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DES MOINES, IOWA 50309

ALLAN A. HERRICK
HERSCHEL G. LANGDON
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ROBERT H. HELMICK
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EDGAR H. BITTLE
FREDERICK C. BLACKLEDGE
CURT L. SYTSMA
DAVID L. CLAYPOOL

June 1, 1976

AREA CODE 515
TELEPHONE
244-1116

DWIGHT BROOKE
COUNSEL
LAWRENCE E. POPE
COUNSEL

Mr. Ron Nessen
Press Secretary
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Re: Face the Nation - June 6 - President Ford

Dear Ron:

On May 30, Vice President Rockefeller in an appearance before Face the Nation was questioned about reopening the Warren Commission investigation. On that program, specific reference was made to my having called for a reopening of the Warren Commission investigation in my appearance on Face the Nation last November. However, the questioners neglected to state why I was calling for a reopening of the investigation.

It is very possible that the President could be questioned on this in his June 6 appearance on Face the Nation, particularly since he was a member of the Warren Commission. Therefore, I am enclosing a copy of my formal statement last November on the twelfth anniversary of the assassination together with a copy of the news story appearing in the Washington Star, in the event the President wants to have the material available in connection with any preparation for his June 6 appearance on Face the Nation.

Best regards.

Sincerely,



David W. Belin

DWB:cs

Encl.

c.c. Phil Buchen

STATEMENT OF DAVID W. BELIN

For Release at 3 p.m. E.S.T. on November 22, 1975

Today, on the twelfth anniversary of the tragic assassination of President Kennedy, I am making my first formal statement concerning my service with the Warren Commission as one of the two Warren Commission counsel who concentrated in what was known as Area II, the determination of who killed President John F. Kennedy and who killed Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit on November 22, 1963.

My statement is being made as a concerned independent citizen from Iowa. It is not in any manner a part of my recently completed service as Executive Director of the Commission on CIA Activities Within the United States (Rockefeller Commission).

This statement covers three main points:

A. I have filed Freedom of Information Act requests to both the CIA and the National Archives that they release all information and material in their possession pertaining to the assassination of President Kennedy, including the autopsy photographs and X-rays.

B. I am, with this statement, requesting that Congress should reopen the Warren Commission investigation even though

I am confident that a thorough, independent investigation will reach exactly the same conclusion reached by the Warren Commission that beyond a reasonable doubt Lee Harvey Oswald killed both President Kennedy and Officer Tippit. The primary reason for this request is that I believe it would greatly contribute toward a rebirth of confidence and trust in government and, in addition, I am enumerating in this statement several other reasons which I hope will also be included in any press reports of this statement.

C. I am, with this statement, requesting that the National News Council or some other appropriate forum of the media for self-examination undertake an in-depth study of their own to determine the adequacy of the media's continuing coverage of the assassination of President Kennedy. The exposure of Watergate showed what a vital free press can accomplish when there is in-depth, careful investigation of the overall record. The widespread disbelief in the conclusions of the Warren Commission that Oswald killed President Kennedy and Officer Tippit shows what sensationalism and misrepresentation can accomplish in spite of a free press, where there is insufficient general knowledge about the record as a whole.

Therefore, I urge the following four steps be undertaken:

1. The CIA should promptly release to the public all information it has concerning the assassination of President Kennedy, including all information about Lee Harvey Oswald. I have filed a Freedom of Information Act request asking that this information be released. I am attaching a copy of this request with this formal statement.

Although I understand the concern of the CIA that a release of all of the documents which it made available to the Warren Commission might disclose sources and methods which the CIA believes might not be in the national interest to disclose, I believe that there is a greater overall national interest in full disclosure of all material that the CIA made available to the Warren Commission.

Ultimately, the strength of our country rests on the trust and confidence that American citizens have in their government. In the aftermath of Vietnam and Watergate, this confidence is relatively low. I believe that a starting point for a rebirth of confidence could be a complete disclosure of the facts involving one of the major tragedies of American history...a disclosure which would confirm the conclusions of the Warren Commission that Oswald killed both President Kennedy and Officer Tippit.

2. The National Archives should promptly release to the public all information and material it has concerning the assassination of President Kennedy. This includes all of the evidence that was in the possession of the Warren Commission. I have filed a Freedom of Information Act request that this material be released. A copy of this request is attached to this formal statement.

Included in the Archives material are the autopsy photographs and X-rays of President Kennedy, which in the beginning were government property until they were turned over to the Kennedy family. Chief Justice Earl Warren yielded to the desires of the Kennedy family that these horrifying photographs and X-rays not be brought before the Warren Commission and released to the public. The decision by the Warren Commission to yield to the desires of the Kennedy family for privacy was perhaps the worst mistake made by the Commission.

I strongly objected to that decision in 1964. Subsequently, I wrote the Kennedy family and requested that such information be released and asked that the personal family desires of the Kennedy family for privacy yield to the public right to know. The Kennedy family, through their representative, Burke Marshall, turned down my request.

In my book, "November 22, 1963: You Are the Jury," which was published on the tenth anniversary of the assassination

(and from which I have donated all royalties to charity), I once again called for the release of these documents.

In the opinion of every doctor who has examined these photographs and X-rays, there is no medical evidence to show any shots striking the President from the front or the side--in diametric contrast to the charges of most of the Warren Commission critics that there was a second gunman firing at President Kennedy and Governor Connally from the front or side. (Governor Connally's physicians all agreed that he was struck from the rear.)

3. Upon the release of this information, Congress should promptly reopen the Warren Commission investigation, even though some of the witnesses are no long living and even though the recollections of available witnesses twelve years after the event will generally not be as accurate as they were in 1964.

I am confident that a thorough, objective, independent investigation will reach exactly the same conclusion that was reached in 1964 by the members of the Warren Commission (one of whom was President Ford) and by all of the independent counsel serving with the Warren Commission (one of whom was I), that beyond a reasonable doubt, Lee Harvey Oswald killed both President Kennedy and Officer Tippit. Nevertheless, I ask for this reopening for the following five reasons: (1) First and foremost, I believe it would greatly contribute toward a

rebirth of confidence and trust in government. (2) The CIA, the FBI and Robert Kennedy in his capacity as Attorney General of the United States failed to disclose to the Warren Commission evidence concerning plots to assassinate Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. (3) The FBI failed to disclose to the Warren Commission evidence of threats made to the FBI by Lee Harvey Oswald several days before the assassination. (4) Since many of the most extreme and vocal assassination critics have deliberately misrepresented the overall record of evidence before the Warren Commission, the work of the Warren Commission should be examined now rather than waiting for a distant verdict of history. (5) The reopening of the Warren Commission investigation will vividly illustrate the process by which the American public at times can be misled by sensationalism, demagoguery, and deliberate misrepresentation of the overall record--techniques that could be used again in the future to mislead the American public on issues of the greatest national and international importance. It is in this frame of reference--and I hope that any press report will include this frame of reference--that I have urged that the Warren Commission investigation be reopened.

Congress should have complete discretion concerning the conduct of any additional investigation. However, in light of the great national interest on this subject, I would suggest that Congress first determine who fired the shots at President Kennedy and at Officer Tippit and then look into the question as to whether or not there was any conspiracy. I would suggest that Congress consider a logical stage by stage approach, such as the following:

a. The murder of Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit on November 22, 1963, should be first examined because it can be disposed of very quickly. Oswald's guilt is an open and shut case. He was apprehended with the murder weapon in hand. A private citizen working in the Oak Cliff section of Dallas where the Tippit murder occurred became suspicious of Oswald's actions when he saw Oswald duck into a shoe store as police sirens came down the street. The citizen, Johnny Calvin Brewer, trailed Oswald into the nearby Texas Theatre, had the cashier call the police, and pointed out Oswald to the police when they entered the theatre. As police approached Oswald, he pulled out his revolver--hardly the act of an innocent man. This revolver ballistically was determined to be the Tippit murder weapon, to the exclusion

of all other weapons in the world. Moreover, six eye witnesses who saw the gunman at or leaving the scene of the Tippit murder with gun in hand positively identified the gunman as Lee Harvey Oswald.

b. The autopsy material including the photographs and X-rays should be examined by yet another independent panel of experts to determine from a medical standpoint whether or not there is any evidence that shots struck President Kennedy from the front or right side, as most of the Warren Commission critics have alleged. More than a dozen doctors have examined these materials, including the three physicians performing the autopsy, the four physicians constituting the panel selected by Attorney General Ramsey Clark upon the recommendations of three university presidents and the President of the College of American Pathologists, the five independent experts selected by Senior Counsel Robert B. Olsen of the Rockefeller Commission, and at least three other physicians. Each of these doctors has stated that there is no medical evidence of shots striking the President from any direction other than the rear.

c. All of the other evidence pertaining to who fired the shots that struck Governor Connally and President Kennedy should be examined. The overall record will show that beyond a reasonable doubt Lee Harvey Oswald was the lone gunman.

d. The next question to examine is whether or not Jack Ruby was in any way conspiratorially involved in the assassination of President Kennedy. The overall record will show that Ruby was not conspiratorially involved and will confirm the results of his polygraph examination and the conclusions of the Warren Commission.

e. After determining who fired the shots that killed President Kennedy and Officer Tippit, the investigation should determine whether or not there is credible evidence of possible domestic conspiracy. The Warren Commission found no credible evidence that there was any domestic conspiracy.

f. The investigation should then turn to whether or not there is any credible evidence of any foreign conspiracy. The Warren Commission found none--but the Warren Commission did not have any information concerning CIA assassination plans directed against Fidel Castro and possible ramifications of such plans.

However, I want to state specifically that I do not know of any direct evidence that proves the existence of any foreign (or domestic) conspiracy.

Furthermore, it is not very likely that a reopening of the Warren Commission investigation by Congress twelve years after the assassination would disclose the existence of any foreign conspiracy. But there may be some additional light shed on what motivated Oswald to kill President Kennedy.

g. In addition, the Congressional investigation should specifically review all evidence in the possession of the CIA or FBI at the time of the Warren Commission investigation that was not turned over to the Warren Commission. Although none of that evidence that has come to light since 1964 in any way disproves the determination by the Warren Commission that Lee Harvey Oswald killed both President Kennedy and Officer Tippit, to the extent that the CIA and the FBI failed to disclose all relevant evidence to the Warren Commission, there was an inexcusable dereliction of duty on the part of these governmental agencies.

This, in turn, has contributed to the ability of irresponsible Warren Commission critics to deceive millions of Americans through techniques of distortion and misrepresentation of the overall record into believing erroneously that Lee Harvey Oswald did not kill President Kennedy and Officer Tippit on November 22, 1963.

