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EYES ONLY

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

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EYES ONLY

July 23, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN  
FROM: CHARLES W. COLSON *WC*  
SUBJECT: Victor Laskey's request

One of the items that I have been wanting to talk to you about is Victor Laskey's request of me that we find a friendly company that might retain him for \$1,500 per month between now and the election.

Vic's approach to me about 3 weeks ago was not at all unexpected. He has been hinting around for a while. He argues that he can't make ends meet on his column income and that "because of us" he is maintaining 2 residences, one here and one in New York. He further indicates that he wants to devote full efforts to the President's reelection, which I am sure is true, and that he wants to increase his column circulation and quantity. He intends to step up shortly to 3 columns per week.

Vic is loyal to a fault and at least totally reliable, even if not always very credible. He does have some good papers and we have made use of them when we wanted a political hatchet job as you know.

I don't know what arrangements, if any, have been made with Laskey. Hence, I have been unwilling to move without your approval. I can, of course, line him up such an arrangement if it is the thing that we should do and need to do. If, on the other hand, he is just looking for a little gravy and trying to play me off, then I, of course, can push it aside. He has raised it with me on a second occasion, however. I told him I would need to talk to "some people" and I suspect he knows that I will discuss it with you which makes me think that the request is for real.

Could you give me some guidance.

✓ (AG)  
EYES ONLY  
THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

July 23, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: H. R. HALDEMAN  
FROM: CHARLES W. COLSON *WC*  
SUBJECT: Teamsters

I have in accordance with your instructions stayed out of the Teamsters political activities. I can't help, however, but continue to be fed with information. George Bell has to hold Frank Fitzsimmons hand at least 3 times a week.

One point has come up which could be terribly significant politically. I think you should perhaps best raise it with the AG. I am sure you will leave me out of the discussion.

The AFL/CIO badly wants the Teamsters to rejoin and a major effort will be shortly undertaken to bring the Teamsters back into the AFL/CIO. The alliance formed between the Teamsters and the UAW has now been broken completely. There are no funds and both the Teamsters and the UAW are ripe for rejoining the ranks. It is in the interest of all 3.

Meany's one desire before he steps down or dies with his boots on is to reunite the labor movement. My information is that he will work at this intensively with a view to doing it before next year's elections.

As far as the UAW is concerned, we couldn't care less. In fact, from some standpoints it would be better for us politically to have them in the AFL/CIO fold because they will create political division within the ranks. The Teamsters is as you can well imagine quite a different story. My opinion is that the Teamsters will remain officially neutral but quietly work very hard for us, with money and organizational support. If they are merged into the AFL/CIO before then, however, they will probably be unable to do this. Hence it is in our interest to see that the merger does not take place. Fitz has it within his capacity to block it provided it is made clear to him that that is what we want. This agreement should be obtained very soon.