

**The original documents are located in Box 19, folder “Vice President - House Suggestions, A-Mh (7)” of the Robert T. Hartmann Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.**

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JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT  
THIRD DISTRICT, ARKANSAS

HOME ADDRESS:  
HARRISON, ARKANSAS

WASHINGTON ADDRESS:  
409 CANNON BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
PHONE: 225-4301

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

August 13, 1974

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President Gerald R. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

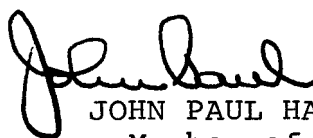
Dear President Ford:

I appreciate the honor of being asked to submit my suggestion for the office of Vice President.

I had earlier expressed my choice by telegram, but this is to reaffirm the name of George Bush.

With highest regards,

Sincerely yours,



JOHN PAUL HAMMERSCHMIDT  
Member of Congress

JPH/hrs

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*John Paul Hammerschmitt*  
M.C.

President Gerald R. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

ROBERT P. HANRAHAN  
3D DISTRICT, ILLINOIS

ROOM 1229  
LONGWORTH OFFICE BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
CODE 202: 225-5736

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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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333 EAST 162D STREET  
SOUTH HOLLAND, ILLINOIS 60473  
CODE 312: 596-1990

August 13, 1974

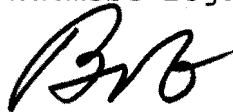
The Honorable John J. Rhodes  
Minority Leader  
Suite H-230  
United States Capitol  
Washington, D. C. 20515

Dear Mr. *John* Rhodes:

I would like to take this opportunity to submit Ambassador Donald Rumsfeld as my recommendation for the Vice Presidential nominee.

Thank you for allowing Members of Congress to take an active part in what will result as being a major decision made by President Ford.

Warmest regards,



ROBERT P. HANRAHAN  
Member of Congress

RPH:pk

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*Robert T. Henscher*  
M.C.

The Honorable John J. Rhodes  
Minority Leader  
Suite H-230  
United States Capitol  
Washington, D. C. 20515

*Personal*  
*FOR PRESIDENT'S  
EYES ONLY*

ORVAL HANSEN  
2ND DISTRICT, IDAHO

OFFICE:  
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CANNON BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515  
(202) 225-5531

COMMITTEES:  
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HOUSE ADMINISTRATION

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT:  
LOUISE SHADDUCK

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

August 13, 1974

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FIRST SECURITY BANK BUILDING  
P.O. Box 396  
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO 83401  
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The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In response to your request, I am pleased to submit the following names for your consideration in making your nomination for the office of Vice President of the United States:

- 1 - Elliott Richardson
- 2 - Nelson Rockefeller
- 3 - Melvin Laird

You may be assured of my support for your choice to fill this important post. You may also be assured of my continuing strong support in carrying the heavy burdens of your office.

Sincerely,



ORVAL HANSEN  
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

---

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*Orval Hansen*  
M.C.

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C. 20500



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

JAMES F. HASTINGS  
THIRTY-NINTH DISTRICT  
NEW YORK

August 13, 1974

Dear Mr. President -

My recommendation to you in your consideration of a nominee for the office of Vice-President is former Governor Nelson Rockefeller. His plusses and minuses are already known to you, so will not repeat them here.

I of course will support you in your selection, whoever it may be.

Sincerely  
J. Hastings



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

President Gerald R. Ford  
The White House.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MARGARET M. HECKLER  
10TH DISTRICT, MASSACHUSETTS

August 12, 1974

Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

These troubled times demand bold action. A nominee for Vice President who is merely the lowest common denominator acceptable to all segments of the party would inspire no one.

I feel strongly you should nominate a woman. Many women have performed outstanding service for this Nation; there are many with the vigor and ability to serve as a truly effective Vice President. Also, no woman in public office has ever been tainted with a hint of scandal, and nomination of a woman as Vice President would go far toward helping to restore public confidence in our government.