Congress should specifically investigate why this dereliction of duty on the part of both the CIA and the FBI occurred, and, more importantly, how it can be best prevented from happening in the future.

h. Congress should also investigate whether there is any additional material in the hands of the FBI or any other government bureau, department or agency which directly or indirectly involves the assassination of President Kennedy which was not turned over to the Warren Commission. (There may be material which did not come to light until after the submission of the Warren Commission Report on September 24, 1964.)

4. Concurrently with the Congressional investigation, there should be a study undertaken by the National News Council or some other appropriate forum for self-examination by the media to determine the adequacy of the media's continuing coverage of the assassination of President Kennedy in the light of the rebirth of national interest in this area. I have tremendous confidence in the overall ability of the press. At the same time, I have tremendous concern about the fact that the mass media have been exploited to mislead a large segment of the American public into falsely believing that Oswald did not kill President Kennedy and Officer Tippit.

Granted, there is an ever-present problem in the rush to report the news of the day where wide publicity is given to people who make sensational charges. However, in some cases, such as the Warren Commission investigation, most of these charges can be readily disproved by a thorough, objective study and investigation of voluminous materials already available. To the extent that the media fail to do this, they fail in their overall responsibilities to report all of the facts.

In the Epilogue to my book, "November 22, 1963: You Are the Jury," I wrote:

"We live in a great republic, a nation where it is possible for an independent citizen to become a part of a special commission investigating the assassination of a head of state, a country where a citizen can freely write a book criticizing the chief judicial officer, the highest law enforcement agency, and the head of state.

"To maintain such freedom is not an easy task. It requires an informed citizenry, and the information upon which the people rely cannot merely be a mile wide and an inch deep. We must have depth of understanding....

"Mass-media techniques, spoon-fed sensationalism, and demagoguery are all the enemies of a free society.

"These enemies cannot exist in an environment where the constant quest for accurate information on issues and answers is at least as important as the quest for personal luxury and entertainment. We must be aware of the facts, for our ultimate judgments will be no better than the accuracy of the information on which they are based."

For all of the reasons I have enumerated, I have made the Freedom of Information Act requests to both the CIA and the National Archives that I have announced today, and I am making today a public request that Congress should reopen the Warren Commission investigation at this time.

I am confident that a reopening of this investigation will confirm what the Warren Commission found beyond a reasonable doubt: Lee Harvey Oswald was the gunman who killed both President John F. Kennedy and Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit on that tragic afternoon in Texas on November 22, 1963.

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EDGAR H. BITTLE
FREDERICK C. BLACKLEDGE
CURT L. SYTSMAN
DAVID L. CLAYPOOL

September 6, 1975

AREA CODE 515
TELEPHONE
244-1116

DWIGHT BROOKE
COUNSEL
LAWRENCE E. POPE
COUNSEL

Mr. William Colby, Director
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C.

RE: CIA - Warren Commission Investigation

Dear Mr. Colby:

More than ten years has passed since the completion of the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy by the Warren Commission. Having been intimately involved in this investigation as one of the two Warren Commission counsel concentrating in what we called Area II--the determination of who was the assassin of President Kennedy--I know that beyond a reasonable doubt Lee Harvey Oswald killed both President John F. Kennedy and Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit on November 22, 1963.

However, as you know, there have been many false allegations about alleged CIA involvement in the assassination of President Kennedy as well as many other false allegations concerning this national tragedy. Since the completion of the Warren Commission investigation in 1964, the CIA has released a number of documents which at one time were classified. Nevertheless, a substantial number of documents have not been released.

Although I understand the concern of the CIA that a release of all of the documents which it made available to the Warren Commission might disclose sources and methods which the CIA believes might not at one time have been in the national interest to disclose, I believe that there is a greater overall national interest in full disclosure of all material that the CIA made available to the Warren Commission.

Mr. William Colby

-2-

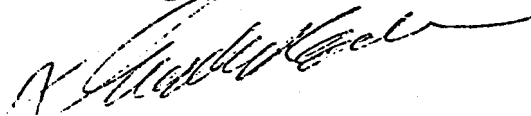
September 6, 1975

Ultimately, the strength of our country rests on the confidence that American citizens have in their government. In the aftermath of Vietnam and Watergate, this confidence is relatively low. I would respectfully suggest that a starting point for a rebirth of confidence could be complete disclosure of the facts involving one of the major tragedies of American history...a disclosure which would put to rest many of the false claims by the assassination sensationalists and would also let the American people know the kind of assistance and cooperation that the CIA gave the Warren Commission.

Therefore, I would like to formally request under the Freedom of Information Act and regulations issued thereunder that you make available to me as an independent citizen from Iowa all material and documents which the CIA had in its possession at the time of the Warren Commission investigation which in any manner whatsoever relate to the assassination of President Kennedy and the investigation of that assassination by the Warren Commission.

Would you please advise me of the cost of obtaining access to these documents under your regulations, and I will promptly transmit my check for that amount to the Central Intelligence Agency.

Sincerely yours,



David W. Belin

DWB:cs

LAW OFFICES
HERRICK, LANGDON, BELIN, HARRIS, LANGDON & HELMICK

2000 FINANCIAL CENTER
SEVENTH AND WALNUT
DES MOINES, IOWA 50309

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JEFFREY E. LAMSON
EDGAR H. BITTLE
FREDERICK C. BLACKLEDGE
CURT L. SYTSMAN
DAVID L. CLAYPOOL

October 13, 1975

AREA CODE 515
TELEPHONE
244-1116
DWIGHT BROOKE
COUNSEL
LAWRENCE E. POPE
COUNSEL

Mr. Arthur F. Samson
Administrator of General Services
G.S.A.
18th and F Street N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20405

RE: Warren Commission Documents - Archives

Dear Mr. Samson:

More than ten years has passed since the completion of the investigation of the assassination of President Kennedy by the Warren Commission. Having been intimately involved in this investigation as one of the two Warren Commission counsel concentrating in what we called Area II--the determination of who was the assassin of President Kennedy--I know that beyond a reasonable doubt Lee Harvey Oswald killed both President John F. Kennedy and Dallas Police Officer J. D. Tippit on November 22, 1963.

However, the majority of American people has fallen victim to assassination sensationalists who have misled millions of Americans into believing that Oswald was not the murderer of both President Kennedy and Officer Tippit. Part of the reason for the success of these Pied Pipers of sensationalism is that a substantial number of documents which were involved in the Warren Commission investigation have not yet been released.

Ultimately, the strength of our country rests on the confidence that American citizens have in their government. In the aftermath of Vietnam and Watergate, this confidence is relatively low. I would respectfully suggest that a starting point for a rebirth of confidence could be complete disclosure of the facts involving one of the major tragedies of American history...a disclosure which would put to rest many of the false claims by the assassination sensationalists and would also let the American people have before it the entire record.

Mr. Arthur F. Samson

-2-

October 13, 1975

Therefore, I would like to formally request under the Freedom of Information Act and regulations issued thereunder that you make available to me as an independent citizen from Iowa all material and documents which are located in the National Archives which in any manner whatsoever relate to the assassination of President Kennedy and the investigation of that assassination by the Warren Commission.

Would you please advise me of the cost of obtaining access to these documents, and I will promptly transmit my check for that amount to the General Services Administration.

Sincerely yours,



David W. Belin

DWB:cs

c.c. James B. Rhoads

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The Washington Star

**SUNDAY
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WASHINGTON, D.C., SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1975

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Warren Commission Aide Asks New Probe

EXCESSIVE CAMPAIGNING

- Q. As President, you seem to have been one of the most active campaigners, at least in primary elections, in American history. Why haven't you spent more time being President?
- A. Well, first I think your question reflects a basic misunderstanding of the American political system - and its importance. But first let me put the time I have spent campaigning in perspective.

From January 1 to June 1, I have made 19 trips around the country. Those trips required 37 days. More than half of those days (19) were weekends (Saturdays or Sundays). Thus most of my campaigning has been done on weekends. While in Washington, with the exception of one golf game and one trip to Camp David, I have been in the office, working, every day since January first. Of the last 150 days, 110 have been full office days. This means that despite the travel, my work week at the White House averages more than five days.

Now let me explain why I have spent most of my weekends campaigning, and why, in fact, I am the only candidate who has entered all 30 state primaries. I have a deep and abiding faith in the American political system. There are still only a relatively small number of nations in which the people can choose their leaders. I want the American people to make an intelligent choice this year, to decide on the basis of my record and my philosophy whether I or someone else should be their next President.

POLITICS

May 6, 1976

SUBJECT: WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX FOR APRIL

The wholesale price index increased by .8% for the month of April, the largest increase in the WPI in six months. The primary factors in the increase were the increased prices for farm products and processed foods.

GUIDANCE: The .8% increase is largely attributable to sharp increases in farm products and processed foods. Industrial price increases were moderate. Data on farm products and processed foods subsequent to the pricing deadline for the April index indicate no continuation of the rise.

The April figures in themselves are not a particular cause for concern. As we had indicated earlier, it was unrealistic to expect the exceptional price data of the last few months to continue. Early expectations of the May figures are for an improvement.

For further questions, ask the technicians.

YOUR RECORD

Q. You have said that you are running for President on your record as the incumbent. Yet you have not done very well against Ronald Reagan. What in your record do you think is hurting you?

A. I do not believe it is my record. During my administration I have brought peace, I have brought the country out of the worst recession since the 1930's, and I have restored trust in the office of the President.

Frankly, I think the problem is that in choosing to run on my record, I have to stick to the facts, and it is difficult to make facts exciting to many people. It is much easier, as an outsider, to campaign on rhetoric and distortions of the facts. That attracts a lot of people who haven't taken the time to look into the issues.

But I am confident that most people will realize that the record of my administration is an excellent one, and that I will get the nomination in Kansas City and win the general election in November.

UNCOMMITTED DELEGATES

- Q. What are you doing to win over the uncommitted delegates, personally or through personal emissaries?
- A. I have recently authorized the PFC to set up a separate delegate tracking operation under the able leadership of James A. Baker, ~~who until a month ago, was the~~ ~~Undersecretary of Commerce.~~ That group is working through a state and regional structure on a daily basis to provide me with an accurate status report on our delegate situation.

I expect to be talking personally with many of the uncommitted delegates during the next several weeks and expect that other Republican leaders will be speaking to the same uncommitteds on my behalf as well. I firmly believe that through personal contact those uncommitted delegates will have a chance to have their questions answered satisfactorily and positions explained fully, and that they, in the final analysis, will support my candidacy.

DELEGATE COUNT

Q. How do you assess your chances for a first ballot victory in Kansas City? Do you believe you can win if you do not get the nomination on the first ballot?

A. I think my chances are excellent to win on the first ballot.

And if I don't win on the first ballot. I am confident I will win on the second one.

[After today's primaries, we may want to give a delegate projection for this answer.]

