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*Bob Orben*

September 13, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR: JACK HUSHEN  
FROM: JOHN G. CARLSON  
SUBJECT: ROBERT ORBEN

What does Bob Orben do for the President? Is he the President's White House humorist?

GUIDANCE: Mr. Orben joined the White House Staff 3-1/2 weeks ago (August 22) as a Consultant to the President on Speech Matters. He is involved in writing serious speeches for the President and advising the President on speech presentation.

Isn't Bob Orben principally a humorist writer?

GUIDANCE: It is my understanding that Mr. Orben has a background of being a humor writer, and does add some input in this area, but that is not his prime area of responsibility. He does get involved in the whole area of writing serious speeches.

How did the President come in contact with Mr. Orben?

GUIDANCE: The President and Mr. Orben have worked together for over six years. Mr. Orben did some work when President Ford was in Congress; he also worked on and off with Mr. Ford when he was Vice President, and of course, now is a Consultant to the President.

Did Mr. Orben have a great deal to do with the President's speech in Pinehurst?

GUIDANCE: It is my understanding that the words in the speech were those of the President though Mr. Orben was involved in tightening up some of the words.

I would just reiterate that Mr. Orben is involved in the whole area of writing serious speeches and his prime responsibility is not that of a humorist.