

Richard Nixon Presidential Library  
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8	20	3/10/1972	<input type="checkbox"/>	Campaign	Memo	Talking paper from Strachan to Mitchell RE: Harry Fleming's role in the 1972 presidential campaign. 2 pgs.

TALKING PAPER FOR JOHN MITCHELL

Re: Harry Flemming

The substantive arguments by responsible people against Harry Flemming indicate he should no longer have a role in the Campaign. The list of people who have expressed their concern to me is formidable. Fred Malek, Bill Horton, Harry Dent, John Sears, Cliff Miller, and Jeb Magruder have all volunteered their concern. It is of course possible to discount Sears and Magruder because they may profit from a decline in Flemming's influence. But Malek, Horton, and Dent have nothing to gain. The points made against Flemming include:

- 1) He has neither the seniority nor the tact to deal with Governors, Senators, or top party people;
- 2) He has a substantial adverse impact with Republican Party circles because of his apparently poor performance in the personnel spot for the first two years;
- 3) He has given only general guidance to the Nixon State Chairmen in a one to two hour meeting. He neither requests nor receives written reports on their progress implementing his directives;

4) His performance in the New Hampshire primary is questionable at best. Flemming's comment that the President's low vote was attributable to ITT reached the President through Dent;

5) You may be planning on bringing in some "heavier" political operatives -- Bob Mardian and Jerris Leonard have been mentioned -- but that may not solve the problem. Harry Flemming should probably leave the Campaign altogether.

GS  
3/10/72

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