VICE PRESIDENT - FBI CHECK

Q. You said in an interview last week that you would allow the FBI to check the background of the Democratic vice presidential nominee, if both the candidate and the Democratic Party requested such a check. Do you plan to have the FBI check the background of whomever you chose to be your running mate?

A. As you know, before I was confirmed as vice president by the House and Senate, I underwent an extensive investigation.

I certainly would have no objection to asking whoever I chose to be my running mate to go through a similar investigation.

BUCHANAN COLUMN

Q. Patrick Buchanan, in a column published yesterday, that you would be in deep trouble in November because the states in which you are winning convention delegates are the ones most likely to vote Democratic while the states you need to win the general election have voted for Ronald Reagan. Do you agree with that analysis?

A. No. I do not.

The primaries and the general election are not really comparable, because in most of the primaries only members of one party vote to chose their candidates.

In November, I expect to win the traditional Republican states, which Mr. Buchanan has given to Ronald Reagan. But I also expect to win many of the states in which I have done well in the primaries, which would not likely vote for former Governor Reagan.

As I have said before, I am not a regional candidate. I expect to do well enough throughout the entire United States to win the general election.

NELSON ROCKEFELLER

- Q. What role do you see for Nelson Rockefeller if you are elected in November?
- A. As you know, Vice President Rockefeller sent me a letter asking that he not be considered for the Vice Presidency again. But let me make it clear that I regard the Vice President as one of the finest public servants in our history, and whether he is in or out of government over the next four years, I will continue to call upon him for advice and counsel.

#

6/4/76
D.G.

INEPT STAFF

- Q. Your staff has been called one of the most inexperienced and inept in history. Does this criticism bother you, and why have you kept people who have served you so badly that you are in danger of not getting your own party's nomination for President?
- A. Those stories crop up occasionally, and they are meaningless.

I feel I have an excellent staff. They have served me well in the face of challenge that no other candidate has undertaken: entering the primaries in all 30 states that held primaries. More importantly, they have served the country well by helping me to carry out programs that are restoring the economic vitality of the Nation and rebuilding a sense of honesty and trust in the Presidency itself.

#

6/4/76
D.G.

SUMMIT CONFERENCES

Q. Why are you calling the Puerto Rican summit at this time? Isn't this just a political ploy to enhance your electoral chances?

A. The important issues the world faces do not go away because the United States is holding elections this year. The leaders of the industrialized democracies face a broad range of challenges in many areas. The Rambouillet Summit, held last fall in France, contributed to economic recovery in many nations, to monetary reform and to maintenance of a more open trading order.

In the past, world leaders have met frequently to deal with crises. Today's complex problems require that leaders meet to avoid them. This requires a continuing process of close consultation and cooperation. The United States cannot sit out of this process for 12 months simply because we have elections this year.

Rambouillet was an important step. I believe another summit of this type is necessary at this time. The leaders with whom I have been in contact agree.

The issues we will address are too important to the people of the United States and our economy is too important to the rest of the world for me not to act. As President, I would not be living up

to my responsibilities to the American people and the United States would not be living up to its world leadership role if we failed to hold this summit now.

Finally, are you seriously suggesting that the leaders of Britain, France, Germany, Italy, Japan and Canada would come all the way to Puerto Rico to take part in a charade solely for my own political purposes? That' silly on the face of it.

VICE PRESIDENT - FBI CHECK

- Q. You said in an interview last week that you would allow the FBI to check the background of the Democratic vice presidential nominee, if both the candidate and the Democratic Party requested such a check. Do you plan to have the FBI check the background of whomever you chose to be your running mate?
- A. As you know, before I was confirmed as vice president by the House and Senate, I underwent an extensive investigation.

I certainly would have no objection to asking whoever I chose to be my running mate to go through a similar investigation.

VICE PRESIDENT

- Q. You have mentioned the names of many people as possible Vice Presidential candidates. But what specific qualities will you look for in a running mate?
- A. The first and foremost quality I will look for in a Vice Presidential running mate will be the ability to step in and take over as the President, should that need arise. On the basis of intelligence and experience, my running mate must be fully qualified to become President.

Secondly, I'd be less than frank if I didn't say that I also will consider my running mate's assets to help me win the November election.

WAYNE HAYS

Q. Do you have any comment on the Wayne Hays scandal?

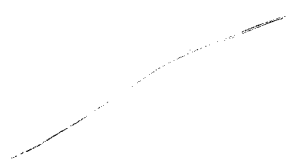
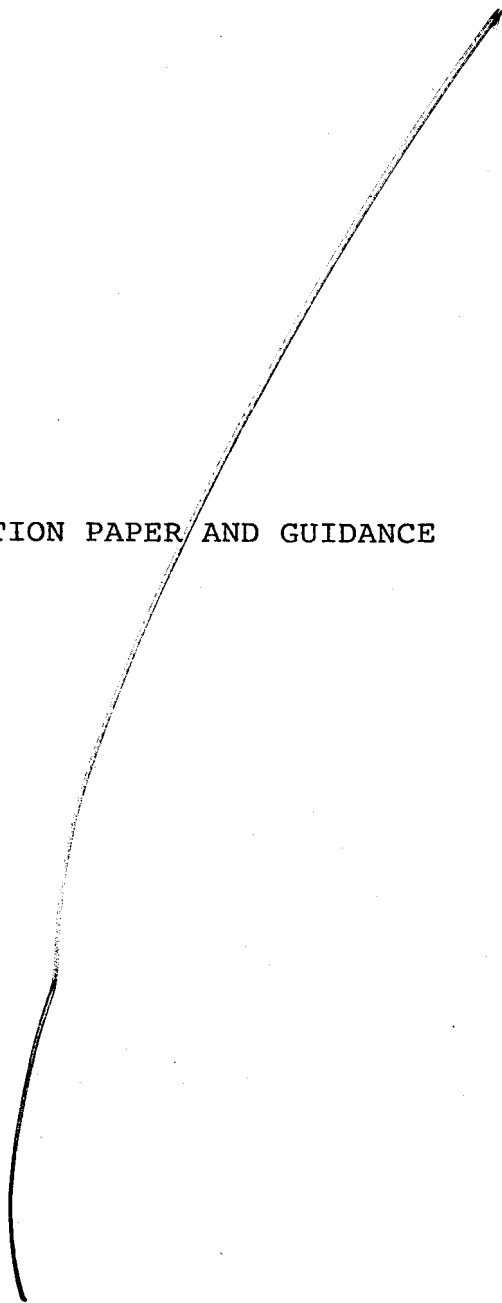
A. That really is a matter for the House of Representatives and the Justice Department. I should not comment while those investigations are going on.

I issued guidelines for ethical conduct for members of the executive branch shortly after I took office. I have done my best to see that those guidelines have been followed.

Q. But wasn't your personal photographer, David Hume Kennerly, one of those involved with Elizabeth Ray?

A. I understand he had one date with her. David is a bachelor. What he does in his own time, as long as it doesn't interfere with his official duties, is his own business.

POSITION PAPER AND GUIDANCE



FACE THE NATION

Some points to keep in mind:

Historical Position:

After the turmoil of the 1960's, after Vietnam, after Watergate, after inflation and recession, most of the American people want a steady and safe President. Although the Carter, Brown, Reagan types may attract attention and primary votes, when it comes down to the lever in the voting booth, people most likely will vote for the man they feel most comfortable with. This does not necessarily mean a do-nothing President. People also want a man who can redress some of the balance of power that has shifted so frighteningly -- to many -- toward Washington. But they do not want too radical a President who will sell off TVA, or shut off Social Security, or let conditions in cities, in foreign policy, in energy, or in a myriad of other fields deteriorate.

Posture:

In view of this feeling, you should subtly emphasize the personal qualities you so strongly represent, which fit into this national mood: steadfastness, trustworthiness, belief in traditional values (with an important appreciation of the positive new values, such as women's rights), your strength (not bowing to Congressional foolishness but willing to work with a sensible Congress, and so forth), and your expertise in government -- BUT -- and here you can play on the anti-Washington feeling by noting that it is a unique expertise, because you have been the outsider in the growth of government, the sensible, moderate Republican conservative who saw for years that most of the liberal programs now in such disrepute would not work, and who tried to block or modify those that were least sensible.

At the same time, you should also display compassion for the unemployed and the less fortunate and show that your

Humor

compassion is combined with a realistic sense of how to help people, that the very real limits of government do not mean that problems cannot be solved. Those limits mean only that we must find new ways of solving problems; in fact we must now seek new ways of understanding problems so that we can devise workable solutions.

In attacking Big Government, you ought not to attack, in a way that seems to damn the personal motivations or character of "the bureaucrats."

Even the most slothful federal employee probably likes to think of himself as dedicated, hard-working and underpaid. A better approach than attacking the "bureaucrats" would be to attack the Congress which has asked them to administer programs which are ineffective, intrusive, and expensive, and which often force -- by their sheer complexity and arbitrariness -- decent people to act in a reprehensible manner.

Issues:

The main issue we want to emphasize, it seems to me, is your theme of "Peace, Prosperity, and Trust." *Evidence.*

But this is a broad area. You may be asked about specific programmatic plans. In reply, you can answer that much of what you stand for has been shown by the programs you have supported -- and list the major ones -- and that if elected you will continue that type of sensible administration, while at the same time seeking to develop new solutions to the major problems confronting us. (In other words, be specific enough to indicate you are a man who has had to deal with and is comfortable with facing the issues, but not so specific about new programs that your opponents can use them against you.)

SUBJECT:

GAO HOLD ON MEDICAID PAYMENTS

The post this morning carried the story that the GAO was preventing HEW from making payments to 15 states that did not meet the legal requirement of submitting quarterly reports documenting that the Medicaid recipients were receiving "quality care." Because of this non-compliance in the first quarter of 1976, GAO feels that the payments are being made "illegally" to the States.

What is the White House reaction to this ? What happens to the States now?

Background:

~~It is my understanding that~~ Under the Medicaid law, the States are obligated to make a quarterly study of the quality of ~~services in hospitals~~ hospital and long-term care. Apparently these 15 states did not ~~submit~~ submit reports for the first quarter, but HEW expects all the States to comply by the end of the second quarter. ~~HEW has been~~ There-

Therefore, GAO may have no real cause to withhold payments.

~~It is important to note in this case that~~ HEW has been working very closely with all the States to help them out, and ~~in this case~~ HEW ~~is~~ feels the States have been very cooperative and responsive. Because HEW is in the process of upgrading its reporting requirements, some of the States, I am told, were withholding their ~~reports~~ reports to await completion of that process.

The major concern of the White House and HEW, however, is that the Medicaid patients do not suffer

Secretary Mathews has expressed his concern that *GAO's action* withholding these payments ~~will~~ ^{would} only cause those who ~~are~~ ~~receiving~~ the Medicaid patients, and not the States, to suffer, and the President is concerned that this not happen.

