Richard Nixon Presidential Library Contested Materials Collection Folder List

Box Number	Folder Number	Document Date	No Date	Subject	Document Type	Document Description
21	6		•	White House Staff	Other Document	Indecipherable handwritten note. 1 pg.
21	6	4/16/1971		Campaign	Memo	From Jeb S. Magruder to Mr. Strachan. RE: The "Common Cause" movement as a political arm of the Democratic Party, and the possibility that they might emerge as a third party movement on the left. 1 pg.

Wednesday, April 06, 2011 Page 1 of 1

Presidential Materials Review Board

Review on Contested Documents

Collection: H. R. Haldeman Box Number: 299

Folder: Common Cause [Folder II]

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168	Retain	Open

Presidential Materials Review Board Review on Contested Documents

Collection: H. R. Haldeman Box Number: 299

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THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

April 16, 1971

ADMINISTRATIVELY CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR: MR. STRACHAN

FROM: JEB S. MAGRUDE

SUBJECT: Common Cause

In attempting to decide what action we should take relating to Common Cause, I think we should consider these possibilities: (1) that they actually are becoming an arm of the Democratic Party, or (2) that they might be the forerunner of a third party movement on the left.

If it is more likely that (1) will occur, I would recommend that people outside of the Administration begin to take on Common Cause's validity. This could include well-written articles for the New York Times OP ED page by well known outside experts, letters to the editor, speeches by certain Congressmen and Senators -- particularly those on the more liberal side of our party, and other activity of this kind. If (2) is more correct, it might be to our advantage to see Common Cause develop into a position where they can support a third party effectively.

My opinion is that any third party movement would assist us tremendously in re-electing RN. On this point, since I have done no research, it would be important to determine whether Common Cause would take sufficient liberal and independent votes from our end to actually enable a third party to be elected or to allow the Democrats to win.

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