My choice, who I believe would make an excellent Vice President, is Anne L. Armstrong, Counsellor to the President.

If you do not believe a woman should be Vice President, I recommend for your consideration three men who I feel would do an outstanding job.


Elliot Richardson, an excellent administrator with social sensitivity and unquestioned integrity.

Nelson A. Rockefeller, a proven leader and administrator with an outstanding record of public service who would rally enthusiastic support throughout the Nation.

The Honorable Edward Brooke, Senator from Massachusetts, a brilliant legislator, sensitive and understanding of the social problems confronting our Nation.

Each of the distinguished persons I suggest shares with you unlimited integrity, ability and sound judgment. But in addition, each would complement your strengths, not simply duplicate them.

Sincerely,



MARGARET M. HECKLER  
MEMBER OF CONGRESS

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

H. JOHN HEINZ III  
18TH DISTRICT, PENNSYLVANIA

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

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324 CANNON HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING  
TELEPHONE (202) 225-2135

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT OFFICE:  
2031 FEDERAL BUILDING  
PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA 15222  
TELEPHONE (412) 562-0533

August 13, 1974

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

John Rhodes extended your invitation soliciting suggestions for the office of Vice President. I am pleased to share with you some very strong convictions on this vital question.

What criterion should one use for such a decision? On an individual level, it must be someone you can work with. In your case, I don't see this as much help -- you get along very well with almost everyone!

Where Party questions are involved, should the choice accommodate the growing Republican foothold in the South, or should there be an appeal to the middle of the American mainstream: the person who now describes himself as an Independent? I think there's an opportunity here to choose an individual with appeal to the broad middle.

Such a choice need not undermine Republican growth potential in the South -- this is a matter of fundamental political philosophy where Republican ideals will always have a greater appeal to Southerners than the platforms of the candidates of the other party. Count me, then, among those who would like to see you choose someone from an urbanized, industrial Midwestern or Eastern state. That's where the blue and white collar workers live, and that's where the Republican Party must begin to rebuild.

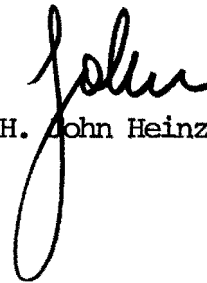
Meeting the need of the Nation for the new Vice President to be the best qualified individual is the most important criterion of all. As you yourself have experienced, no one can foresee when constitutional succession will occur. For this reason, I believe your Vice President should have a record of successful public service that above all has included bearing the heavy and lonely burden of leadership: the responsibility for making the final decisions of public trust which affect a wide and diverse populace.

Let me suggest, in order of preference and without going into great detail, three people who, in my judgment, meet these criteria:

1. Nelson A. Rockefeller
2. William W. Scranton
3. Elliot Richardson

With warmest personal regards to the new President and his family, and wishes of good luck and God bless,

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "John", with a long, sweeping tail that loops back down.

H. John Heinz III, M. C.

HJH:bbb

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*John Heinz*  
M.C.

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

T  
ELWOOD H. "BUD" HILLIS  
5TH DISTRICT, INDIANA

COMMITTEES:  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
HOUSE ARMED SERVICES  
COMMITTEE

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 12, 1974

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
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TELEPHONE: 202-225-5037

KOKOMO OFFICE:  
504 UNION BANK BUILDING  
TELEPHONE: 457-4411

ANDERSON OFFICE:  
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642-1777

MARION OFFICE:  
220 MARION P.O. BUILDING  
662-7227

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

In regard to your request for suggestions for the Office of the Vice President, I am happy to make the following recommendations all of whom would be eminently qualified to serve in this high and important office.

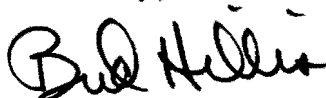
George Bush, Chairman, Republican  
National Committee

Hon. Otis Bowen, Governor, State of  
Indiana

Elliot L. Richardson

With warm regards, I remain

Sincerely,



Elwood H. Hillis, M.C.

