

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

GREETING OF
MR. JOHN MCCOWAN

Friday, May 14, 1971

9:45 A.M.

The President's Office

THE PRESIDENT:

BACKGROUND

Mr. John McCowan, the Englishman with whom you have been corresponding for approximately 20 years, is now visiting in Washington, D.C. Mrs. Nixon is inviting him to have tea with her on Friday afternoon and has asked that you meet him briefly Friday morning. Although originally you and Mrs. Nixon had hoped to meet with him together, schedule complications prohibited this.

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

9:45 a.m. Accompanied by Alex Butterfield, Mr. McCowan will be brought in to your office.

Ollie Atkins will photograph you and Mr. McCowan.

You may wish to present Mr. McCowan with a set of Presidential cufflinks and a Presidential signing pen.

This event should not exceed five minutes in duration.

Press Plan:

There will be no Press coverage of this event.


Stephen Bull

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: May 18, 1971**Time:** 6:00 p.m.**FOR ACTION:** Alex Butterfield**cc (for information):****FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY****DUE: Date:** May 27, 1971**Time:** 2:00 p.m.**SUBJECT:**

Report for the President's File on his Meeting with Mr. John McCowan on Friday, May 14, 1971 at 9:45 a.m.

ACTION REQUESTED:☒ **For Necessary Action**☐ **For Your Recommendations**☐ **Prepare Agenda and Brief**☐ **Draft Reply**☐ **For Your Comments**☐ **Draft Remarks****REMARKS:**

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a delay in submitting the required material, please telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

JON M. HUNTSMAN
For the President

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

January 6, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN.....

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

TROUBLE ON THE RIGHT

We have a serious political problem developing on the Right. For some months, the American Conservative Union (Ashbrook, Jeff Bell, the old YAF crowd, Bill Rusher, et alia -- the Reaganites at the Miami Convention) has been harboring a growing cynicism toward the Administration. The disaffection has now spread to include a majority of the younger conservatives. Lately, it is being given national publicity through Evans & Novak; now Thimmesch, and, coming up, David Broder. Originally localized, the infection is spreading and now being broadcast, through the press, to the party structure nationally.

We should anticipate some severe criticism of the Administration at the Annual Conservative Awards Dinner -- which will bring together the entire leadership of the Conservative Movement in Washington in late January.

Briefly, a list of the on-going and new grievances against the President and the Administration would include:

1. The President is adopting a liberal Democratic domestic program, indistinguishable from what an Ed Muskie or Ed Kennedy would propose -- and the President's ability to drag the GOP along behind his proposals makes him a more effective "President Liberal" than any Democrat could possibly be. (The Stewart Alsop column, in Newsweek, attached, was especially damaging in this regard.)

2. The Right, which had felt that RN was luke-warm about FAP, and "understood," now finds the President 100% committed to the program; they see a verbal abandonment of the "workfare" aspect of FAP; the President pushing a national health insurance program of the kind conservatives have fought for years, and actively pursuing a "full employment budget" which will deliberately produce deficits that violate the First Article of GOP Dogma ("balanced budget") for forty years. (In this light, while some of the more knowledgeable and sophisticated Republicans can appreciate the need for economic stimulation, in the form of deficits and "full employment budgets," one has to think the little old ladies who work in the precincts are going to be demoralized by an approach, that seems to say while the old Democratic deficits were evil, this new Republican deficit is good. Similarly, with other Administration initiatives in the social arena, these would have been considered a few years back as hemlock to a good many Republicans -- and we have to be aware of the perplexing impact they are certain to have on our folks in the hinterland.

Handwritten: X note

3. There is no identifiable conservative left in a policy-making position in the Nixon White House. Every conservative remaining, is in some form of liaison or P.R. position; thus the hope of a "conservative alternative" in domestic policy is groundless. This complaint has been made with increasing vigor since the departure of Arthur Burns. The original "balance" in the White House staff is now felt to be gone with the departure of Burns and Harlow, and the arrivals of Finch, Rumsfeld, Schultz and MacGregor. Further, a general sense of despair over this situation is traceable to the fact that the domestic structures are now frozen for the duration. Ehrlichman's shop is seen as a small group of pragmatic technicians who can teach it either way; Schultz' operation as Budget Bureau career types who have always leaned to Big Government and statist solutions; and the Cabinet Departments as dominated, in the lower policy-making areas, by liberal hold-over in the bureaucracy. Thus, the options that come up, are solely "liberal" in orientation -- and the President no longer has another "point of view."

