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FILE GROUP TITLE: WHSF: SMOF: Ehrlichman


RESTRICTION CODES:
A. Release would violate a Federal statute or Agency Policy.
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F. Release would disclose investigatory information compiled for law enforcement purposes.
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**Presidential Materials Review Board**

**Review on Contested Documents**

**Collection:** John D. Ehrlichman  
**Box Number:** 50  
**Folder:** 17 July 1969-22 October 1969 [1 of 5]

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Telephone conversation between Secretary Finch, Herb Kalmbach, Bob Haldeman, John Ehrlichman re Nixon Foundation, August 11, 1969

Kalmbach  I think we ought to keep both of them off for a while and he...

Finch  Apparently...I talked to John. That's clean and that's...there's no problem on that...

Kalmbach  Oh, there isn't? OK, well. How major is this thing about Call and the bank acquisition?

Finch  Well, John hasn't said anything more on that...that all three of the entities -- the FDIC, Currency and Treasury have given their OK and when that happens, it would be the first time in history that a Justice would then overturn the three...Ordinarily, where it comes into contention is when one of these three recommends against but when all three -- and this has happened in this case -- agree then it goes through as a matter of form, so I've given to understand that that, too is by the board and this will be no problem but particularly in light of the New York Times I don't want to be in a position of speaking for the Attorney General.

JDE  You're not...the New York Times, are you?

Finch  Well...

HRH  (laughter)

Finch  I don't know quite what to do about it. Whether to write John a funny little note and laugh it off or just do nothing.

HRH  I don't think anything is indicated. I think that's made out of whole cloth.

Kalmbach  Bob, how do we handle Call?

Finch  Well, Call is on the Trustees, isn't he?

Kalmbach  Beg your pardon?

Finch  Call is on the Trustees, isn't he?
Yeah, but not the...

No, he's not. Well, he's a member...he's one of the 25, but he is not a member of the Executive Trustee group.

Well, I think...

And he understands really that he has been asked and has accepted.

On the Executive Committee?

Yeah. Well, no, the Board of Trustees...

I made it clear to him throughout that I'm not picking and choosing those people

No

That he had to deal with you

Yeah. Well, I think that we did talk all of us at one time about Call and Firestone going on there and it was agreed that they would go on.

Well, that was at a time when they were prepared to set up and take care of all the financing. Then we backed them off a little bit and on these other two things came up and also when it appeared that the financing could be otherwise handled, and so I think that's pretty loose at this point. And I think if I called Call and just said, you know, you're on the 25 and that's it. I'm more concerned about the fact that Firestone is going charging around and wants to make this his life's work and he's a resource that I think we can make good use of and I don't think you have to put him on the...by setting up any other entity whether it's a task force or an institute or...and put him at the head of that you get very valuable property.

I think that's right, Bob, but I think you got a real problem if you take the national foundation and make Leonard Firestone the President of it from a figurative viewpoint based on, you know, the guys like the Clem Stones and Abplanalps and all those -and Hobe Lewis - who have been Nixon loyalists through thick and thin
as contrasted to Leonard Firestone who comes out of the woodwork when he becomes President of the United States. I think you ought to use the Firestone asset, but I don't think you ought to give him the position of maximum prestige in the organization.

Finch: I agree with that. That's why I'm suggesting that this other is... call it a task force

HRH: Yeah

Finch: Let him bounce around and look at all the other existing libraries and so on

Kalmbach: Bob, then I would understand that we continue to hold the Executive Trustee group to 7 and that there's a total of 25 Trustees now on the Foundation, 7 of which are this Executive Trustee group, that Call or Shriver or Firestone don't go on the Executive Trustees Board, that after the meeting on the 5th of September, Firestone and whoever else would be a task force group going around the country until such time as they have some recommendations to make to the Executive Trustee group.

Finch: I think something like that would work.

Kalmbach: OK, now, what would be the... in other words, you will call Asa Call, will you?

Finch: Yep

Kalmbach: And...

Finch: If this is agreeable...

HRH: I think it's agreeable with all of us, Bob.

Finch: Alright, let me try it on for size and see if he buys it. I'm sure he will
Kalmbach  Now we don't...I also understand that Firestone understands that he will be the President of the Foundation and I don't know how he got off that wicket or if

Finch  Who says that?

Kalmbach  Well, I kind of...we've been talking about it in general with him and I don't know if we...

Finch  I'll take care of talking to both Call and Firestone on that.

Kalmbach  That's great

JDE  OK, thank you very much. Come see us.

Finch  I plan to be there Wednesday and if I can get out of town alive after everybody has been turned down who we're trying to build the Party with.

JDE  We'll look forward to seeing you in whatever condition.

Finch  Yeah, thank you.

JDE  Alright. Thanks, Bob. Are you bringing your charming daughter?

Finch  Huh?

JDE  Are you bringing your charming daughter?

Finch  Thank you.

Bye
JULY 31, 1969

TO: BRYCE HARLOW
FROM: JOHN EHRlichMAN

The President suggests that Dale Grubb lay off the golf with Marlow Cook for the time being.