EHH:t



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Elwood H. Hillis  
M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

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CENSUS AND STATISTICS  
INVESTIGATIONS

ANDREW J. HINSHAW  
39TH DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

# Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

August 13, 1974

CHIP CLEARY  
DISTRICT ADMINISTRATOR  
811 NORTH BROADWAY  
SANTA ANA, CALIFORNIA 92701  
PHONE: (714) 836-2611

WASHINGTON OFFICE:  
PAUL M. STEWART, JR.  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

For your consideration, as a nominee to fill the office of Vice President as provided for by the 25th Amendment to the Constitution, I respectfully submit the name of George H. Bush.

I am sure that you will be considering many very worthwhile persons to fill this high office, and I feel confident that your decision will take into account many different considerations.

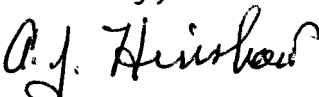
My reasons for submitting the name of George Bush is that I believe a candidate for nomination should be (1) an eminently acceptable person to the American people, (2) have broad-based support within the Republican Party, and (3) a person respected by the opposition party, the Democrats.

From a partisan viewpoint, I think it important that the new Vice President be at an age that would permit him to succeed you as President, with the full recognition that there is a likelihood that you may serve as President for as long as six and a half years.

I believe Mr. Bush's background in the political arena as a Congressman, as an Ambassador to the United Nations, and as the Chairman of the Republican National Committee, has given him a broad base of understanding of national government, both in domestic matters as well as in foreign affairs.

From all that I have been able to observe during the time I have been in Washington, and all that I have been able to learn during the last several days during which time Mr. Bush has been talked about as a potential Vice President nominee, it seems apparent that George Bush's reputation for integrity and competency are recognized and respected by all who know him - or know of him.

Sincerely,



ANDREW J. HINSHAW  
Member of Congress

AJH:dm

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Andrew J. Hinshaw  
M.C.

The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

LAWRENCE J. HOGAN  
5TH DISTRICT, MARYLAND

OFFICE:  
SUITE 1204  
LONGWORTH BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

DISTRICT OFFICE:  
LANDOVER MALL WEST  
SUITE 302  
PROMENADE 3  
LANDOVER, MARYLAND 20785

COMMITTEES:  
JUDICIARY  
POST OFFICE AND CIVIL SERVICE

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, D.C. 20515

August 12, 1974

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

This letter is written in response to your request for suggestions regarding your nomination of a Vice President.

The rumors that former Governor Nelson Rockefeller is the "front-runner" disturb me very much. While he has a long record of public service, his nomination would alienate all of the anti-abortion forces in the Country and, as you know, they are numerous. The New York State Legislature passed a bill repealing the State's liberal abortion law and Rockefeller vetoed it, incurring the hostility of pro-life forces everywhere. You might also check with Speaker of the New York House Perry B. Duryea regarding Rockefeller. There would unquestionably be a very bitter opposition to his nomination.

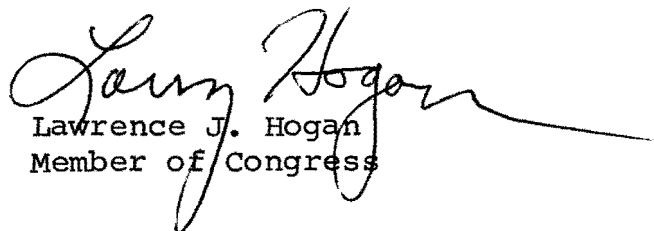
In addition, I agree with Senator Goldwater that he and Rockefeller are both too old.

My first choice is George Bush. He would be outstanding. However, if you feel he is too identified with the GOP, I would recommend as my second choice Al Quie.