4. One of the constant complaints heard is that RN "takes the conservatives for granted; he doesn't think we have anywhere else to go." They feel that they are the dominant force in the Republican Party; yet, the President seems sensitive to them only at election times; they feel themselves to be the "niggers of the Nixon Administration." While they get the "rhetoric," the liberals within the party get the policies and programs. Further, they view the President as ever solicitous of the points of view and sensibilities of the left and the media -- but not so much so of the Right. Their conclusion is more and more that the squeaky wheel in the Nixon Administration gets the grease -- and there are a variety of plans floating about for them to start squeaking publicly.

5. One of the problems emerging is that the party people, the workers, the backbone of the Nixon support for twenty years must be increasingly disheartened by (a) the liberal activist domestic policy of the Administration being pushed so strongly and (b) the reports coming increasingly from columnists of conservatives, party people, and even Republican Congressmen and Governors disenchanted with the Nixon White House. Without the party, without the basically conservative workers enthusiastically and energetically behind us, 1972 will find us in "deep kimshee."

Other points that should be noted:

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A. The Evans-Novak column indicating that Reagan was black-listed from a White House established international meeting was damaging, in that it re-fuels the sub-surface talk of a Nixon-Reagan coolness, in the face of Nixon-Rockefeller warmth.

B. While Buckley's influence nationally is enormous, his influence among the hard-core right politicians is being diminished, and we cannot count on his bringing them over. Some of them are caustic -- and Buckley gets a bit of the same constant criticism that conservatives in the White House do -- that they've "sold out."

C. The only criticisms I have received of RN's performance the other night are from the Right. Reportedly, Buckley was disappointed, Kilpatrick expressed the same feeling; and half a dozen or more conservatives have called saying that while the President helped himself nationally, conservatives were appalled at the new emphasis on FAP (away from incentives, and towards "helping minorities,") the comment about Kent State and Jackson State as though the Administration were somehow connected and the enthusiasm with which RN seemed to speak of his "full employment budget," an "expansionary budget ... a budget in deficit."

D. There is serious talk heard now among conservatives to urge Governor Reagan to begin to become a focal point of public opposition to the President's domestic initiatives. Some conservatives close to Reagan don't believe he will move in this direction -- as he is basically not that type. But, at the Awards Dinner, the one annual gathering of the most important conservatives, these kind of things are certain to be talked up -- and promoted.

E. These are sentiments being picked up from the conservative right with which I have some communication. One would imagine that they are also prevalent on the Hill -- and the President should take some soundings from his own people to ascertain if this is not so.

F. Having investigated the Evans-Novak column thing as requested, I am unable to learn who made the quotes -- but have been told repeatedly they are not unrepresentative of a general mood out there.

Buchanan's View and Thoughts

The situation on the Right is as bad as I have known it, since joining RN. Some of the departing Right, are not coming back -- given the nature of the new domestic program. But we have to act to retain the allegiance of those drifting off; to retain the support, at least occasion, of the writers -- who are now increasingly dubious. Also, we have to take the steps to stop this constant bickering in

the press within the Party and on the Hill -- about the President not caring, or not consulting, or not listening to the Congressional and Party Regulars.

How this last is done is a problem for our Congressional and political people.

Some suggestions on all these matters:

OK (a) The need to bring the Congressional wing of the Party in on the take-off of these domestic programs we are contemplating; let the President hear their views on FHIP before it goes and we demand their backing.

NO (Reg only) (b) There may be a need for RN to get together with the party types on their visits to Washington; and to take a more active role in putting down the complaints that lead to all this negative leakage in the press.

OK (c) The Conservatives need to be put on notice that their policy alternatives, their program suggestions, from without can get a hearing within. Right now, it is felt there is no conservative programmatic recommendations that can get a hearing in the policy-making procedures of the White House.

OK (d) There may be a need for the President to bring an identifiable "conservative" in at the Rumsfeld-Finch-Ehrlichman level -- who can be visible as a voice of the Right to which the President will listen, and to whom the Right can take their complaints.

(e) While the President's decisions and directions domestically may be locked in -- perhaps there can be more media emphasis, in terms of speeches and statements and appearances -- on the "Conservative" side of the RN policies.

A foreign policy speech, which explains the need for greater defense expenditures based on Soviet activity and Soviet spending -- would be most welcome. A presidential, or White House emphasis, on what is being done for the Veterans of Vietnam -- which is considerable -- might be helpful. In short,

what do they think of Cambodia etc? -

while recently RN has been given public emphasis to the "liberal" side of the Administration, a corresponding emphasis on the "conservative" side of the Administration could help with the party folks and the country.

They overlook this consent line on foreign

(f) The President might himself meet with a representative group of ideological conservatives -- in the writing community, in the Congress -- to hear out their grievances. Many I am sure, having been out of power and favor in Washington for so long, want to be an integral part of the Administration. Given the opportunity, they become the best defenders of the White House in the conservative community we have.