June 2, 1976

SUBJECT: FEA AUTHORIZATION

Yesterday the House passed an extension of FEA for 15 months, until the end of 1977. We had recommended that they extend it for another 39 months. The bill cut some funds for specific FEA activities, and several floor amendments were added regarding FEA's regulatory powers.

What is the Administration's reaction to the House-passed bill?

We are disappointed that the House did not pass the 39-month extension that we had recommended. Also, some of the amendments raised on the floor regarding FEA's regulatory authority appear to be troublesome, but we have not yet had time to do a thorough analysis of all of them.

IDAHO DAM DISASTER

- Q: The dam that burst on the Teton River in Idaho last Saturday was built by the Federal Government. What is the Administration doing about aiding the victims of the resultant flood?
- A: President Ford declared the affected area to be eligible for Federal disaster assistance on Sunday, June 6, 1976. High level officials* from the Federal Disaster Assistance Administration, the Department of Interior and the Department of Agriculture have been sent to direct relief efforts to affected communities and individuals, examine ways of preventing additional damage, especially to nearby agricultural areas, and to discover the cause of the collapse of the dam.

President Ford has received periodic updates on the disaster relief efforts. Yesterday (June 8), he was briefed by Secretary Thomas Kleppe and Federal Disaster Assistance Administration Thomas Dunne. He has also directed the Administration to examine the need for additional Federal assistance for the areas injured by the flood.

BACKGROUND

The damage estimates are not complete and are likely to rise. The most recent damage estimate is as follows:

5 deaths (2 deaths attributed to heart attacks)
1,277 injured, treated and released
9 hospitalized, 2 in serious condition
50 people unaccounted for, changes hourly
1,114 homes destroyed
32,025 homes with major damage
2,025 homes with minor damage
180 mobile homes destroyed
47 mobile homes damaged
416 small businesses damaged
\$50 million of property damage (buildings, utilities, sewage, roads, bridges, recreation areas, etc.)

- ** William Crockett, Deputy Administrator FDAA
John Knebel, Undersecretary, USDA
John Horton, Assistant Secretary, Interior, Land and Water Resources
Gilbert Stamm, Commission of Bureau of Reclamation, Interior

PRESIDENT FORD'S

1974 EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS/TURNDOWNS/SBA LOANSAugust

9	Wisconsin (Denial)	8/15
9	New York (Denial)	8/15
9	Vermont (SBA)	8/13
19	Tennessee (Denial)	8/21
20	Florida (Reconsideration denied)	8/22
20	Illinois (Denial)	8/22
23	Michigan (Denial)	8/27
23	Iowa (SBA)	8/23
23	Pennsylvania (SBA)	8/23
27	Puerto Rico (Declaration)	8/29
27	California (SBA)	8/27

September

5	Kansas (SBA)	9/6
6	Pennsylvania (SBA)	9/9
9	Arizona (SBA)	9/10
13	Alaska (Declaration)	9/14
20	Louisiana (Declaration)	9/23
28	American Samoa (Economic declaration)	9/30

October

1	Pennsylvania (SBA)	10/1
1	Colorado (SBA)	10/1
3	New York (Denial, SBA OK)	10/7
8	Maine (Denial, SBA OK)	
23	Texas (Denial)	10/25

November

1	Louisiana (Declaration)	11/1
2	New York (Declaration)	11/2
7	New Mexico (Denial)	11/8
7	New York (SBA)	11/7
8	Washington (Denial)	11/11
11	Montana (SBA - Butte)	11/11
11	Montana (SBA ÷ Sheridan)	11/11
12	Virgin Islands (Declaration)	11/14
13	Alaska (Declaration)	11/14
22	Maine (Denial of reconsideration)	11/25
22	Oklahoma (Declaration)	11/25
29	Texas (Declaration)	11/30
29	Puerto Rico (Declaration)	11/30

December

18	New Jersey (SBA)	12/18
18	Maryland (SBA)	12/18
20	New Jersey (Declaration)	12/24

Note:

SBA notations indicate that the recommendation from FDAA was concurred in, not necessarily that the action was

1975 EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS/TURNDOWNS

			<u>Date signed</u>
<u>January</u>			
7	Massachusetts (SBA)	* TRH concur	1/7
10	Pennsylvania (SBA)	TRH concur	1/10
10	Virginia (SBA)	TRH concur	1/10
17	Mississippi (TD for major; OK for emergency)		1/18
17	Alabama (TD for major; OK for emergency)		1/18
23	Georgia (SBA)	TRH concur	1/23
29	Mississippi (Declaration)		1/30
30	Rhode Island (SBA)	TRH concur	1/31
<u>February</u>			
13	Texas (Declaration)		2/15
19	Florida (SBA)	TRH concur	2/19
26	Alabama (Denial of reconsideration)		
26	Georgia (Denial; SBA OK)		
<u>March</u>			
4	Arkansas (SBA)	TRH concur	3/4
10	New York (SBA)	TRH concur	3/10
10	Oklahoma (TD; SBA OK)		3/13
14	Alabama (Declaration)		3/14
14	Georgia (Emergency declaration)		3/14
18	Kentucky (Emergency Declaration)		3/19
20	Rhode Island (SBA)	TRH concur	3/20
21	Tennessee (Declaration)		3/22
25	Massachusetts (SBA)	TRH concur	3/25
27	Kentucky (Declaration)		3/29
28	Georgia (Declaration)		3/29
28	Arkansas (SBA)	TRH concur	3/28
31	Texas (Declaration)		4/1
31	Arkansas (Declaration)		4/1
<u>April</u>			
1	Ohio (SBA)	TRH concur	4/1
2	North Carolina (SBA)	TRH concur	4/2
3	Mississippi (Emergency Declaration)		4/4
8	Mississippi (SBA)	TRH concur	4/8
8	Massachusetts (SBA)	TRH concur	4/8
9	Tennessee (amendment to 3/22 declaration)		4/9
10	Illinois (SBA)	TRH concur	4/10
11	Wisconsin (SBA)	TRH concur	4/11
11	Louisiana (Emergency declaration)		4/12
22	Alabama (Declaration)		4/23
25	Michigan (Declaration)		4/26
28	Tennessee (amendment to 3/22 declaration)		4/30

May

1	Arkansas (Denial)	5/2
2	Missouri (Declaration)	5/3
7	Nebraska (Declaration)	5/7
23	Kentucky (Declaration)	5/24
23	North Dakota (Declaration)	5/24

June

4	Louisiana (Declaration)	6/5
6	Arkansas (Declaration)	6/7
11	Virginia (Denial)	6/17
11	Wisconsin (Denial)	6/12
27	Montana (Declaration)	6/28

July

2	Minnesota (Declaration)	7/5
7	Oklahoma (Declaration)	7/9
10	North Dakota (Declaration)	7/11
15	Minnesota (Declaration)	7/17
16	Kansas (Denial)	7/18
17	Texas (Denial)	
22	New Jersey (Declaration)	7/23
25	Illinois (Declaration)	7/25
28	Wisconsin (Reaffirm 6/12 denial)	8/2
28	Louisiana (Denial)	8/2

August

21	Florida (Declaration)	8/21
27	New York (Denial)	8/29
27	North Dakota (Denial)	8/29

September

10	Ohio (Declaration)	9/11
11	West Virginia (Declaration)	9/12
12	Wisconsin (Declaration)	9/15
15	Texas (Denial)	9/16
17	Kansas (Reaffirm 7/16 denial)	9/17
18	Puerto Rico (Declaration)	9/19
25	Florida (Declaration)	9/25
26	Pennsylvania (Declaration)	9/26
29	Michigan (Declaration)	9/30
29	New Jersey (Denial)	9/30

October

1	Alabama (Declaration)	10/2
1	New York (Declaration)	10/2
3	Maryland (Declaration)	10/4

November

7	Virginia (Denial)	11/11
12	New York (Denial)	11/13

December

5	Hawaii (Declaration)	12/7
9	Oklahoma (Declaration)	12/10
12	Alabama (Denial)	12/12
12	Washington State (Declaration)	12/13
16	Alaska (Declaration)	12/18
18	Oklahoma (Denial)	12/19

NOTE:

SBA notations (TRH concur) indicate that the recommendation from FDAA was concurred in, not necessarily that the action was positive.

1976 EMERGENCY DISASTER DECLARATION/TURNDOWNS/SBA LOANS

Date Signed

January

--

February

25 Maine (Turndown) 2/26

March

17 New York (Declaration) 3/19
18 Michigan (Declaration) 3/19
23 Wisconsin (Declaration) 3/24
23 Illinois (Turndown; SBA OK) 3/23
24 Indiana (Turndown; SBA OK) 3/24
25 Michigan (amendment to 3/18 declaration) 3/26
31 Arkansas (Declaration) 4/1
31 Mississippi (Declaration) 4/1
31 Oklahoma (Declaration) 4/1

April

5 Alabama (Turndown; SBA OK) 4/6
5 Illinois (reconsideration/turndown 3/23 turndown) 4/6
7 Indiana (Turndown; SBA OK) 4/8
7 Nebraska (Declaration) 4/8
12 North Dakota (Emergency Declaration) 4/13
16 North Dakota (Declaration) 4/16
22 Trust Territory/Pacific Islands (Declaration) 4/22

May

21 Territory of Guam (Declaration) 5/22

June

4 Oklahoma (Declaration) 6/5
6 Idaho (Declaration) 6/6
7 Trust Territory (Truk)/Pacific Islands (Declaration) 6/9

Note:

SBA notations indicate that the recommendation from FDAA was concurred in, not necessarily that the action was positive.

ANTI-REDLINING BILL

Q: What was the anti-redlining bill that the President mentioned in his address to the Ethnic Conference yesterday?

A: The President signed into law on January 1, 1976, the Home Mortgage Disclosure Act, which among other things requires certain financial institutions to give public notice of the location and amount of their mortgage and home improvement loans. This information is to be broken down by zip code areas. The intent of this aspect of the legislation is to prevent by disclosure loan discrimination against minority and ethnic neighborhoods because of alleged poor investment potential (i.e., redlining).

Background

The Administration was lukewarm to this legislation because of the burden it places on financial institutions due to the fine line between discrimination and prudent investment practices. In his signing statement, the President strongly endorsed the anti-discrimination intent of the bill but expressed concern about its potential for adding additional costs and paperwork to the issuance of mortgages.

FLM
5/6/76

OHIO RUBBER INDUSTRY STRIKE

- Q. Mr. President, the Rubber Industry Strike is now over six weeks old. What is your Administration doing to bring about a contract settlement in the Rubber Industry?
- A. This is a situation to which we have been staying close. The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service has one of their top representatives and five mediators working to help find a solution to the impasse. The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service has begun to exert more pressure on the parties to settle their differences and feels there has been some progress.