As you know Al Quie is respected by both Democrats and Republicans for his ability and integrity. He would have no problem surviving the nomination investigation and would inspire the confidence of the people in government as you yourself have done.

I hope you will have Divine guidance in making this most important decision.

Sincerely,

  
Lawrence J. Hogan  
Member of Congress

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*Lawrence J. Hogan*  
M.C.

The President

The White House

Washington, D. C.



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

MARJORIE S. HOLT  
FOURTH DISTRICT  
MARYLAND

August 13, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

Let me first offer my most sincere congratulations and best wishes upon your assumption of the awesome responsibilities of the Presidency. I know that you will perform admirably and will continue to enjoy the support of the majority of Congress and the American people.

With regard to the selection of a Vice President, I feel strongly that the 1972 elections demonstrated a conservative mandate and that it is important that your Vice Presidential choice reflect this mandate. I would like to strongly recommend that you seriously consider nominating George Bush, Senator Barry Goldwater, or Governor Ronald Reagan. I feel that any of these three gentlemen will do an outstanding job, but my first preference is Mr. Bush.

With warmest regards, I am

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marjorie".

Marjorie S. Holt  
Member of Congress

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20515

The Honorable

The President of the United States

**FRANK HORTON**  
U.S. REPRESENTATIVE  
34TH DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

COMMITTEE:  
**GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**  
RANKING MINORITY MEMBER

DAVID A. LOVENHEIM  
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

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DISTRICT OFFICES:  
314 FEDERAL BUILDING  
ROCHESTER, NEW YORK 14614  
(716) 263-6270  
WAYNE COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING  
LYONS, NEW YORK

August 13, 1974

Dear Mr. President:

I must say that I feel not unlike your nephew, who, torn between his personal relationship with you and his respect for the Office of the Presidency, settled upon "Mr. Uncle Jerry President" as the best mode of addressing his Uncle Jerry.

Let me first say that I welcome your ascendancy to the White House as a breath of fresh air. As I have told my constituents, you are the man for the hour. The freshness, the sense of values, the unpretentiousness and the wealth of experience and respect for our institutions which you bring to the Presidency have given all of our people a level of hope and a potential for unity which Americans have not enjoyed for over a decade.

Your address to the Joint Session last night was the first time since 1964 that a President has addressed Congress and the Nation without an overhanging cloud of war or scandal. I congratulate you on both the substance of your talk and on your seizing the occasion to forge ahead with the task of unifying the Nation, and strengthening the bonds between the Congress and the White House.

While I would certainly enjoy the opportunity to sit down with you and share some of my thoughts on the challenges that lie ahead, I'm sure that your time is needed for more pressing pursuits. Instead, I offer some of my thoughts in this letter for your consideration.

Mainly, I want to share with you some of my thoughts on the opportunities we have to strengthen the Republican Party. As you know, in November 1972, there was great promise that our party could bring together under the Republican banner, the "new majority" which had been forged by the overwhelming victory of the National Republican ticket. In the absence of Watergate, it would have been conceivable for our party to forge permanent bonds with groups which heretofore have been the private province of the Democrats. I am speaking of city-dwellers, racial and ethnic minorities, senior citizens, young people, the rank and file of organized labor as well as progressive suburbanites -- all of whom experienced severe disenchantment with the past Administration.



I believe that your Presidency, spurred by the openness and candor you have pledged, has completely rejuvenated the possibility of forging ahead with the new majority. Particularly, your initiatives, already announced, in seeking input from the Black Caucus, from labor and business leaders, and from both Democrats and Republicans in Congress, can recreate the prospects of a federal administration that will be responsive to domestic social and urban problems while at the same time pursuing responsible fiscal policies.

