Regarding the following White House Letters . . .

The April 1, 1996 letter mentions the proposed visit to the White House by Ralph Switzer, an attorney and professor (Colorado State – Fort Collins), who had been president of the Class of 1964 at Maine. Switzer had worked with Hillary in Maine’s Student Council. A last-minute foreign policy problem brought a cancellation in the visit arranged by Dr. Carlson.

Duncan Sandys, great-grandson of Winston Churchill, became a good friend of Dr. Carlson’s when they both attended former Prime Minister Thatcher’s address on the fiftieth anniversary of Churchill’s Iron Curtain speech at Westminster College. Sandys worked for Senator Dole at the time but could not reach him on a visa problem, so Dr. Carlson asked Hillary to help.

The reference to the Emil Verban Society has to do with Mrs. Clinton’s and Dr. Carlson’s ties with the Chicago Cubs. Both are inveterate Cubs fans. The Emil Verban Society was a Washington, D.C.-based Cubs group that Hillary Clinton had joined shortly after Mr. Clinton’s inauguration. Mrs. Clinton then nominated Dr. Carlson.
Robert Paul Carlson  
Maine Township High School East  
Dempster and Potter Roads  
Park Ridge, Illinois  60068  

Dear Paul:  

Thank you for your very thoughtful gifts to our family, and for your generous praise of my speech in Beijing and the President's foreign policy decisions in Bosnia and Taiwan. We greatly appreciate your support and encouragement. The lions are terrific!

I have enclosed a copy of my April 1 letter to you regarding Duncan Sandys and hope you received it after your letter to me. We will look into the induction rules and rites of the Emil Verban Society. Surely someone who remembers him so well should have a chance to step up to the plate! Thanks, too, for all of your efforts in Park Ridge. I have forwarded a copy of your luncheon letter to my scheduling office for their information.

The enclosed autographed picture is for the young student you mentioned who was disappointed about not
seeing me during my visit. Please convey my best wishes and perhaps there will be another opportunity in the future.

Hoping my letter finds you in good health, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton

cc: Patti Solis, Director of Scheduling
Ann Stock, Social Secretary

Thanks too for your faithful friendship -
April 1, 1996

Robert Paul Carlson
Maine Township High School East
Dempster and Potter Roads
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your letter following Ralph Switzer's visit to the White House. I would have enjoyed meeting with him and his family and regret that my schedule kept me from doing so.

A copy of your letter and attachments regarding Duncan Sandys has been forwarded to the White House Office of Agency Liaison. They routinely deal with visa issues such as these.

As always, it was good to hear from you and I hope you are enjoying good health now that spring weather is on its way.

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton

cc: Office of Agency Liaison
Mr. Robert Paul Carlson  
Maine Township High School East  
Dempster & Potter Roads  
Park Ridge, Illinois 60068  

Dear Paul:

Thank you for your very thoughtful letter just before Thanksgiving and for the beautiful yellow roses. Please forgive me for not responding sooner. The letter appears to have been mislaid in the midst of the extraordinary mail crunch at the White House during the holidays.

I am honored to have been remembered by you so fondly and so well, although Betsy Ebeling cannot conceive of my ever having written a seventy-five page term paper back then! Your reminiscence of my student life was deeply appreciated, and I will be sure to share it with my mother and convey your regards.

I regret that some at Maine East may feel ignored and appreciate your understanding about the demands placed on my schedule. I only have warm memories of my years there, and have not meant to overlook my debt to that school and the wonderful teachers I had. If, on a future trip to Chicago my schedule permits me to do so, I would love to visit with your government students. And, if we survive this term and are blessed with a second, we would certainly be delighted to have the Blue and White in the Inaugural Parade. In any event, I will be sure to have someone contact Mrs. Harley about Tri-M as you suggested. It sounds like a terrific organization and we will look for an appropriate opportunity to have them perform at the White House.

I was charmed by your early reminiscences of Washington and the special meaning your visits hold. Your eloquent prayer for the President, Chelsea and me was deeply moving and your love of country is an example for us all. Please convey my warm regards to all of my friends at Maine East and stay in touch. If you are planning to be back in Washington, please let my assistant, Pam Barnett, know so we can arrange for a visit.

With admiration and respect, I remain

Sincerely yours,

Hillary Rodham Clinton
"The first lady's name is Hillary? I thought it was Eve."