*NO
Buchanan
Laguerre*

*few
individed
off*

This having been "out" for so long is one reason why conservatives can so quickly adopt a posture of opposition -- it is a role in which, frankly, many of them feel most comfortable. As Bryce once told me, "We have to retain all those guys on the Hill; for ten years, they've been conditioned to bite anything that moves at this end of Pennsylvania Avenue."

*I thought
we were
seeing them
who is at
fault
for me
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this*

(g) Some reports from within indicate that RN plans to do no party meetings whatsoever this year -- not the GOP women, not the Young Republicans in the East Room as last year, etc. I feel this would be a great mistake -- since no one condemns RN for being a party leader; that is a natural and expected role for a President. What the media objection is, is to the "partisanship" of the campaign.

(h) Many of the conservative objections to Administration policy have been and are being refuted on the grounds that conservatives rarely come up with "programs" of their own to present to the President. They recognize this to a great degree -- the idea of a conservative Brookings is always mentioned; and enthusiasm for this kind of idea from the President in a meeting with conservatives like Buckley would be most useful. It is something which needs to be done; it is a conservative short-coming which the Right recognizes.

Finally, I think the problem contains enough potential harm to the Administration, and its future, that I feel that RN should draw the views of other conservatives within -- on all these subjects; people like Bill Timmons, Harry Dent, Tom Huston, Lyn Nofziger, Martin Anderson -- and all the political types who have lines out in the conservative community.



PAT BUCHANAN

H-I have mentioned this
to you at least a
dozen times. What
has been done?

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

January 14, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR:

FROM:

H. R. HALDEMAN

PATRICK J. BUCHANAN

THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN...
NEITHER FISH NOR FOWL

We suffer from the widely held belief that the President has no Grand Vision that inspires him, no deeply held political philosophy that girds, guides and explains his words, decisions and deeds. The President is viewed as the quintessential political pragmatist, standing before an ideological buffet, picking some from this tray and some from that. On both sides he is seen as the text book political transient, here today, gone tomorrow, shuttling back and forth, as weather permits, between liberal programs and conservative rhetoric. As someone put it, "the bubble in the carpenter's level."

Nixon, the Plastic President, is a severe, even brutal, judgment, but one held to our disadvantage by increasing numbers of liberals and conservatives.

This impression is reinforced daily by the national media which invariably discusses in depth the "political motives" behind each of the President's actions -- whether it be a visit to a college

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campus, the appointment of a Democratic Cabinet official, or a meeting with a black leader. Few Presidents have had their "motives" inspected to the degree that Richard Nixon has.

(Further, we do not help the President by this very visible
c ampaign to present the media yet another "New Nixon," a
campaign whose existence is apparent from reading all the
columns and reports of the "changes" in emphasis and goal
and purpose of 1971, from 1970.)

Left and right, both now argue aloud that the President, and his Administration, do not take decisions on the basis of political principle -- but on the basis of expediency; that ours is "ad hoc government," which responds only as pressures mount from left or right. Neither liberal nor conservative, neither fish nor fowl, the Nixon Administration, they argue, is a hybrid, whose zigging and zagging has succeeded in winning the enthusiasm and loyalty of neither left nor right, but the suspicion and distrust of both.

This reality, as others see it, lies beneath many of the "p. r. failures of 1970."

More important, this "reality" explains many of the Administration's existing political and "p. r." difficulties, and

3.

probably has greater bearing on the President's future -- and his place in history -- than any successful or unsuccessful "game plan" from Calendar 1970 I can recall.

Thus, I am using the occasion of this memorandum, written "in strict confidence," to focus upon this matter of ideological direction.

SINCE NOVEMBER

The impression among sophisticated conservatives -- now being conveyed to the rank-and-file -- is that the President, subsequent to the harsh (and unjust) criticism of his 1970 campaign, has moved leftward in force to cover his exposed flank.

The "full employment budget," the open embrace of an "expansionary deficit;" the public confession that "Kent State and Jackson State" and the defeat of FAP, were his greatest "disappointments;" the admission "I am a Keynesian now;" the enthusiasm for both FAP and for the forthcoming FHIP -- these are part of a pattern left and right have both recognized.

The "clincher" for both sides came in the President's conversation with the anchormen. While the booboisie in the hinterlands saw only the President's mastery and skill (74 percent), the sophisticates, on both sides, picked up unmistakable signals.

4.

It was not the Nixon deftness in handling questions that made Kay Graham, Sander Vanocur and Joe Kraft, watching together, credit the President with his most brilliant performance -- or that had astonished conservatives on the phone to each other after midnight.

BALANCE SHEET

A close examination of the early returns, and the projected returns, from the President's recent moves seems imperative before the President sets his compass on the course indicated in that conversation. The State of the Union and the Budget mark the point of no return.