Background

James S. Scarce, Director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service intends to call the parties in the contract dispute to Washington, D. C. on Monday, June 7, 1976. He has not announced this decision publically.

On April 20, 1976, the United Rubber Workers (URW) instituted a strike against the BIG four tire manufacturers (Firestone, Goodyear, Goodrich, and Uniroyal). The nationwide strike affects some 70,000 employees at 47 plants. Union and management officials have wide differences of opinion as to what a fair settlement would be. Among other demands the Union is seeking an uncapped cost of living escalator. The strikers have exhausted their strike benefits and efforts to increase the dues of non-striking URW members to raise additional money for strike benefits has failed.

The URW President has visited Geneva, Switzerland to encourage a world wide boycott of Firestone products, which the AFL-CIO Executive Council has endorsed. Firestone was chosen as the boycott target because the Union is concentrating on getting an industry-wide pattern setting settlement with Firestone.

WMD
6/3/76

POSTPONEMENT OF PNE SIGNING

Q. News reports indicate that there was to be a signing ceremony for the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty today, but that it was postponed until after the Michigan primary when the results of the Nebraska primary came in. Can you confirm these reports, and say when the treaty might be signed?

A. I have seen the reports you mention. Perhaps I can explain the problem in scheduling this event by giving you a bit of background on the PNE timetable.

1. ~~The Threshold Test Ban Treaty was signed July 3, 1974, with the provision that it would not be sent to the Senate until negotiations for a separate agreement governing peaceful nuclear explosions was completed.~~

for a PNE treaty

2. ~~These~~ negotiations began in early October, 1974, and continued in a series of sessions until April 8, 1976, when a draft treaty was referred to the U. S. and Soviet governments for review.

The receipt of the treaty was acknowledged April 9, by President Ford and Secretary Kissinger who indicated they hoped the treaty could be completed soon.

3. The draft treaty, having been accepted by both governments, was initialled in Moscow yesterday, May 12, by the principal negotiators, U. S. Ambassador Walter Stoessel and First Deputy Chairman of the State Committee for Utilization of Atomic Energy Igor Morokhov.

4. The treaty was then put on a plane (Aeroflot #311) for New York accompanied by a U. S. Embassy official. It arrived at *NY.*

~~1. 12:00 a.m.~~ about 10:00 pm last night, where it was hand

carried by the official to the U. S. Mission in New York for transmittal to Washington. *Flew to Wash, either*

late last night or early this morning
5. The treaty was delivered to Washington and arrived at the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency at 9:30 a. m. today.

Given the close timing of the transmittal of the treaty from Moscow, and ^{it} the preparations which would be necessary to arrange a ceremony for today, it was felt that more time was needed. ~~to prepare material, invite participants, arrange briefings and undertake all the other necessary arrangements thoroughly.~~ Had we been haphazard in our preparations, we would have been charged with rushing the ceremony through to our own political advantage. Instead, we are charged with postponing the signing to our own advantage.

The fact is, the Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaty will ~~most likely~~ be signed ^{Soon} ~~next week~~. This Treaty establishes for the first time a legal framework governing the use of peaceful nuclear explosions and the verification procedures accompanying them. It is an important Treaty and the President is proud of having achieved it.

#####

Q: What is the Administration's view on the recent action of the Senate establishing an Intelligence Oversight Committee?

A: First, it should be noted that this is strictly an internal Senate matter coming within their own jurisdiction, and does not require approval of the Executive branch, inasmuch as it relates to Senate procedures.

The resolution was the subject of considerable debate and numerous amendments before its final adoption yesterday afternoon. Consequently, we have not had an opportunity to review the provisions of this resolution, and comment at this time would be premature.

The President's first concern, in all events, however, is an effective intelligence operation sufficient to meet our national needs and preserve the national security. The resolution will be reviewed in that context.

JM/5/20/76

BUSING/BOSTON Q&A

Question:

Does the President intend to give any direction to Attorney General Levi on the Boston school case?

Answer:

The President has had a number of discussions with Attorney General Levi on the whole issue of busing as a remedy for school segregation and has instructed him and Secretary Mathews to seek alternative remedies. He has specifically asked the Attorney General to look for the appropriate and proper case to ask the Court to re-examine busing as a remedy and to explore alternative solutions which are less destructive of the fabric of our community life. This is the President's direction to the Justice Department. The selection of the particular case is obviously best left to the legal experts and thus Attorney General Levi will make the decision in the Boston case.

BUSING

Q. Do you intend to give any direction to the Attorney General on the Boston school case on busing in general.

A. I have had a number of meetings with the Attorney General and Secretary Mathews to discuss with them alternative remedies to busing. I have specifically asked the Attorney General to look for an appropriate case to ask the Supreme Court to reexamine busing as a remedy and explore alternatives which are less destructive. The Solicitor General has twice informed the Court that the United States is looking for an opportunity to reexamine this issue. The choice of the proper case is a decision for the Attorney General and I will meet with him tomorrow to discuss this topic.

There is no diminution of the Government's support for school desegregation. I am for school desegregation. I am not in favor of continued court-ordered busing.

Desegregation of the public schools involves the constitutional rights of children. Busing does not involve rights; it is just a tool, a remedy that the courts have tried and that experience has shown usually works badly.

Some researchers think that busing increases segregation. Many supports of desegregation--Blacks and whites, Republicans and Democrats, in all parts of the country--oppose court-ordered busing and want to try other ways to achieve better education for all children.

Q. Are you doing this now because of the upcoming primaries?

A. That is ridiculous. We have been meeting and working on alternatives for over eight months. It is a matter of the Attorney General of deciding which case is the right one. We obviously have no control over the timing of cases before the Supreme Court.

S. RES. 400

Senate Resolution 400, as passed by the Senate yesterday, provides:

1. Establishment of a permanent committee on intelligence composed of 15 members plus the majority and minority leaders ex officio. Eight of the members will come from Appropriations, Armed Services, Foreign Relations and Judiciary. The other seven will not be members of those committees.
2. Members will serve a maximum eight years.
3. This committee will have jurisdiction over all legislation and authorizations for CIA, DCI and all other intelligence activities. Jurisdiction over CIA and DCI will be exclusive. Jurisdiction with the other intelligence activities will be shared with existing committees, allowing those committees to take any such legislation for 30 days.

Despite exclusive jurisdiction over CIA and DCI, the resolution also states that any committee can conduct studies of intelligence if it is relevant to their jurisdictions.

4. The Senate can disclose any information over the objection of the President; the Committee alone cannot.
5. Authorization of intelligence appropriations is called for. An understanding was reached on the floor that a means will be developed to maintain secrecy.
6. It is the sense of the Senate that heads of agencies should:
 - keep this committee currently and fully informed
 - supply any information requested
 - report immediately any violations of Constitution, law or regulations
7. The staff will sign, under oath, secrecy agreements and have security clearances.
8. Hughes/Ryan was not repealed.

M.D.
5/20/76

BUSING

Q. Mr. President, there has been a great deal of attention in recent weeks to the issue of busing. Your Administration was talking about legislation to provide for an alternative to busing. Last Saturday you indicated that you would shortly send legislation to the Congress. What will the legislation provide for us?

A. Before I say anything about legislation, I would like to place this extremely sensitive issue into what I believe to be its proper context. First of all, we must remember that this Nation has a fundamental commitment to achieving an integrated society where an individual's race creates no barriers. I wholeheartedly embrace that commitment. To me, it means that we must eliminate illegal discrimination and promote equal opportunity.

The Federal Government already plays a major role in seeking these objectives. We spend large sums for Civil Rights Enforcement. We also invest extensively in education and training programs designed to improve the capacities of underprivileged individuals to acquire good jobs. Much more needs to be done, but I think we should be proud of the significant progress that has been made towards eliminating discrimination.

Now, with regard to segregated school systems, and particularly with regard to busing, my objective is to create better educational opportunities in a manner consistent with the Nation's commitment to justice and to the elimination of illegal segregation.

In my view, forced school busing, while done with the best of intentions, has often disrupted the lives and impeded the education of the children affected. Therefore, I believe that ways must be found to minimize forced busing while also remaining true to the Nation's ideals and our educational goals. This is not an easy task, but it is my objective.

For a number of months we have been working within the Administration on legislation and other means of minimizing court-ordered busing. We now have draft legislation which appears to be a positive step in the course we are following. ~~_____ next week.~~

I plan to meet personally with a wide range of people outside the Administration to seek their views on what we are considering. Following those meetings, I plan to send a bill to the Congress.

(2)
~~_____~~

- Q. Aren't you playing politics, trying to win votes, by holding out the promise that you will be able to stop school busing through legislation or a court challenge?
- A. Of course not. That's ridiculous. An issue as sensitive and important as this one should not be exploited for any supposed political advantage. Besides, if you know my record, you know my position on forced busing has not changed at all over the years.

Let me try to outline my position:

-- I believe ^{SOUP} ~~the~~ courts have gone ~~_____~~ too far ~~_____~~, in ordering forced busing for the purpose of achieving racial balance in the schools. That kind of massive busing simply does not accomplish it's purpose, which is to assure a quality education for all of our children. And that kind of massive busing has torn apart many communities.

-- The courts should pay more attention to the Equal Educational Opportunity Act of 1974, which I voted for a a member of Congress and signed into law as President. It lists seven steps to achieve a quality education, and to uphold the equal rights of all students, with busing to be used only as a last resort.

3

-- I have taken a number of steps to minimize forced busing:

1. I have directed Attorney General Levi to look for a case in which it would be proper and appropriate for my Administration to ask the Supreme Court to reconsider the use of massive forced busing as a remedy for school segregation.
2. At my direction, legislation is being drafted which would limit the use of forced busing. I also am considering ~~ways to~~ **WAYS TO** ~~help~~ help communities comply with the laws before their cases reach the stage that a court orders massive forced busing. I will make my decisions on these matters and announce them, after I have weighed them carefully and considered the views of others, such as members of Congress, civil rights leaders, Constitutional experts and States and local officials.

-- Finally, I want to emphasize that I am opposed to segregation and will fulfill my Constitutional duty to uphold the law. But I am determined not to let massive, court-ordered busing for the purpose of racial balance disrupt either our communities or the lives and educations of the very children we are supposed to be helping.

MAY 5, 1976

SUBJECT:

PARDON FOR OTTO KERNER

In view of Otto Kerner's terminal illness, does the President plan to grant him a pardon?

GUIDANCE: The medical report was filed ten days ago with the Deputy Attorney General (Harold Tyler) requesting on behalf of his family that Otto Kerner be granted a pardon.

Because there is a statute which states that in the event of conviction of tax fraud, five years must elapse before a request for pardon can be considered, the Deputy Attorney General must first determine whether a waiver should be granted.

