Richard Nixon Presidential Library White House Special Files Collection Folder List

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1	3	05/08/1973	Letter	From Lyman Brownfield to Rosemary Woods RE: Michael Kirernan, 2 pgs.

LYMAN BROWNFIELD
185 SOUTH DREXEL AVENUE
COLUMBUS, OHIO 43209

May 8, 1973

Miss Rosemary Wood The White House Washington, D. C.

Dear Rosemary:

I had a call Tuesday afternoon from one Michael Kirernan, a free lance reporter in Washington. He has been reviewing biographical material concerning the President and has come up with the incident reported by Don Jackson about the time during the summer of 1936 when Freddie Albrink and Nixon boosted Bill Perdue through the transom into the Dean's office in order to see what the grades were. He is looking into this from the standpoint that it might appear to have been early training for Watergate.

He called me about the incident. I told him I wasn't present, and he is going to call Albrink. We did discuss the situation for a while, and when we concluded he left me with the impression that he felt that this was a harmless student prank, and that nothing more should be read into it. He suggested that he might have been the first person to catch this idea, and that perhaps others would come up with it later.

In response to his questions I advised him that the incident had been discovered probably before the summer was out, that no serious reprimand resulted, and that we were all so close together that if Dean Horack had walked into the office in the middle of the proceedings all three would have been unruffled and would simply have invited him to draw up a chair and help them find the grade records. I also suggested that it was probably in character for Freddie to have originated the prank (which I think is probably true). I am sure Albrink will add no fuel to any fire, but perhaps the President or someone in the office may want to know that this particular thing is brewing.

Kirernan began by asking whether any of the Class had sent the President messages of support. I said I did not know of any, that I had been planning to write but had procrastinated in favor of other pressing matters, but that the affection for

the President held by the five classes who were with him in school ran so deep that I was sure all of them supported him in spirit, regardless of political differences. Having so prompted, I am about to stop procrastinating long enough to dictate a brief personal note, which if the President has time and you think it appropriate you may want him to see.

Sincerely,

Jymm