You have already made a great deal of progress in healing the wounds which the past Administration had caused within the Republican Party itself. There was, as you know, widespread feeling that monolithic loyalty, rather than true cooperation, was sought by the White House, giving rise to the isolation of the party standard-bearer from moderates and progressives within the party. Those of us within the party who, for example, have needed to be responsive to urban or inner-city constituencies or who have established effective dialogue with the leadership of organized labor have felt extremely frustrated by the seeming lack of interest of the past Administration in responding to these problems.

Your own record in Congress, as well as your pledges of a Presidency for all the people breathes new life into the prospect that people concerned with these and other problems can be made to see that a Republican administration can and will be responsive to their concerns.

It is in this vein that I have been considering my recommendations to you for the selection of a nominee for the Vice-Presidency.

Above all, of course, the nominee must be well qualified, and widely accepted as being well-qualified to perform the single most important task that any Vice-President can be asked to perform, as unthinkable as it may be. He or she must be able, at a time of great national crisis, to assume the Presidency. It was this thought which I and others who recommended your own nomination as Vice-President had foremost in mind. I must say, no finer choice could have been made, nor could any man have made as much progress in four short days in reuniting our people. The new nominee for Vice-President must have this same ability and standing, in addition to having the potential for assisting with the unity of our Party and with the building of a new, national Republican majority through his performance as Vice-President.

Added to these considerations, I tend to feel that the ticket and the party would be strengthened if you selected a person who has achieved a record of electoral success on a state-wide level.

With these principles in mind, Mr. President, I respectfully offer three suggestions for your consideration in selecting a nominee for the Vice-Presidency: Nelson A. Rockefeller, Elliot Richardson and Charles Percy.

### Nelson A. Rockefeller

Nelson Rockefeller, until he stepped down last year, was the dean of the Nation's governors. His record of integrity and performance for the people of our second largest state is, in my judgment, unequalled in any statehouse in the land. By virtue of the nature of the State of New York, Nelson was faced with many pressing problems before these same problems became national issues. As a result, he was the pioneer in implementing comprehensive programs to combat environmental pollution, to provide adequate transportation systems, to combat the blight of drug abuse, to deal with problems of discrimination in employment and a host of other problems having their root in a state whose population is largely urban and metropolitan.

Through 16 years of service as Governor, Nelson showed an ability to bite the bullet even when it meant taking an unpopular course to solve what he saw as pressing problems. Yet, throughout his incumbency, he was able to garner an unprecedented record of success at the polls -- always maintaining the support of New York Republicans while drawing substantial support from Democrats and Independent voters.

Nelson has demonstrated an outstanding ability to listen to, cooperate with and be responsive to the very same groups in our society which we Republicans must attract if we are to build the new majority. His popularity among racial and ethnic minorities, labor, business, senior citizens, Jews and others serves as a Republican landmark for open and effective government.

Further, he had shown an amazing talent for attracting and utilizing the very best available talent in grappling with economic, social, international, environmental and other problems. In this vein, he would certainly supplement and complement your own demonstrated ability to bring the very best minds to bear on the challenges that face us.

In addition, his wide recognition as a man experienced in foreign concerns, and as a national Republican political figure would make him a very strong asset in the second spot on the 1976 Republican Presidential ticket. While Nelson, particularly in his last six years as governor, has been at or near the center of the Republican political spectrum, his nomination would assure the unification of the Party, and would assure that our national political strategy, unlike the southern strategy, does not have to discount or exclude any region of the United States.

Elliot Richardson

Elliot Richardson would be an excellent choice for Vice-President. No other single man has garnered the wealth of experience in the Federal Executive Branch, nor has done so with such distinction. President Nixon's confidence in Elliot, as shown by the awesome responsibilities he bestowed on him, are the best testimony to his outstanding qualifications.

Like yourself, Elliot has shown that he has outstanding qualities of integrity, and deep faith and belief in our Constitution and the institutions of our government. As you know, he is regarded by the employees, both in the civil service and at policy levels, of both the Justice Department and the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare as one of the outstanding Cabinet officers to serve in those Departments.

