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MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON
February 20, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR
H. R. Haldeman

The President will probably want to know that John Erickson, age 36, Business Manager of the Bucks Basketball Team, will be a candidate for the U.S. Senate on the GOP ticket against Senator Proxmire.

Secretary Laird's office advises me that Erickson has the blessing of the Party organization. The announcement is expected within the next 2 weeks.

MURRAY M. CHOTINER

cc: Senator John Tower
Harry Dent
February 24, 1970

CONFIDENTIAL

FOR: Bob Haldeman

FROM: Harry Dent

With regard to the attached memo from Larry Higby, I have checked with the Postmaster General and he and I concur that the formation of a Black-lead Party in Alabama would be in Wallace's political interest because it would take them out of the Democrat primary where the Wallace-Brewer battle will be and put them in the general election where there will basically be no battle, except one Black against George Wallace.

Frankly, we feel that Congressman Conyers, a Negro Democrat, is only trying to help the Democrat Party nationally by such a move. Thus, we would favor getting the Negroes into the Democrat primary because there every vote should be for Brewer and he will need all he can get to defeat Wallace. The State Republican Chairman also agrees. He says Conyers does not have the influence that another Negro leader has in the state, and that this Negro leader is determined to have the Negroes vote in the Democratic primary for Brewer.

Congressman Jack Edwards says there have been two polls taken recently in Alabama on the Wallace-Brewer battle - one by Brewer shows Brewer with 54% and one by Wallace shows Brewer with 57%. Edwards confirms my view of the situation and that of the PMG. He feels George will pick up more steam and do better after he arouses the good old prejudices, but he says if he wins it will not be by much.

We will work toward this end unless we hear further from the President.
MEMORANDUM

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

February 23, 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR HARRY DENT

FROM: LARRY HIGBY

In the February 11 News Summary, it was reported that Congressman Conyers said growing strength of a black-led political party in Alabama is causing Wallace to delay announcing his candidacy for Governor. The President felt strongly that we ought to try and do something for this new political party.

Mr. Haldeman asked that you check this situation out in general, particularly this party, and get a report back to him as soon as possible.

Thank you very much.
MEMORANDUM FOR HARRY DENT
FROM: LARRY HIGBY

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Mr. Haldeman asked that you check this situation out in general, particularly this party, and get a report back to him as soon as possible.

Thank you very much.

LH:pm
MEMORANDUM FOR H. R. HALDEMAN

The February 11 News Summary reported that Congressman Conyers said growing strength of a black-led political party in Alabama is causing Wallace to delay announcing his candidacy for Governor.

On reading this the President requested that you arrange to have this new political party subsidized now.

JOHN R. BROWN III