

DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD [NIXON PROJECT]

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE OR CORRESPONDENTS	DATE	RESTRICTION
N-1 [15]	MEMO	RN to JDE, re. idea of staying in the house in San Clemente	3/13/69	c(NIXON)
N-2 [15]	MEMO	Copy of N-1	3/13/69	c(NIXON)

FILE GROUP TITLE

President's Personal Files

BOX NUMBER

1

FOLDER TITLE

Memos - March 1969

RESTRICTION CODES

- A. Release would violate a Federal statute or Agency Policy.
 B. National security classified information.
 C. Pending or approved claim that release would violate an individual's rights.
 D. Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy or a libel of a living person.

- E. Release would disclose trade secrets or confidential commercial or financial information.
 F. Release would disclose investigatory information compiled for law enforcement purposes.
 G. Withdrawn and return private and personal material.
 H. Withdrawn and returned non-historical material.

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- NATIONAL ARCHIVES AND RECORDS ADMINISTRATION

NA FORM 1421 (4-85)

Presidential Materials Review Board

Review on Contested Documents

Collection: President's Personal Files
Box Number: 1

Folder: Memos - March 1969

<u>Document</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
15	Return Private/Personal

March 4, 1969

TO: John Ehrlichman

FROM: The President

I would suggest that the European trip might be a good test of our letters to the editor operation across the country, as well as letters to radio and television commentators who may have commented favorably.

Would you see what the 5 O'clock Group can bring off on this.

March 13, 1969

TO: Herb Klein
cc: John Ehrlichman
FROM: The President

It is vital that in the next five or six weeks before the ABM votes are taken that we get a better than even break in seeing that those who support ABM get on all the programs. This not only means "Meet the Press," "Face the Nation," "Issues and Answers", but the "Today" show, the radio talk shows and their counterparts at local levels.

I want you to use every possible method to see to it that articulate supporters of ABM get their fair amount of time on these shows. This will be difficult because, as you know, Huntley-Brinkley, Cronkite and most of the ABC staff are opposed to our decision, but I want you not only to see that our people get on,, but these programs are to be carefully monitored, and every time one of these opponents opens his mouths calls should flood the station. But even more important, I want you to get on personally and arrange for equal time for somebody from our side.

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Apart from this reaction, of course, I would like for you to game plan a scheme whereby we, on a positive basis, see that Packard, Laird, any scientists that Kissinger can dig up that might go our way, and other people (for example, Rockefeller who will speak out for us) get equal time on this subject and that they are properly briefed before they go on.

March 4, 1969

TO: Pat Buchanan
FROM: The President

In the briefing material for the campaign
you had a quote from Andre Malrowe about the United
States' use of power.

Would you see if you could find that quote
and send it in to me.

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TO: Bob Haldeman
FROM: The President

We should pick dates for the dinners I am going to give for the major Ambassadors who have retired, and also for Bliss and for Warren.

The guest lists for such dinners take a lot of planning, and also we need lead time in getting proper entertainment.

I think I have already indicated the Ambassadors to be invited. They include Bruce, Harriman, Murphy and Bolen and Tommy Thompson.

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March 11, 1969

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: The President

You will recall that on several occasions I have suggested the 5 O'clock Group might direct some of its activities toward the letter to the editor and call to television commentators and programs. I feel that such action might produce more in the way of hard achievement than discussions on the grand strategy as to when RN should appear and how many press conferences he should have, etc. I realize that some of the latter can also be helpful and, of course, is essential to maintain morale of the group. From the standpoint of what such a group can really contribute it is important always to have in mind that everybody has some idea as to what the President can do and that the primary service of the President's associates is to see what they can do in his support beyond what he does himself.

In this connection, Paul Keyes has often spoken about the necessity to monitor television programs -- not only the political programs but the entertainment programs in which there are often deliberately negative comments which deserve

some reaction on the part of our friends. One of the programs Paul suggested we watch was the Smothers Brothers. In looking at it Sunday night they had one sequence in which one said to the other that he found it difficult to find anything to laugh about -- Vietnam, the cities, etc. , but "Richard Nixon's solving those problems" and "that's really funny. "

The line didn't get a particularly good reaction from the television audience but beyond that it is the kind of line that should, particularly at this time, receive some calls and letters strenuously objecting to that kind of attack. I think it is not too late (you will probably be reading this memorandum on Tuesday morning) to have a few letters go to the producers of the program objecting to this kind of comment "particularly in view of the great public approval of RN's handling of foreign policy, etc. etc. "

As I have pointed out ad infinitum this was automatic reaction on the part of the Kennedy adherents and it should be an automatic reaction wherever we are concerned, both when we find something we want to approve and when we find something we want to disapprove.

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Would you give me an indication as to what kind of program is being set up to handle particularly TV commentaries of this type as well as the letters to the editor approach. (The latter, of course, is not nearly as important.)

March 12, 1969

TO: John Ehrlichman
Arthur Burns
Bryce Harlow

FROM: The President

In about five weeks we will have completed 100 days since the Inauguration. I would like to have this week a summary of the legislative proposals we have already sent to the Congress, and a hard analysis of what other legislative proposals will have been sent to the Congress for action before the 100 day period expires. I think we are going to have to put some deadlines on the departments with regard to those legislative proposals that we think have some substantive political meaning. From what I have been able to see to date most of our 96 directives have been responded to in an unsatisfactory way as far as our objective was concerned. Most of the departments have asked for time to "study" the directives, and there is very little prospect for action. I would like to have a report on this by the end of the week.