If the Deputy Attorney General determines that a waiver should be granted and a pardon can be considered at this time, the Deputy Attorney General would then decide the case on its merits. He would take into account the individual's past history, his record in society, possible harm to society, should he be released, etc., etc.

The Deputy Attorney General would then forward his recommendations to the legal counsel's office at the White House.

Mr. Buchen would then forward his recommendation, along with those of the Deputy Attorney General to the President for his final decisions.

The procedural point, that being whether a waiver should be granted to allow immediate consideration or pardon, should be decided within the next few days. A final recommendation from the Justice Department could be expedited and be here within one or two weeks.

JGC

May 6, 1976

SUBJECT: WHOLESALE PRICE INDEX FOR APRIL

The wholesale price index increased by .8% for the month of April, the largest increase in the WPI in six months. The primary factors in the increase were the increased prices for farm products and processed foods.

GUIDANCE: The .8% increase is largely attributable to sharp increases in farm products and processed foods. Industrial price increases were moderate. Data on farm products and processed foods subsequent to the pricing deadline for the April index indicate no continuation of the rise.

The April figures in themselves are not a particular cause for concern. As we had indicated earlier, it was unrealistic to expect the exceptional price data of the last few months to continue. Early expectations of the May figures are for an improvement.

For further questions, ask the technicians.

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CALIFORNIA

Q. Your decision not to return to California to campaign looks like you have written that State off as a lost cause. Have you?

A. Not at all. I think I have been closing the gap there, and I believe I can win on Tuesday.

The reasons I didn't make another campaign trip to California are:

1. I am simply too busy during this period performing my Presidential responsibilities.
2. My campaign does not have enough money available to pay for another campaign trip. Mrs. Ford is going there, and some other spokesmen for me are going. And my campaign is running some advertisements explaining my policies and record.

Q. But the Field poll, which has just come out, shows that you have fallen very far behind Reagan in California. You don't really expect to win, do you?

A. I don't know when that poll was taken or who was questioned, but I have received reports from my campaign in California which indicate that although I am still behind, I am closing the gap and I really am quite hopeful of being able to win on Tuesday.

SAIGON'S SECRETS SEIZED?

Q: The Washington Post reported yesterday that the North Vietnamese took over virtually complete files of the South Vietnamese intelligence operation including very sensitive data furnished by the U.S. Is the story true, and if so, what will be the impact on our intelligence community?

A: The appropriate detachments and agencies are looking into the report, but I have nothing further to give you now.

FYI.ONLY: We are not certain just what the North Vietnamese may have even though we are reasonably sure that the most sensitive materials were destroyed. Another question of course, is if the North Vietnamese have the capability to use the material should they have possession of it.

end FYI ONLY

June 1, 1976

SUBJECT: BANK LOAN DISCRIMINATION

The Post this morning had a story that the four Federal agencies which oversee financial institutions have never made a formal finding of discriminatory procedures by the institutions they supervise, even though the Senate Banking Committee has found that "evidence of discrimination is widespread."

What is the White House reaction?

We are looking into the matter, but I have no more light to shed upon the subject at this time.

Note: Federal Reserve is totally independent; Federal Home Loan Bank Board and FDIC are, for our purposes, independent, But Comptroller is dependent (under the Treasury Department.)

ME

June 1, 1976

SUBJECT: NRC SECURITY ALERT

On Saturday the Nuclear Regulatory Commission issued an alert to the nation's 58 nuclear power plants to increase the number of guards around the plants, and to check the credentials of everyone entering the plants. Rep. George Miller, who sits on the Joint Atomic Energy Committee, says he received no prior notice of the action, and while it is supposedly to counteract threats from extremist groups, Miller thinks the action may have been prompted by the June 8 nuclear proposition on the California ballot.

Was the White House involved in any way with the NRC action, and do you have any reaction?

The White House was not involved in the NRC Action. However, we understand that the NRC acted on the basis of the accumulation of pieces of information, which was not specific and has not yet been verified. The NRC feels the reminder was appropriate to insure that the security precautions being taken were adequate. For further information, I think you should talk to the NRC.

ME

PROPOSED ANNOUNCEMENTS

10:00

6/8/76

Intention to ~~xxxx~~ nominate Thomas Houser to be Director of the Office of Telecommunications Policy. (RELEASE)

Report to Congress on the 1975 Annual Report on Administration of the Radiation Control for Health and Safety Act. (RELEASE)

Report to Congress on the Administration of the Railroad Safety Act of 1970. (POSTING)

Budget Amend,ments:

Dept. of Justice

Security Supporting Assistance for Zaire,
Zambia and ~~xxx~~ other countries in S. Africa

Harry S Truman Scholarship Foundation

Supplemental for EPA

JUDY PETTY

Q. Has the President endorsed Judy Petty?

(Previous guidance)

Q. Judy Petty says she sent a telegram to the White House asking if the President was endorsing her or Wilbur Mills?

A. I do not know if we have such a telegram in the White House, but I will check.

(FYI: Telegram was received and we have not yet decided how -- or if -- we will reply.)

MR. NESSEN: I will have to check, Les. I don't know about that endorsement.

Q Also, one follow-up on that, and that is, has he endorsed Judy Petty in Arkansas, the GOP candidate?

MR. NESSEN: The President believes that Judy Petty is waging a vigorous and determined campaign for Congress, and he wishes her well.

Q Ron, on the basis of his campaigning to date, what kind of realistic goals in terms of numbers has the President set in his own mind for the Senate seats, and the House seats? I presume he has a general goal, he would like to see Republicans everywhere win, but realistically, what is he expecting in terms of numbers and what would he consider satisfactory and what would he consider to be a serious loss in terms of numbers?

MR. NESSEN: I think he talked to the pool on Air Force One for quite a long time the other night, and there was a long section on his expectations for this election in that pool report.

Q Did they have numbers?

MR. NESSEN: If he spoke in numbers, it had numbers, Pat. I am not sure he spoke in numbers.

Q My understanding is that there were not numbers. Does he have numbers?

MR. NESSEN: I have not heard him speak of any numbers.

Q Could you inquire some time in advance of the election as to what his number goals are so there will be some standards?

Q Another subject. What was the President's reaction of the Consumer Price Index increases?

MR. NESSEN: The one yesterday?

Q Yes.

Q Well, let's start there, anyway.

MR. NESSEN: This is not the President's reaction to it, but I can give you some thoughts about it.

STEEL PRICE INCREASE

- Q. U. S. Steel and Jones and Laughlin yesterday announced that they would increase prices. Doesn't that mean that we are in for another round of stepped-up inflation, which will throw your rosy economic projections off base?
- A. I am very concerned that those increases could lead to increases in other industries. This country cannot go through another period of double-digit inflation. But it is a complicated matter and it is too early to tell what effect these just-announced increases will have.

Recently I asked my Council on Wage and Price Stability to look into the whole question of pricing of all basic metals. For the first time in history, they have been able to look at the steel industries cost and price data. I expect their report next week. Prior to that it would be premature to comment on what effect this increase will have, without simply shooting from the hip; except to say again that I do not intend to let this nation go through another period of double-digit inflation.

CALIFORNIA

Q. Your decision not to return to California to campaign looks like you have written that State off as a lost cause. Have you?

A. Not at all. I think I have been closing the gap there, and I believe I can win on Tuesday.

The reasons I didn't make another campaign trip to California are:

1. I am simply too busy during this period performing my Presidential responsibilities.
2. My campaign does not have enough money available to pay for another campaign trip. Mrs. Ford is going there, and some other spokesmen for me are going. And my campaign is running some advertisements explaining my policies and record.

Q. But the Field poll, which has just come out, shows that you have fallen very far behind Reagan in California. You don't really expect to win, do you?

A. I don't know when that poll was taken or who was questioned, but I have received reports from my campaign in California which indicate that although I am still behind, I am closing the gap and I really am quite hopeful of being able to win on Tuesday.

RON NESSEN BRIEFING - Friday, June 4, 1976

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Albert C. Zapanta to be Assistant Secretary of the Interior.
Statement by the President on the National Medal of Science
Fact Sheet on the National Medal of Science
Statement by the President on World Environment Day

POSTING:

John S. Smith to be U.S. District Marshal for the District of Delaware

SCRANTON VISIT:

Ambassador Scranton is here to have discussions with the President in advance of his forthcoming trip to Africa from June 12 to July 2.

TRIP INFO:

Regarding advance texts, probably the only one we will have will be the speech for the National Conference of Christians and Jews. It will be available possibly as late as Sunday for 6 p.m. release. Bibles hopefully Saturday, or as late as Sunday. We will also have the Face the Nation transcript available here and on the Press Plane. Summary schedule is attached.

TOMORROW:

Possible golf at some point. The President will leave the WH at 11:35 a.m. and return to the WH at 12:35 p.m. for the Face the Nation taping at the CBS studios.

NEXT WEEK:

WEDNESDAY: The President of Botswana has been invited to the WH to meet with the Pres. He will be in the country on a private visit and is scheduled to meet the Pres. at 11 a.m. This is Sir Seretse Khama (usual spelling and pronunciation earwigs).

THURSDAY: President Jaafar Nimeiri (usual as per above) of Sudan who is also here on a private visit will be meeting with the President on Thurs.

TRAVEL:

No plans for a ME trip before the election. Also, Ron checked into whether or not there are any plans for a Geneva conference, and there are none.

BUSING:

No timetable on busing legislation.

FEA SCANDAL?

Shades of Elizabeth Ray??? According to Ron in the briefing today Frank Zarb is handling!!!!!! (the next question is what!!!!?) Remember earwigs, you heard it first here...
As always.....your faithful pooler, cm

JUNE 4, 1976

Office of the White House Press Secretary

NOTICE TO THE PRESS

PRESIDENT'S TRIP TO NEW JERSEY AND OHIO

SUNDAY, June 6

10:00 a. m. Press check-in Andrews Air Force Base
10:30 a. m. Press plane departs Andrews Air Force Base
11:30 a. m. Air Force One departs Andrews AFB
11:40 a. m. Press plane arrives Newark International Airport
12:15 p. m. Air Force One arrives Newark International Airport
1:15 p. m. President speaks at Great Falls National Historical Site, Paterson, New Jersey
2:45 p. m. The President attends GOP-PFC Reception, West Orange
4:20 p. m. Air Force One departs Newark International Airport
5:00 p. m. Air Force One arrives Cleveland-Hopkins Airport
7:00 p. m. The President attends dinner/National Association of Christians and Jews
9:15 p. m. Air Force One departs Cleveland-Hopkins Airport
9:55 p. m. Air Force One arrives Greater Cincinnati Airport

(PRESS NOTE: The President will overnight in Stouffers Hotel; the Press will overnight in the Hilton Terrace Hotel.)