THE DOWN SIDE

In the short run, through 1972, the decision may very well be the necessary and correct one. An electoral cost accountant could argue cogently that Nixon must move leftward to win moderates and liberals from Muskie, and anyway, the conservatives have nowhere else to go. Just as the Gene McCarthy Left eventually came home to Humphrey in November of 1968, so also, the Goldwater-Reagan Right must come home to Nixon in November of 1972.

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There are problems with this scenario, however. First, it does not allow for the presence of Wallace as an alternative for some on the Right. Second, it does not take into consideration that the Republican Right is not simply a powerful struggling minority in the GOP -- as the McCarthy Left is in the Democratic Party -- it is the dominant majority, with the power to nominate and veto presidential candidates.

Even more serious in my view than the long-shot possibility of a Reagan-or-Conservative run for the Republican nomination is the certain erosion of the President's historic base -- when the accumulated news of the last few weeks filters down to precinct level.

Over the course of two years, but especially in the last month, the President has conspicuously abandoned many of the sustaining traditions of the Republican Party, traditions Richard Nixon rode to triumphant success in 1968 over the defeated "programmatic liberalism" of the New Deal.

Two brief examples. In both "reducing the size of the Federal Government," and "balancing the Federal Budget," the President has swept these traditions aside with an ease and facility that must have astonished millions of Republicans who have held them as articles of faith for forty years.

6.

On his statements and positions of recent weeks, the President is no longer a credible custodian of the conservative political tradition of the GOP. Can one seriously imagine in 1972 those little old ladies in tennis shoes ringing doorbells in Muncie for "FAP," "FHIP" and the "full employment budget."

In the profit-and-loss statement drawn up from the President's move left, we must not overlook the inevitable and considerable loss in morale to the tens of thousands of party workers, the backbone of the GOP, one of the hinges on which the 1972 election will surely swing. The President once rightly identified the Left as the home of the True Believer in the Democratic Party and the Right as the home of the True Believer in the GOP. With Richard Nixon on the ticket, the troops of the Democratic Party will be out in force; where will the troops of the GOP be?

The President's recent moves -- if publicized widely nationally -- leave the Republican True Believers without a vocal champion. One has to guess that this political vacuum will not go unfilled, that the old political faith will not go unchampioned for long.

Though a minority nationally, many millions of Americans hold fiscal and political conservatism as gospel -- and the President's rapid moves have taken him further to the left in a month than the average Republican travels in a lifetime.

7.

Further, in shedding some of the sustaining traditions of the GOP, we have donned the garments of the same "programmatic liberalism" the President scorned as outdated in 1968. Regardless of our rhetoric about "cleaning out the Federal Government" and "returning power to the States, cities and the people," the Federal Government under the Nixon Administration has grown to a size to dwarf the Great Society. What Great Society program -- with the insignificant exception of the Job Corps camps -- have been abandoned?

Rather than draw up our own yardstick of success and failure, we have willingly invited judgment by the old measures of the old order. Thus, we proudly point up that we are spending more for human resources than for "defense resources." (Most Republicans would argue that Federal spending for "human resources" has proven a failure, and there should be less, not more.) We publicize statistics on how much "integration" has taken place under President Nixon; we argue that our welfare program provides a guaranteed income for families and is bigger and better than anything they have offered; we underscore how much more rapidly we are bringing Americans home from Vietnam and the rest of the world; we congratulate ourselves on each new cut in the defense budget. In short, we ask our adversaries in the media and the academy to judge

*I agree
this should
be defended*

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us on how well we are doing in reaching objectives which liberals -- not conservatives -- have designated as the national goals.

When the suggestion even surfaces that the President may be disenchanted with OEO, and perhaps ready to scuttle it, Rumsfeld and Carlucci rush to Capitol Hill to swear our eternal fealty to the organization.

Truly, the liberals went swimming and President Nixon stole their clothes -- but in the process we left our old conservative suit lying by the swimming hole for someone else to pick up.

There is another theme abandoned with the new maneuver, the "it's time for a change" theme, on which we had the patent in 1968, and could have maintained through protracted conflict with an "Establishment" during the Nixon Presidency. Roosevelt maintained it through his first two terms in power -- running against the "conservative establishment." But, in openly appealing to moderates and liberals, in adopting programs and policies warmly endorsed by American liberalism, we are becoming the Administration of more of the same. On the Democratic side, there is always the alternative available of more and faster -- and now, on our right, there is available a clear alternative of a "different road for America." Either Mr. Wallace or Mr. Reagan can apply for the vacancy.

9.

As my own concern with whether the President wins in 1972 is of a piece with my concern for the President's place in history, I have to view the sharp leftward move in disappointing terms.

The President is now abandoning an historic opportunity, the opportunity to become the political pivot on which America turned away from liberalism, away from the welfare state -- the founder of a new "Establishment." While the course of a "conservative President" would be more difficult by far, and politically more risky, it would seem a preferable course historically if only because the President would be assured an unoccupied niche in America's history books and a following of millions of men and women to honor his memory.

