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<td>Campaign</td>
<td>Memo</td>
<td>Copy of memo from Harry Dent to Ken Cole RE: Murray Chotiner's suggestion on special Congressional elections and Jim Allison's impression of Donald Rumsfeld as a candidate. 1 pg.</td>
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<td>Copy of memo from Gordon S. Brownell to Harry Dent RE: the Philadelphia Society's dissatisfaction with the RN administration. 1 pg.</td>
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October 28, 1969

FOR:  Ken Cole
FROM:  Harry Dent

This is in regard to the Murray Chotiner suggestion on special Congressional elections.

Jim Allison, Deputy Chairman RNC, was dispatched to the Rumsfeld Congressional District to make a special report. He found a good candidate with a good campaign manager. This is the most attractive, articulate, and able candidate we have had in any of these special elections. He leans to the right considerably, and this is his major limitation. Therefore, Jim recommended that Don Rumsfeld publicly endorse him to give him the benefit of Don's liberal and popular image. After much reluctance, Don is now in the process of doing so.

As to this and other elections, we are moving to make necessary changes at the Congressional Campaign Committee. Bob Wilson is coming to see me today, and other members of the Campaign Committee are coming to see me Wednesday. Our problem is, as the President says: candidate recruitment and campaign management. Also, I am calling in Murray Chotiner to have a chat with him.

HSD:cg
This past weekend there was a meeting of the Philadelphia Society, an organization of conservative and libertarian intellectuals, academicians, writers, businessmen and others who get together a couple of times a year to exchange ideas. It is an elite and semi-secret organization and what takes place at their meetings is not supposed to be repeated elsewhere. About eighty persons attended last weekend's session, and one of the attendees breached the secrecy pledge to inform me of one of the things that went on.

There was considerable dissatisfaction with the Administration voiced; most of it was the same stuff of too much liberalism and not enough conservatism in the White House and Cabinet.

Several prominent persons, however, said we have a "rubber President" who bends to the left too easily. They said the time is now to build a movement from the Right to unseat the President. Specifically:

Frank Meyer, the libertarian editor of NATIONAL REVIEW, used the phrase of "an Allard Lowenstein of the Right" in describing what is needed.

Bill Rusher, while not vocal, seemed to agree that the President could be unseated from the Right just as Johnson was from the Left. He seemed in accord with the viewpoint that the President was insulated from right-wing dissatisfaction.

Gordon Tulloch, the Virginia Tech economist, felt that rank-and-file conservatives would dump the President in a Republican primary if they had a realistic alternative. He said it is not too early to start looking.

Wayne Dawson, head of the United Republicans of America, while not present at the meeting, feels that Governor Reagan or anyone else on the Right can build a national movement a la Gene McCarthy.

Perhaps these people should be talked to before they get carried away.