

Mewer

Call-in
+
Play floor
House floor

[REDACTED]
Dearborn, MI 48128-1818
September 21, 1994

[REDACTED]
Compuserve [REDACTED]

Brian Lamb
C_SPAN
400 North Capital Street, NW #650
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Mr. Lamb;

Thank you for C_SPAN. Were it not for you, America's television would indeed be a vast wasteland. I try not to miss the Monday and Friday morning programs featuring the reporters and journalists. I do not miss Booknotes; it is one of the most educational, yet entertaining, programs on television. Your style is engaging and I enjoy all of the shows hosted by you.

I've enclosed a copy of the official U.S. flag specification issued by Congress in 1960. I have done this because I'm wondering if the American flag that was in view on the screen during interviews conducted in the C-SPAN school bus in connection with the reenactment of the first Lincoln-Douglas debate meets the specification. It seemed to me that the stars were too far in from the edge of the union but since the flag was hanging in folds I could not be sure. Knowing that you guys are sticklers for accuracy I thought you'd might want to check it out.

I know that I'm probably the only person in the world to worry about such things but I first became curious about the existence of an official specification while watching the Nixon funeral. There were, it seemed to me, many flags on display at this ceremony that just didn't look right. I found an excellent reference at my local library: *The Flag Book of the United States*, Whitney Smith, 1970, William Morrow & Company. After reading this book I am convinced that there are indeed many, many American flags on display that do not meet the official specification.

Take a look at the flag behind the Speaker in the House of Representatives. It doesn't look right on television. If there is *not* a valance over the top of the flag then it is out of specification. There's too much blue between the top row of stars and the top of the flag. (There may be a valance—painted to blend with the flag—that is difficult to discern on television.)

I apologize for the fact that I was prompted by your flag to write. I will continue to be a C_Span fan even though my reading list gets longer and longer.

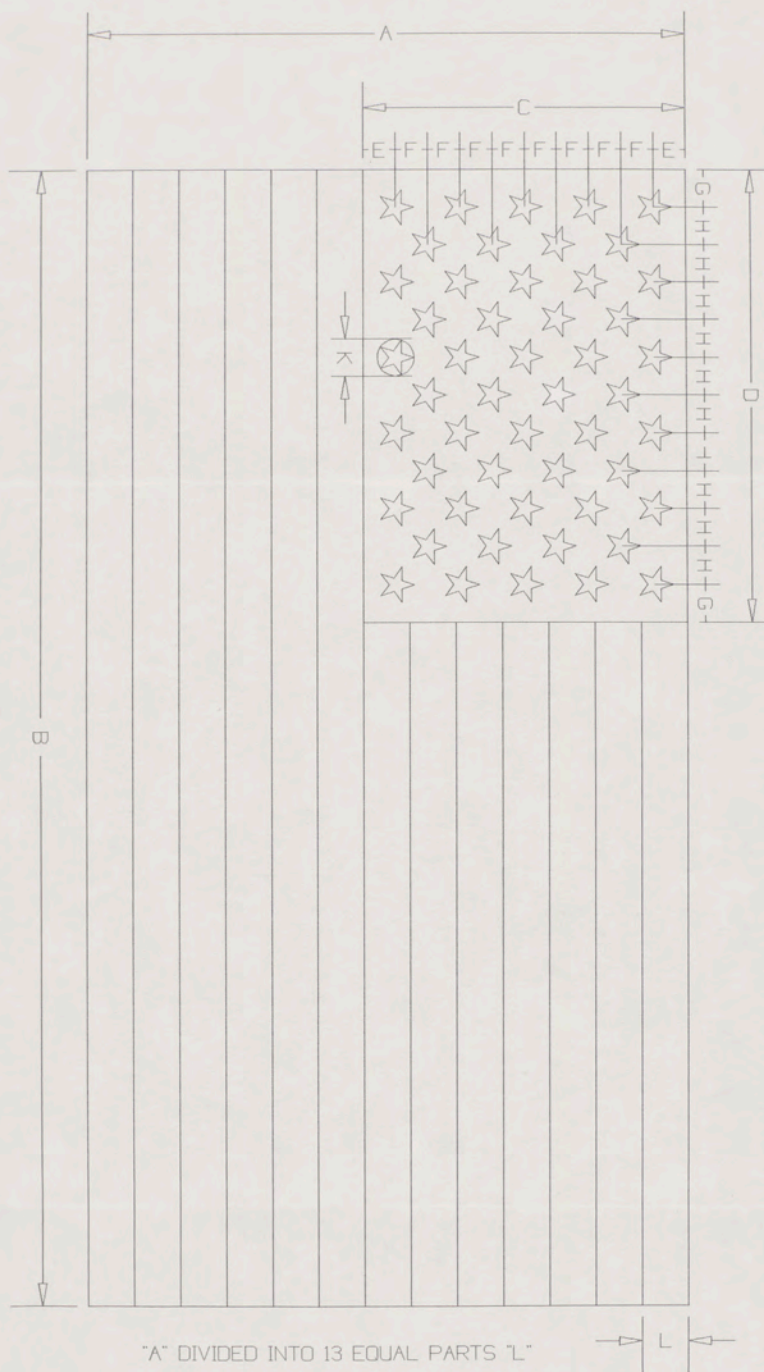
Sincerely,
[REDACTED]

