

Richard Nixon Presidential Library  
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Folder List

<u>Box Number</u>	<u>Folder Number</u>	<u>Document Date</u>	<u>No Date</u>	<u>Subject</u>	<u>Document Type</u>	<u>Document Description</u>
3	46	9/20/1972	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Memo	From Henry C. Cashen II to Colson RE: notes from a telephone conversation with Cardinal Krol on the election. 2 pgs.
3	46	9/20/1972	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Memo	From Cashen to Colson RE: conversations with Bishop McManus and Father Koob on the election. Handwritten note added by unknown. 1 pg.
3	46	9/11/1972	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Other Document	Record of a conversation between Colson and Al Capp on various voter-related subjects, such as the overall trend of college students to support Democrats and David Merrick's endorsement of RN. Handwritten notes added by unknown. 6 pgs.
3	46	9/8/1972	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Other Document	Record of a conversation between Colson and Harris RE: McGovern's deficit at the polls. Handwritten note added by unknown. 1 pg.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 20, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR:

CHARLES W. COLSON

FROM:

HENRY C. CASHEN II *HCC*

SUBJECT:

Telephone conversation with Cardinal  
Krol

During the course of the conversation with Cardinal Krol, he made the following points:

- 1) He feels that McGovern's statement should be interpreted as the highest compliment that could be paid to President Nixon, that he has finally found his way clear to agree with the position that the President has advocated for 2 1/2 years.
- 2) He feels the Republicans clearly advocated that aid to non-public schools should be included in both party platforms and be considered a bi-partisan issue. He feels that the President should take the position that it is too bad that the Senator's position was not included or adopted in the Democratic platform but is glad that it is now an issue which has been placed above partisan politics.
- 3) He feels that the hierarchy of the Church will very clearly see this as a straight political play by McGovern. The NEA is currently up in arms because of McGovern's position in that he recently received money and an endorsement from the NEA when he was speaking to them in Atlanta and avoided the non-public school issue. However, when he appears before a Catholic school audience, he chooses at that time to advocate aid to non-public schools. It was the Cardinal's feeling that it will be clear to most people as a result of the NEA reaction that McGovern agrees with the audience to which he is currently speaking.
- 4) Krol feels very strongly that the President should not get into a rough political argument on this issue but rather use White House spokesmen to thank McGovern for finally being able to realize what the President has been advocating for the past 2 1/2 years.

I have tried to contact Koob and Cooke but they will not be available until this afternoon. I will get you comments on their reaction as soon as I have talked with them.

MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

September 20, 1972

MEMORANDUM FOR: CHARLES W. COLSON  
FROM: HENRY C. CASHEN II

Relevant to conversations with Father Koob and Bishop McManus, their reaction is similar to that of Cardinal Krol.

- 1) They believe that McGovern's statement is clearly political and the President should not concern himself with getting into an attack on McGovern with respect to this issue. The reaction from the White House or the campaign committee should be one of acknowledgement of the fact that McGovern has finally realized the validity of the position which the President has advocated over the past 2 1/2 years.
- 2) Neither Bishop McManus nor Father Koob were concerned that McGovern's late statement would be read as a deterrent to any substantial degree from the President's support with the Catholics on this issue. Both emphasized the fact that McGovern would be adversely effected by the NEA.



(A)

Conversation with Al Capp, September 11, 1972

C: You don't think what?

A: I don't think it's made the slightest impression on the average voter. Not at all. People are now sophisticated enough to know that politics is a kick them in the balls game and the ITT thing I don't think switched one vote. The only thing that can keep switching votes is for McGovern to keep getting more and more hysterical. I've...he's the best campaigner you've got. He really is.

C: That's an interesting point. I'll tell you the reason I'm calling, relates very much to this and that is that the President is asking me for your views on the campaign. Are we doing it right or wrong or...

A: Well, you know, I began...you're doing it absolutely right, don't let the President, don't let the President get into any discussion..even of McGovern. Let him be President and what he's been doing has been absolutely perfect, the speech in which he obliquely referred to McGovern I thought gave dignity to McGovern.

C: You mean the welfare ethic vs. the work ethic.

A: That's alright.

C: That's the only one he even obliquely referred to him. He said there are those who would prefer to have a country in which it's better....

A: I don't even want him to say there are those...the hell with them. McGovern gets dignity only if the President mentions him. This is...

C: Are you finding this as you go around, Al?

A: Oh, good, Lord, you have no idea of the Democrats who are switching. By the way, I don't know if you caught this in the New York Times, but David Merrick has taken an ad to announce that he's going to vote for Nixon, that he feels Nixon is the most liberal guy....Merrick is the epitome of the New York ass-hole liberal. But he's had enough of McGovern and I'm going to write you a note about that because you can use...see, the talk shows are afraid to use anybody that may possibly say a kind word for the President, because the big whigs in show business have been Democrats. Well, here is the biggest big whig on Broadway announcing that he's for the President. Get to him, use him, get him to the White House, shake his hand, flatter him he's a very important guy. Not he in himself, but the effect he has on show people is very very important.

