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April 25, 1972

TO: Harry S. Dent
FROM: Brad E. Hainsworth
SUBJECT: Montana

The President: If the President loses Montana, we will be in a major political disaster.

The Governor: Incumbent Forrest H. Anderson is not seeking re-election. Democrats are favored. Democrat contenders are Lt. Governor Tom Judge, who will get the nomination; Dick Dzivi, Senate Majority Leader; and David E. Burnham. GOP candidates are State Representative Ed Smith and Frank Dunkle. A toss-up.

Senate: Lee Metcalf (D) is favored. There is a primary but it is of no importance. GOP candidates are Harold E. "Bud" Wallace, an unworthy candidate; State Senator Henry S. Hubbard; and Norman C. Wheeler. Hubbard will probably get the nomination. However, former Governor Tim Babcock is thinking seriously of running - if he does, he will get the nomination.

House: Richard Shoup (R) is favored. Has unimportant primary. Democrats are former Congressman Arnold Olsen, whom Shoup defeated; Art Sakaye; and Harriet Miller. Olsen will get the nomination. This will be a horse race. Olsen was a five-term incumbent. The district has been solid Democrat for the past thirty years.

John Melcher (D) will win. Dick Forrester will be the GOP candidate. He is a good candidate, but can't win.

Issues: Agriculture will be the chief issue. Secretary Butz is visiting the state early in June and this will be a help. Predator control and EPA's action against pesticides has badly hurt us among sheep and cattle ranchers. Inflation and jobs will be an issue; and Vietnam could become a serious issue.

bcc: Mitchell, Haldeman, Magruder.