He is committed to a strong national defense, and to the foreign policies forged by the Nixon Administration, which, as Undersecretary of State, he helped to implement.

Elliot's record of electoral success at the state level, as both Attorney-General and Lieutenant Governor of Massachusetts, would, like Nelson Rockefeller, help both the geographical balance and the party-unifying nature of the 1976 ticket. He, too, has achieved open, effective and responsive communication with those groups whose support is needed to help us establish the new majority under the GOP banner.

Equally important, Elliot's record is a model of excellence. His war record, his achievements at Harvard, his service as law clerk to both Judge Learned Hand and Justice Frankfurter, and his deep experience as a tough law enforcement man, as U. S. Attorney and as Attorney General at both the state and national level -- all of these testify to his qualification for the second highest office in the land.

Some have felt that the circumstance of the firing of Archibald Cox, and his resignation from the Cabinet at that time would weigh against his selection as your nominee. On the contrary, I think Elliot handled that delicate situation with grace and propriety. His commitment to the Senate and to his oath of office offered him no choice but to resign. (A choice not unlike that which Mr. Nixon had to make.) Yet, Elliot did not become an advocate for impeachment, nor a gadfly against the man he had served so loyally for nearly five years. In an administration which follows the caveat you laid down in your address last Friday -- "Truth is the glue . . ." -- I feel Elliot Richardson offers much that would be of both substantive benefit to the Nation and political benefit to the Party.

Charles Percy

As reluctant as I am to recommend an incumbent Republican in the Congress, I feel that Chuck Percy offers qualities that compel his consideration for the nomination.

With the single disadvantage of geographical imbalance on the 1976 ticket, I think Chuck could bring to the Office of the Vice President many of the same qualities of integrity and unity which commend my first two suggestions to you. His outstanding record at the polls in Illinois, his standing as a national Republican figure, his fantastic ability to speak to diverse audiences and to win them to the Republican cause are all factors in his favor.

Equally important, Chuck would bring to the office superb record of achievement. You will recall that he was named one of the "Outstanding Young Men of America" at the same time that you, yourself were so recognized by the United States Jaycees.

As President and Chief Executive Officer of Bell and Howell at the age of 29, and as a second term United States Senator, Chuck has shown a deep commitment to the identical brand of fiscal responsibility and economic conservatism which you have epitomized both in the House and in the Presidency. Moreover, I have witnessed first hand his amazing ability to convince audiences from every point on the political spectrum of the wisdom of fiscal responsibility. Very recently, in my own District, he had a group of 500 people cheering loudly at the defeat of a tax cut by the United States Senate. He is equally effective before labor and black groups.

I believe Chuck would serve with excellence as presiding officer of the Senate, as well as the principal travelling spokesman for your Administration. He, too, could help immeasurably in forging the new majority, and in unifying the national Republican Party.

Mr. President, I offer these suggestions in the spirit in which you requested them -- that of achieving national unity behind our Republican Administration so that America can proceed with diligence and compromise, and without divisiveness, in meeting the great challenges that face us.

I have stated my suggestions in the order of my own preference. Stated another way, I think you could make no finer choice for Vice President than Nelson A. Rockefeller. If, for some reason, you feel differently about his nomination, both Elliot Richardson and Chuck Percy would approach the caliber of the Vice Presidential nomination Richard Nixon made when he nominated you.

Again, I offer my congratulations on your handling of the world's most awesome office, and my pledge of cooperation and help whenever I am called upon to assist.

With warmest personal regards,

Sincerely,



Frank Horton

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Frank Horton  
M.C.

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Personal

ROBERT J. HUBER  
18TH DISTRICT, MICHIGAN

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SUBCOMMITTEES:  
SPECIAL EDUCATION  
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August 13, 1974

Hon. John J. Rhodes  
OFFICE OF THE MINORITY LEADER  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear John:

Per your request, I definitely want to go on record on the recommendation for the Vice Presidency. It seems to me that there are three criteria for that position.