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March 12, 1969

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY OF STATE

cc: Henry Kissinger

FROM: The President

I would like to have a talk with Bunker at some time in the next two or three weeks. I have been reading his cables and he seems to be much more concerned about the attacks in South Vietnam than we are here. I have never met Bunker and feel that because of the importance of his position I need to talk to him so that I can judge for myself what weight to give to his cables. Get him back here as soon as it is convenient so that it does not look like a crisis, but under no circumstances do I want his return delayed beyond three weeks.

March 12, 1969

TO: Bob Haldeman
FROM: The President

You might have Flanigan give Jim Shepley a call and see if Shepley would recommend any one of the very outstanding group he had on the Time-Life Asian trip this year for Ambassador to the Philippines or Ambassador to Bonn. Some of them were really impressive and while most are presently very active chief executive officers their interests are so much in the direction of foreign policy we might be able to get one. What I need is ^{To} ~~to~~ get a couple of RN people in some of these key posts as soon as possible.

I realize that Flanigan may have told State that he was going to let a State Department person have Canada. I had decided this long ago in my own mind and I will not reverse my decision.

March 12, 1969

TO: Bryce Harlow
FROM: The President

H. Allen Smith took me on at the Congressional Reception for "his failure to be informed" with regard to the appointment of Martin on the Loan Board. Would you check this out and unruffle his feathers if his concern is legitimate.

March 13, 1969

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: The President

From talking to several of the Congressmen I think there are a number of invitations of the Mundt type hanging around in Harlow's office which should be put in the pot for future consideration.

Again, I urge you to remember that we are so swamped with mail that we tend to try to just answer it and file the inquiry when we know we aren't going to do the particular event. I think you have got to set up a system where every event inviting us for some trip is passed through your office for information, no matter how ridiculous it seems to be.

For example, the anniversary of the Seaway will be coming up this summer. I think, rather than going to Chicago or Cleveland, we ought to go back to the little town in New York (around 20,000 -- I believe it was Messina) where the Queen and I went through the ceremony before.

NIXON PRESIDENTIAL MATERIALS PROJECT
DOCUMENT CONTROL RECORD

ITEM REMOVED FROM THIS FILE FOLDER

A RESTRICTED DOCUMENT OR CASE FILE HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM THIS FILE FOLDER. FOR A DESCRIPTION OF THE ITEM REMOVED AND THE REASON FOR ITS REMOVAL, CONSULT DOCUMENT ENTRY NUMBER N- / ON EITHER THE DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD (GSA FORM 7279 OR NA FORM 1421) OR NARA WITHDRAWAL SHEET (GSA FORM 7122) LOCATED IN THE FRONT OF THIS FILE FOLDER.

March 13, 1969

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: The President

I was impressed at both the Congressional receptions to note the number of good ideas that members of Congress had -- particularly for domestic programs and some foreign ones -- ideas that had imagination and emotion and were not as routine as most of those that seem to come up from our White House and Cabinet teams.

I realize that about 75 percent of these ideas are unworkable, but now and then one of them really has the quality that should be considered. What happens here is that White House staffers and Cabinet members -- not being responsible to any constituency and not getting out to the country or reading any significant amount of mail from the country -- get very much out of touch with the country and become pretty ingrown and incestuous intellectually. I want you to put some very sensitive person on the project of seeing what programs are advocated in the Congress to which we might give some consideration in the Executive branch. I know that many Congressmen and Senators send their bills to the Executive Branch for consideration, and many of them are simply for home consumption with no thought that they might work. On the other hand, Clarence

Brown has a suggestion for bonds which would give private citizens a chance to participate in the rebuilding of cities, etc. , which might have an immense amount of moxie in it. And several others of this type were suggested.

What is needed here is to take this out of the Harlow group who are frankly too busy and who look upon their jobs, properly, simply to respond in a way requiring the least possible action to Congressional pressures -- and put it in some place in the executive group. Perhaps Bud Wilkinson's office is the place to put this project. Some young fellow there, like the young fellow from UCLA, might be a potential candidate, although this will take perhaps more than one and maybe two people to implement on a part-time basis. Follow through and see what you can do. What I am interested in here now -- I wish to emphasize not to massage the Congressmen and Senators on their pet ideas, many of which are simply too far out to even consider -- but to feed into our own executive organization a little more imagination and ingenuity. I sense that we seem to be pretty short on such ideas due to the very good reason that we are simply too busy fielding the balls that are being knocked our way. Let's correct this.

March 17, 1969
(dictated March 13, 1969)

TO: Henry Kissinger
FROM: The President

Senator Hartke of Indiana has a scheme which he thinks I am familiar with on the apparent complete obstruction which seems to inhibit action on our part in the Minzenty case. There may be nothing to this but, on the other hand, there just might be a chance that he has something which could be helpful.

For these reasons, I think we ought to explore getting him away. And this is probably a small price that the Soviets and Hungarians would pay for a few other things we have that we might do for them.

Would you have people -- Dick Allen -- explore this situation with Hartke, with State, etc. , and see if we might try to make a break-through.

Kissinger

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March 13, 1969

TO: John Ehrlichman
FROM: The President

Congressman Stanton of Ohio told me there was a group of approximately 100 in the House and Senate who meet from time to time on Sunday morning for Mass. He thought it might be well, if consistent with our program for religious services, if on some Sunday after Mass we were to invite the group over to the White House for our religious service at which a prominent Catholic (I suggest Archbishop Cooke) would give the sermon, and then afterwards have them for coffee.

The idea is excellent and I want it implemented. Call him and find out the character of the group, and let him give you guidance as to how the meeting should be worked out for one of our early Sunday morning affairs. I would see that, in addition to the Congressional people who were invited (which might take most of the available seats) we invite a few of our Catholic contributors who are rather prominent as well as those on the staff who might want to come. But don't, of course, let it be an entirely Catholic affair. The Cabinet should be well represented at this one.