After observing what liberal journalists, liberal academicians and liberal historians are doing to the most liberal New Dealer of them all, Lyndon Johnson, I cannot think that they will be paying much grudging tribute to the accomplishments of liberal-come-lately Richard Nixon. One wonders who will be writing our epitaph.

THE UP SIDE

Clearly, among the primary considerations in the President's "opening to the left" was the pressure of advisers that this was the

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only way to end the daily savaging of the President at the hands of the liberal media.

The national media -- television and the national press --
dominate the impressions of the Administration conveyed to the
nation. From watching the media in the month following the
campaign, it was clear they were bent on the destruction of this
Administration.

In recent weeks, the assault has abated. The strategy is clearly working; we seem to be succeeding. Having failed to half the liberal media's attacks by ignoring them until November of 1969, we took to the offensive that month and through the elections of 1970. Originally successful, that policy seems subsequently to have failed and now we have clearly sought an armistice -- with major political concessions forth-coming.

A strong case can be made that this new posture is the only way the President can get tolerable coverage; and thus, perhaps the only way he can survive the 1972 elections.

Over against this, one has to ask, not what the media will say in 1971 -- about "new initiatives" -- but where will it be when push comes to shove, in 1972. Where will the liberals, columnists and commentators and reporters, go in a Nixon-Kennedy, Nixon-Muskie, or Nixon-Humphrey race? Those who think that

11.

Correct

Richard M. Nixon, the man who nailed Hiss, can ever win over the loyalty and support of a single liberal reporter, belongs, in my view, in that asylum built for those ever-trusting Americans who yet believe that one more gesture to the Soviets will woo them away from the ends and means they have followed unswervingly for a lifetime.

Truly, from watching the three network shows on 1970, they have "had it up to here" with the President.

First, the Nixon Presidency does not even remotely resemble their ideal -- a Kennedy-style Presidency, grounded in intellectual and young-poor-black support, a presidency that wages uninterrupted war on Congressional and Southern reactionaries, not consorts with them, an Administration with a heart that bleeds a little publicly, an Administration that will abandon interventionist nonsense from the days of the Cold War, an Administration that will truly re-order priorities. We are not that Administration now. The closer we approximate ourselves to it -- the better treatment we shall receive.

Secondly, and as important, the dominant media views the world differently than we do. They look, and everywhere they see crisis -- regardless of the merits of the case. Neither statements nor statistics can convince them that poverty is being diminished annually, that the lot of our black citizens is improving monthly,

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that hunger is being defeated, that war against pollution has begun with a good chance of success.

There are none so blind as those who will not see -- and the left intellectual does not want to see the far-reaching successes of the United States at home and abroad anymore. He wants to believe that stupidity and reaction and insensitivity are bringing us to ruin -- and so that is what he sees. What confirms this apocalyptic vision is emphasized -- what contradicts it is ignored.

So to have ourselves portrayed in a favorable light by the media, and hence to the nation; to win the votes of that "critical margin" of moderates and liberals, we have determined to compromise with established liberalism, no longer to confront it -- to go along in order to get along. Perhaps that is politically the best course of action -- historically, I cannot think so -- for us or the country.

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January 26, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT'S FILE

FROM: DICK MOORE *DM*

SUBJECT: ANECDOTES - The President's Open Door House,
January 26, 1971

Terence Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop of New York, and Military Vicar, visited the President from approximately 5:00 P. M. to 5:45 P. M. in the Oval Room today. Also present were General Haig and the Cardinal's aide, Monsignor Murray.

The press was present for pictures at the beginning and then retired.

The Cardinal had just recently returned from an extensive trip to the Far East, including visits to 40 different camps and installations in South Vietnam.

After the meeting General Haig and I reviewed the conversation with Ron Ziegler, who thereupon briefed the reporters in the press room.

In terms of anecdotal material, the meeting was not the kind that would provide specific incidents, or direct quotes. Yet it certainly conveyed some very significant impressions of the President and I am noting them.

1. The President and Cardinal Cooke seemed to have a very close and cordial relationship with strong mutual respect. It was a reunion of 2 friends without sense of rank. I noted that the President was thoroughly enjoying the visit and he kept the Cardinal beyond the time scheduled for the meeting. When a biographer or magazine writer is doing a piece about President Nixon, his very warm, personal friendship between the Catholic Prelate and the Quaker President could be a useful and revealing fact.