MONDAY, June 7

8:00 a. m. The President attends Hamilton County GOP Breakfast
11:05 a. m. The President departs Stouffer's Hotel, Cincinnati
12:00 p. m. The President arrives Middletown Mall, Middletown
1:10 p. m. The President arrives Montgomery County Historical Museum, Dayton
2:10 p. m. The President arrives Snyder Park, Springfield, Ohio
2:55 p. m. The President arrives Springfield Art Center
5:05 p. m. The President arrives Lima Mall, Lima
6:25 p. m. The President arrives Elks Lodge, Findlay
7:35 p. m. The President arrives Anderson Field House, Bowling Green University, Bowling Green
9:10 p. m. The President arrives Greater Toledo Airport
9:25 p. m. Air Force One departs Greater Toledo Airport
10:35 p. m. Air Force One arrives Andrews AFB

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REAGAN SUPPORT

Q. Ronald Reagan indicated recently that he would likely withhold "immediate" support for you, if you should win the Republican Presidential nomination. Would you support him if he won the nomination? And, if you do win, what concessions - such as firing Secretary Kissinger and the acceptance of strong platform planks bolstering U.S. defenses abroad and against school busing - would you accept?

A. The first part of your question is based on a false "if." I expect to win the nomination. On the first ballot.

And when I do, I expect all Republicans to support me. The ideological differences in our party are relatively minor compared with our differences with the Democrats. We stand for peace, through responsible relations with other nations and through a strong military defense. We stand for the rights of the individual. We stand for economic prosperity without inflation. We stand for making government more responsive to the needs of all Americans and less intrusive on the lives of everyone.

With those beliefs and with the support from all segments of the party, we should easily beat the Democrats in November.

WEST POINT CHEATING

Q. As Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Services what are you planning to do about the cheating scandals at West Point.

A. I am, of course, deeply concerned about the reports of cheating at the Military Academy.

The Army, however, is handling the matter through its normal channels, and it would not be right for me to comment on this specific matter.

I do, however, support Secretary Hoffman's desire to look into the Academy's Honor Code system when this specific incident is resolved, and I trust that this incident will not discredit any of the service academies, which represent the cornerstone of our officer corps and an important part of our entire national defense effort.

BUCHANAN COLUMN

Q. Patrick Buchanan, in a column published yesterday, that you would be in deep trouble in November because the states in which you are winning convention delegates are the ones most likely to vote Democratic while the states you need to win the general election have voted for Ronald Reagan. Do you agree with that analysis?

A. No. I do not.

The primaries and the general election are not really comparable, because in most of the primaries only members of one party vote to chose their candidates.

In November, I expect to win the traditional Republican states, which Mr. Buchanan has given to Ronald Reagan. But I also expect to win many of the states in which I have done well in the primaries, which would not likely vote for former Governor Reagan.

As I have said before, I am not a regional candidate. I expect to do well enough throughout the entire United States to win the general election.

June 2, 1976

A NEW U.S. PEACE INITIATIVE

Q: Yesterday you were quoted as saying that the U.S. plans a major new peace initiative in the Middle East looking toward the convening of the Geneva Conference. Can you be more specific as to timetable or plans?

A: For those of you who did not see another report in which I denied that a new initiative has been ordered, I refer you to it (A 279, AP, 6-176, attached).

Our position on the Middle East is as we have stated it. We are continuing consultations with the parties in an effort to move the peace process forward. We are ready to consider any means the parties themselves deem realistic and acceptable, and among these is the Geneva Conference.

(Guidance on Kissinger CENTO remarks attached)

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R W BYLEEVQYV

FAM-U.S.-LEBANON; 1ST ADD; #259; 130
WASHINGTON; INTERVENTION.''

MEANWHILE TUESDAY; WHITE HOUSE PRESS SECRETARY RON NESSEN DENIED A PUBLISHED REPORT THAT PRESIDENT FORD HAS ORDERED A NEW INITIATIVE FOR A MIDDLE EAST PEACE SETTLEMENT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND ITS ARAB NEIGHBORS.

'WE WILL HELP THE PARTIES TO ARRANGE WHATEVER THEY WANT TO ARRANGE'' IN THE WAY OF TAKING FURTHER STEPS TOWARD PEACE; NESSEN SAID. BUT HE SAID THERE WAS NO STEPUP IN TEMPO 'BEYOND ONGOING CONTACTS.'

OVER THE LAST SEVERAL MONTHS; THE UNITED STATES HAS TAKEN THE POSITION THAT IT IS READY TO HELP THE PARTIES FIND A FORUM; A GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE OR OTHERWISE.

AVI PAZNER; SPOKESMAN FOR THE ISRAELI EMBASSY; SAID HE KNEW OF NO NEW AMERICAN INITIATIVE.

'WE HAVE CHECKED WITH THE ADMINISTRATION AND THERE IS NO SUCH THING IN THE MIND;' PAZNER SAID.

1945FED 06-01

KISSINGER AT CENTO MEETING
PRESS GUIDANCE

- Q: At the Cento Ministerial in London today Secretary Kissinger said that time is approaching when new moves are necessary in peace negotiations in Middle East? Is the United States planning some new initiative?
- A: The Secretary's statement emphasizes the President's consistent policy on the need to maintain momentum towards an overall peace in the Middle East. We are determined to remain active in this endeavor and, as the Secretary said, we are continuing to explore possibilities for renewing the negotiating process.

June 4, 1976

SUBJECT: UNEMPLOYMENT AND WHOLESALE
PRICE INDEX FOR MAY

The unemployment rate for May was 7.3%, down from 7.5% in April. It was the first time since 1973 that the unemployment figures have shown no increase over an eight-month period.

The WPI was up .3%, after an increase of .8% in April. The May figures showed a decline in lumber products and transportation equipment.

GUIDANCE: Both sets of numbers are clearly encouraging. We are particularly pleased with the continued rise in employment as well as further decline in the unemployment rate.

As for the wholesale price index, as we had indicated last month, we expected the May figures to be better, and we are gratified that they are considerably lower.

* Number of employed up by 300,000 to 87.7 million

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AFA006
OO WTEI
DE WTE #2992 1452133
O 242147Z MAY 76
FM JIM CAVANAUGH
TO DICK CHENEY
INFO TERRY O'DONNELL
RON NESSEN
JOHN CARLSON
ZEM
UNCLAS WH60770

MEMORANDUM FOR : DICK CHENEY

WITH COPIES TO: TERRY O'DONNELL
RON NESSEN
JOHN CARLSON

FROM: JIM CAVANAUGH

SUBJECT: (1) Q & A ON ILLEGAL ALIENS;
(2) Q & A ON LINDBERGH FIELD, SAN DIEGO

ATTACHED ARE TWO ADDITIONAL Q AND A'S WHICH MAY BE DIRECTED
AT THE PRESIDENT DURING HIS SAN DIEGO INTERVIEWS.

ILLEGAL ALIENS

Q. MR. PRESIDENT, WE HAVE A PROBLEM HERE IN THE SAN
DIEGO AREA WITH A NUMBER OF ILLEGAL ALIENS COMING
ACROSS THE CALIFORNIA-MEXICO BORDER. WHAT IS YOUR
ADMINISTRATION DOING ABOUT THIS PROBLEM?

A. I AM QUITE CONCERNED ABOUT THE ILLEGAL ALIEN PROBLEM.
WE HAVE ANYWHERE FROM 6 TO 8 MILLION ILLEGAL ALIENS
IN THE UNITED STATES. AFTER CONSULTING WITH THE
ATTORNEY GENERAL AND WITH THE IMMIGRATION AND
NATURALIZATION SERVICE, AS WELL AS WITH THE CUSTOMS
AGENCY, I RECOMMENDED THAT WE INCREASE THE PERSONNEL
IN THE VARIOUS AGENCIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF
APPREHENDING AND DEPORTING ILLEGAL ALIENS. IN MY
1977 BUDGET, WHICH WENT TO THE CONGRESS IN JANUARY,
I ASKED FOR FUNDS TO EMPLOY AN ADDITIONAL 106 NEW
DETENTION GUARDS AND 98 ADDITIONAL DEPORTATION
PERSONNEL TO STRENGTHEN OUR EFFORTS ON ILLEGAL ALIENS.
WE ARE ALSO WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH THE MEXICAN
GOVERNMENT. THAT IS ONE POINT OF ENTRY WHERE THERE
HAS BEEN THIS TREMENDOUS INCREASE. THE COOPERATION
THAT WE ARE DEVELOPING WITH THE MEXICAN GOVERNMENT
I THINK WILL PRODUCE SOME RESULTS IN STOPPING THE FLOW.
WHEN I WAS IN MEXICO ABOUT 18 MONTHS
AGO, I PERSONALLY TALKED TO PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA ABOUT
IT.



UNCLASSIFIED

SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA AIRPORT

QUESTION

JOHN MCLUCAS, HEAD OF THE FAA, SAID IN SAN DIEGO LAST WEEK THAT LINDBERGH FIELD HAS A POTENTIAL FOR A TRAGIC ACCIDENT. DO YOU AGREE? IS LINDBERGH FIELD UNSAFE?

ANSWER

AS I UNDERSTAND IT LINDBERGH FIELD MEETS ALL PRESENT FAA SAFETY STANDARDS, OTHERWISE THE FAA WOULD NOT PERMIT IT TO CONTINUE IN OPERATION. HOWEVER, ITS LOCATION NEAR THE CENTER OF THE CITY HAS BEEN OF SOME CONCERN TO JOHN MCLUCAS AND, I BELIEVE, ALSO TO MAYOR PETE WILSON. I KNOW THAT THE SAN DIEGO COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTING EXTENSIVE STUDIES IN CONNECTION WITH THIS AIRPORT AND I KNOW THAT THE LOCAL OFFICIALS ARE WORKING HARD TO INSURE THE CONTINUED SAFE OPERATIONS AT LINDBERGH FIELD.

QUESTION

ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF THE CURFEW OF NIGHTTIME OPERATIONS AT LINDBERGH FIELD DUE TO THE NOISE OF OPERATION?

ANSWER

I AM AWARE OF THE FACT THAT THE SAN DIEGO BOARD OF PORT COMMISSIONERS HAS RESTRICTED NIGHTTIME TAKEOFFS AND LANDINGS FROM THE FIELD BECAUSE OF FEDERAL AIRCRAFT NOISE STANDARDS. THE FAA IS EXPECTING TO DECIDE AROUND JUNE 1 WHETHER OR NOT THEY HAVE JURISDICTION TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE THIS LOCALLY IMPOSED CURFEW. IT WOULD THEREFORE BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR ME TO COMMENT ON THE CURFEW AT THIS TIME.

