
5. It had been our optimistic hope that the present exit area around the library could have been enlarged by re-locating the library. I believe this suggestion was conveyed to you by Vic Greene but, un-

fortunately, the work at the site has been progressing at such a rapid pace that those walls had reached a state where it was not at all practical to re-locate the library unless we were willing to

- a. Encounter a substantial increase in cost and
  - b. Risk delaying our roofing-in period which now will probably occur by the end of next week.
6. The two sets of doors on the north wall fit into the courtyard level. The space to the west is on an incline and would require putting doors on another level if we want to re-grade the whole area. This, again, would introduce a loss of time which is both costly and risky in view of weather conditions.

We feel, under the present conditions, that this is the best possible compromise. As you will note, we have accepted virtually all of your recommendations and, I might add, are most grateful for them. Fuller has done a remarkable job -- the construction has been going forward at a pace we had hoped for but never thought we would realize.

We have been trying to speak to Vic Greene this afternoon, but I am posting this letter so that the information will be before you in the event that we don't succeed in reaching him.

The contractor has been most patient. He has realized our problems and I need not tell you how tough they are these days, particularly in the World's Fair area, about changes and alterations. We don't want to rock the boat too much and disturb the feeling of urgency with which he and the workmen have been imbued. Therefore, I feel it is best that we recognize all this, agree on this plan of action, and then go to him, instead of nibbling away at him and disturbing his morale.

I need not tell you how much I regret all these problems. We both agree none of these would have been necessary had it been possible to start on this project much earlier. However, the fault for this rests, not with us, but with the Illinois State Legislature -- but post mortems never built anything. I am grateful for your help and the help of your associates; I don't know what we would have done without you.

Best,

Ralph G. Newman

Mr Walt Disney  
500 South Buena Vista Street  
Burbank, California