

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>
5	45	8/21/1970	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Report	From Pasztor to Low RE: Status Report on Ethnic Vote in Michigan. 2 pgs.

DOCUMENT WITHDRAWAL RECORD [NIXON PROJECT]

DOCUMENT NUMBER	DOCUMENT TYPE	SUBJECT/TITLE OR CORRESPONDENTS	DATE	RESTRICTION
1 [doc. 267]	Memo	Pasztor to Low re: Status Report on the Nationalities in Key Michigan Races, 2pp.	8/21/70	C (Nixon)

FILE GROUP TITLE

WHSF SMOF Dent

BOX NUMBER

9

FOLDER TITLE

1970 Nationalities and Minorities [1 of 2]

RESTRICTION CODES

- A. Release would violate a Federal statute or Agency Policy.
- B. National security classified information.
- C. Pending or approved claim that release would violate an individual's rights.
- D. Release would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy or a libel of a living person.

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Presidential Materials Review Board

Review on Contested Documents

Collection: Harry S. Dent
Box Number: 9

Folder: 1970 Nationalities and Minorities [1 of 2]

<u>Document</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
267	Return Private/Political



Republican
National
Committee.

cc: N. Dent
Nationalities

August 21, 1970

TO: Bill Low
FROM: Laszlo Pasztor *L.C.P.*
SUBJECT: Status Report on the Nationalities in Key Michigan Races

On August 16th, I was a guest at the Nationalities Picnic in Detroit, Michigan, and met with 50 ethnic leaders from all over the state. The following is an evaluation, based on meetings and discussions with these people, of the Romney and Milliken efforts to attract ethnic voters to the Republican Party.

SENATE- Lenore Romney

- I. The average middle-working class ethnic voter has a very negative image of Lenore Romney, because she has made no attempt whatsoever to appeal to their interests. Their specific complaints about her campaign were:
 - A. There seems to be no "ideological" difference between Mrs. Romney and the liberal incumbent Senator Hart.
 - B. Mrs. Romney doesn't seem to stand for anything-- if she discusses issues at all it is only the problems of blacks that she is concerned about.
 - C. Mrs. Romney makes no attempt to back up the President or support the policies of his Administration.
 - D. They are extremely resentful and fearful of HUD Secretary Romney's attempts to integrate Michigan suburbia (i.e., specifically Warren, outside of Detroit)-- where the majority of these people live-- and link Mrs. Romney directly with this policy.

- II. Mrs. Romney does not even give token support to ethnic Americans:
 - A. She did not attend the August 16th Nationalities picnic in Detroit, even though she had nothing else on her calendar, based on the fact that she does not campaign on Sundays.
 - B. No "nationality leaders" or members of the state Nationalities Council were invited to be members of the steering committee of Volunteers for Lenore.
 - C. Even though several prominent members of Nationality groups volunteered to work on Mrs. Romney's campaign, they were told that the only help that they could give was to donate money.
 - D. "College kids" and "funny looking kids" paper the surface of her organization.

File

GOVERNOR-- William Milliken

- I. Governor Milliken also has not campaigned for ethnic votes. There were many complaints about his liberal and "permissive" policies, specifically:
 - A. He does not take a "hard line" on teenage drug abuse and crime in the streets.
 - B. His attitude permitted a Rock Festival to be held (Gross Lake Festival) which was a known rallying point for youthful drug takers, etc.
- II. No members of the state Nationalities Council, or any other ethnic group, were asked to be members of the Volunteers for Milliken.

SUMMARY

Obviously, no serious campaign has been mounted in Michigan to attract ethnic voters. Although these voters resent Senator Hart's own liberalism (and that of the National Democratic Leadership) their traditional Democratic loyalties are buttressed by well-oiled Democratic patronage machines on the local (particularly Detroit) level, and apparent interest in ethnic problems by some state-wide Democratic candidates (Democrats have placed ads in ethnic newspapers, and "Soapy" Williams is frequently seen at ethnic gatherings and meetings-- even spending full days at such events). Furthermore, Hart-- our chief target in Michigan-- has good Union connections and enjoys the respect of middle-class housewives who remember him for his Truth-in-Lending and Truth-in-Packaging legislation. Under these strains, the Republican Nationalities Council of Michigan-- the oldest in the country-- is slowly beginning to fall apart. They find no candidate to rally around, and their relatives and associates wonder what they could possibly gain from voting Republican in November.

RECOMMENDATIONS

- I suggest the following to help remedy this situation:
- A. That one person be hired in each campaign to deal with the ethnic vote.
 - B. That those people who volunteered to work on the Michigan races be contacted by the candidates, and sent our Handbook on Organizing the Nationalities.
 - C. A list has been provided to the candidates in Michigan giving the names of all ethnic citizens who volunteered to work on the campaigns, and they should be contacted individually and thanked.

In my opinion, both Romney and Milliken have badly handled the ethnic vote in Michigan. The voters of nationality background will not support either Mrs. Romney or Governor Milliken if they do not make an all-out effort to appeal to at least some of their interests.