C:

Now what about the rest of us, Al. The Cabinet members and the Congressmen and the Senators...?

A: I think you're doing absolutely right. I think the total, absolutely total ignoring of McGovern by the President and the Vice President...he's fine...

C: But the rest of us should go....

A: The rest of you go for the groin, the throat, slaughter, get in there, get him mad, get him hysterical, throw buckets at him. Let the others fight like wild cats, but let the President not say one word. Now, the other thing and I made some notes over the weekend, I read some bits and pieces bout the President, sort of to chittering appearing at a college and wondering whether there was a safe college. Well, I think...first I'm against it, but I have another way he can do it, but let me give you my thinking. First, there is no such thing as a safe college. Two maniacs ;in an audience of 4,000 can render it unsafe. However, if he is indeed, he wants to appar at a college, I would pick what seems to be the most unsafe college in America, Yale. And let me tell you why. Now, Yale is ideally, madness, black panthers, all that business. Nonetheless, I went down there a little over a year ago, in fear and trembling. I thought this was the last godam amend placed I ought to go. 90% of that audience hated every word I said. They gave me the gravest attention, there was an ovation at the end from about 1/2 of them. The half who hated my guts made absolutely no demonstration at all, ...the curious thing about Yale is that somehow they have some manners there. It's almost a secret. Now, I would never advise the President to appear at Harvard, but if he's determined to appear at a college, choose what seems to be the most unsafe school. Now, Yale, would seem to be the most unsafe school, in my opinion of them all, it's the safest. However, I would advise him not to go to New Haven, but to invite 4 or 5 Yale people...let the President talk to Yale, but let them come to the White House..might

even pick Yale or Harvard, but I'd pick Yale because something happens to the kids there. They have good manners, they're poisoness, but they have good manners and the President can handle any kind of poisoness. But he today, is, by the Gallup poll, the leader of American youth. Now, that's the goddamnlest thing I've ever heard of. It's something I've always know, I know that he is and that his views were the view of most youth, but... and it's so comforting to see that the figures favor that. I'd love to see him as...because he does have youth's ear now. If he should combine a talk with youth and Yale by inviting the kids to theWhite House. Just being there gives them very good manners and if the President spends an

hour or two before that charming them, if he has them to dinner, wow, you're going to get some damn nice kids and you're going to get the President talking to kids. The Presient...and he czn do it. All he has to do is like the kids, know that no matter what kindof little shits, they're shits out of ignorance and he could teach them. Because the reason they loathe him, is because they don't know anything and he can spend an hour teaching them something about civics. Actually, as it's going now, I would advise no change whatever. Keep Dole at him, keep everybody at McGovern. Let McGovern debate with these guys. ...and single idea that McGovern has by discussing it, by attributingit to him. I haven't mentioned two ideas, two opposing ideas and identify himself with one. I would even identify...don't give the guy any space at all. But I think the way it's going is....every morning I wake up there's some other implication that somehow everything is so goddamned right I can't believe it.

C: Well, I know, and I just wish we could compress the 8 weeks into 8 hours and....

A: Look, they're not going to come up with anything. There...it's a very curious thing. The Saturday Review of Literature, way out left, called me the other day to ask me to do a piece along with several other people on McGovern's economics. So, I'm not an economist and I can't juggle figures, but I did it from a broad...I'll send you a copy...but what I saidwas this, literally, if the President and George McGovern were to swap economic policies today, it wouldn't effect a single vote. The reason for that is people don't believe McGovern any more and they believe Nixon. He simply has lost all trust, it really doesn't matter what kind of economics ...I'm saying this to you. However, I keep up that radical stuff...scare the shit out of them because what he wants to do is what they fear. He'll never be able to do it, even if he's elected, but what he wants to do is something to let them know and let them fear. The point I made was that you can't win millions of votes by saying you're going to tax people after they reach \$12,000 because every one of those people is on their way to reaching \$12,000 and they don't want it taxed away from them. They goddamn well want that \$12,000 and when he raises the figure to \$22,000, thatisn't out of sight of a hell of a lot of people. They don't want that redistributed. Gee, I've got a great quote from a guy in California -- I'll put it in the mail to you this afternoon. On the whole, the thing is going..it couldn't go better. It's going so goddamned well that I hestiate to even talk about it. How can you improve on perfection.

C: Jesus, tell us that and you'll make us over confident.