The purpose of this memorandum is not to recount detailed discussion of what Cardinal Cooke saw and heard on his trip, but rather the President's deep and probing interest in everything that Cardinal Cooke reported. His narrative was interrupted by constant questions by the President on subjects which included the following: Vietnamization; troop morale; drugs, Vietnamize attitudes at all levels; the prisoners; casualties; results of Cambodia and policy questions relating to every aspect of the war and our role in it. Highlights were perhaps the mutual concern of the two men with casualties, their revulsion at Hanoi's treatment of American prisoners as pawns and a broad concern for the fate of millions of people which will be affected by our policies and actions.

In summary: This was a conversation in which there was a sharing of a sense of moral and spiritual values.

Footnote:

At the close the Cardinal presented the President with a silver medallion marking his own 25th anniversary as a priest. The President was pleased and interested, but expressed good natured chagrin that his intelligence sources had not advised him of the important anniversary so that he could have participated.

RAM/aep

February 2, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT'S FILE

FROM: DICK MOORE 

SUBJECT: ANECDOTES - The President's Open Door Hour
February 2, 1971

The "Hour" lasted from noon to about 1:25 P.M. There were nine events. The names and details are in the attached memorandum.

The press was present for several of the events and were briefed on others afterwards. The UPI carried good reports on the President's visits with twelve students who had been to Vietnam; the presentation of the Heart Award to Speaker Albert; and the presentation to Shorty Smith, the truck driver of the year.

The Associated Press used these same stories, plus the Big Brother Award.

The wire clippings are attached.

In terms of providing an insight into the President, the institution of the "Open Door Hour" itself would make a good column or story. For example, today's visits demonstrate the following:

1. Far from being aloof or impersonal toward the people who work for the Administration, the President goes out of his way to give them personal attention. Moreover, his visits with Administration people are not perfunctory. The President does his homework and invariably gets into discussions of substance involving the visitor's speciality. Examples today were:

a. The visit of our new Ambassador to Columbia, Mr. Saccio. (A good discussion of India, Mr. Saccio's most recent post.)

b. Farewell visit by Hilary Sandoval, former SBA Administrator. This could have been just a picture-taking.

Instead the President realized that Sandoval wanted to take this opportunity to make some points to the President, and invited him to sit down for a good discussion. Sandoval had several suggestions about what we can do for the Mexican - Americans. The President took out his yellow pad and made notes, and it is apparent that the visit obviously meant a great deal to Sandoval.

c. Harry Flemming brought in five young men who worked for him in EOB, none of whom had met the President before. Each one got a chance to tell the President about his duties. Again it was more than perfunctory. The President gave each of them cuff links and then offered them pins for their wives. It turned out that only one of them was married. All the better, said the President, you bachelors can get more mileage with this Presidential pin than a married man.

2. The President Enjoys People.

One often reads that the President does not meet people easily or enjoy small talk, but that is usually said by someone who has not seen him in action.

Examples:

a. He thoroughly enjoyed the visit with Shorty Smith, the truck driver of the year who has driven four million miles without an accident, and they had quite a discussion. At one point he said to Mrs. Smith, I suppose you never worry about Shorty when he is driving. Her reply "Only when he is hauling dynamite" broke the President up. He repeated this bit when the press came in and enjoyed it all over again.

b. The Heart Award to Speaker Albert as the "heart attack man of the year" could have been a dull session, but the President's line, "I just don't want you to give this award to me" took care of that. Even Albert enjoyed it.

3. The President does get along with young people.

The most interesting session was the visit by twelve college students who had just returned from Vietnam and Cambodia. The President talked individually with each one and then joined in an intensive discussion. As in the case of Cardinal Cooke, he was eager to hear what they had seen and almost everyone of them had something to say individually to him. He let the visit run overtime and one could tell he was deeply grateful for the kind of support which the young people expressed, particularly on the Cambodia venture.

Feb. 8, 1971

Memo For The President's File

From: A.P. Butterfield

Subj: Color Report - The President's Mtg with John Smith
Freshman student at Ohio State Univ. (Feb. 8)

(1) Anecdotes: A) _____

B) _____

(2) Info passed to Ziglar just before noon.

(3) No further action taken yet - but I will get info
out to Newsweek & Time reps (Mtg with each in my
office tomorrow)

(4) Recommend Klein run with these. They are both
the kinds of things he can get to columnists. Bob Finch
& Herb Klein may want to use these in near future
speeches or interviews.

Feb. 9, 1971

Memo For The President's File

From: A.P. Butterfield

Subj: Color Report - The President's Mtg with 6 Mbrs
of the Business Council (Map Room) - (Feb 9)

Nothing to report - mtg was very short - no color

Feb. 9, 1971

Memo For The President's File

From: AP Butterfield

Subj: Color Report - The President's Mtg With The Cabinet
(Feb 9)

① Anecdote: As the mtg terminated, the President stood as if to depart the Room - then stopped short and turned back to face the members. Beginning in a soft, almost inaudible voice, he said. " _____

He paused momentarily and then although all present were standing, none moved. The Room was deadily silent. Then the President went on to say - in essence that

② Zigler was present, so heard. I spoke to him about the impact the President's words so obviously had & he said that he planned to get the word, etc to the WH press corps right away. (Klein, Finch, Burnsfield & Sofie also present.)