1. The man should not be seeking higher office. He should be an interim appointment to enable the National Convention to make a decision in 1976 for a full four-year term, whomever it might be.
2. The man should have experience in the Senate of the United States. President Ford's years in the House give him the rapport with our body and if his Vice President had the same experience and rapport with the Senate, we would have an excellent team in the White House.
3. The man must have national exposure and acceptance. This would convince many thinking Americans that they have in the Vice President somebody with whom they are well acquainted.
4. The man must be a Republican.

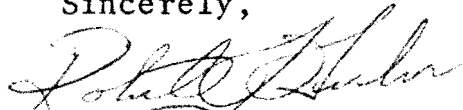
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August 13, 1974  
Hon. John Rhodes

In my opinion, there is only one man who meets these qualifications -- Senator Barry Goldwater! I cannot find a second or third choice even close, so will make none.

I would, however, add that Elliot Richardson and Governor Rockefeller and other liberal thinkers would be completely unacceptable to me as candidates for the Vice Presidency. The mandate of the people in 1972 was for a return to conservative thinking and the repudiation of liberal philosophy exemplified by McGovern. To put a liberal in office would be to violate the thrust of the 1972 election.

Sincerely,



ROBERT J. HUBER  
Member of Congress

RJH:11



Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

Washington, D.C. 20515

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS



M.C.

THE PRESIDENT  
The White House  
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WILLIAM H. HUDNUT III  
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**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

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August 13, 1974

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

With reference to John Rhodes' communication of August 12 requesting suggestions for the Office of Vice President, which he will communicate to you, I am pleased to submit two names:

Dr. Otis R. Bowen, Governor of the State of  
Indiana

With the Republican Party's emphasis on reversing the flow of power to Washington and establishing a new federalism, it seems to me that you might want to consider a Governor for your Vice President. If you do, I can think of none better than Dr. Bowen.

A medical doctor by profession, he has had some two decades of experience as a state legislator and Speaker of the House in Indiana, and was elected in 1972 by a strong margin as a popular Governor. He has the familiarity with the political process and appreciation for the two party system that we need in the executive wing of government today; and as a man experienced with both the legislative and executive branches of government, he could effectively bridge the two ends of Pennsylvania Avenue.

Furthermore, he is a real leader of men, courageous in the pursuit of his goals, diligent in the shouldering of his heavy responsibilities, calm in his approach to solving difficult problems, and dedicated in his service to people.

Also, he has an irenic and reconciling spirit, which our distraught country needs today. He speaks straight, he is an honorable man of unquestionable integrity, he listens well, he is sensitive to others, open, honest and absolutely sincere.

George Bush, Republican National Committee  
Chairman

For five reasons, I think Mr. Bush ought to be considered: 1) he has had a lot of experience with the legislative process and knows what politics as a profession is all about, and would therefore undoubtedly not be prone to make some of the mistakes that many amateurs brought in at high levels of government might make; 2) with his ambassadorship at the United Nations, he has had considerable experience in foreign affairs and would lend good balance to your greater experience with domestic affairs; 3) coming from Texas he would lend good geographical balance to your Administration; 4) as the Chairman of the Republican National Committee, he undoubtedly has great respect and appreciation for the importance of the two party system in America and a loyalty to party above self that is admirable; and 5) finally, he is an exceptionally fine, clean and articulate man who presents himself well and would be great at speaking around the country.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to suggest these two exceptionally well qualified individuals, neither of whom has the liabilities that some of the more prominent potential nominees have of age and identification with one wing or the other of our Party.

Sincerely yours,



WILLIAM H. HUDNUT III  
Member of Congress

WHH:nhs

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

William H. Hudnut III  
M.C.

The President

The White House

Washington, D.C.

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

*William H. Hudnut III*  
M.C.

Honorable John J. Rhodes

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