BACKGROUND

LINDBERGH FIELD IS LOCATED NEAR THE CENTER OF SAN DIEGO. ALTHOUGH IT CURRENTLY MEETS ALL FAA SAFETY STANDARDS, ITS LOCATION MAGNIFIES THE POSSIBILITY OF LOSSES TO LIFE AND PROPERTY IF AN ACCIDENT DID OCCUR. THIS WAS THE THRUST OF JOHN MCLUCAS'S REMARKS IN SAN DIEGO LAST WEEK.

AGAIN BECAUSE OF THE CENTER CITY LOCATION, NOISE HAS BEEN A CONTINUING PROBLEM AT THE FIELD. IN DECEMBER OF 1975 THE AIRPORT MANAGEMENT PLACED A CURFEW ON NIGHTTIME OPERATION, BANNING TAKEOFFS BETWEEN MIDNIGHT AND 6:00 A.M. AND LIMITING LANDINGS ONLY TO CERTAIN TYPES OF AIRCRAFT THAT MEET FEDERAL NOISE STANDARDS. FAA LAWYERS ARE INVESTIGATING WHETHER THE FAA HAS THE AUTHORITY TO APPROVE CURFEWS OF THE KIND IMPOSED IN SAN DIEGO.

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#2992



California

TUNA/PORPOISE

Q: What is the Administration doing about the recent court order barring the tuna fishermen from using their current techniques for catching tuna by "setting on" porpoises?

A: I favor correction in the current law that would allow our tuna fishermen to continue purse-seining for tuna, while at the same time continuing the refinement of techniques to reduce the incidental killing of dolphins.

Since the passage of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 the porpoise mortality rate has decreased from approximately 318,000 to a projected rate this year of 60,000-65,000. This is too high but given reasonable time, we can reduce the rate even further to eliminate any question about endangering the porpoise population in the Pacific.

BACKGROUND

in D.C. District
A U.S. court ruling on May 12 directed U.S. tuna fishermen to discontinue, as of May 31, the practice of "setting on" porpoise to catch tuna. The procedure is used mainly by San Diego based tuna fishermen along a stretch from 500-800 miles off-shore in the Pacific from lower California southward to off Peru. The fishing boat spots porpoise schools on the surface and throws out large nylon nets to catch the tuna which inexplicably run beneath the porpoise, killing many by suffocation.

The Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 mandated that such porpoise kills "be reduced to insignificant number approaching zero mortality." The Act allowed two years for remedial action, and the National Marine Fisheries Service (Commerce) granted two extensions for compliance. The tuna fishermen claim that the ruling is disastrous for them and that the only recourse without corrective legislation would be to re-register their boats under foreign flag, removing any U.S. restrictions on their fishing procedures.

The Fisheries Service (Commerce) has testified in favor of changes in the law and have asked Justice to look at the possibility of appealing the Court decision.

MAY 26, 1976

SUBJECT:

POTATO TRADING CONTRACTS

TODAY THE NEW YORK TIMES CARRIED A FRONT-PAGE STORY THAT
SPECULATORS HOLDING 1,000 CONTRACTS ON MAINE POTATOES DEFAULTED
ON THEIR DELIVERY DEADLINE TO THE NEW YORK MERCANTILE EXCHANGE,
RESULTING IN THE LARGEST RECORDED DEFAULT IN COMMODITY TRADING

END OF PAGE 01

HISTORY.

QUESTION: WHAT WILL YOUR ADMINISTRATION BE DOING ABOUT THIS DEFAULT?

ANSWER: THIS ISSUE FALLS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE 13-MONTH OLD COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION, WHICH IS A REGULATORY BODY, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT THEY ARE CLOSELY MONITORING THE POTATO TRADING SITUATION.

IF THEIR FINDINGS INDICATE ANY CRIMINAL VIOLATIONS, THE CFTC WILL BRING THE MATTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE JUSTICE DEPARTMENT.

WE HAVE ASKED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CFTC, WILLIAM BAGLEY, TO KEEP US APPRAISED OF THEIR PROGRESS IN THIS CASE, BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE A REGULATORY AGENCY, I DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO MAKE ANY JUDGEMENT ON THE SITUATION AT THIS TIME.

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FM MARGARET EARL

TO RON NESSEN/AF-1

JOHN CARLSON/COLUMBUS

ZEM

UNCLAS WH60793

PLEASE DELIVER TO JOHN CARLSON IMMEDIATELY UPON ARRIVAL IN
COLUMBUS, OHIO, AT PORT OF COLUMBUS FIELD.

ATTACHED IS A QUESTION AND ANSWER ON THE TOLEDO WATER SUPPLY,
FORWARDED TO YOU BY CONGRESSMAN LATTA, AND A QUESTION AND
ANSWER ON THE NEW YORK TIMES FRONT-PAGE STORY ON POTATO
CONTRACT DEFAULT.

WE WILL BE SENDING MORE BACKGROUND ON THE POTATO SITUATION
AS WE RECEIVE IT FROM CFTC.



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OO WTEI

DE WTE #3072 1471819

O 261737Z MAY 76

FM MARGARET EARL

TO RON NESSEN/AF-1

JOHN CARLSON/COLUMBUS

ZEM

UNCLAS WH60793

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ATTACHED IS A QUESTION AND ANSWER ON THE TOLEDO WATER SUPPLY, FORWARDED TO YOU BY CONGRESSMAN LATTA, AND A QUESTION AND ANSWER ON THE NEW YORK TIMES FRONT-PAGE STORY ON POTATO CONTRACT DEFAULT.

WE WILL BE SENDING MORE BACKGROUND ON THE POTATO SITUATION AS SOON AS WE RECEIVE IT FROM CFTC.

MAY 26, 1976

SUBJECT:

TOLEDO WATER SUPPLY

QUESTION: MR. PRESIDENT, DO YOU PLAN TO SIGN THE APPROPRIATIONS BILL NOW BEFORE YOU THAT INCLUDES \$1.6 MILLION FOR THE RESTORATION OF DIKES AT CEDAR POINT NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE, AND WHICH AFFECTS THE ENTIRE WATER SUPPLY OF TOLEDO?

ANSWER: IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT THE \$1.6 MILLION YOU REFERRED TO IS INCLUDED IN H.R. 13172, THE SECOND SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS BILL, WHICH IS NOW ON MY DESK AT THE WHITE HOUSE (AND MUST BE ACTED UPON BY MIDNIGHT OF JUNE 2).

THIS PARTICULAR PORTION OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION, AS I UNDERSTAND IT, IS NEEDED TO REPLACE THE DIKES IN THE ~~EEARRBOENTIN&TTHEAMAWERDSUPELEETNGE&TMNDOMEDDDANE~~ OREGON (OHIO), AND I AM IN FAVOR OF THIS ASSISTANCE.

I WILL BE LOOKING CLOSELY AT THE ENTIRE BILL WHEN I RETURN TO WASHINGTON, AND I WILL BE TAKING ACTION ON IT VERY SHORTLY.

MAY 26, 1976

SUBJECT:

POTATO TRADING CONTRACTS

TODAY THE NEW YORK TIMES CARRIED A FRONT-PAGE STORY THAT SPECULATORS HOLDING 1,000 CONTRACTS ON MAINE POTATOES DEFAULTED ON THEIR DELIVERY DEADLINE TO THE NEW YORK MERCANTILE EXCHANGE, RESULTING IN THE LARGEST RECORDED DEFAULT IN COMMODITY TRADING.

END OF PAGE 01

UNCLASSIFIED

HISTORY.

QUESTION: WHAT WILL YOUR ADMINISTRATION BE DOING ABOUT THIS DEFAULT?

ANSWER: THIS ISSUE FALLS WITHIN THE JURISDICTION OF THE 13-MONTH OLD COMMODITY FUTURES TRADING COMMISSION, WHICH IS A REGULATORY BODY, AND I UNDERSTAND THAT THEY ARE CLOSELY MONITORING THE POTATO TRADING SITUATION.

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WE HAVE ASKED THE CHAIRMAN OF THE CFTC, WILLIAM BAGLEY, TO KEEP US APPRAISED OF THEIR PROGRESS IN THIS CASE, BUT BECAUSE THEY ARE A REGULATORY AGENCY, I DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS APPROPRIATE FOR ME TO MAKE ANY JUDGEMENT ON THE SITUATION AT THIS TIME.

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#3072

NNNN

POTATO TRADING DEFAULT

Q: Politically motivated crop reports issued by USDA are being blamed for the potato traders default on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Will you comment?

A: It would be inappropriate for me to comment on a regulatory matter which the Commodities Futures Trading Commission is investigating.

→ With respect to USDA's crop reports, I would be very surprised to find that they are being tampered with. As you know, USDA has a very careful process for assembling these reports. Crop experts prepare the reports in a locked and secure room. USDA's estimate for the Maine potato crop has been consistently the same throughout the season which doesn't appear to indicate tampering.

May 26, 1976

April 21, 1976

SUBJECT:

RUBBER WORKERS' STRIKE

Having failed to reach agreement on a contract with four of the largest tire manufacturers, the United Rubber Workers today went on strike until a settlement can be reached. In spite of some last minute concessions by the manufacturers, union officials did not feel they were close enough to an agreement to delay the strike. The Firestone talks, which are being held in Cleveland, are held as the key to an overall settlement.

What is the President's reaction to the decision of the URW to go ahead and strike? Does he plan to take any action?

Federal mediator James Scarce is currently out in Cleveland meeting with both the rubber workers and the manufacturers, and he will continue to meet with them in the hopes of obtaining a settlement as soon as possible.

The President is being kept apprised of the status of the talks, and he hopes that the parties will consider the public interest in reaching a prompt settlement.

ME

UNCOMMITTED DELEGATES

Q. What are you doing to win over the uncommitted delegates? ~~personally or through personal emissaries?~~

A. I have recently authorized the PFC to set up a separate delegate tracking operation under the able leadership of James A. Baker, who up until a month ago, was the Undersecretary of Commerce. That group is working through a state and regional structure on a daily basis to provide me with an accurate status report on our delegate situation.

I expect to be talking personally with many of the uncommitted delegates during the next several weeks and expect that other Republican leaders will be speaking to the same uncommitteds on my behalf as well. I firmly believe that through personal contact those uncommitted delegates will have a chance to have their questions answered satisfactorily and positions explained fully, and that they, in the final analysis, will support my candidacy.

~~A. My personal managers, Rep. Baker,~~

A. ~~use~~ I will ^{ask} ~~to~~ ^{ask} the uncommitted delegates to support me because of my own record of accomplishments as President and because I ~~am~~ ^{clearly} the Republican with ~~the~~ best chance of winning in November.

(Guidance: Jim Baker ~~your delegate operation~~ is setting up a state and regional structure to ~~communicate with~~ ^{communicate with} the delegates.)