③ I personally briefed Shumway - then called "athletes" who were present at mtg. All promised to move ahead on this one now

January 26, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT'S FILE

FROM: DICK MOORE *DM*

SUBJECT: ANECDOTES - The President's Open Door House,
January 26, 1971

Terence Cardinal Cooke, Archbishop of New York, and Military Vicar, visited the President from approximately 5:00 P.M. to 5:45 P.M. in the Oval Room today. Also present were General Haig and the Cardinal's aide, Monsignor Murray.

The press was present for pictures at the beginning and then retired.

The Cardinal had just recently returned from an extensive trip to the Far East, including visits to 40 different camps and installations in South Vietnam.

After the meeting General Haig and I reviewed the conversation with Ron Ziegler, who thereupon briefed the reporters in the press room.

In terms of anecdotal material, the meeting was not the kind that would provide specific incidents, or direct quotes. Yet it certainly conveyed some very significant impressions of the President and I am noting them.

1. The President and Cardinal Cooke seemed to have a very close and cordial relationship with strong mutual respect. It was a reunion of 2 friends without sense of rank. I noted that the President was thoroughly enjoying the visit and he kept the Cardinal beyond the time scheduled for the meeting. When a biographer or magazine writer is doing a piece about President Nixon, his very warm, personal friendship between the Catholic Prelate and the Quaker President could be a useful and revealing fact.

The purpose of this memorandum is not to recount detailed discussion of what Cardinal Cooke saw and heard on his trip, but rather the President's deep and probing interest in everything that Cardinal Cooke reported. His narrative was interrupted by constant questions by the President on subjects which included the following: Vietnamization; troop morale; drugs, Vietnamize attitudes at all levels; the prisoners; casualties; results of Cambodia and policy questions relating to every aspect of the war and our role in it. Highlights were perhaps the mutual concern of the two men with casualties, their revulsion at Hanoi's treatment of American prisoners as pawns and a broad concern for the fate of millions of people which will be affected by our policies and actions.

In summary: This was a conversation in which there was a sharing of a sense of moral and spiritual values.

Footnote:

At the close the Cardinal presented the President with a silver medallion marking his own 25th anniversary as a priest. The President was pleased and interested, but expressed good natured chagrin that his intelligence sources had not advised him of the important anniversary so that he could have participated.

RAM/aep

February 2, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT'S FILE

FROM: DICK MOORE *DM*

SUBJECT: ANECDOTES - The President's Open Door Hour
February 2, 1971

The "Hour" lasted from noon to about 1:25 P.M. There were nine events. The names and details are in the attached memorandum.

The press was present for several of the events and were briefed on others afterwards. The UPI carried good reports on the President's visits with twelve students who had been to Vietnam; the presentation of the Heart Award to Speaker Albert; and the presentation to Shorty Smith, the truck driver of the year.

The Associated Press used these same stories, plus the Big Brother Award.

The wire clippings are attached.

In terms of providing an insight into the President, the institution of the "Open Door Hour" itself would make a good column or story. For example, today's visits demonstrate the following:

1. Far from being aloof or impersonal toward the people who work for the Administration, the President goes out of his way to give them personal attention. Moreover, his visits with Administration people are not perfunctory. The President does his homework and invariably gets into discussions of substance involving the visitor's speciality. Examples today were:

a. The visit of our new Ambassador to Columbia, Mr. Saccio. (A good discussion of India, Mr. Saccio's most recent post.)

b. Farewell visit by Hilary Sandoval, former SBA Administrator. This could have been just a picture-taking.

Instead the President realized that Sandoval wanted to take this opportunity to make some points to the President, and invited him to sit down for a good discussion. Sandoval had several suggestions about what we can do for the Mexican - Americans. The President took out his yellow pad and made notes, and it is apparent that the visit obviously meant a great deal to Sandoval.

c. Harry Flemming brought in five young men who worked for him in EOB, none of whom had met the President before. Each one got a chance to tell the President about his duties. Again it was more than perfunctory. The President gave each of them cuff links and then offered them pins for their wives. It turned out that only one of them was married. All the better, said the President, you bachelors can get more mileage with this Presidential pin than a married man.

2. The President Enjoys People.

One often reads that the President does not meet people easily or enjoy small talk, but that is usually said by someone who has not seen him in action.