DRAWN BY BENJAMIN T. BAJOREK
23035 MARLBORO
DEARBORN, MI 48128-1818
MAY 7, 1994

Exact shade of red
color number 70180

Exact shade of blue
color number 70075

Standard Color Card
of America
published by the
Color Association of
the United States

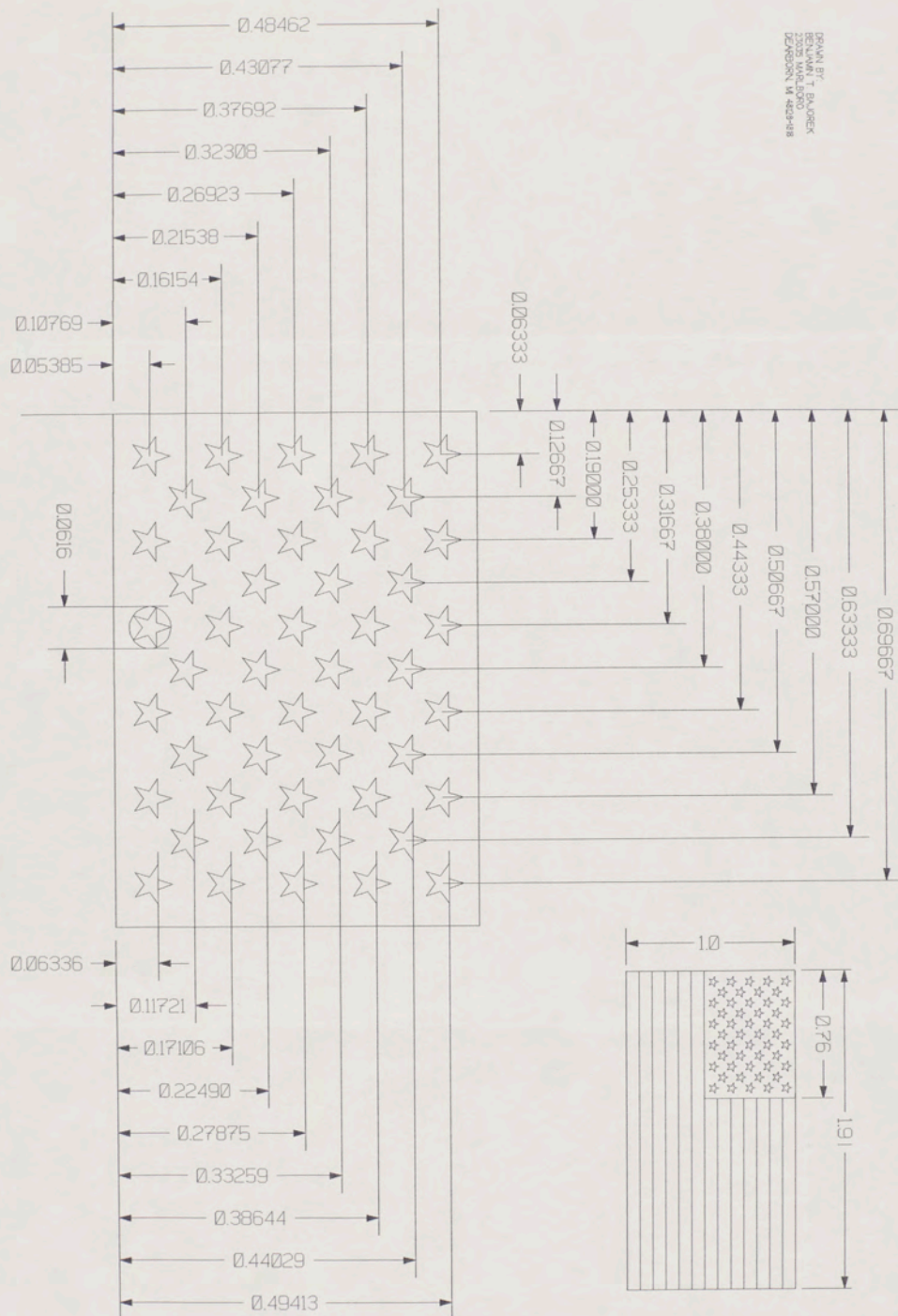


REFERENCE
The Flag Book of the United States
Whitney Smith
Director, Flag Research Center
Lexington, Massachusetts

William Morrow & Company, Inc.
New York 1970
Library of Congress Catalog Card Number 78-86879

STANDARD PROPORTIONS									
HOIST (WIDTH) OF FLAG	FLY (LENGTH) OF FLAG	HOIST (WIDTH) OF UNION	FLY (LENGTH) OF UNION					DIAMETER OF STAR	WIDTH OF STRIPE
1.0	1.9	0.5385 (7/13)	0.76	0.054 (7/130)	0.054 (7/130)	0.063 (0.76/12)	0.063 (0.76/12)	0.0616	0.0769 (1/13)
A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	K	L

FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES Official specifications established July 4, 1960



FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES
Drawing based on official specifications
established July 4, 1960