A: Oh, keep it up. Everytime Hugh Scott says somthing, or Bob Dole delivers a kick in the groin, and those things work, they really work. One of the things I pointed out in the piece, was that when Teddy Kennedy gravely agreed with the policy of George McGovern that fortunes over \$500,000.. should be taxed to extinction and that tax.... were unfair, I nearly choked.....the Democratic Party for all their troubles can still take a joke. Goddamn Teeddy Kennedy going around and endorsing that. It really...by the way, you couldn't have a better friend than Sargent Shriver. You know, I knew him a little bit in Washington, but I never knew what a hysterical horse's ass he was.

C: He's a total bafoon.

A: He is...

C: Read Time magazine today. My God, they treat this guy..it's incredible the way they treat him.

A: Really?

C: You know it talks about what fun he has out sailing and playing tennis on the weekends and then Sarge comes on and he says, "well we had a good time at Hyannis Port this weekend, but darne't I just got started a little late and we missed our game of Pirate.." and the reporter apparently says, what is Pirate. and He says oh Pirate is a fun game, you go out and sail and sail next to your friend and you throw a tennis ball into his boat and if you get it into his boat, you win and boy, Pirate is just a neat game.

A: Just like a comic strip. I hope they give him all the space, all the time on television they possible can. Every time..it's worth it if ;you buy this guy time. He really...and there's something that's happened to McGovern there's a kind of nagging, nastiness about McGovern that certainly nobody should remain unaffected by disasters, but it is beginning to show. It's really begining to show. But, what's happening is so damn perfect, that I would just keep it up until... and then you get some indication that it isn't working.

C: No, no indication at all. <sup>1</sup>n fact, the polls to our complete consternation because it's awfully hard to follow...believe it. The private polls that we're conducting show us still gaining and I can't figure it up. There's got to be a place where you stop sometime, but....

A: Well, there's still 30 odd percent of McGovern's votes to eat up.

C: I guess you're right. Here's the delightful paragraph that you'll have some fun with when you speak: "and then he walked down the aisle of his plane toward where the press were drinking. Gave them his one-two grin,"which is described earlier "and started talking about the weekend.... .....from Time"

C: It's bizarre. You can imagine the Archie Bunkers of this world thinking what, the guy's out there trying to throw a tennis ball into somebody else's sail boat!

A: Just is not to be believed.

C: Obnoxious elite isn't it?

A: Yes. Do you know him at all?

C: Yes, I know him.

A: He's a really pleasant guy.

C: It probably would be fun to play Pirate with him, but...

A: Well, there's nobody else I would play pirate with.

C: Much rather with him than anybody else.

A: But, it actually is going so well, Chuck, that I wouldn't change it, if the President is indeed considering a \_\_\_\_\_ table, don't go to a college, bring the college to the White House and make it Yale and that shows total fearlessness, and yet, my hunch is that they will be the most polite kids, they may be tough, but he can handle all that. They're toughness comes from ignorance and all we have to do is be their teacher. And give them dinner first and have them no where they are and who they're with and then you'll have a delightful hour. But, if he insists on going to a college and I don't think he should... too nuts. and you've created an embarrassment. Yea, don't go to a college, bring the college there.

C: Al, I appreciate this.

A: I'll send you that thing.

C: I wish you would. The President has enormous respect for your judgment on things.

A: I'll tell you, he has given me more fun in these last few months than anybody. To watch his manipulating and to watch his non-campaigning, feeding the Bejesus out of ~~xx~~ his savage ~~xx~~ campaign is just a delight.

C: We're out to win and we're out to beat the living hell out of those guys.

A: And by God you might get Congress.

C: God bless you. We appreciate it and if you don't mind, I'll call you once in a while... I was going to say bug you, but I won't say that word, call you to get your thoughts. Thanks a million, Al.

Conversation with Lou Harris, September 8, 1972

H: .. and he said it shows 30-35 behind.

C: In all the big states? ~~Goodell CADSCL~~

H: So there you are.

C: So he called you to get your data and you ended up getting his. beautiful. When did they poll?

H: He said it was around the last week in August, the first week in September.

C: 30 to 35 behind in all the big states.

H: Well, that bears it right out. The other thing he said was that their strategy was to stay on 3 issues and no others. It was very interesting. One, the economy or cost of living mostly. Two, the tax reform without the welfare and three was the fat cats benefitting from the Nixon Administration.

C: That's logical.

H: He said they were all praying he could go 10 days without a goof.

C: What did he say about the staff disappearing.

H: Oh, he said it's a mess.

C: Thompson quit yesterday and Wilde quit today.

H: Yea, Wilde's interesting because I think he wanted to make Vietnam a bigger issue since he's been the guy I know.... and I think the decisions made.. O'Brien's strategy that McGovern's going to go for the Democrats and go over on the economic issue, which is alright if he wants to leave the rest to you you wanted to take it.

C: God yes.

H: How many charts do you think we can use?

C: Let me put you on.....