

Richard Nixon Presidential Library
Contested Materials Collection
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> |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--|
| 4 | 30 | 9/9/1971 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Campaign | Memo | From Colson to Haldeman RE: instructing Bob Dole on how to attack the Democrats. 1 pg. |
| 4 | 30 | 9/24/1971 | <input type="checkbox"/> | White House Staff | Memo | From Colson to Haldeman RE: helping Bob Dole recover from his "tailspin." 2 pgs. |
| 4 | 30 | 9/22/1971 | <input type="checkbox"/> | White House Staff | Memo | From Colson to Haldeman RE: Colson's recent meeting with Dole. 2 pgs. |
| 4 | 30 | 9/21/1971 | <input type="checkbox"/> | Domestic Policy | Memo | From Colson to George Shultz RE: Jim Suffridge and labor. 2 pgs. |

| <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> |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--|
| 4 | 30 | 9/20/1971 | <input type="checkbox"/> | White House Staff | Memo | From Colson to Malek RE: finding a speechwriter for Dole and a deputy press man for Nofziger at the RNC. 1 pg. |

September 9, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN
FROM: CHARLES COLSON
SUBJECT: Senator Bob Dole

As you know we have a continuing problem with Bob Dole attacking many of the Democratic Presidential candidates who are senators. Senators don't do these things and never refer to one another on the floor of the Senate in other than a complimentary fashion.

What Bob has to do is attack hard in speeches when he is not on the Senate floor. We gave him two speeches in the last two days attacking Muskie. They were good Buchanan hardliners. Dole watered them both down considerably taking out most of the personal references.

I intend to meet with him to talk about this. He seems generally receptive whenever we talk to him personally but he needs to be constantly reminded of his role as the principal partisan defender of the President.

The only purpose of this memo is to suggest that if and when you are talking to Dole, you lay the point on him very hard.

September 24, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN
FROM: CHARLES W. COLSON
SUBJECT: Senator Dole

I just had a very distressing call from Lyn Nofziger which underscores a terribly serious problem. I have run out of gas in trying to solve it.

Bob Dole is really in a tailspin. After my meeting with him Wednesday he agreed to have a press conference Thursday morning and to go after the Democrat "partisan obstructionists". He then revised his plan to issue a statement instead which Lyn drafted for him and had in his office by 10:30 Thursday morning. Lyn was also to arrange TV interviews.

Dole simply refused to do it and refused to give Nofziger any reasons.

We have been trying desperately through Al Snyder to program Dole onto a TV show-- our reasoning is that anything that begins to get him back out front will be helpful. None of the networks evidenced any interest in him and understandably so. He simply hasn't been making any news and he's therefore not newsworthy to put on any TV talk shows. Al pulled a couple of chits of long standing with the Today Show and got time for Dole to appear next Tuesday morning. Dole has now declined, however, on the grounds that he has to be in Witchita, Kansas, Monday night. Nofziger tells me that he has nothing scheduled; it's a meeting with some local party types. It was the only time we could get the Today Show in the next 3 weeks. Hence we have lost that forum.

Nofziger is genuinely depressed over it, says he hasn't been able to get through to Dole over the phone and agrees with me that Dole is really in a state of deep depression. I had the strong feeling that

I was getting through to him on Wednesday but it is evident that I failed completely.

I am really worried about this because if the situation continues we simply do not have the partisan spokesmen that we desperately need.

This memo is written in some frustration because I don't know the solution. I do know there is a serious problem. Maybe Dole doesn't feel he has the staff at the Committee to help him or at least that's the excuse he uses. But he is also unwilling to do anything about it. Nofziger claims that something has, in fact, "happened" to Dole.

I really don't know what to suggest other than perhaps a meeting between you and Bob, or you Bob, Nofziger and myself, or perhaps the President has simply got to have a heart-to-heart talk with Dole. I am only certain of one thing and that is that we have to correct the current situation which is deteriorating very rapidly.

EYES ONLY

September 22, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN
FROM: CHARLES COLSON
SUBJECT: RNC/Senator Dole

I just had a one hour session with Bob Dole to try to crank him up to do a better job of defending the President and hitting back at the Democrats. Dole didn't disagree with any of my points but he is a very different man than he was a few months ago.

1. He is having some serious internal problems with Tom Evans. I assume you are aware of this.
2. He feels the staff at the RNC is incompetent and Nofziger is not doing the job he wants done but he, Dole, doesn't feel he can shake things up.
3. He made the point that we are not giving him enough support, speeches, material, etc., a point he said he made with the President. To the extent that we have not done this, it will be instantly remedied, but I pointed out to Bob that he has the whole National Committee apparatus and that he shouldn't be leaning on us and more importantly shouldn't be taking such minor complaints to the President. I also pointed out that Nofziger had specifically asked us not to send speeches for Dole, Nofziger wanted to write them. Dole's answer was that Nofziger hasn't been writing any good speeches lately.
4. He is obsessed with our lack of support in the farm area and really acts generally demoralized.
5. He fully recognizes that he has made virtually no news for the past two months but I think he honestly doesn't know what to do. I suggested a press conference attacking the Democratic partisan obstructionists for openers. He may do this tomorrow, but he again complained that he had no staff help to get ready for a press conference. I honestly believe his own self-confidence has been eroded for some reason.

We are going to start pumping him up directly with some stuff from here. He seems to welcome the idea. You will get loud screams from Nofziger but we have got to try something to get Dole back out front and also to build up his own self-confidence. The two, I suspect, go hand in hand.

EYES ONLY

September 21, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: GEORGE SHULTZ
FROM: CHARLES COLSON
SUBJECT: Jim Suffridge

Attached is the memo that I referred to during our 8:15 meeting this morning. Suffridge is a very level-headed fellow and that is what disturbs me most about the memo. Jim is usually very low key. According to George, he was very forthright and came on very strong.

I am not entirely satisfied that George has the right approach. I am completely satisfied, however, that we are not doing the job properly at the moment with respect to labor. I'm not talking now about substantive matters, I am talking strictly about political cultivation.

What is apparently most troublesome is that Suffridge had some very confidential discussion with us about the possibility of his coming on board. You will remember that you and I talked about this sometime ago. I was never able to get Hodgson or Usery to agree to it but apparently Usery let someone at the AFL-CIO Headquarters know that Suffridge was interested. This was the one thing Suffridge asked us not to do and I gather it has greatly hurt his effectiveness within the AFL-CIO Councils -- understandably so, particularly now.

As we head into the campaign we are going to need some people, either here or at 1701, who can really work extensively in the political cultivation of labor leaders. I don't think I have ever succeeded in getting Hodgson and Usery ~~and~~ understand that there is an important distinction between their substantive relationships with labor leaders and our political relationships. The

attached memo simply highlights the problem and it is one that I think you and I should discuss to see if we can't get it resolved to everyone's satisfaction.

I would prefer that you not send a copy of George's memo to anyone, especially to Labor in view of the comments about Hodgson. I might add, by the way, from the contacts I have had that Suffridge is in no way overstating the case with respect to Hodgson.

September 20, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: FRED MALEK

FROM: CHARLES COLSON

Bob Dole is looking for a speechwriter. This could be a great opportunity for us. We've had trouble getting Dole programmed lately but if we could put the right man in as his speechwriter I think we would be way ahead of the game.

Secondly, Nofziger is looking for a good press man deputy at the RNC. Once again, this has been a serious problem area and if we could put "our man" in there, we could really help ourselves enormously.

Can you give me some help on these? It is very high priority that we get the right people functioning in these areas.