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August 10, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. H. R. HALDEMAN

FROM: DWIGHT L. CHAPIN

I talked to Jim Holshouser, North Carolina State Chairman. He gave me the following reading concerning the possibility of the President's trip to Louisiana.

He stated that North Carolina Republicans did not play much of a role in selecting the school group which is representing that State. It is overwhelmingly Democratic. The Republicans have decided to stay at arm's length from the group.

He says it is a little hard to know right now whether or not the President should be involved with the school groups. He feels that it would be personally better if the President remained with a low profile regarding these school groups. In North Carolina, for example, they don't want it to end up being called the Nixon Committee. The bigger it is played up, the more it will become Nixon's integration.

He is scared of the whole thing. The higher profile the Administration has as compared to that of the Court's, the harder it is going to be for us to get along. He feels that we can hold the middle-of-the-road people which we had in 1968, but that the right-wing votes which we received then will go over to Wallace.

He points out that the local citizens are not anxious to hear from anyone who is trying to soften up the fact that integration is taking place. He feels the Committees should serve their function as set up and move in when they need to, but that we should keep them off the front page now.

Basic conclusion: Don't go to Louisiana to do the school groups.

DLC:ny