Examples:

a. He thoroughly enjoyed the visit with Shorty Smith, the truck driver of the year who has driven four million miles without an accident, and they had quite a discussion. At one point he said to Mrs. Smith, I suppose you never worry about Shorty when he is driving. Her reply "Only when he is hauling dynamite" broke the President up. He repeated this bit when the press came in and enjoyed it all over again.

b. The Heart Award to Speaker Albert as the "heart attack man of the year" could have been a dull session, but the President's line, "I just don't want you to give this award to me" took care of that. Even Albert enjoyed it.

3. The President does get along with young people.

The most interesting session was the visit by twelve college students who had just returned from Vietnam and Cambodia. The President talked individually with each one and then joined in an intensive discussion. As in the case of Cardinal Cooke, he was eager to hear what they had seen and almost everyone of them had something to say individually to him. He let the visit run overtime and one could tell he was deeply grateful for the kind of support which the young people expressed, particularly on the Cambodia venture.

Feb. 8, 1971

Memo For The President's File

From: A.P. Butterfield

Subj: Color Report - The President's Mtg with John Smith,
Freshman student at Ohio State Univ. (Feb. 8)

(1) Anecdotes: A) _____

B) _____

(2) Info passed to Ziglar just before noon.

(3) No further action taken yet - but I will get info
out to Newsweek & Time reps (Mtg with each in my
office tomorrow)

(4) Recommend Klein run with these. They are both
the kinds of things he can get to columnists. Bob Fitch
& Herb Klein may want to use these in near future
speeches or interviews.

Feb. 9, 1971

Memo For The President's File

From: A.P. Butterfield

Subj: Color Report - The President's Mtg with 6 Mbrs
of the Business Council (Map Room) - (Feb 9)

Nothing to report - mtg was very short - no color

Feb. 9, 1971

Memo For The President's File

From: AP Butterfield

Subj: Color Report - The President's Mtg With The Cabinet
(Feb 9)

① Anecdote: As the mtg terminated, the President stood as if to depart the Room - then stopped short and turned back to face the members. Beginning in a soft, almost inaudible voice, he said. " _____

He paused momentarily and then although all present were standing, none moved. The Room was deadily silent. Then the President went on to say - in essence that _____

② Zigler was present, so heard. I spoke to him about the impact the President's words so obviously had & he said that he planned to get the word, etc to the WH press corps right away. (Klein, Finch, Rumsfeld & Sofie also present.)

③ I personally briefed Shumway - then called "outlets" who were present at mtg. He promised to move ahead on this one now

January 28, 1971

Mr. Jimmy Gesmer
2504 Cerro Vista Drive
Rockford, Ill. 61107

Dear Jimmy:

Your letter addressed to the Cabinet came to us here in the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. I am sorry that we do not have a picture of each person in the President's Cabinet. I am glad, however, to enclose a picture of our Secretary, Mr. Elliott L. Richardson.

The Cabinet meets in the White House, and I am sending your note along to see if they have some pictures of the room in which President Nixon meets with the heads of the Departments.

If you are interested in getting pictures of other cabinet members, you should drop a note to the other Government departments. Your teacher will be able to tell you their names.

With all good wishes.

Cordially yours,

J. Stewart Hunter
Associate Director of Information
for Public Services

Enclosure

1528-N

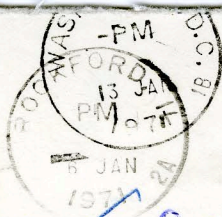
Jimmy Hermer
2504 Arrow Vista Dr.
Rockford, Illinois 61107

Dear Cabinet,
I am writing to ask
if you will please send me
a picture of each person
in the cabinet, and a picture
of the room the cabinet is in.
Thank You. And something on the
cabinet.
Sincerely

Jimmy Hermer

P.S. Will you try to get it to
me by Jan, 29, 1971.

Jimmy Gesmer
2504 Cerro Vista Drive
Rockford, Ill. 61107



United States Cabinet
% THE WHITE HOUSE
Washington D.C. HEW

STOP 367

February 8, 1971

Dear Mrs. Pfau:

The news of your father's death is deeply saddening, and Mrs. Nixon and I want you to know that you and your family will be in our thoughts and in our hearts in the difficult days ahead.

Herbert Spencer's countless contributions to the welfare of the Pasadena community and to all of southern California will keep his memory alive for years to come. His encouragement, and beyond that, his friendship, have meant a great deal to the Nixons, and I will always be grateful for the help he gave to my efforts. As your cousin, Alex, is among the most valued of my associates here, I continue to feel particularly close to the Spencer family.

It was very kind of you to offer to let me have the letters your father and I exchanged. Needless to say, we would be glad to receive them, and John Nesbitt of the White House staff has been asked to look into this question with you directly. I am sure you will be hearing from him in the near future.

Sincerely,

Mrs. George H. Pfau, Jr.
2509 Broadway
San Francisco, California 94115

cc: John Nesbitt with copy of incoming

To Mr. Butterfield
2-8-71